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HIS MAJESTY'S  
**ROYAL CHARTER,**  
G R A N T E D  
On the Eleventh Day of *October*, 1750,  
In the Twenty-fourth Year of the Reign of  
**King GEORGE the Second,**  
For incorporating the  
**S O C I E T Y**  
O F T H E  
**Free British Fishery,**  
With Power to make By-Laws, &c.  
For the Improvement of the  
**British White Herring Fisheries,**  
And better Regulation of the TRADE thereof;  
A N D  
For preventing FRAUDS and IMPOSITIONS in the  
Management of the same.  
L O N D O N:  
Printed in the YEAR MDCCL.

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## DEDICATION.

*May it please your Excellencies,*

**T**HIS contains His Majesty's Royal Charter, in Purfuance of an Act of Parliament passed in the Twenty-third Year of His Majesty's Reign, Entituled [An Act for the Encouragement of the British White Herring Fishery] for Incorporating Sir James Lowther, Sir Nathaniel Curzon, Sir Bouchier Wrey, Sir Walter Blacket, and Sir Cyril Wych, Baronets, and several other Persons herein particularly mentioned, by the Name of the Society of the free British fishery, to  
continue

DEDICATION.

continue for the Term of Twenty one Years from the Date hereof; And the Names of the present Governor, President, Vice President and Council are herein inserted; and also such Clauses, Powers, Privileges, Provisoes and Restrictions are inserted, as are usual in Grants of the like Nature, and as were directed.

By Warrant under your Excellencies Sign Manual countersigned by Richard Nevil Aldworth, Esq;

GEORGE

GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, greeting.

WHEREAS the Carrying on Preamble. and Improvement of the British White Herring Fisherys, are of Great Importance to these Kingdoms, as they may be of Great Advantage to the Trade and Navigation thereof, and may be a Means of employing and providing for great Numbers of industrious Poor, provided the same could be carried on with a sufficient Stock, under proper Regulations, and that reasonable Encouragement be given to such Persons

sons as are willing to carry on the said Fisherys.

Therefore, for the Encouragement of such Persons as are willing to carry on the said Fisherys, and for the better Regulation of the said Trade, and for preventing Frauds and Impositions in the Management thereof, Know ~~hee~~ that Wee by Virtue of Our Royal Prerogative, and in Purfuance of an Act of Parliament passed in the Twenty-third Year

Recital of an Act of 23 Geo. II.

of Our Reign, Entituled, An Act for the Encouragement of the British White Herring Fishery, of our especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and meer Motion, Have Granted, Constituted, Declared, and Appointed, and by these presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, Do Grant, Constitute, Declare and Appoint

The Persons herein named constituted One Body Politic and Corporate, for the Term of 21 Years.

Sir James Lowther, Sir Nathaniel Curzon, Sir Bouchier Wrey, Sir Walter Blacket, and Sir Cyrill Wich, Baronets; Sir Richard Lloyd, Knight; Edward Vernon, Esquire; William Whitaker, Stephen Theodore Janssen, and Slingsby Bethell,

Bethell, Esquires, Aldermen of the City of London; Lieutenant General Roger Handasyd, Lieutenant General Richard Onslow, Lieutenant General James Oglethorpe, Thomas Fonnerau, Velters Cornwall, William Willy, George Dodington, William Northey, Charles Gray, William Davis, Edward Stevenfon, Paul Humfrey, John Edwards, and Francis Craiesteyn, Esquires; Messieurs Neufville and Schuman, Andrew Drummond, Esquire, Captain George Steevens, Robert Crammond and Jeffery Freinsh, Esquires; Master Michael Miller of Bristoll, Master Robert Macky, Master Jonathan Perrie, Master Richard Baker, Master William Bowden, John Bance, Esquire, Master Peter Simond, Theodore Cock, George Dunbar, and Taylor White, Esquires; Master John Patoun, Master Samuel Clarke of the Old Jewry, Michael Wilkins Conway, John Spooner, and Arthur Beardfly, Esquires; Master Roger Hogg of Basing Hall Street, Master William Crammond, Master Hutchinson Muir, Master Robert Scott, Master George Spence, Master

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Master Robert Cady, Richard Taunton, William Belchier, William Thornton, Francis Gwynn, Peter Delme, Jonathan Watfon, Thomas Salusbury, Richard Gildart, John Hardman, Lawrence Dundas, Thomas Curtis, Michael Beecher, and Joseph Percival, Esquires; Edward Ironside, Esquire, Alderman of the City of London, and George Walker, Esquire; and All and Every Person and Persons, Bodies Politick and Corporate; who in their own Right, or as Executors, Administrators, Successors, or Assigns, derived, or to be derived from, by, or under the Original Proprietors, at any time, or times hereafter, shall have, and be intituled to any Part, Share or Interest of, or in, the Capital Sum of Five hundred Thousand Pounds, herein after mentioned, so long as they respectively shall have any such Part, Share or Interest therein, to be One Body Politick and Corporate, in Deed and in Name, by

