

Statutes, Customs and Rights of this Our Kingdom of *England*.

VIII. AND FORASMUCH as, in the Government of so great a PROVINCE, sudden Accidents may frequently happen to which it will be necessary to apply a Remedy before the Freeholders of the said PROVINCE, their Delegates or Deputies, can be called together for the framing of Laws; neither will it be fit that so great a number of People should immediately on such emergent Occasion, be called together, WE THEREFORE, for the better Government of so great a PROVINCE, do Will and Ordain and by these Presents, for US, our Heirs and Successors do grant unto the said now Baron of BALTIMORE, and to his Heirs, that the aforesaid now Baron of BALTIMORE, and his Heirs, by themselves, or by their Magistrates and Officers, thereunto duly to be constituted as aforesaid, may, and can make and constitute fit and wholesome Ordinances from Time to Time, to be kept and observed within the PROVINCE aforesaid, as well for the Conservation of the Peace, as for the Better Government of the People inhabiting therein, and publicly to notify the same to all Persons whom the same in any wise do or may affect. Which Ordinances, WE will to be inviolably observed within the said PROVINCE, under the Pains to be expressed in the same. So that the said Ordinances be Consonant to Reason, and be not repugnant nor contrary, but (so far as conveniently may be done) agreeable to the Laws, Statutes, or Rights of our Kingdom of *England*; and so that the same Ordinances do not, in any Sort, extend to oblige, bind, charge, or take away the Right or Interest of any Person or Persons, of, or in Member, Life, Freehold, Goods or Chattels.

IX. FURTHERMORE, that the new Colony may more happily increase by a Multitude of People resorting thither, and at the same Time may be more firmly secured from the IncurSIONS of Savages, or of other Enemies, Pirates, and Ravagers WE, therefore, for US, our Heirs and Successors, do by these Presents give and grant Power, License and Liberty, to all the Liege-Men and Subjects, present and future, of US, our Heirs and Successors, except such to whom it shall be expressly forbidden, to transport themselves and their Families to the said PROVINCE, with fitting Vessels, and suitable Provisions, and therein to settle, dwell, and inhabit; and to build and fortify Castles, Forts, and other Places of Strength at the Appointment of the aforesaid, now Baron of BALTIMORE, and his Heirs, for the Public and their own Defense; the Statute of Fugitives, or any other whatsoever to the contrary of the Premises in any wise notwithstanding.