

# MINT01537

**Author:** Isaac Newton

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Citty of Chester Ss } Examinat̄ns taken upon Oath before W<sup>m</sup> Bennet Esquire Mayor of the Citty of Chester and Unidentified Esquire Deputy Remembrancer of the Same Citty upon Tuesday the 17.<sup>th</sup> day of October in the Eleventh year of his Majesties King Will<sup>m</sup> the Third over England &c.<sup>t</sup> Anno<sup>o</sup> Fin 1699.

Unidentified Servant to M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified of the Citty of Chester Merchant examined upon Oath saith that yesterday being the 16.<sup>th</sup> day of this XXX October about 8. a clock at night M<sup>rs</sup> Unidentified (wife to the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified) this Examinants Mistress acquainted this Examinant that she discovered a sort of Sulphurious Smell in the Parlour of the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentifieds house, which Smell she fear'd proceded from Some dangerous Fire ab.<sup>t</sup> the Said house, which upon this Examinant Searched Severall Rooms in the Said house and Particularly the Back Sellar where this Examinant observed a Smoak comeing through a brick wall from the dwelling house of M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified on the West side of the said Sellar and gave an Account thereof to his Said Mistress Who immediatly Sent for the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified (he being then out of said house) Who p<sup>re</sup>sently returned home, and this Examinants Said M<sup>rs</sup> Sent him to the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentifieds house to enquire further there concerning the said fire & this Examinant went according by between the Hours of Eight & Nine at night to the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentifieds House and knocked at the door, and instantly heard Some borly going down a pair of Staires towards the Seller of the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentifieds House, and About 2. Minuits afterwards the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified came up Staires out of the Said Sellar and Standing upon the Said Stairs (as this Examinant beleives) he the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified asked this Examinant what was the Matter, who answered that there was a fire in the said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentifieds Sellar which put this Examinants M<sup>rs</sup> in great fear, M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified haveing observed the Smoak to come thro the Wall of the Said Cellar, Whereupon Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified replied, that it was very true that there was a fire below, and that the Smell which was then perceived did proceed from some Salt Petre which he the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified used in refineing, and that all was Safe, and this Examinant i<sup>m</sup>mediatly answered and related to his Said Master & M<sup>rs</sup> what the said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified had told him, but this Examinants Said Master being unsatisfied therewith Sent this Examinant a Second time enquireing him to See the place where the Said fire was and upon what Occasion, whereupon this Examinant went again between the Hours of 9 & 10 at Night and Knocking at the Said Mr Unidentifieds door, he p<sup>re</sup>sently came to the door, and when this Examinant told him his business as aforesaid, He then Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified said he would SHew this Examinant where the Said fire was, and opened the door and let in this Examinant, and i<sup>m</sup>mediatly locked the door again, and layd his hand upon the Wall, in the Hall of the said House and Said the Smoak came that way, and that he was only melting down some Brass to make Some i<sup>m</sup>ages on for to be used at his Country house at Cotton Hook and that all was way Safe, and that this Examinant Should See the place where the fire was the Next Morning, but this Examinant pressing to Se it i<sup>m</sup>mediatly He the Said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified took this Examinant down into the Said Cellar, and there Showed him the Said fire which was there Glowing and burning away violently, and there was then a peice of a Melting pot upon the fire, and Severall Great Stones were thrown down from about <1v> the said Fire and the said M<sup>r</sup> Unidentified being then in a very great seat said he had been Melting Brass and Silver but that he was then a putting out the said Fire and all was very Safe and that he would Not Stir till he saw the Fire quite out

Unidentified

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