

March 2 to call the Court, which they as often refused, and by which refusal, & neglect only, the Court fell. Nicholas Thomas Esquire as well as others well knows the above facts to be true. Your Excellency therefore, knowing or at least may know the foreman of that Grand jury to be a man of a Suspicious Character, especially in the common Cause, & of course my Enemy, and seeing their inniquitous proceedings against me in this matter, will judge whether I appear as an object worthy your attention or not, If I do, you'll grant the above request which shall be duly acknowledged by your Excellencies

Mo. obed<sup>t</sup> Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Copy Presentment against John Gibson Esq<sup>r</sup> Talbot County found at September Term 1778 in the General Court for the Eastern Shore to wit

Maryland ss.

We the Grand Inquest for the Body of the Eastern Shore of the State a<sup>d</sup> do upon our Oaths Present John Gibson, Henry Banning and Howes Goldsborough Justices of Talbot County for not holding Court in the Month of August last

Testes W<sup>m</sup> Perry, Foreman

Evidence

Richard Skinner

True Copy  
James Earle Clk  
G C. E S.

April 3  
[Draft]

[Thomas Sim Lee, Governor, Annapolis To John Gibson,  
Talbot Court House]

I rec<sup>d</sup> your Letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> March with the Enclosure.

There being a Variety of Opinions entertained with Respect to the Propriety of the Governors remitting Fines ab<sup>t</sup> Common Law, I some Time past made Application to the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly for their Interposition in that and other Matters but Business requiring immediate Dispatch, I imagine prevented their going fully into a Consideration of the Subject. Under such Circumstances I do not think myself justifiable in interposing in Cases of this Kind until I am ascertained of the Opinion of the Assembly, and am therefore constrained to decline it in yours

March 2  
Brown Book  
No. 7  
Letter 55

[J. Gouvion, Lt. Col. of Engineers, Patuxen River, to Gov. Lee.]

I would take it as a great favour, if your Excellency would send an express to the Marquis, to let him know that the french fleet is yet in the bay, and she is entirely clear of british cruizers, you will excuse the liberty I take, considering that it is only for the publick Service