

Liber B. a late Proclamation dated the 4th of this Month published in the Said Province, both the Commission^{rs} and the people (who adhered to their engagem^t to the Commonwealth of England and refused to own or acknowledge any other Name or Authority (as to Governm^t) or to take any other oath but what they had already taken to that power) were charged that they drew away the people, and led them into faction, Sedition & Rebellion against the Lord Baltimore, whereby not onely the Lands houses and plantations of many hundreds of people, but also their Estates and lives were liable to be taken away at the pleasure of the aforesaid Lord Baltimore and his officers; by all which unjust and Unreasonable proceedings the people
 p. 620 were put upon a Necessity of Standing upon their own defence for the Vindication of their Just rights & Liberties & freeing themselves from those great oppressions whereby the whole Province was very much threatned & apparently endangered For the prevention whereof as alsoe for the Reliefe of those that were So deeply distressed, and for the Settlement of the Province in peace and in their due obedience under his highness. The Said Commissioners by authority derived to them from his Highness the Lord Protector applyed themselves unto Cap^t William Stone the Governour & the Counsell of Maryland, according to a Declaration of the 15th of this Month herewith published, who returning onely opprobious & uncivill Language, presently Mustered his whole power of men & Soldiers in Armes intending to Surprize the Said Commissioners and (as could be imagined) to destroy all those that had refused the Said unlawfull Oath, & onely kept themselves in their due obedience to the Commonwealth of England Under which they were reduced and Settled by the Parliaments Authority and Commission Then the Said Commission^{rs} in quiet & peaceable Manner with Some of the people of Putuxent & Severne went over the River of Putuxent, and there at length received a Message from the Said Cap^t Stone, that the next day he would meet and treat in the woods, And thereupon being in Some fear of a party to Come from Virginia he Condescended to lay down his Power lately assumed from the Lord Baltimore, and to Submitt (as he had once before done) to Such Government as the Commissioners Should appoint under his Highness the Lord Protector.

It is therefore Ordered and declared by the aforesaid Commissioners, That for the Conservation of the peace and publick Administracōn of Justice within the aforesaid Province of Maryland Cap^t William Fuller m^r Richard Preston, m^r William Durand m^r Edward LLoyd Cap^t John Smith, m^r Leonard Strong m^r Lawson m^r John Hatch m^r Richard Wells
 p. 621 and m^r Richard Ewen or any four of them whereof Cap^t