William & Mary by the grace of God of England Scotland France
and Ireland King & Queene Defenders of the faith &c To William Frisby
James Hanson John Winson Thomas Smith John Coppage Charles Tilden
Edward Sweatnam & Philip Connor Thomas Ringgold & Charles Winson
of Kent County Greeting. Know yee that wee for the great trust and
confidence wee have in yo. fidelitye circumspcions prudence and
wisdome have constituted Ordained & appointed & by these presents doe
constitute Ordaine & appoint you the said William Frisby James Hanson
John Winson Thomas Smith John Coppage Charles Tilden Edward Sweatna
Philip Connor Thomas Ringgold & Charles Winson Gent. Jointly and
severally to keep the peace in Kent County & to keep & cause to be kept
all Lawes & Ordes for the good Conservacon of the peace & for ye quiet
Rule & Government of this people in all & every the Articles of the same
& to chastise & punish all persons offending against the forme of any the
Lawes & Ordes of this Our province or any of them in Kent County aforesd
as according to the forme of those Lawes & Ordes shall seem to be done. We have
also constituted & ordained you & every foure or more of you of which you
the said William Frisby James Hanson John Winson & Thomas Smith & John
Coppage or one of you are alwayes to be one of this Com. to to enquire by ye Oaths
of good & lawfull men of yo. County aforesd of all and all manner of Felloniesse
Witchcrafts Enchantm. Sorceryes Magicks Arts Misprisions Forestalling Ingrossing
& Extortions whatsoever & of all & singular other Misdeeds & Offences & proceedings
matters relating to titles of Land of which Justices of the peace in England may
or ought lawfully to enquire by whomsoever or when soever done or perpetrated
or which hereafter shall happen to be done or perpetrated in this County against
ye Lawes & ords. of this Our province provided that you proceed not in any of those
causes aforesd to take life or member but that in every such case you send the
persons with their Indictm. & the rest matter depending before you to ye next criminall
Court to be holden for this Our province whensoever or wheresoever to be holden shall to
be tryed. And further we doe hereby authorize & impower you to Hear & Determine
& attachm. to hold plea of Oyer & Terminer in all Actions not exceeding ye sum of
Tenn Thousand pounds of Tobacco & after Judgm. Execution towards in all Civil
Civill whether shall or personall according to the lawes Ordes & reasonable Customs
made & provided in this Our province of Maryland in which Causes Civil shall to
be tryed & proceeded as before specified. We doe Constitute Ordaine & appoint you
severall & respective bonds as aforesaid to be Judges as aforesaid & the sheriff we
Command you that you diligently attend the Keeping of the peace Lawes & Ordes &
& singular other ye priviledges at certaine dayes appointed according to Act of Assembly
in such case made & provided & at such place which you or any ffoure of you as
aforesaid shall in that behalfe appoint you make enquiry upon the Articles aforesd
& fulfill ye same in forme aforesaid doing thereon that which to Justice appertaine
=th according to ye Lawes Ordes & reasonable Customs of this our province & fa=
=ring to do the Amerciam. & other things touch belonging to this Office we
command the Sheriff of ye said County of Kent by virtue of his Office to cause
ye dayes & at the place aforesaid that you or any such ffoure or more of you
as aforesaid shall make known & to him to give his attendance on you & the
required to raise to come before you so many good & lawfull men of ye County
said such & soe many good & lawfull men of ye County aforesd
the premises may the better be known & enquired of. And lastly we doe
Commission William of Kent County Gent. to be Clerk to keep the Records &
proceedings in this ye said County & Mr. Stephen [illegible] to be Sergeant
therefore ye day & at ye place aforesaid the Sheriff [illegible] to be brought
& Indictm. to ye Court & Justices there [illegible]
to be reported & by them to be determined [illegible]