

To the Honorable the Legislative Council
of New South Wales in Council assembled:

The Humble Petition of the undersigned Female Inhabitants
of the City of Sydney:
Respectfully Sheweth,

That your Petitioners, the wives and daughters of the Citizens of Sydney, have watched with feelings of deep anxiety and alarm the long-suspended question of the Revival of Transportation, before your Honorable House.

That their apprehensions of the vast calamity which would be inflicted on New South Wales, by its recurrence to the condition of a Penal Settlement, were lulled into a fallacious tranquillity by the vote of your Honorable House on the first day of June 1819, and by the noble bearing and the unanimous decision of the Colonists generally, at the same period, against the Transportation of British Criminals to these shores, under any system, however much improved or modified.

That the feeling of security then partially established, has since been greatly shaken by the intelligence that Her Majesty's Government refused to act upon the solemn and unanimous resolve of the Legislative Council of the Colony, on this momentous question, until it should be reconsidered and reiterated, and at the same time declared that the opinions of the Colonists could only be received as expressed by their constitutional representatives.

That your Petitioners have heard that in consequence of this disturbing question being referred back by the Imperial Government for your reconsideration, a motion re-affirming your former resolution against Transportation is now before your Honorable House.

That your Petitioners approach your Honorable House, having manifold, most sacred, and responsible duties to discharge, in the infant training and moral instruction of those on whose virtues Australia must depend for the future; and therefore regarding the possible influx of any portion of the criminals of another community as an evil which would be fearfully perilous to the high interests of humanity necessarily and irrevocably committed to their hands:—

That your Petitioners, on behalf of the rising generation especially, do most earnestly pray that your Honorable House will put a final period to the peace-destroying agitation of this question of Transportation, by ^{publicly} ~~frankly~~ and unanimously reiterating your Petition to Her Most Gracious Majesty for the revocation of the order in Council which continues New South Wales a Penal Colony:

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Samuel Nathan
J. Allen
Jane & P. Allen
Margt. Allen
C. W. Allen

Eleanor Stephen
Eliza Trolley
Sarah Ann Jones
Ann Brown
Anne E. Mitchell

Esther Robinson
Harriet Bots
Harriet Bots (L. King)
C. J. King
Florence Emily Robinson