

this, he released all but the guilty man, and even him he released when a letter came down from New York (*ibid.*, p. 52). As to the charge that he had treated old Robert Catlin uncivilly, that he denied entirely. To that part of the information charging that he had seized two mares belonging to Henry Smith, he—or Morecroft for him—replied that it was so full of uncertainties that he ought not to be asked to answer for it. He asked the Court to dismiss him with costs and charges, but the Attorney General alleged that he was guilty, and both put themselves upon the judgment of the Court. “And after a ffull hearing of the businesse this day . . . And the said Thomas Jones Cōmissⁿ . . . for the sole Indian Trade of this Province, being openly Read His Lord^{pps} Justices are all Clearly satisfied that the said Thomas Jones hath Exceeded the Linmitts of his Cōmissⁿ . . . And therefors the Court Doe order the said Cōmissⁿ to be Imediately Cancelled & Vaccated, which was in open Court done by tearing off the seale”. The Court further ordered Jones to satisfy Cornellison, Otho Wollegast and Groendick for the goods he had taken and to pay their costs (*ibid.*, 55).

The matter of the seizure of Richard Ackworth’s goods and his sloop was handled by a Court order on Ackworth’s petition. The goods and the sloop were to be restored to their owner, but in future he should not go out of the Province with the sloop until he had cleared with the collector for his county (*ibid.*, p. 56).

The case involving the six mares said to have been imported into the Province and seized on that ground by Jones, like the other two cases, was heard and decided on December 10, 1672. Peter Hance appeared by Kenelm Cheseldyn, his attorney, by special grace of the Court, and said that he “he is in noe wise Guilty of the premisses against the forme of the statute aboue Imposed upon him” as Jones had charged, and both men put themselves upon the country (*ibid.*, p. 57). Accordingly, a jury was summoned, and both parties appeared, Hance by his attorney, Jones in his proper person. The jury decided that Hance had in fact brought the mares to the Whore Kill, from whence they did not say. “And the Court being ffully satisfied that the Whorekeil was not at that tyme in the Actuell posession of the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary, Therefore they doe Adjudge that the said Mares are not forfeited, and Doe Order them to be Released, And the said Thomas in mercy for his falce Complaint &c” (*ibid.*).

But Jones, if quick-tempered and not judicious, was energetic, and the Provincial government needed him. Very shortly after he had been turned down by the Court on all three points, on December 14, 1672, he was appointed an Indian trader for the Eastern Shore (*Archives*, V, p. 114). His commission was only a small part of what it had been. He had been the Indian trader for the whole Province, with the right to stop all others from trading. Now he was one of the traders for the Eastern Shore, and he could not halt intruders. He could not and someone else could. Two days after Jones’s new license, another commission was given to Peter Groenendyck, to whom Jones had been ordered to make satisfaction for goods he had taken from him in the August raids. Groenendyck was authorized to trade with Indians and others in the