

February 19th 1677

The within written letter of Attorney was then in open Court proved by the oath of Anthony Evans to be the Act and deed of the within mentioned George Smith Nic: Painter Esq: provided

At a speciall Court of Oyer & Terminer held at the City of St. Marys the eighteenth day of March in the Third year of the Dominion of the right Honourable Charles Lord & Baron of Baltimore Absolute Lord & Prop^r of the Province & c^a Annoque Domini one thousand six hundred Seventy seven before the Lords Justices thereunto assigned for the hearing and determining of all breaches of any act or Acts of Parliament relating to Navigation or Trade by whomsoever or whensoever done perpetrated or committed within this Province at which layd day were present

Robert Carvill }
Walter Hall } gentlemen Justices
Garret van Swearingen }

The Court being called the Comiff: did Comand the Comission by vertue of which they take to be read by the Clerk which was accordingly done and followeth in these words vizt.

Charles Absolute Lord & Prop^r of the Province of Maryland & Avalon Lord & Baron of Baltimore & c^a To our well beloved Robert Carvill, Walter Hall, John Darnall & Garret van Swearingen Gentlemen Greeting Know ye that we have assigned you or any Three or more of you (of whom we will the said Robert Carvill to be one) our Justices to Inquire by the Oathes of such and so many good and lawfull men of this our Province and by such other ways and means by which the truth of the matter may more plainly appeare and to you shall seeme best of all breaches of any Act or Acts of Parliament relating to Navigation or Trade by whomsoever and whensoever done perpetrated or committed within our said Province when how and in what mann^r and of all other Articles and Circumstances of the Premises or any of them any manner of way touching or concerning and the same for this time to hear & determine according to the law and Customes of the Kingdom of England and of this our Province And therefore we Comand you that on the eighteenth day of this Instant month of March at the Court house at the City of St. Marys you or any Three or more of you (of whom we will the said Robert Carvill to be one) make diligent Inquirie of and upon the Premises and the same heard & determine do and performe in manner aforesaid doing therein what to Justice appertaineth according to the law and Customes of the Kingdom of England and of this our Province saving to us our prerogatives and American^e and other things from thence to us arising or belonging And we have Comanded our Sheriff of our County of St. Marys or his Deputy that at the day and place aforesaid he cause to come before you or any Three or more of you (of whom we will the said Robert Carvill to be one) two or three good and lawfull men of his Bailiwick as well within Liberties as without by whom the truth of the matter in the Premises may be the better knowne and enquired of And that he or his Deputy do then and there to do and performe those things which to his office appertaineth to be done And we have also assigned Nicholas Painter Clerk for the keeping and filing the Informations Records and miniments to the Premises appertaining And them & every of them to bring before you or any Three or more of you (of whom we will the said Robert Carvill to be one) And the same And your proceedings therein to Register & Record according to law & the Customes of this our Province In testimony whereof we have caused these our letters to be made Patent Witness our self at our City of St. Marys the fourteenth day of March in the Third year of our Dominion & c^a Annoque Domini one thousand six hundred Seventy seven - Thomas Notley which said Comission being Read Christopher Rowley Esq: his maj^{ty} collector in this Province presented an Information to this Court which followeth in these words vizt. Maryland & c^a Remembered that Christopher Rowley Collector of all the rates duties and Impositions due and Payable to his maj^{ty} in Maryland who as well for our Sovereign Lord Charles the second King of England Scotland France & Ireland the sonner of the faith & c^a & the Hon^{ble} Thomas Notley Esq: Chief Governour of the said Province of Maryland as for himselfe in this behalf followeth came here in Court the eighteenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred Seventy seven in his proper person and as well for the said Lord the King and for the said Governour as for himselfe Exhibited to the Justice of a certain Court here holden by speciall Com^{mission} & Delegates therunto by Comission from the Right