By the Name of *The Society of the free of the Free British Fishery.* the Name of **The Society of the free British fishery,** and them by the Name of the Society of the Free British Fishery,

Wee

( 5 )

Wee do, for the Purposes aforesaid, really and fully, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, Make, Erect, Create, Ordain, Constitute, Establish and Confirm, and Declare, by these presents, to be One Body Corporate and Politick, in Deed and in Name; And by that Name to have a Succession to continue for the Term of Twenty One Years, to commence from the Date of these, our Letters Patent; and that the said Body Politick, and their Successors shall and may have a **Common Seal** for the <sup>And to have a Common Seal.</sup> Business and Affairs of the said Society, And that it shall and may be Lawfull, to and for the said Society and their Successors, the same Seal from time to time at their Will and pleasure, to Break, Change, Alter or Make new, as to them shall seem expedient; And that they and their Successors by the Name aforesaid, shall and may, during the Space of Twenty One Years, Sue and be Sued, <sup>And may prefer and defend any Actions whatever.</sup> Plead and be Impleaded, Answer and be Answered Unto, Defend and be Defended, in whatsoever Courts and Places, And before any Judges, or Justices, or Officers

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Officers of Us, our Heirs and Successors, in all and singular Actions, Pleas, Suits, Complaints, Matters and Demands, of what Kind or Quality soever they shall be, in the same Manner and Form, and as fully and amply as any of Our Subjects of this Our Realm of Great Britain, may or can, do Sue, or be Sued, Plead, or be Impleaded, Answer, or be Answered unto, Defend, or be Defended.

The Society empowered to make By Laws

And that the said Society, and their Successors shall and may have full Power and Authority to make By Laws, in the Manner herein after expressed, from time to time, for the Regulation and Government of the said Society, and for the Regulation and Management of the said Trade and Commerce, which shall be carried on by them; And for the Curing, Salting and Packing their White Herrings, in such Manner as may effectually secure the Credit of the said Commodities in Foreign Markets, and for the Government of the Servants and others employed by the said Society in the said Fishery. And further We will and do,

by

( 7 )

by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, Ordain, That there shall be from henceforth, during the Space of Twenty one Years, One of the same Society to be Elected and Appointed in such Manner as hereafter, in these Presents is expressed, who shall be, and be called, **The Governour** of the said Society; and that there shall be also from henceforth, during the Space of Twenty one Years, a President, and also a Vice President, and a Council, consisting of Thirty Persons of the said Society, to be elected and appointed in such Manner and Form as hereafter in these Presents is directed, mentioned and expressed, for the managing and carrying on the Business and Affairs of the said Society. And Wee do hereby Make, Nominate, Order and Constitute Our most dearly beloved Son **Frederick, Prince of Wales**, to be the First and present Governor of the said Society; and Our Trusty and Welbeloved **Slingsby Bethel, Esquire**, to be the First and present President, and Our Trusty and Welbeloved **Stephen Theodore Janssen, Esquire**, to be the first Vice President, and Council to be elected.

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Esquire, to be the First and present Vice President, and Our Trusty and Well-beloved Roger Handasyd, Esquire, Lieutenant General of our Forces; John Edwards, Francis Craiesteyn, Edward Vernon, Robert Bootle, George Dunbar, Velters Cornewall, George Dodington, Robert Crammond, Samuel Clarke, William Northey, George Steevens, Richard Baker, and Claude Johnson, Esquires; Sir Nathaniel Curzon, Baronet; William Davis, Andrew Drummond, Michael Wilkins Conway, and Jonathan Watson, Esquires; James Oglethorpe, Esquire, Lieutenant General of Our Forces; Roger Hogg and William Bowden, Esquires; Sir Bouchier Wrey, Baronet; John Lidderdale, John Turner, Simon Rogers, Charles Raymond, John Vaughan, Francis Gwynn, and George Bowes, Esquires; to be the First and present Council of the said Society, and

To continue for three Years to continue in their respective Offices for the Space of Three Years from the Date of these our Letters Patent, and untill some Other fit Persons shall be duly Elected

( 9 )

