

Rosanna Donnelly ID 4289 per Elizabeth and Henry 1848

To the Right Honourable Thomas Lord Denman Lord Chief
Justice of the Court of Queens bench

The humble petition of Patrick and Bridget Donnelly

Respectfully Sheweth

That your Petitioners and parents of Rosanne Donnelly who
was tried before your Lordship at the Assizes held at Warwick
in August last, and sentenced to ten years transportation.

The said Rosanna Donnelly is the only surviving daughter of
your Petitioners and they are plunged into the deepest
affliction by the event. Your petitioners although very poor
and known to be honest sober and industrious and they are
exceedingly desirous that their child while expiating her
crime may be placed in a position to receive such moral and
religious instruction and discipline as will ultimately restore
her to be a comfort and a blessing to your Petitioners, and a
worthy member of society, they therefore most earnestly
and devotedly pray that your Lordship may be graciously
pleased to allow her to be placed in some Asylum or
Penitentiary in England and not transported to a foreign land.

And your petitioner will ever gratefully pray.

We the undersigned clergymen and other inhabitants of the Borough of Birmingham respectfully join in the prayers of the above petition and implore your Lordship to grant the request.

John Moore – Clerk in Holy Orders

Bernard Ivers

William Molloy

George Jefferies – Clerk in Holy Orders

And 33 more signatures.

Rosanna Donnelly

2nd Application

A renewed application for the detention of the prisoner in this Country. No grounds are stated.

Middleton

15th September 1847

My Dear Phillips

The enclosed ought to have been sent to Rolf B who tried the prisoner at Warwick but is now residing abroad.

Will you never come and see us here.

Yours ever

Denman

To the Right Honourable Sir George Grey Her Majesty's
Secretary of State for the Home Department

The humble petition of Patrick and Bridget Donnelly residing
at 25 Court House Dale End in the town of Birmingham in the
County of Warwick.

Sheweth

That whereas Hannah Donnelly daughter of your Lordships
said petitioners was sentenced at the last Warwick Assizes to
ten years transportation for having stolen the sum of nine
shillings and six pence. We, your Lordships humble and
afflicted Petitioners acknowledging the justice of the
sentence yet crave indulgence for the anguish of parental
grief while we implore that our wretched daughter may not
be sent to a distant land but undergo the term of her
punishment in this country and thus save our grey hairs from
descending in sorrow into the grave, and in furtherance of
this our prayer we confidently refer to the testimony of our
Clergy given below whereby it will be seen that it is our
misfortune and not our fault that our unhappy daughter is
now in the hands of Justice – we also humbly refer to other
testimonies in her behalf which we subjoin and which will
shew her character before she got into bad company – we

therefore your Lordships afflicted Petitioners implore your Lordships merciful attention to this our humble and earnest appeal and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Patrick Donnelly

Bridget Donnelly her mark

This 25th day of August 1847

We the undersigned Roman Catholic Clergy residing in Birmingham herby testify that the above Petitioners Patrick and Bridget Donnelly are most deserving poor people, industrious, honest and steady and diligent in striving to bring up their children to a virtuous course of life and we therefore respectfully recommend their Petition to the consideration of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department.

John Moore

Bernard Ivers

William Molloy

This 25th day of August 1847.

Testimonials

No 1: I the undersigned hereby certify that Hannah Donnelly daughter of Patrick and Bridget Donnelly lived with me as a

servant about 7 months during her service with me she was clearly honest and industrious and truly sorry am I for her misconduct and for her poor parents.

Witness my hand 18th August 1847 E Sharp.

No 2: I the undersigned hereby certify that Hannah Donnelly daughter of Patrick and Bridget Donnelly lived with me as a servant for twelve months in which time she behaved herself honesty and was a good faithful girl.

Witness my hand 16th August 1847 Ellen McKone

No 3: This is to certify that Hannah Donnelly daughter of Patrick and Bridget Donnelly lived in my service for about three months and during that time behaved herself very well.

Witness my hand 16th August 1847 Sarah Tasker

I the undersigned Roman Catholic Priest of St Chad's Birmingham hereby certify that I have in my possession the originals of the above Testimonials and that the copies are literally correct as to Testimony of character.

Witness my hand 25th day August 1847 – Bernard Ivers

Rosanna Donnelly aged 23

Warwick Summer Assizes August 1847

Robbery

10 years transportation

Gaol report – Character – not known here

Series – HO 18

Piece Number – 206

The prisoner presents certificate of her honesty and pray that
she may not be sent out of the country
