

Ann Daley's petition for the pardon of her Son Dominick Daley
under Sentence of Death in Hampshire County.

In Council May 27th 1806 -

Advised that the prayer of the within petition be not granted.

To His Excellency Caleb Strong, Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth
and the Honorable Council,

Humbly _____,

Ann Daley

of Boston in the County of Suffolk and Commonwealth aforesaid, widow,
that her son Dominick Daley, late of said Boston is now convict by the
verdict of a Jury of the Crimes of Murder and Robbery and pursuant to Law
is under sentence of death for the same; as now your Petitioner begs leave
humbly to request, as well in behalf of the unhappy convict, his wife, and
child, as herself; that the evidence was not positive; but wholly
circumstantial; that a child not fourteen years was the principal witness; and
your Excellency well knows the susceptibility to fear, the inclination to
credulity, and the liability to error which fasten on the mind of youth;

A murder had been committed and two strange men had passed
through the Town. How natural to prejudge the wayfaring strangers as the
perpetrators of the crime! Neither can your Excellency be unconscious of
the strong prejudice prevailing among the Inhabitants of the interior against
the common Irish people who have emigrated to the Unite States and in the
present case the public mind had been influenced in great degree by
conversations and news-paper publications which precluded the possibility
of that impartiality of mind which the law contemplates;

and further that the prisoner has been ever a good son, father and
husband; and ever sustained the reputation of an honest man and good
subject;

that one circumstance relied upon at the trial, was, that he left Boston
on Tuesday morning and loitered on his way; the prisoner being confined;
and your petitioner being poor and unable and not knowing it would be a
point in the trial, did not produce proof that he left Boston on Wednesday
afternoon; Therefore under all these circumstances; as well as deriving hope
from the clemency and mercy which adorn and dignify the Chief Magistrate;
your petitioner humbly prays that her son may receive full pardon; or that an
ignominious death may be commuted for some other mode of punishment.

Out as in Duty bound will ever pray ~

Ann Daley

May 27th 1806 - The Council advised not to grant the Prayer of the
petitioner.

C. Strong