

His Excellency does demand in their Majesty's name that those Masters who have objected against the Petition that they declare if they know any Reason why these other Masters cannot be ready to sail sooner and when the Judgment lies and whether there has been any Neglect by the Masters Merchants or in the Government who do say that they believe the Unseasonableness of the Weather has been the greatest Occasion and therefore can impute no neglect to the said Masters now to the Government

His Excellency does further in their Majesty's name demand of the Masters in General what would be the best time for their Majesty's Service for the Fleets Sailing from England to this Country who do say that the beginning of November will be the best time to arrive here

His Excellency does further Propose to the Masters and Merchants in General if there be any Rivers within the Capes wherein they may secure their Vessels from the Storm to which it is Composed there are

His Excellency further proposes if they know any way which for the future may Occasion their quicker dispatch out of this Country who do say that if Tobacco bids be all provided ready against set time and Tobacco shipped early as Seasons Present and especially if Tobacco be brought to certain Ports or Towns the same will be means to make the Trade quicker

Brought in the following Petition which was read at the Board
To his Excellency Francis Nicholson Esq; their Majesty's Governor of their Province and Territory of Maryland

The Petition of divers Masters of Ships and Vessels trading into their Majesty's Province &c

Humbly Sheweth

That whereas your Petitioners the Subscribers being Masters of Ships and Traders into this Province have been here a great while ready to sail and nothing else to do but wait your Excellency's motion and Command to depart this Province and considering that they bear a great Cost and Charge

Your Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency that they may be Licens'd to sail and be dispatched that they may return for England they presenting to your Excellency that there is a considerable Fleet which is now ready in this Province and Virginia to sail which your Petitioners humbly Offer to your Excellency's Consideration

And your Pet as in duty Bound shall ever pray
Joshua Whiting Law. Swartbrock
Tho: Phelps W^m Gaddy
Tomothy Paine Walter Power