

Maria Wright ID6782 per *Jane* 1833

Maria Wright aged 17

William Wright aged 20

Old Bailey October Sessions 1832

Stealing from the person

Transportation for Life

Gaolers report – William Wright not known. Maria Wright Prostitute

Series – HO 17

Piece Number – 69

Item Number - MR 23

To The Right Honourable Viscount Melbourne Secretary of State for
the Home Department.

The humble Petition of the Relatives and Friends of William and
Maria Wright now laying in His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate.

Most humble Sheweth

That the said William and Maria were charged with robbing John
Kneale of his wearing apparel on Monday 15th October last and tried
at the late Old Bailey Sessions and sentenced to be transported
beyond the seas for the term during their natural lives.

Your Petitioner solicit to submit a brief statement of their case: On
Monday evening 15th October Williams Wright returned home to his
house situate in Catherin Wheel Ally Whitechapel and found the
Prosecutor John Kneale standing at the door, and asked him what he
wanted there. The Prosecutor replied: that he had been robbed in
his house Wright immediately fetched two Policemen who
immediately searched the place but could not find anything,
Prosecutor then gave charge of Maria Wright and William Wright

accompanied her to the Station House, where the charge was booked, and William and Maria Wright were locked up. On the trial, the Prosecutor stated that on the evening in question, he met two young men in the Commercial Road whom he had never seen before, and that he saw William and Maria Wright behind them, that he drank with these young men and accompanied them to Catherine Wheel Alley to take part in a pot of beer in what he conceived to be a Public House, and that William and Maria were in the room, but could not state who robbed him.

The two young men in question are the Prosecutor's Brothers in Law and whom William and Maria Wright asserts are the guilty persons, having since their trial received information of the fact.

Your Petitioners do therefore most respectfully solicit to recommend William Wright aged 19 and Maria Wright aged 17 to your Lordships clemency, praying that if consistent with the Laws of our Country, that your Lordship would be graciously pleased to mitigate the punishment, which the Laws of our Country have awarded to them, it being their first offence.

And your Lordships Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

John Airey – Grocer

J Mayne – Minister of St Matthews, Bethnal Green

Robert Simpson – Chaplain to The White Chapel Society for the Education of the poor.

The Father and Mother of these unfortunate youths, humbly pray your Lordship will take their case into consideration and they in duty bound will ever pray.

And a further 9 signatures.
