

Virginia

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do hereby constitute and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article 1

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and including Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, and each State shall have at least one Representative, and each Representative shall have the Qualification of Electors in that State. The Electors in each State shall have the Qualification requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers, and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof for a Term of six Years, and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Congress, the first Session, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Clases. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of their second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Course of such Session of any State, the Executive Authority thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature of such State, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be the President of the Senate, but he shall not have a Vote, unless he be equally divided.

The Senate shall choose their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

They shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. The Chief Justice of the United States, or Chief Justice sitting, shall preside. And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

In Cases of Impeachment they shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of Honor, Trust or Profit under the United States; but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment, and Punishment according to Law.

Section 4. The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

Section 5. Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business, but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties, as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any Question shall be taken and recorded in the Journal of that House, except on Questions of Procedure.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three Days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

Section 6. The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and coming from the same, and for any Speech or Debate in either House; they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Term for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States which shall have been created, or the Emoluments thereof shall have been increased during such Term; and no Person holding any Office under the United States shall be a Member of either House during the Congress next ensuing.

Section 7. All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as to the Amount thereof; and all Bills which shall have originated in the Senate, except Money Bills, shall first be reported to the House of Representatives.

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Appomattox Court House

The Appomattox Court House isn't actually a court house, it is the name of the town where General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Grant when the Civil War Ended. The actual surrender took place in the McLean House. General Grant wasn't stuck up and full of himself, and even let General Lee keep his sword.



