

Lib. H. D. some Sloopes Lost and Severall men perisht and many was frost bitten, Tis Reported that my Purser is Cast away, I have heard nothing from him since Nov^r last, our Provisions falls very short, I having but a months bread which Endeavour'd to Reserve towards Carrying us to England, by baking bread to supply our p^rsent Occasions, I have put the Provisions into the Pursurs Stewards Charge untill further Ord^r I have not been able to get any ffresh Water nor Wood on Board for six Weeks, last past but ffirst to spend on our sea Store, twas well we had it on board before the weather Came on, the weather Continues very sharpe still but I will slip no oportunity to get my Water fild, I understand most of the Maryland Ships are very backward in their Loading, I supose Occasion'd by the unseasonable Weather and as farr as I can learn, tis morally impossible that any of the Ships in this Province can be Loaden ready to Sail by yo^r time Ordered Except about ffive Sail, Viz^t Cap^t Smith Yoakly Brains, Sinues Marshall; His Ex^{ncy} and I have sent to all parts of this Province to Communicate your Resolutions to all Concernd; I understand the Comānders Design to Suplicate for Longer time if you alter your former Resolutions pray give me timely Notice; as soon as I can possibly get my ground tier fild with ffresh Water to stiffin my Ship I will Sail to the mouth of Petuxant to take what Ships shall be ready to Sail with me according to yo^r Ord^r. The Comānd^{rs} and merch^{ts} are much concern'd at your Resolutions Considering the winter hath been soe Severe in these parts, Some of the ffreighters think that Severall Comānders of Ships that are not loaden According to Charter parts will protest and goe dead ffreight I pray God Direct you for the best so I remain
 ffrom on Board his Ma^{ty} hired
 Ship Prince of Orange the 4th
 of ffbruary 1696/7

S^r Yo^r humble Servant
 Josiah Daniell

Postscript.

It is very hazardous for any Ship to be in the Bay yet for the great quantity of Ice and God knows when twill be otherwise but I hope it will not last much Longer pray give my Service to all ffriends &^{ca}.

Copia

J. Daniell

The Comodores L^{re} to his Ex^{ncy} abt his prolonging the time of Sayling

S^r

I Yesterday recd: yo^r Ex^{ncys} L^{re} of the 3^d instant with the other paper I am very sorry to hear the winter has been so hard, it has not been so here, but I find both by Cap^t Daniells Letter and all the Mast^{rs} that the like is not Vsual; our Longer Stay will Occa-