

Transcript for clarity of extracts from The Perthshire Constitutional, October 2nd 1850, which shows the sentencing of those involved in the Dunfermline affair, and by way of highlighting the leniency of the sentences given to the dozen who “rose up against the Irish”, shows a further five much harsher sentences handed down by the same judges for much less serious offences.

Thursday, Sept. 26.

The Court having again met, immediately proceeded with the following cases:--

PETER COWNIE found guilty on Tuesday of the crime of assault to the effusion of blood and danger of life during the Irish riot at Dunfermline, was then placed at the bar, and sentenced to seven years' transportation.

CHARLES WYNN, another of the rioters, received sentence of twelve month's imprisonment.

A batch of a dozen who rose up against the Irish to avenge the atrocities they committed, and who ejected them from their houses, and finally expelled them from Dunfermline, were next placed at the bar for sentence, when Alexander Black. Senior, and Alexander Black. Junior, Thomas Spowart, James Johnstone, and David Kinghorn received eighteen months' imprisonment, and Henry Donaldson, John Donaldson, John Bell, John Seaton, Adam Baxter, Duncan McNaughton, and George Philip fifteen months imprisonment.

Later in the same column:

32/ ISABELLA WHITELOW, Perth, accused of theft – aggravated by previous convictions, was sentenced to seven years' transportation.

33/ JOHN McINTYRE, Perth, charged with theft by housebreaking, and opening lockfast places – pled guilty to all but the opening of a chest and taking away a pound note. Sentence – seven years' transportation.

34/ WILLIAM DUNCAN, charged with stealing from a green at Hawkhill, Dundee, a pair of trousers in August last, aggravated by being habit and repute a thief and previously convicted, pled not guilty. He was found guilty as libelled, and sentenced to seven years' transportation.

35/ JOSEPH McWILLIAMS, from Dundee, charged with stealing from the pockets of Maurice Baillie, at the Meadows, 27th August, a silk handkerchief, with the usual aggravations, was found guilty as libelled, and sentenced to ten years' transportation.

36/ MARGARET STEWART or McLAUCHLAN, charged with stealing from a house in the Broad Close, Overgate, Dundee, a blanket on the 28th August, with aggravations, pled not guilty. She was found guilty, and sentenced to seven years' transportation. Before leaving the bar, she addressed Lord Ivory as follows, and in the most polite manner imaginable.- “My Lord, I thank your Lordship for the sentence, and I only regret that you have had it in your power to transport a woman sixty degrees better than yourself.”

