Appendix, No. 15. (A.) with a Plan.

## MY LORDS,

Office of Woods, \&c. 14th April 1829.
WE beg leave to transmit to Your Lordships herewith Copy of a Letter we lately received from Mr. Green, our Solicitor, inclosing two bills, which were sometime since transmitted to him by Mr. Miller, of Bedford Row, Solicitor, one amounting to $\mathcal{L} .43$. 18. 4. in respect of business done in the investigation of a Claim, which he had been advised to institute on behalf of the Crown, to certain lands at Rye; and the other for £.27.8. for his professional assistance in establishing the title of the Crown to a considerable tract of Derelict Land near Hastings, which bas within these few years been taken possession of by a number of persons who have erected a great many Houses and other Buildings thereon, without any authority from Your Lordships, or from this

No. 15. (A.)
Letter to Treasury requesting payment of Bill due to Mr. Miller, Solicitor, for Business in relation to the derelict Lands at Hastings. Department, for so doing, or paying any rent to the Crown for the ground in acknowledgement of the Crown's title thereto.

The last-mentioned lands adjoin to the town of Hastings, under the Western Cliff, and occupy a space of nearly a quarter of a mile in length and 500 yards in width, which from its situation and appearance was, without doubt, formerly part of the sea shore, upon which the sea in its ordinary tides used to flow and reflow; the Cliff, immediately under which it is situated, bearing evident marks of having formed the ancient barricr against the sea, and of having been in former times overflowed by the daily and ordinary tides; but that by the accumulation of the shingles the sea has gradually receded, leaving the ground in question waste, and for very many years totally unproductive.

The great increase, however, which has taken place in the population of the town of Hastings, within these twenty years, having created a great demand for Building Ground in the neighbourhood of the town, the land was gradually encroached upon by the erection of Buildings thereon; some under leases, or with the permission of Lord Chichester, who claimed the whole of the ground as owner or lord of the rape or hundred of Hastings, under a Grant thereof in the reign of James the First; and others with the sanction of the Corporation of Hastings, who clamed that part of the land which lies within the liberty of the town, under a Grant made to the Corporation in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and small rents or acknowledgments were praid to his Lordship and to the Corporation by several of the parties by whom the Buildings were erected.

Having, some years since, received information that by neither of these Grants was the ground in question conveyed either to Lord Chichester, or to the Corporation of Hastings, but that the whole would be found to belong to the Crown, we laid a case, in the year 1826 , before the Law Officers for their opinion, as to the most eligible mode of proceeding for the establishment of the title of the Crown thereto; and under their advice an inquisition was taken at Batte, on the 6th of December 1827, when the ground in question, consisting of Two Parcels, one marked (A.) on the annexed Plany, containing 7A. 1r. 10 P ., and the other marked (B.), containing 1 A. \& 39 P., was found and declared to have been in former times covered with the sea, and to be Waste Land not within the bounds of any Manor or Manors, and unoccupied until within 60 years, within which period many Buildings have been erected thereon withont any License, Lease, or Grant of any description from the Crown, and that therefore the inquest had caused the same to be seized into the hands of His Majesty.
We have not yet been able to bring the claim to the property at Rye to the same satisfactory termination ; but as Mr. Millers's bills are certified to us by Mr. Green to be fair and reasonable, and further, that he afforded him great assistance in collecting evidence in support of His Majesty's title to the property at Hastings, and in making the necessary arrangements for holding the inquisition, we beg leave to recommend that we may be nuthorized to pay the same, amounting together to the sum of $\mathfrak{£}, 71,6,4$.

> We are, my Lords,
> $\quad$ Your Lordships' most obedient servants,

To the Right IIon, the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

## LOWTHER.

W. 1). ADAMS.

Appendix, No. 15. (B.)

MY LORDS,
Office of Woods, \&c. 31 st December 1829.

No. 15. (B)
Report from Commissioners of Woods, \&c. to Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury of the Agreements for Leases entered into with the Tenants of the Derelict Lands at Has. tings, County of Sussex, and requesting a Warrant for the same.

