

Lib. H. D.  
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The Lords  
Comissrs of  
foreign  
trade & Plan-  
tations &c  
Ordr to his  
Exncy to  
hier Vessels  
to Cruise for  
illegall  
trade &ca

After our very herty Commendations Complaint having been made to their Maj<sup>ties</sup> by the Merchants trading to Virginia and Maryland, that their trade is in a great measure destroyed and ruin'd by many Ships trading directly from Scotland & Ireland to Virginia, Maryland & Pensilvania, and from thence back to the said places without paying their Maj<sup>tes</sup> dues to the undervaluing trade to all such fair Traders who observe the Act of Navigation For the prevention as much as may be of such illegall trade for the future, Wee have received their Maj<sup>tes</sup> Comānds and accordingly wee doe hereby signify Their Maj<sup>tes</sup> Royall will and pleasure unto you, that you cause one or more Small Vessells of about forty Tunns each, to be hired with Skillfull Comāders in those parts for whom you will be answerable and to appoint them to cruise upon the Coast of Maryland and Pensilvania w<sup>th</sup> power to examine all Ships trading to and from those parts and to inspect the clearings of the said Ships in the Collectors Books in order to the discovery of Forged Cocquets and Certificates. And for the defraying the charge of such Vessells and the Encouragement of the Commander or commanders thereof, you are hereby Authorized and impowered to dispose of their Maj<sup>tes</sup> third part of the fforfeitures upon the Act of Trade and Navigation & the penalties recovered on the forfeited Bonds within your Government, in such manner as you shall find most conducing to their Maj<sup>tes</sup> service herein, And for the better guidance of the Commander or Commanders of such Vessells as shall be employed in this service you will herewith receive the draught of Instructions, w<sup>ch</sup> you are to give unto them, and you are from time to time & as often as you shall see convenient to take an account from the Commander or Commanders of such Vessells of their proceedings in the execution of their Instructions to the intent that under colour of executing the powers and directions w<sup>ch</sup> shall be thereby given unto them they doe not molest & hinder the legall prossecution of trade in those parts as well to the prejudice of their Maj<sup>tes</sup> Revenue here as of their Maj<sup>tes</sup> Subjects in the Plantations, And so Wee bid you very heartily farewell, From the Treasury Chambers at Whitehall this 15<sup>th</sup> day of 9<sup>br</sup> 1694. In the 6<sup>th</sup> year of their Maj<sup>tes</sup> Reign.

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Your very Loving friends.

Ste: ffox  
Cha: Montague  
Will: Trumball  
J. Smith

Gov<sup>r</sup> of Maryland to hire Vessells to Cruise }  
for illegall Trade &ca