

‘ mon and call a general assembly of the free-
 ‘ holders and planters within this government,
 ‘ in such manner as he, in his discretion,
 ‘ should judge most proper. And your ma-
 ‘ jesty’s said lieutenant-governour, on the
 ‘ eleventh day of December last past, after
 ‘ having taken the said petition into his con-
 ‘ sideration, was pleased to inform your pe-
 ‘ titioners, that the subject of the said petition
 ‘ was a matter of too much importance for
 ‘ your majesty’s council here to advise, or for
 ‘ him, your said lieutenant-governour, to de-
 ‘ termine upon, at a time that, from the best
 ‘ information, the affairs of this province were
 ‘ likely to become an object of public regu-
 ‘ lation; but that he would transmit the said
 ‘ petition, by the first opportunity, to your
 ‘ majesty’s secretary of state.

‘ Your majesty’s petitioners being fully
 ‘ convinced, from their residence in the pro-
 ‘ vince, and their experience in the affairs
 ‘ of it, that a general assembly would very
 ‘ much contribute to encourage and promote
 ‘ industry, agriculture, and commerce, and
 ‘ (as they hope) to create harmony and good
 ‘ understanding between your majesty’s new
 ‘ and old subjects; most humbly supplicate
 ‘ your majesty to take the premises into your
 ‘ royal consideration, and to direct your ma-
 ‘ jesty’s governour or commander in chief to
 ‘ call a general assembly, in such manner,
 ‘ and of such constitution and form, as to