

[147] . . .

november 8th. 1786.

M^{rs} ANN WEBLEY, claimant, sworn:

Says that she went to East Florida in june 1768 and resided there fourteen years. Her husband died in january 1782 and she was left sole executrix in proof of which she produced an attested copy under a certificate from Mr Yeats of the will which was dated november 30th. 1781. That upon her husband's death finding many debts and several consig[n]ments she proceeded to settle his affairs and for that purpose left East Florida on the 1st of july 1782, and arrived in England in august 1782. She left behind her two negroe women bought by her husband in june 1779 which cost £80. These she left with Mr. Dott her attorney who upon the news of the cession in 1783 went to Charles town and as she supposes carried them with him having never sent her any account of them.

Two horses bought by her husband about two years before his death which cost £10, [148] were likewise left with Mr. Dott and of which she has had no account.

A Canoe left with the same person which was bought by her husband about a year before he died and which she values at £5 10

She produced a receipt for £128 the price of the negroe women and a negroe boy but had no receipt for the horses or the canoe.

Says that there was due from M^r Dott to her arising from the Produce of Sales £95 17s 7d

Due from several other persons for furniture sold to them previous to her departure £59 16s 7d

which she left her Attorney M^r Dott power to collect in.

That she lost by a Bill dated 10th July 1781 & drawn by T. Henry Abbot upon Cox & Mair⁴⁴ Agents in London payable to her Husband M^r Edw^d Webley at 30 days Sight & returned protested as the Claimant was informed upon her Arrival in London £96 13s.

By a Bill dated July 5th 1781 drawn by T. Hen^y Abbott upon Cox & Mair payable to M^r James Scotland or order at 30 days sight which was indorsed as she says by him to [149] her & payment refused upon it £50.

That she has been informed Cap^t Abbot⁴⁵ is now in London in the Kings Bench.

⁴⁴ Cox and Muir were regimental agents, with an office at Craig's Court in London. They sought commissions for persons desiring to purchase them in certain regiments and advanced money for various corps of American Loyalists, as well as for the regular troops. For example, they are mentioned in 1780 as agents to the 84th Regiment, and they made advances to subsidize a party of the Maryland and Pennsylvania loyalists. On September 8, 1780, Sir H. Clinton ordered these sums to be repaid by the paymaster of their provincial forces. See *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, I. 29, 32, 89, II. 150, 179; C. M. Andrews, *Guide to Materials for Am. Hist., to 1783, in Public Record Office*, II. 286.

⁴⁵ A Captain Abbot tendered new paroles to Christopher Gadsden and other citizens on board the

By a Bill dated May 1st 1782 drawn by Henry Yonge⁴⁶ upon James Jackson & payable to Stephen Haven or Order which was indorsed as she says by him to her & payment refused £35.

That she has heard M^r Henry Yonge is now in [New] Providence.

That she sent out the two last Bills as soon as they became due & were refused payment to M^r Dott at St. Augustine about the beginning of the Year 1783 & has never rec^d any Account of them from him.

[Witness's confirmation and initials.]

M^r FLEETWOOD ARMSTRONG, Witness, Sworn:

Says That he knows the Claimant left one Negroe Wench with M^r Dott which was disposed of by him [to] M^r Peavett who still continues at East Florida.

That M^r Dott had some of her property [150] when he went to Charles Town in 1784 where he died in very poor distressed Circumstances. That he had seen some Bills which were drawn by Cap^t Abbott & M^r Yonge & returned protested to East Florida. That these Bills were given for Cash advanced by the Claimant in order to make remittance over to England. That Cap^t Abbot is in the Kings Bench & M^r Yonge in Providence he has heard that he is Attorney general there.

That he don't recollect any other part of the Claimants property [Witness's confirmation and initials.]

[151]

No. 27. . . .

The Memorial of John Augustus Ernest, Esq:

Sheweth That your Memorialist now is, and has been Resident in London upwards of twenty Years; and at the late cession of East Florida to Spain was in possession

Fidelity in Charleston harbor, South Carolina, on September 3, 1780, after the capitulation of that town to the British in the previous May. These prisoners were about to be exiled to St. Augustine. It was probably the same Captain Abbot who is mentioned in a letter of Brigadier General Archibald McArthur, written from St. Augustine, September 14, 1783, to Sir Guy Carleton, as the person whom he would designate to deliver the barracks and public buildings "in the best order" to the Spaniards. He commanded the Royal Artillery at St. Augustine. See E. McCrady, *South Carolina in the Rev., 1775-1780*, pp. 724-725; *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, IV. 356; also *post*, p. 376.

⁴⁶ Attorney General Henry Yonge was a member of the council of East Florida, and *ipso facto* a member of the upper house of assembly which held its first session of more than seven months from March 27, to November 12, 1781 (C. O. 5/572). Miss Doggett speaks of him as district attorney (*Dr. Andrew Turnbull and New Smyrna Colony*, p. 158).

of twenty thousand Acres of Land, in Pine, Marsh & Savannahs, situated on Gulph Sandwich, bound by Rock-Bridge-River North; by a fresh Water River, South,—by Biscayn Sound East;—& by vacant Land West;—distant from St Augustine in the said Province of East Florida about two hundred and Ninety Miles, South:

That the said twenty thousand Acres of Land were given and granted to the Me- [152] morialist, and to his Heirs for ever, by the King & Council, and by Patent under the hand and Seal of Governor Tonyn, dated East Florida, 27th December 1774; and was surveyed, Registered and taken possession off consonant to the tenor of the said Grant

That your Memorialist actually refused two thousand pounds for his said Property, & has been at other Expences amounting to four hundred pounds, as will appear by the Schedule annexed.

[Concluding petition and signature.]

[153] Schedule of the Property of John Augustus Ernest Esq: . . .

Twenty thousand Acres of Land—that is	
Pine land	12000 acres
in Marsh land	3000 &
Savannah	5000 Acres
For which the Proprietor refused to receive £2000 from Mr W ^m Roberts of the late Plantation Office—	
Mr Ernest therefore values this Loss at	£2000 0s 0d
Actually disbursed by Mr Ernest for Patent Fees, Surveying, taking Possession, & other Contingencies	400 0 0
	£2400 0s 0d

[Witnesses.]

[154 blank]

[155] . . .

Nov: 10th 1786

Mr JOHN AUGUSTUS ERNEST, Claim^t, Sworn:

Says That he is a German & Secretary to Count Bruhl; That he has resided in England 22 years but was never naturalized.

That by Virtue of an Order of Council he had a Grant (which he produced) made out by Gov: Tonyn & dated 27th December 1774 of 20000 Acres on Gulph Sandwich Commonly Called the Sound of Biscayne about 290 Miles South of St Augustine Conditioned for settling it with foreign Protestants in the proportion of one to Every 100 Acres, paying a quit Rent &c &c as appears by the Grant.

Says That he never Cleared any Land or paid any quit Rent nor complied with any of the Conditions of the Grant That he intended to have settled the Land with foreign Protestants, but was prevented by the breaking out of the War. That in 1777 he engaged 17 Swiss & German Protestants 8 or [156] 9 of Whom he sent for over & the rest of whom he agreed with in England to go over to his Plantation. That they were detained in England 3 Months & more & that he was at the Expence of about £281 1d in maintaining them which he States from memory only & not from any written documents.

That he applied to L^d Geo: Germaine⁴⁷ for a passage for them Who refused it on Account of his Agent Mr Turnbull being disaffected to Government. That he thinks he paid £18 in fees for the order of Council but has no receipt or Memorandum to produce for it.

That he paid Mr Mulcaster £100 19s 11d for locating & Surveying his tract of Land & produced a Rec^t from him for that Sum by a Bill of Exchange which appeared to be paid. That his Land was never appraised.

[Witness's confirmation and initials.]

[157]

Mr THOMAS POPLETT, Witness, Sworn:

Says that about the latter End of the Year 1777 he delivered a Letter from the Claimant to L^d Geo. Germaine desiring a passport for 16 or 18 Germans to East Florida which L^d Geo. Germaine refused to grant saying that it would Strengthen rebellion as the Claimants Agent Mr Turnbull⁴⁸ was disaffected to Government

[Witness's confirmation and initials.]

[158 blank]

⁴⁷ See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 317.

⁴⁸ Dr. Andrew Turnbull was appointed a member of the council of East Florida on January 15, 1767, by Governor Grant in place of John Ainslie, Esq., who resigned to go to England. The governor administered the oaths to Dr. Turnbull, and he took his seat at once. He then presented orders from the king in council in behalf of himself and Sir William Duncan, baronet, dated June 18, 1766, and warrants of survey were issued in their names for twenty thousand acres each, the first of several large grants of land which they received. Each of the grantees also received a town lot in St. Augustine. See C. O. 5/570; see also Additional Notes, *post*, p. 325.

[159]

No. 29. . . .

The Memorial of Mary Oswald
of George street Westminster widow Charlton Palmer of Philpot
lane gentleman and John Anderson of same place merchant
executrix and executors of the last will and testament
of Richard Oswald,⁴⁹ esqr deceased.

Sheweth that the said Richard Oswald was in his life time seized in fee simple of a
very considerable real estate in the said province of East Florida which was aban-
doned in consequence of the cession thereof to the crown of Spain, as will more fully
appear by the Schedule hereunto annexed.

[Concluding petition and signatures.]

[160 blank]

[161] The Schedule referred to in the foregoing memorial.

A tract of land on Hallifax & Tinoka rivers containing by grant
20000 acres.

3480 acres of which are rice swamp valued at 10/ per acre	£1740	0s	0d
840 acres are hammock or corn land at 10/ per acre	425	0	0
15670 acres are pine land valued at 1/ per acre	783	10	0

The improvements on said land viz:

A settlement or plantation called Mount Oswald on which are 400 acres cleared, 100 acres of which are river swamp compleatly dammed in with large and sufficient banks, drains floodgates &c & fit for planting, the rest in pasture fit for Tillage, rice land at 60/ per acre, high land @ 45/ per acre	975	0	0
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The buildings consisting of a dwelling house, a large barn, stable, kitchen; overseers house cornhouse and other outhouses	350	0	0
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A plantation, or improvement, called the ferry settlement on which are 100 acres river [162] swamp, compleatly dammed in for planting, having large reserves of back water appertaining thereto, 100 acres of high land cleared and grubed for Corn &c rice land at 60/ per acre, high land at 45/ per acre	525	0	0
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The buildings consisting of an overseer's house barn &c valued at	60	0	0
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⁴⁹ Richard Oswald is first mentioned in the Council Minutes of East Florida under date of No-
vember 12, 1766, when his agent presented an order from the king in council for twenty thousand
acres of land. The grant was signed by the governor three days later. See C. O. 5/570; see also Addi-
tional Notes, *post*, p. 330.

An Improvement on said tract called swamp plantation on which
are 300 acres cleared, 100 of which is good back swamp the
rest mostly corn land under cultivation last year swamp 60/
highland 45/

750 0 0

The buildings consisting of overseers house grain houses sugar
house and distillery works, sugar mill proper for carrying on the
business of a sugar plantation valued at

800 0 0

A Tract of land on Moskito and Indian rivers called Ramsay bay
containing 20000 acres—4200 acres of which are swamp at
10/ per acre 15800 acres high land at 1/

2890 0 0

£9298 10s 0d

[163] . . .

November 11th. 1786.

Mr. JOHN ANDERSON, claimant, sworn:

Produced a probate of the will of Richard Oswald dated 8th of may 1780
appointing Mary Ramsay (*i.e.*, Oswald) Charlton Palmer, John Anderson, Michael
Herries (who renounced) and Alexander Anderson, (who has not proved the will)
his executors and empowering them to dispose of his real estates in England the
West Indies, North America or Africa and make over the price and produce of them
as well as the whole free residue of his moveable estate in favor of Mary Ramsay
(*i.e.*, Oswald) William Berry, George Oswald, John Russell sen'r and John Russell
jun'r his son as trustees for the uses and purposes mentioned in a deed of trust dated
the 26th. of April 1780 and such other purposes as in his life time or on his death
bed he should appoint. Says that the testator was seised of a tract of land called
[164] Timoka situate on Halifax and Timoka rivers about forty miles south west
of St Augustine and containing 20000 acres; and likewise of a tract on Mosquito
and Indian rivers called Ramsay bay containing 20000 acres. For the first he pro-
duced a grant dated the 15th of novem'r 1766 from Governor Grant to the testator
conditioned for settling it with protestant white inhabitants paying quit rent &c as
appears by the grant. Says that the plantation at the time of the grant was entirely
uncultivated; that it was never settled with white inhabitants according to the con-
ditions, but in a year or two after the grant the testator put from 100 to 150 negroes
upon the plantation, who were kept there till about the year 1779 then removed to
Georgia, and in July 1782, upon the evacuation of Georgia, from 170 to 176 were
brought back again to East Florida and continued upon the plantation till the
cession. That he knows nothing of the nature of the land, the quantity cleared or the
improvements further than from what appeared by the appraisement, which he
[165] produced made upon oath by Robert Payne John Moss and Nichol Turn-

bull,⁵⁰ dated the 15th. of march 1784 and valuing this property at £6408 10s 0d. Says that the negroes were employed at first in making a sugar plantation, that not succeeding they next cultivated an indigo plantation, and afterwards some rice swamps in which they were employed at the time of the cession. That the total expence incurred by the testator was £17979 15s 1d which included the expence of removing the negroes to Georgia and back; that amounted to £2257 18s 11d. That the whole produce arising from the estate was £3037 4s 10d. For the second tract valued at £2890 he produced a grant dated oct'r 4th 1768 from Governor Grant to Lieut. Col. William Fawcett upon the same conditions of paying quit rent and settling it with protestant white inhabitants, & a conveyance by lease and release dated 29th. and 30th. April 1771 from the grantee to the testator for £250 as appeared by the consideration expressed in the release and the receipt indorsed thereon; but he produced a [166] separate receipt dated may 2d 1771 from the grantee stating that he had in fact received £500 tho' for certain reasons only £250 were expressed in the conveyance. Says that he believes that the testator never was at any expence in settling any part of this tract nor ever paid any quit rent for it and that it continued in a perfectly uncleared state to the time of the cession. That he knows nothing of any other part of the testator's property.

