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Balt Coty Nov 8th 1790

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May it please Your Excellency

Permit me to state a few of the facts referred to in my Petition. Braham stole from Daniel Curfman 30 pounds of salt Pork, Curfman has a Mill & then sold Whiskey by Retail, The theft was discovered by Benedict Hurst, who lives by a tipling house. These two obliged Braham to sell all his Substance for a small part of the Value. I will set before You an Instance or two that You may guess the Rest, Curfman bought two Cows, worth 10 or 12 pounds for the Ostensive price of £6, the real Price was but £3. & part of that paid in Gills of Whiskey. Hurst bought 12 Hogs, six of them above a Year Old for thirty Shillings, and that sum was partly paid in Country Rum at Sixpence a Gill, & part is still unpaid. I had ordered Braham to remove, but on hearing this, I permitted him to Stay. Those who plundered him, Curfman & Hurst in a Short time fell out, fought & went to law, & Hurst informed against Curfman for Compounding a felony, Prosecutions then Commenced against Curfman & against Braham, That against Curfman fell to Nothing for want of Evidence, Braham's has been Continued near two Years. Braham is useful to me, I have prevailed with him to attend the Meetings of the Methodists, he is now taken with their Religion & professes himself a Convert. The Methodists a peaceable he is an Altered man, Before this Conversion he was Seldom seen in Day time. It is not my Custom to protect nor plead for thieves, But lest I seem to betray him by his Religion into the hands of the Sheriff, I entreat Your Excellency to show him a Mercy & remain

Your most obed
most humble Serv
Jas Calder

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