

John Brown, Benjamin Gordon, Thomas Brown
John Wilson Esq. Inhabitants of the said City shall be Aldermen -
of so long as they shall well behave themselves therein, having first
and subscribed the Test and Several Oaths for Security of the Government
Law established and also the Oath appointed by us or our Present Go-
vernour in Chief or ~~of the Great Seal of this our Province for~~
~~the time being or by such other Person or Persons to be taken by~~
Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis aforesaid
shall be administered to them by our Governour in Chief or
Governour of the Great Seal of this our Province for the time being -
such other Person or Persons as we, our Heirs and Successours
Governour aforesaid for the time being shall from time to time
make and appoint to administer the same, and we grant that the
Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen or the Major part of them shall
and chuse ten other of the most sufficient of the Inhabitants -
Freeholders of the said City being Freeborn thereof to be of the
Common Council of the said City for so long time as they shall well
behave themselves And to perpetuate the succession of the said Mayor,
Recorder and Aldermen and Common Council shall bind to come, we do
not that for the future they shall Assemble in some convenient
place in the said City upon the feast Day of Saint Michael in Every
year and shall Elect and Chuse for the ensuing year by the Major
part of such of them as shall be then present one Other of the Al-
dermen of the said City for the time being to be Mayor of the said
City for the ensuing year and upon decease or removal of the said Mayor
of the said City for the time being or upon any decease or deceases
removal or removals of the said Recorder or Aldermen or any of
them or within one month after such respective decease or deceases
removal or removals the residue of the said Aldermen together &
the said Mayor if he shall be living or the major part of
them shall at a ~~well~~ time by them to be appointed within the said
City and precincts Elect and nominate some other person or persons
to be Mayor, Recorder, Alderman or Aldermen of the said City in
the place and place of such person or persons so deceased or remo-
ved respectively as the Case shall require as the said Mayor so to be
Elect and nominated at all the times of such Election and nomination
of the Aldermen of the said City and so as the said Recorder so
to be Elect and nominated as a person bound in the Law and so as
the said Alderman or Aldermen so to be Elect and nominated as actually

The Charter of the City of Annapolis

Anne by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, and the Dominions thereto belonging Queen, Defender of the Faith &c. To all and singular our faithful Subjects within our Province of Maryland greeting, Whereas there is a very pleasant, healthful and Commodious Place for Trade, &c. Sit of the General Assembly of this our Province, laid out for a Town and port and called Annapolis in honour of us Which said Town and Port hath in few years (especially since the Accession of our Trusty and well Belov'd JOHN BENNETT Esq; our Captain General and Governour in chief of this our Province to the Government thereof) very considerably increased in the number of its Inhabitants as well as Buildings both publick and private so that it Excelleth all other Town and Ports in our said Province, AND for that our present Seat of Government within our Province aforesaid is fixed at the sd Port and Town. Whereby the same is become the chief Mart of the whole Country, We being willing to Encourage all our good and faithful Subjects as well at present residing and inhabiting or which hereafter shall or may inhabit or reside within the said Port of Annapolis, of our Regall Grace, good will and mere motion wth the advice of our Council in our said Province have thought fit and do by these our Letters patents constitute and Erect the said Town and Port of Annapolis together wth the Circuits and Precincts thereof including the same heretofore laid out for the said Town and Port of Annapolis, publick Pasture and Town Common together wth the river and Creeks adjacent into a City by the name of the City of Annapolis, and grant unto the Inhabitants of the said City that the same City shall be an Incorporated City consisting of a Mayor, One Person Learned in the Law to be Chosen and bearing the Office of Recorder of the said City and six Aldermen and seven other Persons to be Common Council Men of the said City, which said Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council shall be a Body incorporate and one Community for ever in Right of us in name of Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and common Council of the said City of Annapolis shall be Able and Capable to sue and be sued at Law and to Elect, Electors, do and perform as a Body incorporate which shall have Succession for ever and to that End to have a Common Seal and that Amos Garrett Esq; one of the Inhabitants of the said City shall for the present be and be named Mayor of the sd City for the ensuing Year, and Wornell Jant Esq; Recorder thereof and William

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all the time of such Election and Nomination of the common Council
of the said City, the D^r Mayor, Recorder, Alderman or Aldermen
to be Elected and nominated first taking the several and respective Oaths
before mentioned to be appointed as aforesaid and shall likewise then fill up
by the like Election out, of and from and among the Jurahabants and
freeholders of the D^r City the full number of ten, Y^ens to be common
Council Men and that the D^r Y^ens hereby appointed and named
or hereafter to be Elected and nominated Mayor Recorder or Alder-
men to be Justices of the peace wthin the City precincts and wth-
out thereof having first taken the Oaths usually appointed
to be taken by the Justices of the Peace and the D^r Mayor,
Recorder and Aldermen hereby named and appointed or hereafter
to be Elected and nominated or any three of them whosoever the said
Mayor or Recorder for the time being shall be and, shall have wth-
in the Precincts of the D^r City full power and Authority to make constab-
les and other necessary Officers, and to rule, Order and govern the Ju-
rahabants thereof as Justices of the peace are authorized to do and shall
have power to Execute all the Laws, Ordinances and Statutes in
wholly made as fully and amply as if they were authorized thereto
by Express commission named therein writing and commanding
ing that no other Justices of the peace or Jurors wthin our said Count-
ty or Province do at any time hereafter take upon them or any of
them to Execute the Office of a Justice of peace wthin the D^r City or
the precincts thereof, wthstanding any Commission at Large authori-
ing them hereto, and further we will and grant unto the D^r Mayor
Recorder, Aldermen & Common Council of the D^r City for the time be-
ing full power and Authority after the space of six years to Elect
a Sheriff for the D^r City (but that until then the Sheriff of Ch^r-
church County for the time being shall be Sheriff of the said
City, and to make Order and Appoint such by-Laws and Ordinances
among themselves for the regulating and good Government of Trade &
other matters, Emergencies and Things wthin the D^r City and precincts
as to them or the major part of them shall seem most so as
they be consonant to reason and not contrary but as near as con-
veniently may be agreeable to the Laws Statutes now in force, wth-
in the D^r City shall be observed, kept and performed by all manner of
persons trading and residing wthin the D^r City under such reasonable
penalties, penalties and forfeitures as shall be imposed by the D^r Mayor
Recorder

