

Lib. H. D. he Could trade up and Down without it. This Deponent being at a certain place at an Ordinary in the afores^d Province of Maryland about the 16th or 17th day of Dec^r 1696. Came into the s^d Ordinary a young Merch^t Named Thomas Beale and this Depon^t asked him what Countrey he was of the Answer he made was that he was Either of Exon or Topsham of which this Depon^t cannot well Remember, This Depon^t told him that he was at Cadix ab^t fourteen years since where he was at the Selling of a Ship to one Franckmore of Topsham w^{ch} s^d Ship did then belong to this Deponents Brother, the s^d Tho Beale answered that the same Ship is now in the Countrey and had been here before; This Depon^t asked him how she could Trade not being a free bottom, the s^d Beale say'd that she was not free This Depon^t Say'd how durst you then Trade to w^{ch} he Say'd wee have a permitt to Trade but not to Export out of England for they Export their Goods out in other Ships for the Loading of her, upon which this Depon^t by an informacōn that she had brought goods into this Countrey seized the s^d Ship and further this Deponent Sayth not.

Tho: Collier

Annapolis ffeb^{ry} the 2^d 1696.

Sworne then before me Thomas Laurence Secretary and Publick Notary of Maryland

Tho: Laurence

By his Ex^{ncy} the Govern^r &^{ca}
ffeb^{ry} the 3^d 1696.

Ord^r to the Sherriffs ab^t the Councills Meeting
Ordered that the Sherriffs of the Province doe upon Sight hereof give notice to all the masters merch^{ts} and Traders in generall within their respective Counties of the time appointed for the Councills meeting (viz^t the 18th instant) so th^t if they have any application to make or Reasons to give, unto his Ex^{ncy} & Councill why they cannot get their Ships ready to saile so soon as by the ffirst of March they may then have the opportunity of p^rsenting such their Reasons in writing or send them to the Sherriffs in Ord^r to be dispatched hither for Answer &^{ca} whereof the Sherriffs are to take due Care.

Signed p Ord^r Hen: Denton Cl Concil

Mr Collyer sent by Express over the Bay
M^r Thomas Collyer, the Bearer, being employed to Carry Severall Expresses over the Bay for his ma^{ts} and the Countreys service, this is therefore to Require the Master or Command^r of any Ship or Vessell