

Margaret Corbet ID1339 per *America* 1831

Margaret Corbett aged 13

Old Bailey December Sessions 1830

Stealing books

14 years transportation

Gaolers Report – Recommend by the Court to be sent abroad.

Series - HO 17

Piece Number – 46

Item Number – GP 49

Embarked on “America” for V.D.L.

To The Right Honourable Lord Melbourne His Majesty’s Secretary of
State for the Home Department.

1 Bowling Green Place

Little Woodstock Lane

St Maryleborne

14th December 1830

The humble Petition of John and Mary Corbett

Most humbly Sheweth

That your Lordships Petitioners are suffering under the affliction of
poverty and distress having three young children and having little or
no means for their support save the labours of the parents who are
in a very bad state of health.

That your Petitioner daughter Margaret a female of the age of 13 years whom they looked to for assistance and consolation in their honest executions to rear up the rest, having within a fortnight after leaving her place, unfortunately mixed with another female whom it had appeared though young was proficient in the arts of pilfering – that a theft had been committed on a Mr Matthews and a Mr Lane for 4 books and 4 and half yards of jean all valued at £1 4s.9p.

That your Petitioner's unfortunate daughter having been in company with the other when the theft had been committed she was tried with her at the late Old bailey Sessions and through exasperation or despair having betrayed some violent conduct during her trial without the slightest [] regarding the justice of her sentence your Lordships Petitioners most humbly conceive that were it not for her contempt and violent conduct during her trial some distinction might have been made between the punishment awarded to her (it being her first offence) and her seducer into crime.

That as it is her first offence of any criminal nature that ever was laid to her charge as the Prosecutor believe your Petitioners most humbly submit their case to your Lordships humane consideration, hoping that as they most humbly conceive your Lordship will consider this as a case deserving a mitigation of the sentence of the Court and by not sending her out of the Country, give your Lordships poor affected Petitioner some hope of receiving [on a more] into their little circle their once darling child and your Lordships petitioners will as in duty bound ever pray.

(signed) John and Mary Corbett.

Daniel and Mary Lane Prosecutors most humble and earnestly entreats for mercy sincerely believing it to be her first offence

(signed) Edward Daniele

James Matterson – Prosecutor

And 7 more signatures.
