

Lib. H. D. give Copyes thereof to their Under Sherriffs with directions to shew the same to all the inhabitants & others in Gen^l and goe therewith to their severall habitacōns & places of abode where unto all p^rsons are hereby Required to Conform themselves accordingly and if in Case any Masters of Ships Merchants or any others have any thing to Write or Offer to the Comodore why they cannot get their Ships ready to Sayle by the time appointed they are hereby directed to draw up their Reasons in writing and deliver the Same to the Sherriffs by them to be transmitted hither, with all imaginable speed together with the masters petition & other papers last Decemb^r sent to be p^rsented to the Severall County Courts and Grand Juries &^{ca} so that a Return thereof be made to be here by the 18th day of this Instant ffeb^{ry} along with such of his Ma^{ty} Councill as Come from their parts (being then appointed to meet) or other Safe Conveyance by Expresses whereof the s^d Sherriffs are to take due Care to make Compliance herein at their Utmost perill, but upon failure must Expect to be sent for hither in Irons for their disobedience and Contempt to his Ma^{ty} Commands hereby signified Given at the Port of Annapolis under my hand and Seal this ffirst day of ffeb^{ry} in the Eighth year of his Ma^{ty} Reign &^{ca} Annoq Domini 1696.
ffr. Nicholson

An Abstract of what News his Ex^{ncy} Recd: in a Letter sent from Cap^t Thomas Tasker, Dated 1st of ffeb^{ry} 1696, Viz^t

Abstract of
news taken out
of Mr Taskers
L^{re} That the ffrench King is dangerously Sick and that the Docto^s have given him over. Great preparations for next Campaigne both by Sea & Land—Our men of Warr dayly fitting—Money begins to be plenty—The Empero^r has kill'd Ten thousand of the Turks in a Battle last Summer.

The Sherriffs are hereby Ordered to Publish the above news at the Same time with the Comodores Letter.

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Port of Annapolis ffeb^{ry} 1st 1696.

His Exncys L^{re} S^r
to each of his
Mats hon^{ble}
Councill

Having Some very Urgent Business importing his Ma^{ty} and the Countreys Service to communicate to his Ma^{ty} hon^{ble} Councill, this comes to Signify th^t I have appointed their meeting at this place the 18th of this instant ffeb^{ry} and therefore do Require th^t (all Excuses set apart) you be here by the time afores^d without faile, whereby his Ma^{ty} Service may not be delay'd or impeded, it being the Ord^r of

Your most Affectionate ffriend
ffr. Nicholson