

Transcribed

Edward Calvert Governour of Maryland to my good friend Captain
 George Evelyn of the shire commonly called Kent within the Province of
 Virginia of our willing to provide for the good government of the said shire of Kent
 being the first a member of the Province; your self receiving special confi-
 dence in us trust we should be well approved experiences of your good service
 Evelyn, I do hereby give full authority and appoint you to be Commandour
 of the said shire of Kent in all things appertaining, giving and granting hereby unto you
 full power & authority to elect and choose any six or more able and sufficient
 men inhabitants of the said shire as you in your discretion shall think fit
 will upon in full advice and consult in all matters of importance; and to
 hold a Court or Courts as often as you shall cause, and in the said Court
 to hear and determine all manner of processes, suits, pleas, and to hear & finally to determine
 all causes & actions whatsoever with hearing and arising betwixt any two
 inhabitants of the said shire not depending in damages or demands of value
 above the sum of twenty shillings, as also to hear & finally determine all matters &
 offences whatsoever criminal or committed within the said shire
 which may be heard & determined by any Justice of the Peace in England in
 the Court of Sessions not depending in life and member. And I do
 hereby give you to do use and execute all and all manner of iuris-
 diction & authority whatsoever for the conservation of the peace within the
 said shire as any Justice of the Peace in England may or ought to do by virtue
 of his Commission for the years; and further to elect and appoint all such
 necessary officers for the execution of justice & conservation of the peace
 with allowance of such fees as are usually belonging to the same or the like
 officers in Virginia, and to do all other things and acts so far as may be
 for the execution of the peace & jurisdiction hereby committed unto you.
 Given at St. Marys the 30th day of December; anno Domini 1637.