

any more expeditious way; for the Service of his Ma^{ty} and benefit of the Parties concernd whereby the s^d Ship might be brought to tryall, who makes answer he can not. Lib. H. D. p. 448

The s^d Petition and Kings Lawyers Report Severally thereon indorsed follow in these Words Viz^t

To his Ex^{ncy} ffrancis Nicholson Esq^r Cap^t Gen^l & Govern^r of Maryl.

The humble Peticōn of Richard Bass Master of the Ship Charles of Topsham now Riding in South River & under Seizure for some supposed breaches ag^t the Acts of Trade and Navigation.

Pet. of Richd Bass abt Ship Charles of Topsham &ca Sheweth that the s^d Ship upon the 30th day of December last was Seized by Thomas Collyer an Officer und^r yo^r Ex^{ncy} and that by information of one Gabriell Parrot that She has brought in some goods contrary to Act of Parliam^t as alsoe (being an unfree bottom) that She is uncapable of Trading into this Province; the former of w^{ch} allegacōns is Utterly ffalse; and the latter as yo^r Peticōn^r is advised, and is ready to make appear, in no wise Sufficient to give yo^r Peticon^r this molestation. Whitehall

That yo^r Petition^r lyes at great Charge, and if his s^d Ship be not brought to a Speedy Tryall for the s^d Supposed breaches, shall loose the opportunity of Sayling with the Convoy whereby not only yo^r Petition^{rs} Owners will be considerable losers but likewise his Ma^{ty} loose at least the Sum of 4000^l Sterl. w^{ch} will be his due for Custom upon Landing her loading in Engl. wherefore

Yo^r Peticōn^r humbly Prays that in Consideracōn of the Pr^mises yo^r Ex^{ncy} out of yo^r wonted goodness, and tenderness to Traders as well as out of yo^r Zeal for promoteing his Ma^{ty}s interest will please to Appoint Speciall Commission^{rs} and that with all the Speed yo^r Ex^{ncy} Can with Convenience for Tryall of the s^d Supposed Breaches, that yo^r Peticon^r may know the issue of the matter;

And as in Duty bound he will Pray
Richard Bass

Jan^{ry} the 5th 1696.

May it Please yo^r Ex^{ncy}

The Kings Lawyers Report thereon. Ive read and perused the Statute of Westminster the Second, and my Lord Cokes comments thereon, and upon consideracōn of the whole, I am of Opinion that a Commission of Oyer and Terminer cannot in this Case be Granted. Whitehall

Yo^r Ex^{ncys} humble Servant
R: Gouldesborough