[Witness's confirmation and initials.]

Mr ROBERT PAYNE, Witness, sworn:

Says that he knew the testator's plantation upon Timoka river. That he appraised it from memory and did not at that time go over it. That he set down the quantity of cleared land from the representations of the testators agent Mr. Douglass not from his own knowledge. That he fixed the value of the estate from his

⁵⁰ Nicholas Turnbull's name first appears in the Minutes of the Council of East Florida under date of May 5, 1769, when his grant of five thousand acres of land was signed by Governor James Grant. He was the second son of Dr. Andrew Turnbull and the assistant to the deputy commissary of provisions at St. Augustine at the end of the war. A letter of August 27, 1782, from Brook Watson, the commissary general, brought from New York the request that Turnbull continue in charge of the commissary department at St. Augustine, where, as our records show, he owned a house and lot. He was still there at the middle of March, 1784. The following item referring to Nichol Turnbull appears in the book of "Minutes" of the house of representatives of Georgia, Nov. 5, 1793, to Sept. 23, 1796 (Georgia Department of Archives and History, Atlanta): "An Act for establishing a ferry from the plantation of Nichol Turnbull near Savannah to the plantation late the property of Jermyn and Charles Wright Known by the name of Rochester in the State of South Carolina, and for vesting the same in the said Nichol Turnbull his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, for and during the term of ten years." This bill was presented to the Georgia house of representatives on February 5, 1796, was read the second time on the day following, and the third time on February 8. See C. O. 5/570; *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, III. 95, 304, IV. 14, 15, 350; Carita Doggett, *Dr. Andrew Turnbull and New Smyrna Colony*, p. 188.

general acquaintance with the nature of land (no vouchers being produced at the time) and formed his calculations of the value of the [167] buildings from conjecture of what they might have cost. That there were several settlements made upon this tract. 1st *Mount Oswald* upon which in 1781 or 1782 when he saw it last there were two or three hundred acres of Hamock land thoroughly cleared and used for provisions and indigo, besides about two hundred acres more or less of marsh land ditched and dammed and used for the culture of rice in 1782 and he believes to the time of the cession That upon this settlement there was a dwelling house for the overseers about 20 feet by 16, a stable, barns, and negroe houses, but don't recollect any other buildings; they might have cost Mr. Oswald £200, but might have been put up for less.

2d *Ferry settlement* upon which when he saw it last in 1779 there were some framed houses and a blacksmith's shop where some of the testator's white servants lived, that he don't know the number or the value of the houses or the quantity of land cleared or whether rice was ever raised there. That he thinks this settlement was abandoned several years before [168] the cession on acc't of the bridge thrown across Spruce creek.

3d. *Swamp settlement* which he thinks he saw about the year 1781 or 1782; there were then more than 100 acres cleared, which were used as a sugar plantation, but not succeeding as was expected, were abandoned and not converted as he ever heard of into a rice plantation. That upon this settlement there was a large sugar house and every building he believes necessary for a sugar plantation; they were built of very good materials and good workmanship and when he saw them in perfectly good repair, but they were afterwards abandoned. That he knows nothing of Ramsay bay plantation, never having been upon it.

[Witness's confirmation and initials.]

Nov: 30th 1786

Lt Gov: JOHN MOULTRIE,⁵¹ Witness, Sworn:

Says That he was well acquainted with the Timoka Tract, his own Plantations adjoining it on the Western side. That in 1766 [169] the whole Tract was perfectly uncultivated. That there were Several Settlements afterwards made upon it 1st Mount Oswald 2d Ferry Settlement & 3d Cowpers [*i.e.*, Cowpen] which were upon the Timoka River 4th The Adia upon the Halifax River & 5th The Swamp inland between the two Rivers.

⁵¹ By the departure of Governor James Grant on leave of absence to England early in May, 1771, the government of East Florida devolved upon John Moultrie, the president of the council, who took the state oaths and oaths of office on May 10. On the fourteenth of the following August, Mr. Moultrie informed the council that he had received the royal commission appointing him to the office of lieutenant governor of the province, and he took the necessary oaths. His commission was published at

The first Mount Oswald was begun in 1766 The Rest 3 or 4 Years afterwards. That in all he thinks about 110 Negroes were put upon this Plantation which by births had increased to 230 or 240 when they were removed to Georgia about the Year 1780. At that time the Settlements were abandoned for fear of their being plundered by the Spaniards: They were kept in Georgia till the Evacuation of Savannah about July 1782 & then brought back to East Florida but were about 70 less in Number than when they went away: Upon their Return they were chiefly [*sic*] Employed upon Mount Oswald & the Swamp Settlement

1 Mount Oswald was situated upon the Northernmost point of Land between the [170] Timoka & Halifax Rivers. Says that he knows that a Rice field of 100 Acres was cleared dammed in & fit for planting & thinks there there [*sic*] was besides about 300 acres of Hamock Land cleared for provisions & Indigo There was a good dwelling House, a large Barn an Overseer's House, Kitchen & Negroe Houses which being built by White Men cost M^r Oswald much more than they would any Planter who would have built them with his own Negroes; That at the time of the Cession they were a good deal out of repair, & he thinks the Buildings & cleared Hamock Land upon this Settlement might be worth between £400 & £500. The Rice Swamp which was cultivated and planted in 1779 might be worth about £4 ^p acre. It was a fresh water Marsh & M^r Oswald & he (the Witness) were the only persons that raised Rice upon that kind of Swamp. He cannot ascertain the particular Number of Negroes put upon this Settlement as they were taken from Each plantation to assist at the rest according as they were wanted.

[171] 2. *Ferry Settlement* situated about 4 Miles to the Southward of Mount Oswald. Upon it There were about 30 or 40 Acres of Hamock Land not so good as Mount Oswald cleared & about 100 Acres of Marsh Land dammed in but not made fit for planting. There was a Ferry House, a Smith's Shop & some other small Houses all boarded buildings which were more out of Repair than the buildings upon Mount Oswald at the time of the Cession & he believes none of the Negroes were settled there after their return from Georgia. There was likewise an Overseer's House & some Negroe Huts built upon some Pine Land upon the Edge of the Marsh just before the Negroes went to Georgia. The Land in general was but indifferent & merely cleared for the Convenience of the Situation for a Ferry House. He thinks the whole of the Buildings Improvements & Cleared Land upon

the head of the garrison by David Yeats, the deputy clerk of the council and coroner of the province, in the presence of the council and other officers of the crown, attended by many other gentlemen. After the great guns of the fort had been fired and a salute of three volleys had been given by the troops, Lieutenant Governor Moultrie issued a proclamation announcing his appointment. See C. O. 5/571; Minutes of the Council of East Florida, August 7, 1771, to July 6, 1772; see also Additional Notes, *post*, p. 330.

this Settlement Exclusive of the fresh Marsh might be worth about £150. The Marsh Land he thinks in an uncultivated state would have been worth [172] a Guinea ^p Acre & in the State it was at the time of the Cession was he thinks worth about £3 ^p Acre

3rd Upon Cowper [*i.e.*, Cowpen] Settlement which was situated about two or three Miles to the southward of the Ferry settlement there was very little cleared Land & a House built which he believes was afterwards removed

4th The Swamp Settlement consisted of between 200 or 300 Acres cleared part employed in raising provisions, part in Indigo & the rest in a Sugar Plantation. There were Several Considerable Buildings for the Sugar Works but he can't speak to the State they were in at the time of the Cession as he never saw the Settlement after the Year 1779.

5. *The Adia* Settlement he saw a short time before the Cession; There were about 100 Acres of Hamock Land cleared for Indigo & Corn: An Overseers House an Indigo House & Huts for the Negroes.

This Land was not so good as any of the rest & of scarcely any Value for a Plantation, Though it was a very good Situation [173] for a House.

As to the uncleared Land a certain Quantity of Pine Land is necessary to a plantation in the proportion of 300 Acres to 1000 Any great quantity beyond that becomes a burthen, owing to the payment of the Quit rent & Taxes.

The Hamock Land part of which was but indifferent might be worth about 10s ^p Acre, & the Swamp Land upon an Average about a Guinea ^p acre.

He can't specify the quantity of plantable Land but thinks it did not amount to about $\frac{3}{4}$ th of the whole.

Says That he knows nothing of Ramsay Bay having never been upon it, but understood there was no part of that Plantation cleared or Settled.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

December 15th 1786.

Lieut Col! JOHN DOUGLAS,⁵² Witness, Sworn:

Says That he was Agent for M^r Oswald in East Florida from October 1782 to Midsummer 1784. That he lived at St Augustine & went to [174] the Timoka Tract about once a Month. Upon it there were Several Settlements 1st Mount Oswald: 2^d Ferry Settlement 3^d Cowpen a small Clearing for Cattle. 4th Swamp Settlement 5th The Adia. Says that Mount Oswald is about 45 Miles distant from St

⁵² John Douglas, lieutenant colonel of loyal militia, was appointed one of the committee of "four of the principal refugees" by Lieutenant Colonel Archibald McArthur at St. Augustine in October, 1782, to ascertain the number of refugees and negroes there, and superintend the distribution of provisions among them. About the first of the following December Douglas was made deputy superintendent of Indian affairs for the western division of the Southern District to serve during the six months'

Augustine. That There were 100 Acres of Swamp Land compleatly dammed in & prepared for a Rice Plantation & planted with Rice during April & May 1783, for which he would have given £3 10s 0d $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre. About 300 Acres of high Land Cleared for Provisions which had been planted long before he had the Management of the Estate; of these, Nine tenths were Hammock Land & the remaining tenth pine barren, The whole of which was well worth 30s $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre. There was a very good Dwelling House upon this Plantation 40 feet by 20 framed & weather boarded Shingled & Glazed a large framed Barn about 60 feet by 30 floored Weather boarded & shingled. A shell framed Overseers House Kitchen & Negroe Houses. These Buildings were in bad repair at the time of the Cession owing to their having been quitted about [175] two Years before he had the Care of them but were at that time worth £200—Says that the *Ferry Settlement* was between 3 & 4 Miles to the Southward of Mount Oswald upon it there were 100 Acres of River Swamp Land Completely dammed in With a large reservoir of back Water & prepared for a Rice plantation which he heard had been planted with Rice, but were not in 1783 though they were in good order for it; These were Equally valuable with the Swamp on Mount Oswald, 100 Acres of Pine Land worth 5s $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre adjoining the last which were Cleared & grubbed up for planting but never were planted & about 50 Acres of cleared Hammock Land which had been planted with Indigo but were grown up again worth from 15s to 20d [sic] $\frac{1}{2}$ acre. There was An Overseer's House one Story high framed & a Barn about 30 feet by 18 or 20; a good deal out of order at the time of the Cession, they having likewise been abandoned for 2 Years before & he never repaired them. These he thinks should have [been] given in to a purchaser of the Plantation. [176] That he never was upon the *Cowpen Settlement* & that it is not mentioned in the Appraisement. Upon the *Swamp Settlement* which was about 6 Miles to the Southward of Mount Oswald there were 300 Acres in the whole cleared. 100 of which were back swamp of a very good quality & worth 40s $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre, & the remaining 200 very good Oak & Hammock Land worth 30s $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre. The back Swamp had been used as a Sugar Plantation about 3 or 4 Years before he saw it & buildings had been Erected & were standing there when he came upon it, these were going to decay but might have been repaired for £100. That this Situation was too far to the Northward for a Sugar Plantation & he has heard that the plan not succeeding, was laid aside on that Account. That it was better Calculated for an Indigo Plantation & part of the 200 Acres had been used for that purpose the rest for provi-

leave of absence of John Graham, lieutenant governor of Georgia and superintendent, who was permitted by General Alexander Leslie to leave Charleston for England on account of his poor health. Colonel Douglas had his headquarters at St. Augustine and appears to have served as deputy superintendent at least to the end of the year 1784. His account of money received and expended for the Choctaws and Chickasaws for the eighteen months ending December 31, 1784, is in the Public Record Office in London. See Volume I. of this work, p. 12 and note.

sions. There was a very large Overseer's House framed & shingled, floored & Weather boarded one Story high & some very good Negroe Houses. These Buildings were in better [177] Repair than the others; the Sugar House might have been converted into a very good barn; & for that purpose might be worth £100; & the Overseer's House & the Corn Houses about £50 more; Cowpens & all Utensils for a Sugar Plantation were left there which might have been used for boiling Indigo. They would have been of little or no Value to have taken them away & were left there for that reason. The *Adia Settlement* had been planted before the Negroes went to Georgia, he don't know the Quantity which had been cleared but it was all over grown & no use was made of it, during the time he had the Management of the Estate. It had formerly been used for raising Indigo as he has heard: There was one small House standing & there had been other Buildings which were then gone to Ruin. Of the whole 20000 Acres there were (including the Cleared Land) 3480 Acres of Rice Swamp, 850 Acres of Hammock Land & 15,670 of Pine barren: That 300 Acres is a sufficient quantity of Pine barren in a Tract of 1000 Acres; he would have wished [178] ed to have had that proportion of Pine barren & not more & would have given 1s $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre for it. The uncleared Swamp Land was worth from 7s 6d to 10s $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre & the uncleared Hammock Land from 4s to 5s $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre. Says That he has been upon the Plantation called Ramsay Bay which was distant about 80 Miles from St. Augustine & believes no part of it was ever cleared. That he don't know the proportion of the different quantities of Land otherwise than from the Plan returned by the Surveyor General; It was never resurveyed that he heard of.—From thence he calculates there were 4200 Acres of Swamp Land and 15800 of Pine barren.

Says That there was a large quantity of Lumber left at Mount Oswald which had been cut for the purpose of building a Barn & was worth at least £50. That he knows nothing more of Mr Oswald's Property.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[179]

No. 31. . . .

The Memorial of Mary Webb
relict of James Webb^{es} esquire late commissary of musters in the
province of East Florida.

