

Captain Barbar Commander of a London Ship being in U. H. J. Town was sent for as also Several Masters and Merchants of Ships who accordingly came and it being proposed to the said Captain Barbar that Considering his Ship was a Ship of Force whether he would undertake to Convoy the Ships now in the Country which can be gott ready to sail to which after some small Liberty Granted he put in the following answer in writing viz^t

Maryland ss^t

In Answer to a Proposall by his Excellency the Governor & Council unto me made relating to the Convoying Ships (now in the Country for England this Comes humbly, to signify that I shall be most ready & Willing to do all the Service in me lyes towards the Convoying the said Ships and will undertake by the blessing of God to Conduct the same to within sixty Leagues of Ireland but dare not Presume so far as to hazard the Prejudicing of my Owners by Going to any other Part then the Particular Business wherein I am intrusted leads me to all which is humbly submitted to by p. 862

Your Excellencys most humble Servants
Stephⁿ Barber

The other Masters and Merchants after the several discourses and questions put to them withdrew awhile and then came and presented the following Paper viz^t

May it please your Excellency and your honourable Council That Considering our Provisions will fail the Worms harm our Ships and fearing our mens being sick in the summer time and that this Convoy Proposed will not Conduct us nigh our Port but leave us in our Greatest danger and several other inconveniences that will follow upon our being detained longer in the Country we humbly beg that it may please your Excellency & honble Council to Allow us the Liberty of Sailing when we are ready which is the humble request of

Your Excellencys most humble Servants

Thomas Thompson Joseph Younger
Edw^d Lamplugh Jerem. Lewis

At a Council May 7th 1696

Several other Masters and Merchants of Ships came also in Pursuance of a former Summons from this Board and presented the following Petition viz^t

Maryland ss^t

To his Excellency Francis Nicholson Esq^r Captain General & Governor in chief of the said Province &c.