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as he was thereby Impowered to grant Lands to any persons or persons of British or Irish descent & dwelling his abode within this Province Your Petitioner hath been alwayes faithfull and obedient to Your Lordships Laws and Customs of this Province, as other the good people of this Province of British or Irish descent may to their great losse prejudice & hinderance as also to the deterring of divers others of the foreign Nations aforesaid from coming into this Province and by consequence forstopping the Peopleing of this Province with usefull artificers & handycrafts men May it therefore please Your Lordship, of Your abundant goodnesse and wonted care of and over this Province That it may be enacted and ordeined And be it ordeined and enacted by the right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Proprietary of this Province by and 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 petition or Matthias Decosta shall and may from hence forth be adjudged reputed and taken as a Naturall borne person within this Province of Maryland and also that he shall & may from hence forth by the same authority be enabled and adjudged to, all intents and purposes able to demand Challenge as he have hold and enjoy any lands tenements Hereditaments and tenents within this Province as heir or heirs to any of his ancestors by reason of any discent fee simple fee tayle Generall or Speciaall or Remainder upon any Estate tayle or come to him by any discent in fee simple fee tayle generall or Speciaall or Remainder upon any Estate tayle as aforesaid or by any other Lawfull conveyance or conveyances or means whatsover as if he had been borne within this Province or were of British or Irish descent as aforesaid And also that he from hence forth may and shall be enabled to prosecute & mainteine