



## The Providential History of America/Virginia

Pictured to the left is the site of the First Landing and the planting of the Cross. The 104 English colonists and Rev. Robert Hunt walked up the 200 foot dune and planted there a 12 foot English oak cross, on April 29, 1607.

### Robert Hunt's Prayer of Dedication 1607

"We do hereby dedicate this land and ourselves, to reach the people within these shores with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to raise up Godly generations after us, and with these generations take the Kingdom of God to all the earth. May this covenant of dedication remain to all generations as long as this earth remains and may this land along with England be evangelists to the whole world. May all who see this cross remember what we have done here and may those who come here to inhabit join us in this covenant and in this most noble work that the Holy Scriptures may be fulfilled." Reverend Robert Hunt

### The First Permanent English Settlement—Jamestown in the Virginia Colony

For several generations, most Americans have been taught an incorrect history of our nation's founding. It is well past time that we spend time studying primary source documents so we can proclaim with confidence the true account our nation's beginnings. We have a story of liberty in law, and a love of freedom enjoyed in our United States of America. That story actually has its beginnings with the work of God in the Great Reformation in Europe and the English Protestant Reformation.

As the story of Jamestown unfolds on April 26, it begins with the arrival of three ships on the Atlantic coast of the Virginia Colony. The Susan Constant, the Godspeed, and the Discovery carried 104 English settlers, and Rev. Robert Hunt. After arriving, the men explored the shoreline and were attacked by Indians. Two were shot and injured by arrows but they all returned to the ship until April 29, when they offered their dedication service and planted the cross on the dune.

### The United States of America's Providential Preparation

The early explorers that we examine all proclaimed a purpose of carrying the Gospel to unknown parts of the earth. As early as Brenden of Ireland in 555 A.D., who wrote, *The Land God Promised to His Saints*, he encouraged others to follow in this purpose of vision in seeking the New World.

1215 A.D. The Magna Carta was forcibly signed by King John, King of England. His nobles, understanding liberty in law, forced King John to sign the charter at Runny Meade, a meadow outside of Windsor, England. The Magna Carta was written by Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury. He was a political thinker as well as a churchman. Langton also discovered in God's Word that the government should be in the hands of the people, liberty in law.

John Wycliffe who lived from 1328-1384, was a Catholic priest, and became known as the "Morning Star of the Reformation." Wycliffe is quoted as stating that the people need to have the Word of God in their own language. He translated the Bible into Middle English, the language of the common people. Wycliffe accomplished this work, during a time when the Bible was chained to the pulpit and not available to be read by anyone else but the ordained priests. It was thought then that the Bible had to be interpreted for people by priests since the Church believed that people were not capable of understanding the Bible for themselves. In 1384, Wycliffe first penned the phrase, "The Bible is for a government of the people, by the people, and for the people." Many of the early reformers down through the centuries agreed with Wycliffe.



On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses/Statements to the church door at Wittenburg, Germany, which caused the idea of reformation to spread throughout Europe. Martin Luther is credited with the start of the Reformation movement. Luther wrote many hymns of the church which are still enjoyed in churches today. He was a great Protestant theologian. Luther's example as a devoted husband and father as well as a tremendous supporter of Christian education has been an example to the Christian family.



Explorer, Jacques Cartier, on his 2<sup>nd</sup> voyage exploring the St. Lawrence River, in 1535, dedicated his account to Francis I, the French King. An anonymous reporter contributed this quote to the King: "God in His Divine Goodness has so designed human history that the spirit of Christianity move from east to west as the Sun does." The westward move of Christianity continually found root in the cultures of Europe. Each nation of peoples on the continent of Europe, Eastern Europe, and what we now know as The United Kingdom rose to prominence in their culture and Christian faith as Christianity was embraced. The western world became known as Christendom, Christ's Kingdom or the Kingdom of Christ.

Many English Protestant commentators of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries agreed that North America had been held secret by God until the English Protestant explorers and settlers could bring the Reformed Protestant Gospel westward to the New World and to the people groups who were yet untouched with the Gospel of Christ. The importance of how Christianity was embraced by the West did not just find itself in the evangelism of the Church but in the view of Civil government as well. The reformers all agreed that God established the civil sphere as well as the ecclesiastical or church sphere. The phrase was adopted "all is sacred but sin." The people did not see a difference between the sacred and the secular.

Henry VIII, King of England, broke with Roman rule over the English Church in 1534. This act initiated the English Protestant Reformation. Henry VIII declared himself Head of the Church of England. Still today the Monarch of England is the Head of the Church of England.

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, there was an expansion of exploration where ship captains placed a cross for God and country on both coasts of North America. These expeditions included the Islands of the Atlantic and The Caribbean.

The reign of Elizabeth I is known as the Golden Age of England. English culture was saturated with Reformation theology, known as the English Protestant Reformation. At this time, the English people were newly made

Most of us have taken note of what is happening in the news regarding the history of America, examples such as The 1619 Project and the treatment of the Indian nations. I wanted to address these examples in our history. The 1619 Project as a publication is a complete work of fiction. I will direct you to Gary Porter's lecture from April 2022, in the Lessons in Liberty series for a superb explanation of the fallacies of the logic and facts of The 1619 Project.

What I would like to share here is the primary source document findings when researching the 17<sup>th</sup> century Virginia Colony from the Virginia Company records.

During the 16<sup>th</sup> century and the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Africans, both men and women, were being forcibly removed from their native land aided by tribal leaders of their own people. The Portuguese and the Muslims from the Middle East coordinated this effort. In 1619, the ship The White Lion landed at Fort Comfort, in what is now Hampton, VA, with "20 and odd Angolans." It is believed that there were probably 27. They had been taken from a Portuguese ship that had intended to take them to Mexico to be sold as slaves. Upon arrival, the Angolans were traded for the supplies needed by the ship captain and placed in indenture. Indenture was a centuries old practice in England and there were many white indentured servants in the Virginia Colony including the Jamestown Settlement at that time. There were no English laws codified in England or in the Virginia Colony governing slavery as slavery was not lawful. Laws governing slavery, were not codified into English/Virginia Colony law until 1662 under Charles II. Charles II chartered the Royal Africa Company in order to develop England's trade in Africa with many products, and that included the slave trade. The King held a monopoly on this until the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

In the Virginia Colony there were indentured servants who paid off their contract early through hard work and conserving their funds. An example is John Gowen who arrived in Virginia in 1619. He paid his contract early and soon afterward married an Englishwoman, Margaret Cornish. There is no information based on the historic record to support racism of that day. Many bi-racial marriages are recorded between the English and both the African population as well as among the local Indians. The Virginia colonists required only that the two people entering into marriage in the Virginia Colony were both Christians.

