

April the 21st 1696/7.

Lib. H. D.

Then Rēcd: of Henry Denton Clerk of the Councill these following Armes, Viz^t Ten Sadles & Caps for Carbines, Nine Bridles, Ten pair of pistolls, ten Cartouch boxes & belts, ten Byonets and Belts ten Carbines & belts, being for the Vse of the Rangers in Baltemore County, I say rēcd: by me the day and Year aboves^d

John Oldton

William R.

Trusty and Well beloved we greet you well whereas notwth. standing the many Good Laws made from time to time for p^rventing of frauds in the Plantation Trade It is manifest that very great Abuses have been and Continue Still to be practised to the p^rjudice of the Same Which Abuses Must Needs Arise either from the Insolvency of the p^rsons Who are Accepted for Security of from the remissness or Connivance of such as have been or are Gov^{rs} in the Severall Plantations who ought to take Care that those persons who give Bond should be duly prosecuted in Case of Nonperformance you are to take Notice that we take the good of our plantations and the Improvem^t of the Trade thereof by a strict and punctuall Observance of the Severall Laws in force. Concerning the Same to be of so great Importance to the benefitt of this our Kingdom and to the Advancem^t of the Dutyes of our Customs here that if we shall be hereafter Informed that att any time there shall be any failure in the due p^rformance of those Laws within our Province of Virginia Comitted to your Charge by any willful fault or Neglect on your part, We shall look upon it as a breach of the Trust rēposed in you by us which we shall punish with the loss of your place in that Governm^t and such further Markes of our displeasure as we shall Judge reasonable to be Inflicted upon you for your Offence against us in a Matter of this Consequence that we now so p^rticularly Charge you with. So we bid you heartily farewell. Given att our Court att Kensington this 22^d day of Aprill 1697 in the Nineth year of our Reigne

By his Mates Co^mand
Shrewsbury

May the 11th 1697.

Then Rēcd: of Henry Denton Clerk of his Ma^{ty} hon^{rb}le Councill two dozen of Carbine, two dozen of musket & ffour dozen of pistoll fflints as also 9^l Weight of Musket bullets and six pounds weight of pistoll Bullets, being deliver'd upon