

**The Charter and Ordinances  
of  
The Worshipful Company of Plumbers.**

These have been copied from the leather bound book held in the Clerk's Office. This book contains at the beginning the inscription

*“The Leather Binding containing this copy of the  
Charter & Ordinances of the Worshipful Company of  
Plumbers was presented by Past master Alderman George  
John Wetton E.C.C at a meeting of the Court of Assistants  
held at Butchers Hall on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> July 1943”*

This leather bound book contains a copy of the Charter both in the original Latin and an English translation. This section is headed

*Plumbers Charter*

*12<sup>th</sup> April 9<sup>th</sup> James 1<sup>st</sup>*

*Copy and Translation*

The Latin pages have not been copied but can be seen in the Clerk's Office or on a DVD obtainable for the Clerk

The Ordinances have been copied in a separate document.

## **Plumbers Charter**

**1612**

JAMES by the grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith To all to whom our present Letters shall come Greeting Know ye that we at the humble petition of our beloved Subjects the Freemen of the Company of the Plumbers of London which said Company is and for a long time has been an ancient Company of our special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion have willed ordained constituted declared and granted and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do will ordain constitute declare and grant that all and singular the Freemen of the Company of the Plumbers of London aforesaid from henceforth for ever for the better ordering rule and government of the men of the Mystery and Company aforesaid and of all of those who now exercise and use or shall hereafter exercise and use the art or mystery of Plumbing or the materials works merchandizes or things whatsoever to the said Mystery relating and for the utility advantage and relief of the good and honest and for the terror and correction of the evil deceitful and dishonest may be and shall be by the force of these presents one body corporate and politic in deed fact and name by the name of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London and we for us our heirs and successors by these presents do erect create make ordain constitute and declare them one body corporate and politic in deed fact and name really and fully by the name of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London and that they by the same name may have succession for ever

**2 Name of Corporation** And that they and their successors by the name of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London be and shall be in all future times persons able and in Law capable to have purchase receive and possess manors messuages lands tenements liberties privileges jurisdictions and hereditaments whatsoever of what kind nature or species soever they may be to them and their successors in fee and perpetuity of for term of year or years or otherwise in any other manner and also goods and chattels and whatsoever other things of what name nature quality or species soever they may be and also to give grant demise alienate assign and dispose of the manors messuages lands tenements and hereditaments and by the name aforesaid to do and execute all and singular other deeds and things and that by the same name of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London they may and shall be able to plead and be impleaded to answer and be answered to defend and be defended in whatsoever Courts and places and before whatsoever Judges and Justices and other persons and officers of us and of our heirs and successors in all and singular actions pleas suits plaints causes matters and demands whatsoever of what kind quality species soever they may or shall be in the said manner and form as any of our Lieges of this our Realm of England persons able and capable in Law or any other body corporate and politic within our Realm of England can and may be able to have purchase receive possess enjoy retain give grant demise alienate assign and dispose of to plead and be impleaded to answer and be answered to defend and be defended to do and permit or execute

**3 A Common Seal** And that the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of

London aforesaid and their successors for ever may and shall have a Common Seal to serve for causes and business of themselves and of their heirs and successors whomsoever to be done and that it shall and may be lawful for the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid and their successors from time to time as it shall to them seem meet to break change and make anew the same Seal at their pleasure

**4 Nomination of Master Wardens** And further we will and by these presents do grant for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London and their successors that from henceforth for ever there may and shall be elected one person of the Commonalty of the Art or Mystery aforesaid in the form in these presents below mentioned who shall be and shall be nominated Master of the aforesaid Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London and also in like manner there may and shall be two persons of the Commonalty of the same Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid elected and nominated in the form below in these presents mentioned who shall be and shall be nominated Wardens of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid

**5 Appointment of Hall** And that it shall and may be lawful for the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid and their successors to have retain and appoint a certain Council House or Hall within our City of London aforesaid or the liberty of the same

**6 As to holding Courts** And that the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing aforesaid for the time being and their successors or six of them at the least ( of whom the aforesaid Master and Wardens we will always to be 3 or the Master and one of the Wardens for the time being to be two ) shall and may be able from time to time in all times to come as often as to them it shall seem fit and necessary to call and hold within the same House or Hall a certain Court or Convocation of the same Master Wardens and Commonalty or 6 of them at the least ( of whom we will the aforesaid Master and Wardens to be three or the Master and one of the Wardens for the time being to be two )