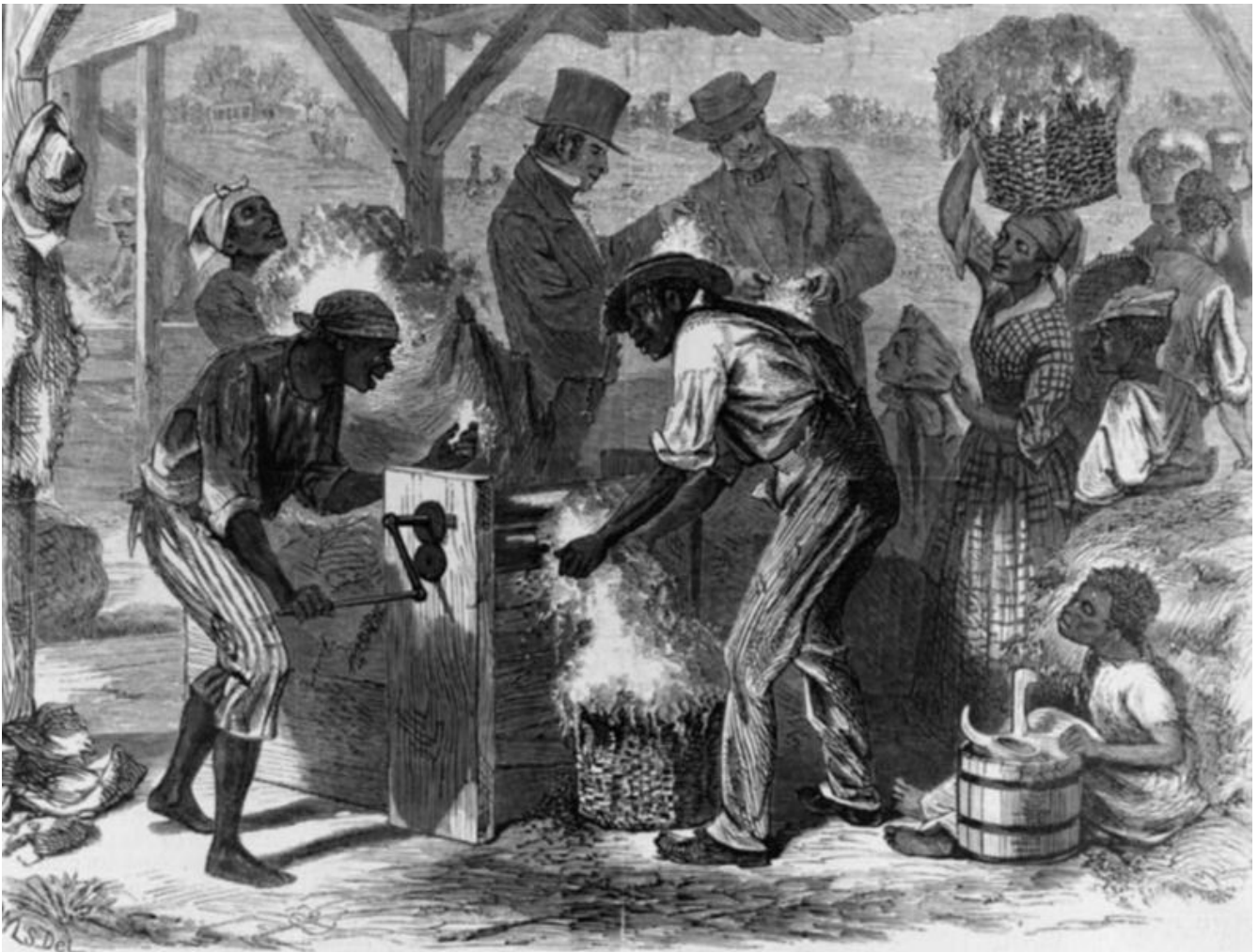
Nathaniel Bacon

Nathaniel Bacon wanted to fight the Indians away from Jamestown. Gov. Berkeley said no. Bacon decided to hold a rebellion called Bacon's Rebellion. It unfortunately ended up burning Jamestown down to the ground. It would have kept on going, but Bacon got sick and died, and without Bacon the whole thing kind of shut down.



Cotton Gin

The Cotton Gin was invented by Eli Whitney. He made it so that there could be less slave labor. Sadly it only created more, because now that they have the gin they can to pick cotton twice as fast. Plus a ton of cotton was picked, planted, and grown in Virginia.



Declaration of Independence

The Declaration of Independence was a document that stated the the colonies wanted to be free from England. The person who wrote it, Thomas Jefferson, or TJ as I like to call him, was born and raised in Virginia. It was influenced by the Virginia Declaration of Rights which was written by George Mason.



Eastern Shore

The Eastern Shore is a peninsula off the coast of Virginia. It has very flat terrain. It has an island called Chincoteague which is famous for its wild ponies. All of the Eastern shore is disconnected with the commonwealth of Virginia, but it is connected by the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. The Eastern Shore is also famous for its beaches and fishing for oysters, crabs, and fish.



Fall Line

The Fall Line is a line of waterfalls where you can't go any farther by ship, so a lot of cities including Richmond our capitol developed along this line of waterfalls. It is also the boundary between the Coastal Plain region and the Piedmont region. People built factories, along with buildings, and they got power from the running water of the falls.



Ulysses S. Grant

Ulysses S. Grant was the head of the Union army after President Lincoln fired General McClellan. General Grant was considered a soldiers general, because he slept in small tents when the other soldiers did. Apart from being a great general he was also a terrible alcoholic, which made him a poor president. In more cheerful terms he was an excellent general who got General Robert E. Lee to surrender.



Harriet Tubman

Harriet Tubman was without a doubt the most famous conductor of the Underground Railroad, a secret network of passages and trails that helped slaves escape to freedom. She was a slave herself at one time, but she escaped when she was young. Slave owners had an **enormous** reward for her capture, dead or alive.



