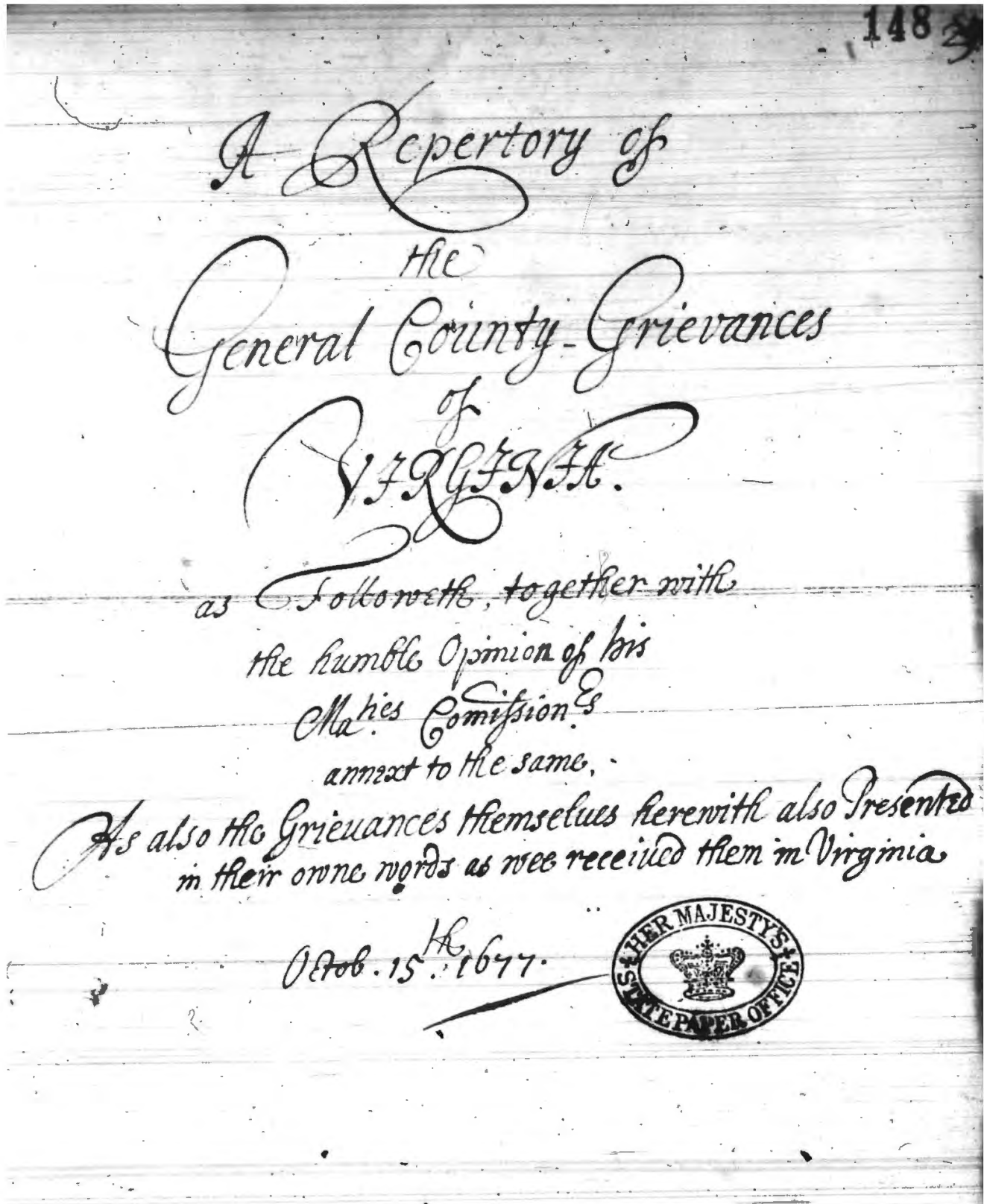


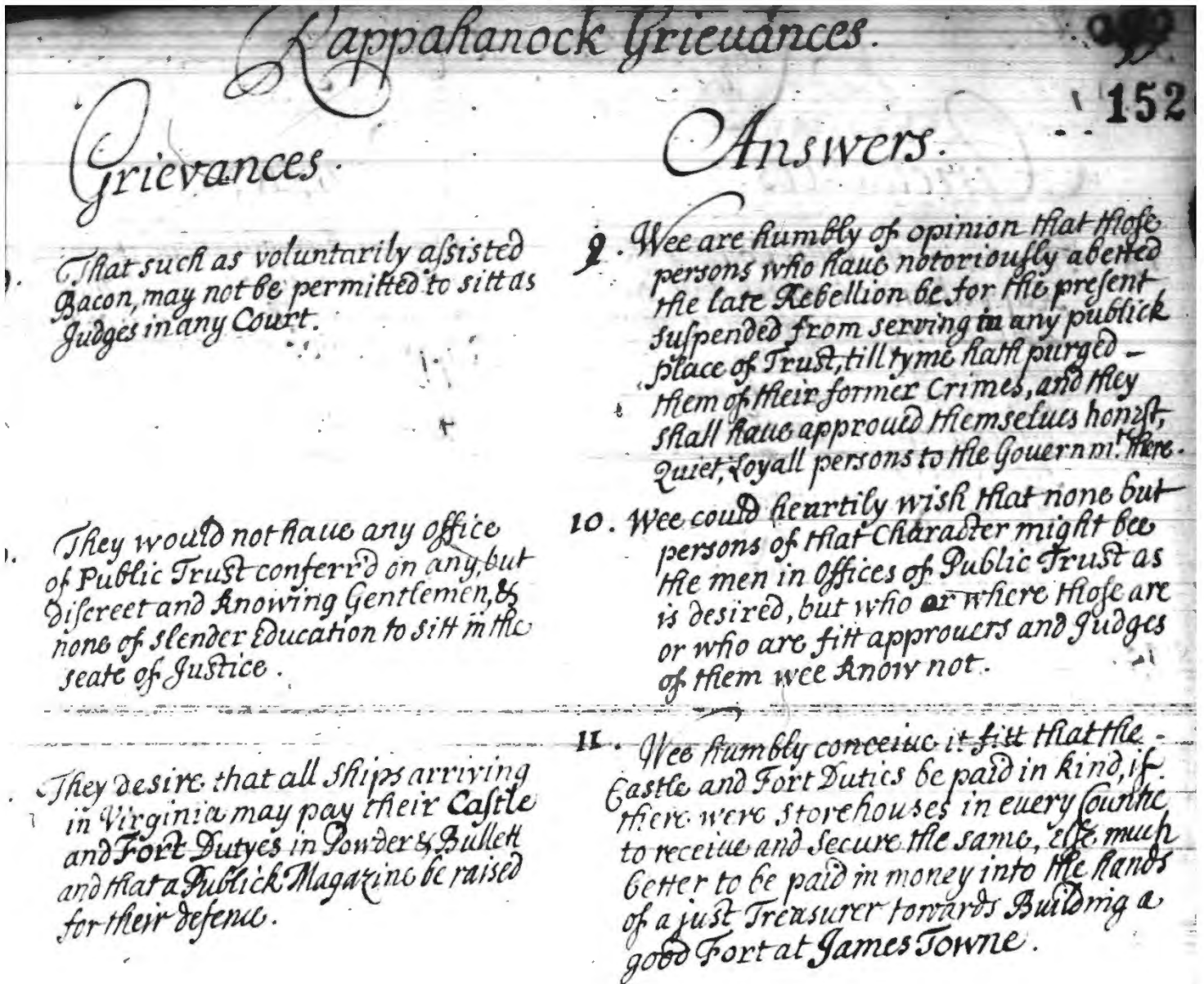
Bacon's Rebellion, Grievances, 1676–1677



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Grievances.	Answers.
2. They desire an Honourable Peace may bee concluded with the Indians for the sake of their owne emergent necessities, without which they could not possibly subsist, as living in continual danger vpon the Frontiers.	2. A Peace is concluded with the Indians vpon good, just and honorable termes; of which wee cannot in the least doubt, but that it will be a secure and lasting one; vnlesse the English (w^{ch} God defend) should happen to bee the first infringers, as heretofore they haue beene.
3. If a Warr happen, they then propose and pray that the same may bee so managed that they of Rappahanock may not sustaine the brunt and suffer vnder the like hard usage, as of late they did, more than any other County in Virginia, as wee are informed.	3. In case of any War with the Indians wee humbly conceiue, that this is a Businessse for the Assembly to order & regulate according to Equality and Justice.
4. They also Pray that vpon any India war, this County (being vpon y^e Frontiers & lyable to much mischief, by reason of the Indian Incursions, which in tyme of war are soe frequent, that they cannot at once tend their crops of corne and secure their own liues from the suddain & surprizing assaults of the Enemy) that therefore they may be Exempted from paying any charge to the Warr, in which they are (for those reasons) more imploy'd than other Countyes to defend themselues.	4. Wee wee conceiue that this is most proper and reasonable to be recommended to the Assembly, that soe this and such other Frontier Plantations as beare the Brunt of the Indian outrages, may bee Exempted from defraying the charge incumbent vpon a Publick warr with them.

