

Heirs and Assigns, by so many, such, and so great Services, Customs and Rents OF THIS KIND, as to the same now Baron of Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, shall seem fit and agreeable, and not immediately of US, our Heirs or Successors. And WE do give, and by these Presents, for US, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the same Person and Persons, and to each and every of them, Licence, Authority and Power, that such Person and Persons, may take the premisses, or any Parcel thereof, of the aforesaid now Baron of BALTIMORE, his Heirs and Assigns, and hold the same to them and their Assigns, or their Heirs, of the aforesaid Baron of BALTIMORE, his Heirs and Assigns, of what Estate of Inheritance soever, in Fee-simple or Fee-tail, or otherwise, as to them and the now Baron of BALTIMORE, his Heirs and Assigns, shall seem expedient; the Statute made in the Parliament of Lord EDWARD, son of King HENRY, late King of England, our Progenitor, commonly called the "STATUTE QUIA EMPTORES TERRARUM," heretofore published in our Kingdom of England, or any other Statute, Act, Ordinance, Usage, Law, or Custom, or any other Thing, Cause or Matter, to the contrary thereof, heretofore had, done, published, ordained or provided to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

XIX. WE also, by these Presents, do give and grant Licence to the same Baron of BALTIMORE, and to his Heirs, to erect any Parcels of Land with the PROVINCE aforesaid, into Manors, and in every of those Manors, to have and to hold a Court-Baron, and all Things which to a Court-Baron do belong; and to have and to keep View of Frank-Pledge, for the Conservation of the Peace and Better Government of those Parts, by themselves and their Stewards, or by the Lords, for the Time being to be deputed of other of those Manors when they shall be constituted, and in the same to exercise all Things to the View of Frank-Pledge belonging.

XX. AND FURTHER WE will, and do, by these Presents, for US, our Heirs and Successors, covenant and grant to, and with the aforesaid now Baron of BALTIMORE, his Heirs and Assigns, that WE, our Heirs, and Successors, at no Time hereafter, will impose, or make or cause to be imposed, any Impositions, Customs, or other Taxations, Quotas or Contributions whatsoever, in or upon the Residents or Inhabitants of the PROVINCE aforesaid for their Goods, Lands, or Tenements within the same PROVINCE, or upon any tenements, lands, goods or chattels within the PROVINCE aforesaid, or in upon any Goods or Merchandizes within the PROVINCE aforesaid, or within the Ports or Harbours of the said PROVINCE, to be laden or unladen: And WE Will and do, for US, our Heirs and Successors, enjoin and command that this our Declaration shall, from Time to Time, be received and allowed in all our Courts and Prætorian Judicatories, and before all the Judges whatsoever of US, our Heirs and Successors, for a Sufficient and lawful Discharge, Payment, and Acquittance thereof, charging all and singular the Officers and Ministers of US, our Heirs and Successors, and enjoining them, under our heavy Displeasure, that they do not at any Time presume to attempt any Thing to the contrary of the Premises, or

that may in any wise contravene the same, but that they, at all Times, as is fitting, do aid and assist the aforesaid now Baron of BALTIMORE, and his Heirs, and the aforesaid Inhabitants and Merchants of the PROVINCE of MARYLAND aforesaid, and their Servants and Ministers, Factors and Assigns, in the fullest Use and Enjoyment of this our CHARTER.

XXI. AND FURTHERMORE WE WILL, and by these Presents, for US, our Heirs and Successors, do grant unto the aforesaid now Baron of BALTIMORE, his Heirs and Assigns, and to the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the said PROVINCE, both present and to come, and to every one of them, that the said PROVINCE, and the Freeholders or Inhabitants of the said Colony or Country, shall not henceforth be held or reputed a member or Part of the Land of Virginia, or of any other Colony already transported, or hereafter to be transported, or be dependent on the same, or subordinate in any kind of Government, from which WE do separate both the said PROVINCE, and Inhabitants thereof, and by these presents do WILL to be distinct, and that they may be immediately subject to our Crown of England, and dependent on the same for ever.

XXII. AND if, peradventure, hereafter it may happen, that any Doubts or Questions should arise concerning the true Sense and Meaning of any Word, Clause, or Sentence, contained in this our present CHARTER, WE will, charge and command, THAT Interpretation to be applied, always, and in all Things, and in all our Courts and Judicatories whatsoever, to obtain which shall be judged to be the more beneficial, profitable, and favourable to the aforesaid now Baron of BALTIMORE, his Heirs and Assigns: PROVIDED always, that no Interpretation thereof be made, whereby GOD'S holy and true Christian Religion, or the Allegiance due to US, our Heirs and Successors, may in any wise suffer by Change, Prejudice, or Diminution; although express Mention be not made in these Presents of the true yearly Value or Certainty of the Premises, or any Part thereof, or of other Gifts and Grants made by US, our Heirs and Predecessors, unto the said now Lord BALTIMORE, or any Statute, Act, Ordinance, Provision, Proclamation or Restraint, heretofore had, made, published, ordained or provided, or any other Thing, Cause, or Matter Whatsoever, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

XXIII. NOW WITNESS whereof WE have caused these our Letters to be made Patent. WITNESS OURSELF at Westminster, the Twentieth Day of June, in the Eighth Year of our Reign. (June 20, 1632).

*Bibliographic Note:* This translation of the Maryland Charter is taken from the Reverend Thomas Bacon, *The Laws of Maryland* (Annapolis, 1765). Bacon was unaware of the earliest printed translation of the Charter, which was published in London in 1635 as part of a promotional pamphlet entitled *A Relation of Maryland*. A facsimile edition of the 1635 Charter is available from the Maryland State Archives, 350 Rowe Blvd., Annapolis, MD 21401.