To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The Humble Petition of John Hopton, Russell Chichester, of the Middle Temple, and Belgrave Road, in the county of Middlesex, Esquire.

Most Respectfully Sheweth:—

That by an Act passed in the 23rd year of the reign of His Majesty King George III. intituled, "An Act for appointing Commissioners to inquire into the Losses and Services of all such Persons who have suffered in their Rights, Properties, and Possessions during the late unhappy dissensions in America in consequence of their loyalty to His Majesty and attachment to the British Government," it is enacted "that John Wilmot, Esquire, Daniel Parker Coke, Esquire, Colonel Robert Kingston, Colonel Thomas Dundas, and John Marsh, Esquire, shall be and they are hereby constituted Commissioners for inquiring into the respective losses and services of all such person and persons who have suffered in their rights, properties, and professions during the late unhappy dissensions in America in consequence of their loyalty to His Majesty and attachment to the British Government."

That the said Commissioners, by their Report, stated that there were about 1800 American loyalists entitled to nearly £2,000,000, and that the said sum was unanimously voted by this House on the 8th day of June, 1788, for losses of land, negroes, and other property, but that fifty-five American loyalists whose losses arose from lands, mortgages, and debts due from American citizens, were, by an error of the said Commissioners, deprived of the benefit intended for them equally with their compensated fellow-sufferers, and were referred to the 4th Article of the Treaty of Peace between His Majesty and the United States of America, signed at Paris on the 3rd September, 1783, which provides "That creditors on either side shall meet with no lawful impediment to the recovery of the full value in sterling money of all bona fide debts theretofore contracted."
That Robert William Powell, the grandfather of your Petitioner, previously to the war between Great Britain and North America, was concerned in a very extensive commerce at Charleston, in South Carolina; and that the whole of his property, amounting to £40,000 sterling and upwards, consisted of debts due to him on bond and simple contract from the principal planters and inhabitants of Georgia and South Carolina.

That in breach of the said 4th Article of the Treaty of Peace between His Majesty and the United States of America, certain laws were made in the several States of America immediately subsequent to the peace, for the direct purpose of defeating that Article, and that laws which had been made during the war, and which ought to have been repealed in conformity with the Treaty of Peace, remained still in force; and that the said Robert William Powell, having been declared a refugee and an outlaw in consequence of his loyalty and attachment to the British Government, the recovery of the debts due to him was prevented, the plea of “Loyalist Debt” being held, in the American Courts, a good plea in bar to the claims of the said Robert William Powell.

That in the year 1794 a Treaty of Amity, Commerce, and Navigation was concluded between His Majesty and the United States of America, and by the 6th Article of that Treaty it was agreed that in all cases where full compensation for the losses and damages sustained by British subjects by the operation of lawful impediments to the recovery of their debts subsequent to the peace, could not be obtained by the creditors in the ordinary course of justice, the United States would make full and complete compensation for the same to the said creditors, and that for the purpose of ascertaining the amount thereof five Commissioners should be appointed, of whom three were to constitute a Board, with full power, and all decisions were to be made by the majority of the Commissioners present and their award to be final and conclusive; and the United States undertook to cause the sums awarded to be paid in specie to the creditors without deduction.

That a Board of Commissioners, duly appointed under the 6th Article of the said Treaty, met accordingly at Philadelphia, in May, 1797, and claims were brought in before them to the amount of £5,638,629 sterling; and that after certain progress had been made in deciding on principles necessary to regulate the decision of the Commissioners on the claims made before them, and after a controversy, which arose and continued for a long time, the American Commissioners (in the course of the year 1799) adopted the practice, first of withdrawing themselves from the Board when they found the opinion of a majority of the Board against their opinions, alleging that the stipulation of the 6th Article did not require them to give effect by their presence to proceedings which they deemed injurious
to the just rights of the United States, and which they stated they believed it to be their duty to resist, in such cases, by all the means to which the Treaty enabled them to resort; that they afterwards entirely withheld their attendance, by reason of which no effectual proceedings could be had, it being necessary by the Treaty that one Commissioner on each side, and the fifth Commissioner should be present, and that the British Commissioners and the fifth Commissioner continued to attend for more than twelve months after the withdrawing of the American Commissioners, who had given in a Minute, implying, as stated by Mr. Macdonald, that they would not attend without radical points were conceded, which in the opinion of the other Commissioners (being a majority of the Board) would have defeated the object of the Treaty, and that in the month of August, 1800, Mr. Macdonald, who was the first Commissioner named on the part of His Majesty, returned to Great Britain, and the conduct of the British Commissioners in the whole of the proceedings under the said Commission was highly approved of by His Majesty’s Government.

