

with me or my Deputies, for Tobacco to pay the Duties in the whole Province, and for those and what else comes in, shall transmitt bills of Exc^a payable according to the directions formerly given by your Hono^{rs} Instructions to M^r Xpher Rousby, which measures I humbly conceive is most proper for me to take till further ord^r I heare some of the said Collecto^{rs} have lately clandestinely cleared & recd: his Maj^{ties} Duties of some Tobacco, and as to that I shall make thorough Inspection, and endeavo^r your Hono^{rs} speedy Informacōn Maj^r Nicholas Sewall one of the aforesaid Councill and Collecto^{rs} at Pottuxen Entred some Irish and some other ships, which upon my suspicōn of their being transgresso^{rs} of the Lawes of Trade, I told him of the Irregularity of such pceedings, in giving Entryes and permitts of Trade, without the Knowledge and Assent of the Chiefe Officer of his Maj^{ties} customs for the time being, and demanded the cocquetts & Certificates (if any) brought by the Mast^{rs} of those ships, but the s^d Sewall deferred delivery thereof, and suspecting that either I or Cap^t Allen by my ord^r would seize on them, immediately sent notice to those masters of their dangers, and promised them all favour upon their submitting their shipp to their seizures, which was cōmplied with, and accordingly prosecuted, and the shipp brought to condemnation by a private Court appointed for that purpose and all this is done as appeares, and can be fully proved, to prevent our proceedings and just Execution of our Comissions in behalf of his Maj^{tie}; in like manner there was some prohibited goods putt on shoare neere S^t Maries from on board of a shipp that fled from me out of Pottuxent River, The said goods with all speed were seized by the said Majo^r Sewall and Coll: Darnall, who appointed a tryall for the same, In which Business they might have had witnesses enough, besides there was the Depositions of some persons, who are still resident in the Province, whose prooffe could have effected the condemnation of the said goods, notwithstanding all this which they well knew were cleared and acquitted, and those materiall witnesses never summoned in the business, The ship which imported these goods and commodityes was soon after the landing of them mett with, and seized p Cap^t Allin, to whom I sent directions to that purpose, and when the ship was soe seized, and a tryall demanded in his Maj^{ties} behalf, which was denyed him by one of the principall Ministers and Officers of this Governm^t Cap^t Allin then carryed the said ship to his Maj^{ties} Court in Virginia, where I was forc^t to dismiss my prosecution ag^t her, and tooke the masters bond in his Maj^{ties} behalf to answer your Hono^{rs} in England, and all for the reasons recited and expressed in the condition of the said Bond, a copy whereof I have here inclosed, by all which pro-

Lib. R. R. R.

p. 303