

wee are all well assured that the Lord Baltimore will send directions to those who are trusted by him & if any thing shall be insisted on by them contrary to reason & prejudicial to our Colony of Virg<sup>a</sup> upon representacōn thereof to us, wee shall give such determinacōn therein as shall be just. To w<sup>ch</sup> Royal Iustice wee doe in all humility appeale, both for a vindicacōn of ourselves from any disobedience to yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ties</sup> Commands & our actions from any opinion of Levity & inconstancy in matters of so neare & important concernm<sup>t</sup> And for a redresse of our present injuries and a security from those mischiefes & inconveniences w<sup>ch</sup> either are or are likely to fall upon this yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ties</sup> Colony, at present reduced to that strange extremity as to, remaine the poorer, the harder they labour for so little doth a great quantity of Tobacco yield that they have not time to improve any other commodities to their advantage. And doe therefore most humbly pray th<sup>t</sup> as God has blessed us w<sup>th</sup> a most gracious & indulgent Prince, served by most hon<sup>ble</sup> & prudent councill<sup>rs</sup> That yo<sup>r</sup> Majesty by yo<sup>r</sup> absolute power & Your Princely favour will be graciously pleased to protect this yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ties</sup> Loyall & most ancientest Collony from the violent & ruinous attempte of our Neighbours arm'd (as they pretend) w<sup>th</sup> absolute authority, & that yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> & the L<sup>ds</sup> of yo<sup>r</sup> most Hon<sup>ble</sup> Privy Councill will be pleased upon consideracōn of our whole complaints herein represented to yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> to put such a determinacōn to it as shall seeme most juste, & th<sup>t</sup> you will be pleased to apply such a remedy as may be proporcōnable to our distresse, Wherein if yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> & yo<sup>r</sup> most Hon<sup>ble</sup> Councill<sup>rs</sup> shall yet incline for the confirmacōn of a Cessation for the future (that wee may not appeare so ingratefull for such a blessing) wee are well contented th<sup>t</sup> such impositions may bee putt upon our Comōdity as may fully repaire any deminution in yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ties</sup> Revenue occasion'd by the sd Cessacōn & shall for ever pray that God will blesse yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> w<sup>th</sup> Victories and Tryumphs over all your Enemies and long continue you the greatest blessing upon earth, as to all other yo<sup>r</sup> subjects so to this Colony & particularly to yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ties</sup> most Humble Loyall and obedient Servants, subjects & Creatures.

P. R. O.  
Colonial Pa-  
pers, Vol. 21,  
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Thomas Swann  
George Reade  
Edward Carter

Robert Wynne Speaker

William Berkeley  
Thomas Ludwell Sec.  
Robert Smith  
Richard Bennett  
Theodorick Bland  
Thomas Stegge  
Nathaniell Bacon  
Henry Corbin  
Milles Cary  
Francis Willis

Vera Copia test.

Tho<sup>s</sup>. Ludwell Sec.