

Somerset sh. At a Court of the Right honorable Charles absolute Lord and Proprietary of the  
 Province of Maryland and Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore W. held at Dividing Creek by  
 in the County ass by his Lordships Commissioners and Justices of the Peace the third Tuesday of March  
 being the twelfth day of the same month and in the twelfth year of his said Lordships  
 Dominion W. Anno Dom. 1726

present

The worshipfull

{ M <sup>r</sup> . Sam <sup>l</sup> . Hopkins. M <sup>r</sup> . Wm. Blanner. M <sup>r</sup> . John Jones. M <sup>r</sup> . Wm. Faritt. M <sup>r</sup> . John Smith. Fran <sup>co</sup> . Allen Shad	} M <sup>r</sup> . William Stoughton. M <sup>r</sup> . John Caldwell. M <sup>r</sup> . John McClester. M <sup>r</sup> . John Scott.	} His Lordship's Justices Thomas Hayward Esq.
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Afterwards here in Court his Lordships Commission of the Peace being produced with aeditions  
 Colateralum, thereupon Proclamation being made in usual form, Command is given that all persons  
 then present were to keep silence and hear the same Commission openly read as followeth  
 W<sup>th</sup> Maryland sh. Charles absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Province of Maryland and  
 Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore W. Sam<sup>l</sup>. Hopkins, W<sup>m</sup>. Blanner, John Jones W<sup>m</sup>. Faritt, John Smith  
 Baltimore hundred W<sup>m</sup>. Stoughton John Caldwell John McClester John Hardy James Dashiell  
 John Scott and Robert King of Somerset County Gent greeting Know ye that we have assigned  
 you and Every of you jointly & severally Our Justices to Keep our Peace with  
 in our County of Somerset & to make and Cause to be kept all Ordinances &  
 Statutes as well of that part of y<sup>e</sup> Kingdom of Great Brittain Called Eng-  
 land as of this our Province of Maryland for y<sup>e</sup> good & Conservation of y<sup>e</sup>  
 Peace and Quiet rule & Government of our people within our said County  
 in all & Every y<sup>e</sup> Articles therein & great according to y<sup>e</sup> forme force & Effect  
 of y<sup>e</sup> same & to Chastize & Punish all or any Person or Persons offend-  
 ing againstt any y<sup>e</sup> said Ordinances or Statutes according to the direction  
 thereof and to call before you or any of you all those who in our County  
 shall threaten to do any Bodily harm to any of our good people or to  
 burn their Houses or otherwise break our peace & Misbehave them-  
 selves to find sufficient Security of y<sup>e</sup> peace & good Behaviour to us &  
 our good people & if they shall refuse to find such Security, y<sup>e</sup> then  
 you cause them to be committed into safe Custody untill they shall  
 find y<sup>e</sup> same also we have assigned you & Every three or more of you of  
 whom we will you y<sup>e</sup> S<sup>r</sup>. Samuel Hopkins, W<sup>m</sup>. Blanner, J<sup>o</sup>. Jones  
 W<sup>m</sup>. Faritt and J<sup>o</sup>. Smith or one of you always to be one our Justices  
 to Enquire by y<sup>e</sup> Oaths of good & Lawfull men of our County ass by whom  
 y<sup>e</sup> truth of y<sup>e</sup> premises may be y<sup>e</sup> better known of all & all manner of felonies  
 Witchcrafts Enchantments Sorceries art Magick Trespasses Engrossings  
 Regrattings Fore stallings & Retortions whatsoever & of all & Other Mis-  
 demeanours and offences whatsoever of which Justices of our peace lawfully  
 may