

the twentyeth pigge, throughout all the plantations of the colony." (Hening's Statutes at Large, I., p. 83.) The Virginians, in those old days, mixed tobacco and religion in a wonderful manner. By an act of 1641, continued by an act of 1644, if a minister neglected to preach in the forenoon and catechize in the afternoon of every Sunday, he forfeited 500 lbs. of tobacco. If a man absented himself from divine service any Sunday, without an allowable excuse, he forfeited a pound of tobacco, and he that absented himself for a month was to forfeit 50 lbs. This was in 1623-24. (Hening's Statutes, I., pp. 312, 123.) As the years rolled on, either the people got more wicked and inattentive to their religious duties, or the legislators grew more pious; for, in 1652, it was enacted that "all persons inhabiting in this country of Virginia, having no lawful excuse, shall, every Sunday, resort to their parish church or chapel, and there abide orderly during the common prayer, preaching, and divine service, upon the penalty of being fined 50 lbs. of tobacco by the county court." (This act did not extend to Quakers, or other recusants, who totally absented themselves. Elizabeth's statute provided for their case a fine of £20 sterling for every month's absence; later on, the Quakers were able to pay in tobacco.) However, people still shirked their public devotions; so, in 1695, another law was passed to the effect that any one of full age, absent from divine service at his or her parish church or chapel for the space of one month (except those Protestant Dissenters exempted by the Act of William and Mary) should be fined five shillings, or 50 lbs. of tobacco; and, on refusal to pay at once, or give sufficient caution for payment, the transgressor was to receive, "on the bare back, ten lashes, well laid on;" Mercer's Abridgment (1737), pp. 177, 209. In those good old days, it cost as much to stay away from church as it does now to go there.

Quakers, who by the act of 1660 were called "an unreasonable and turbulent sort of people, teaching and publishing lies, miracles, false visions, prophecies and doctrines," were, by a statute of 1662, liable to a penalty of 200 lbs. of tobacco each for every time of meeting in unlawful conventicles. In the following year it was enacted that, "if Quakers, or other Separatists whatsoever in Virginia, assemble themselves together to the number of five or more, of the age of sixteen or upwards, under pretence of joining in a religious worship not authorized in England or the