

The humble Petition of Matthias De Costa of St Maryes County in this Province of Maryland

Shumbly sheweth

Unto your Lordship that your Petitioner Matthias De Costa was borne in scall under the Dominion of the King of Portugall and your petitioner being now removed into this Province hath for long time therein Inhabited being Invited to come & dwell within this Province by and vppon Confidence of your Lordships Declaracion of the Second of July one thousand Six hundred forty Nynne whereby your Lordship did Impower your Lordships Governour of this Province from time to time to grant Lands to any persons of Dutch french or other foreigners descent in the same in as ample manner and vppon the same termes and Provisors as he was thereby Impowred to grant Lands to any person or persons of Brittish or Irish descent and during his abode within this Province your Petitioner hath been always faithfull and Obddient to your Lordships Lawes & Customs of this Province as other the good people of this Province of Brittish or Irish descent may to their great losse prejudice & Hindrances as also to the deterring of divers others of the foreigne Nations as desired from coming into this Province and by consequence hindering the peopling of this Province with usefull Artificers & Handycrafts men may itt therefore please your Lordship of your Abundant goodnesse and wnted Care of and over this Province that itt may be Enacted and Ordained And Bee itt ordind & Enacted by the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary of this Province by & with the advice & Consent of the upper and lower houses of this present Generall Assembly And the Authority of the same that your Lordships humble Petitioner Matthias De Costa shall and may from henceforth be adjudged shewpited and taken as a naturall borne person within this Province of Maryland and also that he shall and may from henceforth by the same Authority be Enabled and adjudged to all intents and purposes able to demand Challenge aske have hold & Enjoy any Lands Tenements Hereditaments & Rents within this Province as Heire or Heires to any of his Ancestors by Reason of any descent ffor Simple ffor tails General or Speciall or Remainder vppon any Estate Tayls or come to him by any descent in ffor Simple ffor tails General or Speciall or Remainder vppon any Estate Tayls as aforesaid or by any other Lawfull conveyance or conveyances or means whatsoever as if he had been borne within this Province or word of Brittish or Irish descent as aforesaid And also that he from henceforth may and shall be Enabled to prosecute maintain & avow Justify & defend all manner of actions Sutes plaints and other demands whatsoever as liberally frankly freely fully Lawfully and soundly as if he had been Naturallly borne within this Province of Maryland or word of Brittish or Irish descent and as any other person or persons Naturallly borne within this Province or of Brittish or Irish descent may any

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