

In Council 22^d April 1779

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Sir. Inclosed you have a copy of a Resolution of Congress of the 18th Inst. rec^d. this Morning accompanied with a Letter from the Massachusetts Delegates in Congress, requesting, in particular, Permission for loading the Schooner Bonner, Capt. Richard Stiles. Capt. Stiles has also produced us his Address from the Board of War in Boston to Mess^{rs} Hoofman and May of Balt^e, who appear to be Agents for that Board in conducting the Purchase and Shipping off Flour & Grain to them. We therefore desire that the said Schooner Bonner may be permitted to load with Grain & Flour or either of those Articles and afterwards cleared out in your Office for Boston; but previous to the Vessel's being cleared out the Persons who Ship the Grain or Flour, as well as the Captain, make Oath or Affirmation, if a Quaker and indoped on the Back of the Manifest of the Lading "that the Grain or Flour therein mentioned was shipped and received on board the within mentioned Vessel in Purfuance of the Orders of the Board of War of the State of Massachusetts and for the sole Purpose and Intent of transporting the same to the said State of Massachusetts to be there delivered according to the Order and Desire of the said Board of War". If, as probable, Mess^{rs} Hoofman and May should want Permits for other Vessels, advise them that we think it necessary they should write to us on the Subject. You'll give a Certificate to Capt. Stiles of the Oath being taken on his clearing out & for his Safety, we intend to add an Indorsement on his Papers, on his Way down, which may satisfy any Body into whose Hands he may happen to fall, of the Exception in Favor of his being loaded with Articles generally prohibited.

The Naval Officer at
Balt^e Town }

We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 23^d April 1779

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Sir. It is represented by Mr. Digby that a Writ of Ne exeat is issued and served against William Noke and that you have let him go at large without any Security, alleging that a Certificate granted to him by this Board, purporting that the Government had no Objection to his going to Europe by Way of the West Indies, was a Superfedeas of the Ne exeat. You certainly cannot discharge any Man from legal Process in a Civil Matter on the Order of this Board, was such Order to issue; but, to prevent Mistakes or Misapprehensions, this is to inform you that the Certificate granted to Mr. Noke, is no Discharge or Superfedeas of any Kind of Process, nor was it so intended.

We are &c.

Sheriff of Annapolis County. }