That on the 8th January, 1802, a Convention between His Majesty and the United States of America was signed, whereby the United States of America engaged to pay, and His Majesty consented to accept, for the use of the persons described in the said 6th Article of the Treaty of 1794, the sum of £600,000 sterling in satisfaction and discharge of the money which the United States might have been liable to pay in pursuance of the provisions of the said 6th Article, which was thereby declared to be cancelled and annulled.

That an Act of Parliament was passed in the month of April, 1803, for the apportioning, dividing, and distributing the said sum of £600,000 amongst the several persons who should be found entitled to receive compensation out of the same, and three Commissioners were thereby appointed whose adjudications were to be final.

That the said last-mentioned Commissioners awarded the claim of the said Robert William Powell to amount to £19,000 sterling (he not being able at that distance of time to prove the solvency of the whole of his debts), on which sum the said Robert William Powell received out of the said sum of £600,000 a dividend of £8824. 4s. 1d. leaving a balance of £10,175. 15s. 1d. then still due to him on his claim as established before the said last-mentioned Commissioners.

That the claims to compensation of the said fifty-five uncompensated American loyalists were afterwards brought before this Honorable House on the 7th day of June, 1821, when a resolution a That the House do resolve itself into a Committee to consider the
claims of those American loyalists who had suffered in consequence of their adherence to their allegiance, and who had not yet been remunerated,” was carried by a large majority.

That Mr. Vansittart (then Chancellor of the Exchequer), refusing to include the sum claimed by the said uncompensated American loyalists in the yearly estimates, offered to them certain droits of the Crown, at that time forming the balance due from the Commissioners “for the care and management of Dutch Prizes.”

That in the year 1822 a sum of £61,000, part of the said droits of the Crown, was set apart for distribution amongst the said uncompensated American Loyalists in proportion to the several amounts awarded to them by the Commissioners under the last mentioned Act of Parliament; and that the said Robert William Powell then received a further sum of £5087. 18s., leaving a balance of £5087. 18s. 11d. still due to him on his claim as established before the last-mentioned Commissioners.

That the said Robert William Powell, afterwards, and up to the time of his decease, made frequent applications to Government soliciting payment of the balance still due to him on his said Claim, but that no payment, save as aforesaid, was ever made to the said Robert William Powell in his lifetime, or to your Petitioner, since the decease of the said Robert William Powell on account thereof.

That the said Robert William Powell died on the 13th day of May, 1835, having duly made and published his last Will and Testament in writing, bearing date the 21st day of March, 1834, and thereby appointed your Petitioner his sole executor. And that your Petitioner on the 13th June, 1835, duly proved the said Will in the proper Ecclesiastical Court, and thereby became, as your Petitioner is advised, the sole legal personal representative of the said Robert William Powell, deceased.

That in the year 1836 your Petitioner presented a Memorial to the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury showing the several matters and things hereinbefore mentioned and set forth, and praying that the balance due to your Petitioner as such executor, might be paid to him.

That by a letter dated the 29th August, 1836, your Petitioner was informed by Mr. F. Baring “that he was commanded by their Lordships to acquaint your Petitioner that, as it appeared to his Lords that Mr. Robert William Powell and the other claimants had received all they were induced to expect, and as his Lords had no funds at their disposal out of which any further payments could be
made, they were not prepared to recommend a vote to Parliament to meet the claim which your Petitioner had put forward."

That the said Robert William Powell was always induced to expect full compensation for his losses suffered in consequence of his loyalty and attachment to the British Government, and that his expectations were founded on the solemn pledges of the legislative and executive bodies of the empire on the proclamations of His Majesty, his admirals, and his generals, the resolutions of both Houses of Parliament, the speech of His Majesty to Parliament after the peace, the addresses of both Houses of Parliament in answer to the King's Speech, the speeches delivered to both Houses of Parliament on the discussion of the Treaty of Peace, and an English Act of Parliament (23 Geo. III., c. 89).

That no payment has ever been made to your Petitioner in respect of the said balance so remaining due to the said Robert William Powell at the time of his death on his claim as established before the said Commissioners, and that the whole of the said balance of £5687. 17s. 11d. is still due to your Petitioner as such executor as aforesaid.

That your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honourable House will institute an enquiry into the circumstances herein stated, and grant your Petitioner such relief as to your Honourable House shall seem meet.

And your Petitioner will ever pray &c.
Boyes & Child, London
Accountants & Auditors
42 Poultry

Sir,

Lombard Deposit Bank in Liquidation

I beg to inform you that I have been appointed by the Court of Chancery the Official Liquidator of the above named Company.