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2. They desire that for the future the Assembly may meet and all generall Courts may be kept at a convenient place in the Centre of the Country - And that care may be had for Erecting Townes in Every County with all speed possible.
12. It is our most humble opinion that - James City is the most proper Place - for all Publick Conventions of the Country both of Assemblies and generall Courts - and if the Statehouse (which was - anciently there) should be removed thence it would not onely render the Erecting a good Fort there impracticable, but - ruine the designe of Building that ancient Towne againe, for which there are much usefull materials remaining that will save the Country some thousand pounds charge, when as the Removall of it was voted but by one supernumerary voice, and for noe other reason or pretence - but onely because some of the Inhabitants come over a River to James Towne, - and which others must doe the like - from this other part, if the Statehouse bee elsewhere situated, and soe the Inconvenience will be onely altered and not remedied by a Removall. As for the Building Townes in every County it were greatly to be desired, and well to be encouraged.

13. They desire that this County of - Rappahanock which hath bene a Bulworke and defence to other Counties agt the Indians, and thereby reduced to much poverty, may have either a reparation of their losses from other parts, or be eased in their Publick Levies in regard of their great sufferings and Loyalty in the tyme of the late troubles.
13. Wee doe humbly judge it proper for the Assembly to doe all that well may bee done for the ease of poore Rappahanoc in their publick Levies and that by a special Command from his most Gracious Majestic.
14. They desire that the Freemen of the Country may be admitted with the Freeholders to give their Votes at the Election of Burgesses.
14. Wee humbly suppose such Elections repugnant to the Lawes of England & the Peace of that Colony, the ill Consequences of which were seene in the Juno Assembly (1676) when freemen were both chosers, and chosen Burgesses.

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308 221 Grievances	Westmerland County.	Answers.
3. They desire that such persons as have beene disaffected to the present Government and active in the late Troubles may suffer according to their demerits, that the like Rebellion (which God forbid) may not be Encouraged.	3. Due Enquiry and Punishment has beene made and inflicted upon divers notorious abettors and Promoters of the late Rebellion according to Justice, and after the Lawes of England and their owne demerits.	
4. They desire that the Records of the Country (by them supposed to be Embezelled and Burned) being lost great care may be taken for settling as soon as may every man in his just Rights and possession of Land and Estate.	4. The Records were Preserved by Mr. Drumond from Burning, and care is taken by the Secretary whose Office it is, to keepe them secure.	
5. They desire that an Adresse may be made to his Majestie in behalf of the Country, Begging Pardon for the late Rebellion, and imploring most humbly the continuance of his Royall favors as formerly.	5. This has beene performed by a Publick Letter from the Assembly of Virginia at their last Meeting at Greene Spring.	
6. They desire that the Public Place of Judicature and meeting of the Assembly may be Ordered in the most convenient place of the Middle of the Country.	6. Wee humbly conceive the most convenient Place to be James-City, where the Statehouse formerly stood, and the walls of brick worke are yett standing.	

