

Lib. H. D. day of January Anno Dom 1697/8 And in the ninth year of his Majesties Reign

Signed Sealed and Delivered

in presence of

Is<sup>a</sup> Addington

Edw<sup>d</sup> Surfrey

[Seale]

John George [Seale]

In Testimonium Veritatis

Sampson Sheafe

Notus Pub<sup>us</sup>

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1697/8

By the Principal Comiss<sup>rs</sup> for Prizes

Mr Ino  
Georges  
Comission for  
prizes &ca

Whereas his Majesty by Comission under the great Seal of England hath made constituted & appointed us to be Principal Comissioners for the care & management of all such Shippes Goods and Merchandizes as are have been or shall be taken and seized for prize during hostility w<sup>th</sup> the French King thereby giving us or any three or more of us full power & Authority by Comission under our hands & Seal w<sup>th</sup> the approbation of the R<sup>t</sup> Hono<sup>ble</sup> the Lords Comiss<sup>rs</sup> of his Maj<sup>ties</sup> Treasury to substitute such & so many persons as are necessary to be employed in and about this service. And we having rec<sup>d</sup> their Lordships warrant authorizing us to supersede the Comission we have lately given to Peter Jenings to be Agent for prizes in Maryland. Do by virtue of the power & authority unto us graunted and pursuant to their Lordships said warrant accordingly Supersede the Comission of the said Peter Jenings & constitute and appoint you John George and you are hereby constituted and appointed Agent for all Prizes that are have been or shall be brought into all or any of the Ports in Maryland and districts thereof and in New England New Yorke Pensilvania & Virginia w<sup>th</sup> full power & Authority to you, to do and performe all & all manner of things to the said place of Agent belonging & appertaining according to such directions & Instructions as you shall from time to time receive from us or any three or more of us And Whereas we are informed there are and hath been great concealments & embezelmen<sup>ts</sup> made and committed And that also no accompt hath been yet returned unto us of any prize Shippes, Goods or Merchandizes w<sup>ch</sup> hath been brought into Maryland, New England, New Yorke Pensilvania, Virginia or any other place upon the Continent of America We do therefore hereby impower you Iohn George & such others as you shall think necessary to employ to inquire after examine and find out all matters & things transacted or that shall be transacted comitted or done touching the premises in the said Colony of Maryland and its districts, or in or on New