Sheweth that your memorialist formerly resided at St Augustine in the province of East Florida, but now of the parish of St James London. That she the widow of the

^{es} James Webb was deputy commissary of musters at St. Augustine. He evidently died late in

abovementioned James Webb is left entirely destitute by the death of her husband, having no provision made for a commissary's widow by government, your memorialist with her family was obliged to make the best of her way to New York and took with her two women slaves the one named Sarah and the other Asserina, with one box of apparel and provisions necessary for the voyage and embarked them on board a packet commanded by Capt. Hunter bound for New [180] York with dispatches from Governor Tonyn, Your memorialist being taken suddenly ill was obliged to go ashore again and lost her passage but sent the two negroes in the above packet, which was taken on their passage by an American privateer and carried into Boston. The above slaves she values at eighty pounds sterling, the box of apparel and sea stores in the abovementioned packet she values at eighty [sic] pounds sterling. Your memorialist therefore was obliged to get a passage in the Rosebud armed ship commanded by Capt Dilworth which for her passage and sea stock cost her ten pounds sterling.

[Concluding petition and signature.]

[181] Schedule and Valuation of MARY WEBB's losses.

2 slaves	£80	os	od
a box of wearing apparel & passage to England	8 [sic]	o	o
	10	o	o
	<hr/>		
	£98	os	od

[182 blank]

[183] . . .

Novr. 13th, 1786.

Mrs MARY WEBB, claimant, sworn:

Says that she quitted St Augustine in 1779 and never was at East Florida afterwards; that in her passage to New York she lost two negroes which she values at £80 and a box of wearing apparel and some stores which she values at £8 being taken by an American privateer and carried into Boston, and paid for her passage to England £10. That she left some property in the hands of Mr Peavett at East Florida and has never had any account of it.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

[184 blank]

August, 1779, for on the twenty-eighth of that month Governor Tonyn wrote to General Sir Henry Clinton recommending the petition of William Penn, a clerk in the ordnance office, to succeed Webb. Mrs. Webb's departure from East Florida in the same year is thus explained. She may have gone directly to England, where we find her later. She presented a claim for £98 for loss of property in East Florida. See *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, II. 21, 22.

[185]

No. 32. . . .

The Memorial of Rigdon Brice⁵⁴

late muster master of his Majesty's provincial forces and formerly
surveyor of the King's lands and clerk of the grants
in the land office in North Carolina.

Sheweth that your memorialist on the evacuation of South Carolina in 1782 was ordered by General Leslie⁵⁵ to proceed on the duties of his office as muster master to East Florida. That on his arrival at St Augustine B. General McArthur⁵⁶ told your memorialist that as the barracks were entirely occupied by the officers and men of three regiments, a place for his office & quarters must be rented in town, and [186] desired him to enquire if any house or rooms were to be let. That the town being crowded with people from Carolina, no place could be got, and your memorialist thinking that province would always remain under his Majesty's government, and expecting to stay some years in Florida, agreed with Mr Mann for the purchase of a lot of ground, in fee; and began to build a house thereon, as well for his office as place of residence. That before the house was finished he found that the province was to be ceded to Spain, and therefore, making it fit only for his summer residence, discharged the workman, after having laid out thereon upwards of sev-

⁵⁴ See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 332.

⁵⁵ Alexander Leslie was made a brigadier general in April, 1776, and held an important command in the battle of Long Island in the following August. He became a major general in April, 1779, was sent to Savannah in December, and had the honor of taking possession of Charleston in May, 1780. With six regiments he occupied Portsmouth and Hampton in October, but evacuated them a few weeks later to go to the assistance of Cornwallis in North Carolina. He returned as a lieutenant general to Charleston on November 8, 1781, to assume command of the southern provinces and recalled Major Craig and his garrison from Wilmington, North Carolina. In January, 1782, he notified Germain of the almost total revolt of South Carolina, appointed Colonel John Graham superintendent of the Indian tribes on the Mississippi, and during the following months supervised thousands of white and black refugees in Charleston and in November and December sent them to other British settlements. In a letter of June 4, 1782, he first informed Governor Tonyn that East Florida was to be evacuated and in October sent Colonel Archibald McArthur with four provincial regiments to St. Augustine, thus releasing the battalions of the 60th Regiment for transfer to Halifax in September, 1783, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Beamsley Glazier. Some of these soldiers soon returned to England. Leslie also sent a supply of ordnance and stores to East Florida, besides about 1,600 loyalists and 2,200 negroes who, with many more refugees and older inhabitants, experienced the evacuation of this province, which was in progress during the next two and a half years. See *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, I. 35, 65, 410, II. 76, 344, 348, 379, 388, III. 29, 51, 112, IV. 349, 408, 409; *Hist. MSS. Comm., Stopford-Sackville MSS.*, II. 196, 246.

⁵⁶ See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 335.

enty pounds sterling. That he lived in the said house, and kept his office there until the provincial regiments were dismissed in october 1783; and Mr Mann⁸⁷ having generously discharged him from the payment of his contract for the ground, the buildings only as stated in the annexed schedule, amounting to £70 [187] sterling, were totally lost to your memorialist, in consequence of the cession of the province to Spain.

[Concluding petition, signature, and date.]

[188 blank]

[189] Schedule of the property of Rigdon Brice, late residing in
East Florida, vizt.

One framed house 24 feet by 14 covered with feather edge boards
and Cypress shingles, a clap board kitchen and a garden fence,
built in 1783 £70 os od

[Signature, date, and witnesses.]

[190 blank]

[191] . . .

nov'r 13th. 1786

Mr RIGDON BRICE, claimant, sworn:

Says that upon the evacuation of Charles town he went to St John's about the latter end of december and from thence to St Augustine in january 1783. That he agreed with Mr Mann for the purchase of a lot of land in St Augustine for 300 dollars which purchase money was afterwards remitted by Mr Mann. That he began to build upon it before the arrival of the news of the cession a framed house covered with shingles 24 feet by 14 one story high, and a small temporary kitchen. That the house consisted of two rooms that were floored, but there was no chimney put up nor any glass in the windows. That he put up a partition clapboard fence about 70 or 80 feet in length. That the whole expence of building amounted to £88 and deducting £18 allowed him by General M^cCarther [*sic*] for rent he lost the remaining £70. That he kept a memorandum [192] of the particulars of the expence at the

⁸⁷ Spencer Man petitioned for a town lot in St. Augustine in July, 1768, and obtained a warrant of survey for it. In February of the next year he petitioned for a wharf lot on Matanzas Bay, or the Bay of St. Augustine as it is called in the Council Minutes, and secured his warrant of survey. In October, 1774, he obtained a warrant for four hundred acres, and in January of the next year had a warrant for five hundred acres extended for three months. In the following month he took out a warrant for two thousand acres and for another town lot. Late in March, 1775, Governor Tonyn signed a grant of six hundred acres for him. See C. O. 5/570, 5/571.

time but has not that to produce. That he attempted to sell it but could not get above [£]4 for it which he refused.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

Mr JOHN MORGRIDGE, Witness, sworn:

Says that some time in march 1783 he was employed by the claimant and built him a kitchen and supplied him with some lumber, posts and clapboards for his house and fence to the amount of £7 8s and labor to the amount of about £10 which the claimant paid him. The kitchen he finished in about eight or ten days, the house was not finished when the news of the peace arrived but the claimant never did any thing to it afterwards. That he thinks the expence of all the buildings and fence must have amounted to £70. He never heard what they cost. That he knows nothing more of the claimants property.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[193]

No. 33 . . .

The Memorial of Henry Ferguson⁸⁸
late of the Province of East Florida, but now of the City of
Westminster, the West Corner of Peter Street—

Sheweth That Your Memorialist has been a residenter in both South Carolina and Georgia Provinces, for the Space of Seventeen Years where he Acquired a Comfortable living, to Support himself and family Very Comfortably, till the Commencement of the Unhappy Rebellion, during which time, he underwent Various Difficulties, and lost a Capital Property as he raised and headed a Company; in Support of his King and Country, and by the Crueltys of his enemies lost his Wife and Children, who died, and lost [194] their life on the Occasion by Cruel usage—

That at the Evacuation of Savannah in Georgia your Memorialist repaired to East Florida, and Settled on Doctors Lake or St John's River where by his Industry and assistance of a few Slaves he saved of his property, he Acquired a Comfortable living as in the Annexed Schedule.

⁸⁸ Henry Ferguson of South Carolina is said by Sabine to have held a commission under the crown, to have been banished, and to have lost his estate by confiscation. His claim for loss in East Florida was £570. No award is mentioned. See Sabine, *Loyalists of the Am. Rev.*, II. 514; cf. Curwen, *Journal and Letters*, 672; C. O. 5/562 (3d Report of Commissioners for East Florida).

That Your Memorialist after Clearing a Valuable plantation and Brought it to a flourishing Condition, was then to leave that Province by the Cession of that Province to the King of Spain.

[Concluding petition.]

[195—signature and evidence.]

[196 blank]

[197]

Schedule . . .

Real Estate

50 Acres of land as rich, as any in the Province Inclosed Cleared and Improved, which Yeilded [*sic*], Yearly Crops, equal to any in the Province which promised fair to make up for the loss of his former property each Acre Cost him on an Average £~~5~~ in Clearing

£100 0s 0d

A New Dwelling House Kitchen, Corn Cribs and other out Houses erected thereon, and Situated on St Johns River, Navigable River 160 Miles into the heart of the Country, Convenient for Rafting of Naval Stores and Country Produce, to the most Commodious And best harbour in the Province

60 0 0

£160 0s 0d

Personal
Estate

[198] 1 Young Negroe Man a Carpenter, taken by a Banditi that plundered And preparing leaving that Province, as it was Ceded to the King of Spain; the British laws, being then abolished. And no Remedy to be had on that Acct 27 Years old

£100 0s 0d

1 ditto A Cooper 30 Ditto

80 0 0

1 Ditto a Planter 50 Ditto

50 0 0

1 Ditto 17 Ditto

80 0 0

1 Young wench an excellent Cook, Washer and

Dresser of linen likewise a good Weaver

80 0 0

2 Working and saddle Horses

20 0 0

£410 0s 0d

£410 0s 0d

£570 0s 0d

Nov: 21st 1786.

[199] . . .

Mr. HENRY FERGUSON, Claimant, Sworn:

Says That he came to St Johns River in East Florida about 37 Miles above St Johns Town in July 1782 at the Evacuation of Savannah in Georgia where he was formerly a Planter and quitted East Florida on 21st January 1785.

That a few Weeks after his Arrival he gave M^r Butler £30 for his Claim upon a small piece of cleared Land on which M^r Butler had settled & made some Improvements at a place called Docters Lake. That he settled there in Consequence of Gover^r Tonyns Proclamation issued about that time holding out Encouragement to Loyalists to resort to East Florida & settle on Vacant Land in that province; having recd Information from M^r Agar an Agent of Lady Egmont's that this Neck of Land was vacant.

That he had no grant or Title Deeds for the Land & dont make any Claim for [200] the Land itself but only for the Improvements. Upon his taking possession he found 17 Acres Cleared on which M^r Butler had made a Crop.

That he put 12 Negroes upon it immediately about August 1782. to Clear Land for a Crop the ensuing Year. That he had cleared as he believes 34 or 35 Acres by the latter End of February 1783 7 or 8 of which had been Cleared before & had grown up again & that he never cleared any afterwards. That he judges of the quantity cleared from the Tasks which he set to his Negroes having measured the Ground frequently for that purpose

That a Task was a quarter of an Acre to Weed $\frac{1}{2}$ day. That he planted this Land with Indian Corn & built a temporary Log House & Kitchen for himself 20 feet by 16 one Story high, covered with Wood & lined with Boards & some Negroe & Corn Houses. They were built of Wood which he Cut himself & put up by 6 of his own Negroes who were employed in all above 3 Weeks. That if he [201] had hired Workmen they would have cost about £60 They were begun in Aug^t & finished about October 1783 That he did not desist from making his Improvements; after April 1783 private Letters being received Contradict^y to News of the cession. That he values the clearing of the Land at 40s $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre including the fence which he put up all round it.

That he lost five Negroes & two Horses which were taken by Roger Moore & a Banditti in one Night about March 1784 & carried to Georgie *Lut* a Carpenter about 27 Years old bought of M^r Stringer⁹⁹ in Georgia in the Year 1777 for £95 *Ned* a Cooper near 30 Years of Age bought of M^r Sharpe in 1777 for £80 *Jack* a common

⁹⁹ Probably Thomas Stringer, who testified before the commissioners on loyalist claims, November 11, 1784, that he was a native of Ireland, went to America in 1772, engaged in mercantile business, and bore arms for the British at Savannah, Georgia. He added that he left Savannah in February, 1776, going first to Halifax, thence to the West Indies, and finally to England, thereafter engaging in priva-

field negroe between 40 & 50 Years old bought of M^r Lusini in 1770 for £50 A Boy named *Cyrus* Aged 17 whom he brought up & for whom he would not have taken £80. A negroe Wench called *Dorcas* bought from the same M^r Sharpe at the same time for £80. That he had Bills of Sale for all the [202] Negroes which he bought but they were destroyed with the rest of his Papers when his House in Georgia was burnt by the Rebels in 1781.

That in the begining of Year 1783 he bought the two Horses for £20 of a M^r Collins.⁶⁰ That he had not an Opportunity of removing these Negroes & Horses from East Florida before they were taken away, as he was obliged to stay there to dispose of his corn and other property.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

Major WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM,⁶¹ Witness, sworn:

Says that the claimant went to Florida on the evacuation of Savannah a month or two before the evacuation of Charlestown. That he knew the claimant's settlement upon Doctor's lake on St. John's river about 35 miles from Augustine. That it was about 2½ miles from his own. That he understood the plantation formerly belonged to Mr Butler, who had relinquished it in consequence of [203] it's having been plundered by the Americans, but still resided in the province. That he believes the claimant gave something for it and thinks he had heard £20 or £25 but is not certain about it. That there were about thirty or forty acres of cleared land, he don't think there were more [than] two fields of it were planted with corn. That the land had been cleared before, but had been left about three years & had grown up again, but was not so difficult to clear as new land. That the claimant fenced it all round except where the lake ran, and built some negroe houses upon it which were scarcely worth any thing. That in 1784 the claimant lost a negroe fellow named *Lut* aged about 30, a good field negroe worth at that time from £70 to £80. That he would have given 70 guineas for him: That he was stolen away by one Roger Moore and carried into Georgia.

