

being compelled to give any other the like Bond in Maryland Lib. H. D.  
Wee are

Sr Your Very humble Servants  
Custom house London  
17<sup>th</sup> 1694

Rob<sup>t</sup> Cleyton  
P Ward  
Rob<sup>t</sup> Southwell  
C: Godolphin

The Severall Collectors answer to the aforegoing Lettr &ca  
George Layfield Esq<sup>r</sup> Collect<sup>r</sup> of Pocomoke Dis- p. 157  
trict George Plater Esq<sup>r</sup> Collecto<sup>r</sup> of Petuxant Dis-  
trict & M<sup>r</sup> Philip Clarke late Collector of Potomock  
District all with in this Province did severally make  
answer to the aboue Letter, That they were no Wayes guilty  
of the matter there in charged.

Order abt Willys Negros Clandestinely Brought from Barbado's by One Capt Hill & sold to one Jones wth the sd Jones's Answer thereto &ca  
Produced by his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> petition of one Edward Willy Merchant preferred to his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> the Govern<sup>r</sup> of Barbadoes, together with the said Govern<sup>rs</sup> Lett<sup>r</sup> to his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> here, in favour of the Petitioner The Petition setting forth that one Thomas Jones had knowingly bought of Cap<sup>t</sup> Thomas Hill Comānder of the Ketch Adventure, a couple of Negro's which the said Hill had brought clandestinely away from Barbado's contrary to Law, therefore prayed that the same might be again restored to the Right owner, So that he as Security for the said Hill might not be damnified— Then produced a paper of the said Jones in Answer to the said Peticōn whereby was signified that he did purchase of the said Hill two Negro's one for 7600<sup>l</sup> of tob and the other for tenn Thousand p<sup>ds</sup> of tob: w<sup>ch</sup> was by him duely paid, with- all Setting forth that after his purchase of the same made, he understood the said Negro's did belong to a Plantacōn in Barbado's and had a hand in the Plot, therefore were sent on Board the said Hills Vessel to be hid by two of the Seamen and were Accordingly hid, Unknown to the said Hill vntill two days after his departure from Barbado's, as the said Hill told the said Jones, And further said that to secure himself of the hazard of their Lives, he would dispose of them, And that if the said Jones would not keep them he the said Hill had Chapmen enough for to take them off his hands.

Ordered that the Attorneys be consulted therein, And their Opinion & Answer upon the same to be given, with all Expedition.