

Liber A commonwealth of England for settling the colony of Maryland in their due obedience and peace, and for the true administration of justice and right to the inhabitants thereof, until further order can be taken therein and until the council of State's further pleasure shall be known; We, the said commissioners have hereby thought fit to publish these orders following, requiring all the people of this province to see the same kept and observed;

That all writs, warrants and process whatsoever be issued forth in the name of the keepers of the liberty of England by authority of parliament; that they be signed under the hand of one or more of the council hereafter named, viz: Robert Brooke, esqr., cols. Francis Yardley, Mr. Job Chandler, captain Edward Windham, Mr. Richard Preston, and lieutenant Richard Banks.

That the said council of Maryland, first taking the engagement, do cause the same to be tendered to all the inhabitants in these words,—We, whose names are subscribed, do promise and engage ourselves to be true and faithful to the commonwealth of England, as it is now established, without King or house of lords.

That the said council of Maryland, or any two or more of them, whereof Robert Brooke, esq., to be one, do govern and direct the affairs thereof, and hold courts as often as they think fit for that purpose, as also that they summon an assembly to begin 24th June next coming, the burgesses whereof are only to be chosen by such freemen as have taken the said engagement, and that neither by the said council nor in the said assembly anything be acted contrary to the laws of England there established, or to their obedience due to the commonwealth of England.

That the commissions for the governor and council be hereby declared void and null, and to be delivered into the hands of us, the commissioners, as also that all records and other matters and things relating to the government of Maryland be delivered into the hands of the council herein by us nominated.

Richard Bennett,
Edmund Courties,
Willm Claiborne.

Dated at St. Mary's the 29th day of March 1652.

Hanson, Old Kent, pp. 21-25.

[fol. 47] At the Court held at Mr. Lumbard's, the 12th of August, 1652, Francis Lumbard was authorized to act as Sheriff for that year, having been elected a second time.

[fols. 47-49] At the same Court, an inquest was held over the body of James Wilson, a "Scot," and a servant of Capt. Thos. Bradnox. The death occurred on the 19th of August, 1652.

"The Jury having according to their Oaths, and in discharge of their Consciences, made inquiry into the death of James Wilson,