

to understand, that if he have done any thing criminal in
the execution of his office, or concerning his faith, or have committed
anything to the prejudice of the government, whereunto he cannot be
charged, he humbly conceives it ought to be in due form of
Law, and not by any proceedings against him here, by which he
thinks he ought not to be concluded: —

Council answer: To which is answered, that this board desires any individual
of concluding him by their proceedings now, but only fairly and
moderately in the presence of the Kings Councill to argue and debate
the matter in hand, in order to clear themselves before his Majesty
and all persons of the imputations charged on him by the
Blackiston in his Letter

Black: — He desires to be proceeded against in due order and form, and
to have convenient time allowed him to make his answer, and
that if he shall have occasion to make use of any Evidences
he may have their Honors assistance by their order to some of the
Justices of the Peace, for the taking of such Depositions
as he shall produce in his behalf; and that he may not be
circumscribed as to time and place, but may have liberty to
make his defence at any time before he depart the Governour,
or some time this Season of Shipping. —

Council The Board order that he may have copy of this said Letter (if desired)
but first they desire him to answer whether or not he owns any
such Letter by him written, according to the copy now read. —

Black: He refuses positively to answer thereto, but craves copy thereof
and then will in convenient time put in his Answer, and hopes
they will proceed against him in due form according to Law —
otherwise such proceedings as they will but afford new matter
of complaint

Council to Mr. George Layfield the Kings Comptroller and Sur. Gen. }
is desired by the Board to take cognizance, that they will order
the said Blackiston to have copy of his Letter and give him
convenient time to answer, and if then he refuses or delay to
make his defence, it will wholly rest at his own, and be no
waite imputable to this Government who are now and always
ready to vindicate and clear themselves of all the calumnies and
a person