A couple of years later, Anthony Johnson, another Angolan man, was brought to Virginia as an indentured servant. After serving out his indenture, Anthony purchased property and became a successful and wealthy Virginia farmer. Anthony Johnson's nationality offered no limits to his later accomplishments. As a plantation owner, Johnson, had his own group of indentured servants to work his fields and crops. One of his indentured workers was John Casor, an African-born man. Casor worked out his contract, but Anthony Johnson would not recognize Casor's right to freedom. Casor took his case to court and a judge ruled in favor of Casor. Casor indentured himself to another planter, and Johnson went back to court and won the case to have Casor made his servant for life. This historic account of Casor is from court cases as England did not have institutionalized slavery. The Virginia Colony was not The United States of America yet. These colonists were Englishmen and English subjects, who were subject to the laws and enjoyed the rights and responsibilities of the English crown.

This concludes our introduction to the Providential history of Virginia/America for today. Tomorrow there will be so much more to experience and learn as we travel back in time and 60 miles to Historic Jamestown, Jamestown Settlement Park as well as an evening stroll through the Colonial Capitol of Williamsburg.

Chris Evans  
7-1-2022

aware of many lost people groups in the new lands being discovered. Led by their Protestant pastors, the English people had a growing interest in evangelism in these newly found peoples.

At this time, Richard Hakluyt was a pastor in the Church of England, and a member of Elizabeth I's court and council. Hakluyt advised Elizabeth I of the valuable contribution England's expansion to the New World will be to evangelization and also to provide **"...a safe place for percecuted Christians to flee to from around the world because of their faith."**

Upon the death of Elizabeth I, James VI of Scotland becomes James I of England, in 1603.

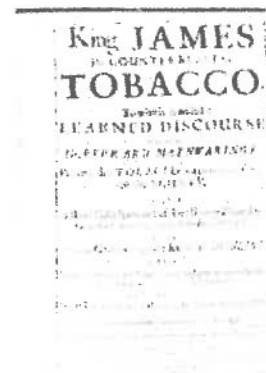
The Record of  
The Virginia Company of London

Concerning colonization, it was known to the English people that English expansion and colonization would only happen with private funds. Protestant Christian English businessmen and some who were land owning English noblemen formed The Virginia Company. The Virginia Company divided into two companies. According to the wording in the First Virginia Charter 1606, the London Company and the Plymouth Company were always the plan for two permanent settlements. The First Virginia Charter was signed by James I, April 10, 1606. It was then that money was raised, ships were built and plans were made for the journey to the New World.

Robert Johnson, member of The Virginia Company in London wrote that "God hath reserved in this last age of the World, an infinite number of those lost and scattered sheepe, to be won and recovered by our means." Kupperman writes about this in her book, *The Jamestown Project*. John Rolfe, after his marriage to Pocahontas, wrote, "that no good Christian could regard the Virginia Algonquins without pity for their ignorance of Christianity."

Finding its way into many Protestant sermons, the English people remembered their own history of paganism. They further believed that only through permanent settlements, raising Christian families in the New World, they would ensure evangelism of the people. They believed that the Bible teaches the only way to reach the lost with permanent cultural change is to live Christianity before the lost people.

In 1604, James I anonymously released the pamphlet regarding his misgivings concerning the purchasing of tobacco use. Tobacco was used for medicinal purposes such as a remedy of headaches, to name one.



### 1604 King James I "A Counterblaste to Tobacco"

King James I believed tobacco to be a, "custome loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs, and in the black and stinking fume thereof, nearest resembling the horrible stygian smoke of the pit that is bottomless."

This counterblaste concluded with the following:

"Have you not reason there to be ashamed, and to forbear this filthy novelty so basely grounded, so foolishly received and so grossly mistaken in the right use thereof?"

Referencing the use of tobacco as a habit for people, James I writes: "...some of them bestowing three, some four hundred pounds a year upon this precious stink, which I am sure might be bestowed upon many far better uses..."

In a very few years hence, King James I mandated, that Virginians would grow tobacco on their farms, and send the tax money from the sale and use of this product to the English treasury. Of course, that is James I's coffers.

So, here we are again returning to the point when the English first landed at the location we now know as The First Landing Site and the planting of the cross on top of the 200 foot dune.



We have now established the Christian purpose for planting a permanent settlement in North America. You will find that purpose stated in the entire text of the third paragraph of the First Virginia Charter 1606. I refer you to the book, *Odyssey of Faith, the Colony of Virginia, Jamestown and You*. In those pages you will find the story of the Charter and a facimile of the paragraph where the purpose for colonization is stated.

## VIRGINIA CHARTERS.

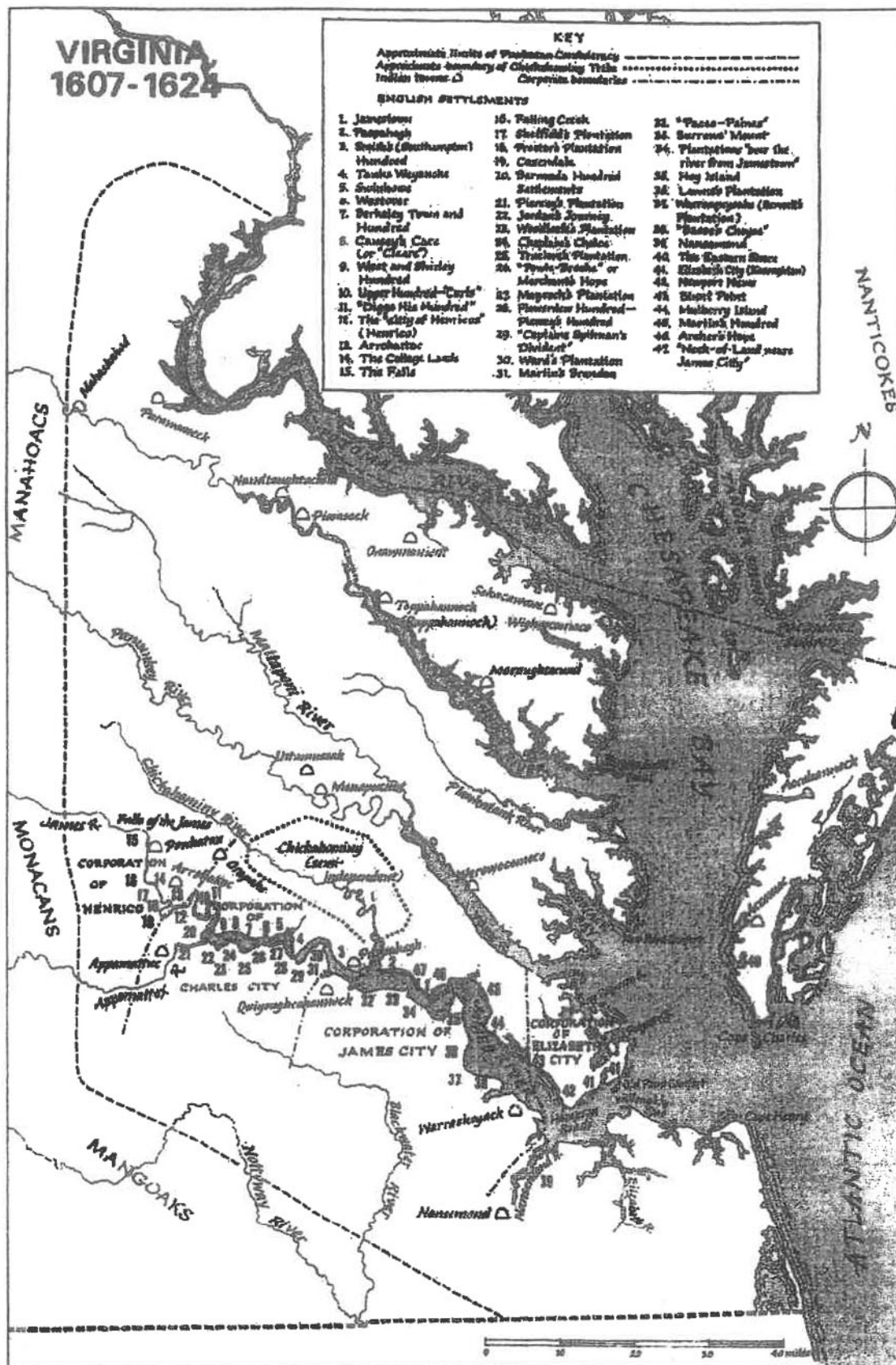
### NUMBER I.

