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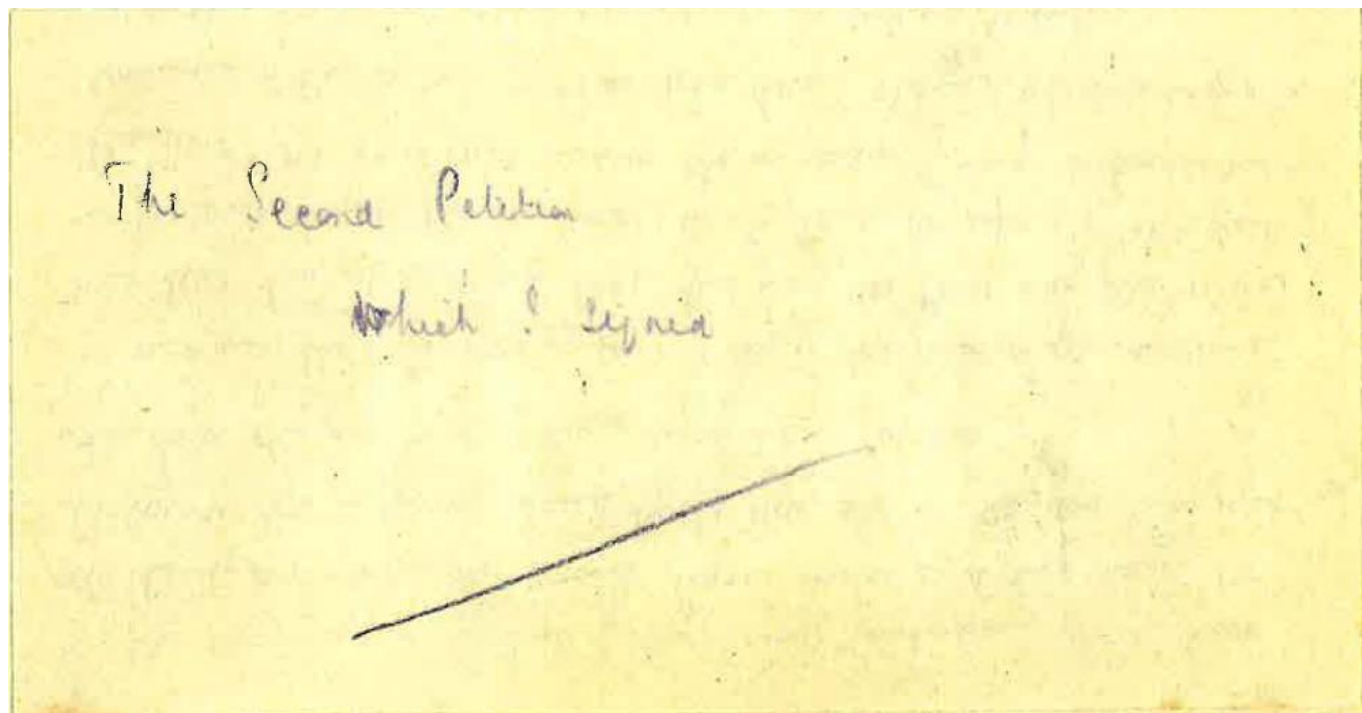
Tattersfield Notebook 1

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Second Petition

Second Petition , Rothamsted Research (1917) Tattersfield Notebook 1, pp 56aL1 - 56aL2



We, the undersigned, members of the French Ambulance Unit have voluntarily undertaken our present Peace Service in a deep desire to alleviate the suffering caused by the War, and to show love to our fellow-men who have obeyed a call of duty different to our own.

We recognize the many varied forms of Service to which a man's conscience may lead him, and believe that testimony for Peace may find as true expression before the Tribunal in England as upon the battle fields of Flanders. We view with dismay the injustice of many tribunals and are convinced of the sincerity of those who having claimed absolute exemption now await sentence of court-martial or arrest as deserters.

We resent the suggestion that the Unit is an integral part of the military machine and are in very full sympathy with those conscientious objectors who feel that their peace testimony must be made at home. We feel the injustice of the refusal to allow of the treatment that has been accorded to us as conscientious objectors and appeal for justice for all alike.

We therefore ask the Government to give an assurance that all conscientious objectors, whose sincerity is proved by willingness to suffer for their beliefs shall be released from detention and granted the absolute exemption from the provisions of the Military Service Act to which that measure entitles them.