**7 As to making Ordinances** And in the same Court of Convocation they shall and may be able to treat confer consult advise and determine respecting the stated Articles and Ordinances touching and concerning the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty and the good rules state and government of the same according to their sound discretions

**8 As to Laws for Government of Society** And further we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London and their successors that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing aforesaid for the time being or 6 of them at the least ( of whom we will always that the Master and Wardens for the time being be 3 or the Master and one of the Wardens aforesaid be two ) assembled thereto upon public summons thereof to be made shall and may have full and absolute power and authority to frame constitute ordain and make from time to time whatsoever reasonable laws statutes ordinances

least ( of whom we will always that the aforesaid Master and Wardens for the time being be 3 or the Master and one of the Wardens aforesaid be two ) shall seem good wholesome useful honest and necessary according to their sound discretions for the good rule and governance of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing aforesaid and of all other persons the aforesaid Art of Mystery of Plumbing for the time being exercising using or in any manner occupying within our aforesaid City of London in the suburbs and precincts of the same and within 7 miles of the same City and for the declaration in what manner and order the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid and all and singular other persons for the time being using exercising or occupying the same Art or Mystery within the said City of London the suburbs and precincts of the same and within 7 miles of the same City shall demean bear and use themselves in their Offices Mystery and Arts for the more abundant public good and common weal of the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid and other things and causes whatsoever or in anywise concerning the Art or Mystery aforesaid

**9 As to Fines and penalties for infraction of Laws** And that the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or 6 of them at least ( of whom we will always that the Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being be 3 or the Master and one of the Wardens aforesaid be 2 ) so often as they shall make frame ordain or establish such laws rights statutes institutions ordinances and constitutions in the form aforesaid shall and may be able to make limit and provide such and the like pains punishments and penalties by corporal imprisonment or by fines and americiaments or by either of them against and upon all delinquents against such laws rights statutes institutions ordinances or any or either of them and which to the

same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or 6 of them at least ( of whom we will always that the Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being be 3 or the Master and one of the Wardens aforesaid be two ) shall seem most necessary proper and requisite for the observance of the same laws ordinances and constitutions

**10 Power to levy** And that the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing aforesaid for the time being or 6 of them at least ( of whom we will always that the Master and Wardens for the time being be 3 or the Master and one of the Wardens aforesaid be two ) shall and may be able to have and levy the same fines and amerçiements to the *[line missing]* of the Art or Mystery aforesaid and their successors without impediment of us our heirs or successors and without any account or any other thing therefore to be rendered or paid to us our heirs or successors All and singular which rights ordinances laws statutes and constitutions so as aforesaid to be made we will to be observed under the pains in the same contained

**11 Appointment of Abm Greene as 1<sup>st</sup> Master** And for the better execution of our will and grant in this behalf we have assigned nominated created constituted and made and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do assign nominate create constitute and make our beloved Abraham Green Citizen and Plumber of London and now our Serjeant Plumber to be the first and modern Master of the aforesaid Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London to continue in the same Office of Master of the Mystery aforesaid from the date of these presents until the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September now next ensuing if the same

Office of Master of the Mystery aforesaid in due manner shall be elected preferred and sworn according to the ordinances and provisions below in the presents expressed and declared

## **12 Appointment of J.Randoll and W. Trebicke as two 1<sup>st</sup> Wardens**

Also we have assigned nominated created constituted and made and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do assign nominate create constitute and make our beloved John Randoll and William Trebicke Citizens and Plumbers of London to be the 2 first and modern Wardens of the aforesaid Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London to continue in the aforesaid Office of Wardens of the aforesaid Mystery from the date of these presents until the aforesaid 21<sup>st</sup> day of September now next ensuing if the same John Randoll and William Trebicke so long shall live and from thence until two other freemen of the Mystery aforesaid in the Office of Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid shall be elected preferred and sworn according to the ordinances and provisions in these presents expressed and declared

## **13 Master and Wardens and those who have been with those of the Livery summoned by the Master and Wardens to elect Master and Wardens**

