



Name and Register No.

9816.

14436 Thomas Brown

age 17

Convicted		Crime	Sentence	When received into Millbank Prison
When 17 th Oct ^r 1848.	Where Haverfordwest	Stealing from 7 years the person	7 Years	9 th August 1849. Haverfordwest

To The Right Honorable
Sir George Grey Baronet, Her Majesty's
Principal Secretary of State for the
Home Department

Prayer of
Petition
for
Consideration
of
Case.

The petition of Thomas Brown
a prisoner in Shorncliffe Convict
Station, - humbly sheweth
That your petitioner.

In the hope that after a kind
consideration of his case, you may be pleased to re-
commend him to the merciful consideration of Her
Majesty, proceeds respectfully to lay the particulars
of his case before you -

Plea
Unfair
trial.

Some eleven months ago, I was in
the neighbourhood of Pembroke-shire, South Wales -
and attended a fair held there, in company with two
Friends. we had been in the fair about four hours,
when wishing to leave it in order to take a walk in
another direction, we agreed to separate from the crowd.
Just as we had got out of the fair, we were accosted by a
Police Officer, who said that several robberies had been
committed during the morning, and as he knew one of my
companions to be a bad character, and our being strangers
there besides, he should take us all in custody on
suspicion. we were then taken directly to the Magistrates,
but as no one appeared to prefer any charge against us,
they remanded us until further consideration. on the
next day we were again brought before them, and a
man appeared, who charged me with robbing him of
seven shillings. for that he could swear to my being close
to him at the fair, and that I saw him put the money in

his pocket. he also said, that from the particular notice he took of me at the fair, he felt all but convinced that I had robbed him. he admitted that he did not see me abstract it from his person, and for that reason he could not swear to my doing so. The Magistrate forthwith committed me to trial on this evidence, and discharged my two friends. on the ensuing Sessions was brought to Court, and my Prosecutor appeared unattended by any witnesses. in the meantime, I had engaged a Mr. Lyod, ^{of Harfordwest} my counsel. in the course of my trial, my Solicitor detected the Prosecutor in two distinct and glaring falsehoods, and observed; that according to the very contradictory nature of the evidence adduced against me, the Jury could not well do otherwise, than return a verdict of not guilty. in this he was interrupted by the Chairman, who said, that granting I was not guilty in this instance, he had no doubt I had been guilty in many other cases. and as robberies were become so frequent there, it was necessary that an example should be made to deter others for the future. shortly after this the Jury retired for deliberation, during which the Governor of the Gaol delivered my money & other property over to me, and observed that he concluded I should get an acquittal seeing the perverting nature of my Prosecutor's evidence. after an hour's consultation, the Jury came again into Court, and returned a verdict of guilty against me, which caused a great sensation, and was to me completely astounding. on which the Judge after some very severe (and as I think) unjust remarks to me. sentenced me to Transportation for seven years —

Such, Honorable Sir, are the precise facts connected with my case. I was never before imprisoned before a Court of Judicature, and there were then present several respectable persons, who were fully prepared to speak in favour of my Character. I must and do consider myself to have been unjustly treated, and if enquiries are instituted into the truth of my statements; my then Solicitor, Mr. Lyod of Harfordwest, can if living fully corroborate this. humbly and earnestly hoping my case may meet with your Kind consideration in my behalf, I resign the same in the hands of your clemency.

Your petitioner will every
Yrsy &c

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Thomas Brown 17

Pembroke 2^d Sept
Q^r 1848

Off from person
of Years Term^d
Last Rept^d - Char^r Not Known

W^t

4. W.

The jur^{or} states that he was
convinced on the sole evidence
of the Prosecutor - complains
of obscurions made by the
Att^{or} of the Defnd - represents
his good Char^r - & prays
that his sentence may be
mitigated. -