

Feb<sup>ry</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 1812

Sir

I have the Honor to be favored with your Letter - which I should have answered sooner - had I not been absent - and it is with extreme regret on my part - that I cannot answer it in the manner that you could wish - as I can assure you - that at present - I am in the greatest distress imaginable - and could as easily raise two Hundred pounds, as two Thousand - It certainly was an act of kindness and liberality on your part - in advancing the Money - and at the time I received it - I was confident of repaying it - in a short time - but since that period - I have had nothing but disappointments and Misery - to contend with - on such Terms - as have rendered existence of little, or no value - Mrs H - well knows my Situation - in respect to pecuniary matters - and when I gave her the Note - I had no prospect of paying it - when it became due - but I think there is a degree of Gratitude due to me - on her part - which you, Sir, may be ignorant of - I will therefore take the liberty of explaining it - Mrs H - must recollect - the Situation that her Parents were in - at Hinton - and felt very anxious to see them - more comfortably placed - which certainly was very meritorious on her part - which I obviated - by putting them in possession of a more desirable residence - with Fields annexed for their joint lives - which is of much more value

1773

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I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th inst. in relation to the petition of the said John Smith, and I am sorry to hear that the same has not been attended to by the Board of Commissioners. I have the honor to inform you that the said petition has been referred to the Board of Commissioners, and they have ordered that the same should be considered at their next meeting. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
 Your obedient servant,  
 J. H. M.



W. H. Spencer

than the money which you so kindly advanced me -  
 through her intercession - and in consideration of  
 that circumstance - I never have, nor do I intend -  
 to claim any rent - from her Parents - I mention  
 this only to prove that - the loss is not equal to  
 the benefit received - for the money advanced at  
 her request - notwithstanding this - I should feel  
 peculiar pleasure in repaying the money - whenever  
 I have the power of doing it - but at present - I  
 give you my Honor - it is not - and if the Payment  
 is enforced - as you say that you are determined to  
 wait no longer - I must submit to a Prison -  
 and there remain - till an Act of Insolvency passes  
 to extricate me -

I have the Honor to remain  
 Sir  
 your obliged and most humble Servant

W. H. Spencer

To General Bude -