

By his Excellency the Capt. Genl. & Gov<sup>r</sup>

Maryland Proclamation

Proclamation  
relating to the  
Trade of spirit  
- rum or

WHEREAS their Ma<sup>ty</sup> did by their Royal Commission unto  
Francis Nicholson Esq. Capt. Genl. & Govern<sup>r</sup> in Chief of this  
Ma<sup>ty</sup> Province of Maryland bearing date the tenth day of Feb<sup>r</sup>  
1693<sup>3/4</sup>: Give & grant full power and Authority for the Erecting  
of ports & within the same, AND FORASMUCH as (by several  
Complaints & other Advice received) it is made apparent that the  
Trade of this Province is much impaired & Dammyed by  
Gloopy Shallops & Boats off & belonging to the Province of  
Pennsylvania Town of Newcastle & Territory thereof belonging  
(they being distinct Governm<sup>ts</sup> from this) which keep running and  
Trading up and down w<sup>ch</sup> in the several Rivers and Creeks of  
this his Ma<sup>ty</sup> Province of Maryland, transporting their loading  
overland & taking in the same at the Heads of several  
Rivers w<sup>ch</sup> in this Province especially Bohemia & Elk Rivers,  
and not only so; but are frequently known to transport in Casks  
at the said places in different large floops, Shallops, & Boats  
w<sup>ch</sup> out making any report or Entry thereof making it likewise  
their daily practice to in tow away & Entertain several Staves  
belonging to Ships & Crewmen & others Inhabitants of this  
Province under various pretences much to the prejudice & Damage  
of his Ma<sup>ty</sup> Revenue & the Trade & Navigation of England AND  
FORASMUCH as it hath likewise been reported unto us in  
Council, how that his Ma<sup>ty</sup> Duty for Importation of Liquor  
from those parts have been much defrauded by concealing  
and inq<sup>r</sup> several Runlets full of Brandy Rum & other Spirit,  
and wine w<sup>ch</sup> in Casks pretended to be filled with Bisket and  
Flour. FOR prevention of all w<sup>ch</sup> illegall & irregular proceeding  
for the future, I have (by and w<sup>ch</sup> the Advice of his Ma<sup>ty</sup> Council)  
thought fit to publish and make known & I do here by  
Accordingly Order & Com<sup>ds</sup> that all Boats, Shallops, Sloops or other  
Vessels Trading so as a<sup>ft</sup> & taking in any goods Wares or Merchandizes  
being transported out of Pennsylvania Town of Newcastle and Territory  
thereunto belonging into this Province over Land, go directly w<sup>ch</sup> the  
Land unto the port of Williamstad (formerly Ford) or the port  
of Annapolis (formerly Ann Corundell) and there make due Entry  
Barter sell and Dispose of the same to their Best Advantage and in  
no other port or place what soever within this Province, under

Wm. Nicholson

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