

P. R. O. thereof according to his Royall wisdome, and to remaine under
Colonial consideration till such time as the persons concerned, or some
Papers. sent over hither by and from the Petitioners shall arrive to
negotiate the same in England, which wee are not impowered
or concerned to doe.

To his Majesty's Commissioners for the Settlement of Virginia in these troublesome times of Rebellion and Generall disturbances.

The humble Representation of the Colony and Assembly of Virginia Shewing:—

That all the time since the dissolution of the Virginian Patent not only then but ever since they have from time to time received assurances under the Broad Seal of England and by many other ways and declarations from the then King and ever since from time to time that their estates should be in all respects conserved and in no sort prejudiced. During which time the Petitioner Co^{ll} Claiborne hath been resident in Virginia and enjoyed as a Councillor and Secretary of State there the benefits thereof and did accordingly by virtue of Commissions under his Majesty's Government and Seal of Virginia and by expressed directions from the Commissions under the Broad Seal of England discover and plant the Isle of Kent.

From time to time it continued under the Government of Virginia, warrants were directed to arrest men at the Isle of Kent; one man was brought down and tried in Virginia for felony and many were arrested for debt and returned to appeare at Iames City; and so in many particulars.

It continued under the Government of Virginia untill Lord Baltamore's officers came and expelled us by force of armed men severall times, but especially they wounded and then hanged our men without any tryall of Law, or any just cause given; they took away all our goods, servants and Cattle there and in like manner they displanted us at Palmers Island out of their limits in Susquohanouh River: All this they did to us though we presented them and gave them Copies of his Majesty's commands to the contrary, strictly commanding them not to molest us to which we had no other answer, than slighting and contempt.

March
13. 1676/7.

W. Claiborne.

By the Governor and Captaine generall of
Virginia.

To all to whom these presents shall come I Sir George Yeardley Knight Governor and Captaine generall of Virginia send greeting in our Lord God everlasting. Whereas there remain divers places and parts of this Kingdom of Virginia