

Duplicate

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To His Royal Highness,  
The Prince Regent,  
&c. &c. &c.

The humble Petition of St. John Mason  
Most respectfully sheweth,

That, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June last, The Hon<sup>ble</sup> The House  
of Commons, on the motion of The Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Richard Brinsley  
Sheridan, unanimously Resolved, - "That An humble Address  
" be presented to His Royal Highness, The Prince Regent,  
" praying, that he will be graciously pleased to give directions  
" to The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to institute an Inquiry  
" into the Case of St. John Mason Esq.; who, in a Petition,  
" presented to this House, on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May last, hath  
" directly charged The Government of The Earl of  
" Gardwicke, when he was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland,  
" with Injustice and Oppression towards him, the said  
" St. John Mason". - That the said Hon<sup>ble</sup> House then  
Ordered, - "That the said Address be presented to His Royal  
" Highness, by such Members of this House as are of His  
" Majesty's most Hon<sup>ble</sup> Privy Council." - And That  
Lord John Thynne, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July last, Reported to said  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> House, - "That the said Address had been so presented  
" to His Royal Highness, The Prince Regent; and That  
" His Royal had commanded him to acquaint The House,  
" That he will give directions, as required by The  
" Address."

That

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That Your <sup>Petitioner</sup> not having received any Notification whatsoever from His Grace, The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, respecting said Inquiry, begs leave, with the most dutiful Respect, to solicit The gracious Attention of Your Royal Highness to the same; and humbly to request, that a Speedy Opportunity may be afforded him of substantiating his said Charges of Injustice and Oppression; which your Petitioner doth firmly, but most respectfully, reassert to Your Royal Highness, against the Government of The said Earl of Hardwicke, as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

That a full Investigation and Substantial Development of said Charges having been alike the Object, not only of the distinguished Mover of the above Address, and The Hon<sup>ble</sup> House of Commons, but also of your humble Petitioner, - He, your said Petitioner, in furtherance thereof, Prays, that your said Petitioner will be graciously pleased to direct, that the full enjoyment and exercise of the following Privileges shall be granted to him, by the Commissioners, who may be appointed to conduct said Inquiry; - Viz.

Prayer.

1. - The Liberty, of fully detailing and discussing, in writing and by Viva Voce Testimony of himself and others, The whole Merits of his Case; which had, on the above Occasion, been truly denominated by the able and eloquent mover, A Case of unexampled grievance and Oppression; - said Liberty relating not only to the Injustice of the fact of his Imprisonment, as a State Prisoner, but also to the oppressive Treatment he experienced in Prison; whether such Injustice and Oppression had been committed directly by the Earl of Hardwicke's Government, or by the Instrumentality of subordinate Agents; - And that he be allowed a full, patient, and impartial

Hearing

Hearing thereon, and of all matters, before, during, and since his Confinement, which are, in anywise, connected therewith.

2<sup>dly</sup> - The Liberty of exposing, in like manner, by viva voce Evidence of your Petitioner and others, the Injustice and Oppression, which had been practised against other State Prisoners, by said Government and its professed Instruments; and more especially of exposing the Abuses of Millmainham Prison, and of all matters connected therewith, of which your Petitioner has abundant Proofs in his possession.

3<sup>dly</sup> - The Liberty of Summoning Witnesses in support of the above; - with full powers in said Commissioners to enforce their due Attendance, at the Request of your Petitioner; which Request is not to be denied by said Commissioners; And a patient Hearing of the Same.

And your Petitioner further Prays, that the aforesaid Privileges may, in their fullest extent and meaning, be so granted to him by the said Commissioners, not as matter of favor or Indulgence, but as matter of Right, and in promotion of Justice; - in order to enable your Petitioner, (who had been unjustly confined and brutally treated for more than Two Years, by said Government,) fully to Vindicate his <sup>injured</sup> Character, to bring home his said Allegations with effect, and to redeem that solemn Pledge, which he has already offered to The Grand Inquest of The Nation, and which he now, with all due and becoming Respect, offers to your Royal Highness; Namely, - To prove, under the possession and enjoyment of the Privileges herein prayed for, that, in his own person, and in the persons of others, the public Rights have been grossly Violated by the Injustice and Oppression of Lord Hardwicke's Government in Ireland.

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That, in Conclusion, Your Petitioner further Prays,  
That Your Royal Highness will be graciously pleased to  
direct that this present Petition, or a Copy of the same,  
be transmitted to His Grace, The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland,  
with Instructions to His Grace fully to comply with the  
Prayer herein contained. - And that Your Royal  
Highness will also be pleased to direct that a Communication  
be made to Your Petitioner of the gracious Pleasure of  
Your Royal Highness, respecting the said Prayer of Your  
aggrieved Petitioner.

And your much-injured Petitioner shall ever Pray  
Se. Hu. Hu.

St. John Mason.

London. December 18<sup>th</sup> 1811.

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Enclosure



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one sent to Mr Pydie