

A
C O P Y
OF HIS MAJESTY'S
ROYAL CHARTER
FOR
INCORPORATING
THE
DUBLIN-SOCIETY.

Dated the Second Day of *April*, 1750.

D U B L I N :

Printed for HENRY HAWKER at *Homer's Head*
in *Dame-street*, Bookfeller,

MDCCL.

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Royal Charter, &c.



GEORGE THE SECOND by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth. TO ALL unto whom these Presents shall come greeting. WHERE-

AS several of our Nobility and Gentry of our Kingdom of *Ireland*, Members of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, in behalf of themselves and the rest of the Members of the said Society, have by their Petition to you, as our Lieutenant

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General,

General, and General Governor of our said Kingdom, set forth, that having observed vast Tracts of Land and Bog in our said Kingdom uncultivated, and a general Want of Skill and Industry in the Inhabitants to improve them, they formed themselves into a voluntary Society, by the Name of the DUBLIN-SOCIETY, *For promoting Husbandry and other useful Arts in our said Kingdom*, and have at their own Expence made many Experiments, and published useful Observations and Instructions, for raising Flax, draining Bogs, and improving unprofitable Lands; and distributed considerable Sums of Money, in Præmiums, to the most deserving, whereby a Spirit of Industry and Emulation hath been raised, and great Hopes conceived that much greater Effects might arise therefrom, tending farther to civilize the Natives of our said Kingdom, and render them well affected to us, and our Royal Family, and more able to contribute to the Increase of the Revenue, and the Support of the Establishment of our said Kingdom. That divers of our good Subjects are willing to contribute large Sums of Money for the good Ends and Purposes aforesaid: But the said voluntary Society are not capable in Law of taking or receiving such Contributions, or of carrying their good Intentions effectually into Execution, unless they be incorporated by our Royal Charter, for the Ends and Purposes in the said Petition mentioned, with such Clauses, Powers, Jurisdictions and Authorities, as are usually contained

contained in Charters of the like Nature. AND WHEREAS you did by your Order, bearing Date the 12th Day of *April*, 1748, refer the said Petition to our Attorney and Solicitor General of that our Kingdom, to examine and consider the Allegations of the said Petition, and report unto you, whether it would be advisable for us to grant the Charter thereby desired, who by their Report, bearing Date the 22d Day of *January*, 1749, are of Opinion that the granting the Petitioners such a Charter as is desired, will be of great Benefit and Advantage to that our Kingdom; WE THEREFORE, being graciously pleased to encourage so laudable an Undertaking, KNOW YE, that We of our special Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, by and with the Advice and Consent of our right trusty and right well beloved Cousin and Counsellor, WILLIAM Earl of HARRINGTON, our Lieutenant General and General Governor of our said Kingdom of *Ireland*, and according to the Tenor and Effect of our Letters under our Privy Signet and Sign Manual, bearing Date at our Court of St. *James's* the 20th Day of *February*, 1749-50, in the 23d Year of our Reign, and now enrolled in the Rolls of our High Court of Chancery in our said Kingdom of *Ireland*, HAVE willed, ordained, constituted, and appointed, and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs and Successors do will, ordain, constitute, declare and grant, that our well beloved Subjects, our right trusty