I have to request that all further communications be addressed to me or my firm at this address and that all cheques and drafts be made payables to my order.

I remain, Sir
Yours truly

F.P. Child
My dear Edward,

Many thanks for the very pretty card you sent me and the fine note which accompanied it. It was so good of you to think of us at the beginning of the New Year.

Affe[cted] yor[es].

A.R. Ashler.
Pinner's Hall,
Old Broad Street,
London 11 Aug. 1878

My dear Sir,

Your letter just to hand. I cannot tell you how much I felt when Cowe told me he had put your affairs in W. Wallance Lewis' hands. I told him he knew Lewis your solicitor, he said you sent him the papers and requested him to get somebody to attend to them and pretended that he had forgotten that I asked for goods and that instead of my allowing the matter to

be taken out of my hands you would not keep up your papers, so to the L. I should be glad to hear you were clear of that concern. I see they were up again yesterday.

Stevens can do nothing at present and you may rely upon my keeping a sharp look out that when they make a move to shall be attended to. Hope you are well.

Yours faithfully,

1878

Deeply offended at your neglect.

Robt. M. Steadman

Sent for immediately answer to last letter.
My Dear Sir!

You will greatly oblige me by letting me know if the German Called there will come forward again in the event of a vacancy being created in the County. His friends and supporters here are very anxious to know as to the feeling everywhere as to the prospects of his being returned by a great majority.

Capt. Mahon.

New York.

[Signature]

Mr. Thaddeus Gibbons.
Pinner's Hall,  
Old Broad Street,  
London, 25 Aug., 1878

My dear Sir,

I have your last letter and am grieved to hear what you say about your son but trust by this time he is better.

Enclose your cousin's letter I was intended to convey to you the idea that he would not see everybody in his power to assist you for I am sure he would. I was only amazed that he knew Lewis acting for you did not when he received the papers come to me instead of taking them to old Vallance. Lewis Stevens has utterly failed to do anything as to the shares and I should say again the last plans will be to put them in somebody else's name. We shall all be glad to see you but I do not want Stevens to go to know you are in England until I see you.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

R. W. [Last Name]
97, Belgrave Road,
S.W.

2 Feb. 1870.

I am to ask Capt. E.G. Tucker,
the foreign first heard this morning, and I have
only just received 20,000
in the (14th. inst.).

I had some a cheque for
$20,000, for 20 years, and am

Yours truly,

[Signature]
Seed Warehouse
Sheaford  Feb. 23, 1878.

Colonel O. Mahon J.P.
Hyde Park, W.

Sir,

Seeing your name first on the list of
Trustees & Directors of the Lombard Bank &
Building Society, I venture to seek fair play,
which I have failed to procure at the hands of
Mr. James Payor, Manager of that Society.

I hold a receipt for 20s. signed by him
& dated Dec. 1st, 1877, for enquiring fee, as I wished
at that time for an advance of money.

I have heard no more of the affair
since, though I have written twice, & once enclosed
a stamped, directed envelope.

I ask you as a gentleman & as one
of the Directors, to be kind enough to try &
get me the 20s. returned, as no enquiries, or any
steps were taken to benefit me after receipt of it.

I prefer doing this to asking my
solicitor to apply for it, I am in no need of money now.

Yours respectfully,

[Handwritten signature]

Enclosed in stamped, directed envelope.
of New York Gent.

F. E. D. D. 2 Virginia

H. B. F. O. Y. A. D.

A. O. P.

R. S.

A. O. P.

A. O. P.

R. S.

A. O. P.

R. S.
My dear Colonel,

I am staying in town this evening, to meet some friends to the theatre. It should be like a real chaffan boned en attendant gossip with you. Shall you be at home, or at your club (opposite the Polytechnic) from 6 to 6.30? Please
let me have a word
by Earn.
With kindest regards,

Lem.
Dear Colonel,

Yours sincerely,

J. C. Archer

Colonel
To O. Freeman Station
March 9th, 1843

Dear Sir,

Capt. Robert Grove called on Saturday, wished to see you. Very particular, wished you to go to Russell's office &c., &c. Will send to the Bank. The captain will be in the city two or three days.

