

To the Honourable the General Assembly of Virginia

Your petitioners respectfully represent that at the fall term of the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery holden for the County of Palaski in the year 1839 a Commissioner of forfeited and delinquent lands was appointed for the County of Palaski, who sometime thereafter proceeded to sell certain lands lying in said County which had become forfeited to the Commonwealth by reason of the owners thereof having failed to cause them to be entered upon the Books of the Commissioner of the Revenue and taxed according to Law, and that at the sale aforesaid your petitioners became the purchasers of a large tract of land and have paid the whole of the purchase money, your petitioners would further represent that in the several reports made to Court and to the Auditor of Public accounts by the said Commissioner he, for the want of correct information (the original owners not having furnished any but rather by acts of omission concealing the true state of their titles) represented all the lands he sold as having been patented to one Samuel M. Crow, when in fact others had become the patentees by assignments from said M. Crow and that although these lands were at the time of such sale well known and identified and that no manner of doubt is entertained about their having been forfeited to the Commonwealth & not redeemed, they never having been entered upon the Books of the Commissioner of the Revenue although patented more than fifty years ago, yet your petitioners entertain some fears lest in consequence of the aforementioned statements & representations made by the Commissioner in his reports aforesaid and his appointment having been

made at the fall term of the Superior Court in 1839 instead of the fall term in 1837, their legal title to said land may be called in question, their peaceful possession of it disturbed and they and others finally become involved in endless litigation, To remedy which and to remove all doubt upon the subject, your petitioners pray that a law may be passed explanatory of the 3<sup>d</sup> Section of the act passed the 30 March 1837, declaring that the said act shall be construed to confer upon the said Superior Courts the power and authority to make such appointments at the fall terms of said Courts in the year 1837 or at any subsequent term of said Courts thereafter, or declaring that the appointment of a Commissioner of forfeited and delinquent lands made by the Circuit Superior Court of Law & Chancery for the County of Pulaski at its fall term in the year 1839 and all acts done by him by virtue of such appointment, shall be as good and as effectual in law as if such appointment had been made at any other time, and declaring further that such lands shall not be resold by the Commissioner of forfeited and delinquent lands unless for a subsequent forfeiture but that all the right title and interest which the Commonwealth or Military fund may have acquired by such forfeiture in such lands by reason of such forfeiture shall be as fully vested in the purchaser or purchasers under the sale aforesaid as if the names of the patentees and the true state of the title of said lands had been correctly reported by the Commissioner who sold the same and as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Michael Rogers  
for & in behalf of

Petition  
of  
Brown & Safford;

Petition of Michael  
Brown & Harmon  
Safford, praying  
for the passage of  
a act, explanatory  
of an act passed  
30<sup>th</sup> March 1837, entitled  
and act to amend  
& explain the laws concern-  
ing western land  
titles and for other  
purposes;

Wash

Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 1843

ref. to C<sup>o</sup>. J