

The Third Virginia Charter

March 12, 1612

James, by the grace of God [King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith:] to all to whom [these pres-ents shall come,] greeting. Whereas at the humble suite of divers and sundry our lovinge subjects, aswell adventurers as planters of the First Colonie in Virginia, and for the propagacion of Christian religion and reclayminge of people barbarous to civilitie and humanitie, we have by our lettres patent bearing date at Westminster the three and twentieth daie of May in the seaventh yeare of our raigne of England, Franncce and Ireland, and the twoe and fortieth of Scotland, given and grannted unto them, that they and all suche and soe manie of our loving subjects as shold from time to time for ever after be joyned with them as planters or adventurers in the said plantacion, and their succes-sors for ever, shold be one body politique incorporated by the name of The Treasurer and Planters of the Cittie of London for the First Colonie in Virginia;

And whereas allsoe for the greater good and benefitt of the said Companie and for the better furnishing and establishing of the said plantacion we did further [give], grannte and con-firme by our said lettres patent unto the said Treasurer and Com-panie and their successors for ever, all those landes, contries and territories scituate, lyeing and being in that part of America called Virginia, from the point of land called Cape [or] Pointe Comfort all along the seacoste to the northward twoe hundred miles, and from the said point of Cape Comfort all along the seacoste to the southward twoe hundred miles, and all the space and circuit of land lying from the sea coste of the precinct afore-said up or into the land throughout from sea to sea, west and northwest, and allso all the islandes lying within one hundred miles along the coast of both the seas of the precinct aforesaid, with diverse other grannts, liberties, franchises, preheminences, privileges, profiitts, benefitts, and commodities, grannted in and by our said lettres patent to the said Tresorer and Companie, and their successors, for ever:

Now for asmuch as we are given to undestande that in these seas adjoining to the said coast of Virginia and without the com- passe of those twoe hundred miles by us soe grannted unto the said Treasurer and Companie as aforesaid, and yet not farr dis- tant from the said Colony in Virginia, there are or may be divers islandes lying desolate and uninhabited, some of which are al- ready made knowne and discovered by the industry, travell, and expences of the said Company, and others allsoe are sup-posed to be and remaine as yet unknowen and undiscovered, all and every of which itt maie importe the said Colony both in safety and pollecy of trade to populate and plant, in regard where of, aswell for the preventing of perill as for the better comodity and prosperity of the said Colony, they have bin hum-ble suitors unto us that we wold be pleased to grannt unto them an inlargement of our said former lettres patent, aswell for a more ample extent of their limitts and territories into the seas adjoining to and uppon the coast of Virginia as allsoe for some other matters and articles concerning the better government of the said Company and Collony, in which point our said former lettres patents doe not extende soe farre as time and experience hath found to be needfull and convenient:

We, therefore, tendring the good and happy successe of the said plantacion both in respect of the generall weale of humane society as in respect of the good of our owne estate and kinge- domes, and being willing to give furtherannt untoall good meanes that may advance the benefitt of the said Company and which maie secure the safety of our loving subjects, planted in our said Colony under the favour and proteccion of God Almighty and of our royall power and authority, have therefore of our especiall grace, certein knowledge and mere mocion, given, grannted and confirmed, and for us, our heires and successors we doe by theis presents, give, grannt and confirme unto the said Treasurer and Company of Adventurers and Planters of the said City of London for the First Colony in Virginia, and to their heires and successors for ever, all and singuler the said iselandes [whatsoever] scituat and being in anie part of the said ocean bordering upon the coast of our said First Colony in Vir-ginia and being within three hundred leagues of anie the partes hertofore grannted to the said Treasurer and Company in our said former lettres patents as aforesaid, and being within or be-tweene the one and fortie and thirty degrees of Northerly lati-tude, together with all and singuler [soils] landes, groundes, havens, ports, rivers, waters, fishinges, mines and mineralls, as-well royal mines of gold and silver as other mines and mineralls,

