

Deposed to a Law of like Nature in Virginia and also  
the said Baltimore's defence to the late Act of Assembly  
against their Importation here Now this is what your  
Petitioners humbly pray leave to lay before your Honours  
for your Consideration for without your Honours Relief  
we have only to offer the late Law of said Corporation  
to excuse us from any Employer for not making such Returns  
as some of us had done in Virginia and other places have  
done we have only further to subscribe our selves with  
all due Regard your Honours most Obliging most humble  
Servants

John Moore  
David Russel

To which Petition the said Corporation being called  
before us appear here at this honorable Board and beg Leave  
to Answer the said Petition which Answer followeth in  
these words

To his Honour the Governour and his Lords High  
Honourable Council

May it please your Honours

On Perusal of the Representation of Messrs  
John Moore and David Russel to your Honours we find  
they alledge they had <sup>fully</sup> complied with the Bond Given  
by Mr Toward but that they were denied in Effect the  
Benefit of the Property proposed by that Act being greatly  
hindered by the Corporation of this City by Value of a Law  
as we have said of our own making

We beg Leave to assure your Honours that their  
Allegation is entirely false for we have made no such Law  
Nor have we Obliged them to take any of their Servants