

APPENDIX I

(1)

[SEE INTRODUCTION.]

By the House of Burgesses, Friday March 12.th 1773.

Whereas the Minds of his Majesty's faithful Subjects in this Colony have been much disturbed, by various Rumours and Reports of Proceedings tending to deprive them of their ancient, legal, and constitutional Rights; and whereas the Affairs of this Colony are frequently connected with those of Great Britain, as well as of the neighbouring Colonies, which renders a Communication of Sentiments necessary: In Order, therefore, to remove the Uneasinesses, and to quiet the Minds of the People, as well as for the other good Purposes above mentioned,

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Be it resolved, that a standing Committee of Correspondence and Inquiry be appointed, to consist of eleven Persons, to wit, the honourable Peyton Randolph, Esquire, Robert Carter Nicholas, Richard Bland, Richard Henry Lee, Benjamin Harrison, Edmund Pendleton, Patrick Henry, Dudley Digges, Dabney Carr, Archibald Cary, and Thomas Jefferson, Esquires, any six of whom to be a Committee; whose Business it shall be to obtain the most early and authentic Intelligence of all such Acts and Resolutions of the British Parliament, or Proceedings of Administration, as may relate to or affect the British Colonies in America; and to keep up and maintain a Correspondence, and Communication, with our Sister Colonies, respecting these important Considerations; and the Result of such their Proceedings, from Time to Time to lay before this House.

Resolved, that it be an Instruction to the said Committee, that they do, without Delay, inform themselves particularly of the Principles and Authority on which was constituted a Court of Enquiry, said to have been lately held in Rhode-Island, with Powers to transport Persons accused of Offences committed in America to Places beyond the Seas to be tried.

Resolved, that the Speaker of this House do transmit to the Speakers of the different Assemblies of the British Colonies on this Continent Copies of the said Resolutions, and desire that they will lay them before their respec[tive] Assemblies, and request them to appoint some Person, or Persons, of their respec[tive] Bodies, to communicate from Time to Time with the said Committee.