

acquainting us that the Sloop Speedwell has been condemned in the Court of Vice Admiralty, and representing that the said Seizure and Condemnation was looked upon to have been unfairly brought about, by M^r Moreton's means, We called upon M^r Moreton to make answer thereto, and we beg leave to lay before Your Honor a copy of M^r Moreton's Representation, together with an Extract of the above mentioned Letter from our Officers at Annapolis and M^r Moreton's answer thereto,—M^r Moreton has our directions to attend your Honor to give his account of the matter, and if from a perusal of these papers, & what other information you may receive, you should be led to form a different opinion of M^r Moreton's conduct, than what is represented in the Collector & Comptroller's Letter, we hope your Honor will be pleased to give him your Protection in the execution of his duties.—We have directed M^r Wootton one of our Inspectors General, to proceed to Annapolis to make enquiry, & report to us on this matter, & he has our directions to wait upon you with this Letter—And we take leave to recommend him to your Honor's Countenance in the execution of his Duty.

We are
Sir

Custom House Boston.
6.th July 1773.

Your Honors
Most obedient humble Servants.
W.^m Burch
Hen. Hulton.
Chas Faxton[?]

The Honorable Rob^t Eden Esq^r Governor of Maryland

APPENDIX III

(6)

DEPOSITION OF JOHN McMACHAN, MAY 10, 1773

The Deposition of John M.^cMachan Aged 31 Yrs or there about being Sworn deposeth & saith, That he is an Assistant to M^r Robert Morton Inspector of the King's Cumstons, in the district of Baltimore Town, That upon the information of one M Lewin on or about the 25 of April last of the Arrival of the Sloop Speedwell, Charles Allen Commander from Turks-Island Mr. Morton & this Deponant went on Board of the said Sloop, and found her Cargoes to Consist of Salt, that upon enquiring for the Capt.ⁿ they were informed he was not on Board—that this Deponant then enquired whether they Stopt at Patuxent or Annapolis, the Mate enformed them the said Mortan & this Deponant that the Vessel had not Stopt at either of those ports, Mr. Morton then requested that the Mate would desire the Capt.ⁿ to come to his the said Mortons House and bring the Papers of the said vessell with him, That M^r Morton & this Deponant waited at M^r Mortons House the whole Day and finding that the said Captain did not come, they went on Board of the said Ves-

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