Elected into the said Offices of Governor, President, Vice President and Council, respectively, in such Manner as is herein after mentioned and expressed. And We <sup>A</sup> Generall Court to be held in or near the Cities of London and Westminster. do hereby, for us, our Heirs and Successors, Give and Grant unto the said Society of the Free British Fishery, and their Successors, during the Term aforesaid, full Power and Authority to hold a General Court in some convenient Place within or near our Cities of London and Westminster, and there to assemble and meet together so often as the Governor, President, Vice President and Council of the said Society for the time being, or any Seven or more of them, whereof the Governor, President, or Vice President, always to be One; or as Nine Other Persons qualified to vote as herein after is directed, each having One Thousand Pound in the capital Stock herein after mentioned in Writing, under their Hands, shall Demand of the Governor, President, Vice President, or any Seven, or more of the Council, such Court to be held to treat and consult,

B

To consult and fult, or make and establish reasonable  
make Laws, Orders and Rules concerning the  
Society; <sup>Laws, &c. for the Good of the</sup> Affairs of the said Society, or for the

good Government thereof, the time and  
place of holding and keeping all which

Eight Days Courts shall, Eight Days at least before  
Notice of holding such Court to be given in the  
London Gazette. <sup>the same are held and kept, be published in the London Gazette, or in such other</sup> manner as the said Society and their Suc-  
cessors shall from time to time hereafter

The Govern- Order and Direct: And We do hereby  
nor, President, Vice President, for us our Heirs and Successors Grant  
and Councill, and Declare that the said Governor, Pre-  
sident, Vice President and Councill, or  
called *The Court of the Councill* of the  
said Society; <sup>&c. to be</sup> any Seven or more of them, whereof  
the Governor, President, or Vice Presi-

dent for the time being, always to be  
One, shall make and be called the Court  
of the Councill of the said Society, and

Who are to that it shall and may be Lawful for the  
appoint pro- said Court of the Councill or the Major  
per Officers, Part of them then present, from time  
and their Sa- laries, to time to choose and appoint pro-  
per Officers and Servants for the Ser-  
vice of the said Society, and to ap-  
point and allow their respective Fees,  
or

or Salaries, and to encrease or diminish,  
or otherwise alter the same, and to re-  
move and displace them, and every of <sup>and may re-  
move them as  
often as they  
think fit;</sup> them, when and so often as They, or  
the Major part of them then present shall

think fit, and to order, direct, manage  
and transact all, all and every the Af-  
fairs and Things of or belonging to the  
said Society, *Except* such Matters which  
ought to be ordered and done only  
in and by a General Court of the  
said Society, and shall and may from  
time to time appoint Committees for the  
better Management of their Affairs, and <sup>and appoint  
Committees,  
and make By-  
Laws, &c.</sup>

Constitute, Ordain and Make By Laws,  
from time to time, for the Regulation  
and Government of the said Society,  
and for the Regulation and Management  
of the Trade *and Commerce* which shall  
be carried on by them, and for the cu-  
ring, sorting and packing their White  
Herrings, in such Manner as effectually  
to secure the Credit of the said Commo-  
dities in Foreign Markets, and for the  
Government of the Servants and Others  
employed by the said Society in the said  
Fishery. And the said By Laws, or



May alter and annul any By-Laws, any of them to alter and annul, as the said Court of the Council of the said Society, or the Major Part of them then present shall see requisite, and by such By Laws to sett, impose and inflict reasonable Pains and Penalties upon Offenders against the same. Offender or Offenders who shall transgress, break or violate the said By Laws, so made as aforesaid, and to mitigate the same as They, or the Major Part of them then present shall find Cause, which said Pains and Penalties shall and may be levied, sued for, taken, retained and recovered by the said Society and their Successors, for and during the said Space of Twenty One Years, or by their Officers and Servants from time to time to be appointed for that Purpose by Action of Debt, or by any other Lawful Ways or Means, To the Use and Behoof of the said Society and their Successors: **All** and singular which By Laws, so as aforesaid; to be made **They** shall be duly Observed and kept, under the Pains and Penalties therein to be contained, **So** always as the said By Laws, Pains and Penalties from time to time to be made and imposed

and inflict reasonable Pains and Penalties upon Offenders against the same.

Penalties to be recovered by Action of Debt.

All By Laws to be duly observed, made reasonable, and agreeable to the Statutes of this Realm.

posed be reasonable, and not contrary or repugnant to the Laws or Statutes of this our Realm; And that such By Laws, Pains and Penalties from time to time to be made and imposed, and any Repeal or Alteration thereof, or of any of them be likewise Agreed to, Established and confirmed by the General Court of the said Society, to be held and kept next after the Same shall be respectively made. **And further We** have Given and Granted, and by these Presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, **Do** Give and Grant unto the said Society and their Successors full Power and Authority <sup>The Society empowered to</sup> from time to time, during the said Term <sup>elect yearly,</sup> of Twenty One Years, to choose and <sup>on 5 Nov. after the Term of three Years,</sup> elect yearly on the Fifth Day of November, which shall next happen after the Expiration of the Term of three Years from the Date of these our Letters Patent, or within Thirty Days after, a Governor, President, and Vice President, and <sup>a Governor, &c. and a</sup> a Council consisting of Thirty Persons <sup>Council consisting of 30 Persons.</sup> out of and from the Members of the said Society, *Eight* of which Council shall be out of and from the Members of the

The Society empowered to elect yearly, on 5 Nov. after the Term of three Years,

a Governor, &c. and a Council consisting of 30 Persons.