That the claimant had likewise a negroe named *Ned and his wife*. That they ran away about the fall of the year 1785 before [204] the last fleet came away and he has heard were never recovered; that they had some children which he believes were not lost. That he can not speak particularly as to these. That Ned was a lusty teering and remaining in England after the peace. See Egerton (ed.), *R. Comm. on Loyalist Claims, 1783-1785*, pp. 258-259.

⁶⁰ This Mr. Collins is probably William Collins, who on March 4, 1768, took the state oaths as clerk of the crown and common pleas, commissions having been made out to him in obedience to a royal mandamus dated June 22, 1767. About a year later William Collins resigned, and the oaths were administered to his successor, John Holmes. See C. O. 5/570.

⁶¹ See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 314.

fellow and appeared to be of the same age as *Lut* but was not so valuable; he might be worth about £60. That he did not take much notice of his wife. That these negroes were brought from Savannah, and that he particularly remembers *Lut* there in the claimant's possession in 1779 by the circumstance of getting his permission to let him dig Major Spurgeon's⁶² grave. That he believes the claimant had about 20 negroes in all upon the plantation; that he don't know of any other property which he had and never heard that he had any property appraised.

[205]

No 34. . . .

The Memorial of David Marran,
late of the province of East Florida,

Humbly sheweth that your memorialist resided in the province of Georgia for several years; and at the evacuation of the same, he went to the province of East Florida, where he purchased a house and a lot of land in the town of St. Augustine in fee which will more particularly appear in the schedule hereto annexed.

[Concluding petition, signature, and date.]

[206 blank]

[207] . . .

[Schedule]

A house and lot in the town of Saint Augustine, the lot measuring
124 1/2 feet front on Charlotte street, and 121 feet in depth,
with outhouses and garden, valued at one hundred and thirty
pounds sterling

£130 0s 0d

[Witnesses.]

[208 blank]

⁶² William Spurgen of North Carolina was authorized by Governor Josiah Martin in January, 1776, to erect the royal standard and enlist the loyalists of Rowan County and "oppose all rebels and traitors." Three years later he was a major in Colonel John Boyd's corps of North Carolina Volunteers and fought with spirit in the battle of Kettle Creek in Georgia, February 14, 1779, where Boyd was mortally wounded. Spurgen did not long survive his superior officer, being buried in the same year at Savannah by Major William Cunningham. See Sabine, *Loyalists in Am. Rev.*, 1864, II. 325; E. A. Jones, *Journal of Alexander Chesney*, p. 80; C. C. Jones, Jr. (ed.), *Hist. of Georgia*, II. 339-342; W. B. Stevens, *Hist. of Georgia*, II. 190-192.

[209] . . .

November 21st 1786.M^r: DAVID MARRAN, Claimant, Sworn:

Says that he came to St Augustine in July or Aug: 1782 after the Evacuation of Savannah & quitted East Florida about 4th. Aug: 1784. That he purchased a House & Lot of Land from William Armstrong⁶⁸ who is now in Providence for £120. That he paid £90 or £95 down & the rest soon afterwards That he put up a Bill upon the Gate in order to dispose of it but was never offered any thing for it. That he had 7 Negroes & built a Log House about 24 feet by 16 for them. That he bought the Timber Boards & Nails & his own Negroes put it up. That he has no receipt for these things but that £10 is a very Moderate charge for them. That about 6 months after the purchase he began to build his Log House & finished it before the News of the Cession. That M^r: Beaumont gave him 47 Guineas for a part of the Lot which he [210] purchased. That he let one of the Houses at 20 Guineas ^{per} Annum for about 12 Months & afterwards at about 2 Dollars ^{per} Month till he quitted the Province That he left his Wife in possession of the House & the Conveyances which he had from M^r: Armstrong & told her to sell it if she could, but has never heard from her since

[Claimant's confirmation and mark.]

Mr JOHN MILLS, Witness, sworn:

Says that he has seen the conveyance from Armstrong to the claimant and thinks the consideration was about £120. That he remembers a log house which was built he believes about the latter end of 1783 but he don't know the expence or value of it. That the purchase was made before his arrival in East Florida and he was employed by the claimant to prepare a conveyance to Mr Beaumont of a small part of this lot about 70 in front which was sold for about 90 dollars. That he don't believe [211] the claimant disposed of any other part of this property. He let one of his houses to a blacksmith at 20 dollars ^{per} month for some time and afterwards to some other persons 'till he (the witness) quitted East Florida in may 1784.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

Mr ALEXANDER PATERSON, Witness, sworn:

Says that he was attorney for Mr. Oldis and sold the house and lot to Armstrong for £120. There was a good house and kitchen upon it and a garden. That he has heard Armstrong say he had sold it for the same sum, and he remembers seeing

⁶⁸ William Armstrong petitioned in August and again in October, 1770, for a grant of land, the first time for two hundred and fifty acres and the second for four hundred acres. In each instance he obtained a warrant of survey for the tract. The governor signed his two grants on April 18, 1771. See C. O. 5/571.

the claimant in possession of it. That he knows nothing of the log house built upon nor of the sale of any part of it by the claimant to Mr. Beaumont.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[212 blank]

[213]

No 35. . . .

The Memorial of Edward Knatchbull John Stuart, John Simpson
and John Graham executors of the last will and testament
of James Graham,⁶⁹ Esqr deced.

Sheweth That in consequence of proclamations issued by Governor Tonyn under instructions from his majesty inviting the loyalists to remove their property from the provinces in rebellion and to settle in East Florida holding forth in the said proclamations not only the protection of his majesty's government, but also great advantages in the grants of land and otherwise—The negroes of the said James Graham since deceased being upwards of fifty in number, were removed from the province of Georgia into East Florida—warrants of survey [214] for two tracts of land were obtained and were accordingly surveyed and located on which lands a plantation was settled at a very considerable expence—in full confidence of enjoying the fruits of the labor of his negroes and of receiving [*sic*] a suitable return for the money expended in settling the said plantation.—But by the cession of the said province to the crown of Spain, he was obliged to abandon the said plantation—

⁶⁹ James Graham was the brother of Lieutenant Governor John Graham of Georgia. A native of Scotland, he settled in America in 1755 and engaged in trade. In 1771, he returned to Great Britain and was a merchant in London until 1778. He then went to South Carolina, but was banished for not taking the oath of allegiance to the states. He retired to St. Augustine, bore arms at Savannah during the siege, and withdrew from Georgia in 1780. After the surrender of Charleston he returned to London and engaged in trade with John Simpson. In Georgia he had property on Hutchinson's Island which was said to have cost him more than £1,000. In August, 1782, John Graham transferred his brother's negroes, numbering 53, to East Florida, where they were employed in clearing, fencing, and planting part of a 500-acre tract acquired in the name of James Graham. An adjoining tract of 500 acres was surveyed for James's son, Joseph Graham. On June 20, 1785, James Graham testified in London as to his property in Georgia. A fortnight later his will was probated, in accordance with which the executors of his estate, including his brother and his partner, presented the testator's claim for the property lost by the cession of East Florida to Spain. This claim amounted to £644 12s 8d. The award was £355. See Egerton (ed.), *R. Comm. on Loyalist Claims, 1783-1785*, p. 386; *Second Report*, Bureau of Archives, Ont., 1904, pt. II. p. 1290; *post*, p. 80, note.

whereby he has suffered very considerable losses as will more fully appear from the schedule hereunto annexed.

[Concluding petition, signature, and date.]

[215]

Schedule . . .

Plantation or settlement on a tract of land within [*sic*] miles of St Augustine & consisting of 280 acres fine swamp
220 acres pine land
500 acres.

On this settlement eighty acres were cleared fenced and planted, and upwards of 35 working negroes were employed thereon. Tract marked in the plan No. 6 containing 200 acres fine swamp
300 acres pine land
500 acres

This tract joined the above settlement and composed part of it
The amount of the valuation and appraisement made in St. Augustine as will appear by the authenticated copy thereof under the provincial seal say—

lands valued at	£151	os	od
improvements	80	0	0
lands valued at	115	0	0

[216] paid secretary surveyor general &c for warrants &c &c

	4	11	4
	<hr/>		
	£350	11s	4d

The amount of the valuation and appraisement made in St Augustine to which is added the usual hire of working negroes at the rate of £10 each per annum lands valued at

ditto	£151	os	od
	115	0	0
labor of 35 working negroes for 8 months at £10 per annum each	233	6	8
	<hr/>		
	499	6	8
paid secretary surveyor general &c &c &c.	4	11	4

£503 18s od

The valuation and appraisement of the lands as made in St. Augustine to which is added the labor of the negroes employed thereon at the

rate of £10 each per annum and the the [*sic*]
money paid and actually expended by Col:
Douglas as per his acc't
lands valued at
labor of negroes

£266	os	od
233	6	8
<hr/>		
499	6	8

money paid and expended by Col. Douglas in forming the settlement

4	11	4
140	14	8
<hr/>		

£644 12s 8d

[217] . . .

Nov'r 22d 1786.

Lieutena[n]t Col JOHN GRAHAM,⁶⁵ claimant, sworn:

Produced the probate of the will of Mr. James Graham dated the 4th. of July 1785 by which it appeared that himself and the rest of the claimants were appointed executors and guardians of the testator's son Joseph Graham and which directs them after payment of several legacies then to sell all the testator's real and personal property and place the same out at interest for his benefit. In case of his death before twenty-one and without issue, bequest of said property to the testator's nephews and nieces therein named the sons and daughters of Mr John Graham the claimant. Says that this claim is for land situated upon the Matanza River about 30 miles from St. Augustine. That the Testator had an estate in Georgia but being obliged to quit it on acc't of his [218] health in 1780 the claimant as his attorney removed the testator's negroes he believes about 53 in number to East Florida upon the evacuation of Georgia in July 1782. That Warr^{ts} were there obtained either by himself or Col: Douglas for two tracts of Land of 500 Acres each one in the Name of the Test[at]or the other in the Name of his son. That these lands were surveyed in Consequence of Additional Instructions sent out to Gov^r Tonyn dated 26th day of Jan^y 1778 Notice having been first given to the Original Grantee as he has been informed by M^r Yeates. He produced Certificates of the Warr^{ts} of Survey from the Records dated 11th Nov^r 1782. The first to M^r James Graham of 500 Acres part of 20000 Acres granted out to Levett Blackburn.⁶⁶ The second of 500 Acres adjoining the

⁶⁵ See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 336.

⁶⁶ Levett Blackburn's name first appears in the Council Minutes of East Florida under date of November 12, 1766, when his agent presented an order from the king in council for a grant of twenty thousand acres of land to M^r. Blackburn. The grant was signed by the governor three days later. See C. O. 5/570.

former tracts The Grants were not made out as there was not sufficient time before the news of the Cession. Says that both these Tracts were at the time of the Survey perfectly unsettled. That he quitted East Florida soon after they were begun to [219] be settled & never returned there afterwards. He produced the Appraisal under the Seal of the Province dated 10th May 1784 made by John Douglas W^m Moss & Alexander Todd upon Oath valuing the Testors Tract at £151. The Improvements at £80 & the Expences of the survey at £4 11s 3d the Son's Tract at £115—but says that the Labour of the Negroes is there charged at much too low a Rate & only for 8 Months to the date of the preliminary Articles instead of being charged for 2 Years to July 1784 which was the time the Negroes were actually in the province Upon this Calculation & adding the Expences of the Settlement & deducting the price of the Lumber sold from the Estate he Values the Loss sustained by the Testor & his Son at £1135

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

[220] M^r: JOHN SIMPSON,⁶⁷ Claimant, Sworn:

Says That he paid two Bills drawn by Col^l: Douglas one for £75 15s 6d the other for £64 19s 2½d for the Expences of Settling the Testor's M^r: James Graham's Tract of Land.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

L^t: GOV^t: JOHN MOULTRIE, Witness, Sworn:

Says That he is not particularly acquainted with the Tracts of the Testor & his Son; that he knew that part of the Country before they were run out & at that time they were in an uncultivated State. They were about 3 or 4 Miles from a branch of the Matanza River navigable for Boats & about 32 Miles from St: Augustine He cant give any particular Information respecting the settlement of the Sons Tract, nor does he know the Number of Acres cleared upon the Testor's Estate. That he cant

⁶⁷ John Simpson was a son of William Simpson, who was appointed chief justice of Georgia in 1767 and died in the following year. He was also the brother of James Simpson, who held a succession of high offices in South Carolina (see Additional Notes, p. 339). With nearly a hundred others John signed a protest to resolutions adopted by a meeting at Savannah, August 10, 1774. As a member of the commons house of assembly he presented soon thereafter a petition from his constituents recommending submission to the constitutional government. To congress he delivered resolutions of loyalty. In 1779, he continued to serve in the assembly by the desire of Governor Sir James Wright. In the same year he was appointed to the offices of clerk of the crown and prothonotary of the general court, which he held until the evacuation of Savannah. His income from the former was £150 or less and from the latter about £450. He went to England, and his claim for compensation on account of his losses was heard in August, 1784. See Egerton (ed.), *R. Comm. on Loyalist Claims, 1783-1785*, p. 64, 181, n.; *Georgia Gazette*, Nos. 570, 573, 591; G. White, *Hist. Collections of Georgia*, p. 49; C. C. Jones, Jr., *Hist. of Georgia*, II. 150-154.

ascertain the proportion of Swamp Hamock & Rice Land [221] but that the high & low Land was nearly as good as any in the Province. That he last saw the Testors Tract in 1784; he thinks that the value of the Swamp Land in it's uncleared State was a Guinea per Acre; the Pine Land was not good, but he cant ascertain the value of it.

° [Witness's confirmation and signature.]