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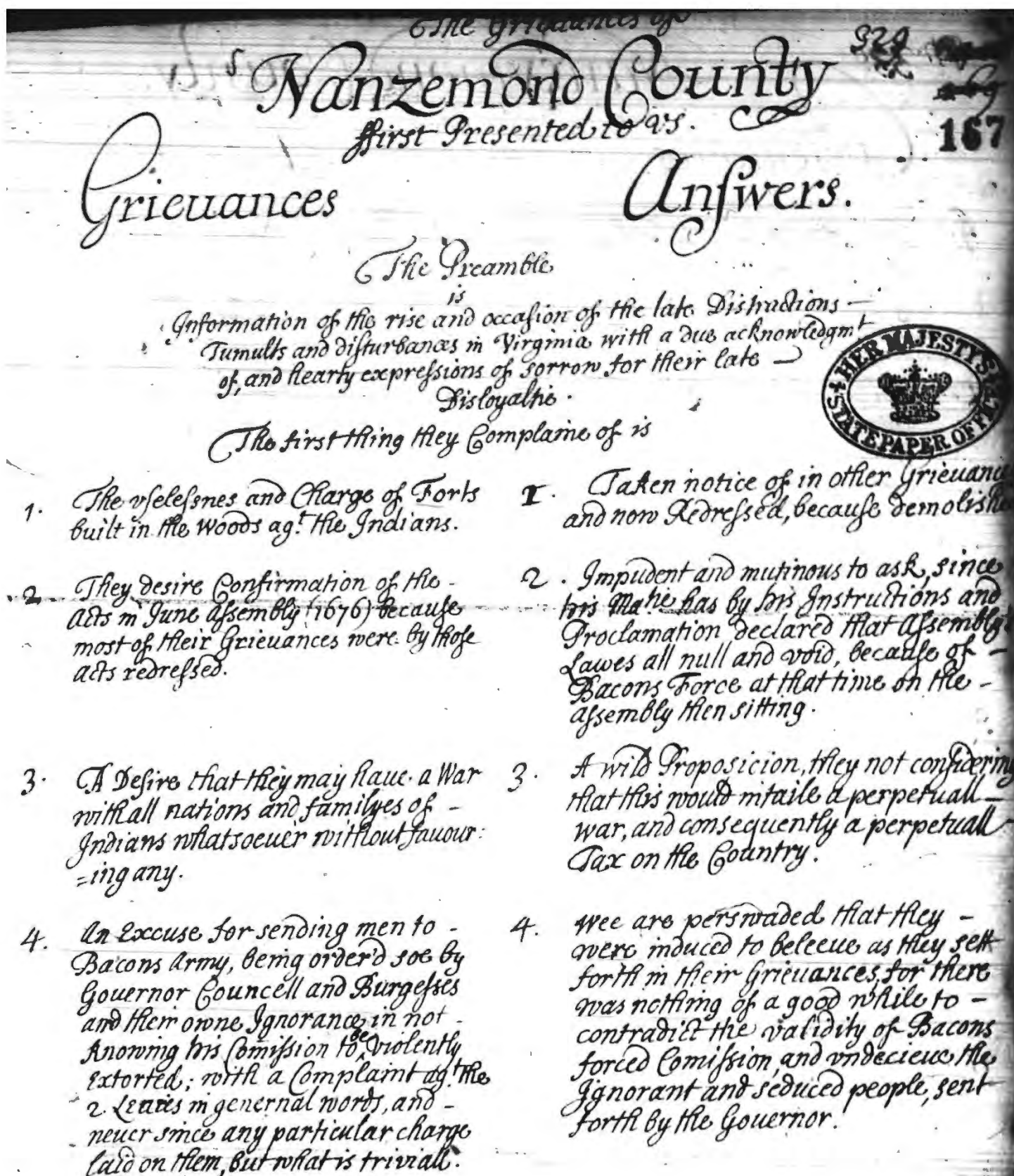
Bacon's Rebellion, Grievances, 1676-1677

of the Country.

7. They supplicate that the *Susanna* = nock charge may be borne by the whole Country; And the Councillors Salaries & Tythables may noe more bee allowed them, and no Councillor to sitt Judge of any County Court.
8. They desire that the R. Honorable the Gouvernor bee moved not to call too frequent Assemblies.
9. They desire a Peace wth the Indians to the best advantage &c.
7. As to the first it has bin moved to the late Assembly. The Salaries of the Councill are also alleviated, and order taken in the former. And wee are humbly of opinion - that the Councell should not properly sitt as Judges, but in Circuits only: and then not to visit (as Judges) - their owne Countyes.
8. This Grievance is taken away by His Majesties Special Comand.
9. A Good and Just Peace is lately concluded with the Neighbour - Indians.

10.

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Bacon's Rebellion, Grievances, 1676–1677

5. They desire restitution of such -
armes as have been taken from
them; and for things seized, or
taken from ^{them} they expresse themselves
content that every man should
beare his owne losse.

6. They desire they may pay noe -
Tax this yeare, by reason of their
great losses and heavy charges
occasioned by the Troubles last
yeare.

5. Wee thinke both the first and latter -
reasonable, especially the bearing
every one his owne losse, since there
is noe redressing the latter without
charging the publique.

6. These men that in the 3^d Article -
before desired a perpetuall warr
against the Indians, in this desire
an Exemption from all Taxes this ye
which is impossible, soe many just
occasions after the Rebellion require
it.

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Bacon's Rebellion, Grievances, 1676–1677

Transcription

A Repertory of the General County Grievances of VIRGINIA.

