

Reply to MINT00874 (/catalogue/record/MINT00874) (Mint 19/1/462-3).

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To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majestys Treasury.

May it please your Lordships

In obedience to your Lordships order of Reference of 7th Ian^{ry} upon the Petition of Tho Dearsly for a Reward for discovering several Presses sufficient for coining of money: I humbly represent that all the persons taken up on this Information, pleaded that they used those presses in their lawfull trades, & that in the opinion of the Attorney General this plea was a sufficient excuse, & the Presses could not be destroyed without a suspicion of coining. And thereupon the men have been set at liberty without a tryall, & their Presses delivered back to them except one or two which belonged to a person who was suspected of coining & fled. And the men by their not being prosecuted are encouraged to go on. The Law appoints Rewards for prosecuting Coiners to conviction: but I know of no Precedent for rewarding the Petitioner, & feare the consequence of making new Precedents

All which is most humbly submitted to your Lordships great wisdom

Isaac Newton

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[1] Mint Office Mar. 1st 172⁰₁
