

kept he would have given £50 for it in peaceable times exclusive of any buildings upon it

He does not know that the claimant had any buildings upon it that were his property.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[771]

No 53. . . .

The Memorial of Cap<sup>t</sup> Robert Bisset,<sup>148</sup> formerly a Planter in East Florida, but at present residing in Cambridge St James's Westminster.

Sheweth That your Memorialist was one of the First Settlers in the said Province after it's Cession to great Britain by the Crown of Spain; Having formed a Plantation early in 1767 and continued a Planter in it till Spring 1784. (17 Years) That he was seized in Fee Simple and possessed of a very considerable property in said Province, consisting of Nine different Tracts of Land, containing 9500 Acres—That he made Five different settlements, having Cleared, fenced, put in proper order, Erected the necessary Buildings, and cultivated upwards of 500 Acres of land,—besides put on a Stock of 90 head of Cattle on said [772] lands. And when he left the Province he had a clear property of 81 Negroes and his Son Alex<sup>r</sup> Bisset 35—(116 Slaves between them); which at the most moderate computation should have brought him in a clear Income of at least £1000 0s a year. And was besides possessed of Personal property of great value as will more particularly appear by the Schedule Annexed.

[Concluding petition and signature.]

[773]

Schedule . . .<sup>148a</sup>

No 1

300 Acres a tract by grant, called mount Plenty or Palmerina situated on the south musketo or Hillsborough river bounded Northerly by land of Clotworthy Luptons Esq<sup>t</sup> all other sides vacant land. This Tract was most pleasantly and advantageously situated, being on Navigation, and only 14 or 15 Miles from the Inlet, Having a fine

<sup>148</sup> See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 359.

<sup>148a</sup> In the original document of this schedule, as written by the clerk, the headings for the values appeared the first time as "C. Bisset's Vol." and "Florida D<sup>o</sup>," but all other times as here reproduced. The first headings were therefore changed for the sake of harmony.

Florida  
Val<sup>u</sup>C Bisset's  
D<sup>o</sup>

stream of fresh water running thro' the middle of it; Having in it's Front (on a branch of the river) a Beautiful Mount of several acres, 60 or 70 feet high which overlooked the whole Country for 20 or 30 miles round, Covered with a very fine Sower orange Grove; It was not above 1 Mile from the great Lagoon, which abounded with all sorts of the best sea fish, such as Sheep heads, Bass, Trout, Plaice &c, and plenty of green Turtle in the Season, And it was only about the same distance from plenty of the Finest oyster banks.—It was in [774] Lat<sup>d</sup> 28.45 and had all the advantages of Tropical climates; Which was brought to the Proof by M<sup>r</sup> Elliot's Plantation (a few Miles to the Southard [*sic*] of him) who planted sugar with tolerable success. He had an Additional advantage on this tract, which few other Settlements enjoyed—That there was an amazing extent of Marsh in his Front covered with the Kali Weed of which the Barilla potash<sup>149</sup> is made, which might have employed many hundred hands (perhaps) to greater advantage than any thing else they could be employed on.

Capt<sup>e</sup> Bisset made this his principal Settlement, having built a good framed dwelling house 30 feet by 20, and a Court of offices Viz<sup>t</sup> a good Kitchen & Store house with Lofts, a Hen house Stable, and a large barn and Corn house Lofted 40 by 20; He Erected 3 Setts Indico vatts with all the necessary apparatus, He had 2 large Flats —1 Boat and 1 Canoe and Carts and other implements [775] of Husbandry: and built a negro Town of good houses for 70 Negroes. This tract had about 160 acres of it rich low Cabbage Cedar and Mulberry Hammock of which he cleared 143 acres, and fenced, ditched and drained & divided it at a great expence it requiring much draining—Altho Cap<sup>t</sup> Bisset is well satisfied that this tract was of much great value, and certain it cost him a great deal more—Yet he abides by the Valuation made in Florida

£ 700 0s 0d £ 700 0s 0d

<sup>149</sup> Barilla potash is the impure sodium carbonate and sulphate obtained by burning plants.

No 2

Florida val:

Capt Bisset's

1000 Acre tract by Grant Situated on the Great Swamp The head of the Indian River, Only 2 Miles back from his tract on the river, bounding Northerly on Clotworthy Lupton's land & southerly on Genl Faucit's<sup>150</sup> land. This swamp was [776] generally esteemed the largest in the Province; The back line of the tract got little more than half thro' it, consequently every acre was swamp; The soil of the best quality being for the most part a black or Chocolate coloured Mould and a marle bottom; some of it was low enough for rice, and had plenty of good Cypress on it, The greatest part however was high Swamp, very fit for the growth of Sugar, Cotton, Indico, hemp and all sorts of provisions: It had a very large and fine sower Orange grove on it. He made a Settlement on this tract 2 Years after his first on the river; He erected several expensive Buildings, Vid: a very large Corn and Indigo house, strongly joisted, lofted and Floored, dimensions 50 F. by 24. A Horse [777] mill and Mill house to grind corn, 2 Setts of large Indico vats, with all the necessary apparatus; And 20 good Negro houses: He cleared, ditched, drained, fenced and divided 137 acres of land at a great deal of expence & labour it requiring much draining.

Capt Bisset is Fully satisfied that this tract would have been estimated Cheap at two guineas an Acre if the Province had been kept, and he would not have sold it for that Price, But that his Valuation should be esteemed extremely Mod-

<sup>150</sup> The name of Lieutenant Colonel William Faucit is first found in the Minutes of the Council of East Florida under date of March 4, 1768, when the governor signed a grant of 20,000 acres of land for him. See C. O. 5/570. During most of the revolutionary period Colonel Faucit was stationed at Bremer Lehe in Germany as muster-master and commissary of the Hessian and other German troops which were sent to America. He remained there until about the end of April, and then returned to England to become adjutant general in the war office. See *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, I. 54, 68, 78, 111, 426, II. 270, 272, 274, 297, IV. 122, 125.

Florida val'n

Capt: Bisset's

erate, he puts it only at a few pounds more than the Florida valuation

987 10 0 1000 0 0

No 3

1000 Acres by Grant Joining the back line of No 2 & bounded the same as the other tract, the back line of this tract as will appear by the [778] Plat—got but very little above a quarter of a Mile beyond, the swamp consequently there is about 800 Acres of it Swamp, Exactly the same quality of Soil as the other; He made a settlement on this tract the beginning of 1776; and in order to do this was under the Necessity of making a road across the Swamp at a great deal of labour and considerable expence. He built a Corn and Indigo house, a double sett of indigo vats a small overseer's house and 20 Negro houses: He cleared, ditched, fenced and divided, about 70 acres of Land—Capt Bisset thinks this tract in proportion to the other much undervalued, in the *Florida Valuation*—He values it at £700

555 0 0 700 0 0

[779]

No 4

1000 Acres by grant joining Doctor Turnbull's No Line, within half a Mile of the Doctor's Lagoon, and the same distance from Spruce Creek, both Navigable, and only 4 Miles from the Inlet; He computes better than 400 Acres of this tract to be swamp, nearly the same quality with his other two Swamp tracts. As the pine land of this tract is but very Indifferent—He therefore only values the whole at

200 0 0 300 0 0

The above is the whole of Capt Bisset's claims for the losses he has sustained in his landed property on the Musquito River; But in addition to this, he hopes he has a good and very just claim for compensation, for a heavy loss suffered from the depredations of a Spanish Privateer in 1779. That sent in [780] armed Boats, and first plundered the settlement of Smyrna, and carried off 17 or 18 Negroes afterwards proceeded to Lup-

ton where his negroes were at the time working on naval stores, and plundered the house & carried away with them, a complete sett, of Negro clothing and a Negro Wench that Cost £57 *or od*—Anexed is a particular account of the loss he sustained on that Occasion and from the consequence of it—Amounting £591 14s 7½d—He only charges

Florida val'n.

Capt Bisset's

500 0 0

## No 5

500 Acre tract, situated on the head of Doctor Cunningham's swamp about six miles from St Augustine, The front of it was within One quarter of a Mile of a Navigable Creek. He computes better than 200 Acres of it Swamp & hammock; There [781] were two Spanish old Fields on it—One of 40 and one of 30 acres The field of 40 Acres had houses built on it was settled, fenced and Planted.

He estimated about 130 Acres of it still in Wood, untouched, consequently of Considerable value on Acct of the Fire wood alone, which he could have sold at 3 or 4 £ an acre, without giving himself any trouble—He however puts the whole tract at the moderate value of 400£

250 0 0 400 0 0

## No 6

5000 Acres by King's order & Grant Situated on the N. Side of Nassau main River, just below the first great Fork on excellent Navigation; a Vessel can carry 20 feet Water from the mouth of the river, up to this tract and along the whole [782] Front of it; which is intirely out of reach of the salts, and has a rise and fall of 5 or 6 feet tide; And from the quality of the soil, and in every other particular is (in his opinion) equal to the tide Lands of Savannah or Altamaha Rivers in Georgia. This tract had one additional advantage, having a fine Creek running thro the middle of it, which could have been formed into a reserve, to have recourse to, in case the spring tides did not rise high enough to flow the land, at the time

Florida val'n.

Capt Bisset's

wanted; This made it one of the completest situations for Rice tracts any where to be found.

The plat will shew that there is upwards of 2000 Acres, *or rather*, near one half of this tract [783] Fresh water Marsh and Swamp, all of it tide land. The other half of the tract is Chiefly Yellow pine, finely situated for navigation, as the back line of the tract reaches to within about 3 Miles of St Mary's River, the Bar of which has from 18 to 20 feet Water, so that it had the advantage of the navigation of both rivers.

If the province had been held by Great Britain, Tide land of the Quality of the Marsh & Swamp land of this tract would have been deemed Cheap, at 3 or £4 an Acre uncleared, And the Pine land of it at £1 *or od* the Acre. Cap<sup>n</sup> Bisset puts the whole 5000 only at £2000 *or od*

1250 0 0 2000 0 0

## No 7

250 } Acres Two tracts by Grant joining [784]  
300 }

on Another on the north side of the Middle Branch of Nassaw River, 6 Miles higher up the River than his tract No 6, The navigation equally good. The plat will shew that there is about 500 Acres of those tracts, swamp and only 50 of pine land the soil of both tracts being of the richest quality of Tupelo swamp. It had a rise and fall of Tide of about 5 feet; and was regularly overflowed every Springtide. Lands of this description are estimated as the most valuable, by the Carolina & Georgia Planters, and commonly sell at, from £5 to 8 or 10£ an acre uncleared. But Capt Bisset still wishing to give in his valuation extremely Moderate He therefore values those two tracts only at £400

265 0 0 400 0 0

## [785] No 8

200 Acre Tract by Grant on the S: Branch of Pobolo Creek

50 0 0 50 0 0

Nº 9	Florida val'n	Capt Bisset's
Caledonia Settlement on Pobolo Creek—115 Acres Cleared, Fenced, and under Crop; with a good framed Dwelling house and all other necessary out houses, Plantation tools and Implements &c &c	1025 2 0	500 0 0
600 Barrls of Turpentine @ 25/	812 10 0	
Cattle, Hogs, and other stock	198 10 0	150 0 0
Flats, Boats, Canoes &c	131 0 0	131 0 0
Seventy two Negroes	2880 0 0	
	<hr/>	
	£9304 12s 0d	£6831 0s 0d

Deducted from the Florida Valuation:—

60 Barrels Turpentine	812 10s 0d
Crop of Corn charged; He rates at	
1800 Bushels at 5/6 @ B	450 0 0
Negroes	2880 0 0

4142 10 0  
£5162 2s 0d £6831 0s 0d

[786] [Witnesses.]

[787] . . .

27th March 1787.

