

obtained the Permission of said Martinez so to do) without any other Interruption or Molestation whatever.

That or about the Third of July the Argonaut, a Merchant Ship, appeared in the Offing of said King George's Sound, commanded by James Colnett; that said Martinez equipped a Launch with Twenty Men and upwards, and went with the same himself, accompanied by Richard Howe, an American, and Supercargo of the Ships Columbia and Washington (belonging to the United States of America, and then lying in said Sound) on board said Argonaut; that said Argonaut sailed into and Anchored in said Sound with British Colours flying; that the next Morning the Argonaut wanting to put to Sea, was prevented by said Martinez, who seized said Vessel with an armed Force, took the Captain and Crew on board said Frigates, and put them in Irons; that said Martinez ordered the British Colours on board the Argonaut to be hauled down, and the Spanish Colours to be hoisted, and fired a Gun on board the Argonaut, and took Possession of the Vessel in the Name of his Catholic Majesty; that said Martinez then ordered all the Property on board said Argonaut to be removed on board said Frigates; that on the 13th Day of July the beforementioned Vessel the Princess Royal appeared in the Offing of said King George's Sound, and that Robert Hudson, Master of said Vessel, came into said Sound in his Boat; that since Martinez immediately seized said Boat, together with said Hudson and the Boat's Crew, on whom several Spanish soldiery who were on Board the Argonaut and the Princessa (one of said Frigates) fired with Ball; that when said Hudson came along-side said Frigate in his Boat, the Crew belonging to said Frigate beat said Hudson and his Men, and threw said Hudson down the After Hatchway of said Frigate, saying, "Get down, you English Dog," and afterwards put him in the Cabin under a Guard of Soldiers; that the Spaniards then launched Two Boats, armed with Cutlasses, &c. which went on Board the Princess Royal, and brought her into the Sound; that they then fired a Gun on Board her, hauled down the English and hoisted Spanish Colours on Board her, and put the Crew, all the Merchandize, and other Property that was in her, on Board One of said Frigates, and took Possession of said Princess Royal in the Name of His Catholic Majesty; that at this Time he this Informant saw Two Spanish Batteries which were erected on Shore in said Sound, the one mounted 16 Guns, and the other Seven Guns, with the Spanish Flag flying thereon.

And this Informant further says, That he remained in Confinement on Board One of said Spanish Frigates for the Space of Three Weeks, and was then put on Board the aforesaid American Vessel the Columbia, in order to return to China; that before said Vessel sailed, he this Informant was several Times on Board the Argonaut, where he saw Captain Colnett and his Officers confined in the Cabin, and the Crew in the Fore Hatchway in Irons.

And this Informant further says, That he sailed from China on Board the Felice, and arrived in said King George's Sound in the Month of May 1788; that in about a Fortnight or Three Weeks after their Arrival he saw Mr. Meares deliver some Articles of Merchandize to Maquilla, the Sovereign Prince of the said Sound, which he then understood and believed were given as a Consideration for Lands which the said Mr. Meares had required for an Establishment on Shore; that said Mr. Meares did erect a Building and other Conveniencies on said Land; and that the same were taken Possession of by said Martinez, who raised a Battery of Two Guns, and hoisted the Spanish Flag thereon.

And this Informant says, That there were a Number of Men, Natives of China, at said Sound, who had been taken thither by said Mr. Meares; and that said Martinez refused to let them return to China, and employed them in erecting Batteries and other Works, and, as he hath been informed, in digging in the Mines.

That while he was on his Passage in the Columbia to China, he saw a Quantity of Furs put on Board said Vessel from said Princessa, and that the Name Martinez was stamped or marked thereon; that in Port Cose, in their Way to China (and where the Washington and Columbia met) he also saw a Number of Furs put on Board the Columbia from the Washington.

And this Informant hereby acknowledges, That he has received from said Mr. Meares all the Wages due to him from the Time of his embarking on Board the Felice as aforesaid, to the Time of his Arrival in China on Board the Columbia; And says, that the principal Reason of his coming to Europe was to give Information of the before-mentioned Transactions.

That when he was at Port Cose, in the Columbia as aforesaid, Captain Kenrick, who commanded said Vessel, told this Informant, that if he would not sign Articles to assist in navigating her to China, he would turn him ashore among the Indians; and in consequence of said Threats, he signed said Articles; and he this Informant is of Opinion, that if he and others under the like Circumstances had not given such Assistance, they could not have carried said Vessel to China; but he did not receive any Recompense for such Service.

WILLIAM GRAHAM.

Sworn before me the Day and Year  
above written.

SAMPSON WRIGHT.