593. Aldermen and Common Council or the major part of them who
assembled from time to time not exceeding forty including the Mayor
the said penalties and forfeitures to be raised by distress and sale
of the Goods of such Person so offending and to be employed for the
publick Benefit of the said City at their Discretion, and further
we do grant and give full power, License, privilege and Authority to
the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and the first Senior or first common
Council Men of the said City for the time being and their suc-
cessors for ever to send two Citizens and Delegates to Every of our
Assemblies or Assemblies hereafter to be hold or at any time or times
hereafter to be called to be hold in this our Province of Maryland
to be choosen and chosen out of the Inhabitants actually being and re-
siding within the said City having a freehold or visible Estate of free-
ty pounds sterling therein, by the said Mayor, Recorder Aldermen and
said common Council men and the major part of them being then
present by virtue of our Writ or Writts of Election to be sent to
them for that purpose, which said Writ or Writts we do hereby grant
shall be issued out and sent to them when and so often as Occasion
shall require and when hereafter there shall happen any general As-
semblies to be hold according as writts shall be sent to the several
and respective Counties for Electing of Deputies or Delegates for their re-
spective and respective Counties in this our Province of Maryland, we
further grant that the said Citizens and Delegates by them so as aforesaid
Electors and sent shall have full and free Vote and voices in all
Every of our General Assemblies touching or concerning all Matters or
Things their to be discussed & handled as other the Deputies or De-
legates of the several and respective Counties formerly have had now
have or hereafter shall have, And further we do grant and give License
to the Mayor, Recorder Aldermen and Common Council of the said
City for the time being and their Successors for ever to have and to
hold two Market Weekes within the said City on Every ~~the~~ Wednesday
and Saturday in the Week in some convenient place to be by them
appointed within the precincts and Liberties of the said City and also two
Fairs yearly to be kept on May Day otherwise called St Philips and
Jacobs Day and on the feast of St Michael the Arch Angel (or on
the next Day according Each or Either of them in case they shall
happen to fall on the Lord Day for the Sale and vending of all
manner of Goods, Cattle, Wares and Merchandises whatsoever on which
said Fair days and for two days before and after all persons coming to
the said Fairs together with their Cattle, Goods, Wares and Merchandises
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Turning thence shall be exempt and privileged from any Ar-
rest or Attachment or Execution whatsoever and that the D Mayor,
and Aldermen shall have power to set such reasonable tolls upon
such Goods, Catts, Merchandizes and other Commodities as shall be
sold therein respectively as shall be thought fitt not Exceeding
Six pence on Every Cart sold and the twentieth part of the va-
lue of any Commodity and shall and may hold a Court of Jay-
powdry during the D fair for the determination of all contro-
versies & Quarrels which may happen therein, according to the use
all Courts therein in England in the like cases, and we grant
unto them all profits and acquitts due, incident and belonging
to the D Market, fair and Court of Jay-powdry, and further we
do Grant that the D Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen or any
three or more of them shall hold a Court of Hustings in
the D City, where they are lawfully empowered to make proper Offi-
cers and set reasonable fees not Exceeding what are now al-
lowed in the County Court, and shall have Jurisdiction and full
power of Proffess and Exclaim for any Lands Towns in the
D City as also of all Writts of Dower for the same Lands &
Towns and of all other Actions personall and mixt, and as a
Court of record give Judgmt and award Execution thereon accord-
ing to the Laws and Statutes of England & this Province, provided the
Demand in the D Action personall & mixt Exceed not the sum of
Six pounds Ten Shillings Sterling or Equivalent hundred pounds of Gold
And provided notwithstanding that any Party or Parties Plaintiff
or Defendant shall be at their Liberty on good grounds to bring
Writts of Habeas Corpus and Certiorari to remove any plaint from
the D Hustings to the Bench Court of this Province and also to
appeal from the Judgmt of the D Mayor Court or bring Writts
of Error at their Choice to y^e privill Court under limitation and re-
gulation as is already by the Act of Assembly of this Province assign-
ed for prosecuting appeals and Writts of Error from the County
Courts to the privill, J^{ts} Testimony whereof we have caused this
our Letter to be made patent, Given at Annapolis under the great
Seal of our D Province, Witness our Trusty and well Belovd J^{ts}
Seymour Esq. Captain Grad and Gov^r in chief of our D Province.
This sixteenth day of August in the Seventh year of our right
Annoq. Dom 1708.

Robt Seymour
Recorded & John Thomas Regis