H. Taylor to Col. McMahon

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Dear Sir,

The Idea that you suggest has in fact been already adopted in the form of a Petition to The King, which, on referring to the Terms of the Arrangement of 1791, appeared to the Parties principally interested the most regular mode of proceeding to obtain a decision upon their Rights; and as it was to pass officially to the Throne thro' the hands of the Lord Chamberlain, I was anxious that H.R.H. should receive some previous intimation of the matter, which induced me to risk troubling you as I did upon the subject.

The Cases however of the Playhouses and of this Place are in themselves so essentially different, as to require distinct considerations; this being as I conceive confined to the Right upon this Patent Rights resulting from the recent opening of so many other and inferior Places under the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, contrary to former custom; whereas here the very existence of this Concern as a Property has been at Issue, even since the reinstatement and opening of the Pantheon last winter as an Opera House, and the Question therefore to be now decided is, whether the Arrangement of 1791, so in suspence, shall be positively re-established

re-established or entirely abandoned, which rests with the Prince Regent alone to determine, and the Object of the Petition that has been presented is to bring that Point to a final decision.

About the Event I am myself personally indifferent; the Blow that has been struck at me in the re-establishment of the Pantheon, with all its circumstances, being of so fatal a nature as no new Act can repair, I rest upon the Justice of my Case, solemnly guaranteed to me by the Arrangement of 1791, which was sanctioned as you know by the signature of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and that of the late Duke of Bedford and the then Lord Chamberlain, and also with the approbation of the King himself. Upon such a Security surely the least that I can be entitled to is the return of all the Money that I have paid upon the good faith of it; and as to the rest let God's will be done.

I am the Victim of the Intrigues & Misrepresentations of Mr. Greville, Mr. La Cacia and their associates, who have so far accomplished their Object of severely wounding, if not even entirely destroying this Concern, in prevailing upon the Lord Chamberlain to remove the Opera Establishment back

again

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again to the Pantheon, where if they are not more successful with it, than it has been here, they will have effected an injury to other Persons, without obtaining a Benefit to themselves, which I think very likely to prove the result of their Labors; in the furtherance of the accomplishment of their purposes they have had the temerity to use, or rather abuse, the influence of H.R.H. name and authority in an incredible degree, which I dare say is unknown to the Prince Himself, to whom therefore I shall never complain of it; the time indeed is past for any thing of the sort; the mischief is done, and there an End.

I remain, with Great Respect & Regard,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful & obliged Hble Servt.

W. Taylor

31st October 1812.

The Rt. Hon.ble Col. McMahon &c &c

Miss Taylor
31 Oct. 1912