Cap<sup>t</sup> ROBERT BISSETT, claimant, Sworn, Says:

That he went to East Florida in the beginning of 1767 and quitted it in 1778, leaving his Son there in possession of his property.

He claims a tract of 300 Acres called Mount Plenty.

He produced a certified copy of a grant dated 2<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1768 from General Grant to the Claimant in fee of 300 acres on the West branch of North Hillsborough river—conditioned for the usual quit rent and peopling—

He settled upon this tract in 1777 and then it was in a state of Nature. It was about 90 Miles South of St Augustine and fronted upon the river above 1½ Mile—which was navigable there for flats of 100 barrels tar burthen. In 1779 The Spaniards in a Privateer came into Hillsborough river plundered and broke up this Plantation after which it was never settled.

In 1779 it was used as an Indico and Provision plantation and there was 143 acres cleared and fenced in for planting. A Great part of the [788] tract was swamp with some Hammock. In 1779 He had a framed wooden dwelling house 20 by 30 Shingled and planked, a good framed store 26 by 18 or thereabouts with a loft over it, a framed Kitchen with a Loft over it and Shingled roof about 16 by 18 feet. A

good framed corn house shingled roof with loft over it 40 by 20 and about 9 feet high and a number of log houses for plantation use—all these buildings were chiefly made with his own Negroes—He erected 3 setts of Indico vats consisting of 3 Steepers 3 beaters and a large lime vat the steeper of which was 16 feet square built by two white Carpenters and his own Negroes in two Months, and the cost of a sett of vats he computes at 40 guineas and these he left upon the plantation with all the other buildings—and he left there in 1779 a large flat of from 100 to 150 bar: [i.e., barrels] tar burthen worth about £50 and a smaller plat [sic] about 50 barrel worth about 20 or 30£.

This tract consisted of low hammock and indifferent pine barren—He never was upon this plantation nor any person for him after 1779.

[789] He claims a tract of 1000 acres upon the great Swamp on the head of the Indian river about 2 Miles back from the first—He produced a certified copy of a Grant dated 4<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1768 from G: Grant to the Claimant in fee of 1000 acres on the West side of Hillsborough river conditioned as usual. He settled upon this tract about the time of the grant having about 30 negroes which he occasionally employed upon each of these tracts—This tract lay about 2 Mile west from the first And had no front upon any river or Creek, and was in a state of nature when he settled it and was broke up in 1779 He had upon this tract in 1779 a wooden framed corn house about 40 feet by 20—and about 9 feet high joisted and lofted a small log overseer's house and negro houses to the number of 20—and 2 Setts of Indico vatts consisting of 2 Steepers 2 beaters and 1 lime vat the steepers 16 feet and a horse corn mill with a house over it which he thinks must have cost about 30£—He cleared and fenced in a field of high swamp of about 137 Acres for Indico & Provisions.

[790] The produce of this plantation was to be carted two Miles to a landing upon the 300 Acre tract.

Another tract of 1000 acres adjoining the last—He produced a certified Copy of a grant dated 18<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1774 from Gov<sup>r</sup> Tonym to the Claimant in fee on the West side of the first 1000 acres conditioned as usual—It was in a state of nature in the latter end of 1775 or beginning of 1776 when he began to settle it and in 1779 he had a clearing of between 60 and 70 Acres of high swamp higher than the Swamp of the first and in 1779 he had an indico and corn post in the ground house with clap board roof about 35 feet by 18 or 20—2 setts of Indico vats consisting of 2 Steepers 2 Beaters and lime vat with 16 feet steepers with a small overseer's house and negro houses to the Number of about 20—These were all left upon the Plantation when he was driven off in 1779 and he never was upon the land afterwards.

The soil was rather better than that upon the other 1000—being less subject to be overflowed.



[791] He claims another 1000 acres by spruce Creek—He produced a certified Copy of a grant dated 4th Jan<sup>y</sup> 1768 from G. Grant to the Claimant, in fee of 1000 acres upon spruce Creek four miles west of Halifax river—conditioned as usual distant from St: Augustine about 70 miles to the Southward—

It had no frontage upon any river and was ¼ Mile from Spruce Creek which was navigable for flats—This was never settled and he was at no expence upon it. It consisted of Swamp and pine barren in nearly equal parts.

He claims another tract of 500 acres upon the head of D: Cunningham's Swamp about 6 miles from St Augustine. He produced a certified copy of a grant dated 4th Jan<sup>y</sup> 1768 from G: Grant to Claimant in fee of 500 acres six mile north from St: Augustine conditioned as usual—There was no other settlement made upon this tract but one made in 1782 by M: Charles Johnson<sup>101</sup> with the Claimant's permission of about 50 acres of high Swamp formerly cleared by the Spaniards—He never cut any wood from it.

He claims another tract of 5000 acres [792] (a King's order) on the north side of the Nassau river. He produced a certified copy of a grant dated 18th April 1771 from G. Grant to the claimant in fee for 5000 acres on the fresh marshes on the North side of Nassau river conditioned as usual—He never made any settlement upon this tract, or was at any expence upon this tract, but he intended to settle it as soon as he should find it practicable having been prevented by fear of the Americans and an order of Gov: Tonyn's requiring all settlers upon the west and North side of Nassau to retire to the East side of the river St: John's.

He claims two other tracts of 250 and 300 Acres on the North side of Nassau about 7 miles westward of the other tract and higher up the river. He produced a certified Copy of a Grant dated 18th April 1771 from G. Grant to the Claimant in fee of 250 acres and another certified copy of a grant of same date for the 300 Acre tract—He never was at any expence about these tracts for the same reasons as above mentioned.

[793] He claims another tract of 200 acres on Pobola creek about 25 Miles North of St: Augustine. He produced a certified Copy of a grant dated 16th Nov: 1781 from G Tonyn to the Claimant in fee of 200 acres near the head of Pobolo

<sup>101</sup> Charles Johnston was in East Florida late in 1782 and left his negroes in charge of Colonel John Douglas. Douglas employed them in clearing forty acres of land at the head of Dr. Cunningham's swamp. At the end of May, 1783, Johnston was at St. Augustine writing to John Cruden, Cornwallis's agent for sequestered property in South Carolina, about the restoration of three sequestered slaves to their owner, Thomas Savage. After the evacuation of East Florida, Charles Johnston (or Johnstone) was in the Bahama Islands, where he submitted a claim for £100 for property lost by the cession of the province to Spain. See *post*, p. 259; *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, IV. 113; C. O. 5/562 (5th Report of Commissioners on East Florida Claims).

creek conditioned as usual—He never did any thing to this tract. It was an Inland tract and intended as a provision plantation.

He says that in 1779 he brought his Negroes from the Southward to Caledonia settlement on Pobolo creek a vacant tract where G. Tonyn gave him permission to settle, and he built in 79 or 80—a framed wooden dwelling house a Kitchen Store house and other proper outhouses, all of which were neither sold nor taken down but left standing at the cession—He built and left behind him at the evacuation two large flats—a small boat &c which he values at £131.

Besides the Caledonian settlement he rented from M: Wooldridge about 4000 acres pine barren of land and had permission from D: Turnbull to make tar and turpentine upon his land.

[794] In 1783 he had upon this plantation about 17 or 18 head of Cattle 17 or 18 Working Horses and some Hogs which he Values by guess at 150£.

He makes no Claim for the Negroes turpentine and corn charged in the valuation made in East Florida. He produced an Appraisement under the Seal of the Province made by W<sup>m</sup> Watson, John Ross and Henry Sowerby dated 17th May 1783 Valuing the Claimant's property at £9304 12s 0d reduced by the Claimant's reductions to the Sum of £5162 2s 0d.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

Col JOHN DOUGLAS, a Witness, sworn:

Says that he knows the Claimant's 500 acre tract about 6 Mile north from St: Augustine—In the latter end of 1782 he was left in the care of the Negroes of M: Charles Johnson amounting to about 20 which he had settled upon this tract with the permission of the Claimant—At this time the tract was in a state of nature except some clearings that had been made by [795] the Spaniards and by planting time in 1783 he had cleared upon this tract with Johnson's negroes about 40 Acres of mixed Swamp and Hammock land and had built some negro houses. The plantable land upon this tract was pretty good.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

# **The Documents**

## **PART II**

**THE EXAMINATIONS IN THE BAHAMA ISLANDS  
OF EAST FLORIDA CLAIMANTS**

# THE EXAMINATIONS IN THE BAHAMA ISLANDS OF EAST FLORIDA CLAIMANTS

## REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR, PRESIDENT, COMMANDER- IN-CHIEF, AND COUNCIL OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS UPON THE FOLLOWING CLAIMS

### No. 13. ROBERT JOHNSTON

Lot and 2 houses in St. Augustine	£ 450 0s 0d
Sold for at evacuation of town	115 13 6
	<hr/>
Valid	£ 334 6s 6d

### No. 10. ROBERT THOMPSON HENZELL

House and lot in St. Augustine	£300 0s 0d
Sold for at evacuation of town	32 0 0
	<hr/>
Valid	£ 268 0s 0d

### No. 6. DANIEL SINCLAIR

House and lot on Hester's Bluff, St. John's River with black smith's shop	£ 200 0s 0d
Valid	

### No. 37. JANE CATHERWOOD<sup>152</sup>

House and lot in St. Augustine	£ 900 0s 0d
300 Acres of land on E. side of St. John's River	82 10 0
500 Acres on W. side of St. John's river	163 0 0
500 Acres on Nassau River	178 0 0
	<hr/>
	£1323 10s 0d
A 5 acre lot outside St. Augustine	10 0 0
	<hr/>
Valid	£1333 10s 0d

### No. 11. JOHN MARTIN<sup>158</sup>

200 Acres 4 miles from St. Augustine	£ 100 0s 0d
Improvements—Coopers Shop—Negro Houses	50 0 0
	<hr/>
Valid	£ 150 0s 0d

<sup>152</sup> See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 359.

<sup>158</sup> John Martin was one of the men elected to the commons house of assembly in East Florida in

## No. 43. JAMES O'NEIL

House and lot in St. Augustine	£ 265	os	od
Sold to a Spaniard for £60 but only received clear	28	0	0
Valid	£ 237	os	od

## No. 1. LOUISA WALDRON

10 Acres with 2 houses thereon	£ 275	os	od
Furniture, horses etc. taken from her when imprisoned by the Spanish <sup>154</sup>	115	0	0
Board recommended for land £200 os od	£ 390	os	od
Personal property—valid—			

## No. 38. THOMAS ROSS

House and lot in St. Augustine	£ 700	os	od
Sold after evacuation for £600 of which he has received	200	0	0
Valid	£ 500	os	od

## No. 39. THOMAS JOHNSTON

Lot & house in St. Augustine	£ 800	os	od
200 Acres 10 miles south of town	20	0	0

March, 1781. See C. O. 5/572. The memorial of a Captain John Martin is printed in Prof. H. E. Egerton's *Royal Commission on Loyalist Claims* (pp. 369-370), which probably relates to the claimant here mentioned. He came to America from Scotland in 1771, and lived in Cumberland County, North Carolina, in 1774. Two years later he joined the loyalists as a lieutenant, and was soon promoted to a captaincy. He was taken prisoner, probably during the engagement at Moore's Creek bridge on February 27, 1776. In 1779, he received a warrant from Lieutenant Colonel John Hamilton to raise a company in the Royal North Carolina Regiment, which Hamilton embodied among the refugees from North Carolina and other provinces in East Florida. On October 10, 1784, Martin arrived in England. He received the half pay of a captain, but his application to the treasury for an additional allowance was refused. Early in the evacuation of East Florida a large proportion of the Royal North Carolina Regiment was sent to Nova Scotia to be discharged and receive grants of land. See Egerton (ed.), *R. Comm. on Loyalist Claims, 1783-1785*, pp. 369-370.