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the said Society, not being of the Council within the preceding Year, and the Residue of the said Council from and among the then last preceding Council of the said Society by the Plurality of Votes of all such Members qualified to vote as herein after is directed; Fifteen Days Notice at least being given in the London Gazette, or in such other Publick Manner as the said Society and their Successors, shall from time to time hereafter Order and Appoint, by the Governor, President or Vice President for the Time being, of the time and Place of such Election; which said Governor, President, Vice President, and Council so chosen and elected, shall continue in their respective Offices untill the Fifth Day of November next following his or their Election or Elections, and from that time untill some other fit Person or Persons shall be duly elected in their Stead. And Wee Do hereby for us our Heirs and Successors Declare our Will and Pleasure to be, that the Governor, President,

15 Days Notice of such Election to be given in the London Gazette.

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President, or Vice President of the said Society for the time being, Do and shall yearly and every Year, during the Remainder of the said Term of Twenty One Years, Call and hold a General Court on the said Fifth Day of November, or within Thirty Days after as aforesaid, for and in Order to such Election or Elections, and shall give Fifteen Days Notice in the London Gazette, or in such other Publick Manner as the said Governor, President, or Vice President and Council, and their Successors, by Order of any General Court, shall from time to time hereafter Order and Direct of the time and Place of such Election or Elections; and from time to time as often as there shall be Default of such Notice, that Ten or more of the said Society (Qualified to Vote as herein after mentioned) shall or may assemble themselves together upon the Fourteenth Day after the said Fifth Day of November, unless the same shall happen to be on a Sunday: And in such Case, such Meeting, 14 Days Notice being given in the London Gazette;

The Governours, &c. to hold a General Court yearly on 5 Nov. giving 15 Days Notice in the London Gazette;

and in Default of such Notice, Ten or more of the said Society may meet on the 14th day of Nov. following, and order a General Court to be held within 15 Days after

such

fuch Ten or more of the faid Society fhall or may Affemble themfelves together the next Day following fuch Fourteenth Day after the faid fifth Day of November; and fuch Ten or more of the faid Society being fo affembled, or the *Major Part* of them, fuch Major Part not being fewer than Seven, may Order and Direct a General Court of the faid Society to be held within Fifteen Days after fuch Meeting, Fourteen Days Notice at leaft of holding fuch General Court, being firft given in the London Gazette, or in fuch other publick Manner as aforefaid, of the Hour and Place of holding fuch General Court; and then and there by the Majority of Voicés, fhall or may make fuch Election or Elections as aforefaid. **And**

**We** do hereby alfo for us, our Heirs and Succéffors, Grant and Ordain, that every *fuch Member* who hath or fhall have in his or her own Right, the Sum of Three Hundred Pounds in the faid Joint Stock of the faid Society, fhall have in every General Court of the faid

What Number of Votes each Member fhall have in Proportion to his Stock.

faid Society One Vote: And every Perfon who fhall in his or her own Right be poffeffed of One Thoufand Pounds in the faid Joint Stock of the faid Society, fhall have two Votes: And that every Perfon who fhall have Two Thoufand Pounds in the faid Joint Stock in his or her own Right, fhall have Three Votes: And that every Perfon who fhall be poffeffed of the Sum of Three Thoufand Pounds in his or her Own Right, fhall have Four Votes in every General Court of the faid Society: And that the faid Society fhall have Power to hold General Courts in like Manner, from time to time, and during the faid Term herein before Granted, on the Death, Refignation, Removal, or any other Vacancy, of the Governor, Prefident, Vice Prefident, or any of the Councill of the faid Society, for electing other fit Perfons in their Rooms, who fhall continue in their refpective Offices, untill the next Generall Election. **And We** do hereby, for Ourfelves, our Heirs and Succéffors,

On the Death, &c. of the Governor, &c. others to be elected in their Room;

Time of holding the Firft General Court

C

cessors, Ordain and Appoint, that the First General Court for the said Society, shall be held within the Space of Thirty Days next after the Date of these Our Letters Patent: And whensoever there shall happen to be an Equality of Votes, the Governor, and in his Absence the President, and in his Absence the Vice President for the Time being, shall have the Casting Vote. **Provided** also, And we do by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, Will, Ordain and Appoint that no Person shall be capable of being elected a President of the said Society hereby Established, who shall not at the time of such Election, have in his Own Name, and in his Own Right, for his Own Use, and not in Trust for any others, the Sum of Three Thousand Pounds or more in the Joint Stock, to be raised in Pursuance of this our Charter, as is herein after mentioned. And that no Person shall be capable of being chosen a Vice President of the same Society, who shall not at the time of such Election, have

