

TRANSCRIPTION

By the King

Hereas, at the humble suit and request of sundry Our loving and well disposed Subjects, intending to deduce a Colony, and to make a plantation in Virginia, wee, for the inlarging of Our Government, increase of Navigation and Trade, and especially for the reducing of the savage and barbarous people of those parts to the Christian faith, did incorporate diuers Noblemen, Gentlemen and others, adventurers in the sayd plantation, and granted unto them sundry priviledges and Liberties; amongst which, for their better helpe and affiance to raise some competent summes of money to prosecute the same plantation to a happy end, wee did grant them license to let loosth, erect, and publish Lotteries, to continue for one yeere after the opening of the same, and further, during our pleasure; which liberty hath been in the same Company put in use diuers yeeres past. Now forasmuch as we are given to underhand, that although weein granting the sayd License, had our eye fixed upon a religious and princely end and designe, yet the sayd Lotteries, having now for a long time been put in use, doe dayly decline to most and most inconvenience, to the hinderance of inuititudes of Our Subjects.

Wee whole care continually waiteth upon the generall welfare of our people, have thought it expedient, for the generall good of Our Subjects, to suspend the further execution of the saide Lotteries, until upon further deliberation and advisement, we shall be most fully informed of the inconveniences and evils thereby arising, and may ordaine due remedy for the same, without any conceit of withdrawing Our favor in any degree from the said company or plantation, and good worke by them intended.

And therefore we doe hereby expsesly charge and command the sayd Company and their successors, and all their officers, Ministers, and Servants, and all others, That from henceforth they desist and forbear, to use or execute any manner of grant or License from Us, for the keeping and continuing of any Lotterie, or to keepe or continuing any Lotterie, within this Our Realme of England or the Dominion thereof, until such time as wee shall declare Our further pleasure therein. And wee likewise require all Justices, Officers, and Ministers whatsoever, from henceforth, diligently and carefully to see this Our pleasure executed, and to punish the infringers thereof, as contemnners of our Royall command.

Given at Our Palace of Westminster the eighth day of March, in the eighteenth yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God save the King.

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