perles, precious stones, quarries, and all and singular other commodities, jurisdictions, royalties, privileges, franchises and pre-eminences, both within the said tract of land upon the maine and also within the said islandes and seas adjoining, whatsoever, and thereunto or thereabouts both by sea and land being or situated; and which, by our letters patents, we may or can grant and in as ample manner and sort as we or any our noble progenitors have heretofore granted to any person or persons or to any Company, body politique or corporate or to any adventurer or adventurers, undertaker or undertakers of any discoveries, plantations or traffique, of, in, or into any foreign parts whatsoever, and in as large and ample manner as if the same were herein particularly named, mentioned and expressed: provided always that the said islandes or any the premises herein mentioned and by this presents intended and meant to be granted be not already actually possessed or inhabited by any other Christian prince or estate, nor be within the bounds, limits or territories of the Northern Colonie, heretofore by us granted to be planted by divers of our loving subjects in the north partes of Virginia. To have and to hold, possess and enjoy all and singular the said islandes in the said ocean seas so lying and bordering upon the coast or coasts of the territories of the said First Colonie in Virginia as aforesaid, with all and singular the said soiles, landes and groundes and all and singular other the premises heretofore by this presents granted, or mentioned to be granted, to them, the said Treasurer and Company of Adventurers and Planters of the Cittie of London for the First Colonie in Virginia, and to their heires, successors and assigns for ever, to the sole and proper use and behoofe of them, the said Treasurer and Company and their heires, successors and assigns for ever; to be holden of us, our heires and successors as of our manor of Eastgreenwich, in free and common soccage and not in capite, yielding and paying therefore, to us, our heires and successors, the fift part of the oare of all gold and silver which shall be there gotten, had or obtained for all manner of services, whatsoever.

And further our will and pleasure is, and we doe by this presents grant and confirme for the good and welfare of the said plantation, and that posterity may hereafter knowe whoe have adventured and not bin sparing of their purses in such a noble and generous action for the generall good of their cuntry, and at the request and with the consent of the Company aforesaid, that our trusty and welbeloved subjects.

George, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury Gilbert, Earle of Shrewsbury Mary, Countesse of Shrewsbury Elizabeth, Countesse of Derby Margaret, Countesse of Comberland Henry, Earle of Huntingdon Edward, Earle of Bedford Lucy, Countesse of Bedford Marie, Countesse of Pembroke Richard, Earle of Clanrickard Lady Elizabeth Graie William, Lord Viscount Cromwell William, Lord Bishop of Durham Henry, Lord Bishop of Worcester John, Lord Bishop of Oxford William, Lord Pagett Dudley, Lord North Francis, Lord Norries William, Lord Knollis John, Lord Harrington Robert, Lord Spencer Edward, Lord Denny William, Lord Cavendish James, Lord Hay Elianor, Lady Cave [Carre] Maistres Elizabeth Scott, widow Edward Sackvill, Esquier Sir Henry Nevill, of Aburga-venny, Knight Sir Robert Riche, Knight Sir John Harrington, Knight Sir Raphe Wimwood, Knight Sir John Graie, Knight Sir Henry Riche, Knight Sir Henry Wotton, Knight Peregrine Berly, Esquier [Berty] Sir Edward Phelipps, Knight, Maister of the Rolls Sir Moile Finche, Knight Sir Thomas Mansell, Knight Sir John St. John, Knight Sir Richard Spencer, Knight Sir Francis Barrington, Knight Sir George Care of Devonshire, Knight Sir William Twisden, Knight Sir John Leveson, Knight Sir Thomas Walsingham, Knight Sir Edward Care, Knight Sir Arthur Manwaringe, Knight Sir Thomas Jermyn, Knight Sir Valentine Knightley, Knight Sir John Dodderidge, Knight Sir John Hungerford, Knight Sir John Stradling, Knight Sir John Bourchidd, Knight [Bourchier] Sir John Bennett, Knight Sir Samuel Leonard, Knight Sir Francis Goodwin, Knight Sir Wareham St. Legier, Knight Sir James Scudamore, Knight Sir Thomas Mildmay, Knight Sir Percivall Harte, Knight Sir Percivall Willoughby, Knight Sir Francis Leigh, Knight Sir Henry Goodere, Knight Sir John Cutt, Knight Sir James Parrett, Knight Sir William Craven, Knight Sir John Sammes, Knight Sir Carey Raleigh, Knight Sir William Maynard, Knight Sir Edmund Bowyer, Knight Sir William Cornwallis, Knight Sir Thomas Beomont, Knight Sir Thomas Cunningsby, Knight Sir Henry Beddingfield, Knight Sir David Murray, Knight Sir William Poole, Knight Sir William Throgmorton, Knight Sir Thomas Grantham, Knight Sir Thomas Stewkley, Knight Sir Edward Heron, Knight Sir Ralph Shelten, Knight Sir Lewes Thesam, Knight Sir Walter Aston, Knight Sir Thomas Denton, Knight Sir Ewstace Hart, Knight Sir John Ogle, Knight Sir Thomas Dale, Knight Sir William Boulstrod, Knight Sir William Fleetwood, Knight Sir John Acland, Knight Sir John Hanham, Knight Sir Robert Meller, Knight [Millor] Sir Thomas Wilford, Knight Sir William Lower, Knight Sir Thomas Lerdes, Knight [Leedes] Sir Francis Barneham, Knight Sir Walter

