

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Virginia
The Petition of Robert Bristow a Subject of the Kingdom of
Great Britain By Richard M. Scott of Virginia his Attorney
most respectfully sheweth

That before or about the year 1749 his father Robert Bristow became the proprietor of several large tracts of valuable Land in the then Colony but now State of Virginia. That a great portion of it was situate in the County of Gloucester and about 7500 acres of the Land in the County of Prince William, known in that County by the name of the Bristow Tract. That his said Father many years before the fourth of July 1776 removed to England, where he resided until some time in the month of December 1776, when he died, leaving by his Will his Property in Virginia to your Petitioner, which Will is duly recorded in the County Court of Prince William. That in the month of July 1773 your Petitioner was born in England, and was about three years old at the time of his fathers death. That in the month of May 1779 the Legislature of this State passed two laws, the one concerning the escheat and forfeiture of the Property of British Subjects, and the other prescribing the duty of Escheators, under these two laws the High Sheriff of Prince William County proceeded in the year 1779 to escheat the Land in that County.

Under a former law of 1777 for sequestering the Property of British Subjects; the rents of this Land and the proceeds of the residue of your Petitioners Property in Virginia to a very large amount was paid into the Treasury of the State.

Your Petitioner further states that at the time the proceedings were had in the year 1779 against the Land in Prince William County, he was not more than six years of age, which proceedings were ex parte and unknown to any friend of his who could have asserted and defended his interest. That it will appear from the said proceedings in Prince William, the Property was not considered to belong to your Petitioner, but it was proceeded against as