

travel either on Horse back or on foot over Patuxent River about their Lawful Occasions and for that several Assemblies have endeavoured to make a Law for the same but Could not pitch upon a person that would willingly undertake the same that Lived Convenient to perform it and Geo Beckwith of Calvert County Gent living opposite to Point Patience and being willing to undertake the same for a Reasonable Allowance to be paid by each respective Person that hath Occasion to make use thereof either for foot or Horse and we being desirous to give the said Beckwith all reasonable Encouragement to perform so publick and Beneficial an Undertaking do by these presents Authorize and Empower the said George Beckwith or his Assigns to keep ferry Boats for to transport men and Horses either from Point Patience over the said River of Patuxent to his own house or from his own house over the said River to Point Patience aforesaid and to ask demand receive and take for every Person he shall so transport as aforesaid either Backwards or forwards over the said River the Sum of twelve Pence and Also to ask demand receive and take for every Horse he shall so transport as aforesaid the like Sum of twelve pence to have hold and enjoy the sole Priviledge of Keeping the said Ferry Boat for transporting Persons or Horses over the said River as aforesaid during his Natural Life and since between Point Patience and the said Beckwiths is the most Convenient place in the said River for the Keeping a ferry Boat we do hereby Order Command and Enjoyn all other Persons whatsoever for private Gain or otherwise to forbear to keep any ferry Boat or Boats for transporting men or Horses over the said River either there or in any other Place or Part of the said River upon pain and perill that shall fall therein and also Provided that the said Beckwith shall keep a sufficient Boat and man or men for the doing and performing the same wind & weather Permitting and shall not presume to exact or demand more of any Person then is hereby allowed for transporting either them or their Horses over the said River upon pain of forfeiting the License hereby Granted to him it being made Appear before the Justices of the Provincial Court and also Provided that the said Beckwith or his Assigns take special Care to examine Persons that they know Not of their own certain knowledge to be freemen) that so run away Servants may not be helped forwards by Reason of the ferry Boat aforesaid and of this all Persons are to take notice at their Perills Given under the Great Seal of the said Province of Maryland the first day of March in the 41st Year our dominion over our said Province Annoq Dom 1672 Witness our dear Son Charles Calvert Esq^r our Captain General and chief Governor of our said Province of Maryland

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p. 112

p. 113