

The Oath of Sheriffe.

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Yo<sup>u</sup> shall well & truly serue the Lord Proprietary of this prouince in the Office of Sheriffe of N Yo<sup>u</sup> shall truly & rightfully treat the poeple of yo<sup>r</sup> Sherifwick, & doe right as well to poore as to rich in all that belongeth to yo<sup>r</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Office. Yo<sup>u</sup> shall doe noe wrong to any man, for any gwift, fauo<sup>e</sup>, hate or other affection. Yo<sup>u</sup> shall duely exequite, soe far as yo<sup>u</sup> may, all such writts, & warrants as shall bee to yo<sup>u</sup> directed by lawfull authority, & therof yo<sup>u</sup> shall make true returne, according to the tenor of the writt. Soe helpe yo<sup>u</sup> God &c :

Cæcilus Absolute & Prop<sup>e</sup> of the Prouinces of Maryland & Aualon, Lord Baron of Baltemore &c : To John Hatch, James Lindsey Henry Adams, Edward Parks, James Walker & Robert Hunley Gent<sup>n</sup> Greeting, Know yee That Wee for the ease & benefitt of the Poep<sup>l</sup>e of this o<sup>e</sup> Prouince & for the spedyer & more exact Adm̄istraōn of Justice haue erected, & doe by these p<sup>e</sup>sents Erect all th<sup>t</sup> Tract of Land of this o<sup>e</sup> Prouince of Maryland Bownded with West Wicocomoco Ryuer, up to the head thereof, & Sowth w<sup>th</sup> Patowmeck ruy<sup>e</sup>r from the mouth of Wicocomoco up as high as any Plantaōn under o<sup>e</sup> gouerm<sup>t</sup> is now seated, And from thence w<sup>th</sup> a right Line drawne from such plantaōn as afores<sup>d</sup> to the head of Wicocomoco Ryuer, into a County, By the name of Charles County, in honou<sup>e</sup> of Our only Sonne & heyre apparant Charles Caluert Esq<sup>r</sup> And for the great trust & confidence, Wee haue in yo<sup>r</sup> fidelities, circumspections, prouidences, & wisdomes haue constituted, ordeyned & appointed & doe by these p<sup>e</sup>nts constitute, ordaine & appoynt yo<sup>u</sup> John Hatch, James Lindsey, Henry Adames, Edward Parks, James Walker & Rob<sup>t</sup> Hunley, Gent<sup>n</sup> Commissioners Joyntley & seuerally to keepe the Peace in Charles County afores<sup>d</sup> And to keepe & cause to be kept all Lawes & Orders made for the good & conseruaōn of the Peace, & for the quiett rule and gouerm<sup>t</sup> of the Poep<sup>l</sup>e in all & euery the articles of the same, And to chastice & punish all persons offending agst the forme of any the Lawes & Orders of this o<sup>e</sup> prouince, or of any of them in Charles County afores<sup>d</sup> as according to the forme of those Lawes & orders shall be fitt to be done. Wee haue also constituted & ordayne yo<sup>u</sup> & euery fowre or more of yo<sup>u</sup>, of w<sup>ch</sup> yo<sup>u</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> John Hatch (unlesse some one of o<sup>e</sup> Councell bee p<sup>e</sup>sent) are allwayes to bee one ; Commis<sup>es</sup> to enquire by the Oath of good & lawfull men of yo<sup>r</sup> County afores<sup>d</sup> of all manner of ffelonies, Withcrafts, Inchantm<sup>ts</sup>, Soceries, Magick arts, Trespasses fforestallings, Ingrossings, & Extortions whatsoever & of all & singular other misdeeds & offences of w<sup>ch</sup> Justices of the Peace in England may or ought lawfully to enquire by whomsoever, or whensoever done or perpetrated, or w<sup>ch</sup> hereafter shall happen to be done or perpetrated in the County afores<sup>d</sup> agst the Lawes & Orders of this Our prouince, Prouided yo<sup>u</sup>

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