Col^l: JOHN DOUGLAS, Witness, Sworn:

Says, That he had the two Tracts run out in consequence of application made by Col^l: John Graham. They were about 34 Miles distant from St: Augustine & about 7 Miles from the usual landing place up the Metanza [*sic*] River, That in the beginning of August 1782 53 Negroes about 40 of whom were working Negroes belonging to the Testator were sent by his Brother to the Testors Plantation in East Florida. That in October 1782 he undertook the Management of both the Tracts & at that time there were about 53 Negroes upon the Plantations. The principal settlement was made upon the Testator's Tract 20 acres were cleared there & before the news of the Cession in April 1783; and they were fenced round with a worm fence. That he began to plant provisions in May 1783 and after that time no more was cleared. That there were no Buildings upon this Tract. That the Negroes were employed intirely in clearing the Land till May 1783 After that time they cut Lumber & he (the Witness) sold a framed House which he built for £25 That was the only profit that he recollects was made upon the Estate. The Provisions raised were not sufficient for the Maintenance of the Negroes Says That there was no Settlement made upon the Tract belonging to the Testor's Son. That he was present when the Survey annexed to the Appraisement was made & that it is an Accurate plan of the Estates Says that the Expence of Clearing Land was at least 20s ^{per} acre He values the uncleared Swamp Land at 10s ^{per} acre & the pine Land at 1s. That there were other Improvements [223] made upon the Testator's Estate after the News of the Cession. That the whole Expences incurred to 10th June 1784 amounted to £140 6s 7d as appeared by his Accounts produced. The Negroes were Employed upon the Plantation till that time & no Application was made to have them Carried away.

That M^r: Todd one of the Appraisers lived in the Neighbourhood & M^r: Moss came from St: Augustine. That he the Witness was present & gave them Every Information they wanted respecting the Land.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[224 blank]

[225]

No. 26. . . .

The Memorial of Lieu: Col: Graham,^{OTA}
late Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the Southern District.

Sheweth That your Memorialist in consequence of Proclamations Issued by Governor Tonyn under instructions from his Majesty, inviting the Loyalists to settle in East Florida holding forth to them not only the protection of his Majesty's Government but also great Advantages in the Grants of Lands and otherwise, did accordingly remove into that Province with upwards of two hundred Negroe Slaves, & obtained Precepts and warrants of Survey for several Tracts of Land—on which Lands, your Memorialist at a very heavy expence settled Three different Plantations, Erected Buildings & cleared and planted a considerable Quantity of Land on each in full confidence of enjoying the fruits of the Labor of his Negroes [226] & of receiving a suitable return for the same and for the Money actually expended in settling the said plantations.

But by the Cession of the said Province to the Crown of Spain Your Memorialist was Obligated to Abandon these his possessions, whereby he has suffered very considerable losses as will more fully appear by the Schedule hereunto annexd.

[Concluding petition, signature, and date.]

[227 blank]

^{OTA} See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 336.

Schedule . . .

[228-233]

The plantation or Settlement on the Tract of Land marked on the plans thereof N^o 1 & 2—Situate within [*sic*] Miles of St Augustine either by Land or Water consisting of Viz—

295 Acres remarkable fine swamp

120 Acres rich Savanna

585 Acres pine Land

1000 Acres

On this Plantation 120 Acres were cleared fenced & planted with Rice and Corn, with Substantial Reserve Damns—Also A good Barn—Overseers House, Corn house, Negroe Houses &c—

Upwards of 60 working Negroes, (Many of them Carpenters) were employed on this Plantation.

The Plantation or Settlement Marked in the plans, N^o 3 & 4 adjoining the Above Plantation consisting of Viz:

410 Acres fine swamp

285 Acres rich Savanna

305 Acres pine Land

1000 Acres

On this Settlement 90 Acres were cleared fenced and planted with rice & Indigo—& upwards of 40 working Negroes were employed on it.

The Amount of the Valuation & appraisement made in St Augustine as will Appear by the Copy thereof Authenticated under the Provincial Seal

Say	£206	15s	0d
Lands valued at	200	0	0
Improvements Valued at			

£406 15s 0d

The Valuation of the Lands of this Plantation made in St Augustine

291	10	0
90	0	0

£381 10s 0d

The Plantation partly settled in the Above Tract N^o 4—
and on the Tract Marked in the plan N^o 5—adjoining it, con-
sisting of

175 Acres fine Swamp
50 Acres rich Savanna
275 Acres pine Land

500

On this Settlement 70 Acres were cleared fenced & planted
with Corn Rice & Peas & above 40 Working Negroes were em-
ployed thereon

The Amount of the Valuation
of the Lands made in St August-
tine to which is added the usual
hire of the Working Negroes
employed thereon at the rate of
£10 each £ Annum

Say
Lands valued at £206 15s 0d
labor of 60 Working Negroes
for 8 Months at £10 each £
Annum 400 0 0
606 15 0

The Valuation of the Lands of
this Plantation Made in St
Augustine £113 15s 0d
Improvements 70 0 0
183 15 0

Paid the Secretary of the Prov-
ince The Surveyor Genl Sur-
veyors for Warts Precepts
&c &c

27 7 6
£999 7s 6d

Loyalists in East Florida

The Amount of the Lands as
Appraised in St Augustine. To
which is Added the labor of the
Negroes employed thereon at the
rate of £10 each £ Annum.
And also is added the Money ac-
tually paid and expended in
forming the Settlements as will
appear from the Accounts of my
Agent Lieut Col: Douglas ready
to be produced & proved—Say
Lands of the Plantation

Settled on Tracts N^o 1 & 2. Val-
ued at the Sum of £206 15s 0d
Labor of 60 Working Negroes
for 8 Months at £10 £ an-
num 400 0 0
£606 15s 0d £606 15s 0d

The Valuation of the Lands of
this Plantation made in St Au-
gustine—Say Lands valued at
The Labor of 40 Working Ne-
groes for 8 Months at the
Rate of £10 £ Annum each

£291 10s 0d
266 13 4
£558 3s 4d

The Valuation of the Lands of
this Plantation made in St Au-
gustine say Lands Valued
The Labor of 40 Working Ne-
groes for 8 Months at the
rate of £10 each £ Annum

113 15 0
266 13 4
380 8 4

Paid Secretary Surveyor General
&c.

27 7 6
£1572 14s 2d

Lands of the Plantation settled
on N^o 3 & 4 Valued £291 10s 0d
Labor of 40 working Negroes
employed thereon for 8
Months at the rate of £10 £
Annum 266 13 4

558 3 4

Lands of the Plantation settled
partly on Tract N^o 4 and on
Tract N^o 5. valued 113 15 0
Labor of 40 working Negroes
employed thereon at the rate
of £10 each £ Annum 266 13 4

380 8 4

Cash paid and expended by my
Agent in forming these Plan-
tations as £ Account 965 4 0
From which I deduct the Lum-
ber & Pitch made on them viz:
Lumber—£107 3s 9d
Pitch— 132 8 1

239 11 10

Balance to be added

£725 12s 2d £725 12s 2d
£2270 18s 10d

The Documents

The Plantation partly settled in the Above Tract N^o 4—
and on the Tract Marked in the plan N^o 5—adjoining it, con-
sisting of

175 Acres fine Swamp
50 Acres rich Savanna
275 Acres pine Land
500

On this Settlement 70 Acres were cleared fenced & planted
with Corn Rice & Peas & above 40 Working Negroes were em-
ployed thereon

The Amount of the Valuation
of the Lands made in St Augus-
tine to which is added the usual
hire of the Working Negroes
employed thereon at the rate of
£10 each per Annum

Say
Lands valued at £206 15s od
labor of 60 Working Negroes
for 8 Months at £10 each per Annum
Annum 400 0 0
606 15 0

The Valuation of the Lands of
this Plantation Made in St
Augustine
Improvements

£113 15s od
70 0 0

183 15 0

Paid the Secretary of the Prov-
ince The Surveyor Genl Sur-
veyors for War^{ts} Precepts
&c &c

27 7 6
£999 7s 6d

The Amount of the Lands as
Appraised in St Augustine. To
which is Added the labor of the
Negroes employed thereon at the
rate of £10 each per Annum .
And also is added the Money ac-
tually paid and expended in
forming the Settlements as will
appear from the Accounts of my
Agent Lieut Col: Douglas ready
to be produced & proved—Say
Lands of the Plantation
Settled on Tracts N^o 1 & 2. Val-
ued at the Sum of
Labor of 60 Working Negroes
for 8 Months at £10 per an-
num

£206 15s od

400 0 0

£606 15s od £606 15s od

The Valuation of the Lands of
this Plantation made in St Au-
gustine—Say Lands valued at
The Labor of 40 Working Ne-
groes for 8 Months at the
Rate of £10 per Annum each

£291 10s od

266 13 4

£558 3s 4d

The Valuation of the Lands of
this Plantation made in St Au-
gustine say Lands Valued
The Labor of 40 Working Ne-
groes for 8 Months at the
rate of £10 each per Annum

113 15 0

266 13 4

380 8 4

Paid Secretary Surveyor General
&c.

27 7 6

£1572 14s 2d

Lands of the Plantation settled
on N^o 3 & 4 Valued
Labor of 40 working Negroes
employed thereon for 8
Months at the rate of £10 per Annum

£291 10s od

266 13 4

558 3 4

Lands of the Plantation settled
partly on Tract N^o 4 and on
Tract N^o 5. valued
Labor of 40 working Negroes
employed thereon at the rate
of £10 each per Annum

113 15 0

266 13 4

380 8 4

Cash paid and expended by my
Agent in forming these Plan-
tations as per Account
From which I deduct the Lum-
ber & Pitch made on them viz:
Lumber—£107 3s 9d
Pitch—132 8 1

965 4 0

239 11 10

Balance to be added

£725 12s 2d

£725 12s 2d

£2270 18s 10d

[234 blank]

[235] . . .

November 23^d 1786.

Lieut. Col! JOHN GRAHAM Claim! Sworn:

Says That in July 1782 he sent about 215 Negroes to East Florida; he there obtained Warrants dated 10th Sept. 1782 for five Tracts of 500 Acres Each issued in Consequence of Instructions by an Order of Council dated 26th Jan: 1778.

1st To the Claim! himself near the head of the Matanza River part of 20000 Acres granted to Levett Blackburn.

2. To Alexander Graham his Son, adjoin^g the former & part of the same 20000 Acres.

3. To Clem! Graham his Son adjoining the best Tract & part of the same 20000 Acres

4. To Charles Graham his Son D^o D^o

5. To Rich^d Graham his Son D^o D^o

This appeared by Extracts from the Records from M^r David Yeats

Says That these Tracts were all perfectly unsettled Tracts at the time of their being run out.

That the Clearing of them was begun about the End of August.

That he quitted East Florida about the latter End of October or beginning of [236] November & then left the Plantations to the Management of Col! Douglas.

Says That his Losses consist of these Lands valued in the Appraisement produced at £612 0s

Balance of Expences in Settling the Plantations after deducting the produce . . . £492 19s 2d as appeared by Account marked A.

Labour of 140 Working Negroes from 21st August 1782 to the 21st December 1784 at £10 ^{per} Annum Each. . £3266 13s 4d which was the common price exclusive of the provisions

Insurance of £12000 Upon Negroes from St Augustine to Beaufort in South Carolina Bills of lading signed 21st December 1784 £189 12s

Freight of the same Negroes £229 17s

Receipt produced from Graham & Simpson^{es} for the two last Charges dated 31. July 1786 marked B.

Says That Transports were provided to convey property to any of the American States, but he thought it most Advisable to send his Negroes thither in order to

^{es} Graham & Simpson was a mercantile firm in London which was formed late in the war. The partners were James Graham (see note on James Graham, p. 71) and John Simpson. See Egerton (ed.), *R. Comm. on Loyalist Claims, 1783-1785*, p. 386; *Second Report*, Bureau of Archives, Ont., 1904, pt. II. 1290.

obtain a better price for them. That the Negroes might have been taken off sooner but he left the Conduct of that Business to the discretion of Col! Douglas.

That the Rations received from Government from 1st November 1782 to 30 Sep^r 1783 were valued by Col! Douglas at £467 14s.

[237] Account marked C of which he sold part to the Amount £161 15s
Account marked D. for the purchase of other provisions.

That the Expence of the Provisions which he sent from Georgia & purchased in East Florida for the use of his Negroes amounted to £395 14s

Account marked E not included in his Account of Expences.

That in April 1783 before there was any Idea of the Cession he would not have taken £2500 for his Lands in the improved state in which they were at that time. In the Appraisement they were Valued with their Improvements at £999 7s 6d

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

L^t Governor JOHN MOULTRIE, Witness, Sworn:

Says That he knew the Tract next the Matanza River best, the Soil of it was of the first quality & he understood the rest was of nearly the same. Dont know the quantity [238] of Land cleared [sic] upon any of them though he believes it was considerable. That the Swamp Land in its Uncleared state was worth in his Opinion 20s or 1 Guinea ^{per} Acre.

That he knows nothing more of the Claimant's Property.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

L^t Col! JOHN DOUGLAS, Witness, Sworn:

Says That he was present at the running out of the Claimants 5 Tracts & afterwards had the Management of them. That he had 102 Men, 67 Women & 56 Children belonging to the Claimant under his Care. That 120 Acres were cleared for planting in N^o 1. & 2. the two Northernmost Tracts by the 1st May 1783 upon which there was a large reserve Dam begun in November 1782 & they had ditched & dammed part for a Rice Plantation. Upon N^o 2 there were Several Buildings raised by the Claimant's own Negroes a framed House 30 feet by 18 with Cedar Planks one story high covered with Shingles; [239] a Barn 40 feet by 20 framed and covered in the same manner. A Kitchen & Houses for about 60 working Negroes besides Children They were begun in November 1782 but not finished till June or July 1783 & he values them at £80.

