

Lib. H. D. asked to shew his Deputacōn which he produced accordingly and was Read; who thereupon had Administred unto him in Councill, the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliam^t to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy; as also the Oath of Trade and Navigation and afterwards Subscribed to the Test. His Ex^{ncy} is pleas'd to ask him if he Can advise any thing whereby his Ma^{ty} Service may be promoted in the way of his Office, and he would give all Necessary Orders therein; for his Assistance Asking likewise if he had Rēcd: any particular Instructions or printed Certificates &^{ca} from the Comm^{rs} who Says he has not.

Ordered that George Plater Esq Coll^r and Receiver of Petuxen District do (upon Sight hereof) deliver up all Instructions Copyes of Letters from the R^t hon^{ble} the Comm^{rs} of his Ma^{ty} Customs about illegal Traders together with Printed Certificates Proclamations, Orders of Councill or other Matters respecting the Coll^r's place of that District; unto Peter Jenings Esq the Bearer hereof this day admitted and Sworn at the Board his ma^{ty} Coll^r of the s^d District. Produced by Peter Jenings Esq to the Board a Commission to him given by the hon^{ble} the Principall Comm^{rs} for Prizes, bearing date the 19th day of November A^o 1696: under their hands and Seal of Office, which was Read, thereby Constituting him with full power to be their Agent, and to do in their behalf within this his Ma^{ty} Province of Maryland in all affairs of that Nature in one Clause thereof it is said And whereas we are Inform'd there are and hath been great Concealm^{ts} and Embezlem^{ts} made and Committed and that also no Acc^t hath been yet Return'd unto Us, of any Prize Ships, Goods & Merchandizes, which hath been brought into any Port or place of Maryland.

p. 53^o His Ex^{ncy} is pleas^d to observe thereon that there Never appear'd here any Comission from them of that Nature before; but that he had sent an Acco^t to the R^t hon^{ble} the Lords of the Admiralty of what Prizes have been in his time, which were but two, and that if the s^d Comm^{rs} had not an Acco^t thereof, it was their own fault, for not sending in some person with a Commission before now Being further pleased to Say that as there Never did appear any Commission of that Nature (in this Province) before, and those two Prizes happening to be brought in, Tryed and Condemn'd and noe Officer here Commissionated for looking after the Same, he appointed George Plater Esq his Ma^{ty} Receiver to take Care of his Ma^{ty} part of the s^d prizes, which the s^d M^r Plater has now in his hands his Ex^{ncy} declaring he never medled with any part thereof himself.

Ordered that George Plater Esq his Ma^{ty} Receiver of