

and that the Conduct of *John Read Magruder*, of *Upper-Marlborough*, Merchant, then in *London*, who, it appears, ordered Goods by the above Ship, may be particularly and fully known."

It further appeared to the Committee, that when Mr. *John Read Magruder* took Leave of his Partner, Mr. *John Hepburn*, junior, that the latter was so dangerously ill that all his Friends despaired of his Recovery; and that Mr. *Hepburn* had declared, he thought Mr. *Magruder* believed him dead, not having received any Letter from him of his Arrival at *London*—If Mr. *Magruder* thought him dead, and the Partnership thereby dissolved, the Motive for shipping the Goods under the Pretence of the old Order, and in the Names of M & H, is apparent.

The Committee then proceeded to examine the Papers laid before them by Mr. *William M'Gachin*, viz.

1st, A Letter to the Committee, dated *Baltimore-Town*, February 5, 1770.

G E N T L E M E N,

“ AS I am a Party concerned in the Goods on board the Brig *Good Intent*, Captain *Errington*, lately arrived at *Annapolis*, which has occasioned a good deal of Talk with regard to the Legality and Illegality of the Importation of those Goods, agreeable to the Association entered into at *Annapolis* the 22d *June* last, I think it incumbent on me to lay before you, all the Extracts of my Letters to Mr. *John Buchanan* (who has only shipped Goods for me) relative to that Business; also Extracts of all the Letters I have received from him on that Subject, which I, upon my Word declare to be true and genuine; and to remove all Doubt with regard to the Authenticity of the Extracts, I have brought all Mr. *Buchanan's* to me since *December 2*, 1768, and my Letter-Book, containing a Copy of all I have wrote him since that Time, which I am ready to show any Two of your Committee you please to appoint to look into them. You have a Copy of my Invoice sent Mr. *John Buchanan*, *December 2*, 1768; likewise a Copy of the Invoices, with the Shop-Notes of all the Goods I have received, or has on board Captain *Errington*, since that Time: I have also marked, in the best Manner I am capable, at the Bottom of my Shop-Notes, what Goods are allowed to be imported by the General Association. As I flatter myself my Conduct, with Regard to the General Association the 22d of *June* last, about the Importation of Goods into this Province, will appear just and honourable, I trust to remove any Sort of Prejudice that Persons may have conceived who know nothing of the Merits of my Case—That you will give public Testimony of my Conduct in this Affair.

I am, respectfully, GENTLEMEN, your humble Servant,

WILLIAM M'GACHIN.

Extracts