Chate, Knight Sir Thomas Tracy, Knight Sir Marmaduke Darrell, Knight Sir William Harrys, Knight Sir Thomas Gerrand, Knight Sir Peter Freetchvile, Knight Sir Richard Trevor, Knight Sir Amias Bamfeild Sir William Smith of Essex, Knight Sir Thomas Hewett, Knight Sir Richard Smith, Knight Sir John Heyward, Knight Sir Christopher Harris, Knight Sir John Pettus, Knight Sir William Strode, Knight Sir Thomas Harfleet, Knight Sir Walter Vaughan, Knight Sir William Herrick, Knight Sir Samuell Saltonstall, Knight Sir Richard Cooper, Knight Sir Henry Fane, Knight Sir Franncis Egiok, Knight Sir Robert Edolph, Knight Sir Arthure Harries, Knight Sir George Huntley, Knight Sir George Chute, Knight Sir Robert Leigh, Knight Sir Richard Lovelace, Knight Sir William Lovelace, Knight Sir Robert Yaxley, Knight Sir Franncis Wortley, Knight Sir Franncis Heiborne, Knight Sir Guy Palme, Knight Sir Richard Bingley, Knight Sir Ambrose Turvill, Knight Sir Nicholas Stoddard, Knight Sir William Gree, Knight Sir Walter Coverte, Knight Sir Thomas Eversfeild, Knight Sir Nicholas Parker, Knight Sir Edward Culpeper, Knight Sir William Ayliffe, Knight, and Sir John Keile, Knight Doctor George Mountaine, Dean of Westminster Lawrence Bohan, Docktor in Phisick Anthony Hinton, Doctor in Phisick John Pawlett Arthure Ingram Anthony Irby John Weld John Walter John Harris Anthony Dyott William Ravenscrofte Thomas Warre William Hackwill Lawrence Hide Nicholas Hide Thomas Stevens Franncis Tate Thomas Coventry John Hare Robert Askwith George Sandys Franncis Jones Thomas Wentworth Henry Cromewell John Arundell John Culpeper John Hoskins Walter Fitz Williams Walter Kirkham William Roscarrock Richard Carmerdon Edward Carne Thomas Merry Nicholas Lichfeild John Middleton John Smithe, and Thomas Smith, the sonnes of Sir Thomas Smith Peter Franke George Gerrand Gregory Sprynte John Drake Roger Puleston Oliver Nicholas Richard Nunnington [Monyngton] John Vaughan John Evelin Lamorock Stradling John Riddall John Kettleby Warren Townsend Lionell Cranfeild Edward Salter William Litton Humfrey May George Thorpe Henry Sandys, and Edwin Sandys, the sonnes of Sir Edwin Sandys Thomas Conway Captaine Owen Gwinn Captaine Giles Hawkridge Edward Dyer Richard Connock Benjamin Brand Richard Leigh, and Thomas Pelham, Esquiers Thomas Digges, and John Digges, Esquiers, the sonnes