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Baltimore July 1st 1839.

Dear Sir,

Your favour of the 29th inst came to hand this morning and in reply would remark that the facts stated in the Patriot respecting the trial of the case of Ground Bark are substantially as they were elicited in the trial, but there seems to be a desire on the part of the Reporter to speak harshly of the Inspector - A narration of the circumstances as they occurred previous to and during the trial will perhaps afford your Excellency the best source of correct information regarding the official conduct of the Inspector. About the middle of May a person called at my office for the purpose of getting an officer to sign him in the seizure of Black oak Bark which he stated had been illegally shipped and when the officer had heard the circumstances related he said he would attend to it. After the person had related I asked the officer, Mr. Merryman, who the person was, when he informed me it was Mr. Smith the Inspector of Black oak Bark. Mr. Merryman subsequently requested two other officers to attend to the business, stating to me in a conversation upon the subject that there were some doubts upon the propriety of the proceeding and mentioned it also to the young men that they might take proper advice in the matter before proceeding. A few days after, on the 20th of May Mr. Smith call'd at my office and took the oath prescribed by the act of Assembly 1821 relating to the inspection of ground bark - Here the matter seemed to sleep for some time when on the 7th of June Mr. T. Parker Scott, associate of John Scott, (attor) put into my hands thirty two causes of action, with an order to issue immediately on them, the issues were accordingly made the jury defendant John Smith brought up and the cause called for trial on the 20th June on which day the trial commenced. On the examination of the Captain it appeared that he started from Laurie Delaware with the 32 baskets of bark and some lumber, the bark being the balance of 200 baskets which were deliverable in Philadelphia - the previous part had been delivered by the Captain passing through the canal to Philadelphia the vessel not having been considered sufficiently staunch to go round by sea. After having arrived at the canal found it impassable in consequence of a dam and put into the Pot of Baltimore when the bark was transferred from one vessel to another along side for the purpose of landing round by sea to Philadelphia, without having been landed. On the examination of Mr. Smith the Inspector it appeared that when first informed that the bark was on board to be shipped to Philadelphia he called on Mr. Smith the agent