



*At the Court at Windsor Castle*

THE 10th DAY OF JULY 2012

PRESENT,

THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
IN COUNCIL

The following Report of a Committee of the Privy Council dated 14th June 2012 was today considered:—

“YOUR MAJESTY was pleased, by Your Order of 14th March 2012, to refer to this Committee a Petition on behalf of The President, Council and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, praying for the grant of a Supplemental Charter:

“THE COMMITTEE have accordingly considered the Petition and have agreed to report it as their opinion that a Supplemental Charter may be granted in terms of the annexed Draft.”

HER MAJESTY, having taken the Report and the Draft Supplemental Charter accompanying it into consideration, was pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to approve them. It is accordingly ordered that the Right Honourable the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain should cause a Warrant to be prepared for Her Majesty's Royal Signature for passing under the Great Seal a Supplemental Charter in conformity with the annexed Draft.

*Richard Tilbrook*

# ELIZABETH THE SECOND

by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS Our Royal Predecessor King Charles the Second in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred and sixty-two by Royal Charter dated the fifteenth day of July (hereinafter referred to as the “First Charter”) constituted a body corporate by the name of “The Royal Society”:

AND WHEREAS Our Royal Predecessor King Charles the Second in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred and sixty-three reincorporated the aforesaid Royal Society as The President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge (hereinafter referred to as “the Royal Society”), replacing the First Charter of the aforesaid Royal Society with a Royal Charter dated twenty-second of April (hereinafter referred to as the “Second Charter”):

AND WHEREAS Our Royal Predecessor King Charles the Second in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred and sixty-nine amended and added to the Second Charter of the aforesaid Royal Society a Royal Charter dated eighth of April (hereinafter referred to as the “Third Charter”):

AND WHEREAS it has been represented to Us that for the purpose of furthering the objects and of promoting the proper and efficient administration of the aforesaid Royal Society it is expedient that certain amendments should be made to the Second and Third Charters, including the adoption of an English translation, to take precedence over the original Latin text; and that the aforesaid amendments include the introduction

of flexibility in the permitted number and terms of office of members of the Council of the Royal Society, for the Royal Society to have such Officers as the President, Council and Fellows of the Royal Society see fit, for the Royal Society to select a person of the Royal Society’s choice to adjudicate in disputes, for the President to appoint someone other than his or her Deputy to attend meetings on behalf of the Royal Society and, in addition, a lifting of restrictions on the places the Council may meet and on the location of the Royal Society’s premises:

NOW KNOW YE that We, by virtue of Our Royal Prerogative and of all other powers enabling Us in that behalf, have of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion granted, willed, ordained, constituted and declared and do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors grant, will, ordain, constitute and declare as follows:

1. That the aforesaid Second and Third Charters shall be amended such that they shall have effect in the form of the English text set out below.

## **Second Charter, A.D. 1663**

Charles the Second, by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., to all to whom these Our Letters Patent shall come, greeting.

We have long and fully resolved with Ourselves to extend not only the boundaries of the Empire, but also the very arts and sciences. Therefore We look with favour upon all forms of learning, but with particular grace We encourage philosophical studies, especially those which by actual experiments attempt either to shape out a new philosophy or to perfect the old. In order, therefore, that such studies, which have not hitherto been sufficiently brilliant in any part of the world, may shine conspicuously amongst Our people, and that at length the whole world of letters may always recognize Us not only as the Defender of the Faith, but also as the universal lover and patron of every kind of truth:

Know ye that We, of Our especial grace and of Our certain knowledge and mere motion, have ordained, established, and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do ordain, establish, and grant, that henceforth for ever there shall be a Society consisting of a President, Council, and Fellows, who shall be called and named The President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge (of which same Society We by these presents declare Ourselves Founder and Patron); And by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors We do make, ordain, create, and constitute the same Society, by the name of The President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, one body corporate and politic, in fact, deed, and name, really and fully, and that by the same name they may have perpetual succession; And that they and their successors (whose studies are to be applied to further promoting by the authority of experiments the sciences of natural things and of useful arts, to the glory of God the Creator, and the advantage of the human race), by the same name of The President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, may and shall be in all future times persons able and capable in law to have, acquire, receive, and possess lands and tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, liberties, privileges, franchises, jurisdictions, and hereditaments whatsoever to them and their successors in fee and perpetuity, or for term of life, lives, or years, or otherwise in whatsoever manner, and also goods and chattels, and all other things, of whatsoever kind, nature, sort, or quality they may be

and to grant;

to sue and be sued;

and to have a Common Seal

Grant of Arms

(the Statute concerning alienation in mortmain notwithstanding), and also to give, grant, demise, and assign the same lands, tenements, and hereditaments, goods and chattels, and to do and execute all acts and things necessary of and concerning the same, by the name aforesaid; And that by the name of The President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge aforesaid, they may henceforth for ever be able and have power to plead and be impleaded, to answer and be answered, to defend and be defended, in whatsoever Courts and places, and before whatsoever Judges, Justices, and other persons and officers of Us, Our heirs, and successors, in all and singular actions, both real and personal, pleas, suits, complaints, causes, matters, things, and demands whatsoever, of whatsoever kind, nature, or sort they may or shall be, in the same manner and form as any of Our lieges within this Our Realm of England, being persons able and capable in law, or as any body corporate or politic within this Our Realm of England, may be able and have power to have, acquire, receive, possess, give, and grant, to plead and be impleaded, to answer and be answered, to defend or be defended; And that the same President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid and their successors for ever may have a Common Seal, to serve for transacting all causes and affairs whatsoever of them and their successors; and that it may and shall be good and lawful to the same President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors for the time being, to break, change, and make anew that Seal from time to time, as it shall seem most expedient to them.

We give and grant moreover by these presents to the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, in testimony of Our royal favour towards them, and of Our peculiar esteem for them, to the present and future ages, these following blazons of honour, that is to say: in the dexter corner of a silver shield Our three Lions of England, and for Crest a helm adorned with a crown studded with florets, surmounted by an eagle of proper colour holding in one foot a shield charged with Our lions: Supporters, two white hounds gorged with crowns; to be borne, exhibited, and possessed for ever by the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows, and their successors, as occasion shall serve.