of Sir Dudley Diggs, Franncis Bradley Richard Buckminster [Buck] Franncis Burley John Procter Thomas Frake, thelder, and Henry Freake, thelder, Minis-ters of God's word The mayor and citizens of Chi-chester The mayor and jurates of Dover The bailiffs, burgesses and com-onalty of Ipswich The mayor and comunalty of Lyme Regis The mayor and comonalty of Sandwich The wardens, assistants and companie of the Trinity House Thomas Martin Franncis Smaleman Augustine Steward Richard Tomlins Humfrey Jobson John Legate Robert Backley [Barkley] John Crowe Edward Backley [Barkley] William Flett [Fleet] Henry Wolstenholme Edmund Alleyn George Tucker Franncis Glanville Thomas Gouge John Evelin William Hall John Smithe George Samms John Robinson William Tucker John Wolstenholme, and Henry Wolstenholme, sonnes of John Wolstenholme, Esquier William Hodges Jonathan Mattall [Nuttall] Phinees Pett Captaine John Kinge Captaine William Beck Giles Alington Franncis Heiton, and Samuell Holliland, gentleman Richard Chamberlaine George Chamberlaine Hewett Staper Humfrey Handford Raph Freeman George Twinhoe [Swinhoe] Richard Pigott Elias Roberts Roger Harris Devereux Wogan Edward Baber William Greenewell Thomas Stilles Nicholas Hooker Robert Garsett Thomas Cordell William Bright John Reynold Peter Bartley John Willett Humfry Smithe Roger Dye Nicholas Leate Thomas Wale Lewes Tate Humfrey Merrett Roberte Peake Powell Isaackson Sebastian Viccars Jarvis Mundes Richard Wamer Gresham Hogan Warner Daniell Deruley Andrew Troughton William Barrett Thomas Hodges John Downes Richard Harper Thomas Foxall William Haselden James Harrison William Burrell John Hodsall Richard Fisborne John Miller Edward Cooke Richard Hall, marchaunt Richard Hall, ankersmith John Delbridge Richard Francklin Edmund Scott John Britten Robert Stratt Edmund Pond Edward James Robert Bell Richard Herne William Ferrers William Millett Anthony Abdy Roberte Gore Benjamin Decrow Henry Tunbedey [Timberly] Humfrey Basse Abraham Speckart Richard Moorer William Compton Richard Poulsoune [Pontsonne] William Wolaston John Desmont, clothier [Beomont] Alexannder Childe William Fald, fishmonger Franncis Baldwin John Jones, marchant Thomas Plomer Edward Plomer, marchants John Stoickden Robert Tindall Peter Erundell Ruben Bourne Thomas Hampton, and Franncis Carter, citizens of Lon-don,

