

Instructions from the right honorable Cecilius Absolute  
 Lord and Proprietary of the Province of Maryland in  
 London Lord Baron of Baltimore &c

To his trust your duty Beloved Stephen William Talbot  
 Esq his chief Secutar of his Lordships said Province of  
 Maryland

1 His Lordship doth hereby authorize and require you that  
 as often as you shall call upon you just the Sen General Chancellor  
 Council Counsellors Judges Justices and all other his Lordships  
 Officers of the said Province in regard to observe and execute all  
 such former Instructions and Authorities as have been given  
 or shall from time to time be given by his Lordship unto them  
 tenderly..... as severally and to perform their duties  
 in their several and respective Offices and places of trust

2 That you be studious and Carefull in examining the truth  
 of all petitions of such as apply themselves unto you to enter  
 their rights to Land and that you diligently weigh and con-  
 sider their allegations and unless you be very well Satisfied of  
 the truth of them upon your own knowledge or something very  
 Notorious that you do require due proof to be made of them to  
 the end you may be fully satisfied that the same rights have  
 not been formerly allowed and made use of and that no rights  
 or conditions of plantation be allowed but to such have just  
 Right unto them his Lordship doth require you to make strict  
 Search in relation to all such Rights claimed before you make  
 any allowance of such rights

3 That you take care to enquire after Leases of Land and  
 Inheritaments that shall be forfeited to his Lordship by any ways  
 or means whatsoever and the same to cause to be so entered upon  
 Record that all such forfeitures of forfeited Lands may  
 evidently appear and be known at first sight to be Escheated