and right well beloved Cousin and Counsellor
 WILLIAM Earl of HARRINGTON, our
 Lord Lieutenant General and General Gover-
 nor of that our Kingdom of *Ireland*, our right
 trusty and right intirely beloved Cousin and
 Counsellor *William* Duke of *Devonshire*, our
 right trusty and right intirely beloved Cousin
 and Counsellor, *Lionel Cranfield* Duke of *Dor-*
set, our right trusty and right well beloved
 Cousin and Counsellor, *Philip Dormer* Earl
 of *Chesterfield*, our right trusty and right en-
 tirely beloved Counsellor, *George* Lord Arch-
 Bishop of *Armagh*, Primate of all *Ireland*,
 our right trusty and well beloved Counsellor,
Robert Lord *Newport*, Chancellor of our said
 Kingdom, our right trusty and right intirely
 beloved Counsellor, *Charles* Lord Arch-Bi-
 shop of *Dublin*, Primate of *Ireland*, our right
 trusty and well beloved Cousin and Counsel-
 lor, *James* Earl of *Kildare*, our right trusty
 and well beloved Cousin and Counsellor, *John*
 Earl of *Grandison*, our right trusty and well
 beloved Cousin and Counsellor, *Wills* Lord
 Viscount *Hillsborough*, our right trusty and
 well beloved Cousin and Counsellor, *Humphry*
 Lord Viscount *Lanesborough*, our right Revd.
 and well beloved Father in God, *Robert* Lord
 Bishop of *Clogher*, our right trusty and well
 beloved Counsellor, *Charles* Lord *Tullamore*,
 our right trusty and well beloved, *Richard*
 Lord *Mornington*, our right trusty and well
 beloved Counsellor, *Henry Boyle*, Esq; Chan-
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cellor of our Court of Exchequer, our right trusty and well beloved Counsellor, Sir *Arthur Gore*, Bart. our trusty and well beloved Sir *Thomas Taylor*, Bart. our trusty and well beloved *Hercules Langford Rowley*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *John Maxwell*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *Thomas Butler*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *Thomas Tennison*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *Robert Downes*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *Thomas Prior*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *Arthur Jones Nevill*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *John Putland*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *Thomas Waite*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *Alexander Mc Awley*, Esq; our trusty and well beloved, *William Maple*, Esq; our well beloved in Christ, *Samuel Hutchinson*, Dean of *Dromore*, our well beloved in Christ, *Richard Pococke*, Doctor of Laws, Archdeacon of our City of *Dublin*, our well beloved in Christ, *John Kearney*, Doctor in Divinity, our well beloved in Christ, *John Wynne*, Doctor in Divinity, and such others as shall from Time to Time be elected in the Manner herein after directed, to be one Body Politick and Corporate, in Deed and in Name, by the Name of the DUBLIN SOCIETY, FOR PROMOTING HUSBANDRY AND OTHER USEFUL ARTS IN IRELAND, and by the same Name to have perpetual Succession, and to purchase, have, take, receive, and enjoy to them and their Successors, Lands, Tenements,

Hereditaments of whatsoever Nature or Kind, not exceeding in the Whole the clear yearly Value of 1000*l.* and also all Manner of Goods and Chattles, of what Value soever, and by the same Name to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, in all Courts and Pleas whatsoever, of Us, our Heirs and Successors, in all Suits, Complaints and Demands whatsoever; and that they and their Successors may have a Common Seal, such as they shall think proper, for the Use of the said Corporation, and that it shall and may be lawful for them and their Successors to change, break, alter, or make new the said Seal, from Time to Time as they shall think fit.

AND our Will and Pleasure is, and we do ordain and grant, that the said Corporation and their Successors for ever, shall have one President, seven Vice-Presidents, one Treasurer, two Secretaries, and one Register, AND that our right trusty and right well beloved Cousin and Counsellor, WILLIAM Earl of HARRINGTON, our Lieutenant General, and General Governor of our said Kingdom of *Ireland*, be the first President, and the most Reverend Father in God, our right trusty and right intirely beloved Counsellor, *George* Lord Arch-Bishop of *Armagh*, our right trusty and right intirely beloved Counsellor, *Charles* Lord Arch-Bishop of *Dublin*, our right trusty and right well beloved Cousins and Counsellors, *James* Earl

Earl of *Kildare*, *John* Earl of *Grandison*, *Humphry* Lord Viscount *Lanesborough*, our right trusty and well beloved Counsellor, Sir *Arthur Gore*, Bart. and our trusty and well beloved, Sir *Thomas Taylor*, Bart. to be the seven first Vice-Presidents, and *Robert Downes*, Esq; the first Treasurer, and *John Wynne*, Doctor in Divinity, and *Thomas Prior*, Esq; to be the first two Secretaries, and *William Maple*, Esq; the first Register to the said Society, each of them to continue in their said respective Offices of President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretaries and Register, from the Day of the Date of these Presents, until the second *Thursday* in *November* next ensuing, and until others be chosen in their respective Rooms.