whoe since our said last lettres patent are become adventurers and have joined themselves with the former adventurers and planters of the said Companie and societie, shall from hence-forth be reputed, deemed and taken to be and shalbe brethren and free members of the Companie and shall and maie, respect-ively, and according to the proportion and value of their severall adventures, have, hold and enjoie all suche interest, right, title, priviledges, preheminences, liberties, franchises, immunities, profits and commodities whatsoever in as lardge, ample and beneficiall manner to all intents, construccions and

purposes as anie other adventures nominated and expressed in anie our former lettres patent, or anie of them have or maie have by force and vertue of theis presents, or anie our former lettres patent whatsoever.

And we are further pleased and we doe by theis presents grannt and confirm that Phillipp, Earle of Montgomery William, Lord Paget Sir John Harrington, Knight Sir William Cavendish, Knight Sir John Sammes, Knight Sir Samuel Sandys, Knight Sir Thomas Freke, Knight Sir William St. John, Knight Sir Richard Grobham, Knight Sir Thomas Dale, Knight Sir Cavalliero Maycott, Knight Richard Martin, Esquier John Bingley, Esquier Thomas Watson, Esquier, and Arthure Ingram, Esquier,

whome the said Treasurer and Companie have, since the said [last] lettres patent, nominated and sett downe as worthy and discreete persons fitt to serve us as Counsellors, to be of our Counsell for the said plantacion, shalbe reputed, deemed and taken as persons of our said Councell for the said First Colonie in such manner and sort to all intents and purposes as those whoe have bin formerly ellected and nominated as our Counsellors for that Colonie and whose names have bin or are incerted and expressed in our said former lettres patent.

And we doe hereby ordaine and grannt by theis presents that the said Treasurer and Companie of Adventurers and Planters, aforesaid, shall and maie, once everie weeke or oftener at their pleasure, hold and keepe a court and assembly for the better ordening [ordering] and government of the said plantacion and such thinges as shall concerne the same; and that anie five persons of the said Counsell for the said First Collonie in Virginia, for the time being, of which Companie the Treasurer or his deputie allwaies to be one, and the number of fifteene others at the least of the generality of the said Companie assembled together in such court or assembly in such manner as is and hath bin heretofore used and accustomed, shalbe said, taken, held and reputed to be and shalbe a full and sufficient court of the said Companie for the handling, ordning and dispatching of all such casual and particuler occurrences and accidentall mat-ters of lesse consequence and waight, as shall from time to time happen, touching and concerning the said plantacion.

And that, nevertheles, for the handling, ordning and disposing of matters and affaires of great waight and importance and such as shall or maie in anie sort concerne the weale publike and generall good of the said Companie and plantacion as namely, the manner of government from time to time to be used, the ordning and disposing of the said possessions and the settling and establish-ing of a trade there, or such like, there shalbe held and kept everie yeare uppon the last Wednesdaie save one of Hillary, Easter, Trinity and Michaelmas termes, for ever, one great, generall and solemne assembly, which fower severall assemblies shalbe stiled and called The Fower Great and Generall Courts of the Counsell and Companie of Adventurers for Virginia; in all and every of which said great and generall Courts soe assem-bled our will and pleasure is and we doe, for us, our heires and successors forever, give and grannt to the said Treasurer and Companie and their successors for ever by theis presents, that they, the said Treasurer and Companie or the greater number of them soe assembled, shall and maie have full power and authoritie from time to time and att all times hereafter to ellect and choose discreet persons to be of our [said] Counsell for the said First Colonie in Virginia and to nominate and appoint such officers as theie shall thinke fitt and requisit for the government, managing, ordning and dispatching of the affaires of the said Companie; and shall likewise have full power and authority to ordaine and make such lawes and ordinances for the good and welfare of the said plantacion as to them from time to time shalbe thought requisite and meete: soe allwaies as the same be not contrary to the lawes and statutes of this our realme of England; and shall in like manner have power and authority to expulse, disfranchise and putt out of and from their said Companie and societie for ever all and everie such person and persons as having either promised or subscribed their names to become adventurers to the said plantacion of the said First Colonie in Virginia, or having bin nominated for adventurers in theis or anie our lettres patent or having bin otherwise admitted and nominated to be of the said Companie, have nevertheles either not putt in anie adventure [at] all for and towards the said plantacion or els have refused and neglected, or shall refuse and neglect, to bringe in his or their adventure by word or writing promised within sixe monthes after the same shalbe soe payable and due.

