

(b) " His lordship moves the advice of his council concerning some instructions to be left with a particular council his lordship designed to constitute in his absence to hear and determine all matters of land and acts of grace and favour therein.

Whereupon, Resolved and ordered, that the clerk of the council make inspection into former precedents, and make report to this board what hath been usually heretofore done in such cases ; and also prepare a commission for such a council to be assigned by his lordship distinct from the council of state, his lordship having nominated the hon'ble Col. Henry Darnall, Col. William Digges, major Nicholas Sewall and John Darnall, Esq. his lordship's councillors thereunto assigned."

LIBER R. R. R. fol. 85.

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*Commission for Land Council.*

" C : BALTEMORE.

" Charles absolute lord and proprietary of the provinces of Maryland and Avalon lord baron of Baltimore &c. To all the inhabitants of this our province of Maryland and others to whom these presents shall come or may concerne Greeting: Know ye that We have assigned constituted ordained and appointed, and by these presents We doe especially assigne constitute ordaine and appoint our trusty and well beloved councillor colonel Henry Darnall, our trusty and well beloved councillor colonel William Digges, our trusty

(b) Lord Baltimore was at this time on the point of going to England, and made new arrangements in all the departments of his government. His son Benedict Leonard Calvert, a minor, was appointed governor, but, in the same commission nine persons were appointed *Deputy governors* "under him" as the commission expresses it, but in fact for the purpose of conducting the administration, and guarding the proprietary's interests and authority within the province where they were in great jeopardy, while he, upon ground equally urgent, attended to the same thing in England. His fears were just and his precautions useless. In the space of five years, having first submitted to the loss of a part of his original territory (the present state of Delaware) he was deprived of all political power, and left in possession of nothing but his right in the soil of Maryland, as will hereafter appear more at large. The persons so appointed deputies, and some of whom had, at the crisis just alluded to, a part of great difficulty and peril to sustain, were colonels *George Talbot*, Thomas Taillor, Vincent Lowe, Henry Darnall, William Digges, William Stevens, and William Burgess, major Nicholas Sewall and Mr. John Darnall. The first named of these, who was at the same time surveyor general, and a member of the privy council, is noted in the history of the province for the murder committed by him, soon after this appointment on Christopher Rousby collector of the customs ; of which this notice is taken because some alledged agency in screening colonel Talbot from justice was among the grounds or pretexts for depriving the proprietary of the governmental rights conferred by the charter."