

P. R. O.
Colonial
Papers.

number of Counsellors and a confused Popularity, as being a nurse of Parliamentary spirits and obnoxious to monarchical Government. Hereupon an order was made the 8th October 1623 at the Counsell table, whereby the Company were moved to give their assents for surrendring their Pattent and altering their forme of Government, and a new one was proposed wherein the right and interests of all men should be preserved, which order the Company not submitting unto, a quo warranto was directed for the calling in of their Pattent and an advantage being taken upon their mispleading, the Pattent was condemned in Trinity Terme following, but for manie years after noe Judgement entered and to this time not vacated upon the Record in the office of the Rolls, whereby some that sought the overthrow of the Lord Baltimore's Pattent for Maryland in the beginning of the Parliament in Anno 1640 tooke out the Virginia Pattent againe under the broad seale of England, Therefore thought by primee Lawyers now to be unquestionably in force, and that of Maryland inconsistant and void.

Thus in breife was the late Company dissolved and a Comission given to divers Lords and others for present direction and ordering the affaires of Virginia And that they should advise touching a better forme of Government for advansing and establishing the Colony, Then issued also several Proclamations and severall orders of the Counsell Table, with great asshurances under the broad seale and Privy seale, That all men with the Adventurers and Planters should be asshured that their rights and interests should be conserved and enlarged onely alteration made in point of Government, But both that Comission and the renewing of the Company's charter expired, and all those proceedings were delayed by reason of the death of kinge James, which then suddenly ensued, The Principall Scope of that Comission, was that they should found a better forme of Government for the Plantation's advancement. And therein was especially promised the conservation of every man's right. Intentions worthy the wisdome of soe great a Prince. But nothing was done by those Comissioners touchinge either of those ends, nor by those whose prosecution these things happined who haveing attained their Private ends of spleene and profit, upon the changes and revolutions of enshuing times, deserted the interest of the Colony, and left her weltring in her bloud unsupplied with ammunition and armes in the heat of a difficult warr with the Indians, the burthen and charge whereof, was onely undergon by the remaying Planters, who thus forsaken by her former friends were constrained both to fight and worke for their lives, & subsistance, and thereby preserved the Colony from desertion, and at last restored her