Incorporation and corporate name

The King himself Founder and Patron

Capacity to purchase

The Council

And that Our royal intention may obtain the better effect, and for the good rule and government of the aforesaid Royal Society from time to time, We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do grant to the same President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors, that henceforth for ever the Council aforesaid shall be and consist of not fewer than twenty and not more than twenty-four persons (including the President for the time being, and his or her Deputy); And that all and singular other persons who within two months next following after the date of these presents shall be received and admitted into the same Society as Members of the Royal Society aforesaid, by the President and Council, or by any twelve or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be always one), or by two third parts or more of the aforesaid twelve or more, and in all time following by the President, Council, and Fellows, or by any twenty-one or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be always one), or by two third parts or more of the aforesaid twenty-one or more, and shall have been noted in the Register by them to be kept, shall be, be called, and be named Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, as long as they shall live, unless it shall happen that any one of them be amoved for any reasonable cause, according to the Statutes of the Royal Society aforesaid, which are to be drawn up; whom, the more eminently they are distinguished for the study of every kind of learning and good letters, the more ardently they desire to promote the honour, studies, and advantage of this Society, the more they are noted for integrity of life, uprightness of character, and piety, and excel in fidelity and affection of mind towards Us, Our Crown, and dignity, the more We wish them to be especially deemed fitting and worthy of being admitted into the number of the Fellows of the same Society.

Fellows

William, Viscount  
Brouncker, named to  
be the first President

And for the better execution of Our will and grant in this behalf, We have assigned, nominated, constituted, and made, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do assign, nominate, constitute, and make, Our very well-beloved and trusty William, Viscount Brouncker, Chancellor of Our very dear consort Queen Catharine, to be the first and present President of the Royal Society aforesaid; willing that the

The President's  
Oath

aforesaid William, Viscount Brouncker, shall continue in the office of President of the Royal Society aforesaid from the date of these presents until the feast of St Andrew next following after the date of these presents, and until one other of the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid for the time being shall have been elected, appointed, and sworn to that office in due manner, according to the ordinance and provision below in these presents expressed and declared (if the aforesaid William, Viscount Brouncker, shall live so long); having first taken a corporal oath well and faithfully to execute his office in and by all things touching that office, according to the true intention of these presents, before Our very well-beloved and very trusty Cousin and Councillor Edward, Earl of Clarendon, Our Chancellor of England: to which same Edward, Earl of Clarendon, Our Chancellor aforesaid, We give and grant full power and authority to administer the oath aforesaid in these words following, that is to say:

I, William, Viscount Brouncker, do promise to deal faithfully and honestly in all things belonging to the trust committed to me, as President of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, during my employment in that capacity. So help me God!

The first  
Council named

We have also assigned, constituted, and made, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do make, Our beloved and trusty Robert Moray, Knight, one of Our Privy Council in Our Realm of Scotland; Robert Boyle, Esquire; William Brereton, Esquire, eldest son of the Baron de Brereton; Kenelm Digby, Knight, Chancellor to Our very dear mother, Queen Maria; Gilbert Talbot, Knight, Treasurer of Our Jewels; Paul Neile, Knight, one of the Ushers of Our Privy Chamber; Henry Slingsby, Esquire, one of the Gentlemen of Our aforesaid Privy Chamber; William Petty, Knight; Timothy Clarke, Doctor in Medicine and one of Our Physicians; John Wilkins, Doctor in Divinity; George Ent, Doctor in Medicine; William Aerskine, one of Our Cup-bearers; Jonathan Goddard, Doctor in Medicine and Professor of Gresham College; William Balle, Esquire; Matthew Wren, Esquire; John Evelyn, Esquire; Thomas Henshaw, Esquire; Dudley Palmer, of Grey's Inn, in Our County of Middlesex, Esquire; Abraham Hill, of London, Esquire; and Henry Oldenburg, Esquire, together with the President aforesaid,

Council succession

to be and become the first and present twenty-one of the Council and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid; to be continued in their offices of the Council aforesaid from the date of these presents until the aforesaid feast of St Andrew the Apostle next following, and thenceforth until other fitting and able and sufficient persons shall have been elected, appointed, and sworn into the offices aforesaid (if they shall live so long, and shall not have been amoved for any just and reasonable cause); first taking corporal oaths before the President for the time being of the aforesaid Royal Society, well and faithfully to execute their offices in and by all things touching those offices, according to the form and effect of the aforesaid oath, *mutatis mutandis*, to be administered to the President of the Royal Society aforesaid by Our Chancellor of England; (to which same President for the time being, for Us, Our heirs, and successors, We give and grant by these presents full power and authority to administer the oaths aforesaid to the aforesaid persons, and to any others whomsoever hereafter from time to time to be elected into the Council aforesaid); And that the same persons, so as it is aforesaid elected, appointed, and sworn, and hereafter to be elected, appointed, and sworn from time to time, to the Council of the aforesaid Royal Society, shall be and become aiding, counselling, and assistant in all matters, business, and affairs touching or concerning the better regulation, government, and direction of the aforesaid Royal Society, and of every Member of the same.

Meetings

We also grant to the President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Society, and to their successors forever, that they and their successors, or any nine or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, or someone appointed by the President for that purpose, to be always one), may be able lawfully to make and hold assemblies or meetings of themselves for the examination and investigation of experiments and of natural things, and for other affairs belonging to the Society aforesaid, as often as and whenever it shall be needful, in a College or Hall or other convenient place within Our City of London, or in any other convenient place.