N our Report to Your Lordships, dated the 14 th of April last, on the application then made by Mr. Miller, of Bedford-row, Solicitor, for payment of his bill for his professional assistance in establishing the title of the Crown to a considerable tract of Derelict Land at Hastings, lying under the Western Cliff, near the lands called The Priory, on which a number of Houses had been erected by various persons without any authority for that purpose, we stated the particulars attending the discovery of the property in question, and the steps we had taken for establishing the title of the Crown thereto. Since that time we have caused an accurate survey to be made of the whole of the property, by Messrs. Driver, our Surveyors for that District, when we directed them not merely to certify the present state and value of the whole of the Houses and other Buildings erected on the land, and the names of the holders of them, but also to state the circumstances under which they came into their possession; whether as the original occupiers of the land, on which they afterwards erected Buildings; or as the purchasers of the Buildings from the parties who originally built them; and what sums they paid for the same; in order that we might judge what terms it would be equitable to grant them on their relinquishing entirely the Premises they respectively held; or on their taking Leases thereof for such periods as it might be judged advisable to grant of the property.

When that survey was completed, we directed Mr. Driver to proceed to Hastings, and, with the assistance of Mr. Crawley, one of the partners of Mr. Green, our Solicitor, to endeavour to make agreements with the whole of the parties, and in particular with Messrs. Breeds, of Hastings, who held a very large proportion of the property, for Leases of the Premises respectively held by them, for the term of seven years from Christmas 1828 , with instructions to inquire minutely into the circumstances attending each particular case, and to apportion the rent accordingly; it being specially stipulated, that at the end of the proposed term the parties should deliver up the whole of the Premises in good tenantable repair, without having any claim whatever for compensation for any Sums they might have previously laid out in the improvement of the property.

Messrs. Crawley and Driver accordingly proceeded to Hastings in the month of April last; and after much negotiation with Messrs. Breeds and the other parties, agreements were finally entered into with the whole of them for Leases of the Premises they respectively held for the before-mentioned term of seven years; and we now beg leave to lay the following Statement before Your Lordships, in which we have given a brief description of the Premises, with the annual value thereof, and the Rents agreed to be paid by the respective Lessees for the same.

These Rents, it will be seen, amount to nearly one half of the annual value of the Premises; and when it is considered that many of the parties erected Buildings under agreements with Lord Chichester or the Corporation of Hastings, who they believed were entitled to the ground in question, while others laid out large sums in the purchase of these Premises from the original holders, in the confidence that they had a title to dispose of them, we hope Your Lordships will agree with us in thinking, that in the arrangement we have made with them, the parties have been treated with a proper degree of lenity and liberality, while we shall have succeeded in acquiring, on behalf of the Crown, the undisputed possession, at the end of seven years, of a very valuable Estate, from which no profit or income whatever has hitherto been derived by the Crown.

Appendix, No. 15. (B.)-Report of Commissioners on Derelict Lands at Hastings-continued.


Appendix, No. 15. (B.)-Report of Commissioners on Derelict Lands at Hastings-'continued.