<sup>154</sup> In consequence of her harsh treatment by the Spaniards, and by Judge Francis Philip Fatio in particular, Louisa Waldron addressed a memorial to Governor Tonym while she was still in East Florida in the autumn of 1784, making complaint against them. See C. O. 5/561, f. 315; C. O. 5/561, f. 533-694.

200 " south side St. Mary's river	100	0	0
200 " 18 miles south of St. Augustine	20	0	0
	£ 970	os	od

(1) sold for £400—received £300  
(1) & (4) valid 2 & 3 uncultivated

No. 15. STEPHEN HAVEN<sup>155</sup>

Lot and improvements in St. Augustine	£ 400	os	od
Tract of land	1000	0	0

No. 1. Valid sold after evacuation of town for £290—  
No. 2 uncultivated

## No. 2. MALCOLM ROSS

House and lot in St. Augustine	£ 120	9s	6d
Sold after evacuation for	15	9	6
Valid			

## No. 12. DAVID SEARLES

House and Lot in St. Augustine	£ 293	os	od
Valid			

## No. 16. SETH DOUD

Land and houses in St. Augustine	£ 550	os	od
Lot	100	0	0
Valid	650	0	0

<sup>155</sup> Stephen Haven acted as clerk of the commons house of assembly by Governor Tonym's appointment from March 27 until May 26, 1781, during the absence of Peter Edwards from East Florida. See C. O. 5/572. His testimony in support of his Memorial appears in Prof. H. E. Egerton's *Royal Commission on Loyalist Claims, 1783-1785*, pp. 141-142. According to that statement Mr. Haven was fifteen years old at the outbreak of the Revolution, when he was living with a Mr. Young, a loyalist, in Savannah, Georgia. In February, 1777, he went on board the British sloop-of-war *Otter* and gave intelligence of an American galley, which was promptly burned. Since August, 1775, he had been a naval officer with clerical duties under the collector of the port, Alexander Thompson (*ibid.*, pp. 182-183), having been appointed by Governor Sir James Wright. Soon after the *Otter* incident Mr. Haven withdrew to East Florida and remained there during the war, as shown by a certificate from Governor Tonym testifying to his loyalty and good conduct throughout the period. He arrived in England in August, 1783, and obtained an allowance of £50 a year. Thereafter he and his wife, Mary Haven, settled in the Bahama Islands, where they put in a claim for loss of property jointly with Ann Wooldridge and Elizabeth Williams for £1,018. Haven also presented an individual claim of £1,110, on which he received an award of £266 16s 11d. See "Report of the Governor, President," etc., of the Bahama Islands, T 77/19; C. O. 5/562 (5th Report of Commissioners on East Florida Claims).

## No. 35. THEODORE ALEXANDER SCHOODE

500 Acres of land  
 1/4 part of a tract of 400 acres

£ 72 10s 0d  
 10 0 0

£ 82 10s 0d

does not appear to be cultivated nor does it appear that  
 any compensation has been received for it

## No. 21. JOHN FALCONER

House and lot in St. Augustine

£ 350 0s 0d

Repairs etc. make it worth  
 Valid

£ 428 18s 9d

## No. 20. JOSEPH STRUT

House and lot in St. Augustine  
 Sold to Spaniards

£ 300 0s 0d  
 103 7 2 1/4

196 12 9

450 Acres  
 Tract of land (partly cleared)—  
 " " " 500 Acres

266 0 0

130 0 0

Two Boats

15 0 0

" houses

9 4 10 1/2

Shingles

3 4 0

No. 1 valid—No 2 partly under cultivation, but not No. 3

## Bundle 2

WILLIAM SLATER<sup>166</sup>

Lot and buildings in St. Augustine  
 500 Acres

£ 450 0s 0d  
 150 0 0

£ 600 0s 0d

99 15 0

Less receipts from sale to Spaniards

£ 500 5s 0d

(1) Valid—no proof of ownership of (2)

<sup>166</sup> William Slater was appointed public vendue master by Governor Tonyn probably at the time that the evacuation of East Florida was ordered, so that the inhabitants might offer their property at public sale. Slater had as his clerk James Smith. See *ante*, pp. 21, 22, 126.

No. 58. THOMAS WILLIAMSON<sup>167</sup>

198 town lots at John's Town Hester's Bluff  
 House  
 223 Acres of land

£3960 0s 0d  
 450 0 0  
 1115 0 0

£5525 0s 0d

No. 1 possessed by claimant—previous to cession several lots were sold; had the province remained under the dominion of England, from their advantageous situation the undisposed lots would have become more valuable; No. 2 justly valued at £450—after cession house was taken down and shipped to Jamaica where it was sold for £172 19s 3d. No. 3 of considerable value from their situation of which 40 Acres were under cultivation. Claimant has received no other compensation than £172 19s 3d.

ALEXANDER MCQUEEN<sup>168</sup>

1. 400 A. (20 cleared with house) St. Mary's River  
 2. 200 A south side of Rain's Cowper Creek  
 3. 250 A north " " Nassau River  
 4. House and lot in St. Augustine  
 Sold to a Spaniard

£ 350 0s 0d  
 60 0 0  
 62 10 0

491 0 0  
 75 9 6

415 10 6

£ 888 0s 6d

1 and 4 valid 2 and 3 do not appear to have been cultivated.

<sup>167</sup> Thomas Williamson was in fair way to make a considerable amount of money by the sale of his lots at St. John's Town on Hester's Bluff, when the cession of East Florida to Spain blasted his prospects. He had sold a few and still had one hundred and ninety-eight town lots left in an "advantageous situation." He took down his house, which was declared to be justly valued at £450 by the Bahama officials who heard his claim, and shipped it to Jamaica. There it was sold for £172 19s 3d. His total claim for losses in East Florida was £5,525, his award being £1,362 5s 9d. See T 771-9 "Report of the Governor, President," and others, of the Bahama Islands; also, *post*, p. 308.

<sup>168</sup> Alexander McQueen applied for a grant of land in February, 1775, and obtained a warrant of survey for four hundred acres. Four days after the date of the application, Governor Tonyn signed a grant of two hundred acres for Mr. McQueen, and late in March of the same year he signed the grant of four hundred acres. See C. O. 5/571.

## PHILIP MOORE

1. 5000 Acres of land with houses, orchard, etc.
2. Coopers Stuft [*sic*] for 1000 barrels

£1600 9s od  
50 0 0

£1650 9s od

Claimant was possessed of above property which from its situation must have been of considerable value before the cession.

## No. 46. SARAH FISH

House and lot in St. Augustine  
Under Valued

£ 375 0s od

## No. 17. ROBERT SCOTT

1. 500 Acres on Rain's Cowper Creek
2. 700 " near Fort Picolato
3. 100 " (50 A. cleared with buildings)
4. House and lot in St. Augustine

£ 205 0s od  
225 0 0  
225 0 0  
600 0 0

£1255 0s od

1 and 2 uncultivated 3 and 4 moderately valued.  
Claimant has rec'd no compensation.

## JOHN WOOD

Lot and buildings in St. Augustine  
Sold to a Spaniard

£ 400 0s od  
54 0 0

£ 346 0s od

Valid

No. 77. GEORGE MILLER<sup>100</sup>

1. 3 adjoining tracts of 900 A. with buildings (70 A. cleared)
2. 11 Head of horses
3. Pine staves for 800 Turpentine bbls.
4. 20 Acres of corn & peas in full crop

£ 834 0s od  
88 0 0  
40 0 0  
400 0 0

£1362 0s od

No 1 a valid claim for which no compensation had yet been received.

<sup>100</sup> George Miller (or Millar) applied for a grant of land in February, 1781, and received a warrant of survey for five hundred acres. See C. O. 5/571.

THOMAS FORBES<sup>100</sup> and STEPHEN HOLDSWORTH

1. 200 Acres near mouth of St. John's River with buildings
2. 3 tracts of land containing 1550 Acres on St. John's River

£ 500 0s od

914 0 0

£1414 0s od

Valid

No. 81. JOHN FERGUSON<sup>101</sup>

Lot and buildings in St. Augustine  
John Ferguson bought said premises from James McCallum at the price mentioned paying one-half of it  
—No compensation has been received by claimant.

£ 325 0s od

STEPHEN HAVEN, MARY, his Wife, ANN WOOLDRIDGE,  
ELIZABETH WILLIAMS,

1. Lot and buildings in St. Augustine
2. 200 Acres mostly cleared
3. 100 "
4. House and lot in St. Augustine

£ 600 0s od  
200 0 0  
50 0 0  
240 0 0

£1090 0s od

71 12 9

£1018 7s 3d

Sale of No 4

No 2 improved and cultivated, but not No. 3  
Valid claim.

JOHN HOLMES<sup>102</sup>

1. 300 Acres with buildings
2. 500 "

£ 300 0s od  
50 0 0

<sup>100</sup> Thomas Forbes was one of the nineteen men elected members of the commons house of assembly in East Florida in March, 1781. See C. O. 5/572.

<sup>101</sup> John Ferguson petitioned in November, 1781, for a grant of land and received a warrant of survey for two hundred acres. See C. O. 5/571.

<sup>102</sup> John Holmes was a member of the council of East Florida from the time of its organization by Governor James Grant at the end of October, 1764, through the administration of Lieutenant Governor John Moultrie, and through most if not all of that of Governor Patrick Tonyn. Governor Grant also appointed him a commissioner of the peace. In 1765, Mr. Holmes obtained the grant of a town lot in St. Augustine. In February, 1769, he took the state oaths as clerk of the common pleas until the royal pleasure should be known. At the end of the following March he took out a grant for three hundred acres. See C. O. 5/570.



## Loyalists in East Florida

3. half of a 400-Acre tract	20	0	0
4. House and lot in St. Augustine	500	0	0
5. 200 Acre tract	60	0	0

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£ 930    0s    0d

Valid

## No. 7. WILLIAM ALEXANDER, Executor of Estate of Alexander Skinner

1. 1100 Acres on Nassau River	450	0	0
2. 300 "	15	0	0
3. 200 "	100	0	0
4. 200 "	100	0	0
5. 100 "	35	0	0
6. 500 "	200	0	0
7. 50 "	25	0	0
8. 96 "	25	0	0
A. House and lot in St. Augustine	500	0	0

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£1450    0s    0d

A. a valid claim—the tracts of land appear not to have been cultivated—nor does the claimant appear to have received any compensation.

## Bundle 4

## No. 89. LEWIS LOWRY

1. Lot and house at St. John's Bluff	70	0	0
2. 200 Acres on Cedar Point	100	0	0
12 Acres under cultivation	24	0	0
3. House and out bybuildings [ <i>sic</i> ]	20	0	0
4. 2 horses	18	0	0

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£ 232    0s    0d

Possessed of no title deeds

## No. 45. JONATHAN RUCKER

1. 1 house	£	4	15s	0d
2. clearing land		1	18	0
3. 1 canoe		1	3	9

---

£    7    16s    9d

Entitled to some compensation for the loss of above mentioned property.

## The Documents

## No. 87. THOMAS FORBES for James Grant Forbes

1. house and lot in St. Augustine	£	750	0s	0d
2. " " " " "		350	0	0
3. " " " " "		350	0	0
4. Lot " "		150	0	0
5. 200 Acres with buildings, orange grove etc.		600	0	0
6. 150 Acres partly cleared		270	0	0
7. 5 Acre lot with orange grove		20	0	0
8. " " " outside town		10	0	0
9. 300 " plantation		750	0	0
10. 60 "		30	0	0
11. 825 "		250	0	0
12. 500 "		125	0	0
13. 1000 "		285	0	0
14. 800 "		150	0	0

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4290    0s    0

15. 500 Acre tract		125	0	0
16. 300 " "		225	0	0
17. 200 " "		100	0	0
18. 500 " "		375	0	0
19. 500 " "		115	0	0
20. 500 " "		150	0	0
21. 500 " "		115	0	0

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£5495    0s    0d

Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 5 improved with dwelling houses and other buildings and are justly estimated as above. Nos. 6, 9 and 15 also cultivated and reasonably estimated. Nos. 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21, all uncultivated except a small part of 21. No compensation has been received except £800 for No. 1.

