

Loco  
Sigilli

Nathaniel Bleakiston Esq. Capt. General and  
Governor in Chief in and over His Majesty's  
Province & Territory of Maryland To all  
Persons to whom His Majesty shall come  
knowing:

Know you that whereas His Majesty by His Royal  
Commission to me under the Great Seal of England  
bearing date at Westminster the 19. day of October  
in the fifth year of His Majesty's reign. *cc. Annoq. 2*  
Dom 1698: hath bene graciously pleased among  
other powers & authorities to me granted therein  
to authorize & empower me, upon His Majesty's  
absence or suspension of any person in His Province  
holding or enjoying any Office of Trust or profit by  
Commission under the Great Seal from His Majesty  
to putt in some other fit person in my discretion to  
supply the vacancy of Office in, & execute the Trust &  
charge of such Office untill such time as His Majesty's  
Royal pleasure shall be signified therein And  
whereas also it hath pleased God to take out of this  
world by death Thomas Lawrence Esq. His Majesty's  
late Secretary and public Notary of His Province  
by Commission immediately under the Great Seal of England  
bearing date the 20. day of September in the <sup>10. ye</sup> year of  
His Majesty's reign *cc.* Whereby the said place and  
Office is become vacant, and there being an absolute  
necessity of some person to execute Office and perform  
the said Office and trust, Therefore pursuant to the said  
powers and authorities I having expressing great  
Trust and confidence in the Loyalty, fidelity, and  
ability of you William Bladen Esq. have thought  
fit and do hereby putt in appoint authorize and  
(Empower