| $\begin{gathered} \text { NAMES OF THE PERSONS } \\ \text { with whom } \\ \text { Agreements for Leases have been made, } \\ \text { (all of Hastings, } \\ \text { except where otherwise described.) } \end{gathered}$ | DESCRIPTION OF THE PREMISES. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ ( An | NNUAL VALUE <br> of the premises. | RENTS <br> agreed to be paid for <br> the same. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Daniel Thomas - Publican - T | $\left.\begin{array}{r}\text { Two Timber Cottages and Tenement, with Yards, } \& \mathrm{c} \cdot ; \\ \mathrm{N}^{\mathrm{sis}} \\ 3^{2}, 15 \& 168 \text { in the Survey }\end{array}\right\}$ | £. s. ${ }^{\text {d }}$. $27-\mathrm{l}$ | $\begin{array}{ccc} £_{:} & \text {s. } & \text { d. } \\ 13 & - & - \end{array}$ |
| William Hyland - - Carpenter - T | Timber Cottage in four Tenements - $\mathrm{N}^{0} 110$ in ditto | 2812 - | 13 - |
| Moses Masters - - Shipwright - T | Timber House and Cottage, Garden and Fore Court; $\quad \mathrm{N}^{\mathrm{n} s} 6 \& 160$ in ditto $\}$ | 2918 - | 13 - - |
| John Mannington - Shipowner - B | Blacksmith's Forge, timber-built and tiled; $\mathrm{N}^{\circ} 69$ in ditto | 20 | $13-$ |
| William Wellard - Butcher - S | Several brick-built and timber-built Stables, with a large inclosed Yard and Piggeries; $\mathrm{N}^{\omega_{5}} 100,101$ \& 102 in ditto | $35-$ | 12 - |
| Thomas Thorne - . Bricklayer - A | A Brick House . . . - No 163 in ditto | 20 - - | 12 |
| George Strickland - Corn Factor T | Two Brick and Plastered Houses, and inclosed Yards; ? Nos $175 \& 179$ in dittof | 2016 | 12 - |
| Thomas Page - Rope Maker | Brick House and small Fore Court, Brick and Timber Cottage, Wash-house and Garden; $\mathrm{N}^{0 \mathbf{s}} 10,23 \& 135$ | 33 - | 12 - |
| James Hilder - - Miller * | Two Houses and Garden . . $\mathrm{N}^{08} 16 \& 17$ in ditto | 2818 - | 12 - |
| John Daly - . - Servant |  | 26 - - | 12 |
| Mary Brazier * - Widow | New brick-built House, with two other Buildings; $\mathrm{N}^{\circ}{ }_{19}$ in dittof | 40 - - | 10 - - |
| John Elphick - - Labourer | Stone-built House and Garden and Shop; $\left.\begin{array}{r}N^{09} 104 \text { in ditto } \\ 105\end{array}\right\}$ | $146-$ | 10 - |
| George Hyland * - - ditto | Timber House in two Tenements and Yard; $\left.\begin{array}{c}N^{\circ} 19 \\ \text { in ditto }\end{array}\right\}$ | 2016 - | 10 - |
| William Hall - $\left\{\begin{array}{c}\text { Servant to Lucas } \\ \text { Shadwell, Esq. }\end{array}\right\}$ | $\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { Brick and Timber Cottage in two Tenements, and Fore } \\ \text { Court }\end{array}\right\}$ | 26 - | 10 - |
| John Prior - - Brewer | Two brick-built Tenements and Wash-house; $\mathrm{N}^{\mathrm{os}} 25,7$ $149 \& 150$ in ditto $\}$ | 2414 | 10 - |
| William Longley - Tax Collector | Two Brick Cottages - - ${ }^{\circ} 1$ in ditto | 1910 | 9 |
| $\left.\begin{array}{c}\text { Wm Hy Honiss \& } \\ \text { Edwid Honiss }\end{array}\right\}$ Cabinet Makers | Timber-built House - . ${ }^{\text {- }} 162$ in ditto | $20-$ | 9 - |
| James Hyland - Labourer | $\left.\begin{array}{r}\text { Brick Cottage, and Brick and Timber Cottage; } \mathrm{N}^{\circ 9} 92, \\ \& 93 \text { in ditto }\}\end{array}\right\}$ | $1814-$ | 9 |
| James Brazier - - Shoemaker - | Two Brick Dwelling-houses - NJos 127 \& 129 in ditto | $20-$ | 8 - |
| James Ball - - Wheelwright | An inclosed Yard - - ${ }^{0}{ }_{153}$ in ditto | 8 - - | 8 - - |
| Samuel Cutting - - Carpenter | Cottage, called Neptune Cottage, and Shed; $\left.\mathrm{N}^{\circ} 277\right\}$ | 14 - | 8 - |
| George George - - Labourer | Two Timber Stables, Shed and Yard; $\left.\begin{array}{r}N^{\circ s} \\ 46 \text { in ditto }\end{array}\right\}$ | 16 - - | 8 - |
| Richard Lulham - - - ditto | New Brick and Timber House .- - ${ }^{0} 137$ in ditto | $184-$ | 8 |
| Joseph Lively - - Coachman | Brick and Timber House, with Stable and Yard;? No 1 у 6 in ditto | $20-$ | 8 |
| William Piper - - Fisherman | Brick House in two Tenements - - ${ }^{\circ} 126$ in ditto | 184 | 8 - - |
| Edward Paul - - Mariner | Timber Dwelling and Yard - - N0 16 g in ditto | 12 | - 8 - - |
| Samuel Surden - - Rope Maker | Two Brick Cottages, Yard and Piggery; ${ }^{0} 04$ in ditto | 184 | 8 - - |
| John Swain - - - Eisherman - | $\left.\begin{array}{r}\left.\text { Brick and Timber Cottage in two Tenements; } \mathrm{Na}^{\circ} 7\right\} \\ \text { in ditto }\end{array}\right\}$ | 184 | 8 |
| Thomas Thorpe - - Ostler | Brick House and Yard - - ${ }^{\circ}{ }_{113}$ in ditto | 12 | 8 |
| Henry Thwaites - - Grocer | Brick House and Yard - - $\mathrm{N}^{0} 187$ in ditto | 1512 | - 7 - - |
| Charles Baker - - Carpenter | Brick Dweiling and Yard - - $\mathrm{N}^{0} 182$ in ditto | 16 - | 7 |
| $\text { Edw }{ }^{d} \text { Bowmer - }-\left\{\begin{array}{c} \text { Block and } \\ \text { Mast Maker } \end{array}\right\}$ | \} Timber-built Cottage and Yard - No 50 in ditto | 10 - | 6 |
| Elizabeth Fowlers - Widow - | - Brick and Timber House and Yard - No 170 in ditio | 1114 | - 6 - - |
| Thomas Ranger - - Shoemaker - | Blacksmith's Shop, and another Shop and Loft; $\mathrm{N}^{\circ}{ }_{1}{ }^{165}$ in ditto $\}$ | ) 14.16 | 6-- |
| Edward Stevens, Livery Stable Keeper | er Brick House and small Yard -- N ${ }^{0} 59$ in ditto | 16 | - 6 - - |
| William Vine - - - Bricklayer - | - Brick Cottage . - . ${ }^{0} 55$ in ditto | 12 | - 6 - - |
| George West - - Carpenter | Timber House and Yard - = ${ }^{0} 177$ in ditto |  | - 6 - - |
| Thomas Waters .- - Sawyer | Timber Cottage, Yard and Shed - $\mathrm{N}^{0 \mathbf{s}} 9 \& 44$ in ditto | 816 | 5 |
| Thomas Squires - - Butcher | Double Timber Slaughter-house and Piggery, another Slaughter-house and Shed; $\mathrm{N}^{\mathrm{os}^{3}}{ }^{1} 73,174 \& 180$ in ditto | \} $20-$ | 5 - - |
| Thomas Cobbey - - Mariner | Cottage - . . - No 133 in ditto | 108 | 5 |
| William Brazier, sen, Shoemaker . | - Cottage, tiled, and wooden Stable; $\mathrm{N}^{o_{5}} 3^{8}$ \& 141 in ditto | 12 | - 5-- |

