

Recommends rejection of Charles Fryth's claims for consignments to the Chester Mint: he has already been overpaid £22 by mistake.

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<476r>

To the Right Honourable the Lord High Treasurer of England.

May it please your Lordship

The Petition of M^r Charles Fryth for an allowance in his Accompts now depending, of 370^{li} 8^s 9^d upon two Tickets of the Master & Worker of Chester Mint, with the Report of the Commissioners of Excise upon it, we received 30th March 1702 & in obedience to the Order of the then Lords Commissioners of the Treasury upon them we have enquired into the matter & humbly represent that we see no reason for that allowance. For M^r Fryth imported into Chester Mint several parcells of hammered money before Lady day 1697 for all which he received new monies before the end of Iuly following & endorsed the receipts on the backside of all the Master & Workers Tickets under his own hand which endorsements are ready to be produced, the last payment being of 345^{li}. 16^s. 3^d in new monies due upon the last Ticket as M^r Halley Comptroller of that Mint is ready to attest. And after these Importations & Tickets thus discharged there were four others viz^t

				oz	dwt		li	s	d
N ^o	149.	May 19	1697	2243.	15	making at 5 ^s per ounce	560.	18.	9
	152.	May 28	—	986.	5	—————	246.	11.	3
	188.	Iuly 24	—	729.	10	—————	182.	7.	6
	192.	Aug 17	—	752.	5	—————	<u>188.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>3</u>
		—				Total	1177.	18.	9

The two last of which Tickets are those for which an allowance is petitioned, & in discharge of all four amounting to 1177^{li}. 18^s. 9^d. M^r Fryth by a misreconing hath received 1200^{li} which is 22^{li}. 1^s. 3^d too much.

For the first of these four Tickets N^o 149 became payable about the middle of August 1697 & M^r Fryth drew on the Officers of that Mint two Bills ready to be produced the one of Aug. 18 for 300^{li} (the payment of which was entered at the foot of the Bill in part of this Ticket N^o 149) & the other of Aug 19 for 100^{li}. These Bills were paid by Williams (M^r Neale's Clerk) in the absence of M^r Lewis & entered by the Clerks of the Mint in their books in part of N^o 149, and afterwards M^r Fryth received of M^r Lewis & concealing from him the two first payments made by Williams amounting to 400^{li}, deducted from the two first of the said four Tickets amounting to 807^{li}. 10^s. the two last payments only amounting to 300^{li} & received from <476v> M^r Lewis a Note for the remaining 507^{li}. 10^s, & delivering in the Tickets signed the discharge of them Octob 25 in the Master & Workers Book of Receipts ready to be produced. Whereas all the four payments amounting to 700^{li} should have been deducted & the Note should have been only for 107^{li} 10^s the just remainder. And this misreconing of 400^{li} is the occasion of the controversy.

Vpon this Note made erroneously for 507^{li}. 10^s M^r Fryth received 500^{li} at three payments, viz^t 150^{li} per Bill of Octob. 26, 300^{li} per Bill of Nov. 19 & 50^{li} per Bill of Dec. 4: all which Bills drawn upon the Officers of the Mint by M^r Fryth are ready to be produced & the receipts are acknowledged by him. Had the Note been made only for 109^{li}. 10^s as it ought to have been this Note & the two last Tickets would have amounted only to 477^{li}. 18^s. 9^d in discharge of which M^r Fryth hath received 500^{li} which is too much by 22^{li}. 1^s. 3^d

After these seven payments amounting to 1200^{li} the misreconing was discovered & M^r Fryth demanding several times more money was as often told by the Officers of that Mint that he had already received more money by a misreconing then was due to him & ought to refund 22^{li}. 1^s. 3^d & cancel the Tickets. To which M^r Fryth has not yet given a satisfactory answer tho we have now written to him twice about it.

This we take to be the true state of the matter, so far as we c{an} understand it without an opportunity of hearing both parties face to face & the same is confirmed by the annexed testimony of M^r Halley Comptroller of that Mint, & by M^r Fryth's Bills drawn upon the Officers of that Mint & the entry of the payments in the Books of that Mint ready to be produced.

We are therefore humbly of opinion that the two Tickets upon which M^r Fryth petitions for an allowance are already paid off tho not cancelled & that he should make up his Accompts with the Queen without any credit allowed him upon them & that in his Accompts he be also charged with the 22^{li}. 1^s. 3^d. For the Note being for money due upon the Tickets, whatever money M^r Fryth received upon this Not ought to be set off upon the Tickets, & so much as he received upon this Note more then was due to him upon the Tickets her Majesty is defrauded of unless he account for it.

For which reason if there were any private dealings between M^r Fryth & the Officers of that Mint by which he knowingly received any money whatsoever out of the Treasury of that Mint which was not due to him out of that Treasury for silver imported, we are humbly of opinion that he ought to refund it to her Majesty

Or at least that in passing his Accompts with her Majesty all Accompts in dispute between <477r> him & the Master & Worker of that Mint be set aside & left to the course of the law.

All which is most humbly submitted to your Lordships great wisdome
