John Penn Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esquires

true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pensilvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex upon Delaware

TO all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting Whereas Benjamin Franklin Charles Brockden Robert Pratt William Rawle Anthony Nicholas Thomas Cadwalader William Coleman Thomas Godfrey Henry Pratt Benjamin Pastorius Joseph Breintnall John Jones jun. Samuel Dale William Parsons Nicholas Cassel Francis Richardson William Maugridge David Bush Thomas Hopkinson Philip Syng Jacob Duche Evan Morgan Joseph Breintnall John Pastorius Nicholas Scull Thomas Green Hugh Roberts Benjamin Eastburn Rees Lloyd Alexander Paxton John Roberts Richard Stanley John Nicholas John Jones Charles Read Daniel Benezet James Morris Thomas Shaw John Read Sabina Riley James Hamilton William Plumsted John Bard Samuel Morris John Stringer Samuel Morris John Griffitts John Lawrence Samuel Coates Samuel

defended in all or any the Courts or other Places and before any Judges Justices and other Persons whatsoever in all manner of Actions Suits Complaints Pleas Causes and Matters whatsoever and of what nature or kind soever And That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Library Company of Philadelphia and their Successors for ever hereafter to have one common Seal for their use in their Affairs and the same at their Will and Pleasure to change and alter And for the well governing and ordering the Affairs of the said Company We do for Us our Heirs and Successors further grant That it shall and may be lawful for the said Company to assemble and meet together on the first Mondays in May in every Year and at such other times as there shall be Occasion at their Library or some other convenient Place due and publick Notice being given at least twenty days before the times of such Meetings not only of the Day Hour and Place of such Meeting but of the Cause thereof and of the Matters to be transacted at such Meeting And that they the said Company or one fourth part of them at least being present in Person or by Proxey duly constituted in Writing shall have full Power and Authority from time to time to make constitute and establish such Laws Statutes Orders and Constitutions (which shall appear to them or the Major part of them to be good useful honest and necessary according to the best of their Judgement and Discretion for the Government Regulation and Direction of the Library Company and every Member thereof and for the appointing and regulating the Election or Nomination of Directors Treasurer Librarian Secretary and such and so many other Officers as they shall think fit and for limiting and appointing their Trust and Authority and for the Admitting new Members and to do all things concerning the Government Estate Goods Lands Revenues as also all the Businesses and Affairs of the said Company All which Laws Statutes Orders and Constitutions so to be made as aforesaid shall be binding on every Member and be from time to time inviolably observed according to the tenor and Effect of them Provided that they be not repugnant or contrary to the Laws of England or this Government Provided always That for the Increase and Preservation of the said Library every Member of the said Company shall and do pay into the hands of the said Company's Treasurer for the time being the Sum of Ten Shillings, on the first Monday in May in every Year for ever after such greater Sum or Sums in lieu thereof at such times within Twelve Months then next following as by the Laws of the said Company shall be appointed And that in default of those Payments every Delinquent shall forfeit his Share in the Books and Estate of the said Company and be no longer a Member In Testimony Whereof We have caused the Great Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed Witness George Thomas Esq.r our Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of our said Province and Countries of Philadelphia the Nineteenth day of August in the fifteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Second And in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and forty One.

Geo. Thomas

John Penn Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esquires

true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania and Countries of Newcastle Kent and Sussex upon Delaware

