

Lib. X. William & Queen Mary you are directed to put the same into the Possession of the Governor of this her Majestys Province whose Authority is by Powers under the Great Seal of England lodged in myself the President & Council if there be any later Statute or Ordinance for regulating that matter otherwise and you are apprised thereof I should be glad you would communicate the same in order to the legal Condemnation of your Prize and Security of her Majestys Interest therein this Prævious Requisite of Delivering the Prize into the Possession

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of the Governor I have taken care to make Easy to you by Ordering your Friend M^r Plater her Majestys Receiver to take the same into his Custody & Possession on Behalf of her Majesty unless you think fit to bring her up hither where to your Speedy dispatch in her Condemnation my best Endeavours shall be contributed as well as in any other thing wherein I may be able to approve my Self

S^r

Sir

when you come up you must take Care to bring the French Commander & some of the Saylor and all the Papers found on Board for inspection of the Government especially the Bills of Loading

Your most humble Servant Tho Tench

To Captain Josiah Moore Commander of her Majestys Ships Oxford in Puttuxent

After which was read the said Captain Moor's Letter to the honble President & unto the Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty desiring that a court might be appointed for the Condemnation of the said prize at Puttuxent &c^a which was Answered as follows

Captⁿ Josiah Moore

West River August the 28th 1703

Sir

Yours of the 25th Instant to the honble President being Laid before this Board we have thought fit for her Maj^{ty}s Interest and your better satisfaction to acquaint you that this is her Majestys Government wherein we act by powers from her most sacred Majesty under the Great Seal of Engl^d by all the Laws of which Kingdom when made acquainted with them we are regulated in all matters wherein our particular acts of Assembly are silent & not providing Otherwise in regard to the Constitution of this Province And for the due Administration of Justice here in enforcing Obedience to those Laws we are strictly answerable to her most sacred Majesty & none other wherefore we Cannot forbear acquainting you that as

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