That he began to plant these tracts Early in May 1783: That upon N^o 1 & 2 there were 29⁵ Acres of Swamp Land, 120 Acres of Savanna & 58⁵ Acres of Pine Land. That the Value of the Swamp is at least 10s ^{per} Acre. The Savanna 5s & the

Pine Land is 1/2 Acre in their uncultivated State and any person who wanted to make a Settlement there would he thinks have given that price for them. That the Common Expence of Clearing Land was 20s 1/2 Acre & therefore he values the 120 Acres of cleared Swamp at 30s 1/2 acre. That upon a Settlement on N^o 3 & 4 the two next tracts there were 40 Negroes Employed & they had cleared 90 Acres before May 1783 & several Ditches & Drains were begun before April 1783 & worked upon during the whole of [240] that Year but never completed. Upon N^o 4 there was a Log House for an Overseer a very good framed Barn 30 feet by 18 & Negroe Houses which were worth £40. Twenty of these Acres were planted with Indigo & 70 with Provisions. That sometime in the Summer of 1783 there were 12 Acres more cleared upon N^o 4 which were planted with Rice in May 1784. They were fenced in but not ditched or dammed. Upon these two Tracts there were 410 Acres of swamp 285 Acres of Savannah & 305 Acres of Pine all of which as well as the Cleared Land were of the same value respectively as the Lands in N^o 1 & 2. That upon another settlement on N^o 4 & 5 there were 40 Negroes more & they had cleared 60 Acres by the same time & they were planted with Rice & Provisions. Upon N^o 5 there were 175 Acres of Swamp Land 50 of Savannah & 275 of Pine Land of the same quality & value as the former. There was an Overseer's Log House & framed Barn of nearly the same size & Negroe Houses [241] worth about £30 upon this Settlement; which was likewise fenced with a Worm fence. Says that upon N^o 5 there was likewise a Settlement formed & 60 Acres cleared by M^r James Graham's Negroes from 35 to 40 in Number about the same time which were appropriated to raising Provisions & of the same Value of 30s 1/2 acre including the Soil.

There was an Overseer's House a Barn 24 feet by 16 & Negroe Houses worth about £20. Says that about May 1783 he received a Letter from the Claimant informing him that the Province was to be ceded to Spain & That about the latter End of 1783 he received another Letter from the Claimant mentioning his Intention to send his Negroes to Jamaica in case the Province should be given up but leaving a discretionary power with him (the Witness) to act as he should think most advisable.

That he, the the [*sic*] Witness afterwards thought it best to go on with the Improvements not believing that the Province would be Ceded.

[242] Says That the Account delivered in by him marked A is a true Account of the Expences & produce of the Claimant's Plantations. That in December 1784 the Claimant's Negroes were sent off. He made an Application to Governor Tonyn in the Summer of 1784 & received a favourable Answer; but the Claimant having sold them they were sent to South Carolina to which place they could not be conveyed by Government Transports.

Says That he has taken the Account which he has given of the Number of Negroes Employed & the quantity of Acres cleared from the Appraisement dated the 10th May 1784 which was written by him from his Memorandums at the time, & his Idea of the Value of the Land corresponds exactly with the Appraisement.

That he knows nothing more of the Claimant's property.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[243]

No 16 . . .

The Memorial of Thomas Mackenzie,
a Captain in His Majesty's Royal Navy, now resident at Bideford
in the County of Devon.

Sheweth That your Memorialist finding you are appointed Commissioners to enquire into the Losses sustained by the Cession of East Florida to the King of Spain, begs to lay the State of his Claim before you.

Your Memorialist was in Possession of a House at St Augustine at the Time of the said Cession, not having disposed of it to any Person, which he purchased of M^r William Watson of St Augustine now resi- [244] dent at N^o 2 little Argyle Street, Oxford Street London, for the Sum of Five hundred Pounds Sterling Money of Great Britain; Affidavit to the Truth of which is hereunto annexed, and which Fact will be attested on Oath likewise by the said William Watson if required,—And that your Memorialist for himself, or any other Person on his Behalf has never received any kind of Compensation or Indemnification for the said House Which your Memorialist has stated in the above said Affidavit annexed, and is likewise ready at all Times to make Answer on Affidavit to such Questions as shall be by you transmitted to him.

That your Memorialist lives upwards of two hundred Miles from London, and it will be expensive for him to attend personally has therefore transmitted his Memorial through the Hands of M^r Paul Maylor of London whose Agent will Attend to receive any Instructions for the Information you may from Time to Time require.

[245—concluding petition and signature.]

[246 blank]

[247] . . .

Nov: 30th 1786.

Cap: THOMAS MACKENZIE, Claimant, Sworn:

Says That he was at St Augustine he believes some time in 1778 & there purchased a Stone House & Lot in the Town of St Augustine fronting the river of M: Watson paid £500 for it & quitted East Florida a few days after That he never received any rent or profit of any sort from it never sold it or gave any Authority to any person to sell it. That he had a deed of Conveyance from M: Watson which he left with M: Young & has never since heard from him. Copies of the Lease & release dated 1st & 2^d June 1779 were Extracted & certified by M: Yeats from the Records.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

M: WILLIAM WATSON, Witness, Sworn:

Says that he sold a House & Lot in St Augustine he believes about the Middle of [248] the year 1778 or 1779 to the Claimant & received from him £500 Sterling for it. The House was situated upon the Edge of St Augustine River in a place Called Society quarter It was an Old Spanish House with Stone Walls & shingled two Stories high & two Rooms with a Closet on each floor from 32 to 34 feet long & 18 feet wide; & there was a Kitchen detached from the House. That he (the Witness) had put it in Complete repair & it was just finished when the Claimant bought it. That he Executed a Conveyance of it to the Claimant & the deeds were left with Mr: Young. That the Lot of Land was near 300 feet long & not quite so wide with another old dwelling House upon it all fenced in with a new boarded fence & Cedar posts 7 feet high. That it cost him (the Witness) nearly as much as he sold it for in repairs. That he came away from East Florida in February 1784 & never heard that this House & Lot were put up at Auction or offered to sale before his departure.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[249]

No. 19. . . .

The Memorial of M: B. Tavel,
late of the Province of East Florida, now at London.

Sheweth That your Memorialist having Settled himself with his family at about 1½ mile West from the ferry at St Augustine in a plantation of 200 Acres, though not a native of this country, yet having been naturalized by a residence or possession of

more than thirteen years of the said plantation from the Year 1772 'till this time thinks himself equally entitled with the other Sufferers, to a Compensation for what he has lost by the late peace. M: Tavel did not go to settle in that Country without his Majesty's permission, to whom he had the honour of being introduced and of receiving Marks of his Royal approba- [250] tion for his intentions previous to his departure.

The Government by it's Wisdom & good policy in giving up the Province of East Florida having of Course disposed of his Plantation, M: Tavel hopes he will receive, as in justice he ought, not only the Original purchase money of £60—but also £1200—the amount of his disbursements at different times for it's improvements. By the above mentioned event, he has lost the Opportunity of realizing a much more considerable sum, which must have accrued to him from the produce of his Plantation in Silk, besides the other produce of the soil, which he intended to introduce as soon as the war should be over. If he should receive no indemnification for his loss the injury would fall on an Englishman of Course having an only Son born in East Florida, to whom this plantation was designed as his principal subsistence.

[251] Expences for my Settlement in East Florida

1771 The hiring of 5 Servants	£15	0s	0d
Preparation for the Voyage in buying Carts, tools, and various other things which could not be expected to be found in Florida	105	17	0
The voyage from Switzerland to London with the five above-mentioned Servants	103	18	0
The Expence of the said Servants in London till the departure of the Ship of Capt: Rigger	26	5	0
Purchased in London beds and Cloaths for black and white Servants, Tools for a Carpenter Joiner, and Wheelwright also nails and Iron necessary for the building of houses	168	19	0
Paid to the Blacksmith Favre for the iron wheel of a saw mill	9	0	0
For 2 hooks to disroot Trees	9	9	0
Paid to Capt: Rigger for the passage of my 5 Servants	50	0	0
For the Freight of my baggage & Goods	20	0	0
[252] For the passage of my family consisting of 4 persons at £20 each	80	0	0
For Insurance of Goods valued at £400	8	5	6
At our arrival in St Augustine before I could purchase my plantation I spent at M: Moore's	14	15	0
1772 Purchased my Plantation for	60	0	0
Paid to M: Yeat's Secretary of the Province for the writing of the said purchase	1	13	0

Loyalists in East Florida

For planks to build houses and numberless small articles & carriages &c 25 0 0

James Laws, William Parr; John Sardell, a Negro of Mr Wilson's all working to clear the Ground, & Servant women for the Service of the Plantation 25 0 0

For the Maintenance of my 5 servants brought from Switzerland before I could have any produce of my plantation, & their Wages 120 0 0

[253] NB. I set nothing for the loss over the buying & selling the Negroes, nor for that over the Horses & Cows, nor for that sustained in selling a part of my Estate in Switzerland for the purpose of this Settlement, nor for the loss of time; for all these articles however I expected to be indemnified by the produce of my Plantation. Nobody can think extravagant if I set £360 for my stay there and extra expence during about 3 years for acquiring the necessary Knowledge for the improvement of this Land

360 0 0

£1203 1 6

This for which he expected to receive more than 30 ³/₄ Cent of his expended money, is now lost by the cession of his Land to Spain for which Religion and Government he has an aversion.

[Concluding petition and signature.]

[254—Witnesses.]

[255] . . .

Dec: 1st 1786.

Mr BEAT [sic] TAVEL, Claimant, Sworn:

Says That he is a Native of Switzerland, that he went to St Augustine in East Florida in 1771, continued there till 1774 & then came to England upon Account of his Health & the desertion of his Servants & never Returned to East Florida afterwards. That he never was Naturalized Understanding in England that it was not necessary. That in the Year 1772 he purchased a plantation upon the first Swamp from St Augustine about a Mile from the ferry from Mr Mackey & gave £60 Sterling for it. He produced the deeds of Lease & release dated 5th & 6th March 1772 That at the time of the purchase a part of the Swamp was cleared and he planted provisions upon that part but cleared no more Land himself. That when he bought it there were three Houses upon it a small House a Kitchen & Store House.

[256] That he built two Houses more one for himself two Stories high, made of Wood & planked Roof: the other for his Son one Story high with a Cellar. That he

The Documents

purchased part of the Materials, he cant say for what Sum & his Servants cut down the Rest.

That he left no person upon the Plantation when he came away but gave the Key of his House to Mr Kid & directed him not to suffer any person to settle upon the Plantation nor to sell it to any body as he intended to send Negroes to cultivate it, & agreed with Mr Chollet of Charles Town to send him Merchandize from England with the produce of which he was to purchase Negroes & send them to Mr Kid; & that in the Year 1775 & he believes in 1776 he sent a quantity of Lace to Mr Chollet & ordered him not to lay out the produce in Negroes till the peace & no Negroes were, in fact bought by Mr Chollet. That he left no other Property than what is before stated in East Florida having carried all that he did not [257] sell in St Augustine to Charles Town & left it in the care of Mr Chollet.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

Lieut: Gov: JOHN MOULTRIE, Witness, Sworn:

Says, That the Claimant came to East Florida in 1771 with an Order of Council for a large Tract of Land but that he never made use of it. That he purchased a Tract of 200 Acres within 2 Miles of St Augustine part of the Swamp of which had been before cleared. That he has frequently seen the House in which the Claimant lived & thinks that with the other buildings was worth at least £100 when he saw them last in the year 1775. That the Claimant went away in 1774 & he (the Witness) having been desired to give directions respecting his property put some refugees upon the Plantation to Cultivate it. That he don't know the proportion of the Swamp Land to the Pine barren. That he thinks the whole of the Land which was well covered with [258] wood and the Buildings upon it might be worth at the time of the Cession £300. That he knows of no other Property belonging to the Claimant.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[259]

No 5. . . .

The Memorial of John Mills,
late of the Province of East Florida, one of his Majesty's
Justices of the Peace and Notary Public.

Sheweth That your Memorialist formerly resided in Charles Town, South Carolina, was Banished from thence, for not Abjuring the King, and returned early in

the Year 1781 to that Province, where he was Deputy Secretary of the same, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace and Notary Public.

That at the time of the Evacuation of Charles Town, your Memorialist and his family Removed to East Florida, where he obtained the permission of his Honor the Lieutenant [260] Governor of that Province, to build a House and made Improvements on his Land in St Augustine, free from any Rent, nor limited to any time, as will more particularly appear in the Schedule annexed.

That shortly after your Memorialist arrived in East Florida, he was appointed one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace and Notary Public, and was almost constantly employed until he and his family left the the [sic] Province on it's being Ceded to the King of Spain.

[Concluding petition and signature.]

[261] [Schedule] . . .

A House situate at the North End of Charlotte Street in the Town of St Augustine, together with a Garden and Fences adjoining the same, being on a Lott of Land belonging to the Honorable John Moultrie, Esq; late Lieut. Governor of East Florida, who gave leave for Building &c thereon, free from any Rent whatsoever, which House, Garden, Fences and Priviledge, may reasonably be valued at

£75 0s 0d

Rec^d of Mr Lorimer, for same, at the time I left St Augustine in May 1784

5 0 0

£70 0s 0d

Professional Loss, as a Magistrate and Notary Public, Submitted to their Honors the Commissioners, and the Evidence

[Witnesses.]

[262 blank]

[263] . . .

Dec^r 1st 1786

Mr JOHN MILLS, Claimant, Sworn:

says That he came to St Augustine from Charles Town in October 1782. That about December he obtained leave from Lieutenant Governor Moultrie to build a House upon part of a Lot of Land belonging to him in Charlotte Street near the fort. That in the beginning of 1783 having cleared away the Rubbish he began to build a dwelling House 16 feet by 22, & a Kitchen & fenced the Land in with a Clap

board fence, all of which were finished before the Arrival of the preliminary Articles.

That the Timber which he purchased for his House cost about £10 or £12. The Kitchen & fence were built with Materials cut by his Negroes. He produced an Appraisement of the House Garden & Improvements under the Seal dated 22 Jan^y 1784 valuing them at £16. That he received from Alexander Lorimer £5 for his House &c then he quitted St Augustine in May 1784.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

[264] Lieut Governor JOHN MOULTRIE, Witness, Sworn:

Says That about the latter End of 1782 he gave permission to the Claimant to build upon a Lot of Land belonging to him & to remain there till he the Witness should want it himself. That he knows the Claimant built a Small House upon it. That the whole Lot had been before fenced round but it was out of Order & he believes the Claimant put up a partition fence; That he don't know the Value of the House having never been in the inside of it.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[265]

No 9 . . .

The Memorial of Charles Ogilvie⁶⁰ of London Merchant.

Sheweth That your Memorialist was seized and possessed in fee simple of a Lot of Land on which were erected Sundry Stone Buildings situated in Convent Lane and Covert Way Street in the Town of St Augustine in the aforesaid Province and known by the Number One in Moncrieff's quarter and of the Value of Eight Hundred & Fifty Pounds Sterling as will more fully appear by the annexed Schedule and the Vouchers and Evidence to be produced: which Property has been entirely lost to your Memorialist in Consequence of the Cession of the [266] said Province of East Florida to the King of Spain

[Concluding petition, signature, and date.]

