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Dec. 7.

Royal warrant dated Dec. 7 to the Attorney or Solicitor General for a privy seal for a release as follows to Sir Samuall Stanyer, John Smith, James King, John Lordell, Robert Oxwick, George Hitchcock, John Midgley the elder, John Bushell, Samuel Crispe junr., William Twyford, Thomas King, Joseph Buckley, Thomas Drake and Richard Turner who by deed dated 1701 April 7 were appointed agents and trustees by and in place of Edward Bushell *et al.* (to wit Edward Bushell as Treasurer, Thomas Canham, Humphry Holcombe, Peter du Cane, Peter Hubland, Edward Wytheridge, Edward Watts, Hugh Strood, Samuel Stanier, Ralph Suckley, John Smith, James King, Nathaniel Townsend, John Lordell, David Lambert, Samuel Crispe and Robert Oxwicke, being agents and trustees appointed for the persons concerned in the debt due to them from the Crown of Portugal of the one part and Henry Visct. Sidney of Sheppey, afterwards Earl of Romney deceased, of the other part) with full power to transact and manage the whole affair relating to the recovery of the said debt. By indenture dated 1689-90 March 13 it appears that the said Bushell *et al.* as agents and trustees did treat with the said Henry Visct. Sidney and agreed to give, pay and allow unto him one full moiety of so much of the said debt as should be recovered by the means or procurement of the said Sidney; the principal and interest of the said debt being therein mentioned to amount to 525,540*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*: and further by deed poll dated 1690 April 21 the said Visct. Sidney declared that one moiety of the said full moiety (that is one fourth part of said debt) was in trust and to and for the sole use and benefit of Wm. III: and further the said Henry, Lord Romney pursuant to the said agreement for recovery of said debt and the said Stanier *et al.* (as Trustees concerned for the said merchants and others) did contract and agree with the Crown of Portugal to accept of 40,000*l.* in full satisfaction of the said debt of 525,540*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* and interest thereof, which said sum of 40,000*l.* was all that could be got from the said Crown of Portugal for the said debt: and further by a writing under the hand and seal of the said Henry, Lord Romney, dated 1701-2 Jan. 13 he did declare that the said Stanier *et al.* should receive, retain and keep out of the said 40,000*l.* the sum of 22,500*l.* for their use and benefit and that he the said Earl would be content to receive and expect no more than the remaining 17,500*l.*: and further the said Agents and Trustees [Stanier *et al.*] or some of them have received in pieces of Eight from the Crown of Portugal the sum or value of 40,000*l.* according to agreement, in full satisfaction of said debt and interest and have delivered to Treasurer Godolphin an estimate or computation for and concerning the same and of the charges in the management and receiving the same, upon view whereof it appears that there is due to the Crown for the Crown's moiety of said 17,500*l.* receivable by the Earl of Romney according to the said declaration of 13 Jan. 1701-2 (which declaration the Queen hereby allows and approves of) the sum of 7,922*l.* 6*s.* 6½*d.*: now by this privy seal it is declared and agreed that the said 40,000*l.* be hereby approved, ratified and confirmed as so taken and received from the Crown of Portugal by the consent and approbation of Wm. III. in satisfaction and discharge of the said debt: and further the Queen hereby allows of the said estimate and computation and the charges and deductions therein and does agree and declare that the said 7,922*l.* 6*s.* 6½*d.* is all that is due and payable to her Majesty for her share and interest in the said debt of 525,540*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* and does accept the same in discharge thereof, the said Stanier *et al.* having paid said sum into the Exchequer Dec. 7 inst.: and the said Stanier

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et al. and John, Earl of Leicester, executor of said Earl of Romney, are all hereby released, acquitted and discharged from the said sums and claims and from all accounts relating to the said debt due from the Crown of Portugal or that may be hereafter recovered by said Stanier *et al.* in respect of any moneys, goods or effects by them received on account of the said debt due from the Crown of Portugal or for or in respect of the seizures, sequestrations, wrong and damage for which the said debt or demand from the Crown or subjects of Portugal did arise. *Ibid.*, pp. 176-8.

Dec. 8.

Letter of direction for 7,500*l.* to Spencer Compton: being intended to be paid over to the Trustees for her Majesty's bounty to the French Protestants and is to complete the sum of 15,000*l.* to them in this present year. The said sum is to be issued out of the sum of 7,922*l.* 6*s.* 6½*d.* lately paid into the Exchequer by Sir Samuel Stanier and others. The 422*l.* 6*s.* 6½*d.* remaining thereof is to be issued to such other charitable uses as her Majesty hath directed. *Disposition Book XX*, p. 79. *Out Letters (General) XIX*, p. 142.

Order by Treasurer Godolphin to the Customs Commissioners to observe (a) *infra*.

Prefixing: (a) order of the Queen in Council dated St. James's Dec. 4. By letters from [Navy] Commissioner [George] St. Loe to the Navy Commissioners read at this [the Privy Council] Board the 1st inst. it being represented that the island of How Fort in the Medway, pitched upon for landing goods out of quarantine ships from the Baltic, is one of the most improper places that can be for that purpose, the Queen referred same to the Lord Treasurer, who this day reported the great conveniency of the said Fort, which by leave from the Board of Ordnance is made use of for landing and airing such goods, being a place where two or three ships may deliver at a time, whereas no place to be built thereabouts could hold above one: "and being denied the use of the Isle of Grain and the other places at or near the [Standgate &c.] creeks not being sufficient to land and air such goods" the Customs Commissioners have directed the necessary preparations at How Fort for such purpose and such prudent care is taken that only such goods as come from Stockholm, Riga and other places not infected should be landed and aired at said Fort, purposely to put the city of Rochester and other parts adjacent out of any fear of infection. Hereupon the Queen orders that said Fort of How Island be continued to be used for the said purpose. *Out Letters Customs XV*, p. 223.

Treasury reference to the Surveyor General of Crown Lands of the petition of Robert Hide of Cotton Hall Co. Chester for a fresh lease (upon surrender) of the manor of Handbridge Principality Co. Chester. *Reference Book VIII*, p. 380.

Same to same of the petition of Laurence, Earl of Rochester, for a new lease of several coppice woods &c. in the Forest of Wychwood Co. Oxford granted in 1661 to Edward, Earl of Clarendon, for the lives of Henry himself, then Lord Cornbury [the present petitioner] and Edward Hyde, sons of said Earl, the right of which grant now vests in petitioner. *Ibid.*