And whereas the failing and nonpayment of such monies as have bin promised in adventure for the advancement of the said plantacion hath bin often by experience found to be dann-gerous and prejudiciall to the same and much to have hindred the progresse and proceeding of the said plantacion; and for that itt seemeth to us a thing reasonable that such persons as by their handwriting have engaged themselves for the payment of their adventures, and afterwards neglecting their faith and promise, shold be compellable to make good and kepe the same; therefore our will and pleasure is that in anie suite or suites comenced or to be comenced in anie of our courts att Westminster, or els- where, by the said Treasurer and Companie or otherwise against anie such persons, that our judges for the time being both in our Court of Chancerie and at the common lawe doe favour and further the said suits soe farre forth as law and equitie will in anie wise suffer and permitt.

And we doe, for us, our heires and successors, further give and grannt to the said Tresorer and Companie, and their successors for ever, that theie, the said Tresorer and Companie or the greater part of them for the time being, so in a full and generall court assembled as aforesaid shall and maie, from time to time and att all times hereafter, for ever, ellect, choose and permitt into their Company and society anie person or persons, as well straungers and aliens borne in anie part beyond the seas where-soever, being in amity with us, as our naturall liedge subjects borne in anie our realmes and dominions; and that all such per-sons soe elected, chosen and admitted to be of the said Companie as aforesaid shall thereuppon be taken, reputed and held and shalbe free members of the said Companie and shall have, hold and enjoie all and singuler freedoms, liberties, franchises, privi-ledges, immunities, benefitts, profitts and commodities, whatso-ever, to the said Companie in anie sort belonging or appertaining as fully, freely [and] amplie as anie other adventurer or ad-venturers now being, or which hereafter att anie time shalbe, of the said Companie, hath, have, shall, maie, might or ought to have or enjoy the same to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

And we doe further of our speciall grace, certaine knowledge and mere mocion, for us, our heires and successors, give and grannt to the said Tresorer and Companie and their successors, for ever by theis present, that itt shalbe lawfull and free for them and their assignes att all and everie time and times hereafter, out of anie our realmes and dominions whatsoever, to take, lead, carry and transport in and into the said voyage and for and towards the said plantacion of our said First Collonie in Virginia, all such and soe manie of our loving subjects or anie other straungers that will become our loving subjects and live under our allegiance as shall willingly accompanie them in the said voyage and plantacion; with shipping, armour, weapons, ordinannce, munition, powder, shott, victualls, and all manner of merchandizes and wares, and all manner of clothing, imple-ment, furniture, beasts, cattell, horses, mares, and all other thinges necessarie for the said plantacion and for their use and defence, and for trade with the people there and in passing and retourning to and froe, without paying or yealding anie subside, custome or imposition, either inward or outward, or anie other dutie to us, our heires or successors, for the same, for the space of seven yeares from the date of theis present.

And we doe further, for us, our heires and successors, give and grannt to the said Treasurer and Companie and their suc-cessors for ever, by theis present, that the said Treasurer of the said Companie, or his deputie for the time being or anie twoe others of our said Counsell for the said First Colonie in Virginia for the time being, shall and maie attall times hereafter and from time to time, have full power and authoritie to minister and give the oath and oathes of supremacie and allegiannce, or either of them, to all and every person and persons which shall, at anie time and times hereafter, goe or passe to the said Colonie in Virginia:

And further, that itt shalbe likewise lawfull for the said Tresorer, or his deputy for the time, or anie twoe others of our said Counsell for the said First Colonie in Virginia, for the time being, from time to time and att all times hereafter, to minister such a formall oathe as by their discrecion shalbe reasonably devised, aswell unto anie person or persons employed or to be employed in, for, or touching the said plantacion for their honest, faithfull and just dischardge of their service in all such matters as shalbe committed unto them for the good and benefitt of the said Company, Colonie and plantacion; as alsoe unto such other person or persons as the said Treasurer or his deputie, with twoe others of the said Counsell, shall thinke meete for the examina-cion or clearing of the truth in anie cause whatsoever con-cerninge the said plantacion or anie business from thence proceeding or there unto proceeding or thereunto belonging.

