

P. R. O. cates could not be found, wherefore I requested the then
 Colonial Govern^r M^r Thomas Notley dēcd to speak to them to be more
 Papers. carefull, and he thereupon desired me from that time to take
 B. B. the certificates from the Masters unto my owne Custody and
 to signifie under my hand from time to time to my L^{ds} said
 Collector that the Masters had produced and left such certifi-
 cates with mee, and assured me, it would be kindly lookt
 upon by my Lord and taken as very good service to his Lo^p
 wherefore I did use this course in the Port of Patuscent untill
 his Lo^p last returned from England, at w^{ch} tyme he seeing the
 method told me he liked it very well soe I proceeded for two
 yeares longer, his Lo^p never in all that time speaking one word
 to me against it. Nor was this one farthing benefitt to me or
 any under mee but on the contrary it caused (besides the
 trouble) considerable Charge to me to enterteyne such Masters.
 As to endeavouring that noe Master of Ship or Vessell should
 make Entry with his Lo^p Collector untill they had satisfied my
 unjust and unreasonable Demande. I doe averre I never
 endeavoured any such matter, nor doe I know what his Lo^p
 meanes by my unjust and unreasonable Demande. But I
 confesse I did endeavour that such vessels or ships as came
 from other plantacōns or England without Certificates might
 not be entered and permitted by his Lo^p Collector to trade,
 before they had performed such matters as by the Law and
 your Hon^{rs} Instruccōns to mee they ought to doe. And this
 it seems troubles his Lo^p and makes him add that if he should
 suffer mee to proceed noe ship would be able to trade there
 without my leave. I deny not but that some new England
 vessells have quitted the province because I looked strictly to
 them that they should exactly performe what I had in charge
 from your Hono^{rs} and this his Lo^p is pleased to call my prwd
 haughty insolent humour. But I utterly deny that ever his
 Lo^p in his life spoak to me about any such ill carriage. Much
 more that ever I gave his Lo^p such irrevend language, or
 slighted his Govern^t as in his letter is suggested. As to the
 allegacōn of my wicked life profane language and Debauchery,
 and that when I was on board London Ships my comōn Dis-
 course was Treason. I thank God my life was never soe
 wicked as to comitt any Treason against my sovereign Lord
 the King in thought, word or deed. And I cannot but admire
 his Lo^{pp} should add such a Clause against mee for which if it
 had been true, doubtless his Lo^{pps} great prudence, justice and
 loyalty would not have suffered mee to have escaped his Gov-
 ernm^t unpunished, but he never was the man that ever charged
 mee in Maryland with any such matter though my name was
 sett up at the Court house there (as the manner is) to signifie
 my departure above foure months before I came away. And