proviso in the Royal Charter the situation of this Province on the Western Ocean, and which with the Bays, Inlets, and Arms of the Sea, afford Cod, Ling, shad, Herring and a great Variety of other suitable Fish fit for salting and curing for Merchandize and Exportation; renders it properly a Fishing Colony; which great advantage is lost to his Majestie's liege Subjects, for want of Salt in greater plenty, and Cheaper, to encourage that Branch of Trade, exclusive of the great Need which the people have for that Commodity, not only for their own common use, but also that those who live remote from the Navigable or Salt Water, are indispensibly Obliged to give their Cattle Salt, which consumes great Quantities thereof Y^r^ Committee humbly conceive, that in order to apply to the Parliament of Great Britain, for an Act to admit the Importation of Salt from any part of Europe in Amity with his Majesty, his Heirs and successors, into this province, it will be needful to lodge a sum of Money, in the Hands of a creditable Merch^t^ in London, not exceeding Five hundred pounds Sterling: and that the Means of raising part of the same be by a Duty of upon all Tobacco's exported out of this province after the Day of next, or the End of this Session of Assembly; which Merchant to account with the General Assembly of this province for such Money: That a proper person or persons be appointed as an Agent or Agents at London to employ Council to draw such Act, or to take such other Means as May be most Suitable, by Solicitation or otherwise, as Occasion may require: and that such Merchant have order to pay the Council, Agent, or other persons concerned. that the sum of now in the Hands of Mr William Hunt Merchant in London be appropriated to the purpose aforesaid. That your Honourable House will, when the said is solliciting, or at a proper Time Apply to his Excellency the Governor, for his Countenance and Interest therein, and to the upper House of Assembly, to join in an Address to his Lordship the Lord proprietary of this province to request that he will use his Interest and Influence for obtaining the same. That in case it shall be adviseable, your Honourable House will jointly with the upper House of Assembly at a proper Time petition the Parliament of Great Britain, for the Act aforesaid your Committee humbly Conceive it may be proper for your Honourable House jointly with the Upper House, to appoint one or more person or persons here to communicate with the Merchant and Agent, or Agents that may be appointed According to the Instructions, he or they should receive from Either, or both Houses from time to time in Relation to the said Act all which is humbly submitted to the Consideration of your Honourable House.

L. H. J. Liber No. 46 May 24

Signed per Order V: Denton, Clerk

Samuel Chamberlaine Esqr from the uper House delivers to Mr Speaker a petition of several County Clerks on behalf of them-