

Leeson St July 19<sup>th</sup> 1848

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> enclosing the Memorial of Marg<sup>t</sup> Ledger in favour of her daughter **Anne Ledger**, now under sentence of Transportation for larceny.

The evidence on which this woman was convicted was simple and clear.

**Anne Carew**, stated, she lives in Lombard St in the City of Waterford – 5 months since she lost a plaid gown. It was in an upper room in her house in Lombard St. A woman came to her for a night lodging, believes it was the prisoner.

She slept that night with witness' children in that upper room – missed the gown after that woman was gone. Saw the gown 3 months after in Walsh possession.  
(The gown was produced & identified by the prosecutrix as her property, & as the gown which was taken away).

**William Walsh** said he purchased a gown from the prisoner some time since, & gave her one shillg & sixpence for it. He gave the gown to Constable Hamilton on the 12<sup>th</sup> April, when the prosecutrix applied to him.

He also identified the gown, (which had been identified by the prosecutrix), as that which he had purchased from the prisoner.

The Magistrates considered this case as a heinous one, & imposed Transportation as a just punishment for stealing the property of a person who had dealt so charitably with the prisoner, as to give her a night's lodging - & it is impossible not to feel the force of this view of her conduct.

I have the honor to be  
Sir  
your obedient servant  
Ja<sup>s</sup> Bessonnet

Wm Hitchins July 19/48 [*sideways*]

To Thomas N. Redington Esq<sup>re</sup> [foot of page 1 of 2]

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Waterford  
L 28 48  
**Ann Ledger**  
Larceny  
7 years Transp  
Tried at last quarter sessions before J  
Bessonnett Esq<sup>r</sup> Ass<sup>t</sup>  
Barrister who sees no mitigating [*circumstances*]  
July 19/48  
Let the law take its course  
AB inf<sup>d</sup> & G.G<sup>r</sup>.  
[initials] July 20/48.  
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To His Excellency the Lord L'ant; General  
General Governor of Ireland,  
May it Please your Excellency  
The Humble Memorial of Margaret Ledger  
Humbly Sheweth

That your Excellency  
will please to consider that your widow mem<sup>st</sup> has a daughter of the name of **Anne Ledger**, Tried & found guilty & sentenced to seven years transportation for petty larceny at the last quarter sessions held for the City of Waterford.

That your Excellency will further please to consider that your widow mem<sup>st</sup> daughter had never been arraigned before a Court of Justice previous to the present alleged crime. As the enclosed character to your Excellency will more fully appear.

Therefore your Excellency's aged widow; mem<sup>st</sup> humbly & earnestly solicits your most wise, charitable, & humane consideration as to some Home Confinement in not sending her daughter Beyond Seas as that would be the means of Bringing your aged widow grey hairs to the Grave. And for such consideration she will as in duty Bound ever Pray.

Wm Hitchins July 14/48 [*sideways*]

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To His Excellency Earl of Clarendon  
Lord Lieutenant Gen<sup>l</sup> and General  
Governor of Ireland  
Castle  
Dublin

[2 seals]  
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