

Whereas they take the Oath to be that they
when any one shall be Judge in the Royal Courts
take an Oath their declaration or attestation shall be
if it is contrary to the common & statute Law of
England & therefore illegal & void

The Excellency likewise is pleased to ask the opi-
nion of the Council & the Gentlemen here present who
do severally say that they do approve of & concur with
the opinion of his Majesty's Lawyers

And that if that practice should be continued
& allowed of then, it will much prejudice his Majesty's
service in giving so much liberty there, & will be these
reasons to have all false & illegal. Tutors want that
& if that Law should stand in force the Tutors in that
Province will have that Liberty which we here & other
his Majesty's plantations are precluded of & occasion
Decay in Trade here

August the 7th 1698

Councils Table

Present

His Excellency the Gov^r

the Hon^{ble} } Coll. Henry Lovelace Chancellor
Major John Hammond
Captain Richard Hill

M^r Christopher Gregory, appearing says that on
Friday last he was at the house of M^r Robert Mason
in S^t Marys County where he saw the said M^r Mason