

Sir James Dougherty

Draft of suggested letter herewith as promised

A [Aberdeen]

26.8.12 [26 August 1912]

Draft of proposed letter

August 26 1912

Madam

I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th inst. [instant] and in reply, I have to point out that the statutory Prison Laws, which cannot be altered except by special act of Parliament bar the way definitely to persons of any condition who are convicted of felony & sentenced to penal servitude being treated as misdemeanants or accorded any special privilege not enjoyed by other convicts & it would therefore be entirely outside the scope of His Excellency's official influence to meet the petition contained in your letter entailing as it would the alteration of the existing law as to the treatment of these prisoners.

I remain,

Madam

Yours etc.