Yours obediently,

G. Stockwell

The O'Gorman Mahon
diesen into a earner.

so for interest, we might see if m. e. coxon name anything less than 10 front,

but i am quite willing to give that if required.

you will, i am sure, kindly help him not to write to my house, but

only here, to the bank, as i am anxious to have

some anxiety. With this help any trace of pay i can look forward to a happy future.

believe me dear colonel,

your sincerely

c. e. arnby

This will remain strictly entre colonel

of previews shew

13th march 1878

my dear colonel,

i was greatly relieved yesterday by your kind promise to aid me in getting out of the hands of the philistines, for it has worried me much to feel myself as it were helpless. i work so

hard you constantly that i have found
the mental anxiety almost too much for me, whereas with the help I have asked for my way is clear before me. I had heard too much about your kind nature to fear going to you for relief.

I sincerely hope that when the business will be able to supply the amount needed, if it would be preferable to him to advance the more business like sum of £150 well spent, but £130 come just as substant.</p>
14th March 1872

My dear Colonel,

May accept my sincere thanks for your kind and prompt action on my behalf.

Yours very sincerely

[Signature]

Colonel
The O'Sullivan Abhainn
When writing, please address

Halltown East Scot
20th March 1870

My dear Colonel,

Mr. Chichester
has entered very kindly
into my business, and
has referred me to a
Mr. Dorman, whom I am to
visit upon on Friday.

I sincerely hope all
will be well, and I will
write you again as
soon as I can report
any progress.
Greatly obliged,

I remain,

Your very sincerely,

[Signature]

Colonel

The O'Farman Nation
Post, to save law expenses & exposure. If you direct me to settle Cuckoo's claim out of the
Avenue funds, I shall do so, and there will be an end of that matter.

But should you ask me this,
I will send the above documents to Mr. H., who told me to keep
at Alice's office that the moment he got the document he would
settle it. If you would telegraph me the receipt of this, it would save me
much anxiety. Matilda and the
children send their love

Grace Kephart

135 The Old Mission Ave.
Policy belonging to me as soon as the debt shall have been cleared off, I will do myself the pleasure of calling on you as soon as matters are clear, with hearty thanks for your help.

Very sincerely yours,

J.E. Archer

P.S. I doubt if we shall be able to meet the farmers on Sunday evening, but I will call on you in the ensuing week.

19 Allhallows East Mw
23 March 1878

My dear Colonel,

As promised, I write to report progress. I have seen Mr. Worse and he will make the advance on the front security of yourself and me accompanied by a policy on my life. The only point at issue in the rate per cent (1%) proposed by him I also have.
own charge, both of which
I am endeavouring to
get him to reduce.
He also wants a charge
upon my lease, to which
I have no objection, as
he guarantees to keep
it private.

I have mentioned these
terms to Mr. Bache, and
he said frankly
that they are not quite
such as I like.

That if he could help me
to get the thing done in
a simple way I should
be very grateful, and I am
awaiting his reply.
Please say nothing if
you receive mine in the
meantime, as I want
to keep his offer open.
For after all I should
expect a large saving,
have my mind eased,
and have a further life
1 Pakenham Court
26th March 1878.

My dear Colonel,

One line

to say that I have come to terms with Mr. Dorset whereby I can effect my wish to be a great saver in the way of expense. I am going to insure my life for $200, but on a "7 years" policy, the premium on which will be very light ($1.10 per cent.), it
will be a satisfaction, as, in case of my death, before repayment of the advance, nobody but the Life Office will be the loser.

The document securing the advance will be ready in 3 or 4 days, as soon as it is so, I will let you know, and ask you to kindly attend to it. I cannot tell you my kind friend, what a comfort it is to me to see so near the end of my anxiety, & he assumed I shall honorably fulfill my undertaking. Hoping you are well with kindest regards, Dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

John C. Archer

Colonel The O'Sullivan Mahon
1 Pall Mall East 1W
28th March 1878

My dear Colonel,

Mr. Downie (who does not know your address) has asked me to request you to call at his office (No. 6 New Inn Street) tomorrow Friday between 10 & 11, 'keep seal & deliver'. I hope it will not cause you
any inconvenience to do this other the matter will be smoothly settled you will be no more troubled about it.

He does not tell me to go but I shall be there just before 2 I shall have to make a flying visit of it, for I am pretty busy just now. After all, the Life Insurance costs me but ½ t cent but covers you in case of my death. it being a 7 years policy. I hope this nasty wind has not made you cold much, with kindest regards, Demann.

[Signature]

[Signature]
My dear Colonel,

I called on Mr. Dowse at 1.55 today.

I completed the matter & took his cheque. I cannot tell you how much my mind is relieved, & I heartily thank you for your kindness & your confidence in me.
which shall not be abused.

Yours most sincerely,

John Archer

Colonel

The O'Ferman-Mahow