

to the Naval Officer in lieu of his Fees. Were we to insist on the
Shippers coming ashore every Trip to enter & clear at the Office the
Loss by the Delay would be so great that the Proprietors of the Iron
Works had better hire some Maryland Vessels to carry their Ore than
send their own to fetch it & then (you know His Lop) would receive
no Tonnage at all, nor would the Naval Officers be entitled to more
than half Fees. This Consideration induced me to give the Gent.
such an Indulgence as is above mentioned & I hope His Lop will approve
thereof & believe that His Interest has been properly regarded. When
the Naval Officer returns his Account you will see what Vessels
are employed in carrying Ore & what Duty they respectively pay.
When Col. Lloyd comes over to Annapolis I shall submit to him what
has been done with regard to this matter, had he been here when the
Gent.ⁿ came from Virg.^t, I should most certainly have consulted him
at the time, but the Distance that is between Us & the great Dif-
ficulty there is in getting him over on any occasion whatever deprives
me almost entirely of his Advice. There is not I am persuaded any
Room to apprehend that the Naval Officers make any kind of
Agreement with the Masters or Owners of other Vessels concerning the
Tonnage or the Payment of any other Duty or Impost, neither do
the Masters of Tobacco Ships pay Tonnage according to the Number
of Tons that they carry but they all pay according to the Burthen
or true measure of their respective Vessels. I have received my
Brother Joshua's Letter with a Copy of the Sr. Mayors Opinion concern-
ing the Duty imposed on Convicts. I believe Mr. Tasher will
never choose to resign the Office of Comptroler Gen.^l while he can
keep it & with regard to his Age, I presume he would tell you that
he