

A Council held at the City of Annapolis on Wednesday the Ninth Day of September in the Tenth Year of his Lordships Dominion of Amegac Domini 1760

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq: Governour

The Honourable } Benjamin Tasker Esq: } Col: Benjamin Tasker }
} Col: Charles Hammond } Stephen Boudley Esq: }

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Letter received from General Monckton.

Fort Pitt 21: August 1760

Sir As it cannot be expected that General Amherst will be able to spare any of the Regular Troops now with him for the Winter Garrison of the Ports in this Department which are now considerably increased and the Number of regular Troops greatly lessened. I think it my Duty to give you the best Notice that it will be absolutely necessary for the Support of his Majestys Rights on Lake Erie and the River Ohio that the Province under your Command should furnish at least two hundred men with Officers and non Commissioned Officers in proportion. This is an essential Advice that I cannot in the least Doubt but you will use your utmost Endeavours with the Council and Assembly of your Province to induce them to comply with this necessary and Requisition. I have the Honour to be

Sir

Your most Obedient and humble Servant

Rob: Monckton

To Governour Sharpe

Which being Read Ordered with the Advice of this Board that the Assembly be called on Monday the twenty second instant and Proclamations issued accordingly.

A Council held at the City of Annapolis on Monday the twenty second Day of September in the tenth Year of his Lordships Dominion of Amegac Domini 1760

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq: Governour

The Honourable } Benjamin Tasker Esq: } Col: Benjamin Tasker }
} Col: Charles Hammond } Benedict Calvert Esq: }
} Am: Chamblaine Esq: } Stephen Boudley Esq: }

Ordered with the Advice of this Board, that the Assembly which stands prorogued to Monday the twenty second Instant be further prorogued to Tuesday the twenty third Day of the same Month for Proclamation issued accordingly.

It is likewise the Advice of this Board to his Excellency that he be pleased to order a Letter to be sent to James Mearns Esq: Chief Justice of Calvert County to enquire into the grounds of a Complaint against Capt: John Cousins relating to his Impostation of some Negroes on the Brigantine Edward into Patuxent River, which Letter being prepared, was read, approved of, and issued as follows

Sir

Annapolis 22: September 1760

It having been this Day represented to the Governour and Council, that a Negro called Capt: Gray of three or four more of the Negroes who were lately imported into Patuxent River in the Brigantine Edward of which one John Cousins is Master have declared that they are not Slaves but Freemen, that the Negro called Capt: Gray in particular is the son of a person of some consequence and Power on the African Coast, and that the said Cousins treacherously stole and brought them away, I am Ordered by his Excellency and this Honourable Council to communicate to you the Information that hath been given them and moreover to Desire that on the Receipt hereof you will send for, and examine, the Surgeon, Mate and Boatswain of the said Vessel & Endeavour to discover whether Capt: Cousins hath committed the Crime whereof he is accused, and if you shall either by the Evidence of those Persons or any others be inclined to think that the Master is guilty, you will be pleased to have him apprehended immediately and delivered into the Custody of the Sheriff of Calvert County, and to give that Sheriff Orders to deliver him over to the Sheriff of this County, so that he may be brought without Delay before his Excellency & the Council to be dealt with as to them shall seem meet. If you see Cause for having him apprehended you will be pleased to send hitherto all the Persons that shall be able to give Evidence against him, whether you cause him to be apprehended and brought hitherto or not, you are desired to return to me the Depositions or Examinations that shall be by you taken on this Occasion. I am

Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Chas: Calvert

To James Mearns Esq: Chief Justice of Calvert County.