And further we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London and their successors that from time to time hereafter as often as any Master or any Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid shall be to be elected preferred and sworn the Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being and such person or persons of the same Mystery as has or have heretofore been Master or Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid and at that time shall be living and in full life or the

major part of them ( of whom we will that the Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being be 3 or the Master and one of the Wardens be two ) and such person or persons of the Livery aforesaid as by summons thereupon duly to be made shall be called and appointed thereunto by the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being and such persons of the same Mystery as heretofore have been as is aforesaid Master or Wardens of the same Mystery and at that time shall be living or the major part thereof ( of whom we will that the Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being be 3 as is premised or the Master and one of the Wardens be two ) shall and may have from time to time perpetually in all future times power and authority annually and every year for ever in and upon the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September ( unless it be the Lord's day and then the next day following ) to elect and nominate and that they shall and may be able to elect and nominate one of the Freemen of the Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid who shall be master of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid for one whole year then next ensuing and from thence until one other Freeman of the Commonalty of the aforesaid Mystery in that Office shall be elected preferred and sworn according to the Ordinances and provisions in these presents declared and expressed and that he who shall be elected and nominated to the Office of Master of the Art or Mystery aforesaid so as aforesaid before he be admitted to execute that Office shall take his corporal oath before the last Master his predecessor and the Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or two of them and so many persons as have been Master or Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid and at that time present rightfully well and faithfully to execute the same Office of Master of the Mystery aforesaid in all things touching that Office

**14 Election of Master annually** And that after such oath so taken as is premised he shall have and execute that Office for one whole year then next following and from thence until one other Freeman of the Commonalty of the Mystery of Plumbing aforesaid shall be elected and sworn into the Office of Master of the Mystery aforesaid according to the ordinances and provisions in these presents declared and expressed and two others of the Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid who shall be Wardens of the said Mystery for one whole year then next ensuing and thence until two other Freemen of the Art of Mystery aforesaid shall be elected preferred and sworn according to the ordinances and provisions in these presents declared and expressed

**15 Election of Wardens annually** And that they who to the Office of Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid so as aforesaid shall be elected shall and may be able and each shall and may be able to execute the Office of Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for one whole year then next ensuing and from thence until 2 other Freemen of the Art or Mystery aforesaid to the Office of Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid shall be elected nominated and sworn according to the ordinances and provisions in these presents declared and expressed their corporal oath being first taken before the Master of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being and the last Wardens their predecessors or two of them and such persons who have been Masters or Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid and at that time present to execute the Office of Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid well rightly and honestly in all touching the Office of Wardens aforesaid

**16 In case of death or removal of Master or Wardens power to elect for remainder of term** And further we will and by these presents for us

Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid and their successors that if the Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or one or any of them at any time hereafter within the year after he or they shall have been elected preferred and sworn to the Office of Master or to the Office of Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid so as is premised shall happen to die or be amoved from his or their office aforesaid ( which said Master and Wardens and each of them for bad conduct or any other reasonable cause we will to be amoved from time to time by the major part of the same Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being and such of the persons as before have been Masters or Wardens of the same Mystery and at that time shall be living and such person or persons of the Livery of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being as then shall be present ) That then and so often it shall and may be lawful for such and so many of the same Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid and such persons as before have been Masters or Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid and at that time living and such person or persons of the livery of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being as shall be present or the major part of the same ( of whom we will that the Master or either of the Wardens for the time being always to be one ) at a convenient time at their pleasure after the death or removal of the same Master or Wardens or either of them to elect nominate prefer and swear one other person to the Office of Master and one other or two others to the Office of Warden or Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid according to the ordinances and provisions in the presents above declared and expressed to execute and exercise the aforesaid Office of Master and the aforesaid Office or Offices of Warden or Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid until the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September next ensuing and from thence until one other Freeman of the Mystery aforesaid to the Office of Master of the same Mystery and two other Freemen of the Mystery aforesaid to the Office of Wardens of the same Mystery shall be elected nominated

and sworn according to the ordinances and provisions in these presents declared and expressed their corporal oath first being taken in form aforesaid and so as often as the case shall happen

