

2008 Virginia Women in History

PETITION OF FRANCES CULPEPPER STEPHENS BERKELEY TO KING CHARLES II, ON BEHALF OF HER HUSBAND, SIR WILLIAM BERKELEY

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty the humble petition of the Lady Berkeley In behalf of Sir William Berkeley

Humbly sheweth that whereas Your Petitioner hath beene informed that Your Majestie hath layd your absolute Commands on him immediately after the arivall of your Majesties Fleete in Virginia to goe on board some ship bound for England And whereas by reason of his age and the Fatigue he hath undergone in the late Rebellion he is reduced to greate weaknes of body and his estate brought to ruine and disorder to repaire both which itt may be necessary for him to make some longer stay in Virginia then she feares your Majesty hath directed.

Your petitioner humbly prayeth that Your Majesty wil be Graciously pleased to Grant him such liberty of Time for his stay there as may be expedient for the safety of his life and fortune. And Your Petitioners shall alwaies Pray for Your Majesties Health and Prosperity.

Source: Warren M. Billings, The Papers of Sir William Berkeley, 1605–1677 (Richmond: Library of Virginia, 2004), 631–632.