Election of the President

And further We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors, do grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of

the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors, that the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid for the time being, or any thirty-one or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or the major part of the aforesaid thirty-one or more, may and shall have from time to time in all future times for ever power and authority to nominate and elect, and that they may be able and have power to elect and nominate, on the aforesaid feast of St Andrew, one of the Council of the aforesaid Royal Society for the time being, who may and shall be President of the Royal Society aforesaid until the feast of St Andrew the Apostle not more than five years thereafter following (if he or she shall live so long, and shall not be amoved meanwhile for any just and reasonable cause), when another shall be elected, appointed, and nominated to the office of President of the Royal Society aforesaid; and that he or she, after that he or she shall so have been elected and nominated, as it is aforesaid, to the office of President of the Royal Society aforesaid, before he or she be admitted to that office, shall take a corporal oath before the Council of the same Royal Society, or any seven or more of them, rightly, well, and faithfully to execute that office in all things touching that office, according to the form and effect of the aforesaid oath, *mutatis mutandis* (to which same Council, or to any seven or more of them, We give and grant by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors full power and authority to administer the oath aforesaid from time to time, as often as it shall be needful to elect a President); and that after having so taken such oath, as it is aforesaid, he or she may be able and have power to execute the office of President of the Royal Society aforesaid until the feast of St Andrew the Apostle not more than five years thereafter following, when another fitting and able and sufficient person shall be admitted to that office; And if it shall happen that the President of the Royal Society for the time being, at any time, so long as he or she shall be in the office of President of the same Royal Society, shall die, retire, or be amoved from his or her office, that then and so often it may and shall be good and lawful to the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, or to the major part of them, to assemble or meet for the election of one of the members of the



Council aforesaid as President of the Royal Society aforesaid; and that he or she who shall have been elected and sworn by the Council aforesaid, or by the aforesaid major part, or by the majority of the aforesaid major part of them, as it is aforesaid, may have and exercise that office for the remainder of the term to which his or her predecessor was elected, when another shall be in due manner elected and sworn to that office, first taking a corporal oath in the form above specified; and so as often as the case shall so happen.

Replacement of  
Council members mid  
term

And further We will, that whenever it shall happen that any one or any of the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid for the time being shall die, or be amoved from that office, or retire (which same members of the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid, and every one of them, We will to be amovable for misbehaviour or any other reasonable cause, at the good pleasure of the President and of the rest of the Council aforesaid, of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one, or of the major part of the same), that then and so often it may and shall be good and lawful to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, or to any twenty-one or more of the same (of whom We will the President of the Royal Society aforesaid for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or to the major part of the aforesaid twenty-one or more, to nominate, elect, and appoint one other or several others of the Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, in the place or places of him or her or them so dead, retired, or amoved, to fill up the aforesaid number of not less than twenty and not more than twenty-four persons of the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid; and that he, she or they so elected and appointed in that office may have the same office until the feast of St Andrew the Apostle then next following, and thenceforth until one other or several others shall have been elected, appointed, and nominated; first taking a corporal oath before the President and Council of the Royal Society aforesaid, or any seven or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be always one), well and faithfully to execute that office in and by all things touching that office, according to the true intention of these presents.

Annual retirement of  
Council members

And further We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors for ever, that they and their successors, or any thirty-one or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be always one), or the major part of the aforesaid thirty-one or more, from time to time, on the aforesaid feast of St Andrew the Apostle, may and shall have full power and authority to elect, nominate, appoint, and change so many of the members of the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid as shall be determined according to the statutes of the Royal Society aforesaid, to fill up the places and offices of as many as shall be so determined of the aforesaid number of not fewer than twenty and not more than twenty-four members of the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid; for We do declare it to be Our royal pleasure, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors We do grant, that all members of the aforesaid Council shall serve as members of the Council for such terms of up to five years, with such provision as to eligibility for re-election, as the statutes of the Royal Society aforesaid shall specify.

The President may  
appoint a Deputy

We will also, and for Us, Our heirs, and successors do grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors forever, that if it shall happen that the President of the same Royal Society for the time being is detained by sickness or infirmity, or is employed in the service of Us, Our heirs, or successors, or is otherwise occupied, so that he or she shall not be able to attend to the necessary affairs of the same Royal Society touching the office of President, that then and so often it may and shall be good and lawful to the same President so detained, employed or occupied, to nominate and appoint one of the Council of the aforesaid Royal Society for the time being to be and become the Deputy of the same President; which same Deputy, so to be made and appointed in the office of Deputy of the President aforesaid, may and shall be the Deputy of the same President from time to time, as often as the aforesaid President shall happen to be so absent, during the whole time in which the aforesaid President shall continue in the office of President; unless in the meanwhile the aforesaid President of the Royal Society aforesaid for

the time being shall have made and appointed one other of the aforesaid Council his or her Deputy; And that every such Deputy of the aforesaid President so to be made and appointed, as it is aforesaid, may be able and have power to do and execute all and singular things which pertain or ought to pertain to the office of President of the aforesaid Royal Society, or which are limited and appointed to be done and executed by the aforesaid President, by virtue of these Our Letters Patent, from time to time, as often as the aforesaid President shall happen to be so absent, during such time as he or she shall continue the Deputy of the aforesaid President, by force of these Our Letters Patent, as fully, freely, and wholly, and in as ample manner and form, as the aforesaid President, if he or she were present, would be able and have power to do and execute those things; a corporal oath first to be taken by such Deputy upon the holy Gospels of God, in the form and effect above specified, well and faithfully to execute all and singular things which pertain to the office of President, before the aforesaid Council of the aforesaid Royal Society, or any seven or more of them; and so often as the case shall so happen: to which same Council, or to any seven or more of them, for the time being, We do give and grant by these presents, power and authority to administer the oath aforesaid, as often as the case shall so happen, without procuring or obtaining a writ, commission, or further warrant in that behalf from Us, Our heirs, or successors.

