

behalf made, or by any of them, in which cases it is Our pleasure, and We do hereby direct that you do administer to such persons such other oath or oaths as aforesaid.

4. And whereas, by Our said Commission, We have authorized you and such other persons as are in the said Commission designated, to constitute and be a Council for the said Colony:

And We have by the said Commission further declared that in addition to yourself the said Council shall be composed of such persons within the same as shall from time to time be named or designated for that purpose by Us, by Our instruction or instructions, warrant or warrants, to be by Us for that purpose issued under Our sign manual and signet and with the advice of Our Privy Council, and that all such Councillors should hold their places in the said Council at Our pleasure, and that you, with the advice of the said Council, shall have full power and authority to make and enact all such Laws and Ordinances as may from time to time be required for the order and good government of the said Island; and that in making all such Laws and Ordinances you shall exercise all such powers and authorities, and that you and the said Council shall conform to and observe all such rules and regulations as shall be given and prescribed in and by such instructions as We, with the advice of Our Privy Council, shall from time to time make for his and their guidance therein.

Now, therefore, by these Our Instructions under Our sign manual and signet, being the instructions so referred to as last aforesaid, We do authorize and empower you—until further and other provisions shall be made by Us in that behalf—by an instrument or instruments to be made and issued in Our name and under the public seal of Our said Island, to constitute and appoint seven persons being within the same to be Members of the said Council during Our pleasure, and any three of whom We do hereby appoint to be a quorum; and so from time to time as often as any such person shall die or resign his seat in the said Council, or be absent from the island, or be suspended by you from such his office, or become from any cause incapable of discharging the duties thereof, by any other such instrument as aforesaid, to nominate any other person being within the said Colony to fill any such vacancy:

Provided, nevertheless, that the appointment so to be made by you of the persons who are to constitute the said Council shall be provisional only and subject to Our confirmation or disallowance.

5. You are to communicate forthwith such of those Instructions to Our said Council wherein their advice and consent are mentioned to be requisite, and likewise all such others from time to time as you shall find convenient for Our service to be imparted to them.

6. You are to permit the members of Our said Council to have and enjoy freedom of debate and vote in all affairs of public concern that may be submitted to their consideration in Council.

7. And in the choice and nomination of the Members of Our said Council, as also of the Judges, Justices, and other officers, you are always to take care that they be men of good life and well affected to Our Government, and abilities suited to their employments.

8. And whereas effectual care ought to be taken to 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 or our Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the time being first obtained under your or his hand and seal, or shall remain absent for the space of two years successively without leave given them under our sign manual and signet, their place or places in the said Council shall immediately thereupon become void, and that if any of the Members of Our said Council then residing within Our said Island shall hereafter absent themselves when duly summoned without 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 Our Royal pleasure be signified to the Members of our said Council and entered in the Council Book as a Standing Rule.