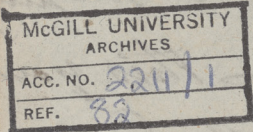


To His Excellency Sir James Kempt &c



The Memorial of James Dawson
of Pictou Nova Scotia, Humbly Sheweth

That your Memorialist holds a Commis-
sion from the Underwriters at Lloyd's to act as
their agent in this plan and vicinity, leaving
Date 18th June 1828 — That on the 20th Ultimo
your memorialist received information of the
Stranding or Loss of a Brig on the Prince
Island, with a General Assorted Cargo Said
to be from London or Liverpool, bound to
Quebec or Montreal, and which vessel and
Cargo was totally abandoned by the Master
& Crew — Your Memorialist Deeming
it to be his duty to repair ^{for the Protection of the Property} instantly to
the Spot ^{or} without loss of time hired
a small vessel and proceeded to the
Magdalen Islands where he had been in-
formed a part of the Cargo had been carried
by the inhabitants of those Islands,
Your Memorialist after having called
at Chedoke in the Island of Cape Breton
whether a part of ~~the~~ the Goods had also
been carried by some sealing vessels —
arrived at Anvers Harbour on the 29th
Ult where he found Goods to the value of
£5000 or upwards had been landed from

the wreck, that the Salvors were Bussily
Employed in Saving and Converting the Property
and its proceeds to their own use - This your
Memorialist Protested against and offered the
holders of the remaining property Lawfull
Salvage if they would resign the Property
into his hands, that he might make the
most of it for the Benefit of the Under-
writers and all concerned - This they
Positively refused to comply with and from
the whole of their declarations and Conduct
it appeared to your Memorialist they
were determined to hold the whole Pro-
perty.

In this Emergency your Memorialist
waited on P F Colbeck Esq the only
Magistrate in the Island, and Claimed his
Assistance and protection, but was Sur-
prised to find that he and the Salvors had
such an understanding together that he advised
them to resist me, and he farther Threatened
myself with Personal violence before
many witnesses.

Under such Circumstances your Me-
morialist had no other resource left but to
Lay a Statement of the Facts before your
Excellency - and in the Name of the Under-
writers, and all concerned crave your

Excellency immediate interposition. So that
an investigation may be instituted with
a view to bring the Delinquents to justice
and prevent the recurrence of similar
abuses of Trust in this remote Agency
of your Government

In saying such a Statement before
your Excellency your memorialist will
chiefly confine his ^{remarks} observations to such Points
as have come under his own observation
merely glancing at such as have been
reported to him by others

Your memorialist then can state as
a certain fact that P F Coburn Esq has
been in the Habit for a length of time
past of calling himself Slays Agents
and under the Collour of this name, taken
upon himself to advise Shipmasters and
other representatives of Shipwrecked pro-
perty, and award Exorbitant Salvages to
the plunderers, to the great Damage of the
Individuities and all concerned - on these
occasions he is frequently the Auctioneer and
he and some other individuals with whom
he is concerned in this Trade and whom
he selects for Surveyors are always the
principal Purchasers - on the present
occasion the conduct of this individual can
not fail to appear very Extraordinary,

to your Excellency - he Suffered the whole of
the valuable Property brought in by 9 or
10 vessels belonging to the Island from the
wreck to be landed and a Great part
of it to be converted to Private use and
Consumption without taking any
Notice of either the Collector of Customs or
as a Justice of the Peace, but under the
Assumed name of Agent for Lloyd he had
Sold off a Large part of the Property, (altho
Develict) and he together with one young
and one Muncy with whom he is con-
-cerned became the Principal Purchasers
of the Goods at Prices not amounting to
a Marty of what they would have Sold
for in Pictou - He called himself Lloyd's
Agent to your Memorialist but upon being
unable to Show any authority for so doing
he retraced, and your Memorialist has
Good Reason to Believe that he either ^{advises} con-
-victs at or is concerned in the Unwarrant-
-able Line of conduct which the Salvors
of this property is Pursuing

Your Memorialist humbly conceives that
by no fair construction of the Laws relating to
Salvage can the Salvors demand their own
Share of the Salvage ~~but in this instance~~ ^{the whole to their}
own use - ~~while others after~~ ^{had} ~~the Salvors~~ ^{had} applied a large part
of the property to their own use