

The Honble Coll<sup>l</sup> (had the pleasure to receive the following information viz<sup>t</sup>

That about July last the seaman Robert Reed of Southwold County have always boarded the sloop with the Master & had in upon enquiry the said Reed told his Honor that one his men gave him his for carrying them to the mouth of Merrimack afterwards sent his Honor word that the Owners of her lived in Portsmouth & had ordered him to keep her until he came for her

How the said sloop being supposed to belong to some of his Majesty's Ships of War

Ordered that Mr<sup>r</sup> Thomas Collier Marshall of the Court of Admiralty on the eastern shore take the said Robert Reed into his custody & bring him before his Excellency the Governor to answer his contempt of his said Excellency's proclamation in conveying the said Seamen away contrary thereto

Ordered likewise that the said Mr<sup>r</sup> Collier take the said sloop Master's sails & Officers' provisions into his custody & bring her to the port of Annapolis

Ordered that publick notice be given that what persons ever do take aboard or any thing else of runaway Sea men for conveying them away such will be prosecuted as accessories to the felonies of such deserting Seamen

Read the petition of Mr<sup>r</sup> Thomas Lovell petitioning for his & his men's wages which being matter of Law is referred to the Honble Thomas Lynch Esq<sup>r</sup> Judge of the Court of Admiralty within this Province

Upon the petition of William Hutchison ordered that Captain John Brayne of Shutes County his Sheriff's friends on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1696 be assigned him