

May it please yo. Excellency

In Obedience to an Order from yo. Excellency in Council to Examine y^e Acc^{ts} of provisions — delivered by Coll. Stephen Cortlandt, for the use of his Majesties Established Companies in the Port of New York in the time of the late Earle of Bellomonts Government, & to Inquire into the proceedings made by y^e Late Earle of Bellomont in Seizing the Books, Acc^{ts} & papers of Coll. Stephen Cortlandt late Commiss^o for Managing the office of Collector & Receiver General of this Province.

As to y^e Acc^{ts} of Victualling, We have examined y^e Books & Acc^{ts} of Coll. Cortlandt & do find the Sum of Two Thousand & Thirty five pounds one Shilling & seven pence, laid out by Coll. Cortlandt for Victualling his Ma^{ties} Established Companies. — We do also find that y^e said Cortlandt has given Credit for Eight hundred and Forty pounds, seven Shillings & Eleven pence half penny, so that there Remains due to his Executrix for Victualling the Forces in the time of y^e Late Earle of Bellomonts Government the Sum of One Thousand one hundred, Ninety four pounds Thirteen Shillings & seven pence half penny.

As to the manner of the late Earle of Bellomonts proceedings in Seizing y^e Books, Acc^{ts} & papers of Coll. Cortlandt.

We have Examined into it & find by a Minute of Council of y^e 11th of Feb^y 1700 Abra. DePeyter, Sam^l Aals Rob^t. Walters & Tho. Weaver Esq^s were appointed a Committee to Audit y^e Acc^{ts} of Coll. Cortlandt & to Examine his Books, & that M^r. James Everts, was ordered to attend the said Auditors, who met at y^e house of Francis Chappel & Sign of y^e Salutation, on Tuesday y^e 10th day of Feb^y where they were attended by Cap^t John Cortlandt son to y^e D^d Coll. Cortlandt, M^r. Andrew Teller &

John

John Bassford, in order to the making up of ^{the} Aud^t. But on ^{the} Head
of Examining of Books or Aud^t they only Inquired whether —
there were not any more Books, & so soon as they thought
they had got them all, M^r. Weaver insisted that there might
be several Mistakes, and could not be Audited ~~unless~~ ^{Except} he had the
Books home wth him, which Cap^t. John Cortlandt offered to him
Provided he would give him a Receipt for them, & oblige
himself to deliver them again in any Reasonable time, but
M^r. Weaver refus'd it, only offering to give him a receipt to
deliver them again when the Government should see fit, Cap^t.
John Cortlandt refused to deliver them on those Conditions
upon w^{ch} the Auditor send M^r. Correns to acquaint the W^{id}ow
Cortlandt of it, & to know if she would let the Books go, w^{ch} she
utterly denied, at which M^r. Weaver Replied, he was glad there was
a Govern^t. to oblige them to it, or words to that Effect. Soon
after came into the Room the Mayor, Recorder, Sheriff & some
others, wth an Order under the hand of the late Earle of Bellmont
to the Sheriff, to seize the Books & papers, which accordingly
they did, notwithstanding Security was offered by Cap^t. Jacobus
Van Cortlandt to the Value of Ten Thousand pounds, that they
Would imploy men to Copy the Books out of hand, or pay any
they should appoint to Copy them, & that so soon as that could
be done, they should have either the Copies or Originals w^{ch}
they pleas'd, all w^{ch} was refused, they carrying away the Books
& have not returned them to this day. All w^{ch} is humbly
Submitted

Y^o^r. Lo^{ps} most humble & most Obedient Serv^{ts}.

New York June 4th 1702

Tho. Noell Mayor
John Barberie
Rob^t. Lutting

Report on the Widow
Conlands Petition, read in
Council 30th June 1702.

To be entered Verbatim in
the Council Book

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[Signature]