## PETER BROWN.

Dwelling house at Hester's Bluff  
Kitchen and well

£ 40    0s    0d  
15    0    0

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55    0    0

Valid

## ROBERT GRANT and JOHN HENRY WIESHUNE

250 Acre tract on branch of Nassau River  
Uncultivated and no compensation for its loss has yet been received.

£ 60    0s    0d

## No. 122. GEORGE BACKHOUSE

Lot and buildings in St. Augustine £250 0s 0d  
Reasonably valued and no compensation yet received for its loss.

No. 124. RICHARD PEARS<sup>168</sup>

1. Dwelling house	£ 15 0 0
2. Corn house, kitchen etc.	10 0 0
3. Clearing, fencing and improving between 30 and 40 acres of land	50 0 0
4. A crop of provisions on 25 Acres—	20 0 0
5. Saddle horse	10 0 0
	<hr/>
	£ 105 0s 0d

Fairly estimated and has yet received no compensation.

## No. 66. JOHN PERPALL

1. Lot and buildings in St. Augustine	£ 250 0s 0d
2. 500 Acre tract	120 0 0
3. 4 Horses	20 0 0
	<hr/>
	£ 390 0s 0d

Justly estimated and has received no compensation.

## No. 123. NICHOLAS WELSCH

1. Plantation of 500 Acres with buildings	£ 250 0s 0d
2. House and lot in John's Town	30 0 0
3. Two horses one appraised at £12—one at £6	18 0 0
4. Horned cattle government price	3 14 8
5. Plantation tools and crop	20 0 0
	<hr/>
	£ 321 14s 8d

No title deed for (2). The specific valuation set against each article, being undetermined by either of the witnesses, the whole rests upon the Testimony of the Claimant against whose veracity the Board have nothing to alledge—no compensation has been received.

## No. 53. MICHAEL BROWN

250 acre tract of land £ 131 5s 0d  
Land uncultivated, but was otherwise valuable and capable of improvement—no compensation has been received.

<sup>168</sup> See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 363.

## No. 99. MARY HOPKINS

Lot and buildings on Hester's Bluff £ 80 0s 0d  
Claim fully established and no compensation has been received.

## No. 31. FREDRICK STAGE

House and lot in St. Augustine £ 250 0s 0d  
Sold to a Spaniard for 28 12 0  

---

£ 222 10s 0d

Correctly estimated, and no compensation other than £28 10s 0d has been received.

No. 30. JAMES HOWE<sup>164</sup> Admn. for Estate of John Haley<sup>165</sup>

1. House and lot in St. Augustine	£ 200 0s 0d
2. " " "	300 0 0
3. 280 Acre tract on branch of Nassau River	84 0 0
4. House and lot in St. Augustine	750 0 0
	<hr/>
	£1034 0s 0d

1, 2 and 4 moderately valued—no. 3 uncultivated—no compensation for their loss yet received.

No. 59. JOHN BURNETT<sup>166</sup>

1. 250 Acre tract on St. John's River (partly cleared)	£ 321 5s 0d
2. House on same	400 0 0
3. 500 Acres on Trout Creek	212 10 0
4. 300 " " "	60 0 0

<sup>164</sup> James Howe petitioned for a grant of fifty acres of land early in July, 1770, and obtained a warrant of survey for fifty acres as king's royal bounty. He petitioned again in October of the same year, and again received a warrant for fifty acres, king's bounty. In April, 1771, the governor signed a grant of fifty acres, king's bounty, for him. See C. O. 5/571.

<sup>165</sup> John Haley was appointed coroner on February 11, 1769, in place of William Greening, deceased, after which he took the state oaths. In the following July Mr. Haley obtained a warrant of survey for two hundred acres of land and in February, 1775, another for two hundred and fifty acres. See C. O. 5/571.

<sup>166</sup> John Burnet (or Burnett) petitioned for a grant of land in October, 1770, and the council of East Florida ordered that a warrant of survey be issued to him for two hundred acres. Late in April of the next year he petitioned for another grant, and received a warrant for three hundred acres. See C. O. 5/571.

## Loyalists in East Florida

5. 200 "	70 0 0
6. 200 " " Nassau River	117 0 0
7. 100 " " " "	50 0 0
	<hr/>
	£1230 15s 0d

Nos. 1 and 2 fairly estimated—no substantiating evidence of the value of any other of the Tracts further than the Appraisalment on Oath by three witnesses—no compensation has been received, but the Board thinks it wise to note that the Claimant at present resides and is in possession of property in Georgia.

No. 19. GEORGE MIDDLETON POWELL<sup>167</sup>

1. 100 Acre tract on Matanza River	£ 351 5s 0d
2. 500 " with house	130 0 0
3. 500 " tract	121 0 0
4. 500 "	100 0 0
5. Cooper's Shop	10 0 0
6. 500 Acre tract	230 0 0
7. 6 horses	52 4 0
8. Canoe and four wheeled wagon	140 11 3
9. Carpenter's tools	10 0 0
10. House and lot in St. Augustine	350 0 0
11. 5000 shingles	4 0 0
	<hr/>
	£1499 0s 3d

Valuation moderate and no compensation has yet been received.

## No. 95. ISAAC BAILLON

House and lot in St. Augustine	£ 40 0s 0d
Claimant paid £40 for above premises and has received no compensation for his loss.	

## ROBERT LEARMONT

Lot, house, bake house etc. in St. Augustine	£ 70 0s 0d
Facts set forth are true, but the Claim not being lodged in due time the Board does not feel authorized to report upon it fully—no compensation yet received.	

<sup>167</sup> George Middleton Powell's name is first mentioned in the Council Minutes of East Florida, December 20, 1768, when he petitioned for a town lot in St. Augustine. See C. O. 5/570.

## The Documents

No. 67. MARTIN WEATHERFORD<sup>168</sup>

1. Clearing, fencing, improving 30 Acres	£ 60 0s 0d
2. House, corn house etc.	50 0 0
3. Two Negro Men lost at the embarkation from St. John's River	100 0 0
	<hr/>
	£ 210 0s 0d

Facts here stated are true and no compensation has yet been received.

## No. 41. ELIZABETH YELLOWBY

1. 2 adjoining tracts of land of 500 Acres	£ 162 10s 0d
2. 100 Acres high Hammock land uncleared	50 0 0
3. 350 " " pine "	45 0 0
4. House and kitchen	75 0 0
5. Barn, Fowl House & 2 Negro Houses	20 0 0
6. Orange grove	120 0 0
7. 500 Acre tract	187 10 0
	<hr/>
	£ 660 0s 0d

Moderately valued and no compensation yet received.

## No. 60. MARY ROBINSON

300 Acres with dwelling and other buildings	£ 160 0s 0d
Justly valued and no compensation yet received.	

## No. 8. ANN WESTPHALL

500 Acre tract	£ 250 0s 0d
Reasonably valued and no compensation yet received.	

<sup>168</sup> In 1775, he lived on a plantation near Augusta, Georgia, and remained there quietly until 1779, paying such fines as were imposed upon him for not serving in the whig militia. He also took the oath of allegiance to the revolutionary government. In 1779, he joined the force of Colonel Archibald Campbell and was commissioned a captain in the loyal militia. Campbell employed him at Augusta in procuring intelligence. He was tried for taking arms against the Americans, but was acquitted in the absence of evidence. After the capture of Charleston he took protection within the British lines. At the evacuation of Savannah he went to East Florida and thence to the Bahamas, settling in the island of Great Abaco. He owned five parcels of land near Augusta, which he valued together at £500. His losses of ten negroes, a number of domestic animals, plantation tools, and a quantity of corn at the hands of the enemy he figured at £792 5s, making a total claim for losses of £1,292 5s. See *Second Report*, Bureau of Archives, Ont., 1904, pt. I., pp. 163-164.

## THOMAS and KATHERINE ALLAN

1. House and lot in St. Augustine
2. An Island of 50 A. on Matanza River
3. 250 Acre tract

£	200	0s	0d
	25	0	0
	60	0	0
<hr/>			
£	285	0s	0d

Facts herein stated are true—no compensation yet received.

No. 88. JESSE FISH<sup>169</sup>

1. 216 Acre tract on Matanza River
2. 200 " " with buildings
3. 100 " " " on Mousa Creek
4. 300 " " "
5. 400 " " on branch of "
6. 3 adjoining tracts of 650 A.

£	75	0s	0d
	150	0	0
	400	0	0
	150	0	0
	100	0	0
	300	0	0
<hr/>			
£	1175	0s	0d

Reasonably estimated—and no compensation yet received.

Bundle No. 5

No. 118. WILLIAM PANTON, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, JOHN LESLIE<sup>170</sup> and THOMAS FORBES<sup>171</sup>

1. Plantation of 300 Acres, house etc.
2. 5 Acre lot with wharf
3. Two warehouses on (2)
4. 4 Shades for lodging Naval Stores
5. Store House
6. 70 Acre tract with naval store house
7. 500 " "
8. House and lot in St. Augustine
9. 2—20 A. lots in Picolatto Township

£	250	0s	0d
	200	0	0
	240	0	0
	120	0	0
	30	0	0
	150	0	0
	125	0	0
	600	0	0
	40	0	0
<hr/>			
£	1755	0s	0d

Claims substantiated—reasonably valued, and no compensation yet received.

<sup>169</sup> See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 365.

<sup>170</sup> John Leslie was one of the nineteen men elected to the commons house of assembly in East Florida in March, 1781. See C. O. 5/572.

<sup>171</sup> See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 365.

No. 65. HENRY WILLIAMS<sup>172</sup>

1. 500 Acres on St. John's River
2. clearing, fencing and improving 50 A
3. Dwelling house and other buildings
4. Two Negro Men { Sam a Carpenter £50  
Caesar a Field Slave 40

£	500	0s	0d
	100	0	0
	60	0	0
	90	0	0
<hr/>			
£	750	0s	0d

Reasonably valued—and no compensation yet received.

## No. 116. THOMAS FORBES

- No. 1. The Estate of Palua—described in appendix to Mr. Gordon's printed case<sup>173</sup>
2. Mr. Gordon's Expences in England
3. Lot and buildings
4. The Tolemato tract
5. " (name blurred)
6. Church—Our Lady of the Mills and lands
7. Bishop's House and Great Church
8. Convent of St. Francis and lands

	25000	0	0
	2500	0	0
	1200	0	0
	500	0	0
	500	0	0
	500	0	0
	1000	0	0
	1000	0	0
<hr/>			
£	32200	0s	0d

The Board is convinced of the Claimant's title for Gordon, deceased, to 3, 6, 7, 8, 4 and 5.

No. 22. DAVID MOSES<sup>174</sup>

1. 100 Acre tract
2. 500 " "

£	100	0s	0d
	125	0	0

<sup>172</sup> See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 366.

<sup>173</sup> This is a reference to the book entitled *The Case of John Gordon*, which was published in London in 1772. When Great Britain acquired East Florida in 1763, Don Juan Eligio de la Puente, acting for the Spanish government in an effort to keep the church property in St. Augustine from being seized by the British, conveyed it to John Gordon who was an English catholic. Gordon paid one thousand dollars for the Spanish bishop's house, fifteen hundred for the Franciscan convent, three hundred for the church "Nuestra Señora de la Leche," and three hundred for the new unfinished parish church and its site. The British government disregarded these transactions by giving the bishop's house to the Church of England and appropriating the convent to provide quarters for the garrison. The Chapel of "Our Lady" belonged to the convent and went with it. *The Case of John Gordon* was therefore the full statement of an unusual claim against the British government. See *Florida Hist. Soc. Quarterly*, VII. No. 3 (January, 1929), p. 224.

