

Original Journal. Seale of England directed to Sev'all of his Maj<sup>tys</sup> hon<sup>ble</sup> Council and others Impowering them to administer an Oath to his Ex<sup>cy</sup> which thô the same had been formerly offered at Battell Towne in Calvert County the 11<sup>th</sup> of Janu<sup>ry</sup> 1697<sup>z</sup> yett he is pleased to say that for the more Solemne doing thereof he will have the said Comission read in publicke together with the Ex<sup>ncys</sup> the Lords Justices Instructions therein mentioned as also a Letter by his Ex<sup>cy</sup> received from the hon<sup>ble</sup> the Comissioners of his Maj<sup>tys</sup> Customs & a printed Act of parliament for Regulating abuses in the plantation Trades inclosed, and that he Intends to take the said Oath Again publickly being also pleased to signifye that he had Ordered a Copy of the said Instructions to be prepared in Order to be sent to Each County of the province to be Lodged amongst the Rest of the County Records together with a booke of Rates & forementioned Act of parliament. And Likewise thought It might be propper to send a Copy of the Oath by him taken to each of the said Countys, by which meanes the people would receive such Effectuall Notice & Warning that they could not hereafter plead Ignorance in any thing of that Nature all which was very well approved of by this boarde, and Ordered that the said Instructions, Booke of Rates, Act of Parliament and Oath be accordingly Sent to Each County of the province for the use of the said Countys and Intent afs<sup>d</sup>

The houses Request in behalfe of Colonel Ninian Beales Warr<sup>t</sup> of Resurvey being deferred the Execution till Some ffurther tyme was assented to by his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> and his Maj<sup>tys</sup> hon<sup>ble</sup> Council

p. 8 Then came M<sup>r</sup> Edward Loydd and M<sup>r</sup> Richard Tilghman from the house and by Order thereof p<sup>r</sup>sented M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Hicks Doctor Jacob Lookerman, & M<sup>r</sup> Walter Campbell to the boarde to have the Oaths by Act of parliament to be taken Insteade of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy administred to them, Whereupon the said Oaths were administred to the sd Gentlemen in their capacitys, as they Were returned by Indenture.

Delegates for Dorchester County and they Likewise Subscribed the Test.

Came Lieutenant Colonel John Thompson & M<sup>r</sup> James Saunders who bring the ffollowing Message from the house.

By the house of Delegates March the 11<sup>th</sup> 1697/8.

ffor as much as a doubt hath arisen in the house concerning the dueness of the Election of the Gentlemen appearing as