That your Petitioners accordingly to the Direction of an Act of Assembly of this Province for Encouragement of building Water Mills have procured out of their Majestys high Court of Chancery a Certain Writ of ad quod Damnum for 20 acres of Land lying on a Run of Water at Mattawoman in Charles County on which run of Water your Petitioners as well for the publick as their own private good & Commodity have began and almost finished a Mill, and the said Writ is in due Form of Law executed and returne thereof made as by the same Writ and returne here ready to be shewed to your Excellency may more plainly appear

The premises considered your Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency to grant your Petitioners the said 20 Acres of Land for the purpose aforesaid for the term of 80 Years according to the tenor of the said Act they being ready to give such security as the same Law requires which your Petrs humbly pray may be taken by one of the Councill or two Commissioners in Charles County

And as in duty bound they shall ever pray

Which Petition was granted and ordered that Deed be drawn for the said 20 Acres of Land to the Petitioners to be signed ffr his Excellency the Governor to their use according to the tenor of the Act mentioned & that the hontble Captn John Courts a member of this Board resident in Charles County be desired and empowered to take of the Petrs such security as the Law requires, all which was done and accordingly issued

At a Councill held at the City of St Marys the 23d day of December Anno Domini 1692

Present

His Excellency the Governor

The hontble { Coll° Nea Blakiston, Coll° Nic° Greenberry, Thomas Tench Esqr, Capt John Courts, Thomas Brooke Esqr }