

To The Right Hon^{ble}: Spencer Compton Esq:
Treasurer to His Roy. High: The Prince of Wales.

The Humble Petition of Samuel Towers, Store keeper
of His Royall Highness's French Claret,
Sheweth

That y^r Pet^r came to a Contract with S^r Orlan: Bridgman
and M^r Selwyn, to provide Marks tols for drawing of y^e Fr: Claret
that should be us'd in His R: H: Family, and that he should provide
servants to Assist him in doing the same, as also Corks, packthread
sealing wax, Candles &c. and after y^e racking of the wines, to take all the
care and Charge of y^e Cellar upon him, paying all Wine Coopers & porters
work that should happen, as also y^e Carriage of all y^e wine from the
store Cellar to y^e Delivery Cellar (excepting that carry'd into y^e Country)
at y^e Rate of 30^s hogsh^d: for each hogsh^d: Expended, it being promis'd him
at y^e same time that he should have all proper Materialls fix'd in the
store Cellars, as Scantlings, Bottle racks, Cisterns, wth Conveniencies for
washing and drying y^e Bottles, which at that time was near compleated
in S^t James's house to his Entire satisfaction, & y^e same at Hamptⁿ: Court
the mony likewise according to that Contract amounted then to near 100.
Ann^u: But upon y^e unhappy Removall of His R: H: from S^t James's
the 2^d of Dec^r: 1717. The Maids of Hon^r: and Gent Ushers Tables were taken of,
which verry much reduc'd the mony arising by that Contract, tho' at the
same time his bottles much more expos'd, and his expence not les than before.
When we came to Richmond he labour'd under the same difficultys, having
no other place to wash and dry his Bottles but a publick yard, where every
one's serv^t: that wanted took at their pleasure. He mention'd these hard-
ships to M^r Lowell 12 Months ago, telling him he intended to lay them
before y^r Hon^r: but he advis'd him not to trouble you at that time,
hoping there would be better Conveniencies next Summer. However y^r
Pet^r: chief grievance lay in y^e Mony arising by the Contract, by reason
of the small Service, being so much reduc'd, and became much more so
the 1st of August 1718. When the Young Prince's and their servants
Tables were taken of. Since w^{ch} time he hath reckon'd up 12 Successive
Months and find^s the Mony arising to him by that Contract to be
only 55: 16: 1¹/₂ which he doth assure y^r Hon^r: is but little more
than half the Expence he hath been at.

He Therefore most humbly begs y^r Hon^r: will be pleas'd
to Consider him something for these 2 last Years, & that
from Christmas next for y^e future you'll please to let
that Contract be sett aside, and either give him leave
to bring Bills of the Expence of Bottles &c. Or fix him
such an Allowance, as, in y^r Hon^r: Goodness and
Wisdom, you shall think fitt,

And, as in Duty bound
he will ever pray &c.

GEOR. ADD. M. SP. 1/45

[1718]