

COMMISSION APPOINTING THE

be taken by an Act passed in the 1st year of the reign of King George the First, intituled, "An Act for the further security of His Majesty's 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," as altered and explained by an Act passed in the 6th year of the reign of King George the Third, intituled, "An Act for altering the Oath of Abjuration and the Assurance, and for amending so much of an Act of the 7th 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 Misprision of Treason," or in lieu thereof the oath required to be taken by an Act passed in the 10th year of the reign of his late Majesty, intituled, "An Act for the relief of His Majesty's Roman Catholic Subjects," according as the said former Acts or the said last mentioned Act shall be applicable to your case; and likewise that you take the usual oath for the due execution of the office and trust of our Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Our said Islands and Territories, and for the due and impartial administration of justice; and further, that you take the oath required to be taken by Governors of Plantations, to do their utmost that the several laws relating to trade and the plantations be duly observed; which oaths Our Council of Our said Island and its Dependencies, or any Three of the Members thereof, have hereby full power and authority and are required to tender and administer unto you, and in your absence to Our Lieutenant-Governor, if there be one on the place; all which being duly performed, you shall administer to each of the members of Our said Council such of the said oaths mentioned in the said several Acts as shall be applicable to the case of the individual Member of Our said Council taking the same; and you are also to administer to them the usual oath for the due execution of their places and trust respectively; all which oaths shall also be administered by the Governor or person administering the government of Our said Island and its Dependencies for the time being, to all such persons as shall hereafter be appointed to be of Our said Council, before they respectively enter upon the execution of the duties of such their offices.

And We do hereby give and grant unto you full power and authority to suspend any of the Members of Our said Council from sitting, voting and assisting therein, if you shall find just cause for so doing: and if it shall at any time happen that by the death, departure out of Our said Island and its Dependencies, suspension of any of Our said Councillors, or otherwise, there shall be a vacancy in Our said Council, any three of whom We do hereby appoint to be a quorum, Our will and pleasure is that you signify the same unto Us by the first opportunity, that We may, under our Signet and Sign Manual, constitute and appoint others in their stead: but that Our affairs at that distance may not suffer for want of a due number of Councillors, if ever it shall happen that there be less than seven of them residing in Our said Island and its Dependencies, We do hereby give and grant unto you, the said Sir Thomas John Cochrane, full power and authority to choose as many persons out of the principal freeholders, inhabitants of our said Island and its Dependencies, as will make up the number of Our Council to be seven, and no more, which persons so chosen and appointed by you shall be to all intents and purposes Councillors for Our said Island and its Dependencies until either they are confirmed by Us, or that by the nomination of others by Us under Our Sign Manual and Signet, Our said Council shall have seven or more persons in it.

And We do hereby give and grant unto you full power and authority, 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 under your government, in such manner and form, and according to such powers, instructions and authorities as are granted or appointed by your General Instructions accompanying this your Commission, or according to such further powers, instructions 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 Our will and pleasure is, that the persons thereupon duly elected by the major part of the freeholders and householders of the respective Towns or Districts, and so returned, shall before their sitting take such of the oaths mentioned in the said several Acts as shall be applicable to the case of the individual taking the same, which oaths you shall commission fit persons,