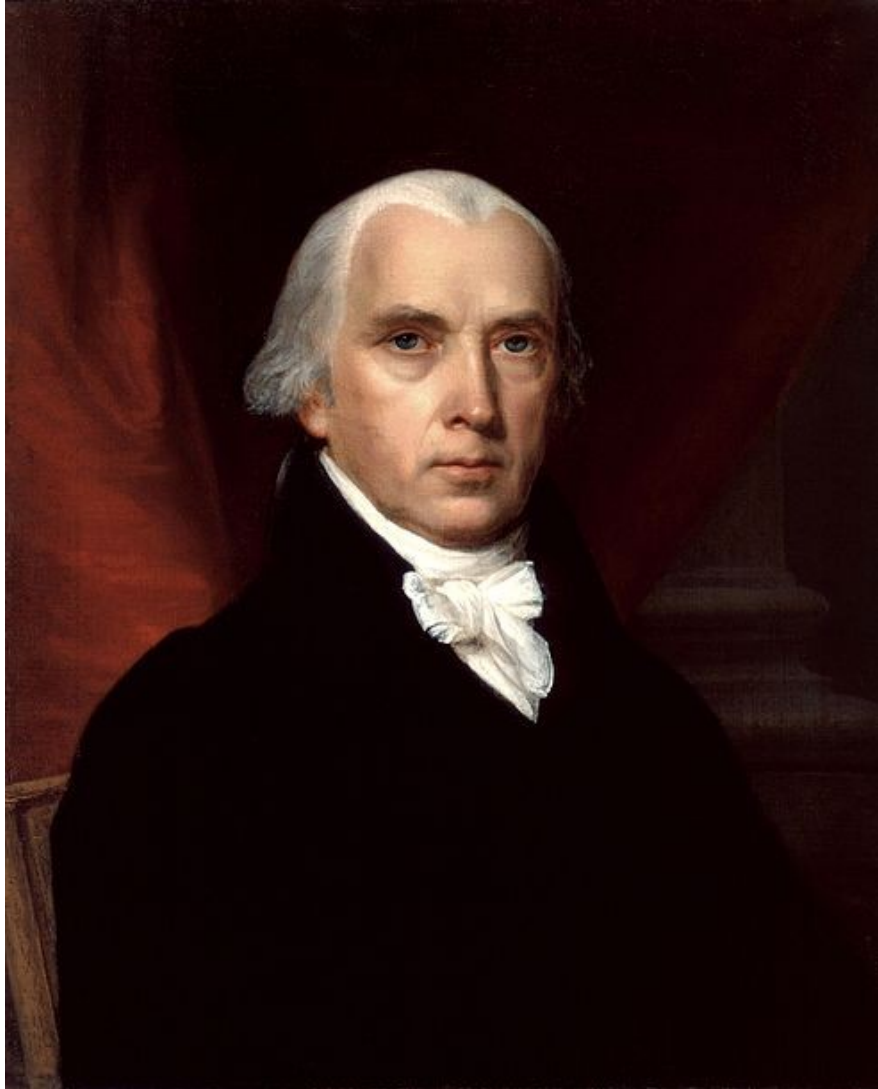
Indentured Servants

An indentured servant is someone who is brought to a new land for no cost and then works off his/her ride over by working for 5 to 7 years. At first Africans were indentured servants, but later on they became slaves. Indentured servants often died of overwork or starvation, but they still came, because their chances were better off in Virginia than in England.



James Madison

James Madison was the Fourth president of the United States, but before that he worked at the Constitutional Convention, where he earned his nickname: The Father of the Constitution. James Madison was very very *very* skilled at compromise. He also led the United States during the War of 1812. Dolley Madison, his wife was one of the main reasons he got elected for president.



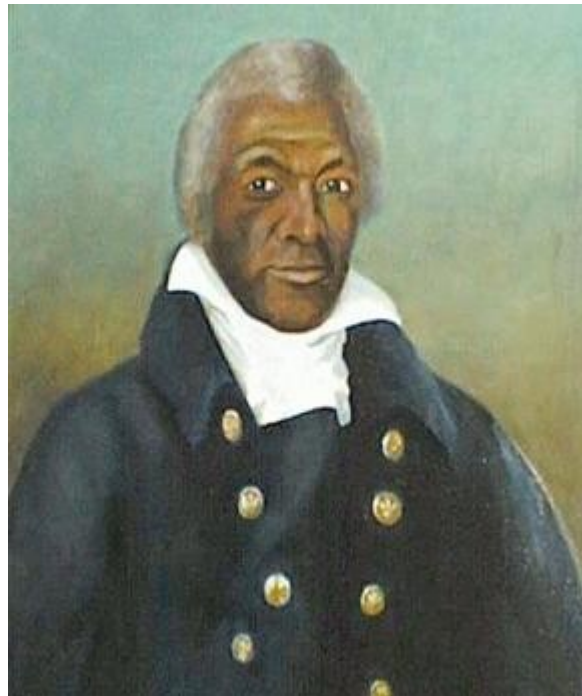
King James I

King James I was the ruler of England at the time of Jamestown. He is the one who gave the famous charters to the Virginia Company of London. These stated that even though you were in Virginia you were still an English citizen, and you had the same rights that you had in England. King James was also King of Scotland and Ireland before he was the king in England.