AND our Will and Pleasure is, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretaries and Register, and the Rest of the Members of the said Society also, above-named, or as many of them as conveniently can, within forty Days next after the Date of this our Grant, to meet together at such Time and Place, as the said President or any one of the said Vice-Presidents shall appoint by Summons, which the said President or any one of the said Vice-Presidents, are by these Presents impowered and required timely to issue for that Purpose, to the said Members, or such of them as live within our City, or Liberties of our City of *Dublin*, in our said Kingdom, where they,

they, or the major Part of them then present, may nominate, elect and chuse new Members, fill up Vacancies in Offices (if any shall happen) chuse Clerks, and other inferior Officers and Servants, as shall be thought necessary or useful for the said Corporation, to serve in said Offices until the second *Thursday* in *November* following, unless they shall sooner die, resign, or be removed.

AND our further Pleasure is, that there be every Year three stated general Meetings of the said Corporation within the Liberties of the said City of *Dublin*, (to wit) on the second *Thursday* in *November*, the first *Thursday* in *March*, and the first *Thursday* in *June* in every Year, and as many other general Meetings, and at such Times, as the said SOCIETY, or any Five or more of them shall appoint,

AND our Will and Pleasure is, that at the general Meeting of the said Corporation the second *Thursday* in *November* in all Times coming (or in case of any Emergency preventing their meeting at that Day, then at the next Meeting) seven at least being then present, whereof the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents to be always one, shall be elected a President, and Seven Vice-Presidents, to continue in their respective Offices for one Year, and until others be elected in their Room, unless such President or Vice-Presidents shall sooner

sooner die or resign his or their respective Offices.

AND our further Pleasure is, that it shall be lawful for the said Corporation, or any seven of them, whereof the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, to be always one, to elect on the second *Thursday* in *November* in all future Times (or in case of any Emergency preventing the Meeting at that Day, then at the next Meeting) a Treasurer, two Secretaries, and a Register, and all such other Officers and Servants as they shall think needful for the said Corporation; and the Persons so chosen shall continue in their respective Offices until the second *Thursday* in *November* in the Year following, and until others shall be chosen in their Rooms, unless such Persons so chosen, or any of them, shall sooner die, be removed from, or resign their respective Offices,

AND our further Will is, that upon the Death of the Treasurer, Secretaries, Register, and other Officers or Servants, or by the Resignation or Removal of them, or any of them, the said Corporation shall have full Power, at any Time to chuse others in their Places, seven Members at least being present, whereof the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents to be one.

AND our further Will and Pleasure is, that at all general Meetings, in case of the Absence

sence of the President, the first Vice-President first named in the List of the Vice-Presidents then present, shall be the Chairman of the said Meeting, and have a casting Voice in case of an Equality of Votes; and in case the President, and all the Vice-Presidents, shall be absent, the said Corporation, or any Five or more of them, shall have Power to appoint one of the Members then present, to preside for such Time.

AND our further Will and Pleasure is, that the said Corporation, or any Seven or more of them, whereof the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, to be one, shall have full Power to elect such Persons to be Members of the said Society, as they shall judge proper, which Persons from Time to Time elected, shall be deemed to be Members of the said Corporation, as if herein particularly named.

AND our Will and Pleasure is, that the said Corporation at any of the three general stated Meetings before mentioned, and at no other Meetings, Seven Members at least being present, whereof the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents to be one, shall have full Power to make such By-Laws, Rules and Ordinances for the good Government of the said Corporation as they shall judge meet and convenient. PROVIDED that such By-Laws be not repugnant to the Laws of our Kingdom of *Ireland*, and that the same be confirmed by some succeeding general Meeting, at which Seven at least

least of the Members shall be present, whereof the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents to be one; and that the same Method shall be observed in the altering or repealing any such By-Laws, Rules and Ordinances, after they shall be so made and confirmed.

