

[Reduction of Maryland.]

Liber C. B.
p. 267

By the Commissioners of the Council of State for the
Commonwealth of England

Whereas the right honourable the Council of State for the Commonwealth of England by Authority of Parliament have Committed to us the Commissioners several Powers for the Reducing settling and Governing of all the Plantations within the Bay of Chesopeak as by their Commission and Instructions Bearing date at Whitehall the 26th day of Sept^r 1651 may Appear in pursuance whereof the foresaid Commissioners having applyed themselves to the Governor & Council of Maryland (one of the Plantations within the Limits aforesaid Requiring them to submit thereunto and to Act Accordingly and having tendered the same several times unto them so as that they might remain in their Places Conforming themselves to the Laws of the Commonwealth of England in Point of Government only and not infringing the Lord Baltimores just rights which they having denied and Refused as being inconsistent with the Pattennt of the Lord proprietor and their oaths made to him In Obedience therefore to the said Councils Commands in their said Commissions to us directed and for the preservation of the Honour and Interest of the Commonwealth of England for settling the Colony of Maryland in their due Obedience and peace and for the true Administration of Justice and right to the Inhabitants thereof until further Order can be taken therein and until the Council of States further pleasure shall be known we the said Commissioners have hereby thought fit to publish these Orders following Requiring all the people of this Province to see the same kept and Observed

p. 268

That all writs warrants and process whatsoever be issued forth in the name of the Keepers of the Liberty of England by Authority of Parliament that they be signed under the hand of one or more of the Council hereafter named viz^t Robert Brooke Esq^r Col^o Francis Yardley M^r Job Chandler Captain Edward Windham M^r Richard Preston and Lieutenant Richard Banks

That the said Council of Maryland first taking the ingagement do Cause the same to be tendered to all the inhabitants in these words, we whose names are Subscribed do promise and engage our selves to be true and faithful to the Commonwealth of England as it is now Established without King or House of Lords