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My Lord

The well known liberality of your Lordship's character and your Zeal for the interest and Honour of the British Empire, independently of all official considerations, induce me to hope that you will not only excuse the Liberty which I am taking in addressing you, but humanely endeavour to promote the success of it. I shall trespass as briefly as possible upon your Lordship's valuable time, and trust for pardon, if the nature of my case obliges me to say too much of myself. — For fifty years I have unceasingly exerted my powers in the cause of my King and Country, and have let no opportunity pass, during the whole of that period, in celebrating to the utmost of my ability the gallant Achievements of British Heroes, particularly those who have distinguished themselves in supporting our Great national bulwark the Navy. The Songs which I have written amount to upwards of fourteen hundred, and I may confidently say, that whatever may be their other pretensions, they uniformly tend to promote Virtue, and good morals, as well as to excite kind and liberal affections, and to diffuse a spirit of Loyalty and patriotism over all ranks of the community. As my Songs had the advantage of being set to music by myself, and as a great majority of them are become popular, especially those of the Naval kind, I have been led to indulge the hope that they have been useful to my Country in promoting a Zeal for its Glory, and in rendering our Gallant Sailors proud and happy in their Station. By a train of Misfortunes, of which I will not intrude a detail upon your Lordship, I have now reached my 69th year and with an amiable Wife and affectionate Daughter

wholly dependent on me, have no provisions but two hundred
Pounds a year which is allowed me by the kindness of Government,
for a service which I was required to render at a critical and
awful period, when there were the most alarming discontents
in the Navy. In the prosecution of my Zealous labours I
have endured great losses, and lately was Obliged to surrender
every thing that I possessed to my creditors. In addition to the
weakness of advanced age I am rendered absolutely helpless by
sever infirmity, and am as much dependent on my Wife
and Daughter for manual assistance and consoling sollicitation
as they are upon me for support. Not to intrude too much
upon your Lordship, I beg leave to say that the object of my
present address is to throw myself on your Lordship's humanity
and humbly to intreat that by your kind influence the
annuity which I have mentioned may be secured to my
wife and Daughter after my decease, and that you will
still further extend your kindness by procuring some little
addition to that annuity during my own life, as the hardship
of the times, and the weight of my infirmities press heavily
on me. The anxiety of my mind to obtain some provision
for my wife and Daughter, as I am wholly incapable of leaving
them any, is such as I will not attempt to describe, and
must appeal to your Lordship's sensibility to conceive. I
humbly beg leave to strengthen my application to your
Lordship by the following statement. His Royal Highness
the Duke of Kent has long condescended to favour me with
his notice, and I was therefore emboldened to represent my
situation to him. He graciously attended to my case, and
advised me to present a petition to his Royal Brother, The
Prince Regent, and to transmit it to Col.^o M^o Mahon,

I did so and the Col^l with the most gentlemanly kindness
 submitted my Petition to the Prince who graciously condescended
 to command it to be laid before the late Mr. Percival, for his most
 favourable consideration. The melancholy loss of that distinguished
 character unhappily intercepted my hopes, and fearing that in
 the agitation of important business my application had been
 forgotten, I again appealed to the kindness of the Duke of Kent
 for a renewal of his condescending interposition in my favour.
 His Royal Highness, with the same benevolent feelings in my
 behalf, again wrote to Col^l Mc Mahon, requesting him to use his
 endeavours specially for my relief. — The Col^l did me the honour of
 assuring me that from inclination as well as in obedience to the
 command, of his Royal Master he had been enjoined to submit my
 case to Mr. Percival, and also to your Lordship. That assurance
 now prompts me to appeal to your Lordship, and to rely upon your
 Lordship's acknowledged character for humanity, to consider my
 unhappy situation, arising from helpless, and hopeless infirmity,
 and extreme anxiety for the future support of a Wife and
 Daughter whose affectionate and unceasing attention and
 tenderness demand every return of kindness and gratitude,
 earnestly imploring your Lordship's pardon for so long an
 intrusion upon you, and venturing to hope that high as your
 Lordship's station is, and important as your pursuits in life
 have been, my name and humble merits are not wholly
 unknown to your Lordship, I beg leave to subscribe myself

My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most obedient servant

To the Earl of Liverpool

Dee Dee Dee

(D. D. D.)

In Mr. Tolson's
of 4 Sept 1812