To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting Whereas Benjamin Franklin Charles Brockden Robert Greate William Rawle Anthony Nicholas Thomas Cadwalader William Coleman Thomas Godfrey Henry Pratt Benjamin Pasthall Joseph Brewmall John Jones jun.[r] Samuel Dale William Parsons Nicholas Cassell Francis Richardson William Maugridge David Bush Thomas Hopkinson Philip Syng Jacob Duche Evan Morgan Joseph Stretch John Pasthall Nicholas Scull Thomas Green Hugh Roberts Benjamin Eastburn Rees Lloyd Alexander Paxton John Roberts Richard Stanley John Nicholas John Sober Charles Read Daniel Boone James Morris Thomas Shaw John Read Joseph Pidgley James Hamilton William Plumsted John Bard Samuel Morris John Stamper Samuel Morris John Griffin Jun.[r] Langdale Samuel Coates Samuel Rhoads Joseph King Alexander Grayson James Mercereweather Anthony Morris jun.[r] Tobias Gristone Charles Willing Isaac Williams William Allen Joseph Peters Richard Peters Thomas Clay Phineas Bond Israel Pemberton jun.[r] Robert Greenway William Crosthwaite William Callender George Emlen jun.[r] Isaiah Warner Tenth Francis James Bringham Charles Meredith Samuel M.[c] Call and Hugh Davy have at a great Expence purchased a large and valuable Collection of useful Books in order to erect a Library for the advantement of Knowledge and Literature in the City of Philadelphia Now Know Ye That We being truly sensible of the Advantage that may arrise to the People of this our Province by so useful an Undertaking and being willing to encourage the same Have given and granted and by these Presents Do for Us our Heirs and Successors give and grant That the said Benjamin Franklin Charles Brockden Robert Greate William Rawle Anthony Nicholas Thomas Cadwalader William Coleman Thomas Godfrey Henry Pratt Benjamin Pasthall Joseph Brewmall John Jones jun.[r] Samuel Dale William Parsons Nicholas Cassell Francis Richardson William Maugridge David Bush Thomas Hopkinson Philip Syng Jacob Duche Evan Morgan Joseph Stretch John Pasthall Nicholas Scull Thomas Green Hugh Roberts Benjamin Eastburn Rees Lloyd Alexander Paxton John Roberts Richard Stanley John Nicholas John Sober Charles Read Daniel Boone James Morris Thomas Shaw John Read Joseph Pidgley James Hamilton William Plumsted John Bard Samuel Morris John Stamper Samuel Morris John Griffin Jun.[r] Langdale Samuel Coates Samuel Rhoads Joseph King Alexander Grayson James Mercereweather Anthony Morris jun.[r] Tobias Gristone Charles Willing Isaac Williams William Allen Joseph Peters Richard Peters Thomas Clay Phineas Bond Israel Pemberton jun.[r] Robert Greenway William Crosthwaite William Callender George Emlen jun.[r] Isaiah Warner Tenth Francis James Bringham Charles Meredith Samuel M.[c] Call and Hugh Davy and such other Persons as shall hereafter be admitted or become Members of the Library Company of Philadelphia according to the Laws and Constitutions of the said Company hereafter to be made Shall for ever hereafter shall be by virtue of these Presents One Body Corporate and Politick in Deed by the Name of the Library Company of Philadelphia and them by the Name of The Library Company of Philadelphia One Body Politick and Corporate in Deed and in Name We do for Us our Heirs and Successors fully Create Constitute and Confirm by these Presents and that by the Name of the Library Company of Philadelphia they shall have perpetual Succession and that they by the Name of the Library Company of Philadelphia Shall at all times hereafter shall be Persons able and capable in Law to have hold receive and enjoy Lands Tenements Rents Liberties Franchises and Hereditaments in Fee Simple or for Term of Life Lives Years or otherwise and also Goods Chattels and other things of what Nature kind or Quality soever And also to give grant let sell or assign the same Lands Tenements Hereditaments Goods and Chattels and to do and execute all other things about the same by the Name aforesaid And also That they by the Name of the Library Company of Philadelphia Shall and shall be for ever hereafter Persons able and capable in Law to sue and be sued Plead and be impleaded answer and be answered unto defend and be

Charter of the Library Company of Philadelphia

Be careful of the seal inside

don't break it

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No. 2

John Penn Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esquires

true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex upon Delaware
TO all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting Whereas Benjamin Franklin Charles Brockden Robert Tyate
William Rawle Anthony Nicholas Thomas Cadwalader William Coleman Thomas Godfrey Henry Pratt Benjamin Shastiall
Joseph Breintnall John Jones jun.r Samuel Hale William Parsons Nicholas Cassell Francis Richardson William Maugridge
David Bush Thomas Hopkinson Philip Syng Jacob Duche Evan Morgan Joseph Breintnall John Shastiall Nicholas Scull Thomas
Green Hugh Roberts Benjamin Eastburn Rees Lloyd Alexander Paxton John Roberts Richard Stanley John Nicholas John
Sober Charles Read Daniel Boone James Morris Thomas Shaw John Read Joshua Pusey James Hamilton William
Plumsted John Bard Samuel Morris John Stamper Samuel Morris John Griffith John Langdale Samuel Coates Samuel Rhoads
Joseph King Alexander Graydon James Meredith Anthony Morris jun.r Tobias Watson Charles Willing Isaac Williams
William Allen Joseph Peters Richard Peters Thomas Clay Phineas Bond Israel Pemberton jun.r Robert Greenway William
Crosthwaite William Callender George Emlen jun.r Isaiah Warner Tenth Francis James Bringhurst Charles Meredith Samuel M.c Call
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William Callender George Emlen jun.r Isaiah Warner Tenth Francis James Bringhurst Charles Meredith Samuel M.c Call and Hugh
Davy and such other persons as shall hereafter be admitted or become Members of the Library Company of Philadelphia according to the
Laws and Constitutions of the said Company hereafter to be made be and for ever hereafter shall be by virtue of these Presents One Body
Corporate and Politick in Deed by the Name of the Library Company of Philadelphia and them by the Name of **The Library**
Company of Philadelphia One Body Politick and Corporate in Deed and in Name We do for Us our Heirs and Successors
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Directors Treasurer Librarian Secretary and such and so many other Officers as they shall think fit and for limiting and appointing their
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Whereof We have caused the Great Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed Witness George Thomas Esq.r our Lieutenant
Governor and Commander in Chief of our said Province and Counties at Philadelphia the Nineteenth day of August in the fifteenth Year of
the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Second and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and forty One.