

P. R. O.
Colonial
Papers.
B. B.

ernm^t & that by my Example Comand^{rs} of London ships are growne to that persuasion that treason is their comon discourse I say (as in my said former answer to which I referre) that if I had been guilty as is pretended his Lo^p would in all probability have questioned mee for it before I came out of his Government and not have suffered me to have come away unpunished and unquestioned hee knowing of my designe to come at least three months before I took shipping w^{ch} was the eleaventh of May last and his Letters of complaint being dated fourteene days before that.) All which appears by severall affidavits of Marchants Masters and others taken before one of the Judges in the Kings Bench & hereunto annexed. Nor hath his Lo^p sett downe the words pretended to be spoaken ether by mee or by any Comand^r of London ships, nor names any of the said Comand^{rs} nor ever questioned one of them for any such matter. Soe that it is plaine this allegacōn is meerly feigned and contrived to compasse his designe of getting mee turned out of my place.

9. As to his Lo^{ps} importunate Begging to have mee turned out, and his owne Collector viz his Ladys Sonne in law (as he says to yo^r Hono^{rs}) placed in my stead; I humbly say that it appearing by all his Lo^{ps} letters ag^t mee, as also by those against M^r Badcock that his cheife ayme and designe is to gett those offices of Collector and survey^r in Maryland into the hands of his owne Creatures and Depend^{ts}. I hope his allegacōns and charges against mee will be considered and construed accordingly and for as much as I have constantly endeavoured to the utmost of my power and knowledge to serve his Majesty faithfully in this employment in the due Execution of yo^r Hono^{rs} Instructions and comaunds (w^{ch} I hope I have performed to yo^r Hono^{rs} content) I can not at all doubt of yo^r Hono^{rs} Justice in continueing and confirmeing mee in my Office, which will be noe small encouragem^t to yo^r Hono^{rs} Officers in other remote parts as well as to mee to act with Courage and Cheerefulnes in the due management and execu^{cōn} of our offices being noe way detected of unfaithfulnes or Breach of Trust.

10. And whereas his Lo^p seemes to inferre to my Lord Privy seale from the Practise in Virginia where the same Collector of the two shillings p hogshd, is alsoe Collect^r of the penny p pound. That therefore it ought to be soe in Maryland. I humbly say that Virginia is his Ma^{ties} Collony in his owne Govern^t by his imediate Govern^{rs} there. That all writts, proves and precepts run there in his Ma^{ties} name and that the two shillings p hogshd there belongs to his Ma^{tie} as well as the penny p pound. But Maryland is my Lord Baltemore's province where all wills, proves and precepts run in his L^{pp}