**17 As to supervision of Freemen** And further of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for the better rule and governance of all persons of the Mystery and Company aforesaid and of all of those who now exercise and use or shall hereafter exercise and use the Art or Mystery of Plumbing or the materials works workings matters wares merchandizes or other things whatsoever touching or concerning the said Mystery within the said City of London and the suburbs and precincts of the same and in other places whatsoever without our same City of London and within 7 miles of the same ( *[is this bracket correct ?]* we have given and granted and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do give and grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London and their successors that the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid and their successors for the time being or two of them and such person or persons expert in the Mystery aforesaid as by the aforesaid Master and Wardens for the time being or two of them shall hereunto be called and appointed in all future times for ever may have make and exercise at all convenient times the supervision scrutiny correction and government of all and singular persons whomsoever for the time being Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Plumbing of the City aforesaid and of all and singular other persons using or exercising the Art or Mystery aforesaid or in any manner occupying the said Art or Mystery within our said City of London or the suburbs or precincts of the same or within 7 miles of the same City and of their servants and Apprentices

**18 As to supervision of weights and scales** And also the supervision scrutiny correction reformation emendation government the assaye the touch and the trial of all and singular workings works weights beams and scales lead solder materials wares matters merchandizes and of all things whatsoever the said Art or Mystery in any manner touching or concerning at the date of these presents or at any other time hereafter made or to be made worked or to be worked exposed or to be exposed for sale within our said City of London the suburbs and precincts of the same and within 7 miles of the same City and within all liberties franchises jurisdictions and places as well exempt as not exempt situate and being within our said City of London the suburbs and precincts of the same and within 7 miles of the same City

**19 Entry of premises for the purposes of scrutiny** And that it shall and may be lawful for the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being and their successors or two of them and such person or persons expert in the Mystery aforesaid as by the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or two of them who shall be hereunto called or appointed from time to time at all convenient times whensoever to them it shall seem expedient to enter into any house shop wharf repository office and other place and places whatsoever of any person or persons being Freemen of the said Mystery or using or exercising the aforesaid Mystery materials matters lead solder beams and scales wares merchandizes or things whatsoever the aforesaid Mystery in any way concerning within our said City of London the suburbs and precincts of the same and within 7 miles of the same City where any work workings reparations materials matters lead solder beams and scales wares merchandizes or other things concerning the Mystery aforesaid are or shall be worked made fabricated repaired deposited housed kept or used to enquire

scrutinize and survey whether the lead solder work workings reparations weights beams and scales aforesaid are or shall be well artistically scientifically and substantially made worked and fabricated And whether the materials matters lead solder beams scales wares merchandizes and things concerning the Mystery aforesaid be good lawful approved and in all things sufficient and true or not and if such materials matters lead solder beams and scales wares merchandizes and things or some or any of them by the same Master and Wardens for the time being or two of them for the time being and such person or persons expert in the Mystery aforesaid so as is premised by them hereunto to be called or appointed shall in and upon such scrutiny and supervision be or shall be found deceptive false insufficient unapproved or unlawful that then it may and shall be well lawful for the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being and their successors and such persons of the Mystery aforesaid by them hereunto called and appointed as aforesaid or any 4.3.or 2 of them ( of whom we will always that the Master or either of the Wardens for the time being be one ) to seize take and place in safe custody such materials matters lead solder wares merchandizes and things whatsoever from time to time so found deceptive false insufficient unapproved and unlawful there to remain until it shall be determined thereof according to the Laws of our Realm of England and according to the usage and custom of our City of London and according to the lawful ordinances by them or their successors made or to be made *[missing word]*

And further we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid and their successors that if in and upon such supervision and scrutiny any such works or workings or reparations shall be found badly inartistically negligently insufficiently or deceptively made finished or worked but *[?]* then and so often it shall and may be well lawful for the

aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or 2 of them and such person or persons expert in the Mystery aforesaid as aforesaid by them hereunto called and appointed from time to time to punish and chastise the delinquent and delinquents in that particular And to reform and correct or cause to be reformed and corrected all and singular such and the like works workings and reparations and each and every of them so wanting in skill inconveniently or insufficiently made fabricated or worked according to the laws of our Realm of England and to the usage and custom of our City of London and according to the Ordinances by them or their successors made or to be made

