By his Exncy the Capt Gen!! &ca a Proclamation.

Lib. H. D p. 389

Maryland: ss ffor a Publick Thanksgiving.

Whereas the honrble Sr Thomas Laurence Baront A Proclamation for a Secretary of this his Mats province (being lately Publick Arrived) hath brought the certain intelligence and Thanksgivhappy news of his Mats good health and of the ing &ca Kingdoms being setled in peace and tranquility Since the Barbarous conspiracy intended against his Mats Sacred Person and the designed invasion of the ffrench; of his Mats Safe Arrivall in fflanders, together with the News of the happy Return of the ffleet from the Straits and the Strong Union both of the Armies and ffleets continued with the confederate Princes; All which inestimable Blessings require our publick acknowledgm¹⁵. And fforasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God of his infinite goodness to Add to all these his rich mercies the favour of seasonable weather, whereby plentiful Crops both of Corn & Tobacco are (this year) likely to be made within this Province, the ffleet being also here Safely Arriv'd; and duly considering that such great & public Blessings doe call for public and Solemn acknowledgmts. I have therefore thought fit (by the Advice of his Mats honrble Councill) to issue this my Proclamation, hereby appointing & Comanding that a Gen'l thanksgiving to Almighty God (for these his mercy's Whitehall and ffavors) be observed on the Morrow being the 17th of this instant September, by the Generall Assembly of this Province within the Port of Annapolis now convened, and by all the inhabitants and others then and there residing or Sojourning, & in the Severall Counties & all other places of the province, on the 22d day of Octobr next strictly charging all his Mats Loving Subjects within the Same to abstain from Servile and Corporall labour on those days and Religiously to keep the same, and that the Ministrs of the Severall parishes do then read Divine Service and Preach as they will answer the contrary; And to the End due Notice hereof may be given I do further Command the Severall Sherriffs of the Province to make proclamation hereof in all churches chappells and other publick places of meeting within their respective County's.

Given at the port of Annapolis under the Broad Seal of the province this 16th day of Septembr in the Eigth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King William the Third &cca Annoq Domini 1696.

God Save the King. ffr. Nicholson.

The honrble Coll: Nicho Greenberry Came & was Aded.

Whitehall

Produced and Read his Mats Royall Warrant from Mason & Whitehall for Mason and Burleys Pardon; Ordered Burley's Pardon &cca that the same be delivered to M' Attorney and