Case

W. Playfair Author of Family Antiquity a Book Published by Subscription which he had Planned so far Back as the year 1795. began the Publication in 1808 Selling one Moitie to one Thomas Reynolds on Condition of his Furnishing the Money necessary to Carry on the Work

At the same time that the Work was undertaken thus divided into 2 Equal Parts Reynolds wrote & delivered to Playfair a Memorandum of which the following is a Copy

"To Mr. Wm. Playfair"

"If it will be making sure of Family Antiquity with the "Public to get the King and Royal Family thereby agree that "the Subscription of His Majesty and any others of the Family "that you may obtain shall be entirely for your own "benefit instead of being like other Subscriptions for mutual "advantage"

"King Street 15 March 1808" (Signed)

Thos. Reynolds"

By the above agreement or Memorandum Playfair never was Partner with Reynolds in Regard to any Books delivered to the Royal Family in consequence of their Subscription — Their Majestys His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales & several others of the Royal Family Honoured Playfair with their Patronage in his own Name & the Books were delivered.

Reynolds being unable to fulfill his agreement in finding the Money Playfair in order to prevent a Work

to

so highly Patronised & to which his name only was affixed was obliged to sell the other Half to one Harvey Grace but as he never was Partner with Reynolds for the Royal Familys Copies no mention was made of them in that Deed nor in the Release given by Playfair.

Reynolds & Grace became Bankrupts after the work was Published & the Assignees now Put in a Claim for the Money due by the Royal Family Tho' they can have no Right where the Bankrupts themselves never had any More Especially as it was through the Failure of Reynolds in his Agreement that Playfair was compelled to sell the 2d Moitie.

To these Circumstances is to be added that the last agreement with Reynolds & Grace has never been fully executed on their Part all the Money that was Bargained to be paid not having been Paid Wherefore Playfair contends.

1st That Reynolds never had himself a Right to Half or any Part of the Money from the Royal Family even if he had fulfilled his agreement

2d That Grace could much less have a Right When the Bargain was founded on the Inability of Reynolds & Particularly as the Bargain with Grace only was for the Half not before Ceded to Reynolds

3d So Completely was the Royal Family's Patronage out of the Question that it never was even mentioned in the Writings which had all of them a Relation to the 2d Half of the Property.

4th That at all events the Assignees cannot be in a better State than the Bankrupts Particularly as they did not fulfull their agreement With Playfair.

5th That the Alienation of the Property being in every respect occasioned by failure first on the Part of Reynolds in keeping his agreement & secondly on a discovery that Grace was a Man of little Property Whereas he had Represented himself to be Very Wealthy & that the Agreement and consideration for Which Playfair Ceded the Property is not Paid it Would be the greatest of all Hardships to keep from Playfair the Only Money Coming from that Publication that Will in any Manner Remunerate him for his Labour & that same Money to go to the Assignees of Men Who have got the Property Owing to their allways failing in their Engagements to Playfair.

Case
Mr William Parsons
1812

28534

Sir

I waited on you by the desire of Mr Playfair to request the favor of your procuring an immediate decision on the question as to his claim on the Prince Regent for Family antiquity as by the want of which he is prevented from obtaining several sums due from other persons which in his present Case of Confinement in a prison besides having a Distress for Rent in his House bear extremely hard upon him and therefore most earnestly solicits some immediate Assistance may be given him – Colonel Mc Mahon did Mr P. the honor of calling on him at the Fleet & promised to let him have £50 on account which sum if it could be obtained by Monday would extricate him from his present distressing difficulties –

The favor of an immediate Answer will greatly oblige both Mr Play, and for

Your most Obdt

October 3d, 1812

C Bugby

3. Oct. 1012

Ms. Hayley to Mr. Hook

= Hook-Hay: