

Seal of the Province, the Sense whereof follows in these Words.

By his Excellency

A Proclamation

Maryland  
Proclamation about  
burying of Hogs &c.

Whereas through the excessive sharpness of this Winter & the  
reason thereof hath happened a great Mortality among Swine, Cattle  
and Horses &c. they dying daily in great Numbers by means of the  
extremity of Weather & want of food, insomuch that it is to be  
feared the same (lying so thick dead up & down the Country)  
may occasion noisome Smells and become very obnoxious & prejudicial  
to the healths of the inhabitants & others living within this Province  
unless some speedy care be taken to burye them, for prevention  
whereof and to the End such speedy & due care may be taken as is  
most I have by and with the advice of their Majesties hono:  
(Council) thought fit to Order and Command & I do hereby accordingly  
Order Charge & Command all Officers Civil & Military within this  
Province immediately (after publication hereof made) to give Notice &  
directions to all and singular the inhabitants living within their  
several & respective precincts round about that they forthwith cause  
all such persons as have hogs or Swine, Cattle, Horses &c. lying dead in  
or about their plantations or Land to burye them out of hand in a  
sufficient depth under ground - to which End I likewise strictly  
Enjoyn all and singular the Sheriffs of this Province to make  
publick proclamation thereof (within two days after Receipt of the  
same) in the most publick & convenient places within their several  
& respective Counties willing also requiring all persons concerned to  
yield due & ready obedience hereunto as they & every of them will answer  
the contrary at their perill.

W. B. Smith

Given at Benedict Towne Down in Talbot County  
the 24<sup>th</sup> day of January & in the sixth year of the  
Reign of our Sovereign Lord & Lady King William &  
Queen Mary.

God Save King William & Queen Mary

Ordered that the Burgesses of Charles County have Notice to be at  
the Assembly to be held at Ann Arundell Towne in Ann Arundell  
County the last day of the next