[267]

A Schedule . . .

A Lot of Land in the Town of St Augustine situated on the South side of Convent Lane & known by No 1 in Moncrieff's quarter 370 feet

⁶⁰ See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 338.

in extent, whereon were Sundry Stone Buildings producing a considerable rent and valued on Oath by Robert Payne and John Martin Esq^r & M^r Robert Taylor, all Inhabitants of said town at the Sum of £850 Sterling [Vouchers and evidence.]

[268 blank]

[269] . . .

Dec^r 1st 1786.

M^r CHARLES OGILVIE, Claimant, Sworn:

produced a Copy of a Grant of a Lot of Land in St Augustine from Governor Tonyn dated June 18th 1783. Says that M^r Adam died above £7000 in debt to the Claimant leaving him one of his Executors That M^r Adam was Entitled to a Lot of Land in East Florida & he the Claimant in the Year 1782 gave directions to M^r Edward Corbet his Attorney there to pursue the necessary Steps to get possession of that Lot of Land & sent over a regular power of Attorney to him for that purpose. That M^r Corbet wrote word that he had accordingly taken possession of it & that he the Claimant understands it is the same Lot of Land which was afterwards granted out to him.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

[270] M^r ROBERT PAYNE, Witness, Sworn:

says: That he was one of the Appraisers of the Claimant's property & knew the Lot of Land in St Augustine reputed to belong to M^r Adam; that he never knew whom it afterwards belonged to, till he was applied to by M^r Corbet in May or June 1783 to value it & the buildings upon it as the Property of the Claimant. That it was as large a Lot of Land as any in St Augustine but he don't know the dimensions of it. That he don't know whether there was any fence standing There were two or three dwelling Houses upon it built of Stone which had been unoccupied for 8 or 10 Years before the Evacuation of Georgia & Charles Town, & if they were inhabited at the time of the Appraisalment it was only by poor people. That he valued the Lot & houses at £850 upon the Idea that it would have been worth that & a great deal more for building upon if the Province had not been Ceded & that he went over the Lot at the time of the Appraisalment.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[271] M^r EDWARD CORBET, Witness, Sworn:

Says That he Acted as Attorney to the Claimant in East Florida having received a power of Attorney from him in December 1782 He produced the Letter of Attorney dated 26 November 1782 from the Claimant as Executor of M^r Adam

authorizing him to receive & recover any Sums of Money Debts &c & also to take possession of & sell or let out four Houses & Lots of Land in St Augustine formerly belonging to Richard Henderson & sold by him to Thomas Adam.⁷⁰ Says That the Claimant informed him that M^r Adam at the time of his death was in debt to him several Thousand pounds: That upon the receipt of the Letter of Attorney he applied to the several persons in possession who readily relinquished their right to the Houses & paid a small Rent for their former occupation. That no Action was Ever commenced against the Heirs at Law or Devises of M^r Adam but that in Feb^r 1783 upon stating an Account of his debt to the Claim- [272] ant and laying the Assignment & conveyance from Henderson to M^r Adam before Governor Tonyn & making application for a Grant he directed it to be made out to save the Expence of Law proceedings. That he understood there could not be a Title made to a purchaser without a Grant or such suit being instituted. That he thinks Governor Tonyn had given directions for a Grant to be made out before the News of the Peace arrived. That there was one other Lot of Land & House upon it in the same situation which he sold to M^r Nichol Turnbull & procured a Grant of it to him in his own Name. That the Lot claimed consisted of between 3 & 4 Acres upon which there were 3 Houses in bad repair. Says that he left East Florida about the Latter End of the Year 1785. That the Lot & Houses were put up at Auction in 1784 but not sold & all that he received for them was about £40 in rent.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[273] M^r JAMES SIMPSON,⁷¹ Witness, Sworn:

Says That about the Year 1772 or 1773 M^r Adam being indebted to the Claimant in a large Sum of Money about £5000 Sterling was arrested at his Suit and M^r Adam applied to take the benefit of the Insolvent Act which would have the same Effect there with respect to the Creditor at whose suit he was in Gaol as a Commission of Bankruptcy [*sic*] here. Objections were made to M^r Adam's Schedule by the

⁷⁰ Thomas Adam was evidently a merchant at Charleston, South Carolina, and by 1773 was deeply in debt to Charles Ogilvie, Sr., of London. Adam attempted to take advantage of the insolvent act, but exceptions were made to his schedule of property and he was confined in prison until the evacuation of Charleston in the autumn of 1782. Adam died, perhaps after arriving at St. Augustine, where he had bought four houses and lots. He had named Ogilvie as his executor. In December, 1782, Edward Corbet of St. Augustine received a letter from Ogilvie giving him power of attorney to recover debts and take possession of Adam's property. To avoid a suit Corbet applied to Governor Tonyn for a grant of such of the property as had not been already surrendered. In the Council Minutes of East Florida there is mention of a Thomas Adams, who petitioned for a town lot in St. Augustine in May, 1769, and to whom the governor and council ordered a warrant of survey issued. About a month later he petitioned again for a town lot, and obtained another warrant of survey for it. See C. O. 5/571.

⁷¹ See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 339.

Claimant & he (the Witness) being Attorney Genl in South Carolina was employed by the Claimant & in that way became acquainted with the State of the debt. The Objections were held good by the Court & M^r Adam was committed to prison where he remained till the Surrender of Charles Town to St Henry Clinton⁷² in May 1780. Says that the Claimant had not at that time received any Satisfaction for this Debt. That he believes the Claimant proceeded as far as judgment in South Carolina but never took out Execution.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[274 blank]

[275]

No. II . . .

The Memorial of James Moultrie

late of the province of East Florida Gentleman for and on behalf
of himself and his Sister Annabella Moultrie.

Sheweth that your Memorialist formerly lived and resided at St Augustine in East Florida aforesaid and now lives and resides at Charing Cross Westminster in the County of Middlesex. And the said Annabella Moultrie also formerly resided at St

⁷² Sir Henry Clinton, *b.* 1738, *d.* 1795. Already in 1772 he had attained the rank of major general and been elected to parliament, being then thirty-four years old. He arrived in Boston in May, 1775, and so distinguished himself at Bunker Hill that he was appointed a local lieutenant general in the following September and a local general in January, 1776. He went to England and returned with a reinforcement of 3,000 men in August, 1776. His notable services in the battle of Long Island and at the capture of New York caused him to be made a lieutenant general and a knight of the bath. When Sir William Howe retired to England in May, 1778, Clinton succeeded him as commander-in-chief. After evacuating Philadelphia, he marched the British troops to New York and had the loyalists transported by the fleet. From New York he sent out predatory expeditions. In January, 1780, he captured Charleston, South Carolina, with the aid of Admiral Marriot Arbuthnot. Leaving Cornwallis to complete the reduction of the Carolinas, Clinton returned to New York, resigned his command in May, 1781, and sailed for England. He published his *Narrative* in 1783. He was appointed a general in December, 1792, and governor of Gibraltar in July, 1794. His death occurred seventeen months later. See *Dict. of Nat. Biography*; W. H. Siebert, "The Loyalists of Pennsylvania," *Ohio State University Bulletin*, April 1, 1920, pp. 51, 53; *Histories of the United States*; *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, I. *passim*, II. *passim*; *Narrative of Lieut-Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, K. B.*, etc.; *Hist. MSS. Comm., Stopford-Sackville MSS.*, II. *passim*.

⁷³ James Moultrie, Esq., was the chief justice of the court of common pleas in East Florida and the president of the council from its first meeting on October 31, 1764. His salary was £500 a year, in addition to which he received certain fees during the sessions of the court (C. O. 5/570). He was

Augustine aforesaid and now lives and resides at Charles Town in South Carolina in North America.

That your Memorialist and the said Annabella Moultrie as the Children of James Moultrie, late of St Augustine, aforesaid Esq^r [276] deceased were possessed of an[d] entitled to several tracts of Land in the province of East Florida aforesaid by virtue of the several Grants made to John Moultrie Esq^r their Uncle and next Friend on their behalf and also by virtue of two several Grants made to Cecilia Moultrie their Mother the particulars of which are set forth in the Schedule hereto Annexed as also the Value of such Lands ascertained upon Oath of Good and sufficient Persons. and Authenticated under the great Seal of the Province of East Florida aforesaid.

J. Moultrie

The Schedule above referred to

October 4th 1770

A Grant unto Cecilia Moultrie Widow of James Moultrie deceased her Heirs and Assigns of a plantation or Tract of Land containing three hundred Acres in the Province of East Florida situated on the south side of Cecilia Creek bounded Eastwardly on the Matanza River and on other [277] sides on Vacant Land distant Southwardly from St Augustine about six Miles and a half—

Recorded in Register's Office in Book A page 224 the twelfth day of January 1771.

A Grant unto the said Cecilia Moultrie of a Tract of Land containing four hundred Acres situated on the North side of the said Creek.

Recorded in Register's Office

April 11th 1771

A Grant unto John Moultrie Esq^r in behalf of the Children of James Moultrie their Heirs and Assigns a plantation or Tract of Land containing One thousand Acres in our Province of East Florida situated on the North side of Timoicka Creek about fifty Miles South Eastwardly from St Augustine bounded East upon Timoka Creek north on Lands of the Children of the said James Moultrie and all other sides on Vacant Land.

Recorded in Register's Office in Book A page 280. 13th June 1771.

the brother of John Moultrie, who was also a member of the council at this time and later the lieutenant-governor of the province, and of William Moultrie, a member of the council of safety of South Carolina, who rose to high rank in the revolutionary army and was twice governor of his state after the close of the war (Drake, *Dict. of Am. Biography*, p. 643). Chief Justice Moultrie died in the latter part of September, 1765, and was succeeded in office by William Drayton, to whom the oaths were administered on the seventh of the following month. See C. O. 5/570.

[278] April 18th 1771

A Grant unto John Moultrie Esquire in Trust for the Children of James Moultrie their Heirs and Assigns a plantation or Tract of Land containing one thousand acres in our province of East Florida situated on the West side of Timoicka Creek about fifty Miles south eastwardly from St Augustine bounded East on the said Creek—North on James Moncrief and on all other sides by vacant Land.

Recorded in Register's Office in Book A Page 279—the thirteenth day of June 1771.

Feb[r]uary 11. 1775

A Grant unto John Moultrie Esq: in behalf of the Children of the late James Moultrie deceased their Heirs and Assigns a plantation or Tract of Land containing five acres in our province of East Florida Situated between the barrier gate and Moss. adjoining Captain Skynner's⁷⁴ five Acre Lot bound Eastwardly on the Road leading to Mosso South by the said Skynner's Lot—Westward by the road near St Sebastian's Creek and [279] on all other sides by vacant Land

Recorded in Register's Office in Book B: page 132. the 15th May 1775.

Febry 11th. 1775

A Grant unto John Moultrie Esquire in behalf of the Children of the late James Moultrie deceased their Heirs and Assigns a plantation or Tract of Land Containing one thousand Acres in our Province of East Florida situated in Wood Cutter's Creek formerly petitioned for by the said James Moultrie bound North Eastward by Lands surveyed for a saw Mill Southward partly by Land of William Gerrard De Brahm^{74a} and all other parts by vacant Land.

Recorded in Register's Office in Book B: page 131, 26 May 1775.

⁷⁴ Probably he was Alexander Skinner, who is first mentioned in the Council Minutes of East Florida under date of October 17, 1766, when he petitioned for a grant of two hundred acres of land. Two years later he was appointed clerk of the navy office of the province until the royal pleasure should be known. He took the oath as naval officer on January 12, 1770, his commission being issued in obedience to a royal mandamus of March 23, 1769. He shared in handling Indian affairs at St. Augustine in 1777 and 1778, if not longer. When the claims of those who had lost property by the cession of East Florida to Spain were being heard, the executors of Captain Skinner's estate put in a claim for £1,450. They obtained an award of £740 18s. There was also a Captain Henry Skinner, who petitioned for a grant of land in June, 1767, when a warrant of survey was issued to him for three hundred acres. See C. O. 5/570, 5/571; *Hist. MSS. Comm., Am. MSS. in R. Inst.*, I. 124, 191, 248; C. O. 5/562 (Report of Commissioners on East Florida Claims).

^{74a} William Gerard De Brahm's name first appears in the Council Minutes of East Florida under date of June 22, 1765, when he petitioned for a town lot in St. Augustine. He was suspended from the office of surveyor general of the province by Governor James Grant about October 4, 1770, by royal command and with the advice of the provincial council for overcharges for surveys and for incivilities. See C. O. 5/570, 5/571; also Additional Notes, *post*, p. 337.

The Valuation and Appraisement of the Aforesaid Lands &c to which this Memorial refers being a Schedule and Appraisement of two Tracts of Land Granted to the Children of the late [280] James Moultrie Esq: late Chief Justice of East Florida held in joint Tenancy by James and Annabella Moultrie Heirs of the said James Moultrie Esq:

Nº 1. A Tract of One thousand Acres on Wood Cutters Creek Six Miles from St Augustine and half a Mile on a landing on the said Creek agreeing nearly with the following de[s]cription[s]		
131B. Hammock and Swamp two hundred Acres with Cypress Trees fifty cleared and Cultivated		£250 0s 0d
Prime Land Eight hundred Acres well Stocked with Yellow and other pine		100 0 0
Nº 2. A Tract containing three hundred acres Situated on the south Side of Cecilia Creek on the Matanza River Nine Miles from Saint Augustine and agreeing nearly with the following description.		
224A Hammock Land 100 Acres Sixty of which has been cleared and Cultivated		150 0 0
[281] Prime Land two hundred Acres		20 0 0
Nº 3 } A Tract containing four		
181A } hundred Acres situated on		
the North side of the said Creek and agreeing nearly with the following description		
Good Hammock two hundred and Sixty Acres thirty cleared and planted		280 0 0
Pine Land One hundred and fifty Acres		11 5 0
Nº 4 } A five Acre Lot near the		
132B } Barrier Gate of St Augustine		
Cleared and has been planted		30 0 0
Nº 5 } Two Tracts containing		
279 & 280A } One thousand Acres each		
situated on the Timoka River bounded on the North by Lands of Coll! Moncrief ⁷⁵ and agreeing nearly with the following description.		
Swamp and Hammock Land 320 Acres 200 of the Hammock Cleared & planted		460 0 0
Marsh 211 Acres		211 0 0
[282] High Ridge 268 Acres Pine Land 1021		73 9 0

⁷⁵ Colonel James Moncrief is first mentioned in the Council Minutes of East Florida under date of June 25, 1765, when a warrant of survey was ordered to be issued in his name for a garden lot of five acres near St. Augustine. See C. O. 5/570; see also Additional Notes, *post*, pp. 307, 341.

