

William Mary by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland King and Queen, Defenders of
 the Faith, our much and well beloved Francis Nicholson Esq. greeting wee respecting speciall trust and confidence
 in the Prudence, Courage and Loyalty of you the said Francis Nicholson and of our speciall grace, pleasure, knowledg
 and more Motion have thought fit to constitute and appoint and by these presents doe constitute and appoint
 you the said Francis Nicholson to be our Capt. Gen. and Gov. in and over our Province and Territory of
 Maryland in America and wee doe hereby require and Command you to doe and execute all things in such manner
 that shall belong unto you said Command and that wee have reposed in you according to the several Letters &
 Directions granted or appointed you by this Commission and the Instructions herewith given you as by such further
 Instructions or Authorities as shall at any time hereafter be granted or appointed you under our Signet and Sign Manual
 or by our Ord. in our Privy Council and according to such reasonable Laws and Statutes as are now in force or
 hereafter shall be made and agreed upon by you with the advice and Consent of the Council and Assembly of our
 said Province under your Government in such manner and form as is hereafter expressed And wee doe hereby give and grant
 full Power unto you the said Francis Nicholson after you shall have first taken an Oath for the due Execution of
 the Office and Trust of an Captain General and Gov. in and over our said Province and Territory of Maryland
 which our Council or any five of them have hereby full power and Authority and are required to administer unto
 you to give and Administer to each of the Members of our said Council the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament to be
 taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy as all so the said and the Oaths for the due Execution of
 their places and Trust And wee doe hereby give and grant unto you full power and Authority to suspend any of the Members
 of our said Council from sitting voting and assisting therein if you shall find just Cause for soe doing and if it shall at
 any time happen that by the Death or Departure out of our said Province or Suspension of any of our Councils there shall
 be a vacancy in our said Council any three whereof are hereby appointed to be Quorum Our will and pleasure is that you
 signify the same unto us by the first opportunity that wee may under our Signet and Sign Manual constitute and appoint
 others in their steads But that our affairs at that distance may well suffer for want of a due number of Councils if
 ever it shall happen that there be less then seven of them residing in our said Province wee doe hereby give and grant unto
 you full Power and Authority to Choose as many persons out of the ^{provincials} Jurabitants thereof as will make up the
 full number of our said Council to be seven and wee word which persons by virtue of such Choyce shall be to all intents and
 purposes Councilors in our said Province until they shall be by us or that by the Nomination of others by us
 under our Sign Manual and Signet the said Council shall have seven persons in it and wee doe hereby give and grant unto
 you full power and Authority with the advice and Consent of our said Council from time to time as shal be required to
 Summon and Call General Assemblies of the Freeholders within your Government according to the usage of our Province and
 Territory of Maryland Our will and pleasure is that the persons thereupon duly elected by the Major part of the Freeholders
 of the respective Counties and Places and soe returned and having before their sitting taken the Oaths appointed by Act of
 Parliament to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy as all so the said which you shall Coniun-
 tionally sit upon under our Seals of Maryland to administer unto them and without taking which none shall be capable
 sitting though they shall be called and told the General Assembly of that our Province and that you the said Francis Ni-
 cholson by and with the advice and Consent of our said Council and Assembly or the Major part of them respectively
 have full power and Authority to make constitute and Ordain Laws Statutes and Ordinances for the Publick
 Peace, Wellfare and good Government of our said Province and of the People and Jurabitants thereof and such others

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