Election of Officers

And further We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors, that they and their successors henceforth for ever may and shall have such Officers as the President, Council and Fellows aforesaid shall determine, to serve for such terms of office, and with such provision as to eligibility for re-election, as the statutes of the Royal Society aforesaid shall specify, and such Officers may include: Treasurers, Secretaries, Curators of Experiments, Clerks, Sergeants-at-Mace, as well as such others as the President, Council and Fellows aforesaid may determine, who may from time to time attend upon the President; and that the aforesaid Treasurers, Secretaries, Curators, Clerks, Sergeants-at-Mace and other

The first Treasurer named; and also the two first Secretaries

Officers, to be elected and nominated by the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, or by any thirty-one or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or by the major part of the aforesaid thirty-one or more, before they be admitted to execute their special and respective offices, shall take their corporal oaths in the form and effect above specified, before the President, or his or her Deputy, and the Council of the same Royal Society, or any seven or more of them, rightly, well, and faithfully to execute their several and respective offices in all things touching the same; and that after having so taken such oaths, as it is aforesaid, they may exercise and use their respective offices; to which same President and Council, or to any seven or more of them, We do give and grant by these presents full power and authority to administer the oaths aforesaid from time to time to the aforesaid several and respective Officers and their successors: And We have assigned, nominated, chosen, created, appointed, and made, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do assign, nominate, choose, create, appoint, and make, Our beloved subjects the aforesaid William Balle, Esquire, to be and become the first and present Treasurer, and the aforesaid John Wilkins and Henry Oldenburg to be and become the first and present Secretaries, of the aforesaid Royal Society; to be continued in the same offices until the aforesaid feast of St Andrew the Apostle next following after the date of these presents: And that from time to time and at all times on the aforesaid feast of St Andrew the Apostle (unless it shall be Sunday, and if it be Sunday, then on the day next following), the President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society for the time being, or any thirty-one or more (of them of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or the major part of the aforesaid thirty-one or more, may be able and have power to elect, nominate, and appoint upright and discreet individuals, who are and shall be of the number of the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid, as Treasurer and Secretaries, from time to time; and that those who shall so have been elected, appointed, and sworn to the aforesaid several and respective offices, as it is aforesaid, may be able and have power to exercise and enjoy those respective offices until the aforesaid feast of St Andrew then next following, their

aforesaid oaths, as it is aforesaid, first to be taken, and thenceforth until others shall have been nominated, elected and appointed; and so as often as the case shall so happen. And if it shall happen that the aforesaid elections of President, Council, Treasurer, and Secretaries, or of any one or any of them, cannot conveniently be made or finished on the aforesaid feast of St Andrew, We give and grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows, and to their successors for ever, that they or any thirty-one or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or the major part of the said thirty-one or more, may lawfully name and assign one other day, as near to the feast of St Andrew aforesaid as can conveniently be done, for making or finishing the aforesaid elections; and so from day to day, until the aforesaid elections be finished: And if it shall happen that any one or any of the aforesaid Officers of the same Royal Society shall die, retire, or be amoved from their respective offices, that then and so often it may and shall be good and lawful to the President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors forever, or to any twenty-one or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or to the major part of the aforesaid twenty-one or more, to elect and appoint another or others to the office or offices of those persons so deceased, retired, or amoved; and that he, she or they so elected and appointed may have and exercise the respective offices aforesaid during the residue of the same year, and until another or others shall have been in due manner elected and sworn to those respective offices; and so as often as the case shall so happen.

Council to determine  
how the Society  
should operate

And moreover We will, and of Our special grace and of Our certain knowledge and mere motion do grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, that the President and Council of the aforesaid Royal Society for the time being (due or lawful summons or citation being always first made of all the members of the Council aforesaid to extraordinary meetings), or any twelve or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, or some other person nominated by the President for that purpose, to be one),

may be able and have power both to meet together and assemble in a College or Hall or other convenient place within Our City of London, or in any other convenient place; and that they so met together and assembled, or the major part of them, shall and may have full authority, power, and faculty from time to time to draw up, constitute, ordain, make, and establish such laws, statutes, acts, ordinances, and constitutions as shall seem to them, or to the major part of them, to be good, wholesome, useful, honourable, and necessary, according to their sound discretions, for the better government, regulation, and direction of the Royal Society aforesaid, and of every Member of the same, and to do and perform all things belonging to the government, matters, goods, faculties, rents, lands, tenements, hereditaments, and affairs of the Royal Society aforesaid; all and singular which laws, statutes, acts, ordinances, and constitutions so to be made as it is aforesaid, We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors, firmly enjoining, do order and command, that they shall be inviolably observed from time to time, according to the tenor and effect of the same: so nevertheless, that the aforesaid laws, statutes, acts, ordinances, and constitution so to be made as it is aforesaid, and every one of them, be reasonable, and not repugnant or contrary to the laws, customs, acts, or statutes of this Our Realm of England.

The right to appoint a  
printer

And further, of Our more ample special grace and of Our certain knowledge and mere motion, We have given and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do give and grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors for ever, or to any twenty-one or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be always one), or to the major part of the aforesaid twenty-one or more, full power and authority from time to time to elect, nominate, and appoint one or more Typographers or Printers, and Chalcographers or Engravers, and to grant to him, her or them, by a writing sealed with the Common Seal of the aforesaid Royal Society, and signed by the hand of the President for the time being, faculty to print such things, matters, and affairs touching or concerning the aforesaid Royal Society, as shall have been committed to the aforesaid



Typographer or Printer, Chalcographer or Engraver, or Typographers or Printers, Chalcographers or Engravers, from time to time, by the President and Council of the aforesaid Royal Society, or any seven or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or by the major part of the aforesaid seven or more; their corporal oaths first to be taken, before they be admitted to exercise their offices, before the President and Council for the time being, or any seven or more of them, in the form and effect last specified; to which same President and Council, or to any seven or more of them, We do give and grant by these presents full power and authority to administer the oaths aforesaid.

The right to receive the bodies of executed criminals

And further, in order that the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society may obtain the better success in their philosophical studies, of Our more ample special grace and of Our certain knowledge and mere motion, We have given and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do give and grant, to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors for ever, that they and their successors, or any nine or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or the major part of the aforesaid nine or more, may and shall have from time to time full power and authority to require, take, and receive from time to time, and at such seasonable times, according to their discretion, by their assign or assigns the bodies of such persons as have suffered death by the hand of the executioner, and to anatomize them, in as ample manner and form, and to all intents and purposes, as the President of the College of Physicians and the Company of Surgeons of Our City of London (by whatsoever names the two aforesaid corporations shall have been distinguished) have used or enjoyed, or may be able and have power to use and enjoy, the same bodies.

