

Certain Peticōn which was Read, and the Matter therein Lib. H. D.  
Contained being fully Considered by this Board, they have  
thought fit to Ord<sup>r</sup> thereon as it is hereby Ordered that all  
the Justices of the New Commission of Peace lately sent to  
the s<sup>d</sup> County be timely Summon'd to be at the Court in  
August next respectively without ffaile and that a Grand Jury  
of the most Substantiall ffreeholders of the County, be like-  
wise Sumōned then and there to appear (but that none of the  
persons Subscribing the aforementioned Representacōn be  
admitted of that Jury) before whom it is to be laid as well the  
s<sup>d</sup> Representacōn and former Petition of M<sup>r</sup> Dixon and M<sup>r</sup>  
Layfield also a Copy of the Petition of the s<sup>d</sup> Maj<sup>r</sup> Whittington  
who is to be there likewise with his Bookes of Acco<sup>ts</sup> in Ord<sup>r</sup>  
to be likewise laid before the Justices and Grand Jury afores<sup>d</sup>  
for their Inspection, and that after a full View and hearing of  
the whole matter before them they Return their Sentim<sup>ts</sup>  
and Opinion thereon under their hands Respectively whether p. 536  
the complaint and objections made against the s<sup>d</sup> Maj<sup>r</sup> Whit-  
tington be with Reason and Ground Sufficient to displace  
him, and whether the Allegations in their peticōn Set fforth  
be truth, and lastly whether the persons now recommended  
for Sherriff are by them Esteemed fit and Rightly Qualified  
for Such Office. The Peticōn of Maj<sup>r</sup> Whittington follows  
in these words Viz<sup>t</sup>

To his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> ffrancis Nicholson Esq Cap<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> &<sup>ca</sup>

The humble Peticōn of W<sup>m</sup> Whittington Sherriff of Somers-  
set County.

Humbly Sheweth.

That with your Speciall Grace and Signall ffavour yo<sup>r</sup> Ex<sup>ncy</sup>  
hath Constituted Ordained and appointed me to be Sherriff  
of the County afores<sup>d</sup> dureing pleasure, which I the more  
readily accepted in Hon<sup>r</sup> to yo<sup>r</sup> Ex<sup>ncys</sup> ffavour, as to any pri-  
vate Intrest that I could discern at that Juncture, and whereas  
all the Sherriffs of this Province, have made their Severall and  
Respective Returns and that yo<sup>r</sup> Peticōn<sup>r</sup> hath Complied with  
all and every the Sum<sup>ms</sup> or Sum<sup>ms</sup> of Tob<sup>o</sup> relateing to the Pub-  
lick &<sup>ca</sup> or his Ma<sup>ty</sup> Publick Officers ffees, which Came to his  
hand to Collect altho: out of his own private Estate (Except-  
ing Some Ballances w<sup>ch</sup> when the Truth Comes to be dis-  
closed will appear insignificant to trouble Yo<sup>r</sup> Ex<sup>ncy</sup> more Im-  
portant Affaires.

Yo<sup>r</sup> Peticōn<sup>r</sup> therefore humbly Prays that M<sup>r</sup> Tho: Dixon  
who he is inform'd hath been the Only person to Kindle these  
destructive fflames may with yo<sup>r</sup> Ex<sup>ncys</sup> permission have a day  
assigned to prove what he hath set fforth, in his Petition