

Lib. C. B. His Excellency acquaints the Boarde that upon receiving the late Report from Virginia he had Ordered the Navall Officers to give Notice to the Severall Masters of Shippes to attend this Boarde and his Excellency being acquainted that most of the Masters are now in Towne Ordered that Notice be given them that his Excellency Expects their Attendance at the Councill Chamber.

Then Came the Masters of Divers Shippes now in this Province to the Number of about thirty to whom his Excellency was Pleased to Communicate the cause of their calling them together as followeth

That he hoped they did not thinke he had sent for them on a frivolous occasion but for her Majestys & the Countrys Service & their owne Safety and that in Case of any Danger or Invasion they should never want either his Advice or utmost Assistance and Asks their Opinion where they thinke are the most Proper Places for Securing their Shippes

p. 47 After which the said Comanders withdrew And after Some time Came Cap^t James Thomas on behalf of all the Masters of the Shippes and acquaints his Excellency & the Board that the Masters of the Shippes have Considered what his Excellency was Pleased to Communicate to them & wholly Submitt themselves to the Judgment and Opinion of his Excellency & this Board Whereupon its Ordered that all Shippes now in a readiness to Sayle do as Speedily as may be repair to puttuxent River & those not ready do upon the first Alarme make the best of their way thither in Order to Secure themselves and do in all things conforme themselves to the Directions of the Proclamation. His Excellency acquaints the Board that upon persuall of the Journalls of the Councill in Assembly and of the house of Delligates he finds Severall Mistakes and Incongruitys & that he has Desired Coll Thomas Smith & M^r Robert Smith to Correct the same and thinks it proper with the advice of the Councill that one other member of this Board be Joyned to assist therein His Excellency desires M^r Tench will be aiding to them in that Affaire.

His Excellency represents to this Board the great evill too Comon in this Province of Persons Divulging ffalse News
p. 48 which may putt the Province into great Alarms and hopes the members of this Board will Stand by him in Punishing Such Offenders upon discovery of them To which the Gentlemen of the Councill do say that they will stand by his Excellency to the Utmost of their Powers in Preventing and Punishing such Evills & desire of ffair Proof of any such thing his Excellency will be Pleased to Secure the Offenders.

Read the Petition of Captain Richard Hill praying Liberty to Shipp off twenty two hogsheads of Tobacco to Barbadoes