

gainst even the customary authorities of an agent. But there is, after all, no doubt that Mr. Hart, who appears to have been of a character as free from disguise as void of indulgence, was very sincere in his condemnation of the system of vesting any powers that approached to matters of government in an officer under the description of an *agent*, the tenor of whose commission and instructions was not always known to the public, and who, as an officer, was amenable only to the proprietary himself; and there is as little doubt, that his opinion, though accompanied in this instance by undue jealousies and resentments, was, in the abstract, perfectly just.

Concerning the other documents here inserted, I shall only observe that as they are too various in their kinds to be arranged under collective descriptions, I have consulted no order but that of their dates.

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“ CHARLES,

“ Absolute lord and proprietary of the provinces of Maryland and Avalon, lord baron of Baltimore, in the kingdom of Ireland, a minor, and Francis lord Guilford, guardian to the said lord Baltimore, for and on his behalf: To all persons to whom these presents shall come, greeting, in our Lord God everlasting; know ye, that we, reposing special trust and confidence in the capacity, knowledge, care, dilligence and circumspection of Charles Carroll, of our said province of Maryland, Esquire, have made, constituted, ordained, authorized and appointed, and by these presents we do make, constitute, ordain, authorize and appoint him the said Charles Carroll to be our chief agent, escheator, naval officer and receiver-general of all our rents, arrears of rents, fines, forfeitures, tobaccos or monies for land warrants, of all ferrys, waifes, strays, and deodands of all duties arising from or growing due upon exportation of tobacco aforesaid, tunnage of ships, and all other monies, tobaccos, or other effects in any manner or ways now due or hereafter to grow due, whether by protested bills of exchange, or otherwise, to us within the said province; hereby granting to the said Charles Carroll full power and authority to sell and dispose of all lands, tenements, or hereditaments to us now escheated, or hereafter to be escheated or forfeited, to such person or persons as shall agree and pay for them such reasonable rates in money as shall be agreed for: also to inspect into, order, manage and account for all and every other branch or branches of our revenue, within our said province, whether the same be or grow due by particular contract, conditions of plantations, act or acts of assembly, or by virtue of our royalties, rights, privileges and prerogatives within the said province, and for the better and more effectual execution of the said powers and