

Maryland ss.

Lib. C. B.

John Seymour Esq<sup>r</sup> Captain General and Governor in Chief  
in and over this her Majestys Province of Maryland the  
Lands Islands and Territorys thereunto belonging

To John Hammond of Ann Arundel County Esq<sup>r</sup> Greeting.

Whereas I am Commanded and Enjoyed by her most Excellent Majestys Royal Instructions, to put the Militia of this her Majestys province in the best and most Useful Posture for the Defence and Security thereof; especially in this time of War—And for that I have and do repose Especial Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Courage, Prudence, Skill and good Conduct; In pursuance of her said Majestys Royal Instructions to me I have thought fit & do hereby Commissionate you the said John Hammond to be Major General of all and Singular the Forces belonging to the Militia, within the Six Countys of the Western Shore, in this Her Majestys Province, both of Horse and Foot Commanding and Requiring the several Colonels and Commanders and other Subalterne Officers Soldiers and Troopers of the said Militia to be in all Respects Obedient to your Commands And to the end the said Militia may be rendered the most Effectually Serviceable, <sup>p. 63</sup> and that it may be the better known what Officer or Officers do discharge and execute their Commissions or otherwise happen to neglect their Duty in Trayning and Mustering the several Troops and Companys under their Command according to the Art and Discipline of War you are as often as you shall see fit, and at such times and places as you shall Judge most Convenient, to Review the said Militia and upon their Several Appearances diligently to Observe how well they shall be appointed that you may be the better enabled to give me Account thereof and upon any Suddain Invasion Incursion or Insurrection you are hereby Authorized Immediately to Summons such Troops and Companys as you shall see fit out of the said Several Counties on the Western Shore and them according to the Art and Discipline of War to Command and dispose for the resisting Vanquishing and Suppressing thereof by all such Ways and means as you shall think proper for the better Security and Defence of the Province And further you are to Obey and put in Execution all such Orders and Instructions as you shall from time to time receive from myself or any her Majestys Governor and Commander in chief of this Her Province for the time being Lastly I do hereby Grant unto you to hold this Commission during Pleasure Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms this seventeenth day of July in the Sixth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lady