

Dangerous Conjuncture of an impending war lays Before the Board a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Micajah Perry an Emminent Merch<sup>t</sup> in London dated thence the 24<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> 1701 & two others the one from Captain Thomas Wharton & the other from Cap<sup>t</sup> John Hyde of as late dates Lib. X.

Which said Letters give Acco<sup>t</sup> of a good Convoy intended to fetch home the Virginia & Maryland Fleets which Convoy was to sail the first of March last but in Regard a Vessel arrived the last week which sailed from England the tenth of March aforesaid & gave account that he was not certainly assured when the said Convoy might be expected thereupon & in respect of the various Opinions of the said M<sup>r</sup> Perry Cap<sup>t</sup> Hyde & Captain Wharton his Excellency was pleased to lay before the Board his Majestys Royal Instruction relating to the Stopping & Embargoeing of Ships in this Province Viz<sup>t</sup> You are hereby directed to take care that in time of War no ships do come from Maryland but in Fleets or at such time as shall be notified from hence for their meeting of Convoys and in case of other danger you are to Expect Directions from whence what precautions shall be necessary for their security

Which being duly considered & that his Excellency has never received any Advice instructions or directions either from his Majesty Secry of State the right Honble the Lords of Trade and Plantations or Lords of the Admiralty what measures should be at this time taken nor any imitation of the said Convoy other than by the said Merch<sup>ts</sup> Letters this Board advise his Exc<sup>y</sup> that no Embargo or stop be put upon any Vessel ready to Sail until his Excellency shall Receive such directions & precautions according to the express injunction of the said instruction to be signified from England p. 282

Then read

The humble petition of John Jones of Baltimore County Carpenter

Most humbly Sheweth

Unto your Excellency that your Petitioner hath at the last Provincial Court been arraign'd & convicted of Manslaughter & suffered the Corporal Punishment of being Burnt in the hand & hath also forfeited all his Goods and Chattels to our good & most Gracious Sovereign Lord the King so that he hath nothing wherewithal to sustain his wife and six small Children unless your Excellency in Compassion will be inclined to Extend his Majestys mercy and Grace in suspending the execution upon & taking from him the small Estate whereby his wife & Children are supported

And he shall ever pray &c<sup>a</sup>