

Reverend Thomas Chase whether he heard William Payne Lib. C. B.  
say that he had any Complaint to make against M<sup>r</sup> Richards  
he answered that he did not hear Payne say any such thing  
and further saith not Taken in psence of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Thomas  
Chase and James Richards Esq<sup>r</sup> this 1<sup>st</sup> of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1746  
before

Cha<sup>s</sup> Ridgeley

26 November 1746

Baltimore County ss.

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of Baltimore County and  
Town, and many of Us Members of a Club kept in said Town,  
having understood that an Information hath been made to  
this Government, that M<sup>r</sup> James Richards high Sheriff of Our  
said County, and a Member of Our Club hath spoken Words  
reflecting on his present Majesty King George his Person  
and Government

We therefore in Justice to the Character of the s<sup>d</sup> James  
Richards do certify that He at all times and on all Occasions,  
when in Our Company expressed the Greatest Loyalty and  
Zeal for his present Majesty and the happy Establishment  
both in Church and State, and frequently declared his utter  
Abhorrence of the present unnatural Rebellion; and always  
was One of the most Active and forward in expressing his  
Joy, on making any Conquest or gaining any Victory over  
the French, the Pretender, or any of his Majestys Enemies,  
and particularly distinguished himself on the Days We cele-  
brated the taking Cape Breton, The Victory obtained over  
the Rebels at Culloden, under his Royal Highness the Duke,  
and on his Majesty's late Birthday

And further We believe the said Information to be malicious  
spiteful and without Foundation

Darby Lux	Lyde Goodwin	Rob <sup>t</sup> North	Tho <sup>s</sup> Harrison
W <sup>m</sup> Hammond	W <sup>m</sup> Fell	Nicho. Rogers	T. Sheredine
Geo. Buchanan	Tho <sup>s</sup> Franklyn	W <sup>m</sup> Bond	Henry Morgan
R <sup>d</sup> Croxall	Tho <sup>s</sup> Sligh	T. Stansbury	W <sup>m</sup> Titfin
Walter Tolley	Edw <sup>d</sup> Tulley	W <sup>m</sup> Dallam	Sab: Sollers
Ja <sup>s</sup> Slemaker	Tho <sup>s</sup> Cradock	Tho <sup>s</sup> Gough	Alex <sup>r</sup> Lawson
Edward Dogan	Charles Ridgely	W <sup>m</sup> Payne	W <sup>m</sup> Rogers
			W <sup>m</sup> Lyon
			Ja <sup>s</sup> Walker

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May It please your Excellency

When M<sup>r</sup> Chase was before me giving in his Information  
he very grossly abused M<sup>r</sup> Richards by calling him Traitor