

Mrs.
(Eliza)
Giles
Peti-
tioner.

21834_5

To His Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Great Britain

May it please your Royal Highness

Your humble Petitioner an English born subject was taken by a Relation to America, in early life, married there and had a large Family — Her two eldest sons are in the Royal Navy of Great Britain, the first, W^m A. Giles was in the year 1804 impressed at Portsmouth and sent on Board the Prince of Wales of 92 Guns, where he was detained three years, and then removed to the Barflure, in which, he went to Copsebagan, and was one of those miserable Shepherd's seaman, who, in returning from thence in a Transport lost every thing but Life he was afterwards put into the Triumph, Cap^t: Sam^l: Hood Lindsay and in 1809 sailed to Cadix, where, at the instance of Lord Cothurst, and Adm^l: Digby, he was discharged as an American by Adm^l: Pucis on the Cadix Station and sent home — In 1813 he again entered the British service and sailed for Canada in the Lunet as Purser, under Cap^t: Don^l: Pring, was captured by the Americans on Lake Champlain, and received the thanks of that officer for voluntarily his services on Deck during the action, and was afterwards mentioned by Cap^t: Pring in his dispatch to the Lords of the Admiralty — Previous to his return to the British service he sent your Royal Highness's Petitioner a letter of attorney empowering her to receive from the admiralty seventeen months pay, and the Prize money due, and unpaid, to him, on his quitting the service in 1809 — this letter of attorney was rejected by that Board from the deficiency of the word (Britannic), it only expressing "His Majesty's Service" —

but said when a corrected power was presented, the money, about £50 should be forthcoming; but where to address her son your Royal Highness's Petitioner is at a loss to know —

Her second son St. Clair was detained a Prisoner on his arrival at Gravesend in a British merchantman from Lisbon, on a visit to his mother in England, in 1813, and from the simple circumstance of his being an American (tho' never in arms in his life) was put into a Prison ship, and notwithstanding the application of friends, was there detained twelve months. He finally on the 9th of April 1814 volunteered himself into the Royal Navy and sailed for the American Station in the Hero Castle Frigate commanded by the Cap^t: Hon^l: Lord George Stewart, under the name of Clair St. Giles — by these untoward circumstances your Royal Highness's Petitioner is deprived of the assistance her children might, under more favorable

auspices have afforded her

Your Royal Highness's humble Petitioner was heiress to an American Loyalist, who will her to the amount of fifteen thousand Pounds in Personal securities, which had been lost to said Loyalist by the confiscation Act in America — The family of your Royal Highness's Petitioner belonging to the Federal party in the United States was totally ruined by the machinations of the reigning Madisonian faction, and are now scattered abroad in all directions — in consequence your Royal Highness's Petitioner in 1811 came to England with the small fragments of a once affluent Fortune, and her youngest son and Daughter — she presented a Memorial to the Lord of the Treasury praying redress on her Loyalist claim — This was rejected by their Lordships, but they presented her with one Hundred Pounds as a poor gift — Your Royal Highness's Petitioner during a residence of four years in this Kingdom has spent all the Money she brought with her in the Education and support of her children, being some time since reduced to her last Guinea is now supported by the benevolence of Strangers in the sixtieth year of her age — she humbly hopes your Royal Highness will take her hard fate under your Royal consideration, and be graciously pleased under all the circumstances of this Petition to afford her such assistance as will keep herself and Daughter from the miseries of want, and enable her to continue the Education of her son George (now sixteen) till he is qualified by Education, and his own exertions, to obtain support for himself and his Mother —

The distinguished and respectable names subjoined, who know the difficulties and distress of your Royal Highness's Petitioner, will, she humbly hopes, still further recommend her to your Royal Highness's Protection — However small the boon, in itself, which she ventures to hope may be obtained of your Royal Highness's benevolence, it is one of great magnitude to her, and would be ever most gratefully acknowledged by your Royal Highness's most distressed Petitioner and most dutiful, and loyal subject

Eliza Giles

Wotton Hertis
Dec: 7th 1815

At Mrs. Giles's desire, I subjoin my name &
seal in attestation of the truth of the statement of
her case. — She is a person who, for the sake of her
Family, has struggled hard under great difficulties.

Clarendon.



1832

1

Wm Pitt

Decr. 15. 1716.

7. 1815