says that seven French shipps of Warr have on Martins Vineyard and Block Island putt all to fire and sword without mercy
or distinction—If any news happen th^t may conduce anything
to the service of their Majesties or the Colony of Virginia
shall with all care and speed be transmitted to you. Wee
humbly thank your Honor for the tender of the kind promise
for the conveyance of our letters and papers to their Majesties'
of which wee have taken convenient care by persons that are
to goe in the fleet ffrom this Government to their Majesties
We desire you'l be pleased to accept of this as what wee can
at present answer to both your Honor's letters—we are

Your Honors most Humble servants

Robt. King. Iden Court. Hohn Court. Char: Iames. K. M: Miller N.

Iohn Coode Hen: Iowles Kenelm Cheseltyn Nehemiah Blakiston Ninian Beale.

(Endorsed)

Maryland 8th Aug. 1690. Copy of Mr Coode's letter to Captain Nicholsen Rec^d 22nd Oct. 1690.

That Captain Iohn Coode be continued Principall or Com- p. 25 mander, in Chiefe of all his Majestie's fforces within this Province and with the advice and assistance of a Committee of 20 persons vitz, Mr Kenelm Cheseldyn and Mr Nehemiah Blakiston of St. Marye's County, Mr Michael Miller and Mr Wm Harris of Kent Co: Coll: Nicholas Gassaway and Major Nicholas Greenbury of Ann Arundell county Coll: Henry Iowles and Major Ninian Beale of Calvert county Mr Iohn Addison, and Mr Iohn Court, of Charles County Mr Iohn Thomas and Mr Thomas Staley of Baltimore County and Mr George Robotham and M^r Iohn Edmondson of Talbott County M^r David Browne and Mr Robert King of Sommersett County, Mr Iohn Brooke and Major Henry Tripp of Dorchester County, Mr Edward Iones and Mr Charles Iames of Cecill county or any seven or more of the persons nominated as aforesaid to receive any message or address relating to the publick as also to make and issue such fitt and necessary orders and Instructions as shall be requisite and convenient for the Publick comodietie upon all emurgency of affaires in the intervalls of Assembly which Power and authority to continue & remaine till next convention or Assembly or other Lawfull Power sooner Determining the same if upon any debate the number of Voyces be equall the casting vote to be in the President and Principall aforesaid

Vera Copia sign'd by order Henry Wriothesley Clk: Assistant