Appendix, No. 15. (B.)-Report of Commissioners on Deretict Lands at Hastings-continued.


Having given Your Lordships this detailed Statement of the arrangement we have made for the disposal of this large Estate, we beg leave to recommend that we may be authorized, by Your Lordships' warrant, to grant Leases to such of the before-mentioned parties as may choose to call for them, and their executors, administrators and assigns, of the respective premises held by them for a term of seven years, to be computed from Christmas 1828, on payment of the different sums before stated, amounting in all to $£ .1,408$; the same to be paid free and clear from all taxes and charges whatever; in addition to which we have stipulated, that if Leases shall be called for by any of the parties (which hitherto has been done by only three of them, Mr. Thomas James Breeds, Mr. Thomas Breeds and Mr. Mark Boykett Breeds), that the whole expense attending the preparing and passing of them shall be borne by the parties, without any deduction being made from the respective rents agreed to be paid by them on account thereof.
We beg leave further to submit, as only three of the parties (Messrs. Breeds), have desired to have Leases granted of the premises held by them; and as it is doubtful whether the other parties will not be satisfied with holding under the agreements for Leases before referred to ; that the warrant, though applying to the whole of the property, should be charged with merely the fees for the three Leases agreed for; it being understood that if any other Leases shall be called for, the parties shall pay the same fees as if special warrants were issued for each of their Leases.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { We are, my Lords, } \\
& \text { Your Lordships' most obedient servants, }
\end{aligned}
$$

The Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

LOWTHER.
W. D. ADAMS.

Appendix, No. 15. (B.)-Report of Commissioners on Debelict Lands at Hastings-continued.

No. 1.-A PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION of Phemises referred to in the aforegoing Report.


Appendix, No. 15. (B.)-Report of Commissioners on Derelict Lands at Hastings-contimued.

No. 2.-A PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION of Premises referred to in the aforegoing Report.