A Dwelling house a Barn some Negro Houses
The cleared Land under Fence

50 0 0

Total Amount 1635 14 0

James Moultrie maketh Oath that the property before mentioned is the property of him this Deponent and his Sister Annabella Moultrie.

Sworn at the Guildhall
London this 31st Dec^r 1785 }
before me

James Moultrie

T. Wright
Mayor

William Moss, David Yeats and Robert Scott Esquires maketh Oath that they have valued the property before mentioned in the Schedule and are of Opinion that the same was well worth the Sum Affixed Opposite Each Article previous to the Cession of this Province to the Crown of Spain. The whole Amounting to the Sum of Seven [283] hundred and Ninety four pounds Nine Shillings

William Moss
David Yeates
Robert Scott

Two Valuations produced.
One of part at £841 5s 0d
D^o of other part @ 794 9 0
£1635 14s 0d

both of same date & by the
same persons

J. Moultrie

Your Memorialist begs leave to refer the Commissioners for further proof of the Right and Interest of your Memorialist and his said Sister to the Said Several tracts of Land to David Yeats Esq^r N^o 27 Gresse Street Rathbone place who was formerly Secretary of the said Province of East Florida and John Moultrie Esq^r N^o 51 Great Portland Street Oxford Street who was formerly Lieutenant Governor of the said Province.

[284 blank]

[285] . . .

Dec^r 2^d 1786.M^r JAMES MOULTRIE, Claimant, Sworn. Says

That he went to East Florida from England about the Year 1770 being at that time about 12 Years old, & his father being dead he was placed under the Care

of his Uncle L^t Gov^r Moultrie. That he went from East Florida in 1776 & returned about July 1783. That there was a Grant run out of 1000 Acres on Wood Wood [sic] Cutters Creek Another of 300 Acres on South side of St Cecilia's Creek on the Matanza River. A third of 400 Acres on North side of St Cecilia's Creek A fourth of a five Acre Tract near the barrier Gate of St Augustine & Two Tracts of 1000 Acres Each on the Timoka River—For the first he produced a Grant dated 11th Feb^r 1775 to John Moultrie in behalf of the Children of James Moultrie deceased their Heirs & Assigns Conditioned for Clearing Land as appears by the Grant.

For 2^d he produced a Grant dated Oct^r 4th 1770 to Cecilia Moultrie Widow of James [286] Moultrie deceased her Heirs & Assigns Conditioned as former Grant Says that Cecilia Moultrie his Mother died intestate in 1771 & he claims this for himself as her Heir at Law

For 3^d produced a Grant dated Oct^r 4th 1770 to John Moultrie in trust for the Children of James Moultrie their Heirs & Assigns Conditioned as before.

For 4th produced a Grant dated 11th Feb^r 1775 to John Moultrie in in [sic] behalf of the Children of James Moultrie their Heirs & Assigns upon the same Conditions.

For 5th & 6th produced Two Grants of the same date 18th April 1771 to John Moultrie in behalf of the Children of James Moultrie their Heirs & Assigns upon the same Conditions. He likewise produced an Appraisement under the Seal of the province dated 8th May 1784 valuing this Property at £1635 9s 5d. Says That he claims all these Tracts, except the 300 Acres, in behalf of himself & his Sister Annabella Moultrie the only surviving Children of James Moultrie. That his Sister is now Resident in Charles Town Endeavouring to get [287] in the Money for which he sold the Negroes which he carried there after the Cession of East Florida. That he has no power of Attorney from her; That about 4 Years ago he executed a Conveyance he believes of the two Timoka Tracts to a M^r Pope by whom he was imposed upon & against whom he has filed a Bill in Chancery & Obtained an Injunction.

[Claimant's confirmation and signature.]

Lieutenant Governor JOHN MOULTRIE, Witness, Sworn: Says

That the Claimant came to East Florida about 1770 his Father died in 1765 leaving two Sons and a Daughter, & that one of his Sons died in 1770 & Cecilia Moultrie the Mother died about the Year 1771 without making any Will.

Says That 1st Tract on Wood Cutter's Creek was situated about 5 Miles from St Augustine by Land, & that the Creek is navigable for Boats & flats. That M^r James Moultrie the father of the Claimant began to clear part of [288] this Tract in 1764 & after his death he (the Witness) continued settling the Tract for the

benefit of the Children. That about 100 Acres were cleared for a Rice & Corn Plantation but at the time of the Cession & for 3 or 4 Years before the Negroes were only Employed in cutting Lumber, Naval Stores & Fire Wood. That there were two Swamps not of the best Sort & a small border of Hamock Land adjoining but that the great Value of this plantation Arose from the Advantage of the Situation upon a Navigable Creek & near St Augustine, & he thinks it would have been worth from £300 to £400 the price of Every thing increased owing to the Influx of Inhabitants from Georgia & Charles Town. That he saw the Plantation about 2 or 3 Months before he quitted East Florida.

Says That the 2^d Tract of 300 Acres was situated about 8 Miles from St Augustine bounded on one Side by Cecilia Creek & fronting the Matanza River. That at the time of the Grant there were some Remains of a Plantation which had formerly been Cultivated by the Spaniards [289] & at the time of the Cession he thinks near 100 Acres of Hamock Land were cleared & used Entirely for Provisions. That this Tract was let out upon Lease to two Tenants from one of whom he received about £25 or £30 ^{per} Annum & 6s for every Chord of Wood cut off; from the other Tenant who was poor he received nothing. That all the Improvements upon this Tract were made by the Tenant & no money laid out by him upon it. That considering the Situation & all other circumstances attending it he thinks it was worth £300 but that he don't recollect he was upon it for about 2 Years previous to his quitting East Florida in 1784.

Says That the 3^d Tract of 400 Acres ran on the opposite side of the same Creek. That this had been in part cleared before the time of the Grant Either by the Spaniards or Indians. That this tract was likewise let out to one of the former Tenants he having leave to settle upon this as well as the former Tract for the aforesaid Rent of £25 or £30 ^{per} Ann. That he never laid out any money upon it. That [290] about 30 acres of this Land were Cleared & upon the whole he thinks the 300 Tract the most valuable of the two & this was worth at least £250 & he would not have sold it for that Sum.

That the 4th Tract of 5 Acres was within 200 or 300 Yards of the Barrier Gate of St Augustine. It was all Hamock Land & all cleared before he arrived in East Florida. He gave the use of it to some Minorquees who settled upon it & cultivated it. That he would not have taken £20 for it & imagines it would have sold for more from its Situation.

That the 5th & 6th Tracts upon the Timoka River which is navigable for large flats were about 46 Miles distant from St Augustine. They were entirely uncultivated when run out. That he employed about 25 working Negroes belonging to the Claimant & his Sister to Clear the Land in 1771 or 1772.

That before the Cession they had Cleared & fenced in at least 150 Acres in

both Tracts [291] which were planted with Indigo & Provisions. That the Northernmost Tract had nearly an Equal quantity of plantable Land & Pine barren.

In the Southernmost there was a larger share of Pine barren, but it had the Advantage of a fine Creek running through it which gave a command of Water. There was a dwelling House framed of Wood with a Stone Chimney one Storey high a Piazza & two small Wings, a Barn Negroe Houses & other necessary Out-houses. That he considered These Tracts of such Value that he would not have let them be sold under £1000. That he saw these Plantations late in the latter End of 1783 or the beginning of 1784 of the Buildings were then in good Repair.

Says that he has lately heard from his Niece Annabella Moultrie who now resides in Charles Town & understands she is going to be married.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[292] M^r DAVID YEATS, Witness, Sworn: says

that he knew the five Acre tract when it was run out in 1775 prior to which time it had been Cleared & inclosed, but at the time of the Cession it was partly Covered with Brush Wood.

There were no buildings upon it he thinks only a part of the Land was occupied by a Minorquean at that time, One of these Lots in the same Situation sold in 1770 for £3 10s an Acre, he don't recollect any other being sold. says that he was one of the Appraisers but was not upon the Plantations at the time of the Valuation nor can he speak particularly to the quantity of Cleared Land or the Situation the Settlements were in at the time of the Cession.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

Col^o JAMES MONCRIEF, ⁷⁰ Witness, Sworn: Says

Jan^y 30th 1787.

That he had a Settlement upon Timoka [293] River adjoining the North side of the Northernmost of the Claimant's two Tracts upon the same River. They were about 46 Miles distant from St Augustine. That he thinks about the Year 1768 the Claimant's Uncle began a Settlement upon the Claimant's two Tracts, previous to which time they were in a state of Nature. That from 25 to 30 Working Negroes were then put upon the Plantations. The Buildings upon them were only such as are Necessary for the Accomodation of the Negroes & an Overseer upon an Indigo Plantation. Both tracts were used for an Indigo Plantation & raising provisions. The Land came quite down to the River which was navigable for flats & Boats which drew only 18 Inches water, sufficient for the Purpose of Conveying away the Produce of the Land. That he the Witness made the last Crop upon his Plantation in 1777, quitted it in 1778 & never returned thither afterwards. That when he left it

⁷⁰ See Additional Notes, *post*, p. 341.

he thinks upon the Claimant's land there were from 120 to 150 Acres cleared, fenced & in Cultivation being planted every Year with Indigo & provisions. [294] In general they were planted together. About one third was Corn & the rest Indigo. That he thinks in about four Years Land of this description usually became so foul with weeds that it must be thrown out as an Indigo plantation & could be used only for provisions or Pasture; but he don't recollect how long the Claimant's Land had borne Indigo when he quitted it. That the number of Negroes upon the Claimant's plantation might have completely cleared 150 Acres in 3 Years. That the Cleared Land was all Hamock none of the Marsh Land was drained; That he thinks these two tracts considering the proportion of low Land would have Employed 60 working hands for ever. Says That he last saw the Plantation on Wood cutter's Creek in 1776 & it had then been abandoned as a plantation & the Negroes removed from there to the Timoka Plantation. It was used for the pasture of Stock which he apprehends belonged to Gov^r Moultrie. Says That he was present at the running of the Two Tracts upon St: Cecilia's Creek in 1770 & has never seen [295] them since. Says That he knows the Land upon which the five Acre tract stood, it was not of any great Value.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

Mr WILLIAM MOSS,⁷⁷ Witness, Sworn: Says

That he went from Georgia to East Florida arrived there in April 1776, & came from thence to England in 1778, returned in 1779 & stayed till after the Cession. That he was several times upon the claimant's tracts upon the Timoka river about 2 years before the cession. That he went over the plantations & only took a general view of them. That he had a Plantation on St Cecilia Creek about a Mile distant from the Claimant's Tracts there; that he frequently went there & no part of it was then under Cultivation by the Claimant's Negroes. Part of the Tract on the South side was cultivated by Mr Imrie; part of the North side had been cultivated by one Mr Moses & he (the Witness) afterwards had permission from Governor Moultrie to Cultivate it Upon the North side there were [296] no Buildings; upon

⁷⁷ William Moss went from Georgia to East Florida in 1776 and soon bought and settled on a plantation not far from Lieutenant-Governor John Moultrie's plantation, "Bella Vista," which was five or six miles from St. Augustine. He was agent for Jermyn Wright, the brother of Governor Sir James Wright of Georgia. He seems to have dealt in lumber, and with Thomas and James Moss to have owned ships. In 1778, William Moss made a voyage to Liverpool, returning in the following year. In March, 1781, he was elected a member of the commons house of assembly. One of his vessels, bound for England, was wrecked on the bar of St. Augustine in the winter of 1783. In May, 1785, he sold the schooner *Providence* of sixty tons burden to Francis Levett for £237 10 s. He left East Florida probably soon thereafter. See *post*, pp. 229, 231, 232; C. O. 5/572; *Second Report*, Bureau of Archives, Ont., 1904, pt. II. 727; Additional Notes, *post*, p. 307.

the South side there was a Barn & a Dwelling House which he understood had been built by Mr Imrie. Says That he has been over most of the tracts on Wood Cutter's Creek, but don't know any particulars respecting it. That he knows nothing more of the Claimant's property.

[Witness's confirmation and signature.]

[297]

No. 38 . . .

The Memorial of Stephen White
late of East Florida Inn Keeper, Dealer, and Horse hirer

Sheweth That your Memorialist resided in the Province of East Florida above Nineteen years, as an Inn & Publick house keeper, Dealer, and Horse hirer—first at St Augustine, and afterwards at the town of St John's; and by his honest Industry acquired to himself and family a comfortable living, and likewise some Property. That of the said Property—both Real and Personal—an Appraisement was taken in the Province and a Schedule made—which will be laid before this Hon^{ble} Board. But on this Subject he begs to represent that the value of the Property as set down in said Schedule was by no means Adequate to the worth of it at the time and still less did it [298] compensate for the Loss of it to the Memorialist and his family. A new House erected on the Premises by the Memorialist in consequence of, and to suit his Accomodation to, the Influx of new Inhabitants from the Evacuations of Georgia and Carolina Actually cost more money than the whole stands valued at in said Schedule—without considering the nature or importance of a Freehold Estate, transmittable to Posterity: producing then a good Income and every day rising into Still higher estimation from the fast increasing Population of that part of the Province, and the increase of Trade in Consequence. But this is—with all due deference—submitted to the Hon^{ble} Commissioners, and the whole of his losses in Estate both real and personal will more particularly appear in the schedule annexed.

[Concluding petition and signature.]

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Schedule . . .

Real Estate

No 1.

A large Bay Lot of land in the Town of St John's—Freehold with a large new dwelling House, Kitchen Stables, Store house &c a