

“ His excellency is pleased to lay before this board, an instruction from the lord proprietary to him, in the following words :

“ You shall at such times, and in such manner as may be proper and convenient, give directions to our agent, and the several receivers of our quit-rents, not to insist on or receive from any person whatsoever, any fine or fines on or for any lands which have been or shall be alieniated by devise.”

“ It is the humble advice of this board to his excellency, that he be pleased to order proclamation to issue notifying the same, which proclamation being prepared, is read and approved of, and issued accordingly.”

“ MARYLAND, ss.

“ *By his excellency Thomas Bladen, Esq. Governor and commander in chief in and over the province of Maryland,*

“ A PROCLAMATION.

“ Whereas some uneasiness have arisen concerning the right of his lordship, the lord proprietary, to alienation fines on devises of lands, and that his lordship, desirous to shew his readiness to give his tenants ease and satisfaction, in whatever may be thought reasonable in any degree, though to the diminution of his own strictly legal rights, hath been pleased to direct orders should be given to his agent, and the several receivers of his quit rents, not to insist on or receive from any person whatsoever, any fine or fines on or for any lands which have been or shall be alienated by devise, to the end his lordship's pleasure may be known, and that all persons concerned may have due notice thereof, I have thought fit, by and with the advice of his lordship's council of state, to issue this my proclamation, strictly charging and requiring the several sheriffs of this province to make this my proclamation publick in their respective counties, in the usual manner, that all persons concerned may conform themselves thereto, as they will answer to the contrary at their peril. Given at the city of Annapolis, this 20th day of October, in the 28th year of his lordship's dominion, Annoq. Domini, 1742.

J. ROSS, Cl. Coun.”

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS, commencing 1738.

“ MY LORD,

“ We beg leave to represent to your lordship, that Coll. Gale, some time before his death, had given directions to the surveyors of the two lower countys, on the Eastern Shore, to lay out lands upon the borders thereof, for any persons that should apply for them, upon their giving bond for