

Mills worked therewith, is no longer used by the Patentees to serve any of His Majesty's Subjects with Water from the Thames, or other Water, for which Purpose the said Letters Patent were granted; and their Works in the Sewers have been and are both inconvenient and prejudicial to His Majesty's Subjects, and the Publick in general; the Petitioners humbly pray, That the two aforesaid Letters Patent may be vacated pursuant to the Power reserved for that Purpose: And whereas His Majesty's Attorney and Solicitor-General, (to whom the said Petition and Letters Patent were referred) have reported to a Committee of the Lords of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, that they had taken the same into their Consideration, and having upon the first Attendance by the Parties read several Affidavits in Support of the said Petition, it appeared, that in the Manner the Proprietors of the Mill carried on their Works in the Sewers it was a Nuisance, and ought to be removed; that they postponed making any Report to give the Proprietors of the Mill an Opportunity of proposing some Method of preventing the Mischief complained of, if any Method for that Purpose could be found; that they have been attended a second Time, and no Method having been suggested on Behalf of the Proprietors of the Mill to remedy the Inconvenience and Mischief attending it, they are of Opinion that the said Letters Patent ought to be vacated, pursuant to a Power reserved therein for that Purpose: And the Lords of the Committee of Council agreeing in Opinion with His Majesty's Attorney and Solicitor-General, that the said Letters Patent ought to be vacated; His Majesty in Council this Day took the same into His Royal Consideration, and was pleased to order, that the said two Letters Patent granted to the said Craven Howard, John Harrington, Hugh Marchant and Huntley Bigg, should be made void. In Pursuance whereof, and of the Power reserved in the said Letters Patent, we do hereby signify and declare the said two Letters Patent, granting the Use of the Waters of the Common Sewers to the said Craven Howard, John Harrington, Hugh Marchant and Huntley Bigg, for the Purposes aforesaid, are from henceforth to cease, determine, and be utterly void to all Intents and Purposes. Whereof all Persons whom it may concern are to take Notice, and govern themselves accordingly. Given under our Hands at the Council Chamber at St. James's, the Sixteenth Day of June, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-nine.

GOWER, P.  
SANDWICH.  
NORTHUMBERLAND.  
ASHBURNHAM.  
TOWNSHEND.  
AMHERST.  
WEYMOUTH.  
GEO. GERMAIN.  
MINCHINGBROCK.  
TALBOT.

**WHEREAS** His Majesty was pleased, by His Letters Patent, bearing Date the Twenty-seventh Day of January, in the Fourteenth Year of His Reign, to grant unto John Wilkinson, of Broseley in the County of Salop, Iron-Master, for the Term of Fourteen Years, the sole Use and Benefit of a new Invention of Casting and Boring Iron Guns or Cannon: In which Letters Patent it was provided, that if at any Time, during the Term thereby granted, it should be made appear to His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, or any Six or more of His or Their Privy Council, that the said Grant was contrary to Law, or prejudicial or inconvenient to His Majesty's Subjects in general, or that the said Invention was not a new Invention, as to the Publick Use and Exercise thereof, in that Part of His Kingdom of Great Britain called England, His Dominion of Wales and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, or not invented and found out by the said John Wilkinson as aforesaid, then upon Signification or Declaration thereof to be made by His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, under His or Their Signet or Privy Seal, or by the Lords and others of His or Their Privy Council, or

any Six or more of them under their Hands, the said Letters Patent should forthwith cease, determine and be utterly void to all Intents and Purposes, any Thing therein before contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. And whereas it hath been represented to His Majesty at this Board, by the Master General and principal Officers of the Ordnance, that the Method of Casting and Boring Iron Guns in the Manner mentioned in the Patent granted to the said John Wilkinson, was practised under the Direction of the Board of Ordnance for His Majesty's Service at Woolwich (antecedent to the Granting of the said Patent) by Messrs. John and Peter Verbruggen, who were engaged at the Publick Expence to come over and practise the same with Regard to Brass Ordnance, so that the same is no new Invention of Mr. John Wilkinson, as suggested when the said Patent was granted; that the said Patent, if permitted to remain in Force, will not only be prejudicial to His Majesty's Subjects, but very detrimental to the Publick Service, as the providing of Iron Ordnance for the Royal Navy of that Construction, which is most approved, will thereby become a Monopoly, and all the Iron Foundries in the Kingdom will be excluded from making such Guns as are most wanted; and therefore submitting the immediate Necessity of taking such Steps as shall be judged proper for the Revocation of the said Patent: And whereas the Lords of the Committee of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, (to whom His Majesty referred the Consideration of the said Representation and Patent) have this Day reported to His Majesty in Council, that they had referred the said Representation and Patent to His Majesty's Attorney and Solicitor-General, who having examined into the same, and been attended by Counsel and Solicitors for both Parties, have reported to the said Committee that it appearing the Validity of the Letters Patent was questioned, upon the Ground that the Invention was not new in this Kingdom, they had directed a Proposal to be made to the Patentee, that he should forthwith try his Right in an Action to be brought against one of the Persons employed by the Board of Ordnance, but that the Solicitor for the Patentee had signified to them that he declined entering into any Litigation with the Board of Ordnance; and that, upon Consideration of all the Circumstances of the Case, they are of Opinion, the said Letters Patent ought to be vacated, pursuant to the Power reserved therein for that Purpose; and the Lords of the Committee of Council agreeing in Opinion that the said Letters Patent ought to be vacated; His Majesty in Council this Day took the same into His Royal Consideration, and was pleased to order, That the said Letters Patent granted to the said John Wilkinson should be made void:—In Pursuance whereof, and of the Power reserved in the said Letters Patent, we do hereby signify and declare the said Letters Patent granted to John Wilkinson, for his Invention of Casting and Boring Iron Guns or Cannon, are from henceforth to cease, determine, and be utterly void, to all Intents and Purposes. Whereof all Persons whom it may concern are to take Notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under our Hands, at the Council-Chamber at St. James's, the Sixteenth Day of June, 1779.

GOWER, P.  
TALBOT.  
SANDWICH.  
NORTHUMBERLAND.  
TOWNSHEND.  
AMHERST.  
ASHBURNHAM.  
GEO. GERMAIN.  
WEYMOUTH.  
MINCHINGBROCK.

St. James's, June 16.

This Day the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, several of the Aldermen, the Sheriffs, and some of the Common Council of the City of London, waited upon His Majesty, being introduced by the Earl of Hertford, Lord Chamberlain of His Majesty's Household,