

ANNU by the Grace of God of Great Brittain  
France and Ireland And the Dominions therunto belong-  
-ing Queen Defender of the Faith &c. To all & singular  
our Faithfull Subjects within our Province of Maryland  
Greeting Whereas there is a very pleasant health-  
-full and Commodious place for Trade by Act of the Gen<sup>le</sup>  
Assembly of this our Province laid out for a Towne and  
Port and called Annapolis in Honour of us Which  
Said Towne and Port hath in few years especially since  
the Reception of our Trusty and wellbeloved John  
Seymour Esq our Cap<sup>l</sup> Generall and Governour  
in Chief of this our Province to the Government thereof  
of very considerably increased in the number of its In-  
-habitants as well as buildings both publick & private  
So that it excelleth all other Townes and Ports in our Said  
Province and for that our present Seat of Government  
within our Province aforesaid is fixed at the Said Port  
and Towne Whereby the Same is become the Chief  
Mart of the whole Country Wee being willing to  
Encourage all our good and Faithfull Subjects as  
well at present residing and Inhabiting or which  
hereafter shall or may Inhabit or reside within  
the Same Port of Annapolis Of our Royal Grace  
good will and mere Motion with the Advice of our  
Council in our Said Province have thought fitt and  
do by these presents constitute and erect the Said Towne  
and Port of Annapolis together with the Cravies and  
precincts thereof including the Lands heretofore laid



out for the said Towne and Port of Annapolis publick  
Pasture and Towne Emion together with the River &  
Creeks adjacent unto a City by the name of the City  
of Annapolis and do grant to the Inhabitants  
of the said City that the same City shall be an  
Incorporate City consisting of a Mayor one person  
chosen in the Law Justice and bearing the Office of  
Recorder of the said City and six Aldermen and  
four other persons to be Common Councillmen of the  
said City which said Mayor Recorder & Common  
Councillmen shall be a body Incorporate and one  
Community for ever in Right and by the name of  
Mayor Recorder Aldermen and Common Councill of  
the said City of Annapolis shall be able and Capa-  
ble to sue and be sued at Law and to Act and  
Execute do and performe as a body Incorporate  
shall have Succession for ever and to that end to  
have a Common Seale and that Amos Garrett Esq  
one of the Inhabitants of the said City shall for  
the present be and be named Mayor of the said  
City for the ensuing year and Wornell Hewitt  
Esq Recorder thereof and William Bladen John  
Freeman Benjamin Fordham Evan Jones Thomas  
Nordley and Josiah Wilson Esqs Inhabitants of  
the said City shall be Aldermen thereof so long  
as they shall well behave themselves therein having  
first taken and subscribed the Test and severall



Oath for Security of the Government as by Law Sta:  
:lished as also the Oath appointed by us or our pre:  
:sent Governour to be taken by the Mayor Recorder  
and Aldermen of the City of Newapohwa aforesaid w:  
:hall be administered unto them by our Governour  
in Chief or keeper of the Great Seal of this our  
Province for the time being or by such other person or  
persons as we our heirs and Successors or our Gov:  
:aforesaid for the time being shall from time to time  
Authorise and appoint to administer the Same and  
We Grant that the Said Mayor Recorder and Alder:  
:men or the Major part of them shall Elect and  
:Choose Tenn other of the most Sufficient of the In:  
:habitants of the Said City being Free men 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  
Aldermen and Common Council in all time to come  
We do grant that for the future they shall assemble  
in some convenient place in the Said City upon the  
feast of S:<sup>t</sup> Michael the Arch Angel in every year  
and shall Elect and Choose by the Major Vote of  
Such of them as shall be then present one other  
of the Aldermen 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 of any of them or within one month  
after such respective decease or deceases removal or  
removals the residue of the said Aldermen together  
with the said Mayor shall be then being or  
the Major part of them shall at any 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 or places of such person  
or persons so deceased or removed respectively as the  
Case shall require so as the said Mayor so to be  
elected and nominated be at the time of such  
election and nomination actually one of the  
Aldermen of the said City and so as the said Recorder  
so to be elected and nominated be a person learned  
in the Law and so as the said Alderman or Alder-  
men so to be elected and nominated be actually at  
the time of such election and nomination of the  
Common Council of the said <sup>City</sup> the said Mayor Recorder  
Alderman or Aldermen so to be elected & nominated  
first taking the Severall oaths respective Oaths  
before mentioned to be appointed as aforesaid and shall  
likewise then fill up by the election of the Free Voters  
of the said City out of and from among the Inhabit-  
ants and free Voters of the said City the full number  
of



