

Lib. H. D. did not (during his having the Administration) make it his business to get the debts in. Who sayes that he never had anything of the said Estate to sue for, but the Mortgages; and that he is ready to deliver up what Books & papers he has relating to that Estate unto M^r Com^{miss}^{ry} or the present Adm^r whensoever they shall require the same.

His Ex^{ncy} is pleased to acquaint the Com^{miss}^{ry} that the Office he now has in the New State house where his Records lye is appointed & Settled by Act of Assembly. Therefore does in his Majest^{es} name direct & Order him to accept of no Bookes, Records or papers whatsoever belonging to his Office, but what are actually deliver'd up in his Office aforementioned.

His Ex^{ncy} is likewise pleased to observe to the s^d M^r Cranford, what devastation & waste he has brought upon the s^d Estate, first by intangling of it in Law and Secondly by keeping the Bookes, Debts & papers all this while in his hands that the same could not be gott in, whereby severall of the Debtors by this time (its probable) are either dead or become insolvent, and the Plantations all ruin'd by his Sinister & selfe interested practises, who at first was only intended as Adm^r in trust for another, w^{ch} to his eternall Shame he had basely converted to his own ends, insomuch that the same is become a publick talke among the Merchants upon the Exchange of London to the Scandall of the whole Countrey and Government; but withall signified to him that he must not think to Scape clear of the matter so, but must expect to be called to a strict and severe account about all these matters, and that his Ex^{ncy} was but just now a beginning with him.

October the 21st 1697.

The Council again sate and were present.

His Ex ^{ncy} ffran ^s Nicholson Esq ^r Cap ^t Gen ^{ll} & ^{ca}	
Coll: Henry Jowles	} Coll ^o Charles Hutchins
Coll: George Robotham	
Thom ^s Tench Esq ^r	
	Coll ^o John Addison
	Thomas Brookes Esq ^r
	Iames ffrisbey Esq ^r

It being thought convenient that the Hono^{ble} Coll John Addison should repair to his County in Order to putting in Execution the severall Orders passed for strengthening the Garrison & ffrontiers in those parts. Copy of the s^d Orders were delivered to him at the Board, who thereupon tooke leave and went.

It being represented that there were three Causes depending before his Ex^{ncy} and Council (constituted as a Court for hearing appeals and Writts of Error &^{ca}) wherein the Hono^{ble}