

P. R. O.
Colonial
Papers.

Wee have been also made acquainted at our Councill Board with the Complains insinuated by you against our Trusty and Welbeloved Christopher Rousby Collector of our Customs in our said Province as if he had behaved himself in such violent and unwarrantable manner as tended to the discouragement of Trade Diminution of our Customs and disturbance of the Publick Peace; but having for our better Information herein left the Examination of those matters to the Lords of our Privy Councill appointed a Committee of Forreign Plantations who have consulted the Comm^{rs} of our Customs and heard the said Rousby upon oath It hath been therefore presented unto us that you have proceeded in a very unusual manner by charging the said Rousby with so great enormities in his absence without giving him any notice of those accusations before his departure from Maryland which was well known to you to you at least four months before he imbarck't nor have you transmitted any sufficient proofs upon the matters complained of so that we cannot esteem it any ways agreeable to our Justice to give any Credit thereunto but do hereby require and command you to permit the said Rousby peaceably and quietly to execute his Office, and to afford him all the encouragement therein which the Law requires And wee do think fitt withal to give you this caution that if you shall hereafter have any cause of complaint against the said Rousby or any other person you do first give him or them a particular charge thereof and receive his or their answer thereunto and then transmit the said charge and answer to us with the proofs thereof to the end we may direct speedy Justice to be awarded according to the merit of the case. And altho your proceedings abovementioned in the obstruction of our officers and contempt of our Laws are of such a nature as that we might justly direct a writt of quo warranto to be thereupon issued out. Wee have nevertheless out of our great Clemency thought fit for the present only to require the Comm^{rs} of our customs to charge you with the payment of the said summ of 2500^{lb} and to cause a demand to be made from you for the same and that you adjusting of what shall appear to be truly due to us to cause the same to be passed by you to our Receiver General and Cashier of our Customs for the time being residing in London.

And wee do strictly command you for the future to take care that all our Laws relating to the Trade of our Colony and Plantations be duly observed and put in execution and that all Encouragement and assistance be given to the severall Officers of our Customs under your Government And so wee bid you farewell. Given at our Court at Whitehall the 8th of Feb^r in the 34th year of our Reign.

By His Ma^{ty} Command &c:

Jenkins.