James Armistead Lafayette

James Armistead was born a slave somewhere near Williamsburg, Virginia. He was a patriot, so he served as a spy for the continental army. He provided critical information back to base about the English army. When the colonies won he was granted his freedom. He had so much respect for the French general he changed his name from James Armistead to James Armistead Lafayette.



Dolley Madison

Dolley Madison was one of the reasons that James Madison got elected for president. She was outgoing and funny. She liked to talk a lot, but James didn't. She officially became the first First Lady. When the War of 1812 came around, she saved many important things in the White House from the fire set by the British, including the portrait of George Washington.



Nat Turner

Nat Turner was born into slavery in 1800. He believed that he was born to free all the slaves from slavery. He killed sixty slave owners in a bloody revolt. He was an important part of changing people's idea about slavery, that slaves were happy being slaves. After Nat Turner more strict laws were put into play about slavery.



Old Dominion

The “Old Dominion” was King Charles II's pet name for Virginia. The name showed his fondness for the colony, because the colonists wanted him to be the King of England. He sure did like The Old Dominion, but he expected them to obey him. They didn't want to, because they had gotten so used to governing themselves. They did not like the change.



Powhatan

The Powhatan were the Native American tribe that was here before the colonists. The Powhatan were also known as the First Americans. Their forms of shelter (homes) were called Yahekans, which were built by laying animal furs over wooden frames made of little trees. They were the main reason that the colonists at Jamestown survived, because of their trading relationships with the Powhatan.



POWHATAN
*Held this state & fashion when Capt. Smith
was delivered to him prisoner
1607*

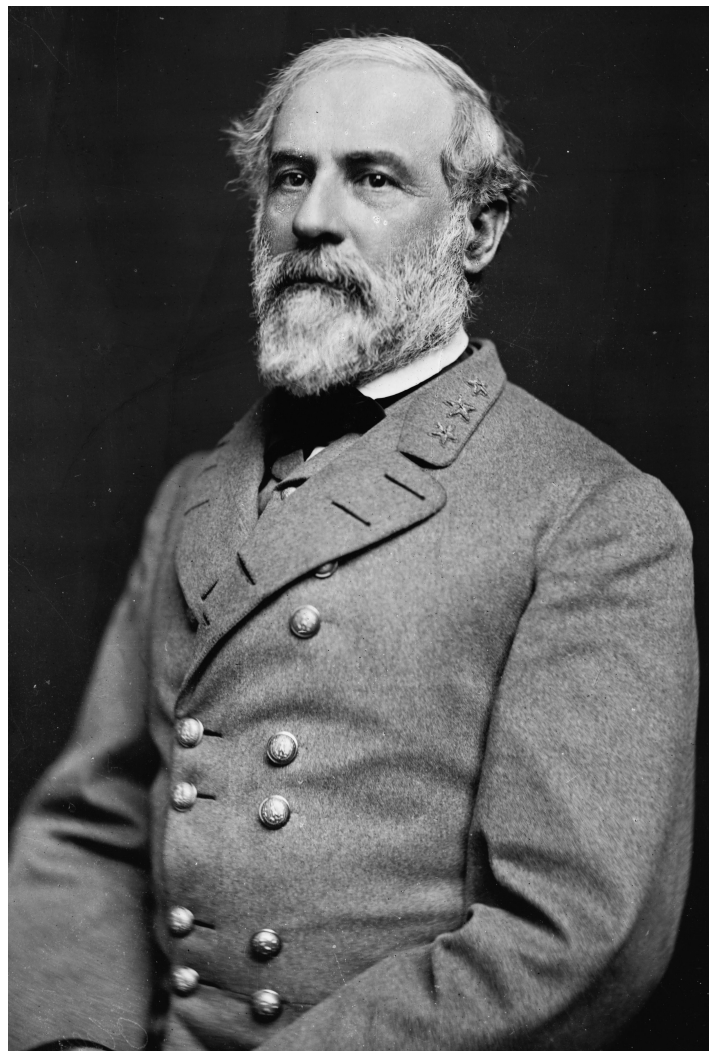
Queen Elizabeth I

Elizabeth I became the Queen of England in 1558. She was the first one to give a charter to colonize non-Christian lands to Sir Humphrey Gilbert. He landed in Newfoundland, but then he passed away. Sir Walter Raleigh took it over and landed near modern Virginia. Sir Walter Raleigh decided to name this land Virginia, after Queen Elizabeth I, the virgin queen.



