

**THE FIRSTE CHARTER OF THE VIRGINIA
COMPANIE
April 10, 1606**

James, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc.

Whereas our loving subjects, the knights, gentlemen, marchants and certain adventurers of our cittie of London, have asked that we give them a licence to make a colonie in that parte of America commonly called Virginia,

Wee doe, therefore, grante to the adventurers of the Virginia Companie of London that they shall beginne their Firste Colonie anie place they see fit between 34 and 41 degrees of latitude on the coast of Virginia. They will hereafter tende to the glorie of His Divine Majestie in propagating of Christian religion to suche people as yet live in darkness. These adventurers shall have all the landes, woods, rivers, mineralls, waters, fishing, and commodities within fifty miles of the seat of their plantacion.

And further we doe grant that all persons living in the colonie shall have all the liberties, and immunities the same as if they had been borne or lived in England.

This is a simplified interpretation of the complete Charter of 1606 which can be found in the "Documents of American History" on the www.pen.k12.va.us Web site.