

Lib. H. D. on the Continent of America, & in all the Islands thereunto belonging &^{ca} As also their Agent where no other persons are appointed.

Then produced two severall Comissions under the Seale of the Admiralty of England bearing date 17th of June 1697. and directed to the s^d Esq^r Randolph, Thomas Robinson, and John George; Empowering them to examine into imbezlements of all prize Shippes and Goods &^{ca} and to make appraisements and to dispose &^{ca} all w^{ch} were severally read over. His Ex^{ncy} is pleased to signify to the Gentlemen of his Maj^{ties} Hono^{ble} Council that the Chief reason of giving them this trouble of meeting here at this time, was to consult & take their advice about calling of an Assembly, w^{ch} upon this joyfull & happy news of a peace, in order to appointing a day of publick thanksgiving to be solemnly kept for the same, and for settling the matter about the Indians and Rangers and for other weighty reasons importing his Maj^{ties} and the Countreys sevice; besides his dayly expectation of some further Commands from his Maj^{ty} by the Shippes now comeing. he holds it to be highly necessary & convenient that an Assembly be called to meet as soon as it is possible for them to be gott together & therefore willed them to give their opinion. Whereupon after deliberate & mature consultation therein had it is agreed and concluded that an Assembly be called to meet and sit at the Town & Port of Annapolis the 23^d day of febr^{ry} next and Ordered accordingly that Writts of Election immediately issue out of his Maj^{ties} High Court of Chancery to the severall Sheriffs of the Province according to usual forme, for the Collecting of four Delegates for each County & two for the City of S^t Maries, as by the Act of Assembly of this Province in th^t case is prescribed and directed.

It being consider'd th^t the Provincial Court stands adjourn'd to the last Tuesday in febr^{ry} So th^t by consequence the Assembly will come to interfere therewith, w^{ch} is thought inconvenient th^t they should sitt both at one time; therefore Ordered th^t the s^d Court be farther adjourn'd untill the sixth day of Aprill next and th^t Proclamation issue accordingly, which difference of time, is thought will be no waies prejudicall to any Law Suites now there depending.

Pursuant whereto a Proclamation being prepared was read and approved off and signed by his Ex^{ncy} & passed the Broad Seale of the Province; the Teno^r whereof follows in these words Viz^t