Qualification  
of the Presi-  
dent, Vice  
President, and  
Members of  
the Society.

in

in his Own Name, and in his Own Right, for his Own Use, and not in Trust for any others, the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds or more in such joint Stock of the said Society: And that no Person shall be capable of being elected to be a Member of the Council of the said Society, who shall not at the time of such Election, have in his Own Name, and in his Own Right, and for his Own Use, and not in Trust for any others, the Sum of One Thousand Pounds or more in the said Joint Stock. **And We** do hereby for us, our Heirs and Successors, Give and Grant unto the said Society hereby Established, and their Successors, full Power and Authority, by a voluntary Subscription of their Members and others, to raise a Joint Stock not exceeding the Sum of Five hundred Thousand Pounds of Lawful Money of Great Britain without Licence from Us, our Heirs and Successors, under Our or Their Sign Manuel or Signet, first had and obtained in that Behalf, to be applyed for the

The Society  
impowered to  
raise a joint  
Stock of  
500,000 l. for  
effecting the  
Purposes of  
this Act

Carrying on and Effecting the Purposes of this Charter: And the same Joint Stock to Order, Manage and Conduct from time to time for the Purposes aforesaid: And to receive the Benefit and Advantage of the same to the Use of the said Society and their Successors, according to such Shares or Proportions as they, or any of them shall have

No Dividend therein. **Provided Nevertheless,** that no Dividend of the Profitts of the said Society shall be made, but by Order of a General Court of the said Society:

All Persons subscribing to the said joint Stock of 500,000l. to become a Member of the said Society, &c. (Exception) And all and every Person and Persons so Subscribing and Contributing any Sum or Sums of Money to the said Joint Stock of Five Hundred Thousand Pounds, Except Such who shall Subscribe under the Name of the Fishing Chamber of any City, Town or Port, shall, by Virtue of such Subscription, become a Member or Members of the said Society, and shall be Intituled to a Share or Shares in such Joint Stock, in Proportion to their respective Subscription or Subscriptions, such Person or

or Persons paying such Parts of their said Subscriptions in such Manner, and at such times as shall be directed by the Council of the said Society, in Pursuance of the Powers vested in them by the said Act of Parliament.

And also by these Our Letters Patent, <sup>All Persons entitled to any Shares in the said Society, may transferr the same.</sup> and they, and all Persons who shall be Intituled to such Share, shall be and are hereby enabled to Sell, Assign and Transferr the same, or any Part thereof, to any Person or Persons by Transferr in the Books of the said Society, in such Manner as herein after is directed; And the Person or Persons to whom such Assignment or Transferr shall be made, shall, by Virtue thereof, become Members of the said Society.

**Provided also,** That no Transferr shall be made of any of the said Stock or Share of, or in the said Five hundred Thousand Pounds within *the Space* of Five Years from the Date of this Our Present Charter, and all Transferrs made within the said Time, shall be absolutely Void to all Intents and Purposes <sup>No Transferr to be made within five Years from the Date of this Charter, excepting the Executors, &c. of any Person dying, &c.</sup> what=

whatsoever, Excepting only, That it shall and may be Lawful for the Executors and Administrators of any Person or Persons, who shall happen to die possessed of, or interested in any such Stock, or Share of, or in the said Five Hundred Thousand Pounds; And also for the Assignees under any Commission of Bankrupts to Transferr such Stock or Shares, and Dispose of the Produce thereof within the said Space of Five Years, in such Manner as they might after the Expiration thereof, or if the said Five Years were expired. **Provided** also, And for the ascertaining and limittin how and in what Manner the said Joint Stock shall and may be Transferred and Alienated by such Person and Persons as shall from time to time have any Interest or Share in the same. **Wee** do hereby Direct and Appoint, that there shall be forthwith provided and constantly kept in the Publick Office or Offices of the said Society, a Book or Books, wherein all Transferrs shall be Entred. **And Wee** do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors,

Method of transferring the Stock.

cessors, Order, Direct, Limitt and Appoint, that from the Date of these our Letters Patent, the Method and Manner of making all Transferrs of the said Joint Stock, or any Part thereof, shall be by an Entry in such Book or Books to be kept as aforesaid, Signed by the Parties so Transferring in the Words, or to the Effect following (to-wit) I A. B. this Day of in the Year of our Lord do Transferr being my Interest or Share (or as the Case may be) Part of my Interest or Share in the Joint Stock of the Society of the free British fishery, and all Benefit arising thereby unto (C. D.) his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, Witness my Hand, A. B. or in Case the Party Transferring be not personally present, then, by an Entry in the said Book or Books Signed by some Person thereunto Lawfully Authorized by Letter of Attorney, or Writing under Hand and Seal, attested by two or more Witnesses, in the Words, or to the Effect following