Robert E. Lee

Robert E. Lee was the Confederate general in the Civil War. He was such a terrific general he was actually asked in person by Abraham Lincoln to lead the Union Army, but he couldn't leave his dear Virginia. He then became the best general of the Confederacy. Even though he fought for the Confederacy he hated slavery, never owned slaves, and freed the ones his mother owned. Ending the war he was forced to surrender to General Grant at Appomattox.



J.E.B. Stuart

J.E.B. Stuart was the cavalry leader for the Confederacy. He was often known as the eyes of General Lee's forces. Together Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and Stuart made bold attack in the city of Chancellorsville, and it paid off! They secretly crept behind the Union lines to win the battle. J.E.B. Stuart was killed in action in a fierce Union charge.



Tobacco

Tobacco was known as a cash crop. When the colonists first came to Virginia they needed something to make profits from. First they tried gold, then glassblowing, but they finally found something they could make money off of. They found tobacco. The first kind they tried was the type the First Americans smoked, but they thought it was bitter. Then they got some from the Caribbean. It had a great taste. King James I knew that it was really bad for you, but it made him money, so he dealt with it.



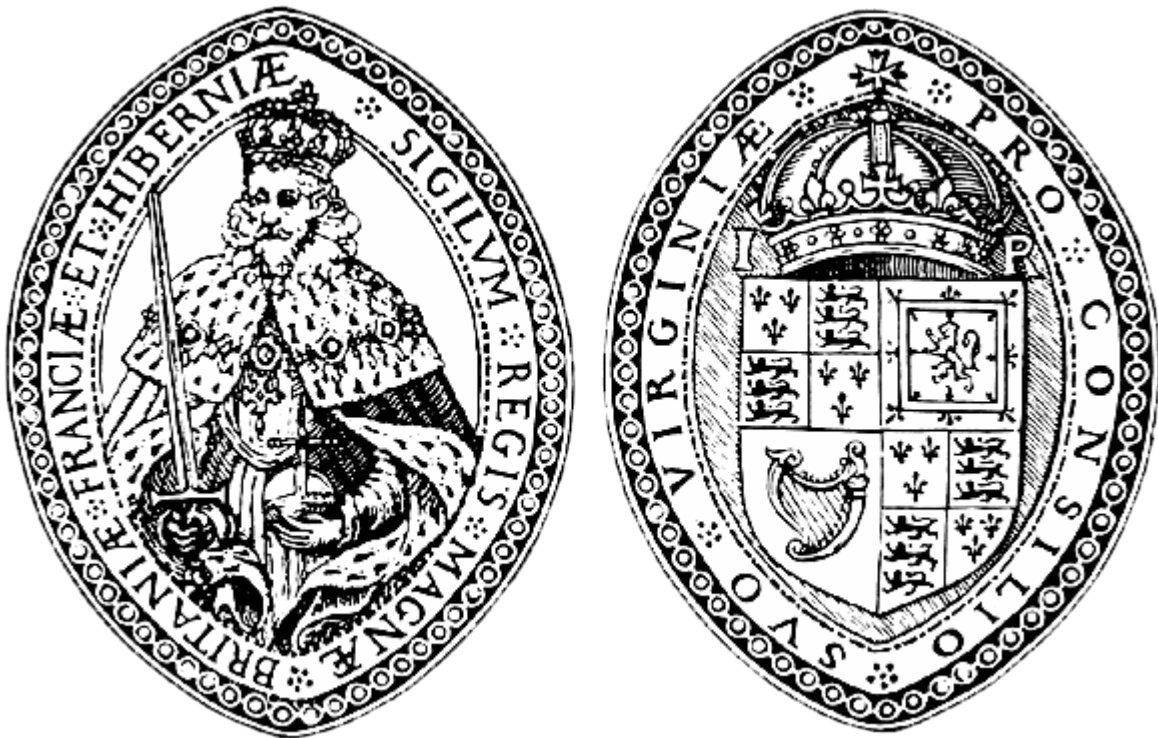
University of Virginia

The University of Virginia (UVA) was built by Thomas Jefferson in the time after his presidency. UVA was built on farm land owned by James Monroe who sold it to be closer to the Capitol. Located in Charlottesville, UVA was one of Jefferson's proudest achievements. Today, it is still one of the best universities in the country.



