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Information agt mr Brent

... [illegible] Attorney for the Lord Proprietary informeth to the Court against Giles
Brent gent that he having been propounded to the Leiut. Generall an enterprise
upon the Susquehanoughs & the Leiutent. Generall together wth him the said Giles Brent
did resolve and conclude upon the meanes & manner of it, and among the rest
that he the said Giles Brent should have a Commission to raise men at Kent
& all other necessaries for the Service, and with them pursue the enterprise, and
that it should be done at the countries charge; all wch the said Giles Brent seemed
to like & approve of, & accordingly undertook the raising of the men upon Kent, and
the leading them out upon the service, and to that purpose had accepted a full
and absolute Commission to that purpose & all things necessary, & that he knew full
well what great charge it would be to the country, & how importantly the honor &
safety of the Province was concerned in the managing & success of it, and what a no-
table opportunity was then prepared for disadvantaging of the enemy & disabling him
to assault us against, not to be hoped for the like at another time, he the said Giles
Brent upon his arrivall at Kent understanding of a Commission granted to mr William
Braithwait for the comand of that Island, & taking disgust thereat, or for some
other secrett discontent or disaffection to the good & welfare of the province as may
reasonably be supposed, did not use or exequute the said Commission according to the
power therein granted & the trust & charge undertaken by him but desiring how to make
the Commission & designe ineffectuall & succeslesse with as much ignominie as much
as might be, and to give the people there an occasion of refusing and disobeying it,
instead of a serious & thorow exequuting of it as his duety & charge was did leave it
to their consideration whether they were willing to be pressed or no, & used words
to signifie they should not be urged against their wills or to that purpose, & upon
their refusall of that so gentle a proposition did dismisse them without pressing any,
pretending (as he saith since) some illegalities then found in the Commission, which
illegalities neverthelesse upon some new thoughts he easily swallowed, and issued war-
rants for the pressing of 20. souldiers, who came wth their armes according to his com-
and & were ready to be employed by him, but receiving from them some expressions of un-
willingnes he easily admitted thereof, & of his owne head without authority dismissed
them againe, and so lett the whole enterprise & charge fall to the ground, in great
contempt of the authority & government of the place, to the great disgrace & disreputation
of or nation among the Indians our neighbors & dependants who had great expectation
of the issue of that expedition, to the encouragement & ill example of the people to contemn
the like commissions at another time, to the eminent danger of the whole colony and
the indangering of his Lo. and the country in a fruitlesse expence of so much Tobacco
beside much losse & hindrance to perticular persons. wherefore saving to him selfe the
advantage of adding such other articles hereafter in time convenient as he shall think fit
& of replying to the allegations wch shall be made by the said Giles Brent he prayeth that
the said Giles Brent may be called to answere upon oath to the said misdemeanors & the
contempts & such further Interrogatories as shall be administred to him thereupon; & that
such proceedings & sentence may be had & used agt him as justice shall require.

Commission for examining in mr Brents st.

Cecilius Lord Proprietary &c. To or trusty & beloved Robert Vaughan Lieutent of
the Isle and County of Kent, William Luddington & Richard Thomson gent. greeting. We
doe hereby authorise you & withall will & require you or any two of you whereof ye
William Luddington to be one, to call afore you all such persons as are named under the
Interrogatories herein enclosed, & to administer an oath to every of them to make true
answere to such Interrogatories as shall be demanded of them on the behalfe of Giles Brent
gent and every of them to examine upon every the said Interrogatories, and to send
their answeres thereunto signed with the examinats owne hand and the said answers
[illegible] secrett, and send them enclosed under your seale to us or or Leiutent Generall
some time before the third of November next, together wth this Commission. whereof
faile not. [illegible] Marys the seaventeenth of Octob 1642. witnesse or deare
brother &c.