

1676

Officers according to the tenor hereof,

Immediately upon sight hereof you are to prepare your selfe so that you appear on Thursday the twentieth instant at St Maries there to joyne with the Deputy Lieutenant of this Province and his Captaine Donnell together with the other Officers that shall then and there be present in a Councell of Warre to advise what shall be fitt to be done in Order to the preservation of the peace of this Province Given under my hand & seale the 12th day of July in the first year of his Majesties Dominion &c Annoq; Dom 1676. Jesse Wharton.

Ordered That Edward Jones of St Jeromes be allowed out of the publique five hundred pounds of tobacco for month he finding himselfe a horse to go upon all messages as the Deputy Governour & Councell shall thinke fitt, and if extraordinary Occasion require that the said Jones be impowred to impresse a horse.

Ordered that twenty or thirty of Capt Donalls men be appointed to keep Guard at Mattapony for the safety thereof, and be allowed out of the publique.

Then came the great men of Skoptico and informed the Deputy Governour and Councell the death of their King, and desired the same amity as formerly with them might be continued & that untill they choose another King they are ruled by their Great men & Speakers which was consented to by the Deputy Governour & Councell.

Proclamation by the Lord Proprietary.

It is as much as the Province is daily threatened to be invaded by the Indians, and the Inhabitants of this Province lying so dispersed, and that in many places they are in so small numbers that they are utterly unable to defend themselves, To the end that the people may in some reasonable manner be secured and that the Enemy may not gain too much ground of us. Wee doe by the advice of Our Deputy Lieutenant and Councill Order the Inhabitants of St Maries Subvert Ann Arundell Paatenore & Charles and Seville Countyes to infort themselves in their houses, and into the said Forts to draw any persons able to beare Armes not exceeding ten men in number Unlesse they be servants freely purchased and bona-fide paid for by the Master of the house where such Fort shall be. And in regard drawing greater numbers then ten into any One house will undoubtedly give too much ground to the Enemy upon any invasion that may happen Wee doe further with the advice of Our said Deputy & Councell strictly charge and Command all Masters of ~~houses~~ houses where such Forts shall be, not to entertaine any greater number then ten men able to beare Armes into any of their said Forts or houses Upon paine of being proceeded against as Rebels and Seditionous persons gathered together with force contrary to the knowne Law of this Province and the Law of the Kingdom of England, Unlesse the men now belonging as servants as aforesaid to the said Masters or now sojourning in the said houses