

“streights” commonly called “Hudson’s Streights,” together with all the lands and territories upon the countries, coasts, and confines of the seas, bays, lakes, rivers, creeks, and sounds aforesaid, that are not already actually possessed of, or granted to, any of the King’s subjects, or possessed by subjects of any other Christian Prince or State. It makes, creates and constitutes the said governor and company for the time being, and their successors, the true and absolute lords and proprietors of the same territory, limits and places, saving always the faith, allegiance, and sovereign dominion due to the King, his heirs and successors for the same, to be holden of the King, his heirs and successors, as of his manor of East Greenwich, in the county of Kent, in free and common socage, and not *in capite* or by knight’s service, yielding and paying for the same, two elks and two black beavers, whensoever and as often as he the King, his heirs and successors, should happen to enter into the said countries, territories and regions thereby granted.

That it shall be lawful for the said governor and company, and their successors, to make, ordain, and constitute such and so many reasonable laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances as to them shall seem necessary and convenient for the good government of the said company, and of all governors of colonies, forts and plantations, factors, masters, mariners and other officers employed, or to be employed, in any of the territories and lands aforesaid and in any of their voyages; and for the better advancement and continuance of the said trade or traffic and plantations; and the same laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances so made to put in use and execute accordingly, and at their pleasure to revoke and alter the same, or any of them, as the occasion shall require; and that the said governor and company shall and may lawfully impose, ordain, limit and provide such pains, penalties and punishments upon all offenders contrary to such laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances, or any of them, as to the said governor and company for the time being, or the greater part of them then and there being present (the said governor or his deputy being always one),