

Drummond Esquires—It is nevertheless Our Will and Pleasure, that Our Chief Justice or Chief Justice for the time being shall not be capable of taking upon him the Administration of the Government upon your Death or Absence, or the Death or Absence of the Commander in Chief for our said province for the time being—

2. And You are with all due and usual Solemnity to cause Our said Commission to be read and published at the said meeting of Our Council which being done, You shall then take and also administer to each of the members of Our said Council, the Oaths mentioned in an Act passed in the first year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the first, intituled "An Act for the further Security of His Majestys person and Government, "and the Succession of the Crown, in the Heirs of the late Princess Sophia "being Protestants, and for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended Prince "of Wales and his Open and secret abettors," And in an Act passed in the sixth Year of Our Reign, intituled, "An Act for altering the Oath of Abjuration and the Assurance, and for amending so much of An Act of the seventh "year of Her late Majesty Queen Anne, Intituled, An Act for the Improvement of the Union of the two Kingdoms, as, after the time therein Limited "requires the Delivery of certain Lists and Copies therein mentioned to "persons Indicted of High Treason or Misprison of Treason;" as also make and Subscribe, and cause them to make and Subscribe, the Declaration mentioned in an Act of Parliament made in the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the Reign of King Charles the second intituled, "An Act for preventing Dangers which "may happen from Popish Recusants"—And You and every one of them are likewise to take an Oath for the due Execution of Your and their places and Trusts, with regard to Your and their equal and impartial Administration of Justice; And You are also to take the Oath required by An Act passed in the seventh and eighth Years of the Reign of King William the third to be taken by Governors of Plantations to do their Utmost that the Laws relating to the plantations be observed.

3. And that We may be always Informed of the Names and Characters of persons fit to Supply the Vacancies which shall happen in Our said Council, You are to transmit to Us by One of Our principal Secretaries of State the Names and Characters of three persons Inhabitants of Our said province who You shall esteem the best Qualified for that Trust and You are also to Transmit a Duplicate of the said Account to Our Commissioners for Trade and plantations for their Information.

4. And if it shall at any time happen, that by the Death, Departure out of Our said province, suspension of any of Our said Councillors, or otherwise, there shall be a Vacancy in Our said Council, Our Will and Pleasure is that You signify the same to Us, by One of Our principal Secretaries of State, by the first Opportunity, that We may under Our Sign Manual, constitute and appoint others in their Stead; to which end You are whenever such Vacancy happens, to transmit unto Us by One of Our principal Secretaries of State, the Names of three or more persons, Inhabitants of Our said