<sup>174</sup> David Moses petitioned for a grant of land in October, 1774, and the council of East Florida ordered a warrant of survey for one hundred acres to be issued to him. In January, 1775, he petitioned

- |                               |    |   |   |
|-------------------------------|----|---|---|
| 3. 2 lots on St. John's Bluff | 60 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. 9 head of horses           | 81 | 0 | 0 |
- No. 1 does not appear to have been cultivated, except from statement of claimant who is deserving of credit—reasonably valued and no compensation received.

## Bundle No. 6

No. 61. THOMAS COMMANDER<sup>175</sup>

- |                                                                                     |       |    |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| 1. Dwelling house, barn etc.                                                        | £ 100 | 0s | 0d |
| 2. Clearing and fencing 10 A. field                                                 | 30    | 0  | 0  |
| 3. Dwelling house & other improvements in John's Town                               | 140   | 0  | 0  |
| 4. Less sum rec'd for same                                                          | 15    | 0  | 0  |
|                                                                                     | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                                                     | 125   | 0  | 0  |
| 5. Labour of collecting light wood for Tar Kiln, which he was obliged to relinquish | 20    | 0  | 0  |
|                                                                                     | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                                                     | £ 275 | 0s | 0d |
| 6. 12,000 feet of pine wood                                                         | 60    | 0  | 0  |
| 7. 60 A. cleared and improved                                                       | 120   | 0  | 0  |
|                                                                                     | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                                                     | £ 455 | 0s | 0d |

Moderately valued at £255 (?) and no compensation has been received.

## No. 62. ROGER KELSALL

- |                                                            |       |    |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| 1. 1000 Acre tract                                         | £ 250 | 0s | 0d |
| 2. Clearing and fencing 65 A. erecting dwelling house etc. | 150   | 0  | 0  |
|                                                            | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                            | £ 400 | 0s | 0d |

No 2 moderately valued—no compensation for losses yet received.

for another grant, and received a warrant for fifty acres. Governor Tonym signed a grant of three hundred acres for him on February 15, 1781. See C. O. 5/571.

<sup>175</sup> Thomas Commander lived on the Santee River in South Carolina in 1775, but did not enter the British lines until after the capture of Charleston. In August, 1781, he was commissioned by Colonel Nisbet Balfour captain of a company of Independent Scouts. During the remainder of the war Captain Commander was employed in furnishing guides and procuring cattle for the army. At the evacuation of Charleston, he went to St. Augustine, but when the peace was signed returned to South Carolina for the purpose of reclaiming his property. In this he failed. During the protracted evacuation of East Florida he withdrew to the Bahamas, settling in the island of New Providence.

## No. 69. ALEXANDER LORIMER

- |                                    |       |    |    |
|------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| Lot and buildings in St. Augustine | £ 422 | 0s | 0d |
| Sale of premises since the Cession | 33    | 15 | 0  |
|                                    | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                    | £ 388 | 5s | 0d |

Moderately valued, and no other compensation than the £33 15s 0d has been received.

## No. 97. JEAN WARD

- |                                |       |    |    |
|--------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| House and lot in St. Augustine | £ 150 | 0s | 0d |
|--------------------------------|-------|----|----|
- Moderately valued—no other compensation than £30 for which it was sold after the cession has been received.

## Bundle No. 7

## No. 68. FREDERICK WILLIAM HECHT

- |                         |       |    |    |
|-------------------------|-------|----|----|
| 2 lots in St. Augustine | £1107 | 0s | 0d |
|-------------------------|-------|----|----|
- Moderately valued—no compensation yet received.

## No. 79. JOHN RUSSELL

- |                                                     |       |    |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| 29½ A. on St. John's River with dwelling house etc. | £ 500 | 0s | 0d |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
- Correctly valued—no compensation yet received

## No. 80. GRIZZEL CAMERON

- |                                |      |    |    |
|--------------------------------|------|----|----|
| House and lot in St. Augustine | £ 70 | 0s | 0d |
| Sold to Spaniard for           | 22   | 10 | 0  |
- Moderately valued and no other compensation than the £22 10s has yet been received.

## No. 90. ALEXANDER McDONALD

- |                                    |       |   |   |
|------------------------------------|-------|---|---|
| 1. 150 A. on St. Mary's River      |       |   |   |
| 130 A. uncultivated                | 65    | 0 | 0 |
| 20 " cleared                       | 30    | 0 | 0 |
| dwelling house & buildings thereon | 50    | 0 | 0 |
| 250 bus. of corn @ 4/8             | 60    | 8 | 0 |
| 36 head of Neat cattle @ 30/       | 54    | 0 | 0 |
|                                    | <hr/> |   |   |
|                                    | 259   | 8 | 0 |
| 60 hogs at three dollars           | 14    | 5 | 0 |

He owned three plantations on Lynch's Creek, the largest one being near George Town, South Carolina, and comprising six hundred and fifty acres. He estimated his losses of real estate and personal property at £1,448. See *Second Report*, Bureau of Archives, Ont., pt. I, pp. 164-165.

## Loyalists in East Florida

3 horses @ £12  
100 head of poultry @ 2/  
Furniture, apparel and cash

36 0 0  
50 7 0  
£ 370 0s 0d

2. 300 A. on Nassau River  
Dwelling house and store  
4 houses at the Cow ford  
3 houses left at the evacuation

150 0 0  
15 15 0  
30 0 0  
21 0 0  
£ 586 15s 0d

Moderately valued—and no compensation for losses yet received.

## No. 47. JOSIAH LOCKWARD and GEORGE NORSEVELL

1. Lot on Hester's Bluff  
2. Stone house  
3. Carpenter's bill for shingles etc. and building dwelling house  
4. Plank and nails  
5. Improvements on said lot

£ 20 0s 0d  
70 0 0  
19 10 0  
5 0 0  
5 0 0  
£ 119 10s 0d

Not over estimated at £119 10s 0d and no compensation has yet been received.

HENRY WILLIAMS, heir to Samuel Williams<sup>176</sup>

1. 500 A. on St. John's River  
2. Clearing, fencing and improving 30 A. of above tract  
3. Dwelling house and other buildings

£ 500 0s 0d  
60 0 0  
30 0 0  
£ 590 0s 0d

Improvements of £90 moderately estimated—no compensation received.

## No. 70. JOHN CORNISH

1. Dwelling house of timber  
Paid £30 for the lease of lot and the building erected thereon is moderately valued at £50—no compensation has yet been received.

£ 80 0s 0d

<sup>176</sup> See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 367.

## The Documents

## No. 23. SUSANNAH QUINLIN

House and kitchen  
Moderately valued—no compensation has yet been received.

£ 20 0s 0d

## No. 91. WADE STUBBS

1. 500 Acres on St. John's River  
2. 200 " " Cow per Creek  
3. 200 " " Sweet Water's Run  
4. 100 " " Durbin's Swamp  
5. 6 Negro Slaves  
6. 2 Boys  
7. 5 Head of Stock Horses  
8. 2 " " Saddle "

£ 175 0s 0d  
70 0 0  
50 0 0  
30 0 0  
160 0 0  
40 0 0  
15 0 0  
16 0 0

£ 556 0s 0d  
2 7 6

Sold 1 saddle horse

£ 553 12s 6d

The uncultivated tracts of land justly described and claimant actually possessed of and entitled to them—Negroes and horses moderately valued—no compensation other than £2 7s 6d has yet been received.

## No. 71. WILLIAM WILLIAMS

1. Negro Woman Slave  
Correctly valued—no compensation received.

£ 40 0s 0d

## No. 28. ELIZABETH MASON and JOHN ARMBRISTER

Lot and dwelling house in St. Augustine  
Correctly valued—only compensation received \$150 out of \$280 for which it was sold since the Cession.

£ 350 0s 0d

## No. 98. GEORGE LINDSAY

1. House and Lot in St. Augustine  
2. " " "

£ 500 0s 0d  
300 0 0

£ 800 0s 0d

1. Sold for £75 5s 0d  
2. " " 53 15 0

129 0 0

£ 671 0s 0d

Justly estimated—no compensation save £129 has been received.



## No. 103. JAMES SAMPSON

1. 400 Acre tract on North River	£ 73 15s 0d
2. 200 " " " John "	100 0 0
3. 375 " " " North "	30 0 0
4. Farm—20 A. planted—dwelling, etc	60 0 0
5. 500 Acres with 2 dwelling houses etc.	272 10 0
6. 19 Head of horses	120 0 0
7. large boat with anchor, cable, etc.	53 15 0
8. 150 Tar and Turpentine Barrels	25 0 0
9. 15 head of neat cattle	69 0 0
10. 15 " " hogs	15 0 0

£ 819 0s 0d

Sales of immovable property 22 13 6

£ 796 6s 6d

Moderately valued—no compensation received.

No. 29. JAMES HOWE Administrator for John Hewett<sup>177</sup>

1. 300 Acres on branch of Matanza river with house	£ 262 15s 0d
2. 1000 " adjoining (1)	200 0 0
3. 1000 " near North River with house	355 0 0
4. 100 " with house	121 0 0
5. 200 "	150 0 0
6. 200 "	40 0 0
7. 300 " on Nassau River	100 0 0
8. Houses and lot in St. Augustine	500 0 0

£ 1728 15s 0d

No. 5. uncultivated—Justly estimated—no compensation yet received.

## No. 63. HENRY WILLIAMS Executor of Joseph Tereo

1. 200 Acres	£ 100 0s 0d
2. 72 "	93 10 0
3. Dwelling house and buildings on No. 2.	60 0 0

£ 253 10s 0d

No 1 uncultivated

No 2 &amp; 3 justly estimated—no compensation has been received.

<sup>177</sup> According to the Council Minutes of East Florida John Hewitt (or Hewett) petitioned for a town lot in St. Augustine on December 20, 1768, and a warrant of survey for the lot was ordered by

## No. 27. THOMAS TWEEDY

1. 300 Acres on North River with house	£ 221 0s 0d
2. 200 " " "	50 0 0
3. 14 horses	100 0 0
4. 1 cart and harness	10 0 0

£ 381 0s 0d

Justly estimated—no compensation yet received except  
73 Spanish Dollars.

## No. 3. WADE STUBBS and ANN his wife Adm. to Estate of James Smith

2 Negro Men Slaves	£ 80 0s 0d
1 " Woman	40 0 0
2 children	30 0 0

150 0 0

## Further Schedule

1. Town lot and dwelling	400 0 0
2. 300 Acres	72 0 0
3. 500 " plantation with houses	150 0 0
4. 500 "	75 0 0
5. 150 "	21 10 0
6. 15 head of stock horses	45 0 0
7. 4 " " riding "	24 0 0
8. 2 Negro slaves	100 0 0

£ 887 10s 0d

Sale of No. 1

70 0 0

£ 817 10s 0d

Justly estimated and no compensation save £70 has yet been received.

## No. 44. MARTHA O'HALLORAN and JOHN O'HALLORAN

1. 500 Acres	£ 236 0s 0d
2. Town lot and dwelling	500 0 0

£ 739 10s 0d

[The £3 10s does not show here—probably a mistake in entering an item.] Justly valued.

the council of East Florida to be issued to him. See C. O. 5/570. His grant was signed by the governor on October 30, 1769. Nearly a year later he petitioned for a grant of three hundred acres of land,

JOHN McKENZIE assignee of McCleod and Bethune<sup>178</sup>

[This schedule is too faded to read.]

this grant being signed on April 18, 1771. About the end of March, 1775, he obtained a warrant of survey for a grant of one thousand acres. See C. O. 5/571; also, Additional Notes, *post*, pp. 307, 379.

