

P. R. O. pet<sup>r</sup> a Negroe to Assist him in working for him to maintayne himselfe and his poore weake wife who is likewise ancient.

Yo<sup>r</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup> therefore most humbly prays yo<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>rs</sup> and the rest of the hono<sup>ble</sup> house of Assembly out of yo<sup>r</sup> great inclination to charrity and goodness to take yo<sup>r</sup> Poore Pet<sup>rs</sup> condicōn into yo<sup>r</sup> Serious consideration and what you shall please to allow him shalbe put into one of yo<sup>r</sup> hon<sup>r</sup> hands and imploy<sup>d</sup> in Purchasing a Servant Negroe or White to Assist him in his declineing yeares

And yo<sup>r</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup> as in duty bound shall ever pray

Which Peticōn being here read and considered It is orderd Maj<sup>r</sup> John Lowe be desired by the house to purchase for the Pet<sup>r</sup> a good able man Servant to be deliverd him for which it is Orderd that Maj<sup>r</sup> Lowe be Satisfied out of the next Publick Leavy.

The house adjournes till 2 o Clock

Post Merediem

Eod Die

fo. 38 The house mett againe and were Called over

Present as in the morning

His Ex<sup>cy</sup> Letter by Coll<sup>l</sup> Addison and M<sup>r</sup> Brooke brought here in the morning now read as followeth

Gent I am apt to believe you may be now towards a Conclusion of this Sessions and Since every body receives redress from you I hope it will be farr from a Crime in me to hinte to you how great a Sufferer I am in largeness and size of the hogshheads of Tobb<sup>o</sup> you passed a Law last Sessions in which you showed yo<sup>r</sup> generosity in continueing to me the 3<sup>d</sup> and that at fower hundred pounds each hogshhead but I imagine you did not intend it soe, neither doe I desire it less than five hundred if I had insisted upon it it would have been at least Two hundred pounds advantage to me but believe me noe Interest shall ever be prevalent or induce me to take any advantage of those for whom I have so great a regard if you can adjust it without any great trouble I shall hold my selfe oblidge if not You may Continue it upon the same foot as it now Stands but all Ma<sup>rs</sup> of Shipps seem to be very uneasy under it I doe not desire the hogshheads should be less than the gage already established by You I am

Gent yo<sup>r</sup> most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

May 6<sup>th</sup> 1700

N Blakiston

Resolved that a Bill be drawne to impose some severe penalty on such persons that shall employ any Coopers to make any caske above the gage according to Act of Assembly