

Treasury I send you inclosed the reports from the Comm^{rs} of the Customes upon the extract of Colonel Copley's Proposal concerning Bonds to be taken from Shipp^s trading to Maryland, as also upon the draught of Instructions for the Principall Commissioners for Prizes; and likewise M^r Knight's Report upon the Petition of the Assembly of Maryland touching the 12^d p hoggshead for 25 shipp^s that left that Province in the year 1690: All which their Lordshipps desire you to lay before the Lords of the Committee of Trade and Plantations.

P. R. O.
Maryland
B. I. Vol. 2.
B. G.

I am

Sir,

Your most humble servant

Hen: Guy.

Treasury Chambers
1st December 1692.

May it please your Lordshipps,

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In obedience to your Ldpps commands signified to us by M^r Guy in his Letter of the 21st of September last incloseing an extract of a Proposall made by Col: Copley Governor of Maryland in these words viz^t

To avoyd false Traders it will be convenient that all Masters of shipp^s tradeing from England thither give Bonds in their severall Ports before they come out to pay all duties and customes, and to bring certificates hither of their haveing given Bonds And to give a Bond here to carry my receipts, of their respective certificates to the respective Ports, the mischicfe of their giving Bonds here, often happens to be thus, The Masters can give noe other security than two Planters, who generally prove to be insolvent when there is occasion to sue their Bonds, and false Certificates are often produced here by false Traders.

Wee doe humbly acquaint your Ldpps that as the Acts of Trade and Navigation stand every shipp going from England to any of their Majesties Plantations is obliged to give bond with one sufficient surety to the chiefe Officers of the Custome House of such Port or Place from whence she shall sett sayle to the value of £1000. if the shipp be of less burthen then 100 Tonne and of £2000. if of a greater burthen, That in case the said shipp or vessell shall load any of the enumerated Plantation comoditys at any of the said Plantations, That the same shall be brought to some Port of England, Wales or Berwick and be there unloaden and put on shoare, the danger of the seas excepted. And for all shipp^s comeing from any other Port or Place to any of the said Plantations, the Governor thereof is before the said shipp or vessell be permitted to load on Board any of the said Comoditys to take Bond in like