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ing\* (to wit) I A. B. this Day of  
 in the Year do in the  
 Name, and on the Behalf of  
 Transferr being the  
 Interest or Share (or as the Case may be)  
 part of the Interest or Share of the said  
 in the Joint  
 Stock of the free British fishery, and  
 all Benefit arising thereby unto  
 his Executors, Administrators and Af-  
 signs, Witness my hand Under  
 which Transferr the Person or Persons,  
 Bodies Politick or Corporate, to whom  
 such Transfers shall be made, or some  
 other Person by him or them Lawfully  
 Authorized thereunto, shall Sign his or  
 their Name or Names, attesting that he  
 or they do freely and voluntarily accept  
 of the Same, and that the Entry Signed  
 as aforesaid, and no other Way or Me-  
 thod shall be the Manner and Method  
 used in the passing, assigning or transf-  
 erring the Interest or Share in the said  
 Joint Stock, And every such Transferr  
 shall be good and valid, and convey the  
 Estate and Interest of the Party assigning  
 of

( 25 )

of and in the Stock so transferred to  
 the Assignee or Assignees thereof. **Pro-**  
**vided** always, that no Executor or <sup>No Executor,</sup>  
 Administrator shall transferr the Share <sup>&c. to transf-</sup>  
 or Interest of the Testator or Intestate, <sup>&c. until an</sup>  
 or be Entitled to receive any Dividend <sup>Entry of the</sup>  
 until an Entry or Memorandum of <sup>Probate of the</sup>  
 the Probate of such Will, or the Let- <sup>Testator's Will</sup>  
 ters of Administration be made in the <sup>be made in</sup>  
 Book or Books to be kept by, or by <sup>the Society's</sup>  
 Order of the said Society for that Pur- <sup>Books.</sup>  
 pose. **And** of our more abundant <sup>The Council</sup>  
 Grace and favour, **We** do hereby de- <sup>of the said So-</sup>  
 clare our Pleasure to be that the Coun- <sup>ciety impow-</sup>  
 cil of the said Society, or the Major <sup>ered to make</sup>  
 Part of such of them as shall be af- <sup>Calls, and di-</sup>  
 sembled together, being no less than <sup>ment of any</sup>  
 Seven in Number, whereof the Go- <sup>Part of the said</sup>  
 vernor, President, or Vice President, <sup>500,000l. after</sup>  
 to be One, shall have Power and Au- <sup>the Rate of</sup>  
 thority to make Calls and direct the <sup>10l. per Cent.</sup>  
 Payments of any Part of the said  
 Sum of Five Hundred Thousand Pounds,  
 which any Person or Persons shall Sub-  
 scribe towards Carrying on the said Un-  
 dertaking at such times as the said So-  
 ciety, or the Major Part of such of  
 D them

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them as shall be assembled together in Manner aforesaid, shall Direct and Appoint, so as the First Payment directed to be made, shall be made within the Space of Thirty Days from the time of such Subscription, and be after the Rate of Ten Pounds by the Hundred of the Whole Sum Subscribed, And so as the second Payment be after the Rate of Ten Pounds by the Hundred of the Sums Subscribed: And that the other Payments be pursuant to the Directions of a General Court of the said Society, which shall be for that Purpose assembled, or a Majority of them.

In case of Refusal or Neglect, 30 Days Notice being given in the London Gazette the said Society may sell so much of the Stock of such Person, as will make good the Sum unpaid upon such Call

And in Case any Person or Persons shall refuse or neglect to pay any Money which shall be so called for by the said Society, at the times when the same shall be appointed to be paid, Notice of such Call being given in the London Gazett by the said Society, at least Thirty Days before the Day appointed for such Payment, it shall be lawful for the said Society to Sell, Dispose of and Transferr so Much of the Share or Stock of

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of the Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing, as shall produce the Sum which such Person or Persons ought to have paid on such Call. **Provided** that all such Money which shall be so subscribed and directed to be paid, shall be paid into the Bank of England, on account of the said Society. **And whereas** it is by the said Act provided, that the Fishing Chambers therein mentioned, which shall so Trade or Fish on their own Account, shall not have any Profit or Loss arising from the Trade of the said Society, Our Will is, that no Person or Persons who is, are, or shall be Adventurers or Subscribers in such Chambers, or in any foreign Fisherys, shall be capable of being elected President, Vice President or Member of the Council of the said Society. **Provided** always, and for the effectual preventing the said Corporation of The Society of the Free British Fishery hereby Erected, from Intermedling or Interfering with the Business the Affairs of the Corporation of the

The Subscription Money to be paid into the Bank of England.