King JAMES I.'s LETTERS PATENT to Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, and others, for two severall Colonies and Plantations, to be made in VIRGINIA, and other Parts and Territories of AMERICA. Dated April 10, 1606.

3. JAMES, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Whereas our loving and well disposed subjects, Sir Thomas Gates, and Sir George Somers, Knight, Richard Hacklitt, Clerk, Prebendary of Westminster, and Edward Maria Wingfield, Thomas Hansham, and Nathaniel Gilbert, Esqrs, William Parker and George Popbam, Gentlemen, and divers others of our loving subjects, have been humble suitors unto us, that We would succour unto them

and may in time bring the infidels and savages, living in those parts, to human civility, and to a settled and quiet government; Do, by these our letters patents, graciously accept of, and agree to, their humble and well intended desires.

IV. And do therefore, for Us, our heirs and successors, Grant and agree, that the said Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hacklitt, and Edward Maria Wingfield, adventurers of and for our city of London, and all such others, as are, or



**KEY**

Approximate limits of *Westman's Confederacy*  
 Approximate boundary of *Chickahominy Tribe*  
 Indian towns  $\Delta$   
 Corporate boundaries

**ENGLISH SETTLEMENTS**

1. Jamestown	16. Felling Creek	31. "Passo-Pinas"
2. Phoebagh	17. Sheffield's Plantation	34. Sarrasin's Manor
3. Shelb's (Southampton) Hundred	18. Freeston's Plantation	36. Plantations "beside the river from Jamestown"
4. Tucke Weymouths	19. Caswell's	38. Key Island
5. Swichones	20. Bermuda Hundred	39. Lewis's Plantation
6. Westover	21. Pierce's Plantation	40. Whorowgonde (Rowell's Plantation)
7. Berkeley Town and Hundred	22. Jonck's Journey	41. "Bates's Close"
8. Company's Care (or "Care")	23. Woodlark's Plantation	42. Nonesuch
9. West and Shirley Hundred	24. Captain's Chales	43. The Eastern Shore
10. Upper Hundred "Care"	25. Tralock's Plantation	44. Elizabeth City (Roanoke)
11. "Clays His Hundred"	26. "Potts-Bryans" or Merchants Hope	45. Newport News
12. The "City of Henrico" (Henrico)	27. Mappoch's Plantation	46. West Point
13. Archaetic	28. Planter's Hundred	47. Strawberry Island
14. The College Lands	29. "Captaine Spilman's Divident"	48. Martin's Hundred
15. The Falls	30. Ward's Plantation	49. Archer's Hope
	31. Martin's Broaden	50. "Neck-of-Land near James City"

Census from:  
**"A True Relation  
 of the State  
 of Virginia,"**  
*John Rolfe, 1616*

**1616 Settlements**  
 Population (Men & Boys)  
 & Ministers

*Beginning upriver—*

#12 - Henrico/  
 Henrico 38

Minister:  
 William Wickham

#20 - Bermuda  
 Hundred 136

Minister:  
 Alexander Whitaker

#9 - West & Shirley  
 Hundred 25

#1 - Jamestown  
 Minister:  
 Richard Buck

#41 - Kecoughtan/  
 Elizabeth City 20  
 Minister:  
 William Mays

#40 - Eastern Shore  
 [Dale's Gift] 17

Population (Women  
 & Children) 65  
*'In every place some'*

TOTAL 351  
*'A small number to  
 advance so great a Work'*

"Virginia, 1607-1624" MAP from: *The Old Dominion in the Seventeenth Century,*  
 Warren M. Billings, Rev. ed., 2007

## First Landing Day- America's Christian Founding

Max Lyons, Ph.D.

The planting of the first permanent English colony on the shores of North America began on April 26, 1607 when 104 settlers and Parson Robert Hunt landed at Cape Henry. Their first official act was to conduct a Lord's Day service. Several days later, on April 29<sup>th</sup>, they conducted a service and dedicated America to God. This has become the day that we recognize and celebrate as *First Landing Day*. Today, at the original site there is a State Park that was recently renamed *First Landing Park* in honor and recognition of this event.

What was the religious motive behind the planting of this colony? You will find the answer to this question in a series of four charters, published between 1606-1628, that authorized this colony. Richard Hakluyt, Robert Hunt and other members of the Virginia Company wrote the first charter for the colonizing of Virginia. All four charters state that it was the purpose of this endeavor to bring the gospel to the people who live in darkness. As stated in the 1606 Charter:

*... Wee, greatly commending and graciously accepting of thiere desires to the furtherance of soe noble a worke which may, by the providence of Almighty God, hereafter tende to the glorie of His Divine Majestie in propagating of the Christian religion to suche people as yet live in darknesse and miserable ignorance of the true knowledge and worshippe of God may in tyme bring the infidels and salvages living in those parts to humane civilitie and to a settled and quiet governmente, doe by these our letters patents graciously accepte of and agree to their humble and well intended desires;...<sup>i</sup>*

In this first charter it was also recognized that the Christian faith was to be preached and therefore planted:

*...and wee doe especially ordaine, charge and require the said Presidents and Councells and the ministers of the said several Colonies respectively, within their several limits and precincts, that they with all diligence, care and respect doe provide that the true word of God and Christian faith be preached, planted and used, not only within every of the said several Colonies and plantacions but alsoe as much as they may amongst the salvage people which doe or shall adjoine unto them, according to the doctrine, rights and religion now professed and established within our realm of England;...<sup>ii</sup>*

As we celebrate the 409<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Christian founding of our nation, let us remember the mighty and providential acts of our awesome God and let us purpose to continue to bring the gospel to all who are in our sphere of influence.

