

Lib. H. D. Carpent<sup>r</sup> went on board the Sloop Margt<sup>t</sup> & Sarah Virginia<sup>a</sup> built and bound for New England upon diligent Search made, the said Sloope we found altogether deficient & not qualified for Sea as is attested & Sworne to as well for the said Iones as me the Subscriber.  
 In<sup>o</sup> Roach Sworn to before me this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March An<sup>o</sup> Dom: 1697/8  
 George Layfield G. L.

New England the 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 1697 with David Kennedy Esq<sup>r</sup> Coll<sup>r</sup> of that district. For these reasons following Viz<sup>t</sup> That the Seamen belonging to the above Sloop left her refusing to goe the Voyage declaring she was insufficient the Collect<sup>r</sup> giving a permitt to bring the goods a shore by reason she was ready to Sink at Anchor in the same Port and on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August as above Christopher Jones and John Roach Carpenters did search the above Sloop & have given under their hands & declare & ready to attest the said Sloop in such a Condition fitt for no man to hazard his life in by w<sup>ch</sup> reasons she proceeded not her intended Voyage but is still in this Province to the great loss of time & considerable damage sustained by the said John Henry: This done in the presence of In<sup>o</sup> Edgar and James Brechin Wittnesses hereunto required this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 1697/8  
 In<sup>o</sup> Edgar  
 James Brechin p George Layfield Publick Notary.

The above Protest was indorsed thus Viz<sup>t</sup>

By his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> the Govern<sup>r</sup> &<sup>ca</sup> April the 12<sup>th</sup> 1698.

Ordered that the within papers be referred to his Maj<sup>ty</sup>s  
 p. 184 Lawyers for their report & opinion thereon to be given w<sup>th</sup> all possible speed.  
 Signed p Ord<sup>r</sup>  
 Hen: Denton Cl Concil.

We do humbly Certifye that we do take this protest to be very insensible writing & do not know what to say further to it.

R. Goulesborough  
 Will<sup>m</sup> Dent.

Whitehall the 25<sup>th</sup> of Septemb<sup>r</sup> 1697.

S<sup>r</sup>

His Majesty having taken into consideration how much it concerns the good of his Subjects, and the security of trade that all Pyrates & Sea Rovers should be suppress, who are observed to have very much encreased of late in their numbers, and to have done great damages, as well to his Majestyes Subjects, as the Subjects of other Princes and States in Amity w<sup>th</sup> his Majesty, and there being ground to believe,