Provided always nevertheless that whereas John Broad Citizen and Goldsmith of London with great industry at his own costs and expenses has invented made contrived and composed a certain machine or certain machines or Mill or Mills and other instruments and means by which and with which the same John Broad his servants deputies and assigns have hitherto worked fabricated composed and managed and from time to time do work fabricate compose and manage certain lead in another manner than was hitherto used or accustomed if such lead so as aforesaid by the aforesaid John Broad his servants deputies or assigns during the natural life of the same John worked fabricated composed or executed or any materials matters or things employed or to be employed by the said John Broad his servants deputies or assigns during the life of him the said John in or about the fabrication or composition of such lead shall seem to the said Master and Wardens for the time being or two of them and such person or persons for the time being expert in the Mystery aforesaid who shall so as aforesaid by them hereunto called or appointed in and upon such supervision and scrutiny to be deceptive false insufficient unapproved or unlawful or if any work operations or repairs by the same Master and Wardens for the time being or two of them and such person or persons for the time being

being expert in the Mystery aforesaid as by them hereunto shall be called or appointed as is aforesaid in and upon such scrutiny and supervision shall be or be found to be made put prepared or worked badly or inartistically negligently insufficiently or deceptively by the aforesaid John Broad his servants workmen deputies or assigns with the said lead or solder during the natural life of the same John then on information shewing or complaint thereof to the Mayor and Aldermen of our said City of London for the time being in the Court commonly called the Court of Aldermen in the Guildhall of our said City then held or to be held truly and plausibly given and made by the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or two of them if the aforesaid Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being or the major part of them who shall for the time be present at that Court shall require the said John Broad to come before them at any certain day or days for this purpose to be appointed and thereupon the said John Broad being [?] if he chooses to be present shall adjudge the aforesaid lead so as aforesaid by the aforesaid John Broad his servants deputies workmen or assigns fabricated composed or executed to be false insufficient or unlawful or if they shall find ordain adjudge or decree any such work operation or repairs so as aforesaid by the aforesaid John Broad his servants workmen deputies or assigns with such lead made or worked to be badly inartistically negligently insufficiently or deceptively made finished or worked by their own proper experiment or knowledge or by any other reasonable probability ways means or modes that then it shall and may be well lawful for the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being and their successors or any two of them and such person or persons for the time being expert in the Mystery aforesaid by them shall be hereunto called or appointed as aforesaid by the assent and according to the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen for the time being of our said City of London or the major part of the same and not otherwise to seize take and carry away or to cause

to be seized and carried away the said lead ( so as aforesaid by them the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being or the major part of them adjudged to be deception false insufficient or unlawful ) from time to time during the natural life of the aforesaid John Broad and wheresover it may be found and to place the same in safe custody until it shall be determined according to the laws of England the customs of London or the ordinances by the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid made or to be made and by the like assent and advice as aforesaid and not otherwise to reform and correct or to make or cause to be reformed and corrected during the natural life only of the said John Broad all and singular such works workings and reparations and every and each of them so as aforesaid by the said Mayor and Aldermen of our said City of London for the time being adjudged to be inartistically badly inconveniently insufficiently or deceptively made fabricated put executed or worked by the aforesaid John Broad his servants workmen deputies or assigns And from time to time during the natural life of the same John Broad only to punish and chastise the same John Broad his servants deputies workmen assigns in that particular being delinquent or delinquents by fines or otherwise according to the Laws and Customs of our Realm of England or according to the usage and customs of our City of London aforesaid if the aforesaid Mayor and Aldermen for the time being or the major part of them shall thereto give their assent and advice as aforesaid Also we will that during the natural life only of the same John Broad the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery aforesaid for the time being or any of them shall not meddle in any things concerning the said John Broad his assigns deputies factors or servants in the said machine instrument or mill nor with any lead matter or material employed by him the said John Broad his assigns deputies factors or servants from time to time during the natural life of the same John Broad in their workings aforesaid otherwise or in any other any

manner than as aforesaid any thing in these presents to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding

And further we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery aforesaid and their successors that it neither be nor shall be lawful for any person or persons of the Art or Mystery aforesaid or in anywise using or exercising the Art or Mystery aforesaid or any other persons whomsoever at any future time to make compose work or expose for sale any solder or make amend or assize any leaden weights or use any such weights or solder within our aforesaid City of London the suburbs or precincts of the same or elsewhere within 3 miles of our same City of London unless such solder and weights and each and every of them be by the Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid and their successors for the time being or two of them first proved and tried whether such solder and weights so made composed amended or assized are good sufficient true and lawful according to the Laws of this our Realm of England and the Customs of our City of London or not and upon such proof and title all solder and every weight by the same Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or two of them found to be true and lawful by the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being or two of them from time to time shall be marked noted or impressed with the image impression or sign of St. Michael the Archangel before they be worked used or employed under such forfeiture and such pains and penalties to be inflicted on the delinquent or delinquents in the premises as in the Ordinances by the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being made or to be made are or shall be expressed and declared or in these presents for other offences and delinquencies are above expressed and declared

And further we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of our City of London aforesaid and their successors by virtue of these presents for the better working and operating in the aforesaid Art or Mystery of Plumbing for the good of us and all our Subjects Because the Art or Mystery of Plumbing aforesaid is a manual art that henceforth it be not nor shall be lawful for any person or persons whomsoever to set up use or exercise the Art or Mystery aforesaid or to work or make any works or workings in anywise touching or concerning the same Art or Mystery unless he or they shall have been previously educated in the same Art or Mystery as Apprentice or Apprentices for the space of seven years at least under pain of the displeasure of us our heirs and successors and further for his or their contempt in the premises to be chastised and punished according to the Laws of our Realm of England and the Customs of our City of London and the Ordinances by the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of our said City of London made or to be made Willing and by these presents strictly injoining charging and commanding all and singular Mayors Justices Sheriffs Bailiffs Constables and other Officers Ministers and Subjects of us our heirs and successors whomsoever that they aid assist and abet the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of our City of London aforesaid and every of them and their successors in doing having enjoying and executing all and singular the things by us to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty by these our Letters Patent before granted and every parcel thereof And further of our more abundant especial 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 Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid and their

successors special license and free and lawful power liberty and authority of having purchasing receiving and possessing to them and their successors for ever manors messuages lands tenements meadows feedings pastures woods underwoods rectories tithes rents reversions and other hereditaments whatsoever within our Realm of England or elsewhere soever as well from us our heirs and successors from any other person or persons whomsoever which are not holden immediately of us and our successors in capite nor by Knights services nor by socage in capite nor of any other person by Knight service so long as the same manors messuages lands tenements meadows feedings pastures woods underwoods rectories tithes rents reversions services and other hereditaments do not in the whole exceed the clear yearly value of £20 of lawful money of England beyond all charges and reprises the Statute concerning lands and tenements not to be put in mortmain nor any other Statute Act Ordinance or provision heretofore had made ordained or provided or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding and this without any Writ of ad quod damnum or any other Writ Inquisition or Warrant thereof to be sued had prosecuted or obtained therefore

And also we give and grant for us our heirs and successors to all and every the subjects of us our heirs and successors special license and free and lawful power liberty and authority that they or any of them lawfully and with impunity may and may be able to give grant sell bequeath or alienate manors messuages lands tenements meadows feedings pastures woods underwoods rectories tithes reversions services and other hereditaments whatsoever which are not holden immediately of us our heirs and successors in capite nor by Knights service or by socage in capite nor of any other person by Knight service to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid and their successors so that all and singular the aforesaid manors messuages

lands tenements meadows feedings pastures woods underwoods rectories tithes rents reversions and other hereditaments so to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery aforesaid and their successors to be given granted alienated or bequeathed do not in the whole exceed the said clear yearly values of £20 beyond all charges and reprises the aforesaid Statute concerning lands and tenements not to be put in mortmain or any other statute act ordinance or provision heretofore had made published or provided or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding

We will also and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid and their successors that they may and shall have these our Letters Patent under our Great Seal of England in due manner made and sealed without rendering making or paying therefore any fines or fee great or small to us in our hanaper [?] or elsewhere to our use albeit express mention of the true yearly value or of any other value or of the certainty of the premises or any of them or of other gifts or grants by us or by any of our progenitors or predecessors heretofore made to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbing of the City of London aforesaid in these presents be not made or any Statute Act Ordinance provision proclamation or restriction to the contrary thereof heretofore had made published 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 ourself at Westminster on the twelfth day of April in the ninth year of our Reign of England France and Ireland and of Scotland the forty fourth.

By Writ of Privy Seal