

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor with the Advice of this Board that the present General Assembly which stands prorogued to the second Tuesday in February next be further prorogued to the fourth Tuesday in April next and Proclamations issued accordingly

A Council held at the Governours in the City of Annapolis on Thursday the 24th Day of January in the 25th Year of His Lordships Dominion Anno Domini 1739

Present

His Excellency Samuel Ogle Esq. Governour
The Honble Benjamin Tasker Esq. Col Charles Hammond
Edmund Jennings Esq. Col Levin Gale

The following Order being read, was approved of, and ordered to be sent to the Sheriff of Prince Georges County

Whereas upon Consideration of the Act of Assembly Entituled A Supplementary Act to The Act Intituled An Act for the more Effectual Punishment of Negroes and other Slaves and for taking away the Benefit of Clergy from certain Offendors and to An Act Entituled An Act to prevent the tumultuous Meeting and other Irregularities of Negroes and other Slaves and directing the manner of trying of Slaves it is doubtful whether the Offendors can be try'd by Commission of Oyer and Terminer or Goal Delivery and it appearing by the Depositions of several Negroes taken before Mr John Hepburn one of the Justices of Prince Georges County that a considerable Number of Slaves in that County had form'd a most Wicked and Dangerous Conspiracy to destroy his Majestys Subjects within this Province and to possess themselves of the whole Country which may be attended with very Tragical Consequences if not timely prevented And Whereas several of the Conspirators must be Committed to Prison and Remain there until March Court or Assizes and that there is Reason to apprehend that the Numbers which must be so Committed with the Assistance of their yet Undiscovered Accomplices may attempt to break the Goal. It is therefore hereby Ordered that the Sheriff of the said County shall