<sup>178</sup> There were three of the Bethunes, William, John, and Malcolm. In April, 1771, William petitioned for two grants of land, one of two hundred acres and the other of three hundred. He obtained warrants of survey for both. He was probably the father of John and Malcolm, and all of them probably lived on St. Marys River. In January and February, 1775, John applied for four grants of land, two of three hundred acres each, one of four hundred, and one of six hundred. By the close of March of the same year, Governor Tonyn had signed the four grants. On March 30, 1776, the governor informed his council that John Bethune reported that forty-two white inhabitants on St. Marys were able to bear arms. Malcolm petitioned for a grant of two hundred and fifty acres in February, 1775, and Tonyn signed the grant late in the following month. On May 20, 1776, or soon thereafter, Governor Tonyn sent a letter to John Bethune directing that he collect all of the settlers on St. Marys River and in that neighborhood and drive their cattle to the south side of St. Johns River. This step was taken by Governor Tonyn after receiving intelligence that the rebels in Georgia planned to prevent the driving of the cattle across St. Marys, and that they were preparing to commit depredations on both St. Marys and St. Johns rivers. See C. O. 5/571. There was also a John Bethune of North Carolina. He was a chaplain in Brigadier General Donald McDonald's army and was taken prisoner at Cross Creek in February, 1776. Later he was appointed chaplain to the 84th Regiment. See *Colonial Records of N. Carolina*, X. 600; Sabine, *Loyalists of the Am. Rev.*, I. 227.

## The Documents

### PART III

THE MEMORIALS AND SCHEDULES OF DENYS ROLLE, ESQ.,  
THE PETITION OF JOHN LEADBEATER, RECTOR  
OF ST. MARKS,  
AND THE MEMORIALS AND SCHEDULES OF THOMAS AND  
WILLIAM GRENVILLE AND LADY MARY DUNCAN

THE MEMORIALS AND SCHEDULES  
OF DENYS ROLLE, ESQ.,  
THE PETITION OF JOHN LEADBEATER, RECTOR  
OF ST. MARKS,  
AND THE MEMORIALS AND SCHEDULES OF  
THOMAS AND WILLIAM GRENVILLE  
AND LADY MARY DUNCAN

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council  
The Memorial<sup>179</sup> of Denys Rolle<sup>180</sup> of Stevenstone in the  
County of Devon Esq:

Most humbly Sheweth That your Majesty was graciously pleased in the year 1764 to grant to your Memorialist 20,000 Acres of Land in East Florida which with Purchases made since of other Tracts in that Province, makes your Memorialists property therein 80,140 Acres. The enormous Expences your Memorialist has been at in clearing and cultivating the said Lands with loss of several Negroes occasioned through the War exceed the sum of £23,000 the Product of which Lands at this time, would more than pay the Interest of Expende.

The Value of the said Lands together with Negroes, Buildings Plantations Stores &c &c on the very lowest estimation is £28488 the particulars of which valuation are hereunto most humbly annexed containing a General state of settlements and Plantations the property of your Majesty's Memoiralist [*sic*] for ever lost to him by the Cession of the said Province to the Crown of Spain.

Your Memorialist humbly trusts that his Zeal upon all occasions to promote your Majesty's Interest needs not here be expressed to induce your Majesty to graciously consider the heavy losses your Memorialist has met with by his Activity and Perseverance in exploring some of your Majesty's late uncultivated Dominions and tho your Memorialist is among the most forward in Submitting to what has unavoidably dispossess him of so large a Property yet as many of your Majesty's Insular Possessions remain at this day in a state [of] Nature though capable of giving Provision and Benefit to many of your Majesty's Industrious Subjects your Majesty's Memorialist most humbly begs leave to pray your Majesty that whenever the sole Property of the Bahama Islands is vested in your Majesty (which your Memorialist is

<sup>179</sup> Privy Council 1/57.(.85); duplicate in H. O. 42/3.

<sup>180</sup> See Additional Notes, *post*, pp. 308, 367.

made to understand will shortly be the case) your Majesty will be graciously pleased to grant him the Island of Mogane or Maguana situated to the Northward of Turks Island in consideration of the heavy Losses your Memorialist has Sustained by his said Settlements in East Florida and to enable your Memorialist to carry his moveables from the said Province to the said Island and to grant him such other Relief as your Majesty in your Royal Breast shall think fit and your Memorialist will ever Pray &c. &c. &c.

Denys Rolle<sup>181</sup>

September 10<sup>th</sup> 1783.

140 Negroes	£7,000	0s	0d
168 Head Cattle	504	0	0
15 Horses	80	0	0
27 Hogs	20	5	0
4 Sheep 4 6s 0d, Poultry 7	11	6	0
Provisions, Goods in Store, Implements of Husbandry, Furniture, Tur-			
pentine, Staves, Boats, &c &c	772	17	1½
	24,366	0	7½

## [Schedule of Denys Rolle]

The General State of Settlements<sup>182</sup>

Grants	Quality of Land	Value per Acre	Total Value
Acres	Acres		
20,000 to Denys Rolle	3,000 River & Navigable Creek Swamp	10s	£1500 0 0
	2000 Inland Swamp	10	1000 0 0
	2000 Orange Grove & Hammock	7/6	750 0 0
	5000 Moist Savannah	5/0	1250 0 0
	450 Cleared Land of which		
	200 Marsh Swamp Rice Land	£5	1000 0 0
	250 Corn D <sup>o</sup>	£3	750 0 0
	7550 Pine Land	1s	377 10 0
	20000		

<sup>181</sup> Autograph letter. See Additional Notes, *post*, pp. 308, 367.

<sup>182</sup> Privy Council 1/57; duplicate copy in H. O. 42/3.

Grants	Quality of Land	Value per Acre	Total Value
Acres	Acres		
2000 to D Rolle	1000 River & Swamp	10s	500 0 0
	1000 Pine Land	1	50 0 0
	2000		
85 to D an Island	60 Ash & Maple Swamp	10	22 10 0
	25 Palmetto Corn Land	5	6 5 0
	85		
20000 to W <sup>th</sup>			
Elliot Esq.	9000 Inland Swamp	10	4500 0 0
Sold to D. Rolle	11000 Pine Land	1	350 0 0
	20000		
20000 to J <sup>a</sup>	4000 Swamp	10	2000 0 0
Grayhast Esq.	1000 Marsh	10	500 0 0
Sold to D. Rolle	1000 Hammock Orange	7/6	375 0 0
	14000 Pine Land	1	700 0 0
	20000		
10000 to W <sup>th</sup>	2000 Swamp	10	1000 0 0
Penrice M	1000 Hammock	7/6	375 0 0
Sold to D. Rolle	1000 Savannah	5/-	250 0 0
	6000 Pine Land	1	300 0 0
	10000		
3000 to James Cusac	1550 Swamp	10	775 0 0
Sold to D. Rolle	1300 Pine Land	1	65 0 0
	150 Hammock	7/6	56 5 0
	3000		
500 Two Plotts	125 Swamp	10s	62 0 0
	100 Savannah	5	25 0 0
500 Certi-	775 Pine Land	1	38 0 0
fied to D. Rolle	1000		

Grants	Quality of Land	Value per Acre	Total Value		
76085 all nearly contiguous 100 Miles up St. Jn <sup>e</sup> River		£18778	15	0	
Acres	Acres				
Lower Plantation	22 Miles above the Bar of St. John River				
Acres					
290 to Thomas Cowdry	245 Clear'd Corn Land	3	735	0	0
Sold to J <sup>e</sup> Penman Esq.	25 D <sup>e</sup> Marsh Rice D <sup>e</sup>	5	125	0	0
Sold to Denys Rolle					
300 D <sup>e</sup> D <sup>e</sup> D <sup>e</sup>					
2000 to Penman to D. Rolle	2062 Turpentine Trees Boxd & runing	1	103	2	0
1280 D <sup>e</sup> D <sup>e</sup> By Blunder in running part on Land of others					
2265 Acres only	1323 Pine Land	1	66	3	0
500 Two Tracts					
500 on the West Side of the River to Penman to Rolle untouch'd	200 Hammock		75	0	0
3855	3855	£1104	5	0	
Plot of Land between both Plantations.					
200 to Mar	100 Orange Grove	7/6	37	10	0
Perry Sold to D. Rolle	50 Swamp Pine Land	10s	25	0	0
		1s	2	10	0
	200		64		

Grants	Quality of Land	Value per Acre	Total Value		
Acres	Acres				
76085 Brought over	Recapitulation				
80140 Total	23725 Swamp & Marsh	10	11862	10	0
Acres					
	4510 Hammock Orange Grove	7.6	1691	5	0
	6125 Savannah &	5	1531	5	0
	45060 Pine Land	1s	2253	0	0
	225 Clear'd Rice Land	£5	1125	0	0
	495 D <sup>e</sup> Corn Land	3	1485	0	0
	80140		19948	0	0

These Possessions of D. Rolle consist of two Distinct Plantations an Island partly cultivated by D Rolle 1000 Acres on the West side of the River obtained for Turpentine and a Plot of 200 Acres situated nearly midway between the two Plantations a convenient Relay in passing from one to the other, Plentiful in Oranges and Game.

The Higher Plantation consists of a Tract nearly 23 Miles in Length 8 to 9 Broad Surrounded in three Sides by 36 Miles of water navigation The finest Range of Savannah and Pasture for Cattle

The State of the Negroes at this present time in good order and healthy.

Tradsmen	Years	
1 Tar Burner	1 Driver	17 Boys 7 Donwards
1 Carpenter	17 Turpentine &	15 Girls D <sup>e</sup>
1 Assistant D <sup>e</sup>	Field Negroes	—
4 Coopers	27 Field Women	32 Rising Generation
1 Squarer	1 Midwife	5 Men } in Kitchen
8 Sawyers	15 Youths	5 Women } & Past Labour
1 Gardener	16 Girls	96
2 Carters	—	—
—	77 Field Negroes	Total Number
19	19 Tradsmen	138
	96 Working Negroes	

## Valuation

The Tradsmen by Instruction by White Masters

The Field Negroes by advance in strength by Years.

The Health of the Rising Brood promising a quick Accession of Labouring hands may be Valued thus on an average

19 Tradesmen at 100	£1900	
77 Field Negroes at 50	3850	Total
32 Rising Generation at 15	480	£6230
10 Past Labour		

N. A Complete Cooper is worth £150.

The Buildings at the Higher Plantations have been valued at	300	Buildings [blank] Plantations	
Those at the Lower are of more value	300	Stocks	23 10
Plantation Stores Tools Boats &c &c im-mense	1000	Lands as above	19948
and a Collection of Agricultural and Botanical Books —		Negroes	6230
Cattle from the Plunder of the Indigent Refugees are reduced much only 153 hunted up Several broke for Draft valuable Large sort Bought at 7 10 0 $\text{p}$ head being some of 800 <sup>w</sup> :	600	Total Value	£28488
Hogs reduced also by like means perhaps with Sheep		Lumber and Small articles not known	
Poultry	60		
Provision Some parted with to the Refugees in want little Surplus above Food for Negroes necessary			
Turpentine Omitted to send account of by former Agents expectation of 1400 Worth The present runing Crops future Information must fix.			

