

Simplified transcript

Petition from Captain James Moodie to Queen Anne

To her Majesty the Queen

A humble statement of the facts from Captain James Moodie, Commander of her Majesty's ship called the Torbay.

This petition says

He has been in the Navy for 39 years, and for 21 of those years has been a captain. He has always been trusted by his bosses, the admirals in command of the ships in the navy. In 1708 he was sent a letter by the Catholic King Charles*. The letter suggested that he should work for the Queen because he had done so well in the war with Spain.

To make matters worse, even though he is so experienced in the Navy, other younger men have been given more important jobs. Now there is a job in Plymouth that needs to be filled which he could do. He begs that the Queen will be kind enough to give him the job or something else like it.

He will always pray for her.

*King Charles was the ruler of a group of countries in Europe called the Holy Roman Empire and he wanted the Spanish throne and went to war with France over it.