

colonists in America;" in which, among other things, the late extension of the jurisdiction of the Vice-Admiralty Courts, was

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following extract from the records of the High Court of Chancery of Maryland, in the case of *Powlson v. Forwood*.

"Memorandum.—This 23d day of February, 1725, his honor the Chancellor acknowledges to have received of Mr. Plater by order of his honor the Governor copies of several orders of the King and Council, to wit, one of the 11th of August, 1720; one other of the 30th of April, 1724; and one other of the 4th of July, 1724; and ordered the same to be entered in the proceedings of this Court to avail so far they ought; which orders are in the words following, viz:

"At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 11th August, 1720, present their excellencies the Lords Justices, &c. (Here follow the names of the members of the Council.)

"Upon reading this day at the board a report from the right honorable the Lords of the committee for hearing appeals and complaints, &c., from the plantations, dated the 4th of this instant in the words following, viz: Whereas by an order in Council of the 26th instant referring to this committee the humble petition of Jonathan Forwood, complaining of several unjust proceedings against him, and his agents in the Courts of judicature in the Province of Maryland at the suit of one Gilbert Powlson master of the ship *Dolphin*, touching an agreement entered into between them, for the said Powlson to transport from England to the said Province and to Virginia, one hundred and thirty-one servants; on account whereof, the petitioner alleges, the said Powlson has obtained two attachments against his effects there, one of them for one hundred and sixty pounds which he actually received, and the other for seven hundred pounds for which he has sold good part of the petitioner's effects in his hands; and humbly praying to be relieved in the premises.

"Their Lordships this day took the same into consideration, and having heard the petitioner by his counsel therein, do agree humbly to report their opinion, that upon Mr. Forwood's giving such security as the Governor and Council of Maryland shall think sufficient to answer the said Powlson's demands, his goods in specie shall be restored to him, or, in case they are sold, he shall be paid the money arising from the sale thereof; and that thereupon the Provincial Court do proceed to hear and determine the cause or causes with liberty for either party to appeal therefrom.

"Their excellencies the Lords Justices in Council taking the said report into consideration are pleased to approve thereof, and to order as it is hereby ordered, that upon Mr. Forwood's giving such security as the Governor and Council of Maryland shall think sufficient to answer the said Powlson's demands, his goods in specie shall be restored to him, or in case they are sold he shall be paid the money arising from the sale thereof; and that thereupon the Provincial Court do proceed to hear and determine the cause or causes with liberty for either party to appeal from such determination; whereof the deputy governor, or commander-in-chief for the time being of the Province of Maryland, and all others whom it may concern are to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly."

"At the Court of St. James, the 30th day of April, 1724. Present, the King's most excellent Majesty, &c. (here follow the names of the members of the Council.) Upon reading this day at the board a report from the Lords of the committee for hearing appeals, complaints, &c. from the plan-