

Ord^r for a
Report to be
given abt
the State
House

His Ex^{ncy} is pleased to give Notice to the Justices of the Prov^l Court that they be all there p^rsent upon the Bench & that what Burgesses were in Town should be Summoned to be there having some thing to communicate to them in publick.

Lib. H. D.
P. 43¹

His Ex^{ncy} accordingly goes Down to the Court House attended with the Gentlemen of his Ma^{ts} hon^{rb}le Council, wherein Open Court he was pleased to say that he was Come to impart a matter to them concerning the Intrest of the whole Country Viz^t

The New State House building which it was fear'd would take damage for want of being covered; the Carpinter at work upon the s^d House (being there p^rsent) was asked how ffarr he had proceeded and why it is not Cover'd who makes Answer that he Can doe no more towards it than he has done for want of Stuffe, and as to what work is done and still to doe, it is a Rule among Workmen for to Reckon a House but halfe done when the Roofe is Raised; he is Asked what damage the work will take, if it will not be Cover'd this Winter, Who does say that the wooden Work will not Suffer very much, but the Brick work will, to which the Brick-layers (being p^rsent and asked their Opinion) did agree, Whereupon it is proposed by his Ex^{ncy} that two of his Ma^{ts} hon^{rb}le Council, two of the Justices of the Prov^l Court & two of the members of the House of Burgesses do goe and Veiw the s^d House & make Report what Remains still to be done, both as to the work and Charge, what damage is like to Ensue if the same is not Speedily inclosed and what methods will be best for the Speedy preserving thereof from the Weather; and were accordingly appointed the hon^{rb}le Coll: John Courts and Thomas Brook Esq of his Ma^{ts} Council, Cap^t Richard Hill, & Cap^t Philip Hoskins two of the Justices of the Prov^l Court, Maj^r Edward Dorsey & M^r W^m Hemsley two of the members of the House of Burgesses, the Carpinter and Bricklayers were Ordered likewise to Attend them, and M^r W^m Bladen Clerk of the House of Burgesses to take the s^d Report.

At the Port of Annapolis

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Jan^{ry} the 4th 1696.

Ord^r abt a
Sp^{ll} Commis-
sion to issue
for Tryall of
the Ship
Charles of
Topsham &ca

Maryland: ss

Came Richard Basse Mast^r of the Ship Charles of Topsham and preferred unto his Ex^{ncy} the Govern^r a certain petition (the hon^{rb}le S^r Thomas Laurence Baron^t Secry^r being the only p^rson of his Ma^{ts} hon^{rb}le Council then p^rsent, by reason of bad weather,