

To His Grace

The Duke of Northumberland

gc. gc. gc.

Wm Channing, of
Broad Sts -

Rec from his Grace,
17 Nov. 1821.

My Lord Ogby,

I had the honor of
addressing your Grace, on the subject
of my existing agreement for the
Farm at the Wood Oak: since
which, I am informed, thro' your Grace's
Commissioners, that in order to obtain
a release from my engagement, I
must agree to pay half the difference
between the present Rent of £205
per annum, and the amount of the
different progressive Rents for the
remainder of the term, amounting to
the sum of £546, 5.0.

This, your Grace will perceive, is, in
itself, no relief; for, supposing it was
in my power to raise such a sum
as £546, 5.0, it would, at the termination
of the Lease, amount to a sum nearly
equivalent to the gradual payment
of the progressive increase of Rent, and
is, in effect, as ruinous to me, as
enforcing the full performance of my
agreement could be: from my circumstances,
independent of any other consideration,
the

the payment of such a sum would be impossible, without destroying the means of providing for myself and family, and I venture respectfully to draw your Grace's attention to the following observations:

This Farm is the first one I have held under your Grace, and consequently I am not in the situation of an individual who, having realised a property in better times, from the favorable terms on which he held his Farm, might fairly be called on to contribute a portion of that property to free himself from a ruinous Lease.

That, although for the first four years the annual rental was £190, part from the sums expended by me in improvements, I have never enjoyed any benefit, or advantage, from the Farm, from the circumstance of the soil cleared, being of an inferior, and sandy nature; perfectly distinct from what was contemplated, and totally unfit for the growth of Corn; and, in fact, in some years, the Corn was not, in some places, even cut.

That since I took the farm, my burthens have been increased to the amount of about £30 per annum, poor's rate paid to the former Tenants, who

who have been driven to the necessity
of seeking that relief.

That I have never realised more,
than merely met the charge against
the Farm; and now from the increase
of Rent, and the depression of every
description of Agricultural produce,
it is impossible for me to avoid that
ruin, the approach of which, under
such circumstances, is gradual, but
certain.

The Father of a large family,
I am most anxious to obtain the
means of providing for their want;
and, as the unfortunate circumstance
under which I am placed, has not
arisen from want of Industry,
Skill in Husbandry, or proceeded
from my own misconduct, I again
venture to appeal to your Grace,
and in praying that I may be
released from my agreement, I
feel confidence in the recollection
of the line adopted by your Grace's
late Noble Father, as well as
yourself, in not holding the individual
answerable for events, or circumstances,
human skill could not control.

I

I have the honor to be
My Lord Duke
Your Grace
Most obedient and
Most humble servant

William Charlton

To His Grace the Duke of Northumberland Etc. Etc. Etc

William Charlton of Broad Oaks

The ***** his *****

17th November 1821

My Lord Duke

I had the honour of addressing your Grace, on the subject of my existing agreement for the Farm at Broad Oak since which I am informed thro' your Grace's *Commissioners* that in order to obtain a release from any engagement, I must agree to pay half the difference between the present rent of £205 per annum, and the amount of the different progressive rents for the remainder of the term amounting to the sum of £546, 5, 0.

This, your Grace will perceive, is, in itself, no relief, for, supposing it was in my power to have such a sum as £546, 5, 0, it would, at the termination of the lease, amount to a sum nearly equivalent to the gradual payment of the progressive increase of rent and is, in effect, as ruinous to me, as enforcing the full performance of my agreement could be; from my circumstances independent of any other consideration the payment of such a sum would be impossible, without destroying the means of providing for myself and my family and I venture respectfully to draw your Grace's attention to the following observations;

This farm is the first one I have held under your Grace, and consequently I am not in the situation of an individual who, having realised property in better times, from the favourable terms on which he held his farm, might fairly be called on to contribute a portion of that property to free himself from a ruinous lease.

That, although for the first four years the annual rental was £190, yet from the sums expended by me in improvements, I have never enjoyed any benefit, or advantage, from the farm, from the circumstance of the soil cleared, being of an inferior and sandy nature, perfectly distinct from what was contemplated and totally unfit for the growth of corn; and, in fact, in some years, the corn was not, in some places, even cut.

That, since I took the farm, my burthens (*archaic form of the word burdens*) have been increased to the amount of about £30 per annum, poors rate paid to the former tenants who have been driven to the necessity of seeking that relief.

That I have never realised more, than merely must be the charges against the farm, and now from the increase of Rent, and the depression of every description of agricultural produce, it is impossible for me to avoid that ruin, the approach of which, under such circumstances, is gradual, but certain.

The father of a large family, I am most anxious to retain the means of providing for their wants, and, as the unfortunate circumstances under which I am placed, has not arisen from want of industry, skill in husbandry, or proceeded from my own misconduct, I again venture to appeal to your Grace, and in praying that I may be released from my agreement, I feel confidence in the recollection of the line adopted by your Grace's late noble father, as well as yourself, in not holding the individual answerable for events, or circumstances, human skill could not control.

I have the honour to be
My Lord Duke

Your Grace's

Most obedient and most humble servant

William Charlton