

The Honble President produces to the Board a Letter from Lib. X.
George Plater Esq^r her Majestys Receiver & naval Officer at
Puttuxent acquainting his honour that Captain Josiah Moore
in her Majestys Ship Oxford who was one of the Convoys to
the Virginia Fleet had brought into Puttuxent River a Sugar
Prize and that he the said M^r Plater on Behalf of the said
Captain Moore desired in case Colonel John Hammond the
Judge and W^m Bladen Register of her Majestys Court of Vice
Admiralty could not conveniently Come down to Puttuxent in
order to condemn the said Prize that a special Commission
might be Granted appointing some other persons at Puttuxent
thereunto in regard the said Captain Moore was much in-
disposed & his Stay very short in this Province In answer
whereto his said Honour the President had wrote to M^r Plater
& Captain Moore as followeth viz^t

M^r Plater
S^r

Annapolis August the 24th 1703

I had yours by your Servant & have considered what you
write in relation to Captain Moore commander of her
Majestys Ship Oxford & the Prize by him brought within
this Government I have seen the honble Col^o John Hammond
chief Judge of her Majestys Court of Vice Admiralty in this
Province who being apprized that Capt Moore has brought
his Prize into this District of Puttuxent thinks it Reasonable
that he by himself or procurator ought to Exhibite his Libell
to the Court here in order to her Condemnation which will be
expedited as soon as desired if he think fit the said Judge not p. 340
thinking himself Obliged to go down to Puttuxent no appli-
cation being made to him or sufficient Reason offered by the
Commander therefore Besides I find that the Commander
upon his Arrival with his Prize by the Act of the 4th & 5th of
King William & Queen Mary of which Statute I know no
Repeal is directed to put the Prize into the hands of the
Governor in plain English words which you must needs know
to be the present Government President & Council till the
same be condemned or discharged therefore you would do
well to advise him to conform himself to that Law or any
other later of her present Maj^{sty} if you know any such I am
Sir

Your humble Servant
Tho Tench

To George Plater Esq^r
Sir

M^r Plater having advised of your arrival with a French
Prize taken at Sea I find by the act of the 4th & 5th of King