

Commission and the Instructions herewith Given you or by such further powers & Instructions & Authorities as shall at any time hereafter be Granted or Appointed you under our Signet & ^{Signet} Manual or by our Order in our privy Councill and according to such Reasonable Laws and Statutes as are now in force or hereafter shall be made and Agreed upon by you with the Advice & Consent of the Councill & Assembly of our said province Under your Government in such Manner & forme as is hereafter expressed And Wee doe hereby Give & Grant full power unto you the said Francis Nicholson after you shall have first taken an Oath for the due Execution of the Office & Trust of our Captain Generall & Governor in Chief in and over our said province & Territory of Maryland which our Councill or any five of them have hereby full power & Authority and are required to Administer unto you to Give & Administer to each of the Members of our said Councill the Oaths Appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy as also the Oath and the Oath for the due Execution of their places and Trusts And Wee doe hereby Give & Grant unto you full power & Authority to suspend any of the Members of our said Councill from sitting Voting and assisting therein if you shall find just cause for so doing And if it shall at any time happen that by the Death Departures out of our said province or Suspension of any of our Councillors there shall be a Vacancy in our said Councill any three whereof Wee do hereby Appoint to be a Quorum Our Will & pleasure is that you signify the same unto Us by the first opportunity that Wee may under our Signet & Signet Manual Constitute & Appoint others in their stead But that our Affairs at that distance may not suffer for want of a due Number of Councillors if ever it shall happen that there be less then Seven of them residing in our said Province Wee doe hereby Give & Grant unto you full power & Authority to Choose as many persons out of the principall Freeholders Inhabitants of the Province as will make up the full Number of our said Councill to be Seven and no more which persons by Virtue of such Choice shall be to all intents & purposes as Councillors in our said province until they shall be Confirmed by Us or that by the Nomination of others by Us under our Signet Manual & Signet the said Councill shall have Seven persons in it And Wee doe hereby Give & Grant unto you full