

dence for office holders, because he had been recommended to Lt. Gov. Hart "by Gent^a of worth and Honour who by their Stations under his most Sacred Majesty are in a Capacity of doing particular Services to this province. . . ." He was then appointed to this Naval Office, but he resigned or died within a year.

6. BENJAMIN TASKER, SR. of Annapolis (Prot., wife's mother Cath., son-in-law of William Bladen above), succeeded Steele prior to 23 May 1719; recom. 25 July 1733; resigned in favor of his son in September, 1742.

7. Col. BENJAMIN TASKER, JR., of Annapolis (Prot.), com. 29 Sept. 1742; resigned to be Deputy Secretary in December, 1755.

8. STEPHEN BORDLEY of Annapolis (Prot.), com. in December, 1755; resigned to be sole Commissary General in March, 1762.

9. JOHN RIDOUT of Annapolis (Prot., Lt. Gov. Sharpe's protégé; nephew of B. Tasker, Jr. above), com. in March, 1762; recom. 28 Aug. 1769 and 29 April 1773. Removed in April, 1777. Died 6 Oct. 1797.

e. *Naval Officer of Oxford.*

1. Maj. THOMAS SMITHSON of Talbot County (Prot.), appointed by Gov. Nicholson, 18 Oct. 1694; resigned to be Treasurer of the Eastern Shore.

2. THOMAS COLLIER of Talbot County (Prot.), com. 20 May and sworn 29 Aug. 1695; dismissed 24 Dec. 1697 but was apparently reappointed under a new commission, 30 Dec. 1697; died in 1719.

3. ROBERT UNGLE of Talbot County (Prot.), appointed on Collier's death; died in office, ——— 1727.

4. MICHAEL HOWARD of Talbot County (Prot.), appointed prob. in 1727, recom. 25 July 1733; died in August, 1737.

5. Col. JAMES HOLLYDAY of Queen Anne's County (Prot.), com. 23 Aug. 1737; recom. 29 Sept. 1742; died 8 Oct. 1747.

6. Col. EDWARD LLOYD of Wye House, Talbot County (Prot., stepson of Hollyday), prob. succeeded Hollyday in November, 1747; resigned in favor of his cousin Chamberlaine after he had been appointed Agent and Receiver General.