As Followeth together with the humble Opinion of his Majesties Commission & annex to the same,

As also the Grievances themselves herewith also Presented in their owne words as wee received them in Virginia

Octob. 15th 1677.

[Note: several of these pages were later stamped with "Her Majesty's State Office Seal" with no date. The grievances and answers appear in columns, but the transcription presents each grievance first, followed by the corresponding response.]

Rappahannock County

Grievance

2. They desire an Honourable Peace may bee concluded with the Indians for the sake of their owne emergent necessities, without which they could not possibly subsist, as living in continual danger upon the Frontiers.

Answer

2. A Peace is concluded with Indians upon good, just and honorable termes; of which wee cannot in the least doubt, but that it will be a secure and lasting one; unless the English (which God defend) should happen to bee the first infringers, as heretofore they have beene.

Grievance

3. If a Warr happen, they then propose and pray that the same may bee soe managed that they of Rappahanock may not sustaine the brunt and suffer under the like hard usage as of late they did, more than any other county in Virginia, as wee are informed.

Answer

3. In case of any War with the Indians wee humbly conceive that this is a Businesse for the Assembly to order & regulate according to Equality and Justice.

Grievance

4. They also Pray that upon any India[n] war, this county (being upon the Frontiers & lyable to much mischief, by reason of the Indian Incursions, which in tyme of war are soe frequent, that they cannot at once tend their crops of corne and secure their own Lives from the suddain & surprizing assaults of the Enemy) that therefore they may be Exempted from paying any charge to the Warr, in which they are (for those reasons) more imploy'd than other Countyes to defend themselves.

Answer

4. Wee conceive that this is most proper and reasonable to be recommended to the Assembly, that soe this and such other Frontier Plantations as beare the Brunt of the Indian outrages be exempted from defraying the Charge incumbent upon a Publick warr with them.

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Bacon's Rebellion, Grievances, 1676–1677

Transcription

Grievance

9. That such as voluntarily assisted Bacon, may not be permitted to sitt as Judges in any Court.

Answer

9. Wee are humbly of opinion that those persons who have notoriously abetted the late Rebellion be for the present suspended from serving in any publick place of Trust, till tyme hath purged them of their former Crimes, and they shall have approved themselves honest, Quiet, Loyall persons to the Government here.

Grievance

10. They would not have any office of Public Trust conferr'd on any, but discreet and knowing Gentlemen, & none of slender education to sitt in the seate of Justice.

Answer

10. Wee could heartily wish that none but persons of that character might bee the men in Offices of Public Trust as is desired, but who or where those are or who are fitt approvers and judges of them wee know not.

Grievance

11. They desire that all ships arriving in Virginia may pay for their Castle and Fort Dutyes in Powder & Bullett and that a Publick Magazine be raised for their defence.

Answer

11. Wee humbly conceive it fitt that the Castle and Fort Duties be paid in kind, if there were storehouses in every Countie to receive and secure the same, & much better to be paid in money into the hands of a just Treasurer towards Building a good Fort at James Towne.

Grievance

12. They desire that for the future the Assembly may meet and all Generall Courts may be kept in a convenient place at the centre of the Country and that care may be had for Erecting Townes in Every County with all speede possible.

Answer

12. It is our most humble opinion that James City is the most proper Place for all Publick Conventions of the Country both of Assemblies and generall Courts and if the Statehouse (which was anciently there) should be removed thence it would not onely render the Erecting a good Fort there impracticable, but ruine the designe of Building that ancient Towne againe, for which there are much usefull materials remaining that will save the Country some thousand pounds charge, when as the Removall of it was voted but by one supernumery voice and for noe other reason or pretence but onely because some of the Inhabitants come over a River to James Towne and which others must doe the like from this other part, if the Statehouse bee elsewhere situated, and soe the Inconvenience will be onely altered and not remedied by a Removal. As for the Building Townes in every County it were greatly to bee desired, and well to be encouraged.

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Bacon's Rebellion, Grievances, 1676–1677

Transcription

Grievance

13. They desire that this County of Rappahannock which hath beene a Bulworke and defence to other Countyes ag[ains]t the Indians, and thereby reduced to much poverty may have either a reparation of their Losses from other parts, or be eased in their Publick Levyes in regard of their great sufferings and Loyaltie in the tyme of late troubles.

Answer

13. We doe humbly judge it proper for the Assembly to doe all that may bee done for the Ease of Rappahanoc in their publick Levies and that by a Special Command from his most Gracious Majestie.

Grievance

14. They desire that the Freemen of the Country may be admitted with the ffreeholders to give their Votes at the Election of Burgesses.