Negroes Work on the Fortifications of which there is a Certificate for	£ 82
Negroes lost by means of the War about value	400
Cattle there being 220 Feb. 1782—10 bought and probable encrease appears lost 157 in num—Supposed by the Indigent Refugees may Say above	400

N. B. In conformity with the Terms and Conditions of the Grants to Rolle at various times Sent great Numbers of White People to his Said Plantation all most all of which were Seduced from him, many even by the Magistrates of the Province besides which he had continually inexpressible Difficulties thrown in his way by those Magistrates of the Province on his application to them for Redress of Injuries and others wise, From thence, from the Villany of Captains of Vessels D Rolle Chartered to said Province from the Dishonesty of Agents in the management of his Property and their Cruelty to his Settlers, Servants and Negroes and other Malconduct D. Rolle has experienced the greatest Distresses both of Body and mind, of any Gentleman who ever engaged in Undertakings of this Kind.

## Observations

The higher Plantation consisting of 76,085 Acres of 23 Miles in Length, and 8 to 9 in Breadth has the most Secure Boundary for Cattle by Water round three Sides of it and an impassable Swamp contains the Finest Feed for Cattle in the inhabited part of the Province in which in the year 1769 and 1770 there were Supposed to be About one Thousand Head of Cattle till 1771 a Villanous Agent Sold them at Vendue to Himself for 150 by a Sinister contrivance and then immediately Sold them unnumbered to another Person for 400 tho Worth 3  $\text{p}$  head on an average. Negroes after cruel usage, Sold Many to himself and then to others in like manner, with Stores, Supposed by some to have been worth 7000 for 1000 only and was protected in his Villany from coming to account by the then Chief Justice.

These Pastures would have even now produced an annual Income from 220 head of Cattle in Feb. 1782 with its encrease of the last and present year to a considerable Amount had not it been defeated by the Starving condition of the Refugees forcing them to Depredation In the former time a flock of Sheep and Goats thrivd greatly and exhibited a considerable profit from that Kind of Land which has the Epithet of Barren annexed to it (pine Barren) but produces the agreeable Food for those Annimals and furnished a quantity of fine Mutton to the Bon Vivants in Augustine at the time of the Sale in 1771. After [*i.e.*, A few] Sheep was placed now lately [*sic*].

Tho' the accumulating So great a quantity of Land might appear needless in respect of what May be occupied in Tillage, yet it not only gives the Owner power of Chusing for that purpose, as his leasure or strength of hands permits, yet enables him also to enlarge his Turpentine Manufacture, engrossing a vast extent of ground to make any considerable quantity from; but also a large Range is absolutely necessary for the run of Cattle, and Persons in Georgia and Carolina are obliged to retire further back as Plantations encrease, unless they have large Grants of Land: It must be observed on the article of Cattle Sheep Hogs and Goats with Poultry half the Garrison of St Augustine might have been Servd in 1770 from D. Rolles Plantation if not embezzled, and it would have provid a reciprocal Benefit to the Garrison and Proprietor.

The Value of uncleard Swamp	} as sent under the Seal of the Province at this time
is 10s Acre	
of pine 1s	

The Valuation of D Rolles Land was not sent over as there had been till lately hopes of Remaining a Planter in the Province but some Advices mentioned 5 Per Acre as the Value for cleared Rice Land and 3 pounds  $\text{p}$  Acre for cleard Corn and orange Grove Land.

The Rice Land is well known to Produce 4 Pounds  $\text{p}$  Acre in the clean unbroken Rice fit for Market besides the samll Rice as good for Plantation use, the Shed Rice fattening Hogs and Poultry the Second Crop Springing from the Roots the same year fattening also the Cattle in the latter Season.

The Pine Land produces the Naval Stores as Turpentine Tar &c  $\frac{3}{4}$  one Negroe tends 2500 Trees or more producing 60 Barrels the Clear Profit appears from sale at the present low Price of 16<sup>s</sup>  $\text{p}$  Hundred all expences deducted £1 1s 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d  $\text{p}$  Barrel Two Barrels being produced on each Acre £2 3s 3d is the first years Income the second being less and the 3d less



again for the 2 Years say 16s 9d Making for the 3 years 5 Pounds. Tar is also made from the remaining part of the exhausted Trees and cannot be ascertained in value but Suppose one Pound more may reasonably be added for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in all 6 pounds if the Land was afterwards destitute of Produce infertile if tilld yet there accrues a permanent Intrest of 6 Shillings for the 6 pounds for Ever But Low Price Lands at the Indians store near the Settlement has produced a Crop of Indian Corn 14 Feet high and a good burthen The Negroe Coopers are said by the Agent to be compleatly taught under a White Cooper and therefore not only sufficiently able for Providing for the Tar and Turpentine Manafactory but are capable of executing more Stores for Sale to others and Export to the West Indies and the Sawyers can produce a Vast quantity of Lumber for like Sale and Export Call: Mullrein of Georgias chief Income arose from the Sawing by hand and that to a great amount.

The List of Products then appears according to this State

Turpentine from 14 hands or Crops 840 Barrels at £1 1s 6d	£903	Indigo has been made on this Land and Sold for 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> a pound & Cotton fine as in Brazil Hides Honey Wax Myrble Wax. It is a great Vine Country the Madeira Grape ripens well Wine certainly may be made Also.
Tar and Lumber from 4 pair of Sawyers and 3 Coopers	200	
Rice Indian Corn Guinea Corn Rye from 700 cleared Acres above use Benisic—	100	
Cattle Hogs Poultry Orange Juice Gallans in a good year	1000	
Cotton	200	
	1403	

[Endorsed:—]

R/ 25<sup>th</sup> Sept: 1783  
from Mr Rolle.

### [The Memorial of Denys Rolle, Esquire.]

To the Commissioners appointed by Act of Parliament to enquire into the Losses of all such Persons who have suffered in their Property in Consequence of the Cession of the Province of East Florida to the King of Spain.

The Memorial of Denys Rolle of Stevenstone<sup>188</sup> in the County of Devon Esquire lately holding Estates as a Planter in the Province of East Florida.

Sheweth That your Memorialist at the Time of ceding said Province to the King of Spain was by virtue of a Grant from his Majesty and divers Conveyances from various Persons seized in Fee of seventy nine thousand six hundred and seventeen Acres of Land in the said Province

<sup>188</sup> T. 77/15.

That your Memorialist in the year 1764 agreeable to the precise Terms of His Majesty's Grants under Penalty of Forfeiture settled a Plantation of white Persons in the said Province whom he carried with him from England which in the year following he augmented to forty whites by the arrival of some from England and others and that in the year 1767 he chartered a vessel from England and carried with him to East Florida forty nine white Persons and in the year 1779 in another chartered Vessel eighty nine Persons which with others settled by him on his said Estate in the said Province amounted in the whole to more than two hundred white Persons.

That your Memorialist hath expended in such Settlement of white Persons and in clearing and cultivating the said Lands and otherwise on Account thereof upwards of the sum of Twenty three thousand Pounds, the Produce of which Lands at the Time of ceding the said Province would more than pay the Interest of the Expence attending the Settlement thereof amounting annually to the sum of two Thousand Pounds and upwards as particularly specified and set forth in the rectified Schedule hereunto annexed, whereby it appears that the Value of Lands in the said Province is considerably greater [than] that mentioned and set forth in the Schedule and Valuation under the Seal of the said Province hereto also annexed, but which your Memorialist would not [have] presumed to have troubled you with the Inspection of had he not been informed that the several Species of Lands in the said Province were much undervalued in such last mentioned Schedule and Valuation as by comparing it with such first Schedule will appear.

That your Memorialist being possessed of an entire Tract of Land containing more than seventy six thousand Acres extending nearly Twenty three Miles in length and from eight to nine Miles in breadth almost surrounded with thirty six Miles of Water Navigation and an impassable Swamp (as appears by the Plan hereto likewise annexed) had the most secure and extensive Range for Cattle in the said Province and which was esteemed of the finest Feed, wherein your Memorialist had in the year 1770 more than one thousand head of which he was unjustly deprived by a dishonest Overseer, and tho restocked again at a vast Expence great numbers have been destroyed by indigent Refugees and others in the confused State of the Province before its Cession.

That your Memorialist hath also sustained great Loss by the Sickness and Death of Forty two Negroes on their removal to the Bahama Islands which appears by the annexed List transmitted on their perfect Settlement there, that he was put to the Expence of Five hundred Guineas in chartering a Vessel from London to remove his Negroes and Effects as soon as possible from the said Province on Account of the bad Agreement likely to subsist between the Indians and the Spaniards and hath also sustained and been put to many other great Losses and Expences occasioned by

again for the 2 Years say 16s 9d Making for the 3 years 5 Pounds. Tar is also made from the remaining part of the exhausted Trees and cannot be ascertained in value but Suppose one Pound more may reasonably be added for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in all 6 pounds if the Land was afterwards destitute of Produce infertile if tilld yet there accrues a permanent Intrest of 6 Shillings for the 6 pounds for Ever But Low Price Lands at the Indians store near the Settlement has produced a Crop of Indian Corn 14 Feet high and a good burthen The Negroe Coopers are said by the Agent to be compleatly taught under a White Cooper and therefore not only sufficiently able for Providing for the Tar and Turpentine Manafactory but are capable of executing more Stores for Sale to others and Export to the West Indies and the Sawyers can produce a Vast quantity of Lumber for like Sale and Export Call: Mullrein of Georgias chief Income arose from the Sawing by hand and that to a great amount.

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That your Memorialist hath expended in such Settlement of white Persons and in clearing and cultivating the said Lands and otherwise on Account thereof upwards of the sum of Twenty three thousand Pounds, the Produce of which Lands at the Time of ceding the said Province would more than pay the Interest of the Expence attending the Settlement thereof amounting annually to the sum of two Thousand Pounds and upwards as particularly specified and set forth in the rectified Schedule hereunto annexed, whereby it appears that the Value of Lands in the said Province is considerably greater [than] that mentioned and set forth in the Schedule and Valuation under the Seal of the said Province hereto also annexed, but which your Memorialist would not [have] presumed to have troubled you with the Inspection of had he not been informed that the several Species of Lands in the said Province were much undervalued in such last mentioned Schedule and Valuation as by comparing it with such first Schedule will appear.

That your Memorialist being possessed of an entire Tract of Land containing more than seventy six thousand Acres extending nearly Twenty three Miles in length and from eight to nine Miles in breadth almost surrounded with thirty six Miles of Water Navigation and an impassable Swamp (as appears by the Plan hereto likewise annexed) had the most secure and extensive Range for Cattle in the said Province and which was esteemed of the finest Feed, wherein your Memorialist had in the year 1770 more than one thousand head of which he was unjustly deprived by a dishonest Overseer, and tho restocked again at a vast Expence great numbers have been destroyed by indigent Refugees and others in the confused State of the Province before its Cession.

That your Memorialist hath also sustained great Loss by the Sickness and Death of Forty two Negroes on their removal to the Bahama Islands which appears by the annexed List transmitted on their perfect Settlement there, that he was put to the Expence of Five hundred Guineas in chartering a Vessel from London to remove his Negroes and Effects as soon as possible from the said Province on Account of the bad Agreement likely to subsist between the Indians and the Spaniards and hath also sustained and been put to many other great Losses and Expences occasioned by

the Sale of such Parts of his Property as could be disposed of in such a confused & critical Time, by the Purchase of Schooners, in making two Voyages from East Florida to the Bahama Islands and in taking down the Buildings on the said Estates in order to their removal, which thereby suffered a great Diminution in value—all which Losses & Expences amount to the Sum of Twelve hundred Pounds and upwards besides the value of the Negroes lost by Death in Number 42.

Your Memorialist therefore prays that his Case may be taken into your Consideration in order that under your report he may receive such Aid or relief as his Losses shall be found to deserve.

Denys Rolle at Stevenstone Devon

[Names of witnesses omitted.]

