

informed, and are verily persuaded, that ~~several Thousands~~ of the principal Quakers of *Pennsylvania*, as well as Numbers of the People from the *Hudson's* River, would remove to this Island if they had Opportunity and Encouragement.

18. Your Petitioners submit further to your Lordships' Consideration, that the Commerce of the said Island, and the Interchange with the neighbouring *British* Colonies, is so essential to their mutual Safety and Benefit, which are greatly obstructed by the heavy Charges exacted by the Officers of his Majesty's Customs, as well on the Island as on the adjacent Coast; and, though they are well aware of the Necessity of Custom-House Regulations, and that the Service of his Majesty's Officers should be properly rewarded, they humbly conceive that the same may be established in a Manner more advantageous to the Community at large, as well as the individual Interests of his Majesty's Officers.

THE Situation of *Saint John's*, as an Island, requires a frequent Interchange by Shipping with the neighbouring Coasts; and to and from whence an Exchange of Commodities is frequently an Object to both: it is presumed, therefore, that it would be of no small Utility to permit *British* Vessels to pass to and from the said Island, and to and from any Port or Harbour of his Majesty's *British* Colonies Coastways, North of *Cape Sable*, upon taking out an annual License, or under similar Regulations with those adopted in the coasting Trade of *Great Britain*.

19. Your Petitioners therefore pray your Lordships to take the Premises into Consideration, and to recommend to Parliament to pass a public Act, granting, for such Time as to them and their Wisdom shall seem meet, Permission for all Persons emigrating actually as Settlers to this Colony, from any of the United States of *America*, to have Liberty to carry with them, in *British* Vessels, their Wearing Apparel, Household Effects, Tools, and Farming Utensils; and the Remainder of their Property in any Kind of Grain, Flour, Bread, salted Provisions, Cattle, Poultry, Bees, Honey, Fruit, Fruit Trees, Cyder, Perry, Metheglin, Flax, Flax Seed, Hemp, Hemp Seed, and unwrought Iron.

PROVIDED that no Part of the aforementioned enumerated Articles shall be reshipped from the said Island of *Saint John* to any other Part except *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, and under such Restrictions as may be judged proper; and also giving Permission for all such Emigrants, as well as the other Inhabitants of the said Island, to import all Manner of Cattle, Fruit, and Fruit Trees, Honey and Bees, the Produce of the said United States, under such Restrictions as your Lordships shall be of Opinion are best calculated to prevent illicit Trade; and also granting to all such Emigrants, on their becoming actually Settlers, and taking the Oaths of Allegiance to his Majesty, all the Rights and Privileges of *British* Subjects, as long as they shall continue to reside on the Island.

N. B. Several of the Paragraphs have been read and considered, and the Remainder were referred for Consideration at the next Meeting.