

oblige the Members of Our said Council to a due attendance therein, and thereby to prevent the inconveniences that may happen from the want of a quorum to transact business, as occasion may require; it is Our Will and Pleasure that if any of the Members of Our said Council shall hereafter absent themselves from the said Island, and continue absent above the space of Six Months together, without leave from you first obtained, under your Hand and Seal, or shall remain absent for the space of one year successively, without leave given them under Our Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or shall become bankrupt or be declared insolvent, his or their place or places in the said Council shall immediately thereupon become void; and that if any of the Members of Our said Council residing within Our said Island, shall hereafter absent themselves when duly summoned, without a sufficient cause, and shall persist in such absence after being thereof admonished by you, you are to suspend the said Councillors so absenting themselves, until Our further Will and Pleasure therein be known, giving immediate notice thereof to Us, through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State; and We do hereby will and require that this Our Royal Pleasure be signified to the Members of Our said Council, and entered into the Council Book as a Standing Rule.

Absence of Members of Council on leave or otherwise.

### VIII.

You are authorised and directed, with the advice and consent of Our said Council, from time to time, as need shall require, to summon and call General Assemblies of the Freeholders and Householders within the said Island and its Dependencies within your Government, in such manner and form, and according to such powers and authorities as are hereinafter appointed by these Instructions, or according to such further powers and authorities as shall be at any time hereafter granted or appointed under Our Sign Manual and Signet, or by Our Order in Our Privy Council, and according to the Laws of Our said Island in that behalf made and provided; and Our Will and Pleasure is, that the persons thereupon duly elected by the major part of the freeholders and householders of the respective Towns and Districts, and so returned, shall, before their sitting, take the Oath commonly called the Oath of Allegiance, which Oaths you shall commission fit persons, under the Seal of Our said

Governor empowered to summon General Assemblies of Freeholders, &c.

Oaths of Allegiance to be administered to Members.