

Copy being sent and presently being then called upon in a committee after according
by me at Saint Marys but because their Majesty's Council were not otherwise
mouldy agreed in whom the Presidency of this Council then rested whether
in the Honble Sir Thomas Lawrence Baronet their Majesty's Secretary &
first Councillor returned (or otherwise) in regard the said Governor Copley had
Suspended the said Sir Thomas and Col^o Henry Jones from the said Council
And the Honorable Nehemiah Blakiston being next to the said Sir Tho^s
and Col^o Jones named in the said Council by virtue the chief part of the said
Sir Thomas and Col^o Jones Suspension Claimed the Presidency as of
right all the the Majority of the said Council were agreed and Resolved that the
Right of the Presidency did by their Majesty's Commission and Instructions
belong and Appertain to the said Sir Thomas Your Excellency who by your
Commission of Lieutenantcy of this Province by the said Copley's Death became
Commander in chief being then absent out of this Province and accordingly
their Majesty's Council or the Majority were resolved in a small time to join with
the said Sir Thomas as their President or head in Order to treat with the Assembly
then met as aforesaid as by the following Clauses in the Journal of the said
Assembly contained appears

✓ Saturday September 23 1693 ✓

The House resolve themselves into a Grand Committee to go upon the
Conference yesterday appointed and do Order and constitute Mr. Penelme Che-
seldyn Chairman thereof

The said Committee return to the State House where Mr. Speaker recd. among
the Chair signified to the House that the Council had acquainted him with
their Receipt of a Letter from Sir Edmund Andros which specified his having
a Commission for the Government in case of Governor Copley's death & therefore
thought the Conference needless and withall desired the Speaker to make known
the same to the House

The said Mentioned Letter was brought by Mr. Sherlock Clerk of the
Council of Virginia from his Excellency Sir Edmund Andros their Majesty's
Governor of Virginia and delivered the 23 of September 1693 unto the Honble
Sir Thomas Lawrence Baronet President of Maryland and by him Com-
municated to their Majesty's Council Running in the following words &
Directed as follows

For their Majesty's Special Service
E. Andros

To
The Honble the Gentlemen of their Majesty's
Council of Maryland

Honorable
Having received the news of the Death and Loss of your Governour