

well as by the Confession of your own Letters that you have obstructed our service and discouraged our Officers in the execution of their Duty. And altho by severall Letters Wee have already directed you by yourself and your Officers to be ayding and assisting to the Collector and other Officers of our Customs in Our Colony of Maryland, in all matters relating to their respective Offices; and particularly in the due Collection of the Impositions payable unto us by an Act of Parliament made in the 25. year of our Reign Intituled an Act for better securing the Plantation Trade whereby certain Rates are imposed upon severall Commodities therein named that shall be shipped or laden on board any ship or vessell that shall not have first given Bond to bring the same to our Kingdom of England Dominion of Wales or Town of Berwick upon Tweed, and to no other Place amongst which Rates one penny p pound is imposed on Tobacco: Wee are nevertheless informed that instead of being ayding and assisting to our said Officers in the due Collection thereof you have hindred and forbidden them to recieve the same and particularly Wee have been given to understand by Nicholas Badcock late Comptroller and Surveyor of our Customs in our Colony of Maryland That upon the arrival of the ship S^t George of London Captain Shephard Commander; The Freeman of Liverpool Edward Tarleton Master and the Dolphin of Pool Alexander Dennet Master our said Surveyor finding by their Certificates that the Bonds which they had given were for carrying their loading for England or Ireland, he did demand from the masters of the said ship the penny p^{lb} due in such case for all Tobacco which they should lade on board the said ships, but that he being refused by them he attended you severall times and desired your assistance for the Collection thereof but that you refused to give him any countenance or assistance therein and that our said surveyor pressing you severall times in this matter and urging the said Law you ordered him to appear before your Councill at S^t Mary's which he accordingly did, and there in our name prayed and required your aid to levy our duties upon the lading of the said ships or to make seizure of the goods; But that he was absolutely denyed the same, and told that he should not meddle with them for that he had nothing to do therewith. And wee are further informed that by a letter under your own hand to our Comm^{rs} of our Customs bearing date the seaventh of June last you acknowledged to have denyed him the receiving of our Duties on the said ladings and to have hindred him from molesting the said Masters by means whereof the said ships went away with their ladings of Tobacco without passing any of the said Duties to us whereby we are damnified in our customs to the value of 2500^{lb} sterl:

P. R. O.
Colonial
Papers.