

the same will be of very Great Vse and Service to the Coun- Lib. II. D.  
trety and therefore Resolved and Ordered that the same be  
done accordingly and that Maj<sup>r</sup> Hamond Cap<sup>t</sup> Hill and Maj<sup>r</sup>  
Dorsey Agree with Carpinters and Labourers (as Cheap as  
they Can) for the Speedy Effecting thereof and see to the  
Speedy Carrying on of the s<sup>d</sup> Worke.

M<sup>r</sup> Thomas ffielder being desireous to goe on in the State  
House Worke is therefore Recommended to Coll: Herman  
that he be Continued therein.

Produced and Read the following Peticōn being an Authen-  
tick Copy taken from the Originall, Viz<sup>t</sup>

To the hon<sup>rb</sup>le Cap<sup>t</sup> Charles Wager Comōdore and Com-  
mand<sup>r</sup> in Cheife of the Virg<sup>a</sup> and Maryland ffleet.

Peticōn of We the Masters and Command<sup>rs</sup> of Severall  
Severall Merch<sup>t</sup> Ships of Considerable Countenance and  
Masters of Burthen, belonging to and part of the s<sup>d</sup> ffleet Do Whitehall  
Ships abt  
Saying &ca humbly propose and Request the ffavour of Longer

time than is now assigned Us to Load and get ready our  
respective Ships to sail with and und<sup>r</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> Conduct & Convoy,  
it being morally impossible for us so to doe, and to Compleat  
our Lading by the time afores<sup>d</sup> and that for these Reasons Viz<sup>t</sup>

1: The Unseasonable Arrivall of the ffleet here in this Pro-  
vince when soe many Runing Ships had been here Loaden  
and Carryed Away the Maj<sup>r</sup> part of the last years Crop not  
having left Enough behind to Load one ffourth part of the p. 434  
ffleet.

2: The great disappointm<sup>ts</sup> that most of us have met with  
Since our Arrivall by Sickness, Mortality and the Runing  
away of our men through the Great Encouragem<sup>t</sup> that is given  
in Pensilvania.

3: The Backwardness of the New Crop and Consequently  
the bad Curing of Tob<sup>o</sup> besides the generall want of Seasons  
for Shipping and defect of the Coopers in setting up the Cask  
so that very little new Tob<sup>o</sup> is yet Ready.

4: The season of the year approaching wherein ffrequently Whitehall  
the Weather hath proved such as to ffrieze and stop up our  
Sloopes and Boates &ca in Creeks and Coves where they  
have been sent for Tob<sup>o</sup> many times for a month, Six Weeks  
or long<sup>r</sup> and thereby prevented from putting the Same on  
board the s<sup>d</sup> Ships.

5: That our Sailing in March will be altogether as Advan-  
tagious as if we Sayled now by reason our men will be then at  
Home time Enough to serve his Ma<sup>ty</sup> in the summer ffleet and  
the Customs soon Enough paid into the Kings Treasury.