

since his Lo^p is pleased to affirm as afores^d that Treason was comonly spoaken by mee on board London ships. I wish he had specified the words and named the shipps that the Masters and officers might have been examined, either to have cleared or condemned mee. And your Hono^{rs} can not easily beleive if I were such a person as his Lo^p would insinuate, that I should be soe foolish as well as wicked to speak treasonable words or any thing like them on board any of the London ships the Commanders of whom would be equally guilty with mee if they did not imediately apprehend mee or complaine of mee here in England, which they have not done but I am sure might cleare my Innocense in this particular charge. As for his Lo^{ps} tearmes against mee of knave, rogue and raskell &c: wherewith his whole letter is besprinkled I conceive them but words of course and soe passe them by.

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

I must confesse I received the Commission and Instruccōns for the Collecōn of his Ma^{ties} Customes in Maryland upon the particular recomēdacōn of my Lord Baltmore, for which I have returned him as I doe your Hono^{rs} all due respects. And if I mistake not his Lo^p hath not charged me wth the least breach of trust in my said imployment or with any neglect or omission in the execucōn of your Comands which I hope I have performed to you^r Hono^{rs} Content. And I am confident that till you find mee guilty of some misdemeanour you will not think fitt to remove mee to make room for M^r Willm: Diggs, sonne-in-law to his L^{ps} Lady. And I am abundantly satisfied that my care and industry in my imployment and preferring the Kings service therein before his Lo^{ps} humour and interest will in the end appeare to be my greatest cryme.

I shall only make bold to add further that I humbly conceive his Ma^{tie} may be as well or better served in that affaire by others, who derive noe part of the power from his Lo^p rather than by his Lo^{pps} Collectors, because his Lo^{pps} Eye nor his cheife officers will not be soe likely to over awe them to promote the Interest of him and his province, before that which by the duty of their place they are obliged to doe. All which I submitt to you^r Hono^{rs} Consideracōn, and remaine

Your Hono^{rs}
most faithfull and humble
servant
Chris: Rousby.

M^r Johnson's Affidavit about Rousby.
21st September 1681.

p. 36

William Johnson of London Merchant aged about twenty four yeares maketh oath that hee being in Maryland the last shipping tyme & trading and Merchandizing in severall parts