No Persons who are Subscribers in the Fishing Chambers, &c. to be elected President, &c. of the said Society.

The Society of The Free British Fishery not to discount or deal in Bills of Exchange, or Inland Bills, &c.

D 2 Governor



Governor and Company of the Bank of England, or of the Corporation of the Governour and Company of the Bank of Scotland, or of the Corporation of the Royal Bank of Scotland, and from Dealing in any Trade or Merchandize, **Our Will** and Pleasure is, **And Wee** do hereby Direct and Command, that the said Society hereby Established, shall not at any time hereafter, Discount or Deal in Bills of Exchange, or Inland Bills or Notes; nor shall receive Monies or keep the Accounts or Cash of any Person or Persons (other than their own proper Money, Accounts and Cash, being the real Produce of their Joint Stock or Fund, or such Monies as shall be paid to them for the Purposes herein mentioned; nor shall deal in Banking, or any ways Use the Banking Trade or Business; nor shall upon their Common Seal, nor by their Cashiers, Officers or Servants, or any other Person on their Behalf, Give or Issue out any Bills or Notes payable upon Demand for the Loan of Money, with or without Interest; nor shall Advance nor Lend any Money

nor use the Banking Trade;

nor issue out Bills or Notes for Loan of Money;

Money at Interest upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever; nor shall by way of Trade or Merchandize, directly or indirectly, Buy or Sell, or Deal in any Goods, Wares or Merchandizes, or any Bullion, Gold, Silver, Mineral, Metal or Ore, other than, and except such as shall be *the Produce of the Fishery, which shall belong to the said Society.* **And** in Case the said Society hereby Established, do or shall at any time hereafter, Discount, or Deal in Bills of Exchange, or Inland Bills or Notes, or shall receive the Monies, or keep the Accounts or Cash of any Person, other than their own proper Money, Account and Cash, being the real Produce of their Fund, or such Moneys, as shall be paid to them as aforesaid) or shall Deal in Banking or any ways Use the Banking Trade or Business, or shall either upon their Common Seal, or by their Cashiers, Officers or Servants, or any other on their Behalf, Give, or Issue out any Bills or Notes payable on Demand for the Loan of Money, with or without Interest, or shall Advance or Lend

nor deal in any Goods, or Wares, &c. other than the Produce of the said Fishery;

Lend any Money at Interest upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever; or shall by way of Trade or Merchandize directly or indirectly, Buy or Sell, or Deal in any Goods, Wares or Merchandizes, or any Bullion, Gold, Silver, Mineral, Metal or Ore (Except as before is Excepted) that then, and in any of the said Cases Our Will and Pleasure

On Penalty of having this Charter revoked by Order of the Privy Council.

And Wee do hereby reserve to Our Selves, Our Heirs and Successors, full Power and absolute Authority, by Our or Their Order, in Our or Their Privy Council, at any time after Three Months Notice to the said Society to determine this Our present Charter, and the Corporation hereby Made, Created or Erected, and from Three Months after such Order of Council made in any of the said Cases, this Our present Charter and the Corporation hereby made, shall cease, determine, and be utterly null and void to all Intents and Purposes

The Society not observing the Restrictions before-mentioned, or offending in any Particular exceeding the Sum of 500l. in any one Year, the Attorney General and Advocate of Scotland to prosecute the said Offences;

And in Case the said Corporation hereby Established, shall contrary to the said Charter, or any Particular thereof, do any thing contrary to the said Charter, or any Particular thereof, exceeding the Sum of 500l. in any one Year, the Attorney General and Advocate of Scotland to prosecute the said Offences;

trary to the Restrictions before mentioned offend in any Matter aforesaid, or in any particular or particulars exceeding the Sum or Value of Five hundred Pounds, within the Compass of any One Year to be reckoned from Lady Day yearly, that then the Attorney General of Us, Our Heirs and Successors for the time being, and the Advocate of Us, Our Heirs and Successors in Scotland for the time being, shall, and are hereby severally Authorized and Directed by Virtue of these Presents, without any further Warrant or Order from Us, Our Heirs and Successors, at the Request of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, or of the Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland, or of the Royal Bank of Scotland, by Information or Otherwise, as the Law shall allow of, to prosecute the said Corporation hereby Established, for such Offence and Breach of any of the Restrictions aforesaid, and for the Attorney General of Us, Our Heirs and Successors for the time being, and the Attorney General to proceed against the said Society by Scire facias, &c. in Order to procure the making void this Charter.

time being to proceed against the said Society, by Scire Facias, or otherwise, in order to procure these our Letters Patent, and the Corporation hereby Created, by Judgment thereon to be determined and made void. **Provided**

The said Society not to permit any Thing to be done not authorized by this Charter, or which shall be contrary to the true Meaning of an Act of 6 George I.