The right to correspond with foreigners

And further, for the improvement of the experiments, arts, and sciences of the aforesaid Royal Society, of Our more abundant special grace and of Our certain knowledge and mere motion, We have given and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do give and grant, to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the

The right to erect buildings for the Society's use

aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors for ever, that they and their successors, or any nine or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, or some other person nominated by the President for that purpose, to be one), or the major part of the aforesaid nine or more, may and shall have from time to time full power and authority, by letters or epistles under the hand of the aforesaid President or his or her Deputy, or some other person nominated by the President for that purpose, in the presence of the Council, or of any seven or more of them, and in the name of the Royal Society, to enjoy mutual intelligence and affairs with all and all manner of strangers and foreigners, whether private or collegiate, corporate or politic, without any molestation, interruption, or disturbance whatsoever: Provided nevertheless, that this Our indulgence, so granted as it is aforesaid, be not extended to further use than the particular benefit and interest of the aforesaid Royal Society in matters or things philosophical, mathematical, or mechanical.

And further We have given and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do give and grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, or to the President and Council of the Royal Society aforesaid, or the major part of them, full power and authority to erect, build, and construct, or to make or cause to be erected, built, or constructed, within Our City of London, or in any other convenient place, one or more College or Colleges, of whatsoever kind or quality, for the habitation, assembly, and meeting of the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and of their successors, for the ordering and arranging of their affairs and other matters concerning the same Royal Society.

Resolution of disputes

And further We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do ordain, constitute, and appoint, that if any abuses or differences hereafter shall arise and happen concerning the government or other matters or affairs of the aforesaid Royal Society, whereby any injury or hindrance may be done to the constitution, stability, and progress of the studies, or to the matters and affairs, of the same; then that and so often, by these presents, for Us, Our heirs, and successors,

We do authorize, nominate, assign, and appoint Our aforesaid very well-beloved and very trusty Cousin and Councillor Edward, Earl of Clarendon, Our Chancellor of Our Realm of England, by himself during his life, and, after his death, then either the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Chancellor or Keeper of the Great Seal of England, the Treasurer of England, the Keeper of the Privy Seal, the Bishop of London, and the two Principal Secretaries for the time being, or any other person or persons appointed by the Council of the Royal Society aforesaid, to reconcile, compose, and adjust the same differences and abuses.

General Clauses

And further We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors, firmly enjoining, do order and command all and singular the Justices, Mayors, Aldermen, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, and other officers, ministers, and subjects whomsoever of Us, Our heirs, and successors, that they be from time to time aiding and assistant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, in and by all things, according to the true intention of these Our Letters Patent.

Although express mention of the true yearly value or of the certainty of the premises, or of any of them, or of other gifts or grants before these times made by Us or by any of Our progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, is not made in these presents; or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restriction to the contrary thereof heretofore had, made, enacted, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, in any wise notwithstanding.

In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent. Witness Ourselves, at Westminster, the twenty-second day of April, in the fifteenth year of Our reign.

By writ of Privy Seal.  
HOWARD.

Grant of Lands in  
Chelsey

### **Third Charter, granting Chelsea College and further Privileges, A.D. 1669**

Charles the Second, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., to all to whom these Our Letters Patent shall come, greeting.

Know ye that we, of Our special grace and of Our certain knowledge and mere motion, have given and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do give and grant, to Our beloved and trusty the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, and to their successors for ever, All that piece of arable land called Teamshott, containing by estimation twenty acres, lying between Our highway leading from Westminster to Chelsey on the north and west side, and a piece of meadow, containing by estimation four acres, parcel of eighteen acres of meadow, late in the tenure of the Earl of Nottingham or his assigns, on the south side, and a close of meadow called Stony Bridge Close on the east side, and a piece of arable land, late in the occupation of Thomas Evans or his assigns, on the west side, by the particular thereof mentioned to be of the yearly rent or value of twenty-three shillings and four pence; And also all that the aforesaid close of meadow called Stony Bridge Close, containing by estimation four acres, late in the occupation of John Deakes or his assigns, lying between the stream called the Common Sewer on the east side, and the aforesaid piece of land called Teamshott on the west side, and the bridge called Stony Bridge on the north side, by the particular thereof mentioned to be of the yearly rent or value of twenty shillings; And also all that one piece of arable land in the Common field called East Field, containing by estimation three acres, late in the occupation of Thomas Frances or his assigns, lying between the aforesaid piece of land called Teamshott on the east side, a piece of arable land, late in the tenure of the Earl of Lincoln or his assigns, on the west side, a parcel of meadow of Earles Court land on the south side, and Our highway leading from Westminster to Chelsey aforesaid on the north and west side, by the particular thereof mentioned to be of the yearly rent or value of four shillings; (which same premises are, or formerly were, parcel of Our land in Chelsey, being parcel of the Demesne land of the

Manor of Chelsey aforesaid, and lately were parcel of the possessions of John, late Duke of Northumberland; and which lately by Our very dear grandfather, of blessed memory, King James, by His Letters Patent, bearing date at Westminster, the eighth day of May, in the year of His reign of England the eighth, and of Scotland the forty-third, were granted, or mentioned to be granted, to the Provost and Fellows of the College of King James in Chelsey, near London, of the foundation of the same James, King of England, and to their successors for ever, to hold of the aforesaid King James, as of His Manor of East Greenwich, in the County of Kent, by fealty only, in free and common socage, and not in chief, nor by Knight service;) And also all and singular houses, buildings, structures, woods, underwoods, trees, and all the land, ground, and soil of the same woods, underwoods, and trees, and all other Our rights, jurisdictions, franchises, privileges, liberties, profits, commodities, advantages, emoluments, and hereditaments whatsoever, with all their appurtenances, of whatsoever kind, nature, or sort they may be, or by whatsoever names they may be known, deemed, called, or recognized, situate, lying, and being, issuing, growing, renewing, or arising, within the county, towns, fields, places, or hamlets aforesaid, or elsewhere wheresoever, to the aforesaid lands and other the premises, or to any parcel thereof, in any manner belonging; And also the reversion and reversions of all and singular the premises above by these presents before granted, and of every parcel thereof, dependent or expectant of, in, or upon any demise or grant for term or terms of life or lives or years, or otherwise, made of the premises above by these presents before granted, or of any parcel thereof, in any manner, being of record or not of record; And also all and singular the rents and yearly profits whatsoever, reserved upon whatsoever demises or grants of and upon the premises by these presents before granted, or of and upon any parcel thereof.