Virginia Company of London

The Virginia Company of London was a company run by its stockholders to start a new colony in Virginia. It was started in the early 1600's by a royal charter from King James I. People expected to make a *ton* of money off this. They didn't until John Rolfe found the Caribbean tobacco. It was the Virginia Company that started Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement.



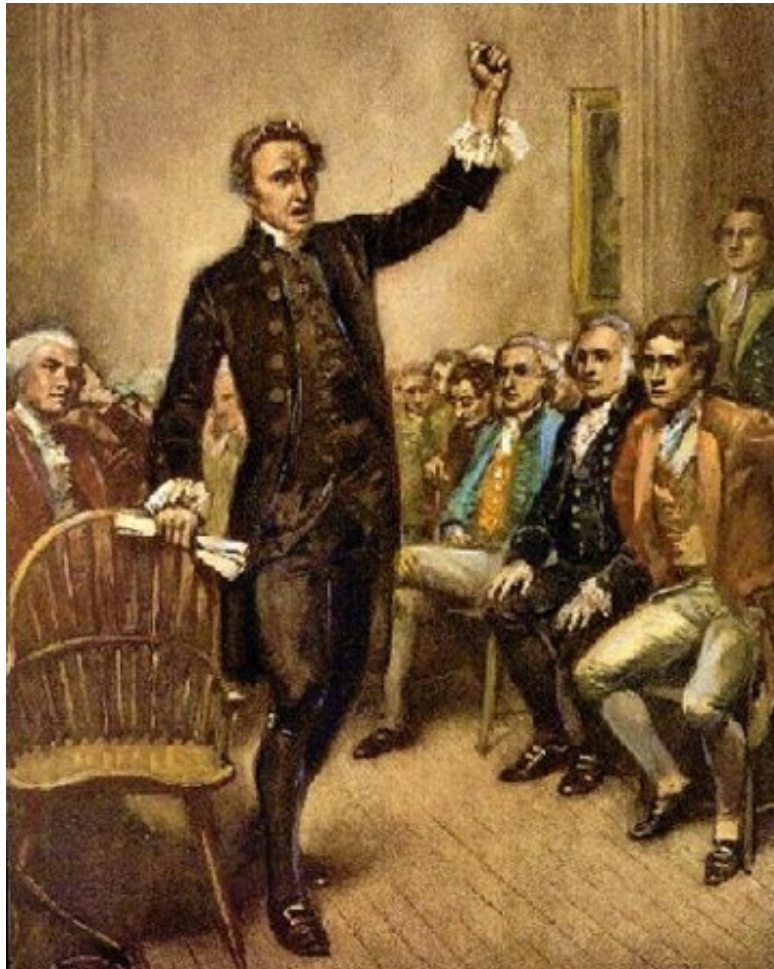
West Virginia

Farming tobacco was hard on the soil, and many farmers could not grow good tobacco. They decided to travel west in search of good soil. When they were searching for soil, what they found instead was a whole lot of coal! In mining they didn't use any slave labor. Because of the lack of slaves, in 1863, fifty counties west of the Blue Ridge Mountains seceded from the rest of Virginia to join the Union, and become the 35th state—West Virginia.



TaXation Without Representation

Later in the colonies, Britain tried to tax Virginia, but Patrick Henry said that they had no representation in parliament, so you shouldn't tax when nobody is representing you. One of the most famous outbursts was when Britain tried to tax the colonies on tea, which led to the Boston Tea Party. The Stamp Act and other conflicts like these are what led to the Revolutionary War.



Yorktown

Yorktown is located on the York River. What is so special about this, you may ask? Well, Yorktown is where we won our independence from England, when General Washington defeated Lord Cornwallis. In the peninsula between the York and James Rivers, little did Lord Cornwallis know that it was a trap set up by the Colonists and the French. Lord Cornwallis surrendered to General Washington in Yorktown.



Zachary Taylor

Zachary Taylor was born in Montebello, Virginia. He served forty years in the U.S. Army, and was known as “Old Rough and Ready” for his success in the Mexican War. He spent most of his time fighting in the Indian wars and the War of 1812. He was the last president to own slaves, and died sixteen months after being elected the twelfth president.



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