of Term persons to be chosen and called men and that the  
said persons hereby named and named or here-  
after to be elected and nominated Mayor Recorder  
or Aldermen be Justices of the peace within the City  
Precincts and Liberty thereof having first taken  
the Oath usually appointed to be taken by the  
Justices of the peace and the said Mayor recorder  
and Aldermen hereby named and appointed or  
hereafter to be elected and nominated or any three of  
them whereof the said Mayor or Recorder for the  
time being shall be one shall have within the  
precincts of the said City full power and Authority  
to make Constables and other necessary Officers &  
to rule order and Govern the Inhabitants thereof  
as Justices of the peace are or shall be authorized  
to do and shall have power to execute all the laws  
ordinances and Statutes on that behalf made as  
fully and amply as if they were authorized thereto by  
express Commission named therein with might Commanding  
that no other Justices of the peace or Quorum within  
our said City or Precincts do at any time hereafter  
take upon them or any of them to execute the Office  
of a Justice of peace within the said City or in the  
Precincts thereof notwithstanding any Commission or  
Charge authorizing them thereto during the Author-  
ity and Jurisdiction of her Majesty's Justices of Oyer  
& Terminer



and shall deliver unto the Mayor Recorder and Aldermen  
during the time of their holding their Seves all &  
Respective Casks in the said City and further we will  
and Grant unto the said Mayor Recorder Aldermen  
and Common Council of the said City for the time being  
full power and Authority after the space of Six Years  
to elect a Sheriff for the said City but that untill  
then the Sheriff of Ann Arundels 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 regulation &  
good Government of Trade and other matters Di-  
gences and things within the said City and precincts  
as to them or the Major part of them shall seem  
meet to be consonant to reason & not contrary but  
as near as conveniently may be agreeable to the Laws  
and Statutes now in Force which said by Laws  
shall be observed kept and performed by all man-  
of persons Trading and residing within the said City  
under such reasonable paines penalties and Forfeitures  
as shall be imposed by the said Mayor Recorder and  
Aldermen and Common Council in or the Major  
Part of them they assembled from time to time  
not exceeding forty Shillings Sterling the said paines  
penalties and Forfeitures to be raised by distress &  
Sale of the Goods of such persons offending and to  
be employed for the publick benefit of the said



City at this present time. And further We  
do Grant and give full power <sup>privilege</sup> licence and Authority  
to the Mayor Recorder Aldermen and Common Council  
men of the said City <sup>at all times</sup> felle time being and  
their Successors for ever and also all Freeholders of  
the said City that is to say all persons owning a  
whole Lot of Land with an house built thereon  
According to Law and all persons actually inhabit  
ing and residing in the said City having a fixable  
Estate of the Value of twenty pounds Sterling at the  
least and ~~all~~ all persons that hereafter shall  
serve five years to any Trade within this City and  
shall after the Expiration of their time be actually  
house keepers and Inhabitants in the said City to send  
two Citizens and Delegates to every of our Assembly  
or Assemblys hereafter to be held or at any time  
or times hereafter to be called to be held for this our  
said Province of Maryland to be elected chosen  
out of the Inhabitants actually being residing  
within the said City having a Freehold or fixable Estate  
of the Value of twenty pounds Sterling therein by  
the said Mayor Recorder Aldermen Common  
Councilmen ~~and~~ and ~~the~~ ~~Mayor~~ ~~Recorder~~ ~~Aldermen~~ ~~Common~~  
or the Major part of them being then present by  
Virtue of our Writts or Writts of Election to be sent  
to them for that purpose which said Writts or Writts We