[Endorsed:] Dec<sup>r</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> 1786

N<sup>o</sup> 137 delivered 30<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1786

Amount—£19886 17s *od*.

The General State of the settlements or  
Plantations of Denys Rolle in East Florida 1783<sup>184</sup>

The Possessions of D. Rolle consist of two Distinct Plantations a small Island that has been partly had by him one more detached Piece of 1000 acres and another Smaller Piece untouched in the whole above 80,000 acres being of Grants to D. Rolle from the Crown and many others purchased by him.

These Tracts appear by the office Plans to consist of about

acres			
23725	—of Swamp & Marsh Land valued at 10s	£11862	10s <i>od</i>
4510	—Hammock & Orange Grove at 7/6	1691	5 0
6125	—Savannah & Some higher Palmetto Land on the Island at 5/—	1531	5 0
45060	—Pine Land at 1/—	2253	0 0
225	—Cleared Swamp & Marsh for Rice at 500 Imbanked from the River & sown	1125	0 0
495	—Corn Land cleared 3 0 0	1485	0 0
		£19948	0 0

The Plantation Chichester Consists of 4 Plots of  
2 D<sup>e</sup> West side of the river  
3300 acres nearly  
1000  
4300

24 Working Negroes  
9 Children  
33

<sup>184</sup> T. 77/15 [extracts.]

There are on Turpentine thirty Thousand Trees in Tapp & 3000 Acres still unfinished

Produce upwards of 400 Barrels of Turpentine yearly

Hoggs encrease much on this Lott

House & Buildings all in great & good Repair & convenient.

Both Plantations before the addition of Rice may be computed at twelve Hundred pounds clear yearly Income.

[Endorsed:] State of the Plantation at the village of Rolle on St John's River East Florida

Febr, 1783.

The humble Petition of John Leadbeater.<sup>185</sup>  
Clerk, Rector of St Marks, East Florida.

Sheweth That the Petitioner having been appointed to the Rectory of St Marks in the Province of East Florida, with an allotment of about Four Hundred Acres of Land, above nine Years ago; And since then, in Consideration of his infirm State of Health having been permitted (on condition of providing a Curate to do the Duty, and take care of the School at St. Augustine) to return to England; where by the Help of that Benefice, he has hitherto been enabled to bring up a numerous Family, deprived of the Assistance of their Mother soon after his Return, now suffers very heavily from the Loss He must sustain by the Cession of East Florida to the Crown of Spain; He therefore most humbly solicits the Protection & Patronage of the Right Honourable Lord Sydney, that His Lordship will be pleased to extend his Benevolence to the Petitioner, that such Amends may be made to him for this Loss as may be thought just or adequate, either by conferring on him some Benefice that may now be vacant, or by any other means which may be judged more proper.

To the Right Honourable Lord Sydney, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department

[Endorsed:] Petition of John Leadbeater, Clerk a Sufferer by the Cession of East Florida to the Crown of Spain.

R/ 29 March [qy. 1784]

Memorials of Thomas and William Grenville and Lady Mary Duncan

To the Commissioners appointed by Act of Parliament to enquire into the losses of all such persons as have suffered in their properties in conse-

<sup>185</sup> C. O. 5/560; also, Volume I. of this work, pp. 6-8.

quence of the Cession of the Province of East Florida to the King of Spain.<sup>186</sup>

The Memorial of Thomas Grenville, Esq., and the Right Hon. William Wyndham Grenville Sons and Devisees of the late Right Honorable George Grenville deceased.

AND the Memorial of Lady Mary Duncan Widow and Sole Executrix and Devisee of Sir William Duncan Baronet deceased.—

Sheweth

That the Claim which your Memorialists submit to your consideration comprehends a large part of the most considerable of any of the Settlements in the Province of East Florida—That in the year 1768 the late Sir William Duncan Dr Turnbull and the late Mr Grenville were possessed of an Estate Of 80,000 acres of land which by a Subsequent Addition was made to amount to 101,400 Acres that the proprietors under the encouragement held out by Government in England to those who would settle and cultivate Land in East Florida began their Settlement on a more extensive plan than had then or has since been undertaken by any other persons possessed of Lands in that province and in exact and literal conformity to the terms of their Grants—That above 1300 white people collected from the Southern parts of Italy and the Greek Islands were carried over to Florida in the year 1768 at the expence of upwards of £24,000—twelve of which were paid by Sir William Duncan and 12 by Mr Grenville, that these people were established at a Town which the Proprietors built at the Mosquito inlet and called Smyrnea (The Situation of which the annexed plan will shew) And that in the year 1770 this Settlement appeared to Government in England an Object of so much magnitude and the Original expence of settleing so many people so deserving of protection and encouragement that £2000 bounty from Great Britain was put into the hands of Governor Grant and was by him laid out in Corn which he distributed to the Settlers—at Smyrnea. That notwithstanding the difficulties that must occur in the first infancy of an establishment as extensive as that of Smyrnea above 100 houses were already built within the three or four first years besides Barns Outhouses and other Erections necessary for the works of Indigo and Articles to the culture of which the Province was peculiarly adapted.—That the Settlers proceeded with so much industry that in the year 1772 little more than three Years after the first Settlement of the Lands upwards of £3000'S WORTH OF Indigo was the produce of one Year remitted to England from Smyrnea in payment of articles supplied to the Settlement from hence and a Tract of above Seven Miles in length containing above 1600 Acres upon Halifax and Hillsborough Rivers was even at so early a period cleared inhabited and in Cultivation.

<sup>186</sup> T. 77/7.

It appears proper that we should here observe that the remittance (being the produce of the year 1772) Of £3,300 is referred to in this Memorial because the amount of it can be proved by the Merchant in London to whom it was consigned from Smyrnea; but that your Memorialists are unable to submit to your inspection (as they could have wished to have done) the entire state of these accounts, because Dr. Turnbull the person who had the only knowledge and possession of them as manager for the joint Estate has neglected to fulfill the Obligation he was under of transmitting them to Us annually and has left us without the means of offering to you that Annual State of our disbursements which we should otherwise have laid before you—the whole produce of the Settlement has however from Year to Year been uniformly left in the hands of the Manager and by him been constantly expended upon it till the Year 1779 in some instances by remittances to Great Britain in the manner above stated, but for the most part in barter for Goods supplied by the Merchants of New York Philadelphia and Carolina But your Memorialists not being able for the reasons above mentioned to offer you accurate and authentic Accounts of the monies which arose from the produce of the Plantation and which together with the Sums before stated to have been advanced by the late Sir William Duncan and Mr Grenville would probably amount to little less than a Sum of above £40,000 principal exclusive of Interest We therefore refrain from entering into that sort of evidence which thou[g]h the best they are possessed of upon the Subject of their disbursements might appear less substantiated than would warrant their offering it to you in the shape or under the title of a regular account.

Of the Original expence of £24,000 paid by Sir William Duncan and Mr Grenville for carrying between 1300 and 1400 white people to Florida they are possessed of undeniable evidence of the approbation and protection which the Government of this Country gave to that Original expence there can be no proof more strong than the £2000, Bounty allowed by Great Britain for the Subsistence of the Settlers in 1770—Of its probable success in the Article of Indigo as well as of the Amount of the Sums annually expended upon it some judgment may be formed from one Years produce (the largest indeed that we can trace) having amounted to £3,300 of the peculiar advantages of its local situation in general and particularly of its large Wharf and Navigation for disposing of Naval Stores—Of the very large profits which the article of turpentine alone would have afforded them from the extensive tracts of pine land many persons who have lived in the Province in the Neighbourhood and some on the Settlement of Smyrnea can give the most satisfactory assurances, By which the Commissioners may be enable[d] in some measure to estimate the great loss we suffered by the Cession of our Estates in addition to which We think it right to advert to the considerable losses to which we were subjected during the progress of the American War in consequence of the measures



adopted by Government for the defence of the Province—It can be satisfactorily proved that a large body of our Settlers were engaged in the Military defence of the Province in the two years 1776 and 1778 when it was invaded from Georgia whereby the profits of our Houses were in great measure lost and the Cultivation of our Land suspended, a circumstance which we apprehend may not improperly be taken into Consideration where an Estimate is to be formed of the value of our property at the period of its Cession. By this and by a long Suit of litigation in which we were involved with our Manager Dr Turnbull from 1779 to 1781 when he left Smyrnea and went to reside at Charles Town a temporary stop had been put to the growing success of the Settlement but had the Province not been ceded our Estate undoubtedly [held] out to its Proprietors in its Houses Cultivation and Naval Stores the most flattering prospects of future advantage and if it falls within the intention of the Commissioners to examine those losses during the continuance of the War as well as those which arose from the Cession of the province the loss of the 30 Negroes carried off by a Georgian privateer is an Article of very considerable loss which we have evidence enough to ascertain to the Commissioners and which is moderately stated at £1500.

The description of that part of the joint Estate which became the separate property of your Memorialists by the dissolution of our Partnership with Dr Turnbull in 1781 is now all that remains for us to trouble you with and upon that subject we beg to refer you to the annexed Estimates. The two first are the Estimates made upon the spot by Affidavits taken before the Chief Justice of the Province and recorded as such in the Register Office at St.-Augustine. The two others are Estimates of the same property made according to that Valuation which the Committee of proprietors in London on what appeared to them fair and reasonable from their own judgment and from the examination of the most disinterested persons adopted as the just Value of the different descriptions of Land in East Florida; Some Gentlemen We understand are disposed to rest their Claims upon the first described Estimates and others have preferred this subsequent described valuation, there is a considerable difference between them but having ourselves no personal knowledge of the Subject we thought it best to submit them both to the examination and decision of the Commissioners it being our desire to furnish them with every possible information that can lead to a fair investigation Of our Claim.

With this view we have added to this Memorial the names of such persons as We Understand to have been in any manner conversant with the nature and progress of our Undertaking or acquainted with the value which our property had acquired from its local situation and from the great expence and industry bestowed upon it. But if it should appear to the Commissioners during the Consideration of the Claim delivered by your Memorialists that any point relating to it requires to be supported

by any other proofs than can be afforded by the Deeds and Papers in our possession or by the persons whose names are stated by Us; your Memorialists are anxious that such further Evidence may be resorted to, if it can be had, as may place every part of the subject in the clearest light which it is capable of receiving—

In Behalf of my Brother and myself

W: W: Grenville      Pay Office  
Elbro Woodcock in behalf of the Right  
Honble. Lady Mary Duncan  
Mary Duncan Queen Ann Street  
Westr

[Names of Witnesses omitted.]

. . . Mr Elborough Woodcock of Lincolns Inn is ready, if necessary, to authenticate any papers which he shall produce.

No 151—delivered 30th Decr 1786.

Amount £28991. 15. 0.

#### A

Schedule and Valuation of the Real Estate of Thomas and William Grenville situate in the Province of East Florida.<sup>187</sup>

#### I

The Ground Plot of 20000 Acres of Land Situate two miles and three quarters Westward from Mosquito Inlet bounded Eastwardly on the Marshes of Mosquito Creek Southwardly on Sir Wm Duncan's Land and on all other sides on vacant Land granted on the 17th of Feb 1767 to Andrew Turnbull Esq.

1000 Acres cleared and cultivated at £3.	£3000
40 dwelling Houses in the Country at £30	1200
5840 Acres back swamp uncleared at 10/	2920
13160 ditto pine and Savannah at 1/	658

7778

Ten thousand acres of Land situate on Saint Mary's River, about 100 Miles Northwardly from St. Augustine bounded Westwardly on the said river Northwardly on William Armstrong and Southwardly on Angus Clark

#### K

inclosing the Lands of Jeremiah Warren and the said Angus Clark and all other sides by vacant Land granted the 16th of Feb. 1771 to Nathaniel Hone Esq.

<sup>187</sup> T. 77/7.