

and to keep the Peace in the mean time; that Hall did not appear and attend agreeable to the Tenor of his Recognizance, that the said Webster, during the time Hall was bound for his good Behaviour, received fresh Instances of his malignant and implacable Disposition and applied to the Court to have him bound in a larger Sum of Money; that the Court issued their Warrant to the Sheriff to apprehend the said Hall and bring him into Court to answer the Complaint exhibited against him by the said Webster that the Sheriff has made several Attempts to take the said Hall but was deterred by the Threats and Resistance made by him who goes constantly armed with Pistols and a heavy Sledge, to oppose the Sheriff in the Execution of his Office, and forbids him to make an Arrest. We esteem it our indispensable Duty to preserve the Peace and Tranquility of the State and to protect every Individual in the full and unrestrained Enjoyment of his Rights and Privileges and to prevent by all lawful Ways and Means the Perpetration of any unlawful Act and to bring to condign Punishment all refractory Persons that have been daring enough, not only to violate the Law but to stand in Opposition to the Authority of Government. The above Detention of Beats, with such Opinion of our Duty have made us resolve to inform you, that you and your Deputies ought to use your utmost Endeavours to apprehend the said Thomas Hall, and if he still should resist, you ought to summon the posse Comitatus or Body of the County to assist you in taking him and carrying him before some Justice of the Peace; every Person you summon is compellable to serve and you ought not to admit any Excuse; and if he should refuse you ought to present him to the Grand Jury. It is necessary you should execute your Precept immediately, because if you should delay it and any Mischief or Evil should result from your Negligence, it will be justly imputable to you

James Warner Esq.
Sherriff of Warford County }

In Council Annapolis 9th Sept^r 1700

Sir

As sol^o Maddaway of Talbot County engaged to man our

Beats with a Number of Volunteers in order to assist in clearing the Bay of the Enemy, you are to proceed with the