Answer

14. Wee humbly suppose such Elections repugnant to the Lawes of England & the Peace of that Colony, the ill Consequences of which were seene in the June Assembly (1676) when ffreeman were both chosers, and chosen Burgesses.

Westmoreland County

Grievance

3. They desire that such persons as have beene disaffected to the present Government and active in the late Troubles may suffer according to their demeritts, that the like Rebellion (which God forbid) may not bee Encouraged.

Answer

3. The Enquiry and Punishment has beene made and inflicted upon divers notorious abettors and Promoters of the late Rebellion according to Justice, and after the laws of England and their own demeritts.

Grievance

4. They desire that the Records of the Country (by them supposed to bee Embezelled and Burned) being lost great care may bee taken for settleing (as soone as may) every man in his just Rights and possession of land and Estate.

Answer

4. The records were preserved by Mr. Drumond from Burning, and care is taken by the Secretary whose Office it is, to keepe them secure.

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Transcription

Grievance

5. They desire that an Adresse may be made to his Majestie in behalf of the Country, Begging Pardon for the late Rebellion, and imploring most humbly the continuance of his Royall favors as formerly.

Answer

5. This has beene performed by a Publick Letter, from the Assembly of Virginia at their last Meeting at Greene Spring.

Grievance

6. They desire that the Public Place of Judicature and meeting of the Assembly may be Ordered in the most convenient place of the Middle of the Country.

Answer

6. Wee humbly conceive the most Convenient Place to bee James City, where the Statehouse formerly stood, and the walls of brick worke are yet standing.

Grievance

7. They supplicate that the Suscahanock charge may be borne by the whole Country, and the Councillors salaries & Tythables may noe more bee allowed them, and no councillor to sitt Judge of any County Court.

Answer

7. As to the first it has bin moved to the last Assembly. The Salaries of the Councill are also alleviated and order taken in the former. And wee are humbly of opinion that the Councill should not properly sitt as Judges, but in Circuits only; and then not to visit (as Judges) their owne Countyes.

Grievance

8. They desire that the Rt. Honorable the Governor bee moved not to call too frequent Assemblies.

Answer

8. This Grievance is taken away by his Majesties Special Comand.

Grievance

9. They desire a Peace with the Indians to the best advantage etc.

Answer

9. A Good and Just Peace is lately concluded with the neighbour Indians.

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Transcription

The Grievances of Nanzemond County first Presented to us.

The Preamble is Information of the rise and occasion of the late Distractions Tumults and disturbances in Virginia with a due acknowledgment of, and hearty expressions of sorrow for their late Disloyaltie.

The first thing they Complaine of is
Grievance

1. The uselesnes and Charge of Forts built in the woods ag[ains]t the Indians.

Answer

1. Taken notice of other Grievances and now Redressed, because demolished.

Grievance

2. They desire Confirmation of the Acts in June Assembly (1676) because most of their Grievances were by those acts redressed.

Answer

2. Impudent and mutinous to ask since his Majestie has by his Instructions and Proclamation declared that Assembly Lawes all null and void, because of Bacon's Force at that time on the assembly then sitting.

Grievance

3. A Desire that they may have a War with all nations and families of Indians whatsoever without favouring any.

Answer

3. A wild Proposition, they not considering that this would intaile a perpetuall war, and consequently a perpetuall Tax on the Country.

Grievance

4. An Excuse for sending men to Bacons Army, being order'd soe by Governor Councell and Burgesses and their owne Ignorance in not knowing his Commission to be violently extorted with a Complaint ag[ains]t. the 2 Levies in general words, and never since any particular charge laid on them, but what is triviall.

Answer

4. Wee are persuaded that they were induced to believe as they sett forth in their Grievances, for there was nothing of a good while to contradict the validity of Bacons forced Commission, and undeceive the Ignorant and seduced people, sent forth by the Governor.

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Transcription

Grievance

5. They desire restitution of such armes as have been taken from them, and for things seised, or taken from them they expresse themselves content that every man should bear his owne losse.

Answer

5. Wee think both the first and latter reasonable, especially in the bearing every one his owne losse, since there is no redressing the latter without Charging the publique.

Grievance

6. They desire they may pay noe tax this yeare, by reason of their great losses and heavy charges occasioned by the Troubles last yeare.

Answer

6. These men that in the 3d Article before desired a perpetuall Warr against the Indians, in this desire an exemption from all Taxes this yeare which is impossible soe many just occasions after the Rebellion require it.

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