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Annapolis Tuesday Feb<sup>ry</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1704.

Att the Councill Present

His Excellency the Governour

The hon<sup>ble</sup> Thomas Tench Esq<sup>r</sup> Robert Smith Esq<sup>r</sup> Coll  
John Hamond James Sanders Esq<sup>r</sup> L<sup>t</sup> Col W<sup>m</sup> Holland

His Excellency acquaints the Boarde that he has lately viz. the 16<sup>th</sup> day of Ian<sup>ry</sup> received Severall Royall Comands from her Majesty together with divers pacquets from the Right hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lords of Trade and forraigne Plantations which necessarily Require the Present meeting of the Boarde. And thereupon was Produced and read Her Majestys Royall Instructions of the 17<sup>th</sup> of July 1704 to his Excellency with a Copy of a Clause in an Act of Parliament for raising Recruits for the land fforces and for enlarging &c the Number of Saylers Saving only the Ma<sup>r</sup> and one Moyety of Mariners English Ordered that the Clarke of the Boarde give Notice thereof to the Severall Collectors and Navall Officers. And Lres were wrote to th<sup>m</sup>

The Lords Letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 1704

Signifying her Majestys Pleasure that her Subjects here should be cautious how they give Accounts of the Publiq State of this Province, Least their Letters fall into the Enemyes hands and that all Masters of Shippes put all such Letters in a Bagg with a Weight and Sinke them before they are taken. Advised that Proclamation Issue to give Caution to the Inhabitants not to give such Account Which was issued accordingly

p. 22 And that the Navall Officers give Directions to Masters of Shippes as to Sinking of the Letters.

The Lords Letter with her Majestys Proclamation for a Day of Thanksgiving for her Majestys Compleat and glorious Victory over her Majestys Enemyes neare the Danube under the Conduct of his Grace the Duke of Malborough and Directions to his Excellency to appoint a proper and Spcedy Day to be kept by all her Majestys good Subjects here in like manner as prescribed by the said proclamation being read His Excellency was Pleased to Say that he not being able to gett a Councill together by reason of the hard Weather before the Receipt of her Majestys Comands and their Lordshippes Directions had upon the first Advice thereof Issued a Proclamation to that End Which was read and approved of by the Board and thought fully to Answer her Majestys Pleasure therein.