**likewise, Nevertheless,** And these Our Letters Patent are upon this express Condition: That the said Corporation hereby Established, or their Successors, shall not by themselves, or their Agents or Servants, committ, or do, or procure or permit to be committed or done, any Act, Matter or Thing whatsoever not authorized by these Presents, which shall be contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of a certain Act of Parliament made in the Sixth Year of the Reign of Our late Royal Father King George the First of Glorious Memory, Intituled, [An Act for the better securing certain Powers and Priviledges intended to be Granted by His Majesty by Two Charters for Assurance of Ships and Merchandizes at Sea, and for lending Money upon Bottomry, and for restraining

restraining several extravagant and unwarrantable Practices therein mentioned.]

**And Wee Do** hereby for Us, Our Heirs All Admirals and Judges, &c. to be aiding and assisting to the said Society in all Matters relating to the said Charter. and Successors, Will, Authorize and Command all and Singular Our Admirals, Vice Admirals, Judges, Justices of the Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, Headboroughs, And all other Officers and Ministers whatsoever of Us, our Heirs and Successors within this our Kingdom of Great Britain, that they and every of them respectively be from time to time in their several and respective Offices aiding, favouring, helping and assisting to the said Society hereby Established, And their Successors, their Agents and Servants, as well on Land as on Sea, in all things according to Our Will and Pleasure herein declared. **And Lastly, Wee do** by This Charter to be construed in the most beneficial Manner for the Advantage of the said Society in all Courts of Record, &c. these Presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, Grant unto the said Society hereby Established, and their Successors, that these Our Letters Patent or the Inrollment or Exemplification thereof shall be in and by all things, Good, Firm, E Valid,

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Valid, Sufficient and Effectual in the Law according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof, and shall be Taken, Construed and Adjudged in the most favourable and beneficial Sense, for the best Advantage of the said Society, as well in all Our Courts of Record as elsewhere, by All and Singular Judges, Justices, Officers, Ministers and Subjects whatsoever, of Us, our Heirs and Successors, any Nonrecital, Misrecital, or any other Omission, Imperfection, Defect, Matter, Cause or thing whatsoever to the contrary thereof in any

No Fine or Fee to be paid the *Hanaper* Office, &c. for making and sealing this Charter.

wife notwithstanding. And we will also, and by these Presents Grant to the said Society, that they may and shall have these Our Letters Patent duly made and sealed under Our Great Seal of Great Britain (without Fine or Fee, Great or Small, to be for the same in any manner rendered, done, or paid to Us in Our Hanaper or Elsewhere to Our Use) although express Mention of the Certainty of the Premises in these Presents is not made, or any

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any other Thing, Cause or Matter whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding. In Witness whereof We have Caused these Our Letters to be made Patent: Witnesses, Thomas, Arch Bishop of Canterbury, and other Guardians and Justices of the Kingdom, at Westminster, the Eleventh day of October, in the Twenty-fourth Year of Our Reign,

By Writt of Privy Seal,

C O C K S.



The LIST.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

FREDERICK PRINCE OF WALES,

G O V E R N O R;

SLINGSBY BETHELL, Esquire, President;

STEPHEN THEODORE JANSSEN, Esq; Vice-President;

C O U N C I L,

Lieut. General ROGER HANDASYD

JOHN EDWARDS, Esquire

FRANCIS CRAIESTEYN, Esquire

EDWARD VERNON, Esquire

ROBERT BOOTLE, Esquire

GEORGE DUNBAR, Esquire

VELTERS CORNEWALL, Esquire

GEORGE DODINGTON, Esquire

ROBERT CRAMMOND, Esquire

SAMUEL CLARKE, Esquire

WILLIAM NORTHEY, Esquire

GEORGE STEEVENS, Esquire

RICHARD BAKER, Esquire

CLAUDE JOHNSON, Esquire

Sir NATHANIEL CURZON, Baronet

WILLIAM DAVIS, Esquire

ANDREW DRUMMOND, Esquire

MICHAEL WILKINS CONWAY, Esquire

JONATHAN WATSON, Esquire

Lieut. General JAMES OGLETHORPE

ROGER HOGG, Esquire

WILLIAM BOWDEN, Esquire

Sir BOURCHIER WREY, Baronet

JOHN LIDDERDALE, Esquire

JOHN TURNER, Esquire

SIMON ROGERS, Esquire

CHARLES RAYMOND, Esquire

JOHN VAUGHAN, Esquire

FRANCIS GWYNN, Esquire

GEORGE BOWES, Esquire.