

that a malignant and highly contagious fever is at this time raging in the City of Philadelphia, and that through the constant intercourse between that City and Baltimore there is great reason to apprehend that this fatal disease will be introduced into the said town unless immediate measures are taken to prevent so great an evil, And Whereas by the Constitution of this State, the Governor for the time being is authorised to order and compel any Vessel to ride quarantine, if such Vessel or the port from which she may have come, shall on strong grounds be suspected to be infected with the Plague and Whereas in the present case the exercise of this authority according to the letter thereof without taking similar precautions by Land would not effect the purpose evidently contemplated by the said Article of the Constitution, of securing the good people of this State from such dreadful visitations, I have therefore thought proper [p. 264] to issue this my Proclamation Ordering the directing that all vessels coming immediately from Philadelphia or from any place to which the aforesaid Malignant disorder may have spread, and all vessels having persons or goods on board coming from Philadelphia or any other infected place be subject on approaching the Harbour of Baltimore town or any other Harbour within this State to the performance of a quarantine not exceeding forty days; or as much less as shall be judged safe by the persons appointed or to be appointed Health Officers for the different towns and Harbours aforesaid, and I have with the advice of the Council thought fit further to direct that all persons coming to Baltimore town, to Havre de Grace, to the Head of Elk or by any other route making their way into this State from Philadelphia or any other place known to be infected with the said disorder shall be subject to be examined and prevented from proceeding, by the persons who will be appointed for the said purpose, and who will be instructed to take the opinion and advice of the Medical faculty in every case, in order that private affairs and pursuits may not be unnecessarily impeded.

And as the town of Baltimore by its extensive [p. 265] trade and population is the place in which the introduction of the said disorder is most likely to happen, and its effects the most to be apprehended, I have thought proper to proceed without delay to the nomination of persons for that place, and do accordingly appoint Doct'r John Ross Health officer for the approach by water, and Doct'r John Worthington Health Officer for the approach by Land to the said town, with full power to stop and prevent the landing or entrance of all persons who according to appearances and the best information they can procure shall have come immediately from the City of Philadelphia or other infected place and in like manner of goods or articles of any kind, and the Faculty of Baltimore town are hereby authorised and requested to assist the said Health Officers with their Judgment and advice in every doubtful Case: and until particular persons shall be appointed for other places, the Justices of the Peace and officers of every kind are hereby authorised to take steps consistent with the tenor of this proclamation for their own safety, and that of their fellow-Citizens and all public Officers and the good Citizens of this State in general are hereby called upon to be aiding and assisting towards effecting the object of this Proclamation.

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Given at the City of Annapolis under the Seal of the State of Maryland this twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety three

Tho. S. Lee

By his Excellency's Command
T. Johnson J'r Sec'y.