

Letter directed to him from the Honble Thomas Addison Esq. one of our Members wherein he makes mention of a petition & preferred to house of him & Copy whereof has been & directed to us under your Clerks hands by him it appears he stands charged with great partiality in the Execution of his office as the Land & Commissionary, and the said Thomas Addison Esq. having represented to us that the said pet<sup>n</sup> without his ever being called to answer thereto is by your house referred to the Consideration of the next Sessions of Assembly by which means he is not only deprived of the present opportunity of Justifying his Conduct in the discharge of his office aforesaid, but further declares he cannot think it proper for him to act in those other eminent Stations he has the honour to be advanced to in this Government until he shall have acquitted himself of the facts imputed to him in the said petition and for as much as we think it unreasonable that any Gentleman and especially those who occupy such honorable Employments in the Government should be taxed under such an indecent Manner with notorious Crimes and be denied a speedy & opportunity of Justifying themselves.

We therefore in the most pressing manner desire that a day may be assigned during the Continuance of this Session for the Examination of the facts set forth in the said petition and to give the said Thomas Addison Esq. an opportunity of answering for himself and as an inducement thereto we have herewith sent you the Letter before mentioned whereby you may perceive what scandalous Libels have been taken to abuse him on other Occasions,

And we the more earnestly press this matter to your Consideration as a Member of this house is concerned therein

Signed for order - J. M. Peale Esq. Clk. of the Ho.

9<sup>th</sup> April 1720

May it please your Excellency

It's now ten years that I have had the Honour to be employed in some Stations of eminent Trust in this Government and (most humbly) beg pardon that I appeal to your Trye whether (since your Arrival here which is near six years of that time) I have not served my Country with my constant attendance and application, what may be wanting in Capacity I can't account for, but though it my duty on the Command of my Sovereign to employ the best of my ability that may and should continue most cheerfully so to do if I might with honour but when mens Names in such Stations as oblige