

To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen
of the Delaware State in General Assembly met

Honble Sirs / You were pleas'd on the 8th
of June 1786 to give me leave to bring in a bill for se-
curing to myself my Heirs and Assigns for the Term of
Fifteen Years the exclusive privilege of making and
Vending certain Machines of my Invention usefull in
Manufacturing flour, In consequence of which I have prevail'd
with Mr Boothe to bring in said bill — Permit me
to observe that in my humble Opinion Fifteen Years will
elapse before the utility of S^d Machines be generally known
or they much used consequently I cannot profit much thereby —
If Providence has endowed me with a Genius capable of Invention
Probably I may render my Country greater Services in this than
any other line I can engage in — Nature if attend'd to will
Direct each of us to the Studies she has adapted us for —
Is it not more than Probable that Twentyfive Years will elapse
before the said Machines will appear in perfection in the World
if they be now stifled in Embryos, An old Proverb too often
verified says, The ingenious Mechanick will never be rich
And upon taking into my serious Consideration ^{the} attending expence
and loss of time, with other Circumstances I have concluded that
it will not prove to my advantage to proceed further in these
(hitherto) unprofitable Studies untill I obtain ^{of} different States
an exclusive right for which I need not apply (to others) without
your favour — And as no expence is likely to fall on the Community
thereby But some profits to arise to me and Greater to the Publick
perhaps for ages to come, I shall hope that your Honours will favour
my Bill with the amendment of Twentyfive years insert'd instead of
fifteen, which will enable me to produce to the World the said Machines
and perhaps some others more usefull which now appears to me to
be possible And I shall ever acknowledge the great Obligation
confer'd on —

Honble Sirs your Most Obedt
Humbt Servt
G. W. Brown

Redley Creek Jan 8^o 1787

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Petr.
of Oliver Evans.

Jan. 12. 1787. read.

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