

Argyll & Sutherland Crookshank Merchants & Owners
To the Petition of Thos Balfeour Merchant & Factor
to the Free Adm' Club of Orkney Against him & Robert
Crookshank his son —

That there never was any regular or ~~legal~~
Charter Party entered into between the Petitioner
the Petitioner and the said Robt Crookshank upon
which action could follow in any Court obliging
either party to the performance of the Voyages proposed
in the Missives between them —
All that was done was the exchange of these
Missive Letters founded upon proposing such
~~and~~ Voyages which if accepted of by the one
the Part of the Respondent in a ~~confidential~~ manner
ought oblige the Capt in point of equity to perform
his part and even the proposals themselves —
in these Missives bear to be Conditional and
even optional as to the Performance of them —
especially as it is expressly said in the Petitioners
missive that on his return from Liverpool he
should ~~not~~ take in a cargo of slate in the
Highlands and come to such places in the Orkneys
where he was to be discharged off ^{then a part only} if he was to have a good
cargo of slate for the East of England

This being the plain sense of the case and that
the Petitioner performed the Voyage to Liverpool & back
and on his return took in a cargo of slate for
Orkney ~~where he did not~~ ^{as much again his power} where he was to be discharged
The Voyage was certainly contracted on his part
and in that event there was no promise ~~or implied~~
or legal obligation upon him to undertake a second voyage
and as little can the Petitioner be supposed to have
referred a second cargo of slate for the vessel unless
it were upon the expectation of her taking in a good
slate cargo did not so if the Petitioner is disappointed
it is certainly his own fault & he only must be
answerable for any damage that might ensue

What the Respondent has done in regard to providing
another ship or otherwise in preparing the help for the
Petitioner can be only regarded as done out of good will towards
him and to prevent needless trouble & expence to all
parties ~~for his benefit~~ and surely the Capt can
be as little compelled to take the help of the Petitioner hand
in full and full a valuation as he can be or creditable
to what damage it may have red the Petitioner
or any other neglect at any time or in any event

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