AND our further Will and Pleasure is, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Corporation, or any Seven of them, whereof the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents to be one, at any of the said stated general Meetings, to make or execute Leases of any Lands or Tenements belonging to the said Corporation, PROVIDED such Leases do not exceed three Lives, or thirty-one Years in Possession, and be set for the best yearly Rent that can be got for the same, without any Fine to be taken for the same.

AND our further Will is, that the said Corporation, or any Five of them at any general Meeting, shall have Power to give such Sum or Sums of Money to such Person or Persons as they shall think fit, for promoting Husbandry and other useful Arts in our said Kingdom of *Ireland*, and that the Chairman at such general Meeting shall have Power to administer an Oath to any Person or Persons for discovering the Truth or Value of any Thing offered or proposed to the said Corporation.

AND

AND our further Will and Pleasure is, that in case the President, or any one or more of the Vice-Presidents, or any one or more of the Members of the said Corporation for the Time being, or any Person that shall hereafter be chosen shall happen to die, that then the remaining and surviving Members of the said Corporation, shall continue and remain incorporate by the Name aforesaid to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes; AND that it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation or any seven of them, whereof one of the Vice-Presidents to be one, in case the President shall happen to die or resign, to elect a new President in the Room of the President so dying or resigning; and in case one or more of the Vice-Presidents shall happen to die or resign, then it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation or any seven of them, whereof the President or one of the surviving Vice-Presidents to be one, to elect a new Vice-President, or Vice-Presidents, in the Room of such Vice-President, or Vice-Presidents so dying or Resigning.

AND We will moreover, that the said Corporation shall cause fair Accounts in Writing to be kept of all Receipts, Payments and other Doings and Transactions of the said Corporation, and of their Officers and Agents respectively, to be viewed and inspected by any Subscriber or Subscribers, Benefactor or Benefactors

factors upon Occasion, which Accounts shall be examined, audited and subscribed upon the first *Thursday* in *June* every Year, or within fourteen Days after, by the said Corporation, or any seven of them, whereof the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents to be one.

AND lastly, We do declare and ordain, that these our Letters Patent, and every Clause, Sentence and Article therein contained, or the Inrollment thereof made in our High Court of Chancery, in our said Kingdom of *Ireland*, shall be in all Things firm, valid, sufficient and effectual in the Law, unto the said Society and their Successors according to the Purport and Tenor hereof, without any further Grant, Licence or Toleration from us, our Heirs or Successors to be procured or obtained, PROVIDED always that these our Letters Patent be enrolled in the Rolls of our High Court of Chancery, in our said Kingdom of *Ireland*, within the Space of six Months next ensuing the Date of these Presents. IN WITNESS whereof we caused these our Letters to be made Patent, WITNESS our afore-said Lieutenant General and General Governor of our said Kingdom of *Ireland*, at *Dublin*, the second Day of *April*, in the Twenty third Year of our Reign.

action upon Oration, which Accounts shall be examined, audited and published upon the first day of January every Year, or within fourteen days after, by the said Corporation, or any one of them, without the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents to be once.

AND NOW, We do declare and ordain, that these our Letters, Statutes and every Clause, Statute and Article therein contained, or the Intendment thereof made in our High Court of Chancery, in our said Kingdom of Ireland, shall be in all Things firm, valid, sufficient and effectual in the Law, unto the said Society and their Successors according to the Power and Tenor hereof, without any further Grant, Licence or Toleration from us, our Heirs or Successors to be granted or obtained. PROVIDED always that these our Letters Patent be enrolled in the Rolls of our High Court of Chancery, in our said Kingdom of Ireland, within the space of six Months next ensuing the Date of these Patents. IN WITNESS whereof we caused these our Letters to be made Patent, WITNESS our said said Lieutenant General and General Governor of our said Kingdom of Ireland, at the said second Day of April, in the Tenth and third Year of our said Majesty's reign.