

THE CHARTER OF MARYLAND

gether, we therefore, for the better government of so great a province, do will and ordain, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant unto the said now baron of Baltimore, and to his heirs, that the aforesaid now baron of Baltimore, and his heirs, by themselves, or by their magistrates, and officers, thereunto duly to be constituted as aforesaid, may, and can make and constitute fit and wholesome ordinances from time to time, to be kept and observed within the province aforesaid, as well for the conservation of the peace, as for the better government of the people inhabiting therein, and publicly, to notify the same to all persons whom the same in any wise do or may affect. Which ordinances we will to be inviolably observed within the said province, under the pains to be expressed in the same: So that the said ordinances be consonant to reason, and be not repugnant nor contrary, but (so far as conveniently may be done) agreeable to the laws, statutes, or rights of our kingdom of England: And so that the same ordinances do not, in any sort, extend to oblige, bind, charge, or take away the right or interest of any person or persons, of, or in member, life, frechold, goods or chattels.

IX. Furthermore, that the new colony may more happily increase by a multitude of people resorting thither, and at the same time may be more firmly secured from the incursions of savages, or of other enemies, pirates and ravagers: We therefore, for us, our heirs and successors, do by these presents, give and grant power, licence and liberty, to all the liege-men and subjects, present and future, of us, our heirs and successors, except such to whom it shall be expressly forbidden, to transport themselves and their families to the said province, with fitting vessels, and suitable provisions, and therein to settle, dwell and inhabit; and to build and fortify castles, forts, and other places of strength, at the appointing of the aforesaid now baron of Baltimore, and his heirs, for the public and their own defence; the statute of fugitives, or any other whatsoever to the contrary of the premises in any wise notwithstanding.

X. We will also, and of our more abundant grace, for us, our heirs and successors, do firmly charge, constitute, ordain and command, that the said province be of our allegiance; and that all and singular the subjects and liege-men of us, our heirs and successors, transplanted, or hereafter to be transplanted into the province aforesaid; and the children of them; and of others their descendants, whether already born there, or hereafter to be born, be and shall be natives and liege-men of us, our heirs and successors, of our kingdom of England and Ireland; and in all things shall be held, treated, reputed, and esteemed as the faithful liege-men of us, and our heirs and successors, born within our kingdom of England; also lands, tenements, revenues, services, and other hereditaments whatsoever, within our kingdom of England, and other our dominions, to inherit, or otherwise purchase, receive, take, have, hold, buy and possess, and the same to use and enjoy; and the same to give, sell, alien and bequeath; and likewise all privileges, franchises and liberties of this our kingdom of England; freely, quietly, and peaceably to have and possess, and the same may use and enjoy in the same manner as our liege-men born, or to be born within our said kingdom of England, without impediment, molestation, vexation, impeachment, or grievance of us, or any of our heirs or successors; any statute, act, ordinance or provision, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

XI. Furthermore, that our subjects may be incited to undertake this expedition with a ready and cheerful mind: Know ye, that we, of our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, do, by the tenor of these presents, give and grant, as well to the aforesaid baron of Baltimore, and to his heirs, as to all other persons who shall from time to time repair to the said province, either for the sake of inhabiting, or of trading with the inhabitants of the province aforesaid, full licence to ship and lade in any the ports of us, our heirs and successors, all and singular their goods, as well moveable as immoveable; wares and merchandises, likewise grain of what sort soever, and other things whatsoever necessary for food and cloathing; by the laws and statutes of our kingdoms and dominions; not prohibited to be transported out of the said kingdoms; and the same to transport, by themselves, or their servants or assigns, into the said province, without the impediment or molestation of us, our heirs or successors, or of any officers of us, our heirs or successors; (saving unto us, our heirs and successors, the impositions, subsidies, customs, and other dues payable for the same goods and merchandises) any statute, act, ordinance, or other thing whatsoever to the contrary notwithstanding.

XII. But because, that in so remote a region, placed among so many barbarous nations, the incursions as well of the barbarians themselves, as of other enemies, pirates and ravagers, probably will be feared, therefore we have given, and for us, our heirs and successors, do give by these presents, as full and unrestrained power, as any captain general of an army ever hath had, unto the aforesaid now baron of Baltimore, and to his heirs and assigns, by themselves, or by their captains,