

Estates of the severall Taxables within the Province; And this year is likely to prove a bad year for tobacco. &

That I understand the Maty is graciously pleas'd to keep in pay four hundred men for the defence of Albany. &

That there is an Act of Strang Indians in Virg. wh. have done some mischief there and now that we are frequently alarm'd with Strang Indians likewise w^{ch} put the inhabitants to charge and trouble to goe and looke after them, to secure their habitations.

That the last winter by the severity of the winter, most people have lost the bottom part of all their stocks of fatter & tugs.

That the Councell of Burgesses have humbly Addressed the Sacred Maty this last february touching their funding assistance to New York &

If that Govern^t will not be satisfied wth these Reasons you are to acquaint them that they may (if they think fit) send one or two persons to the Assembly w^{ch} (God willing will sit the 2^d day of October next to inform themselves of the Representatives or others, inhabitants of this Province, about the condition the same now lye under, and that during their stay they shall receive all the civill treatment the Govern^t can afford &

That you make all the dispatch you can back & perform the Journey with as little Expence to the Country as you can, knowing the poverty of the same &

August 17th 1695. &

Wm. Nicholson

Private Instructions for Mr Thomas Tasker one of the Burgesses of Burgesses and Treasurer for the Maty Province of Maryland.

Mr Tasker private Instructions &

You are to make inquiry as you goe through Pennsylvania & the Jerseys what News you can hear about the French & Indian Indians and what danger they apprehend in that Matter. When come to New York you are to inquire the same, and make your Observations of the flourishing of the place both in Building Shipping & Trade, especially since this War. You are to inquire and make your Observations upon the debarring all persons from trading to Albany but themselves and acquaint them that the Govern^t does expect that (if assistance is required by them from hence) they may have a free Trade to Albany to supply the Indians, which will occasion things to be cheap to the Indians not so apt to complain for the dearth of the Commodity. You are to observe that the Ordinary Revenue of that Province is about 5000^l Sterl. a Year &

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That