

Whereupon the said Daniel Dubourg Esq: takes the Oath to the Government appointed to be taken by Act of Assembly, and likewise the Oath of a Juror, and subscribes the Allegiance and Test, and takes his Place at the Board accordingly.

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Letter

May it please your Excellency. Chester Town May 9. 1757.

We the Subscribers Commanders of the Ships and Sailors lying at Chester Town beg Leave to represent to your Excellency that upon the strictest Enquiry we could ever make concerning the violent Attack on ourselves Men and Ships on the second of April last in the Night by the Soldiers and others in firing loaded Muskets at us we never understood that either Mr. James Nicholson or Mr. Alexander Calder the unfortunately present as well as several others whom the Soldiers fired and we believe had imprudently resolved if the Sailors had come on Shore to have refused in beating them because some young Men of the Town had been struck by some of the Sailors in the Day Time when the young Men were only endeavouring to make Peace in an Affair that had happened between the Sailors and Soldiers ever fired a Gun at any of us, or had any Guns with them, from which tho' the great Fury on Foot as we suppose of their being present and of the Interest with which they might rashly go being hurried away by the Heat of Youth and want of Reflection the Men's Life being lost have included them in the Indictment for the Murder, we would willingly believe they had no Malice against any of the Sailors more than merely what happens commonly in Quarrels but had no Design against the Life or Property of any Body, and think them truly real and proper Objects of your Excellency's Mercy, and humbly beg as they are young Men of Family and Credit, and we don't understand were ever before a Court or accused of any Misbehaviour before, and as what has already happened will be a sufficient Warning to all youths of this Place not to think rashly of taking Satisfaction at their own Hands for any Offence but to take a proper Reprehension under the Decisions of the Law, and that the Peace of the Community will be sufficiently secured thereby that your Excellency would be pleased to extend your gracious Favour towards them to the Relief of themselves, and their Parents, as we entirely forgive them for any Countenance they might be thought to give the Town who so much injured us, and look on it only as proceeding from Heat of Youth and Indignation, and not from a criminal Intention to take our Lives away. And for your Excellency's Favour on this Application, we as our Duty bound shall ever pray.

John Hearding  
John Cole  
Wm. Andrew  
James Hamilton

Ordered by the Advice of this Board that Warrants be made out for James Nicholson and Alexander Calder which issued accordingly.

The following Letters and Indians Speech, are by his Excellency laid before this Board.