

Whereupon it is the Unanimous Opinion of this Board, C. P. that his Excellency by that Law, has a Right to the Duty of 3<sup>d</sup> p hh<sup>d</sup> thereby given, untill such time as his Comission shall be Superseeded

To the Fifth

His Excellency Desires the Opinion of this Board

Whereupon It is the Opinion of this Board, That his Excellency has the Right to the three pence p Tonn given by that Law so long as he shall Continue Governour of Maryland

Upon which his Excellency Declares he Cannot part with that Right he has by the Comission he now holds untill it be Superseeded

To the Sixth

His Excellency is Pleased to Declare it as his Opinion, That his being so Strictly Comanded to Prorogue the Assembly for so long Time may be of very Fatal Consequence unto this Province, more Especially in case of Forreign Invasions, which our neighboring Colonys are at this Time Threatned with all from the Indians, And Virginia Actually Invaded, As he is Informed by His Maj<sup>ty</sup>s Governour of that Colony And the Sea Coasts of this province frequently Infested with Pyrates and Privateers, which have lately Come into the very Harbours on the Seaboard, and Carried out Severall Tradeing Vessells

And Requires the Advice of this Board Concerning the said Instruction And proposeth it as an Expedient for Securing the Good People of this Province from the Ill Consequence that may arise from the want of An Assembly, to make due Provision for the Safety thereof, That the said Instruction be duly Complied withall, But that in Case of any such Forreign Invasion, Insurrection Famine or Further Instructions from Great Britain &c<sup>a</sup> the present Assembly be Dissolved, And a new one Somoned, According to the Emergent Necessities of this Government, which he Intendeth to do upon no other Reasons than the foregoing Emergencies

This Board are of Opinion That their Lordships were not well advised on giving that Instruction, But that the above Expedient is a very proper one, And Advised the Adjourning of the Assembly untill the first Tuesday in Aprill next Accordingly

To the Seventh

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Letter from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Comissioners of the Customes

[The Letter Entered at Large in the Councill Proceedings]