

To the Right Honorable Sir
George Grey Baronet Secretary
of State for the Home
Departments

The Humble Petition of John
Badcock of et^o 4, Meads Court
Wardour Street in the County of
Middlesex

Sheweth,

That your Petitioner is the Father of
one Edward Badcock the subject
of this Petition

That in the month of July last
the said Edward Badcock was
tried before Mr. Serj. Adams at the
Clerkenwell Sessions for having
unlawful possession of a pocket
Handkerchief and he was convicted
& sentenced for that offence by the said
learned Judge to 10 years Transportation

That the said Edward Badcock
is now of the age of 13 years only
& is the eldest Son of a family of

Five Children of whom your Petitioner is the
Father.

That your Petitioner has been in much better
circumstances than he is in at present he having
been in business for himself as a Hatter for a great
number of years, but owing to many domestic
afflictions and the reverse of fortune he has
been greatly reduced.

That your Petitioner's wife has lost her reason
and is now confined in Bethlem in which
Institution she has been for the last 12 months.

That the said Edward Badcock your Petitioner's
said Son has unfortunately been made the dupe
of wicked accomplices with whom he has lately
got intermixed and in this case the more innocent
is suffering for the more guilty.

That the said Edward Badcock previously
to his having become acquainted with those
persons used to be industriously employed, and
helped in a measure to tend towards the
support of the large Family your Petitioner
is the father of.

That your Petitioner being in very needy
circumstances owing to the scarcity of
employment in his trade of a Hatter and the
poorness of the remuneration when there
happens to be employment, feels greatly the
loss of his said Son not only on account
of the weekly stipend which he used previously
to his confinement to earn but also from
the fact of your Petitioner supposing that a
child of your Petitioner should be doomed to

undergo the sentence which has been passed upon him thro' the wicked designs of others.

That your Petitioners would willingly place him under his immediate control if an opportunity offered and end labour to restore him once again to the paths of virtue and prudence in order to make him a useful member of society.

Your Petitioners therefore most humbly pray that your Lordship may be pleased to grant a commutation of the sentence passed on the said Edward Badcock to be made and that instead of a somewhat innocent Child being made the sufferer ^{for others} of whose guilt is of a deeper dye, by undergoing the long term of imprisonment allotted to him he may thro' the instrumentality of your Lordship be restored to the bosom of his Family after undergoing a term of imprisonment which in your Lordships discretion may think advisable to answer the ends of justice and at the same time prove a lesson to him as to his future conduct thro' life.

And your Petitioner will ever pray &

John Badcock

4 Oct

206

26.

Edward Badcock 14

Midd^{le} Sex

July 1847

Off from prison

10 Years Trans^{it}

Good Rep^t - 2 prison before

Oct. 6

Ind

The prison^{er} father states that he
is the father of others, more
guilty than himself, who
have escaped punishment;
& that he was in the habit of
contributing to the support of
the family. -

Ans. 19 Oct 1847