Will. The said Writs shall be signed out and sent to  
the said Mayor Recorder and Aldermen when and so  
often as occasion shall require. Provided that  
Such Elector or Voters as aforesaid shall be  
true to the Interest of the said City before they be  
Admitted to Such Vote. And provided also and at  
all times after the end of the next Generall Assembly  
to be held for this Province no Freeman as aforesaid  
not being a Freeholder as aforesaid shall have the Liberty  
of Such Vote as aforesaid untill three months after  
Such his Freedom obtained. And when hereafter  
there shall be any Generall Assembly to be held  
according as Writs shall be sent to the Severall  
and respective Counties for Electing Deputy or  
Delegates for their Severall and respective Counties  
in this our Province of Maryland Wee further  
Grant that the said Members and Delegates by them  
so as aforesaid elected and sent shall have full &  
free Votes and voices in all and every of our Gen<sup>l</sup>  
Assemblies touching or concerning all matters or  
things there to be discoursed and handled as other  
the Deputy or Delegates of the Severall & respective  
Counties formerly have had now have or hereafter  
shall have. And further Wee grant and give  
Priviledge to the Mayor Recorder Aldermen and Common  
Council of the said City for the time being & their  
Successors for ever to have and to hold two Marketts



weekly with the said day on every Wednesday and  
Saturday in the market place convenient place to  
be by them appointed within the precincts Liberty  
of the said City and a two fairs yearly to be  
kept on Monday otherwise called St. Martin and  
Saturday and on the feast of St. Michael the  
Archangel or on the next day succeeding each or  
either of them in case they shall happen to fall on  
the Lord's day for the sale and carrying all manner  
of Goods Cattle Merchandizes what ever on the  
said Fair days and for two day before and after all  
persons coming to the said fairs together with their  
Cattle Goods wares and merchandizes & returning  
thence shall be exempt and Priviledged from any  
Arrests Attachments or Executions what so ever  
and that the said Mayor and Aldermen shall  
have power to Sell Such reasonable Sale upon such  
Goods Cattle Merchandizes and other Commodities as shall  
be sold therein respectively as they shall <sup>thought</sup> best not  
Exceeding six pence on every beast sold and the twenti-  
eth part of the value of any Commodity and shall and  
may hold a Court of Record during the said  
Fair for the Determination of all Controversies and  
Quarrels which may happen therein according to the  
usual Course in England in the like Cases And We  
Grant unto them all profits and perquisites due incident  
(and



belonging to the said Marshall Town and Court of  
Record And further We do grant that  
the said Mayor Recorder and Aldermen any three  
or more of them shall hold a Court of Sessions <sup>the</sup>  
in the said Town where they are hereby impowered to make  
all proper Orders and settle reasonable Fees not exceed-  
ing what are now allowed in the County Court and  
shall have Jurisdiction and hold plea of Trespass and  
Ejectment for any lands or Tenements within the said  
City or also of all Writs of Debt for the same Lands  
and Tenements and of all other Actions personal &  
and next and a Court of Record and award Execu-  
tion thereon according to the Laws and Statutes of  
England and this Province provided the Demand in  
the said Action personal and next exceed not the  
Sum of Six pence Four Shillings Sterling or Seven-  
teen hundred pounds of Tobacco And provided  
Notwithstanding that any party or party plaintiffs  
or Defendants shall be at their Liberty on good  
grounds to bring Writs of Habeas Corpus & Certiorari to  
remove any plaintiffs from y<sup>e</sup> said Sessions to the  
Provincial Court of this Province and also appeal  
from the Judgment of the Mayor Court or bring  
Writs of Error at their choice to the Provincial  
Court under such Limitations and Regulation as is  
already by the Act of Assembly of this Province  
Assigned for prosecuting appeals and Writs of Error



from the County Courts to the provinciall — In  
Testimony whereof Wee have caused these our  
Letters to be made patents Given at Amnapolis  
under the great Seale of our Said Province  
Witness our Trusty and wellbeloved John  
Seymour Esq. Captain Generall and Governour  
in Chief of our Said Province this twenty second day  
of November in the seventh Year of our Reigne &c  
Annoq. Domini 1708.

Jo. Seymour