And, furthermore, whereas we have ben certiefed that diverse lewde and ill disposed persons, both sailors, souldiers, artificers, husbandmen, laborers, and others, having received wages, ap-parrell or other entertainment from the said Company or having contracted and agreed with the said Companie to goe, to serve, or to be employed in the said plantacion of the said First Colonie in Virginia, have afterwards either withdrawen, hid or concealed themselves, or have refused to goe thither after they have bin soe entertained and agreed withall; and that divers and sundry persons also which have bin sent and employed in the said plantacion of the said First Colonie in Virginia at and upon the chardge of the said Companie, and having there misbehaved themselves by mutinies, sedition, and other notorious misdemeanors, or having bin employed or sent abroad by the governor of Virginia or his deputie with some ship or pinnace for provi-sions for the said Colonie, or for some discoverie or other buisines and affaires concerning the same, have from thence most trecherouslie either come back againe and returned into our realme of England by stelth or without licence of our Gov-ernor of our said Colonie in Virginia for the time being, or have bin sent hither as misdoers and offenders; and that manie alsoe of those persons after their retourne from thence, having bin questioned by our said Counsell here for such their misbehaviors and offences, by their insolent and contemptuous carriage in the presence of our said Counsaile, have shewed little respect and reverence, either to the place or authoritie in which we have placed and appointed them; and others, for the colouring of their lewdnes and misdemeanors committed in Virginia, have endeavored them by most vile and slanndrous reports made and divulged, aswell of the cuntrie of Virginia as alsoe of the government and estate of the said plantacion and Colonie, as much as in them laie, to bring the said voyage and plantacion into disgrace and contempt; by meanes where of not only the adventures and planters already engaged in the said plantacion have bin exceedingly abused and hindred, and a greate number of other our loving and welldisposed subjects otherwise well affected and inclyning to joine and adventure insoe noble, Christian and worthie an action have bin discouraged from the same, but alsoe the utter overthrow and ruine of the said enterprise hath bin greatlie indangered which cannott miscarrie without some dishonor to us and our kingdome;

Now, for asmuch as it appeareth unto us that theis insolences, misdemeanors and abuses, not to be tollerated in anie civill government, have for the most part growne and proceeded in-regard of our Counsaile have not anie direct power and authoritie by anie expresse wordes in our former lettres patent to correct and chastise such offenders, we therefore, for the more speedy reformation of soe greate and enormous abuses and misdemeanors heretofore practised and committed, and for the preventing of the like hereafter, doe by theis present for us, our heires and successors, give and grannt to the said Treasurer and Companie, and their successors for ever, that itt shall and maie be lawfull for our said Councell for the said First Colonie in Virginia or anie twoe of them, whereof the said Tresorer or his deputie for the time being to be allwaies one by warrant under their handes to send for, or cause to be apprehended, all and every such person and persons who shalbe noted or accused or found, att anie time or times here after, to offend or misbehave themselves in anie the offences before mencioned and expressed; and upon the examinacion of anie such offender or offenders and just prooffe made by oath taken before the Counsaile of anie such notorious misdemeanors by them committed as aforesaid; and alsoe upon anie insolent, contemptuous or unreverent carriage and misbehavior to or against our said Counsell shewed or used by anie such person or persons soe called, convented and appear-ing before them as aforesaid; that in all such cases theie, our said Counsell or anie twoe of them for the time being, shall and maie have full power and authoritie either here tO binde them over with good suerties for their good behaviour and further therein to proceed to all intents and purposes, as itt is used in other like cases within our realme of England; or ells att their discrecion to remannd and send back the said offenders or anie of them unto the said Colonie in Virginia, there to be proceeded against and punished as the Governor, deputie and Counsell there for the time being shall thinke meete; or other- wise, according to such lawes and ordinannces as are or shalbe in use there for the well ordring and good government of the said Colonie.