We have also given and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do give and grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, and to their successors for ever, that they and their successors henceforth for ever may have, hold, and enjoy, and may be

able and have power to have, hold, and enjoy, within the premises above by these presents before granted, and within every parcel thereof, as many, as great, such, the same, like, and similar rights, jurisdictions, liberties, franchises, customs, privileges, profits, commodities, advantages, emoluments, and hereditaments whatsoever, as, such as, and which, and as fully, freely, and wholly, and in as ample manner and form, as the aforesaid John, late Duke of Northumberland, or the aforesaid Provost and Fellows of the College of King James in Chelsey, near London, of the foundation of the same James, King of England, or any other person or persons ever heretofore having or possessing the aforesaid lands, tenements, and other the premises, with their appurtenances, or any parcel thereof, or being seised thereof, ever had, held, used, or enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, used, or enjoyed, in the premises above by these presents before granted or in any parcel thereof, by reason or pretext of any charter of gift, grant, or confirmation by Us or by any of Our progenitors or ancestors, late Kings or Queens of England, heretofore had, made, or granted, or confirmed, or by reason or pretext of any Act of Parliament or of any Acts of Parliaments, or by reason or pretext of any lawful prescription, use, or custom heretofore had or used, or otherwise, by whatsoever lawful means, right, or title; and as fully, freely, and wholly, and in as ample manner and form, as We or any of Our progenitors or ancestors, late Kings or Queens of England, had and enjoyed, or ought to have had and enjoyed, the aforesaid lands, tenements, and other the premises or any parcel thereof.

We give further, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors, do grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, and to their successors, all and singular the premises above by these presents before granted, with all their appurtenances, as fully, freely, and wholly, and in as ample manner and form, as all and singular those premises or any parcel thereof came or ought to have come to Our hands, or to the hands of any of Our progenitors or ancestors, late Kings or Queens of England, by reason or pretext of the dissolution or surrender of any late monastery, priory, or hospital, or by reason or pretext of any Act of

Parliament or of any Acts of Parliaments, or by reason of any attainder or forfeiture, or by reason of any exchange or purchase, or of any gift or grant, or by reason of escheat, or by whatsoever other lawful means, right, or title, and now are, or ought to be, in Our hands.

Tenure

To have, hold, and enjoy the aforesaid lands, tenements, and hereditaments, and all and singular other the premises above by these presents before granted, with all their appurtenances, to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, and to their successors for ever; To hold of Us, Our heirs, and successors, as of Our Manor of East Greenwich, in Our county of Kent, by fealty only, in free and common socage, and not in chief, nor by Knight service; And rendering yearly to Us, Our heirs, and successors of and for the aforesaid arable land called Teamshott twenty-three shillings and four pence, and of and for the aforesaid close of meadow called Stony Bridge Close twenty shillings, and of and for the aforesaid piece of arable land in the common field called East Field four shillings, of lawful money of England, at the feasts of Saint Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the Receipt of the Exchequer at Westminster for Us, Our heirs, and successors, or to the hands of the Bailiffs or Receivers of the premises for the time being, by equal portions yearly to be paid for ever.

Exonerations,  
acquittances, etc

And further, of Our more abundant special grace and of Our certain knowledge and mere motion, We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, and to their successors, that we, Our heirs, and successors henceforth for ever yearly and from time to time will discharge, acquit, and save harmless as well the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid and their successors, as the aforesaid lands, tenements, and other all and singular the premises above expressed and specified, and by these presents before granted, and every parcel thereof, with all their appurtenances, of and from all and all manner of corrodies, rents, fees, services, annuities, pensions, portions, and sums of money, and charges whatsoever from the premises or from any parcel thereof to Us, Our heirs, or successors issuing or to be paid, or thereupon towards Us, our heirs, or successors

charged or to be charged; except from the rents, services, and tenures above in these presents to Us, Our heirs, and successors reserved, and except from demises and grants of the premises or of any parcel thereof heretofore made, and the covenants and conditions being in the same, and the covenants and charges which any farmer or farmers of the premises by reason of his, her or their indentures and demises is or are bound to do and discharge.

We will also, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors, firmly enjoining, do command as well the Commissioners for Our Treasury, the Treasurer, Chamberlain, Under-Treasurer, and Barons of the Exchequer of Us, Our heirs, and successors for the time being, as all and singular Auditors and other officers and ministers of Us, Our heirs, and successors whomsoever for the time being, that they and each of them, upon the mere showing of these Our Letters Patent, or of the Enrolment of the same, without any other writ or warrant from Us, Our heirs, or successors in any manner to be sued out or prosecuted, shall make and from time to time shall cause to be made to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid and their successors full, whole, and due allowance and manifest discharge of and from all and all manner of such corrodies, rents, fees, pensions, portions, and sums of money, and charges whatsoever (except from the services, rents, tenures, and arrears of rent and other the premises in these presents reserved, as it is aforesaid, and by the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid and their successors payable, to be done, or to be performed) from the premises by these presents before granted, or from any part or parcel thereof, to Us, Our heirs, or successors issuing or to be paid, or thereupon towards Us, Our heirs, or successors charged or to be charged; And these Our Letters Patent, or the Enrolment of the same, shall be from time to time, as well to the said Commissioners for Our Treasury, the Treasurer, Chamberlain, and Barons of the Exchequer of Us, Our heirs, and successors, for the time being, as to all and singular Auditors and other officers and ministers of Us, Our heirs, and successors whomsoever for the time being, a sufficient warrant and discharge in this behalf.

