

Lib. R. R. R. His L<sup>sp</sup> cannot beleive M<sup>r</sup> Blakiston has been served (as he alledges in his s<sup>d</sup> Lett<sup>r</sup>) with any Warr<sup>ts</sup> or has been threatened in that manner as he has writt, and therefore humbly beggs that enquiry may be made of such persons as are lately come from those parts, of whom the truth of all this may be easily knowne, though it may very possibly be, that he has been arrested at the Suites of his many Credito<sup>rs</sup> it being knowne to many that he is much in debt, and has been soe for many yeares.

Coll: Will<sup>m</sup> Digges one of his L<sup>sp</sup>s Collecto<sup>rs</sup> is knowne by severall Eminent M<sup>r</sup>chants here to be a p<sup>son</sup> of soe much Loyalty as that he would not be guilty of those foule things laid to his charge, in the said Lett<sup>r</sup> And twere to be wished that M<sup>r</sup> Blakiston had at all times exprest his Loyalty to the King as amply as the said Digges has alwaies done both in Virginia and Maryland.

Tis not possible for any person that und<sup>r</sup>stands the trade of Maryland to beleive his Maj<sup>tie</sup> should be p<sup>r</sup>judiced Severall thousand pounds, if his L<sup>sp</sup>s Officers should be as malicious and as wicked as the said Blackiston doth endeavour by his L<sup>re</sup> to represent them, ffor whilest M<sup>r</sup> Christopher Rousby lived, who understood the Office well, and knew as much as any p<sup>son</sup> how to make the most of it, there never was much above one hundred pounds in one yeare recd. by him, for soe he often declared to his L<sup>sp</sup>: 'tis strange therefore to his L<sup>sp</sup>: as also to all Dealers and traders thither that M<sup>r</sup> Blakiston should find out, that it is possible for his L<sup>sp</sup>s Officers by any obstructions which he saies is given by them, to prejudice his Maj<sup>tie</sup> in soe high a measure, were they soe undutifull and impudent as to doe it in any matter whatsoever.

But M<sup>r</sup> Blakiston takes care to signifie that he doubts he shall receive little Tobacco this yeare, and gives this as a reason that his L<sup>sp</sup>s Officers threaten the Masters of vessells that in case they pay not the penny p <sup>pound</sup> duty to them, they shall be sued and their vessells seized, and yett notwithstanding this Complaint his L<sup>sp</sup> is ready to make it appeare, that the said Blakiston had received severall thousand pounds of Tobacco, even afore he had writt that Lett<sup>r</sup> and the same had paid away to his Credito<sup>rs</sup> who never had any hopes of being satisfied by him untill he had obtained his Maj<sup>ties</sup> Com<sup>on</sup> this will be proved if required; soe that M<sup>r</sup> Blakiston had noe other way, this yeare to make up his accompts with the Com<sup>rs</sup> of his Maj<sup>ties</sup> customs but by p<sup>r</sup>tending greate obstructions from his L<sup>sp</sup>s Officers.

What M<sup>r</sup> Blakiston has mentioned concerning Maj<sup>r</sup> Sewall is as untrue as the rest of his Lett<sup>r</sup> for when the said Sewall had given him notice of Severall Irish Vessells he intended to seize,