

was sent, by the Post, and received, by the said Mr. Bucknall, on the 13th of last Month, having the Word Southall, as the Post Mark, on the Back of it, and being in the Words and Figures following, viz.

“ October the 25th, 1757.

“ Sir, This is to acquaint You That Your Cort of Request is cared on in a very base maner by a parcel o fellows that dos no Justice at all and as no Justices of the Piec attends the Cort and You and Your Brother Grimstone was the Men that first occasioned it at Watford We will mak it Our Buissness to wait of You the First Opertunity to reward You for Your Pains and will set Fir to the Hous befidis if You dont set it asid whillt Time are beter for pore Peopel for Them Prespetrenc that You fet as Comishenors have no regard of Confient in Them for They will swear a black Cro is whit for a Six peny Peic so if You fail doing it We will not fail Our Words with in a very little Time”.

from Yrs

Thomas M.

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*His Majesty, for the better discovering and bringing to Justice the Persons concerned in writing and sending the said threatening Letter, is hereby pleased to promise His most gracious Pardon to any one, or more of them, (except the Person who actually wrote the said Letter) who shall discover the Person that was principally concerned in writing and sending the same, so that he may be apprehended and convicted thereof.*

#### HOLDERNESSE.

*And, as a further Encouragement, the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Grimston, and John Askell Bucknall, Esq; do, hereby, promise a Reward of Fifty Guineas, to any Person, or Persons, making such Discovery as aforesaid; to be paid, by them, upon the Conviction of the Offender.*

Grimston.

John Askell Bucknall.

Whitehall, December 30, 1757.

*Whereas it has been humbly represented to the King, That an anonymous Letter, directed, “ To Mr. Francis Sheppard, at the Great House at Ashet, near Pinner, in the County of Middlesex,” was sent by the Post, and received by the said Mr. Sheppard, on Sunday the 11th Instant, threatening to set Fire to the Houses of Richard Lack, Ralph Wheatberly, John Martin, William Douglas, and Mrs. Rogers, of the Parish of Ruiisip; and to blow their Brains out; and, also, to cut the Throat of one of them; His Majesty, for the better discovering and bringing to Justice, the Author of the said destructive Threats, contained in the Letter abovementioned, is, hereby, pleased to promise His most gracious Pardon to any one, or more, of the Accomplices concerned in the Writing and Sending the said Letter, who shall discover the Author of the said destructive Threats, contained therein, so that he may be apprehended and convicted thereof; and, also, a Reward of Fifty Pounds, to be paid by the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, upon the Conviction of the Author of the said Threats.*

#### HOLDERNESSE.

*And, as a further Encouragement, William Ashby, of the Parish of Breakspears in the County of Middlesex, Esq; does hereby promise a Reward of Twenty Guineas, to the Person or Persons making such Discovery as aforesaid, to be paid by him, upon the Conviction of the Offender.*

Wm. Ashby.

Admiralty Office, November 18, 1757.

My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having been credibly informed that divers evil-minded Persons have of late (under Colour of Commissions granted by their Lordships, during this present War, to the Commanders of Privateers) frequently committed Acts of Piracy and other Outrages, by unlawfully plundering and forcibly taking away Goods, Effects, Stores and Ammunition, as well on board of Neutral Ships, as on board of other Ships belonging to His Majesty's Subjects, in Violation of the Laws of Na-

tions, and of the particular Laws of this Kingdom; Their Lordships therefore, in order to detect and bring such Offenders to Justice, are pleased to promise a Reward of One Hundred Pounds, without any Deduction, unto or amongst such Person or Persons, as shall discover any other Person or Persons belonging to any British Privateer, or other British Vessel, who, during this present War with France, hath or have committed, or shall commit, any such Act or Acts of Piracy or Robbery as aforesaid, either on board any Neutral Ship or Ships, or any other Ship or Ships belonging to His Majesty's Subjects, so as such Offender or Offenders shall be apprehended and duly convicted thereof; which Reward, with Respect to the Conviction of such Offender or Offenders of any Act or Act of Piracy or Robbery, committed on board any one such Neutral or other Ship as aforesaid, shall be paid by Samuel Seddon, Esq; Solicitor of the Admiralty, immediately after such respective Conviction.

And as a further Encouragement for the apprehending and prosecuting of the said Offender or Offenders, their Lordships do also hereby promise, that every Person who shall be intitled to the Whole, or any Part of such Reward of One Hundred Pounds as aforesaid, shall also, upon Request, have a Protection from being impressed into His Majesty's Sea Service, for the Space of one Year from the Date of such Protection.

And for the more speedy and effectual discovering and bringing such Offenders as aforesaid to Justice, His Majesty is pleased to promise His most gracious Pardon to any of the Offenders, concerned in any of the Offences abovementioned, or their Accomplices, who shall first discover, and give Information against any other two or more of the said Offenders, so as they may be apprehended and convicted thereof.

J. Cleveland.

Custom House, London, November 18, 1757.

*Whereas on Tuesday the 8th Instant, in the Night, John Miles and William Doad, Officers of the Customs, belonging to the Port of Arundell in Sussex, with four Dragoons, fell in with a large Gang of Smuglers, to the Number of Fifty or upwards, who were loading a great Number of Horses with Tea, and upon the Officers attempting to seize the same, a Signal was given by the Smuglers to a Cutter lying near the Shore, belonging to Selsey near Chichester, commanded by one Thomas Green, as represented by the Account transmitted to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, from which Cutter the said Tea was brought and landed, as there is great Reason to believe; And whereas thereupon a great Quantity of Fire Arms and other offensive Weapons were brought from the Cutter to the Smuglers on the Shore, with which they (the Smuglers) fired upon the Officers and Dragoons, and shot one Thomas Cole, a Dragoon of the Imshilling Regiment, commanded by the Honourable Lieutenant General Cholmondley, who is since dead, and also dangerously wounded another Dragoon, and violently beat and abused one of the Officers of the Customs, and rescued from the Officers much the greatest Part of the said Tea. The Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, in order to bring the Offenders to Justice, and the more effectually to put a Stop to such illegal, violent, and outrageous Proceedings, do hereby promise a Reward of One Hundred Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall apprehend the said Offenders, or any or either of them, so that they may be dealt with according to Law, to be paid by the Receiver General of His Majesty's Customs, on Conviction of each of the said Offenders.*

*And any of the Persons who were concerned in the Rescue of the Goods aforesaid, who shall, within three Months after such Offence, discover two or more of their Accomplices, so as they be convicted thereof, will be intitled to a Reward of Fifty Pounds; and every such Person so discovering, will be clearly acquitted and discharged of his Offence aforesaid, by the Act of the 9th of His present Majesty.*

By Order of the said Commissioners,

William Wood, Secretary.