And whereas we, by Our Letters Patent bearing date at Westminster, the twenty-second day of April, in the fifteenth year of Our reign, made to the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, among other things, granted to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors for ever, that if it shall happen that the President of the same Royal Society for the time being is detained by sickness or infirmity, or is employed in the service of Us, Our heirs, or successors, or is otherwise occupied, so that he or she cannot attend to the necessary affairs of the same Royal Society touching the office of President, that then and so often it may and shall be good and lawful to the same President, so being detained, employed, or occupied, to nominate and appoint one of the Council of the aforesaid Royal Society for the time being to be and become the Deputy of the same President; which same Deputy, so to be made and appointed in the office of Deputy of the President aforesaid, may and should be the Deputy of the same President from time to time, as often as it shall happen that the aforesaid President is so absent, during the whole time in which the aforesaid President shall continue in the office of President, unless in the meanwhile the aforesaid President of the Royal Society aforesaid for the time being shall have made and appointed one other of the aforesaid Council his or her Deputy; And that every such Deputy of the aforesaid President so to be made and appointed, as it is aforesaid, may be able and have power to do and execute all and singular things which pertain or ought to pertain to the office of President of the aforesaid Royal Society, or which are limited and appointed to be done and executed by the aforesaid President by virtue of those Our Letters Patent, from time to time, as often as it shall happen that the aforesaid President is so absent, during such time as the Deputy of the aforesaid President shall continue, by force of those Our Letters Patent, as fully, freely, and wholly, and in as ample manner and form, as the President aforesaid, if he or she were present, may be able and have power to do and execute the same; a corporal oath first to be taken upon the holy Gospels of God, in the form and effect in Our same Letters Patent specified, by such Deputy, well and faithfully to execute all and singular things which pertain to the office of President, before the aforesaid Council of the aforesaid Royal Society, or any

seven or more of them; and so as often as the case shall so happen; to which same Council, or to any seven or more of them, for the time being, We gave and granted, by Our same Letters Patent, power and authority to administer the oath aforesaid, as often as the case shall so happen, without procuring or obtaining a writ, commission, or further warrant in that behalf from Us, Our heirs, and successors; And that they and their successors, or any nine or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, or some other person nominated by the President for this purpose, to be always one), may lawfully be able to make and have assemblies and meetings of themselves for the examination and investigation of experiments and of natural things, and for other affairs belonging to the Society aforesaid, as often as and whenever it shall be needful, in a College or Hall or other convenient place within Our City of London, or in any other convenient place: And whereas divers and various matters, powers, liberties, and privileges granted in Our same Letters Patent to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, by virtue of those Our Letters Patent, are not to be exercised, done, performed, or executed, unless by the aforesaid President and Council, or any seven or more of them: And whereas further, by Our aforesaid Letters Patent, for Us, Our heirs, and successors We gave and granted to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors for ever, or to any twenty-one or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be always one), or to the major part of the aforesaid twenty-one or more, full power and authority from time to time to elect, nominate, and appoint one or more Typographers or Printers, and Chalcographers or Engravers, and to grant to him, her or them, by a writing sealed with the Common Seal of the aforesaid Royal Society, and signed by the hand of the President for the time being, faculty to print such things, matters, and affairs touching or concerning the aforesaid Royal Society as shall be committed to the aforesaid Typographer or Printer, Chalcographer or Engraver, or Typographers or Printers, Chalcographers or Engravers, from time to time, by the President and Council of the aforesaid Royal Society, or any seven or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his



or her Deputy, to be one), or by the major part of the aforesaid seven or more; their corporal oaths to be first taken, before they be admitted to exercise their offices, before the President and Council for the time being, or any seven or more of them; to which same President and Council, or to any seven or more of them for the time being, We gave and granted by Our aforesaid Letters Patent full power and authority to administer the oaths aforesaid; as in Our same Letters Patent, reference being had thereto, it is more fully shown and appears:

The President may appoint more than one Deputy

We, of Our more abundant special grace and of Our certain knowledge and mere motion, have given and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do give and grant, to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors forever, that from henceforth for ever if it shall happen that the President of the same Royal Society for the time being is detained by sickness or infirmity, or is employed in the service of Us, Our heirs, or successors, or is otherwise occupied, so that he or she cannot attend to the necessary affairs of the same Royal Society touching the office of President; that then and so often it may and shall be good and lawful to the same President, so being detained, employed, or occupied, to nominate and appoint one of the Council of the aforesaid Royal Society for the time being to be and become the Deputy of the same President; which same Deputy, so to be made and appointed in the office of Deputy of the President aforesaid, may and shall be the Deputy of the same President from time to time, as often as it shall happen that the aforesaid President is so absent, during the whole time in which the aforesaid President shall continue in the office of President, even though in the meanwhile the President of the Royal Society aforesaid for the time being shall have made and appointed one other or several others of the aforesaid Council his or her Deputy and Deputies; to which same President for the time being We give and grant by these presents for Us, our heirs, and successors power and authority to make and appoint two or more of the aforesaid Council his or her Deputies, at one and the same time, as often as it shall please him or her: And that every such Deputy and Deputies of the aforesaid President, so as it is aforesaid to be made and appointed, may be able and have power to do

Meetings to be held in any convenient place

Powers to be exercised by seven or more members of Council may in future be exercised by five or more members of Council

and execute all and singular things which pertain or ought to pertain to the office of President of the aforesaid Royal Society, or which are limited and appointed to be done and executed by the aforesaid President by virtue of Our aforesaid Letters Patent or of these presents, from time to time, as often as it shall happen that the aforesaid President is so absent, during such time as the Deputy and Deputies of the aforesaid President shall continue, by force of these Our Letters Patent, as fully, freely, and wholly, and in as ample manner and form, as the President aforesaid, if he or she were present, would be able and have power to do and execute the same; a corporal oath to be first taken upon the holy Gospels of God, in the form and effect in Our same Letters Patent specified, by such Deputy and Deputies, well and faithfully to execute all and singular things which pertain to the office of President, before the aforesaid Council of the aforesaid Royal Society, or any five or more of them; and so as often as the case shall so happen: to which same Council, or to any five or more of them for the time being, We give and grant by these presents power and authority to administer the oath aforesaid, as often as the case shall so happen, without procuring or obtaining a writ, commission, or further warrant in that behalf from Us, Our heirs, and successors:

