Lib. J. R. & U. S. At a Council held at the City of Annapolis on Wednesday the thirteenth day of June in the Eighth year of his Lordships Dominion Annoq Domini 1759.

Present

The Hon̄ble	Benjamin Tasker Esq.	D. Dulany Esq[r]
	Col[o] Charles Hammond	
	Col[o] Benjamin Tasker	S. Bordley Esq[r]

The following Commission for a Flag of Truce to Captain Robert Ferguson and Instructions being read are approved of and ordered to be entered.

By His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland in America

To all to whom these Presents shall Come or may Concern Whereas the Exchange of Prisoners taken in War is Consonant to the Practice of all Christian Powers, and being Willing to Rlease all such Subjects of his most Christian Majesty as have been brought into this Port, and are now detained here under my orders as Prisoners of War in Confidence that a Like Number of the Subjects of the King my master will be set at Liberty and Returned to this Province by His Excellency Monsier De Bart Captain in the Navy and Lieutenant General of French Hispaniola and being Desireous to keep with him and his Government such a correspondence as is agreeable to the State of the two Nations and Consistent with the Duty and Obedience I owe to the King my master; I have ordered Cap[t] Robert Ferguson to Proceed from the mouth of North Potomack with the said French Prisoners to on Hispaniola with the Kings Flag of Truce on board the Ship Rainbow under his Command and I do hereby Authorize and appoint the said Robert Ferguson to Transact and treat of all Matters touching an Exchange of Prisoners with his said Excellency Mons[r] De Bart or with whom else it may concern at on the Island of Hispaniola aforesaid that is to say Captain for Captain Officer for Officer Sailor for Sailor observing that the Exchange be made According to their quality as near as shall be Possible and the Number of British Prisoners in that respect shall admit I therefore Desire that the Captains or Commanders of the Ships of his most Christian Majesty or the Ships of his Allies, and all Private Ships of War empowered by him or them do not in any wise molest the said Robert Ferguson or hinder him with the said Rainbow from making his Course to aforesaid or in his Return from thence,