Septimo

Commission for the government.

Charles Lord & Proprietary of the Province & Territories of Maryland & Avalon in the parts of America Lord Baron of Baltimore &c. To all & singular the to whom these presents shall come, greeting. Know ye that we for divers special causes & considerations us thereunto moving have ordained & determined & by these presents do declare that we do hereby absolutely determine all former commissions heretofore granted unto Edward Bretton Lion: Calvert Esq or to Giles Brent Esq concerning the government of said prov. of Maryl. & all power & authority by us hereby granted unto him or them or to any other of said Council or to any other person or persons whatsoever in the said Commissions or any of them. Also all power given to him or them by said Bretton or the Giles Brent by the said Commission or any of them or otherwise of inserting or affixing unto any laws or ordinances in the name within the said prov. and we do hereby likewise discharge all other persons whatsoever from the Council, & also of said Council within the said prov. of Maryl. we hereby give him of said Council here.

Nevertheless considering & well knowing that the people here cannot subsist without some good & safe government to be ordained & established & continued in peace & safety without some good & orderly, as for the government of the land afforded for the ordering of the inferiors & ordering to mind the faithfull & laudable service done & afforded by the said Edward Bretton Leon. Calvert Esq afore in the adventure of the settling the first plant & settling of said colony with in said province of M. as in the ordering & advancing of the same by the settled residence within the same said prov. wherein the said manifested to the satisfaction of said selfe & said colony upon his wisdome fidelity industry & other vertues as render him capable & worthy of the trust greater by us intended to be reposed in him, & do nominate constituted ordained authorised established & by these presents do nominate constitute ordaine authorise & establish the said L.C. in the absence of us & our heirs, our Lieut. generall, admirall, marshall, & chief Capt. & commander afforesaid by sea as by land of the said prov. of M. & the Islands to the same belonging. And do by these presents grant unto him the said commandment & absolute authority above & in all matters of warfare by sea & land to execute & administer the same to the resistance of the enemy or suppression of mutinies & insolencies as said Lieut. shall think most convenient for the preservation of said prov. & to do all other things as do belong or appertain to the office of a Lieut. generall, admirall, marshall, & chief Captaine & Commander, in as large & ample manner to all intents & purposes as we of selfe might do, if we were personally present, by force or virtue of the letters patents to us granted by our Soveraigne Lo: K. Charles under the great seale of Engl: bearing date at Westm. 20. June 16th year of his matie reigne. To have & hold execute & administer the same unto him & as ample power & authority as we if we were personally present might do or execute the same by force or virtue of the said letters patents afforesaid. until we shall signify our pleasure to the contrary. And we do hereby further ordaine & command all persons as shall hereafter be of the Council within said prov. of M. all Captaines officers & souldiers afforesaid by sea as by land upon it doth or may concerne, all officers sheriffs bailiffs marshalls & all other persons whatsoever within said prov. of M. of what quality & condition soever, that they & every of them do acknowledge the said L.C. in quality of said Lieut. generall, admirall & chief Capt. & Commander over all said forces by sea & of M. & the Islands & members of the same, & do their respective duties in as they ought to do, upon paine of such punishment to be inflicted upon them & every of them as such a slight contempt of his obedience & neglect thereof shall deserve. And to the end that no man shall plead ignorance we do command that said Commission & ordinance to be proclaimed & published within said prov. & we do hereby empower him to proclaime & publish unto our Right Trusty & Dearly Beloved Cousin Leonard Calvert Esq & all other commanders & officers of the same in his stead & absence commande as we of selfe might do by force & virtue of the said letters patents if we were personally present: and that without fraud or prevarication.