

is, was to present their grievances to be remedied to the Governor and Council, and to vote the money necessary to carry on the government of the colony. Apart from the taxation and assessment subject to the House of Burgesses, the Governor and Council—in the name of the great feudatories of the colony (London Council)—administered the feudal lands, known usually as "Crown lands."

The early gentlemen colonists of Virginia, who settled Jamestown on the James River in 1607, had their connection broken with their families in Britain, several leaving England to escape the consequences of their debts. On this account they were unable to obtain wives of their own class, even after they had gained appropriate estates in the colony. They knew no other class than their own in Britain. It became necessary for their domestic happiness to have wives of some kind however, and they employed an agent in London, who for the sake of 40 pounds of tobacco for each respectable female whom he could induce to go to Virginia and marry one of the planters, agreed to send over the article required for their domesticity. History does not state whether this article was a little *dear*, but it was certainly respectable, or the bargain would have been declared "off."

From the time of the settlement of Jamestown in 1607 to 1649 affairs in Britain were running more and more in a democratic channel. The people described in Cromwell's address to parliament, the leaders of this democracy, who had raised the indignation of Cromwell himself, had murdered the King, Charles I., and had usurped the royal power. All the counsellors and feudatories of the King had been killed in battle, or had fled the kingdom and some of those grand old cavaliers came to Virginia at this time, as fugitives, burning with indignation against the unprincipled and presumptuous democracy, whom they had left behind in Britain in the house of empire.

"For there was dust of vulgar feet
On that polluted floor;
And perjured traitors filled the seat
Where good men sat before."