

Humbly sheweth William Vance of
 Londonderry Esq^r, that he hath been held a Prisoner
 in Exeter Gaol, closely confined, for 38 Days upon
 a Suspicion of his being concerned in aiding Ell^l
 Holland's Escape &c. — How far the ~~pr~~ Evidence that has
 been produced against ^{him} conduces to the proof of the
 Charge he does not pretend to determine, that not
 coming within his province; ~~intention~~ But begs leave
 to say that however fully the Charge may have been
 proved, (which he conceives by no Means to be the Case) yet
 he deems his rigorous Confinement, to be both against
 the good & wholesome Laws of this State, and also against
 the Laws of Right & Justice in general; and he cannot
 but complain of it as an Addition to the ~~past~~ Injustice
 done him, that while others, on all Hands confessedly
 more culpable than himself, ^(if the Charge was proved) are admitted to the
 inestimable Blessing of their Liberty; he is retained to
 groan under the Chains of Confinement, and those
 necessary Misfortunes that attend it. His Husbandry
 Business is neglected, his Family distressed, himself
 treated with as much Rigour as if he had been a Mur-
 derer; and all this on a Charge of an Offence to which
 the Laws of the Land have annexed no such Severity; and
 when we add the Consideration of the Deficiency in points
 of Proof, One might well be justified for Petitioning for the
 redress of such Grievances, if not loudly complain of it
 in more pointed Terms. — The Person who had the immediate
 Charge of the Prisoner who escaped, has long since been ad-
 mitted to bail — The one who made no secret of the Affair
 (Vance)

