Royal warrant dated Dec. 7 to the Attorney or Solicitor General for a
privy seal for a release as follows to Sir Samuel Stanier, John Smith,
James King, John Lord, Robert Oswick, George Hitchcock, John
Midgley the elder, John Bushell, Samuel Cripe, and John 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 Huland,
Edward Wytteridge, Edward Watts, Hugh Strange, Samuel Stanier,
Ralph Stuckey, John Smith, James King, Nathaniel Townsend, John
Lordell, David Lambert, Samuel Cripe and Robert Oswicke, 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
Vicet, Sidney of Shiffey, afterwards Earl of Romney deceased, of the
other part) with full power to transact and determine without a
suit 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 Vicet 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 525,540l. 6s. 10d.: and further by deed poll dated 1690
April 21 the said Vicet 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 40,000l. in full satisfaction of the said debt
of 525,540l. 6s. 10d. and interest thereof, which said sum of 40,000l.
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
40,000l. the sum of 22,200l. for their use and benefit and that be the
said Earl would be content to receive and expect no more than the
remaining 17,800l.: 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 40,000l. according to
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 Contractor’s moiety of said 17,500l. 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 7,922l. 6s. 10d.: now by this privy seal it is declared and agreed that the said 40,000l.
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 7,922l. 6s. 10d. is all that is due and payable to her Majesty
for her share and interest in the said debt of 525,540l. 6s. 10d. 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
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.

Letter of direction for 7,500l. 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 15,000l. to them in this
present year. The said sum is to be issued out of the sum of
7,922l. 6s. 10d. lately paid into the Exchequer by Sir Samuel Stanier
and others. The 42fl. 6s. 6d. 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.

Preferring: (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 Lord Treasurer, who this day reported the
great inconvenience of the said Fort, by which the Board of
Ordinance is made use of for landing and airing such goods, being
a place where two or three ships may deliver at a time, whereas
the said island would be built thereon could hold above one: "and being
denied the use of the Isle of Grain and the other places at or near
the [Stangate] &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 of

Same to some of the petitioners Laurence, Earl of Rochestre, for
a new lease of several coppice woods &c. in the Forest of Wycombe
Co. Oxford granted in 1661 to Edward, Earl of Cheshire, for the
lives of Henry himself, then Lord Comber [the present proprietors]
and Edward Hyde, sons of said Earl, the right of which grant now
vests in petitioner. Ibid.