

State of New
Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} Committee of Safety of the State of
New Hampshire Convened at Exeter Sep^r 24th 1778

Humbly Sheweth Nathaniel Hovey of Melhan in the
in Said State Gentleman

That your Petitioner has long before and ever since the
Declaration of the Independency of the United States of America
upon the Crown and Kingdom of Great Britain, demeaned and behaved
himself as a good true and faithful Subject of the Said State of New
Hampshire, and as such has by all Lawful means in his Power
Endeavoured to uphold support and Defend the Honour Dignity and
Sovereignty of the Said State, whereby he hath rendered himself obno-
xious to the resentments of many persons whom he judges to be Enemies
to the peace & good order of said State

That on or about the 5th day of August last past your Peti-
tioner Solicited and Obtained from the General Court of Said State, an
Act to Incorporate the said Township of Melhan as a body Politick
& Corporate to have Succession forever with the same Privileges
and Immunities as other Towns have and enjoy — which although
greatly for the Benefit of the Proprietors & Inhabitants of Said
Township, your Petitioner Supposes has also Offended the Persons
aforesaid

That on the second day of September Instant one
John Lapsell & one Nehemiah Easterbrook both of Said Melhan
who called themselves Select men of Enfield in the (Pretended) State
of Vermont & one Nathan Bicknell who called himself Constable of
Said Enfield & John Lyman, Elias Lyman, Elisha Bingham, Ezra
Perkins, Benjamin Rowell, Elisha Colley, Timothy Owen, & Daniel
Owen all of Melhan aforesaid with others under pretence of Authority
Derived from the Said Pretended State of Vermont, Did in a riotous
Routorous and Unlawful manner with force and Arms Assemble them-
selves together at the Dwelling house of your Petitioner in Melhan
aforesaid, and then & there with force, ~~and~~ aforesaid did take
~~him in prison~~ ^{detain} against his will for the space of about six hours,
bind and imprison your Petitioner, and then & there with force a-
foresaid did ~~take~~ strip, and carry away from your Petitioner's
house all his wearing Apparel, Provisions Household Furniture

and other things, an Inventory of which is herewith Exhibited, and the same Goods and Effects aforesaid, together with your Petitioner Carried away to Lebanon in said County of Grafton, and there Delivered him and his said Goods & Effects to one Nathaniel Storrs who called himself Constable of Lebanon, who then at Lebanon aforesaid with force as aforesaid took your Petitioner with his said Goods & Effects and carried him and them to Hanover in said County of Grafton and there disposed of the said Goods and Effects to his own use, and detained the body of your Petitioner a Prisoner there for the space of ten hours under pretence of a warrant from one Justice Wheathy, against the will of your Petitioner, Against the Peace of said State of New-Hampshire and Contrary to Law —

That your Petitioner often requested of the said Bicknell and Storrs a copy of their several & respective (Pretended) Warrants, but each of them severally refused ^{him} the same, whereby he is under the necessity of Applying to your honours for Protection & Direction in the Premises.

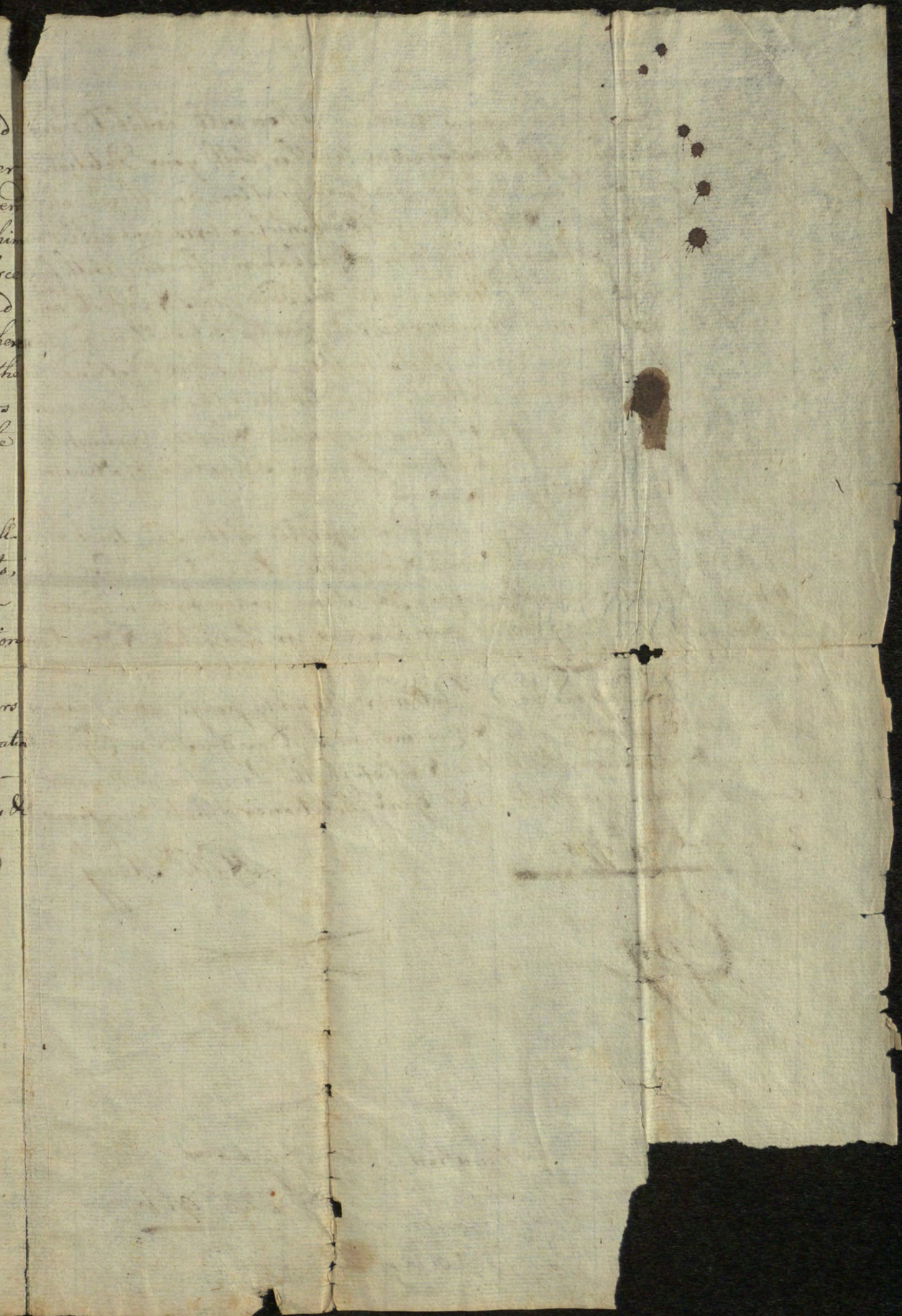
Wherefore your Petitioner Humbly prays your honours to take his Deploable case & Circumstances under your wise Consideration and Grant him such Protection & relief in the Premises as to your honours shall seem Meete, And your Petitioner shall ever pray &
Exeter Sept^r 24th 1778

Nath^l Hovey

Copy

The amount of the Disbursements above
referred to —

£722. 9. 6 —



the same
referred to

Copy of
the original