And, for the more effectuall advanncing of the said plantacion, we doe further, for us, our heires and successors, of our especiall grace and favour, by vertue of our prorogative royall and by the assent and consent of the Lordes and others of our Privie Coun-salle, give and grannte unto the said Tresorer and Companie full power and authoritie, free leave, libertie and licence to sett forth, erect and publishe one or more lotterie or lotteries to have continuance and to [endure] and be held for the space of one whole yeare next after the opening of the same, and after the end and expiracion of the said terme the said

lotterie or lotteries to continue and be further kept, during our will and pleasure onely and not otherwise. And yet, nevertheles, we are contented and pleased, for the good and wellfare of the said plantacion, that the said Tresorer and Companie shall, for the dispatch and finishing of the said lotterie or lotteries, have six months warn-inge after the said yeare ended before our will and pleasure shall, for and on that behalfe, be construed, deemed and adjudged to be in anie wise altered and determined.

And our further will and pleasure is that the said lottery or lottaries shall and maie be opened and held within our cittie of London or in anie other cittie or citties, or ellswheare within this our realme of England, with such prises, articles, condicions and limitacions as to them, the said Tresorer and Companie, in their discreascions shall seeme convenient.

And that itt shall and may be lawfull to and for the said Tresorer and Companie to ellect and choose receivors, auditors, surveyors, comissioners, or anie other officers whatsoever, att their will and pleasure for the better marshalling and guiding and governing of the said lottarie or lottaries; and that itt shalbe likewise lawfull to and for the said Tresorer and anie twoe of the said Counsell to minister unto all and everie such persons soe ellected and chosen for officers as aforesaid one or more oathes for their good behaviour, just and true dealing in and about the lottarie or lottaries to the intent and purpose that none of our loving subjects, putting in their monies or otherwise adventuring in the said generall lotterie or lottaries, maie be in anie wise defrauded and deceived of their said monies or evill and in-directlie dealt withall in their said adventures.

And we further grannt in manner and forme aforesaid, that itt shall and maie be lawfull to and for the said Treasurer and Companie, under the seale of our Counsell for the plantacion, to publishe or to cause and procure to be published by proclama-cion or otherwise, the said proclamacion to be made in their name by vertue of theise present, the said lottarie or lotteries in all citties, townes, boroughs, throughfares and other places within our said realme of England; and we will and commande all mayors, justices of peace, sheriffs, bayliffs, constables and other our officers and loving subjects whatsoever, that in noe wise theie hinder or delaie the progresse and proceeding of the said lottarie or lottaries but be therein and, touching the premisses, aiding and assisting by all honest, good and lawfull meanes and endeavours.

And further our will and pleasure is that in all questions and dobts that shall arise upon anie difficultie of construccion or interpretacion of anie thing conteined in theis or anie other our former lettres patent the same shalbe taken and interpreted in most ample and beneficiall manner for the said Tresorer and Companie and their successors and everie member there of.

And lastly we doe by theis present retifie and confirme unto the said Treasurer and Companie, and their successors for ever, all and all manner of priviledges, franchises, liberties, immuni- ties, preheminences, profitts and commodities whatsoever grannted unto them in anie our [former] lettres patent and not in theis present revoked, altered, channged or abridged. Although ex-presses mencion [of the true yearly value or certainty of the pre-mises, or any of them, or of any other gift or grant, by us or any of our progenitors or predecessors, to the aforesaid Tresurer and Company heretofore made, in these Presents is not made; or any statute, act, ordinance, provisions, proclamation, or restraint, to the contrary thereof heretofore made, ordained, or provided, or any other matter, cause, or thing, whatsoever, to the contrary, in any wise, notwithstanding.]

In witnes whereof [we have caused these our letters to be made patents.] Wittnes our selfe att Westminster, the twelveth daie of March [1612] [in the ninth year of our reign of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland the five and fortieth.]