

25<sup>th</sup> - March 1775

Maryland <sup>vs</sup> The Right Honourable Henry Harford Esq. Absolute Lord and  
Robt Eden and Proprietary of the Province of Maryland.

To

All Persons to whom these presents shall come greeting  
Whereas Michael Smith a Native of Germany having transported himself into  
this province here to inhabit and as a free Denizen Freedom and Land to him and his heirs  
to purchase Know ye that We willing to give due Encouragement to the Subjects of that  
Nation Do hereby Declare him the said Michael Smith to be a Free Denizen of this our  
Province of Maryland And do further for us our Heirs and Successors strictly enjoin  
constitute ordain and command that he the said Michael Smith be in all  
Things here treated reputed and esteemed as One of the faithful People of us our  
Heirs and Successors born within this our Province of Maryland and likewise any  
Lands Tenements Revenues Services and other Perquisites whatsoever within  
our said Province of Maryland may Inherit or otherwise purchase receive take  
have hold buy or possess and then may occupy and enjoy give Sell Alién and  
Bequeath as likewise all Liberties and Franchises of this our Province of  
Maryland freely quietly and peaceably have and possess occupy and enjoy as any of our  
faithful People born or to be born within our said Province of Maryland without  
the least Molestation vexation Trouble or Grievance of us our Heirs or Successors  
any Custom to the contrary hereof in any wise Notwithstanding Given at  
Annapolis under the Great Seal of our said Province of Maryland this 25<sup>th</sup>  
day of March in the fourth Year of our Dominion over the said Province Anno  
Domini One thousand seven hundred and seventy five Witness our trusty and  
well beloved Robert Eden Esq. Lieutenant General and Chief Governor in and over  
our said Province of Maryland

Signed by Order

James Brooks M. Genl.