

It is the Opinion of this Board, that as Public Justice does not require a special Commission, the Petition of the Party is not a sufficient Foundation for issuing it, and that he ought to be left to the common Course of Law.

Ordered that the Clerk of this Board make Application to Mr. Ghiselin to know what Sheriff's Bonds for this Year have been returned into the Secretary's Office.

Ordered that the present General Assembly of this Province which stands prorogued to the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in March next, be further prorogued to the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in May next and Proclamations issued accordingly.

At a Council held at the Governours on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the Fifteenth Year of his Lordships Dominion. Anno Domini 1766.

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Governour.

The honorable Benjamin Tasker, Dan. Dulany and John Ridout Esq<sup>rs</sup>

His Excellency was pleased to lay before this Board the following Letters, in answer to those he had received from General Conway and Cha. Lowndes Esq<sup>r</sup>, which were Read and approved of, and were by his Excellency transmitted accordingly.

Annapolis in Maryland the 12<sup>th</sup> February, 1766.

W<sup>r</sup>  
A Duplicate of the Letter, you were pleased to address to me the twenty-fourth of October last, having been brought hither a few days ago by the Post from New York, I do myself the honour to acknowledge my Receipt thereof, but must at the same time inform you, that altho' the People of this Province have not gone such lengths as those of New York and some others of the Northern Colonies, their Sentiments with respect to the Stamp Act seem to be much the same, and had Mr. Hood who was appointed to distribute the Papers in this Province attempted to execute his Office, it would not I believe have been in my Power to protect him. In the Letter I wrote the Liberty to write to the Earl of Halifax the fifth of September last I informed his Lordship that Mr. Hood had a few days before retired to New York where he has remained ever since so that when Capt. Brown, Commander of His Majesty's Sloop Flawhe, arrived here in December with some of the Stamp Papers destined for this Province, there was no Person authorized to receive and distribute it, had the People been disposed to make use of it, wherefore as the Lower House of Assembly were averse to its being landed, and there was no place of Security here in which it could be lodged, I by advice of the Council, desired Capt. Brown to keep it on Board, and to his doing so it is probably owing, that there hath been no Disturbance here, since that of which I gave an Account in my above mentioned Letter to the Earl of Halifax. Had I not been convinced that it would be impossible, without a considerable Military Force to carry the Act of Parliament into Execution here, while it was opposed so violently in the other Colonies, I should have called upon Mr. Hood to execute his Office, and have promised to support him in Discharge of his Duty, but after the proceedings of the People at New York in the Presence of General Gage and a Body of his Majesty's Forces, I presume that nothing more would be expected.