Read more about this world-changing event in the authors book *Celebrate Our Christian Holidays Like You Were There* available in the FACE bookstore.

<sup>i</sup> *The Charters of Virginia 1606-1621*(Virginia Beach, Va: Patriot Prints, 1994) Chapter four

<sup>ii</sup> *Ibid*, chapter two

# First Landing Day

April 29

## The Christian Founding of America

*We do hereby dedicate this Land, and ourselves, to reach the people within these shores with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Robert Hunt

### Introduction

The planting of the first permanent English colony on the shores of North America began on April 26, 1607, when 104 settlers and Parson Robert Hunt landed at Cape Henry in Virginia. Their first official act was to conduct a “Lord’s Day” service. Several days later, on April 29<sup>th</sup>, they conducted a service and dedicated America to God. This has become the day that we recognize and celebrate as *First Landing Day*. At the original site, now a state park in Virginia Beach, Virginia, was recently renamed *First Landing Park* in honor and recognition of this event.

Most Americans have learned a highly secularized version of the founding of our nation and the Jamestown colony. Most books written for children and adults espouse this same secular or revisionist perspective that leaves out the purposes of God. We need to set the record straight by examining original sources to discover a lost story that is now being retold.

### Early Discoverers

Many believe that God reserved America for His purposes. Arnold Guyot, 1800s Princeton professor, recognized: “America, therefore . . . seems destined to furnish the most complete expression of the Christian civilization; and to become the fountain of a new and higher life for all the races of men.”<sup>1</sup> There is considerable evidence that many of the early explorers that came to North America were Christians who wanted to see this land dedicated to God and used for His purposes. One of them was the Irish Christian Brendan. Brendan was a godly man, a bishop, to whom God spoke and called to explore the Western Land, as North America was then called. Historian Jan Bauder relates the following:

*For seven summers, Brendan experimented and explored. At last, he sailed the winds and currents and crossed the western Ocean to the Western land. He apparently saw no people, though he explored at what would be Virginia, Plymouth (and elsewhere). He carved Christian symbols in the native rock outcroppings putting God’s stamp on what would be North America, in 555 A.D. But he was disappointed there was no one to witness to, so God assured him that this trip was not in vain, that this Western Land (the American continent) God had promised to His Saints.<sup>2</sup>*

Brendan, at the age of 70, wrote a book about his voyages, entitled *The Land God Promised to His Saints*. In it, Brendan clearly detailed his travels so that others could repeat what he had done.

The Venetian sailor, John Cabot, heard of the land on the other side of the Western Sea. In 1497, he sailed to a land that he called New Found Land (Newfoundland) with his three sons. Jan Bauder describes their actions:



*He landed at a harbor he called St. John's because they arrived on June 24th, St. John's Day, after praying their way through a terrible storm the night before. He and his sons and crew held a Consecration of his newly found land giving it to God and claiming it for England to bring the Good News of Jesus to its native peoples. John's son Sebastian mapped the whole East Coast, from Newfoundland to the Rio Grande.<sup>3</sup>*

## Richard Hakluyt

Another little known individual who was mightily used in the founding of our nation was the Englishman Richard Hakluyt. When God called Richard Hakluyt into the ministry, he was in love with a beautiful and wealthy girl. When Richard told her family of his call from God, they responded that there would be no marriage if he chose this career. Hakluyt obeyed the call of God, and the marriage was called off. Hakluyt learned that obedience to God is sometimes very costly!

Richard Hakluyt and his older cousin with the same name were called by God to evangelize and colonize North America. They believed that they were to answer "Yes" to God on behalf of England, Wales and Scotland to work to fulfill the Great Commission in this way. Richard Hakluyt was an Oxford graduate who became very interested in geography and exploration. He conducted scholarly research, compiling the records of all explorers that he could obtain. These were eventually published as *Hakluyt's Voyages, the Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques, & Discoveries of the English Nation*. Hakluyt helped form the Virginia Company, which was composed of two parts—the London Company and the Plymouth Company. Their aim was to plant colonies in both the northern and southern parts of Virginia. For his tireless efforts in this work, Hakluyt is known as the "Father of American Colonization."

## Sir Walter Raleigh

Richard Hakluyt's vision was due to be tested, and the person to perform this testing was Walter Raleigh. Raleigh was involved in the occult and was of poor character, choosing worldly ways to conduct his life. The Hakluys gave Raleigh a proposal for colonizing North America to present to Queen Elizabeth. Raleigh stole their research, wrote and published a book in 1576, and thereby gained the right to plant a colony himself. Raleigh and his half-brother Humphrey had a different motive than the Hakluys: gold. In God's Providence, none of Raleigh's efforts ever succeeded. Eventually, Raleigh was arrested in the Guy Fawkes plot to murder King James. He was placed in the Tower and could attempt no more new colonies. Thankfully, before his execution, Raleigh repented of his sins and turned to Jesus for salvation.

## Francis Drake

One of the explorers that God used for His purposes in America was Sir Francis Drake.

*God called Francis Drake, an evangelist—parson's son, to sea life. He apprenticed under a Plymouth ship-master. When that man died he willed Drake his ship. Drake, a born again Christian, never took anybody but born again men on his voyages. He and the English were in a 'cold war' defending themselves from Spain. Holland also was Protestant, both were fighting for their very existence—but England was not strong enough to make a 'hot' war of it.<sup>4</sup>*

In 1579, Sir Francis Drake and his chaplain, Francis Fletcher, began a voyage to circumnavigate the world in search of those who still needed to hear the Gospel. They put in at what we now call San Francisco for ship repairs and were surprised at the receptivity of the native peoples to the Gospel. At the end of the three-week stay an amazing thing happened: the native people gave a great feast for Drake and his crew and at the end of the feast they made gestures that they would like to give their land to them! As Jan Bauder remarks, Drake

*graciously received it, to evangelize them. Then they erected a cross, put a sixpence on it with Elizabeth's portrait, and a brass plate claiming the land for evangelizing by England. Then, Drake consecrated North America—the whole continent—to God*

*from the west Coast, similarly to the Cabot's East Coast Consecration. They called the land (continent): Nova Albion—New 'Robed-in-the-Bright-Light-of-Jesus' Righteousness' meaning: New Land of Righteousness.*<sup>5</sup>

## The Charters of Freedom

Richard Hakluyt, Robert Hunt and other members of the Virginia Company composed the first charter for the colonizing of Virginia. After the charter was written, it was necessary to procure the agreement of King James; James did agree, then attempted to disband Virginia in 1609 and again in 1624, but was finally prevented from doing so. All four charters state that it was the purpose of this endeavor to bring the Gospel to the people who live in darkness. As stated in the 1606 charter:

*. . . Wee, greatly commending and graciously accepting of thiere desires to the furtherance of soe noble a worke which may, by the providence of Almightye God, hereafter tende to the glorie of His Divine Majestie in propagating of the Christian religion to suche people as yet live in darknesse and miserable ignorance of the true knowledge and worshippe of God may in tyme bring the infidels and salvages living in those parts to humane civilitie and to a settled and quiet govrmente, doe by these our letters patents graciously accepte of and agree to thiere humble and well intended desires;*<sup>6</sup>

In this first charter it was also recognized that the Christian faith was to be preached and therefore planted:

*. . . and wee doe especially ordaine, charge and require the said Presidents and Councells and the ministers of the said several Colonies respectively, within their several limits and precincts, that they with all diligence, care and respect doe provide that the true word of God and Christian faith be preached, planted and used, not only within every of the said several Colonies and plantacions but alsoe as much as they may amongst the salvage people which doe or shall adjoine unto them, according to the doctrine, rights and religion now professed and established within our realm of England;*<sup>7</sup>

The third charter, dated March 12, 1612, opened with a greeting from King James, and then this statement:

*Whereas at the humble suite of divers and sundry our lovinge subjects, as well adventurers as planters of the First Colonie in Virginia, and for the propagation of Christian religion and reclayminge of people barbarous to civilitie and humanitie*<sup>8</sup>

The fourth charter, of 1628, contained a section where a college was to be established to teach the infidels the true religion:

*And whereas, by a special grant and licence from His Majesty, a general contribution over this realm hath been made for the building and planting of a college for the training up of the children of those infidels in true religion, moral virtue and civility, and for other godly uses, we do, therefore according to a former grant and order, hereby ratifie and confirm and ordain that a convenient place be chosen and set out for the planting of a university at the said Henrico in time to come and that in the mean time preparation be there made for the building of the said college for the children of the infidels*<sup>9</sup>

These charters were important in so many ways, not the least being that they gave the colonists the right of self-rule and self-government. You may remember that Thomas Jefferson complained in the Declaration of Independence that the king was a tyrant because he was attempting to take away the charters of the Colonies.

## The Jamestown Colony

On December 20, 1606, the London Company colonists left England. Richard Hakluyt was not able to go as their chaplain, but God prepared his secretary Robert Hunt for this job. Virginia Historian M. J. Raeburn noted:

*Hunt fully understood the colony's missionary purpose and the need for America to be Dedicated. Thus Hakluyt was glad Hunt would be going. In addition, they would both be interceding for the colony: Hunt in Virginia—America and Hakluyt in England.*<sup>10</sup>

One of the providential events of the voyage occurred when a storm separated the three ships: the Godspeed, the Discovery and the Susan Constant. Parson Hunt interceded and God graciously answered, bringing them back together. At dawn on April 26th, land was sighted. They named the place Cape Henry in honor of the king's son. Being the Lord's Day there was a worship service and sermon. Pastor Hunt admonished them to forgive each other and come together in Biblical unity. Many of them refused to do so. After being attacked by Indians, with two of them wounded, many were persuaded that God wanted them to let go of their grudges and put behind them any grievances that they had with each other. By Wednesday the 29th there had been many reconciliations and God had prepared their hearts for a dedication service. M. J. Raeburn relates what happened next:

*Hunt had a remarkably accurate map of the entire continent of North America, that is, Virginia–America. It went from sea to sea and covered all of what is the USA and Canada today. Its East Coast was carefully mapped by many, starting with Sebastian Cabot; its West Coast was mapped by Sir Francis Drake. King James mentioned northern and southern boundaries more narrowly than was historically necessary, so as not to offend Spain, France or Holland. Even so, the entire continent of North America is included in the Dedication–Canada too, though a separate country from the USA.<sup>11</sup>*

The dedication service was held atop Cape Henry, a huge hill of sand that was over 100 feet tall. Hunt placed his map of Virginia–America on top of the Bible. The sailors appointed for the purpose planted the huge oak cross which would be seen for 300 years by all those on ships entering or leaving the Chesapeake Bay. In the 1930's it was replaced with a stone cross that is there today. This was the prayer of dedication by Robert Hunt:

*We do hereby dedicate this Land, and ourselves, to reach the People within these shores with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to raise up Godly generations after us, and with these generations take the Kingdom of God to all the earth.*

*May this Covenant of Dedication remain to all generations, as long as this earth remains, and may this land, along with England, be Evangelist to the World.*

*May all who see this Cross, remember what we have done here, and may those who come here to inhabit join us in this Covenant and in this most noble work that the Holy Scriptures may be fulfilled.*

*Psalm 22:27–28 All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to The Lord, and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before Thee. For the Kingdom is the Lord's and He is the Governor among the nations.*

*Let us pray:*

*Almighty and merciful God, let us never stray from the Commission to which Thou has Called us—to bring the inhabitants of this land to the knowledge of Thy Kingdom. Help us to be bearers of Thy Truth to those who so sorely need to receive it. Hasten the day, Oh God, when the knowledge of Thy Son shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. And even if we should fall short on Thy Calling, Thou shalt stir up our children after us and bestow upon them this blessed Land. Let us add our mite to the Treasury of Heaven. Use us, Oh God, weak instruments as we are, for the building up of Thy Kingdom which shall be gathered from all corners of the earth. Let it be said that God has made His ways known upon the earth and His saving help among the nations.*

*In the name of our Holy Savior, Amen<sup>12</sup>*

## Many Firsts

There are many ways that God used those who came to establish the first permanent English settlement in America. In many ways this colony was not perfect, however it is clear that there were many involved who loved the Lord and had godly motives. Reflect for a moment on these ways that God, in His Sovereignty and Providence, used the Virginia settlement at James's City:

- The first free election in the new world took place when Edward Wingfield was chosen President of the Council of Virginia.

- The first trial by jury under English Common Law came to a conclusion when John Smith was acquitted of charges of mutiny. Ten years later, the Virginia General Assembly was established and today is the oldest continuously running, freely elected governing body in the New World.
- The first Thanksgiving services were held at the new City of Henricus and at the Berkley Plantation: “the day of our ships’ arrival . . . shall be yearly and perpetually kept as a day of Thanksgiving.

### **Celebrate First Landing Day with Your Family!**

- Visit First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach, Virginia.
- Reenact the first landing with a play “The Land God Promised to His Saints,” by Jan Bauder.
- Obtain a copy of the original charters and read them aloud.
- Enjoy and perform the skit “America’s Dedication to God” which begins on page 142 of this book.

### **Endnotes**

1. Verna M. Hall, *The Christian History of the Constitution*, Vol. 1: *Christian Self-Government* (San Francisco, CA: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1966), 4
2. Jan Bauder, *The Dedication, Rediscovering America’s Christian History Hidden For Years* (Virginia Beach, VA: Patriot Prints, 2004), 20
3. Ibid, 29
4. Ibid, 41
5. Ibid, 41
6. *The Charters of Virginia 1606–1621* (Virginia Beach, VA: Patriot Prints, 1994), chapter four
7. Ibid, chapter two
8. Ibid, chapter nine
9. Ibid, chapter ten
10. M. J. Raeburn, *America’s Dedication to God Series, Booklet One: Richard Hakluyt’s Contribution* (Virginia Beach, VA: His Story Seminars, 1994), 3
11. Ibid, 4
12. Jan Bauder, *The Dedication, Rediscovering America’s Christian History Hidden For Years*, 63

## First Charter of Virginia, 1606

JAMES, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. WHEREAS our loving and well-disposed Subjects, Sir Thom as Gales, and Sir George Somers, Knights, Richard Hackluit, Clerk, Prebendary of Westminster, and Edward-Maria Wingfield, Thomas Hanharm and Raleigh Gilbert, Esqrs. William Parker, and George Popham, Gentlemen, and divers others of our loving Subjects, have been humble Suitors unto us, that We would vouchsafe unto them our Licence, to make Habitation, Plantation, and to deduce a colony of sundry of our People into that part of America commonly called VIRGINIA, and other parts and Territories in America, either appertaining unto us, or which are not now actually possessed by any Christian Prince or People, situate, lying, and being all along the Sea Coasts, between four and thirty Degrees of Northerly Latitude from the Equinoctial Line, and five and forty Degrees of the same Latitude, and in the main Land between the same four and thirty and five and forty Degrees, and the Islands "hereunto adjacent, or within one hundred Miles of the Coast thereof;

And to that End, and for the more speedy Accomplishment of their said intended Plantation and Habitation there, are desirous to divide themselves into two several Colonies and Companies; the one consisting of certain Knights, Gentlemen, Merchants, and other Adventurers, of our City of London and elsewhere, which are, and from time to time shall be, joined unto them, which do desire to begin their Plantation and Habitation in some fit and convenient Place, between four and thirty and one and forty Degrees of the said Latitude, amongst the Coasts of Virginia, and the Coasts of America aforesaid: And the other consisting of sundry Knights, Gentlemen, Merchants, and other Adventurers, of our Cities of Bristol and Exeter, and of our Town of Plimouth, and of other Places, which do join themselves unto that Colony, which do desire to begin their Plantation and Habitation in some fit and convenient Place, between eight and thirty Degrees and five and forty Degrees of the said Latitude, all amongst the said Coasts of Virginia and America, as that Coast lyeth:

We, greatly commending, and graciously accepting of, their Desires for the Furtherance of so noble a Work, which may, by the Providence of Almighty God, hereafter tend to the Glory of his Divine Majesty, in propagating of Christian Religion to such People, as yet live in Darkness and miserable Ignorance of the true Knowledge and Worship of God, and may in time bring the Infidels and Savages, living in those parts, to human Civility, and to a settled and quiet Government: DO, by these our Letters Patents, graciously accept of, and agree to, their humble and well-intended Desires;

And do therefore, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, GRANT and agree, that the said Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hackluit, and Edward-Maria Wingfield, Adventurers of and for our City of London, and all such others, as are, or shall be, joined unto them of that Colony, shall be called the first Colony; And they shall and may begin their said first Plantation and Habitation, at any Place upon the said-Coast of Virginia or America, where they shall think fit and convenient, between the said four and thirty and one and forty Degrees of the said Latitude; And that they shall have all the Lands, Woods, Soil, Grounds, Havens, Ports, Rivers, Mines, Minerals, Marshes, Waters, Fishings, Commodities, and Hereditaments, whatsoever; from the said first Seat of their Plantation and Habitation by the Space of fifty Miles of English Statute Measure, all along the

said Coast of Virginia and America, towards the West and Southwest, as the Coast lyeth, with all the Islands within one hundred Miles directly over against the same Sea Coast; And also all the Lands, Soil, Grounds, Havens, Ports, Rivers, Mines, Minerals, Woods, Waters, Marshes, Fishings, Commodities, and Hereditaments, whatsoever, from the said Place of their first Plantation and Habitation for the space of fifty like English Miles, all alongst the said Coasts of Virginia and America, towards the East and Northeast, or towards the North, as the Coast lyeth, together with all the Islands within one hundred Miles, directly over against the said Sea Coast, And also all the Lands, Woods, Soil, Grounds, Havens, Ports, Rivers, Mines, Minerals, Marshes, Waters, Fishings, Commodities, and Hereditaments, whatsoever, from the same fifty Miles every way on the Sea Coast, directly into the main Land by the Space of one hundred like English Miles; And shall and may inhabit and remain there; and shall and may also build and fortify within any the same, for their better Safeguard and Defense, according to their best Discretion, and the Discretion of the Council of that Colony; And that no other of our Subjects shall be permitted, or suffered, to plant or inhabit behind, or on the Backside of them, towards the main Land, without the Express License or Consent of the Council of that Colony, thereunto in Writing; first had and obtained.

And we do likewise, for Us, Our Heirs, and Successors, by these Presents, GRANT and agree, that the said Thomas Hanham, and Raleigh Gilbert, William Parker, and George Popham, and all others of the Town of Plimouth in the County of Devon, or elsewhere which are, or shall be, joined unto them of that Colony, shall be called the second Colony; And that they shall and may begin their said Plantation and Seat of their first Abode and Habitation, at any Place upon the said Coast of Virginia and America, where they shall think fit and convenient, between eight and thirty Degrees of the said Latitude, and five and forty Degrees of the same Latitude; And that they shall have all the Lands, Soils, Grounds, Havens, Ports, Rivers, Mines, Minerals, Woods, Marshes, Waters, Fishings, Commodities, and Hereditaments, whatsoever, from the first Seat of their Plantation and Habitation by the Space of fifty like English Miles, as is aforesaid, all alongst the said Coasts of Virginia and America towards the West and Southwest, or towards the South, as the Coast lyeth, and all the Islands within one hundred Miles, directly over against the said Sea Coast; And also all the Lands, Soils, Grounds, Havens, Ports, Rivers, Mines, Minerals, Woods, Marshes, Waters, Fishings, Commodities, and Hereditaments, whatsoever, from the said Place of their first Plantation and Habitation for the Space of fifty like Miles, all alongst the said Coast of Virginia and America, towards the East and Northeast, or towards the North, as the Coast lyeth, and all the Islands also within one hundred Miles directly over against the same Sea Coast; And also all the Lands, Soils, Grounds, Havens, Ports, Rivers, Woods, Mines, Minerals, Marshes, Waters, Fishings, Commodities, and Hereditaments, whatsoever, from the same fifty Miles every way on the Sea Coast, directly into the main Land, by the Space of one hundred like English Miles; And shall and may inhabit and remain there; and shall and may also build and fortify within any the same for their better Safeguard, according to their best Discretion, and the Discretion of the Council of that Colony; And that none of our Subjects shall be permitted, or suffered, to plant or inhabit behind, or on the back of them, towards the main Land, without express Licence of the Council of that Colony, in Writing thereunto first had and obtained.

Provided always, and our Will and Pleasure herein is, that the Plantation and Habitation of such of the said Colonies, as shall last plant themselves, as aforesaid, shall not be made within

one;hundred like English Miles of the other of them, that first began to make their Plantation, as aforesaid.

And we do also ordain, establish, and agree, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, that each of the said Colonies shall have a Council, which shall govern and order all Matters-and Causes, which shall arise, grow, or happen, to or within the same several Colonies, according to such Laws, Ordinances, and Instructions, as shall be, in that behalf, given and signed with Our Hand or Sign Manual, and pass under the Privy Seal of our Realm of England; Each of which Councils shall consist of thirteen Persons, to be ordained, made, and removed, from time to time, according as shall be directed and comprised in the same instructions; And shall have a several Seal, for all Matters that shall pass or concern the same several Councils; Each of which Seals, shall have the King's Arms engraver on the one Side thereof, and his Portraiture on the other; And that the Seal for the Council of the said first Colony shall have engraver round about, on the one Side, these Words; Sigillum Regis Magne Britanniae, Franciae, & Hiberniae; on the other Side this Inscription round about; Pro Concilio primae Coloniae Virginiae. And the Seal for the Council of the said second Colony shall also have engraven, round about the one Side thereof, the aforesaid Words; Sigillum Regis Magne Britanniae, Franciae, & Hiberniae; and on the other Side; Pro Concilio primae Coloniae Virginiae:

And that also there shall be a Council, established here in England, which shall, in like manner, consist of thirteen Persons, to be for that Purpose, appointed by Us, our Heirs and Successors, which shall be called our Council of Virginia; And shall, from time to time, have the superior Managing and Direction, only of and for all Matters that shall or may concern the Government, as well of the said several Colonies, as of and for any other Part or Place, within the aforesaid Precincts of four and thirty and five and forty Degrees abovementioned; Which Council shall, in like manner, have a Seal, for matters concerning the Council or Colonies, with the like Arms and Portraiture, as aforesaid, with this inscription, engraver round about on the one Side; Sigillum Regis Magne Britanniae, Franciae, & Hiberniae; and round about on the other Side, Pro Concilio fuo Virginiae.

And moreover, we do GRANT and agree, for Us, our Heirs and Successors; that that the said several Councils of and for the said several Colonies, shall and lawfully may, by Virtue hereof, from time to time, without any Interruption of Us, our Heirs or Successors, give and take Order, to dig, mine, and search for all Manner of Mines of Gold, Silver, and Copper, as well within any Part of their said several Colonies, as of the said main Lands on the Backside of the same Colonies; And to HAVE and enjoy the Gold, Silver, and Copper, to be gotten thereof, to the Use and Behoof of the same Colonies, and the Plantations thereof; YIELDING therefore to Us, our Heirs and Successors, the fifth Part only of all the same Gold and Silver, and the fifteenth Part of all the same Copper, so to be gotten or had, as is aforesaid, without any other Manner of Profit or Account, to be given or yielded to Us, our Heirs, or Successors, for or in Respect of the same:

And that they shall, or lawfully may, establish and cause to be made a Coin, to pass current there between the people of those several Colonies, for the more Ease of Traffick and Bargaining between and amongst them and the Natives there, of such Metal, and in such Manner and Form, as the said several Councils there shall limit and appoint.

And we do likewise, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, by these Presents, give full Power and Authority to the said Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hackluit, Edward-Maria Wingfeld, Thomas Hanham, Raleigh Gilbert, William Parker, and George Popham, and to every of them, and to the said several Companies, Plantations, and Colonies, that they, and every of them, shall and may, at all and every time and times hereafter, have, take, and lead in the said Voyage, and for and towards the said several Plantations, and Colonies, and to travel thitherward, and to abide and inhabit there, in every the said Colonies and Plantations, such and so many of our Subjects, as shall willingly accompany them or any of them, in the said Voyages and Plantations; With sufficient Shipping, and Furniture of Armour, Weapons, Ordinance, Powder, Victual, and all other things, necessary for the said Plantations, and for their Use and Defence there: PROVIDED always, that none of the said Persons be such, as shall hereafter be specially restrained by Us, our Heirs, or Successors.

Moreover, we do, by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, GIVE AND GRANT Licence unto the said Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hackluit, Edward-Maria Wingfield, Thomas Hanham, Raleigh Gilbert, William Parker, and George Popham, and to every of the said Colonies, that they, and every of them, shall and may, from time to time, and at all times forever hereafter, for their several Defences, encounter, expulse, repel, and resist, as well by Sea as by Land, by all Ways and Means whatsoever, all and every such Person or Persons, as without the especial Licence of the said several Colonies and Plantations, shall attempt to inhabit within the said several Precincts and Limits of the said several Colonies and Plantations, or any of them, or that shall enterprise or attempt, at any time hereafter, the Hurt, Detriment, or Annoyance, of the said several Colonies or Plantations:

Giving and granting, by these Presents, unto the said Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hackluit, Edward-Maria Wingfield, Thomas Hanham, Raleigh Gilbert, William Parker, and George Popham, and their Associates of the said second Colony, and to every of them, from time to time, and at all times for ever hereafter, Power and Authority to take and surprise, by all Ways and Means whatsoever, all and every Person and Persons, with their Ships, Veßsels, Goods, and other Furniture, which shall be found trafficking, into any Harbour or Harbours, Creek or Creeks, or Place, within the Limits or Precincts of the said several Colonies and Plantations, not being of the same Colony, until such time, as they, being of any Realms, or Dominions under our Obedience, shall pay, or agree to pay, to the Hands of the Treasurer of that Colony, within whose Limits and Precincts they shall so traffick, two and a half upon every Hundred, of any thing so by them trafficked, bought, or sold; And being Strangers, and not Subjects under our Obeysance, until they shall pay five upon every Hundred, of such Wares and Merchandises, as they shall traffick, buy, or sell, within the Precincts of the said several Colonies, wherein they shall so traffick, buy, or sell, as aforesaid; WHICH Sums of Money, or Benefit, as aforesaid, for and during the Space of one and twenty Years, next ensuing the Date hereof, shall be wholly employed to the Use, Benefit, and Behoof of the said several Plantations, where such Traffick shall be made; And after the said one and twenty Years ended, the same shall be taken to the Use of Us, our Heires, and Successors, by such Officers and Ministers as by Us, our Heirs, and Successors, shall be thereunto assigned or appointed.



