

if vpon Examination of his Books or otherwise there Appeare Lib. H. D.
to be Cause, that you suspend him and imploy some able
trusty person in his stead, tis farther Ordered from Vs and as
anything may occurr to you concerning the behaviour of the
other Officers in Maryland necessary for our information Wee
shall desire to heare from you

Wee are Sr
Custom house 23th of
ffeb^{ry} 1692
Directed
ffor the Hono^r
ffrancis Nicholson Esq^r Governo^r
of their Ma^{ty} Colony of
Maryland.

Yo^r humble Servants
Jo: Werden
Robert Southwell
Pat: Ward
Robert Clayton

Commis- S^r
sioners of
the Custom
house Letter
to his Exncie
touching
Tobo Ex-
ported hence
to the plan-
taco^{ns} Being informed from the Commission^{rs} of their
Ma^{ty} Duties of ffour and halfe per Cent in the Island
of Barbados, that the Tobacco imported thither from
Virginia, Maryland & other Northern parts in
America doth occasion great trouble & Charge to
their vnder Officers in the Weighing thereof Because
the Certificates mentioning the paym^t of the penny p pound
Express only the Numbers of hogsheads, Bundles or Trusses
without either the Weight of each particular hogshead or the
Weight of the whole parcell contained in such Certificate,
thereby rendring the said Officers incapable to Discover any
fraud to their Ma^{ty} prejudice in the short payment of the said
penny p pound which Duty by some former instances hath
been frequently compounded at little more than halfe Vallue,
for avoiding of which evill practices for the future and making
this Examination more easie and certain to the Officers in
Barbados & other Plantations, Wee desire you will please to
give particular Instructions to all our Officers within your Governm^t that they do not presume to Certifye for any
greater quantity of Tob^o than for which the Duty shall be first
Answered & paid to them. And that in their Certificates they
do mention both the Numbers of hogsheads Bundles & Trusses
and the exact Weight thereof, Wee are S^r p. 48

Custom house Lond^o
16th March 1693.
Directed thus
ffor the Hono^r
ffrancis Nicholson Esq^r Governo^r }
of their Ma^{ty} Colony of Maryland }

Yo^r very humble Servants
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Rob^t Southwell
P: Ward
Rob^t Clayton