And further, that henceforth for ever they and their successors, or any nine or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, or some other person nominated by the President for this purpose, to be always one), may be able lawfully to make and have assemblies or meetings of themselves for the examination and investigation of experiments and of natural things, and other affairs belonging to the Society aforesaid, as often as and whenever it shall be needful, in a College or Hall or other convenient place:

And further, that all and singular things, powers, liberties, and privileges in Our aforesaid Letters Patent granted to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid, by virtue of those Our Letters Patent, which are not to be exercised, done, performed, or executed save by the aforesaid President and Council, or any seven or more of them; henceforth for ever may and shall be able to be

exercised, done, performed, or executed by the aforesaid President and Council, or any five or more of them.

The right to appoint more than one printer

And further, of Our more abundant grace, We have given and granted, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and Successors do give and grant, to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the aforesaid Royal Society, and to their successors forever, that henceforth forever it may and shall be good and lawful to the President of the Royal Society aforesaid for the time being, from time to time, to elect, nominate, and appoint any Typographer or Printer, Typographers or Printers, and Chalcographer or Engraver, Chalcographers or Engravers, and to grant to him, her or them faculty to print such things, matters, and affairs touching or concerning the aforesaid Royal Society as shall be committed to the aforesaid Typographer or Printer, Chalcographer or Engraver, or Typographers or Printers, Chalcographers or Engravers, from time to time, by the President and Council of the aforesaid Royal Society, or any five or more of them (of whom We will the President for the time being, or his or her Deputy, to be one), or by the major part of the aforesaid five or more; their corporal oaths to be first taken, before they be admitted to exercise their offices, before the President and Council for the time being, or any five or more of them; and so as often as the case shall so happen: to which same President and Council for the time being, or to any five or more of them, We give and grant by these presents full power and authority to administer the oaths aforesaid.

General confirmatory Clauses

And further We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do grant to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society aforesaid and to their successors, that these Our Letters Patent, or the Enrolment of the same, shall stand and be in and by all things good, firm, valid, sufficient, and effectual in law, to all respects, purposes, constructions, and intents, towards and against Us, Our heirs, and successors, as well in all Our Courts as elsewhere within Our realm of England, without any confirmations, licences, or tolerations from Us, Our heirs, or successors in any manner hereafter to be procured or obtained:

The President and Deputy Presidents to take the Oath of Obedience and the Oath of Supremacy

Notwithstanding the badly naming or badly reciting, or not reciting, the aforesaid lands, tenements, and other the premises or any parcel thereof; And notwithstanding the not finding an office or inquisition of the premises or of any parcel thereof, whereby Our title ought to have been found before the making of these Our Letters Patent; And notwithstanding the badly reciting, or not reciting, any demise or grant made of the premises or of any parcel thereof, being of record or not of record; And notwithstanding the badly naming or not naming any town, hamlet, parish, place, or county in which the premises or any parcel thereof are or is; And notwithstanding that full, true, and certain mention is not made of the names of the tenants, farmers, or occupiers of the premises or of any parcel thereof; And notwithstanding any defects of the certainty, or computation, or declaration of the true yearly value of the premises or of any parcel thereof, or of the yearly rent reserved of and upon the premises, or of and upon any parcel thereof, in these Our Letters Patent expressed and contained; And notwithstanding the Statute made and enacted in the Parliament of the Lord Henry the Sixth, late King of England, Our progenitor, in the eighteenth year of His reign; And notwithstanding any other defects in not certainly naming the nature, kind, sort, quantity, or quality of the premises or of any parcel thereof; And notwithstanding the statute concerning the not putting of lands and tenements to mortmain, or any statute, act, ordinance, proclamation, provision, or restriction to the contrary thereof heretofore had, made, enacted, ordained, or provided, in anywise notwithstanding: Saving, nevertheless, to Andrew Cole, Esquire, and to all other persons whomsoever, other than Us, Our heirs, and successors, such right, claim, interest, and demand whatsoever, as he, she or they or anyone of them has or may have, or of right ought to have, of and in the premises or any part or parcel thereof.

And further We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors do ordain, and firmly enjoining do command, that the President of the Society aforesaid for the time being, and his or her Deputies, before he, she or any of them be admitted to the execution of that office, shall take, and each of them shall take, as well the corporal oath, commonly called the Oath of Allegiance, as the corporal oath, commonly called the Oath of Supremacy, upon the holy Gospels of

God, before the Council of the same Society, or any seven or more of them: to which same Council, or to any seven or more of them, We give and grant and by these presents, for Us, Our heirs, and successors, full power and authority to administer the oaths aforesaid from time to time, whensoever it shall be needful.

Provided always, and Our Royal will and intention is, that the lands and premises aforesaid granted by these presents, as it is aforesaid, or any of them, shall not be alienated or sold to any person or persons whomsoever; anything in these presents contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Although express mention of the true yearly value or of the certainty of the premises or of any of them, or of other gifts or grants before these times made by Us or by any of Our progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London, and to their successors, is not made in these presents; or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restriction to the contrary thereof heretofore had, made, enacted, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, in anywise notwithstanding.

In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent. Witness Ourselves, at Westminster, the eighth day of April, in the twenty-first year of Our reign.

By writ of Privy Seal.  
PIGOTT.

2. And further that the Council of the aforesaid Royal Society may by a resolution in that behalf passed at any meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the members of the Council present and voting (being an absolute majority of the whole number of the members of the Council) alter, amend, or add to the aforesaid Second and Third Charters and this Our Supplemental Charter and such alteration, amendment, or addition shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effectual so that the aforesaid Second and Third Charters and this Our Supplemental Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as though they had been originally granted and made accordingly. This provision shall apply to the said Royal Charters and this Our Supplemental Charter as altered, amended, or added to in manner aforesaid.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the \_\_\_\_\_ day of

in the \_\_\_\_\_ year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL