

Charter of Virginia, 1606

JAMES, by the Grace of God, King of England...vouchsafe...our Licence, to make Habitation...into that part of America commonly called VIRGINIA, and other parts and Territories in America...which are not now actually possessed by any Christian Prince or People,...

...in propagating of Christian Religion to such People, as yet live in Darkness...

...And do therefore, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, GRANT and agree...they shall have all the Lands, Woods, Soil, Grounds...and ... whatsoever...

...And we do also...agree...that each of the Colonies shall have a Council, which shall govern and order all Matters-and Causes

...And moreover, we do GRANT and agree...the Colonies, shall... dig, mine, and search for...Gold, Silver, and Copper, as well within any Part of their said several Colonies, ...the fifth Part only of all the same Gold and Silver,...to be given or yielded to Us, our Heirs, or Successors, for or in Respect of the same:

...And we do likewise...give full Power... to travel thitherward, and to inhabit there

...Also we do, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, DECLARE...that all ... Persons being our Subjects, which inhabit any of the 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...within any of our other Dominions, ...as if they had been born, within this our Realm of England.