

## **Oscar Slater's letters from Tombs Prison (NRS, AD21/5/43 and 44)**

A 12. LETTER, Accused to Hugh Cameron, Glasgow, addressed Production No. 53.  
from Tombs Prison, New York, dated 2nd February  
1909.

New York,  
Centre Street,  
Tombs, 2/2/1909.

B

Dear Friend Cameron,—To-day it is nearly five weeks I am kept here in prison for the Glasgow murder.

I am very down-hearted my dear Cameron to know that my friends in Glasgow like Gordon Henderson can tell such liars about me to the Glasgow police.

C

I have seen here his statements he made in Glasgow telling the police that a German came up to him and had told him Oscar Slater had committed the murder, and also that I have been on the night of the murder in his place asking him for money, I was very excited and in hurry, I didn't think it was very clever from him, because he like to make himself a good name by the police to tell such liars.

D

I don't deny I have been in his place asking him for money because I went broke in the Sloper Club. Only I will fix Mr Gordon Henderson I will prove with plenty of witnesses that I was playing there mucky, and I am entitled to ask a proprietor from a gambling house when I am broke for money.

E

He would not mind to get me hangt and I will try to prove that from a gambling point, I am right to ask for some money. *I hope nobody propper mindet will blame me for this.*

The dirty character was trying to make the police believe I done the murder, was excitet, asking for money to hop off.

F

I think you know different remember we have been in the Cunard Line office trying to change for a £5 : 0 : 0 note, we have been in three or four differend place after found some change in the Grosvenor have posted with you on Hope Street office a registered letter.

G

I shall go back to Glasgow with my free will, because you know so good than myselfs that I am not the murder.

I hope my dear Cameron that you will still be my friend in my troubel and tell the truth and stand on my side. You know the best the reason I have left Glasgow because I have shown

to you the letter from St Francisco from my friend, also I have A  
left you my address from St Francisco.

I reelly was surprised I don't have seen your statement because  
I think you was too strait forward for them. They only have  
taken the statement against me and not for me. Likely I will  
be in Scotland in fourteen days and so quicke your hear that I  
am in prison in Glasgow send me the best criminal lawyer up you B  
get recomendet in Glasgow I stand on your dear Cameron.

Keep all this quiet because the police is trying hard to make  
a frame up for me. I must have a good lawyer, and after  
I can proof my innocents befor having a trail, because I will  
prove with five people where I have been when the murder was C  
committed.

Thanking you at present, and I hope to have a true friend on  
you, because every man is able to get put in such a affair and  
being innocent.

My best regards to you and all my friends.—I am, your friend,  
(Sgd.) OSCAR SLATER, D  
Tombs, New York.

Production No. 67.

13. LETTER, Robert Rogers, London, to John S. Marr,  
Glasgow, dated 5th October 1908.

36 Albemarle Street, W,  
London, Oct. 5, 1908. E

Dear Sir,—In reply to yours of the 4th inst. I beg to state  
that Mr A. Anderson has been my tenant for over two years.  
He is a highly respectable gentleman, and has always been F  
prompt in his payments.—Yours faithfully, ROBERT ROGERS.

Production No. 68.

14. LETTER, Davenport & Co., London, to John S. Marr,  
Glasgow, dated 5th November 1908.

7 and 8 New Coventry Street, Piccadilly, G  
London, W., Novr. 5, 1908.

The person referred to in your letter of yesterday's date was  
a tenant of a client of ours, and he always paid his rent