

Lib. C. B. Six Negroes whom by Stealth he brought from the Isle of May. Captain Maisterson informing me thereof, I advised him to a Court of Admiralty in which he would certainly have a decree for the Mens Wages and for the Negroes to be delivered up, and secured for the Right Owners. But the Master of the Vessel apprehending a detection of his Villainy presently sailed away to your Government. I ordered our Attorney General to send a full Account of this affair to the Attorney General in your Province but he not knowing who is in that Office told me he would write to M^r Jennings about it. I don't doubt but Proper Care will be taken to Prosecute so vile a fellow and so great an Enemy to the Trade and Honour of this Country. His name is Davidson in the Employ of M^r Philpot Merchant in London. The truth of the whole matter is confirmed by a Letter I have since received, in very bad Latin & a worse Character so that We can only discover the fact from some Person Living in that Island.

I intend home, God willing, this Summer, and if you have any Commands, they shall be Punctually Obeyed by

Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Will: Gooch

Upon Reading the foregoing Letter It is Ordered that Warrant issue for the Apprehending the said Thomas Davison and bringing him before this Board immediately which issued in these Words.

p. 372 Maryland ss.

Whereas Information hath been made to Us the Governor and the Subscribers members of his Lordships Council of State met in Council at the City of Annapolis on the 14th day of June Anno Domini 1749 That Thomas Davison Master of the Ship Mary now Lying in Patuxent River having in his Voyage from London to this Province touched at the Isle of May under the Dominion of the Crown of Portugal did treacherously decoy six Negros belonging to the said Island to come on Board his said Ship and brought them against their Will into this Province, where the said Davison hath Sold them as Slaves in manifest Violation of Justice, and Private as well as Publick Faith.

These are therefore in his Lordships Name to Require you that immediately on Receipt hereof you Attach arrest & Apprehend the Body of him the said Thomas Davison and bring him forthwith before us at the City aforesaid to Answer unto such matters as shall be then and there Objected against