And we do further, by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, GIVE AND GRANT unto the said Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Sommers, Richard Hackluit, and Edward-Maria Wingfield, and to their Associates of the said first Colony and Plantation, and to the said Thomas Hanham, Raleigh Gilbert, William Parker, and George Popham, and their Associates of the said second Colony and Plantation, that they, and every of them, by their Deputies, Ministers, and Factors, may transport the Goods, Chattels, Armour, Munition, and Furniture, needful to be used by them, for their said Apparel, Food, Defence, or otherwise in Respect of the said Plantations, out of our Realms of England and Ireland, and all other our Dominions, from time to time, for and during the Time of seven Years, next ensuing the Date hereof, for the better Relief of the said several Colonies and Plantations, without any Customs, Subsidy, or other Duty, unto Us, our Heirs, or Successors, to be yielded or payed for the same.

Also we do, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, DECLARE, by these Presents, that all and every the Persons being our Subjects, which shall dwell and inhabit within every or any of the said several Colonies and Plantations, and every of their children, which shall happen to be born within any of the Limits and Precincts of the said several Colonies and Plantations, shall HAVE and enjoy all Liberties, Franchises, and Immunities, within any of our other Dominions, to all Intents and Purposes, as if they had been abiding and born, within this our Realm of England, or any other of our said Dominions.

Moreover, our gracious Will and Pleasure is, and we do, by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, declare and set forth, that if any Person or Persons, which shall be of any of the said Colonies and Plantations, or any other, which shall trick to the said Colonies and Plantations, or any of them, shall, at any time or times hereafter, transport any Wares, Merchandises, or Commodities, out of any of our Dominions, with a Pretence to land, sell, or otherwise dispose of the same, within any the Limits and Precincts of any of the said Colonies and Plantations, and yet nevertheless, being at Sea, or after he hath landed the same within any of the said Colonies and Plantations, shall carry the same into any other Foreign Country, with a Purpose there to sell or dispose of the same, without the Licence of Us, our Heirs, and Successors, in that Behalf first had and obtained; That then, all the Goods and Chattels of such Person or Persons, so offending and transporting together with the said Ship or Vessel, wherein such Transportation was made, shall be forfeited to Us, our Heirs, and Successors.

Provided always, and our Will and Pleasure is, and we do hereby declare to all Christian Kings, Princes, and States, that if any Person or Persons which shall hereafter be of any of the said several Colonies and Plantations, or any other, by his, their, or any of their Licence and Appointment, shall, at any Time or Times hereafter, rob or spoil, by Sea or Land, or do any Act of unjust and unlawful Hostility to any the Subjects of Us, our Heirs, or Successors, or any the Subjects of any King, Prince, Ruler, Governor, or State, being then in League or Amitie with Us, our Heirs, or Successors, and that upon such Injury, or upon just Complaint of such Prince, Ruler, Governor, or State, or their Subjects, We, our Heirs, or Successors, shall make open Proclamation, within any of the Ports of our Realm of England, commodious for that purpose, That the said Person or Persons, having committed any such robbery, or Spoil, shall, within the term to be limited by such Proclamations, make full Restitution or Satisfaction of all such Injuries done, so as the said Princes, or others so complaining,

may hold themselves fully satisfied and contented; And, that if the said Person or Persons, having committed such Robbery or Spoil, shall not make, or cause to be made Satisfaction accordingly, within such Time so to be limited, That then it shall be lawful to Us, our Heirs, and Successors, to put the said Person or Persons, having committed such Robbery or Spoil, and their Procurers, Abettors, and Comforters, out of our Allegiance and Protection; And that it shall be lawful and free, for all Princes, and others to pursue with hostility the said offenders, and every of them, and their and every of their Procurers, Aiders, abettors, and comforters, in that behalf.

And finally, we do for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, and agree, to and with the said Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hackluit, Edward-Maria Wingfield, and all others of the said first colony, that We, our Heirs and Successors, upon Petition in that Behalf to be made, shall, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of England, GIVE and GRANT unto such Persons, their Heirs and Assigns, as the Council of that Colony, or the most part of then, shall, for that Purpose, nominate and assign all the lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, which shall be within the Precincts limited for that Colony, as is aforesaid, To BE HOLDEN of Us, our heirs and Successors, as of our Manor at East-Greenwich, in the County of Kent, in free and common Soccage only, and not in Capite:

And do in like Manner, Grant and Agree, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, to and with the said Thomas Hanham, Raleigh Gilbert, William Parker, and George Popham, and all others of the said second Colony, That We, our Heirs, and Successors, upon Petition in that Behalf to be made, shall, by Letters-Patent, under the Great Seal of England, GIVE and GRANT, unto such Persons, their Heirs and Assigns, as the Council of that Colony, or the most Part of them, shall for that Purpose nominate and assign, all the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, which shall be within the Precincts limited for that Colony, as is aforesaid, To BE nodded of Us, our Heires, and Successors, as of our Manor of East-Greenwich, in the County of Kent, in free and comimon Soccage only, and not in Capite.

All which Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, so to be passed by the said several Letters-Patent, shall be sufficient Assurance from the said Patentees, so distributed and divided amongst the Undertakers for the Plantation of the said several Colonies, and such as shall make their Plantations in either of the said several Colonies, in such Manner and Form, and for such Estates, as shall be ordered and set down by the Council of the said Colony, or the most part of them, respectively, within which the same Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments shall lye or be; Although express Mention of the true yearly Value or Certainty of the Premises, or any of them, or of any other Gifts or Grants, by Us or any of our Progenitors or Predecessors, to the aforesaid Sir Thomas Gates, Knt. Sir George Somers, Knt. Richard Hackluit, Edward-Maria Wingfield, Thomas Hanham, Raleigh Gilbert, William Parker, and George Popham, or any of them, heretofore made, in these Presents, is not made; Or any Statute, Act, Ordinance, or Provision, Proclamation, or Restraint, to the contrary hereof had, made, ordained, or any other Thing, Cause, or Matter whatsoever, in any wise notwithstanding. IN Wetness whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent; Witness Ourself at Westminster, the tenth Day of April, in the fourth Year of our Reign of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland the nine and thirtieth.