

William The Third By the Grace of God of England Scotland France and
 Ireland King Defender of the Faith. To Our Trusty and well beloved Nathaniel Blackiston Esq^r
 Greeting, Knowe that Wee Reposing speciall Trust and Confidence in your Prudence Courage and
 Loyalty of you & said Nathaniel Blackiston of our speciall Grace certain knowledge more
 motion and thought full to constitute and appointe And by these presents doe constitute you & said Nathaniel
 Blackiston our Just. Gen^l and Govern^r in this our Province and Territory of Maryland in America
 And Wee doe hereby require and command you to Doe and Execute all things in due manner that shall be sent unto you
 said Command and Trust reposing in you according to the severall Powers and Directions granted or appointed you
 by this Commission and Instructions herewith given you or by each further Power Instruction and authority
 as shall at any time hereafter be granted and appointed you under our Signett and Signid manuell or by any
 other more Privy Councill and according to each reasonable Law and Statute as as now in force or hereafter
 shall be made and agreed upon by you & the Advice and Consent of your Councill and Assembly of said Province
 under your Governm^t in such manner and forme as is hereafter Expressed And our Will and Pleasure is
 that you the said Nathaniel Blackiston having (as before Publication of these our Letters Patents first
 taken your Oath appointed by Act of Parliament to be taken instead of your Oath of Allegiance and Supremacy
 as also of your Oath of Supremacy in the Act of Parliament made in the seventh year of your Majesty of King Charles the
 second Entitled an Act for the better Regulating of the said Province which may happen from the said Province
 the said Province and Territory of Maryland all is our Councill in said Province or any of the said
 members thereof have here by full power and authority and are required to administer unto you and having
 likewise subscribed your Assentation mentioned in an Act of Parliament made in the seventh year of
 our Majesty Entitled an Act for the better Regulating of the said Province you shall
 administer to each of the members of our said Councill as well as others appointed by Act of Parliament
 to be taken in stead of your Oath of Allegiance and Supremacy as is before mentioned and your Oath of
 Execution of their places and Trusts And likewise require them to subscribe your forementioned Assentation
 And Wee doe hereby Give and Grant unto you full Power and Authority to suspend any of the members of
 the said Councill from sitting voting and assisting therein if you shall find Just cause for so doing And if
 it shall at any time happen by death departure out of the Province suspension of any of the Councillors
 or otherwise there shall be a vacancy in the said Councill any three whereof are hereby appointed to
 be a Quorum you are to signify the same unto us by your first opportunity that we may under our Signett and Signid
 manuell constitute and appoint others in their stead But that our Affairs - at this Distance may not suffer
 for want of a due number of Councillors if ever it shall happen that there be less then a dozen of them
 residing in the said Province Wee Doe hereby Give and Grant unto you full Power and Authority to Choose
 many persons out of the said Province Inhabitant thereof as will make up the full number of the said Councill to
 be taken and not more which persons by virtue of such Choice shall be to all intents and purposes taken
 in the said Province until they shall be confirmed by us Or that by your nomination of others by us under
 our Signid manuell or Signett the said Councill shall have a dozen or more persons in it And Wee Doe
 hereby Give and Grant unto you full Power and Authority with the Advice and Consent of our said
 Councill from time to time as shall be required to Summon and Call the Just. Gen^l of the said Province
 within our Government according to the Usage of our Province and Territory of Maryland And our will
 is pleasure is that the persons thereupon duly elected by the Major Part of the freeholders of the respective
 Counties and places and so returned and having before their sitting taken your Oath appointed by Act of
 Parliament to be taken instead of your Oath of Allegiance and Supremacy and also your forementioned
 Assentation and likewise subscribed your forementioned Assentation Which Oath you shall Commissionally fill up and by
 Seals of Maryland to administer unto them And without the taking of which Oath and your forementioned
 Assentation none shall be capable of sitting the Electors shall be elected and hold your Assembly of that
 Province And that you & said Nathaniel Blackiston by and with the Advice and Consent of our said Councill and
 Assembly or the Major Part of them Respectively have full Power and Authority to make Constitutes and ordain
 Laws Statutes and Ordinances for the better Regulating of the said Province and good Governm^t of our said Province
 the Inhabitants and Subjects as shall report there to for the benefit of us our heirs and Successors With said
 Laws Statutes and Ordinances and to be as near as may be conformable to the Laws and Statutes of this our Kingdom
 of England Provided that such Laws Statutes and Ordinances of what nature or Duration soever be

Within