

May it please your Excellency

The foregoing Petition has been read in this house, who are generally sensible that the greatest part thereof is true and the Motives therein laid down very pressing and therefore do humbly pray your Excellency on their Behalfs to give such grant to the same as in your wisdom you shall see convenient

Signed G. Order Henry Denton G. Assembly

Upon reading and due Consideration had of the foregoing Petition and the Vote of the house thereon it was here considered that most or several of the said Ships had already lain a very considerable time in the Country —

That time of the year is now approaching very fatal to Shipping and their Men in danger of Seasoning, whereby their Voyages may be overthrown to the great Damage of the Merchant the Diminution of their Majestys Revenues and loss of the Shipping — That provisions is now very extraordinary scarce and hard to be got upon any terms in the Country and most or all of the said Ships very barely provided — Some hardly sufficient to carry them home if not permitted forthwith to sail and have a favourable Passage. That the main design of the Embargo is already vacated several Ships having been permitted to depart and are gone from Virginia and the time of the Embargo prolonged at the arbitrary Will and Pleasure of the Men of War without any Orders from their Majestys known to this Government —

For these reasons and that there may be an Opportunity of sending Intelligencers to England of Occurrences here, as also that there may not want a supply of Necessaries next year by the return of the said Ships hither and many other Motives inducing; It is advised and Resolved that it is highly necessary to permit such Ships (as are ready) to depart under the Convoy and Conduct of Peregrine and John Brownes Ships of good force and Countenance and that the same be humbly Recommended to his Excellency for his Licence to take off the said Embargo & present and suffer the said Ships to depart

By his Excellency the Governor and Council in Assembly

May the 12th 1692

The severall Messages this Day received from the house, the first by Mr. Greenfield and Mr. Gods, the second by Mr. Dent and Mr. Smith, Major Surr & Mr. Whittington, and the last by Mr. Saker and Mr. Hawkins, have passed the matters and Deliberate Consideration of this Board, and in answer thereunto they return severally and in order as followeth viz^t

1 That the Board is very desirous to Concurr with the house in all things reasonable and safe for them to do, especially should be very glad to give that Satisfaction both to the house and the persons themselves principally concerned / who for tenderness of Conscience cannot comply with the Law in taking the Oaths prescribed in such formality as is required but after all their endeavours and strict Scrutiny thereunto cannot find out any Expedient for that purpose without open Violation of the Laws of England which is not consistent with nor in any wise to be admitted of according to our present Constitution, also wholly Repugnant to the very express words of his Excellencys Commission and his directions in his Speech at the opening of this Assembly now Recommended to the Consideration