

This day ye Committee for private Causes was appointed as followeth: Collo Scarborough, Chaireman, Coll. John Sidney, Lieut Collo Whittaker, Major John Bond, Mr Tho. Lyggon, Mr Holmewood, Mr Anthony Wyatt, Lieut Collo. Reade, Mr George Lobb, Mr Thomas Davis, Mr Theophilus Hone, Mr William Thomas — added of the Council, Collo Tho. Pettus, Collo Dew.^a

ORDERS OF A GRAND ASSEMBLE, Held at James Cittie October the third An^o 1670. Ordered that Majr William Harris for his Service in the Westerne discovery be paid 25^l Lt LIGGON tenn pound, and the souldiers two shillings and sixpence P day for man and horse out of such goods of the Countreys as remaine in the hands of Theodorick Bland Esqr And that Mr SPEAKER and Majr Farrer Auditt the accounts, see the Soldiers paid, and make Report to the next Assembly.^b

In 1656, in the midst of profound quiet, intelligence reached Jamestown that new trouble with the Indians was probably near. About seven hundred Ricahecrians, a tribe living beyond the Blue Ridge, had come down from the mountains and established themselves near the James River falls, in the neighborhood of the present city of Richmond. That meant danger to the border families, possibly in the lower settlements, and the Burgesses, of which Colonel Thomas Ligon was a member, promptly sent a force to drive them away. "The officer in command was Colonel Edward Hill, former speaker and called a 'devil' by Mr. William Hatcher." Colonel Hill marched on the Indians with the aid of the Virginians and a hundred braves of the friendly Pamunkey tribe, commanded by the chief, Totopotomoi. A battle took place near Richmond, and either by surprise or from incapacity, Hill was routed by the Ricahecrians. Totopotomoi was killed, and the whole force retreated in disorder, after which we hear no more of the Ricahecrians, who probably went back to their mountains.

Unfortunately, the colonial records of Henrico County prior to 1677 were destroyed, and with them was lost the complete record of Colonel Thomas Ligon's activities in the colony, together with all documents making mention of his official acts and responsibilities.

"Gov. Wm. Berkeley, greetings, whereas Capt. Robert Fox, commander of ship "Humphrey and Elizabeth" being arrested at suit of Thomas Ligon and Thomas Taylor in Chancery; the Capt. could not leave ship account of sickness, wherefore Gov. Berkeley appointed Col. Pit, Capt. Joseph Bridger, Maj. Nicholas Hill, and Mr. Smith of Pagan Point to take deposition of Capt. Fox and deliver report to me and Council. 18 Feb., 1663-4."^c

In 1657, Thomas Lygon bought a tract of land from Col. William Byrd. (Byrd's Reports)^d.

Patent Book 5, p. 6: To all &c. Whereas &c. now know ye That I the

^aJournals of the House of Burgeses of Virginia by H. R. McIlwaine, Publ. 1915. Vol. 1619-59, p. 95.

^bIbid. Vol. 1659-95, p. 55.

^cSeventeenth Century Isle of Wight County, Va., Publ. 1938, p. 533. Will and Deed Book 1.

1662-1686.

^dWilliam and Mary Quarterly, 2nd series, Vol. 16, p. 309.

Witness my Hand & seal this 18th day of March Anno Dom 1702/03.

Mary Lygon (Seal of Red Wax).

Signed & Sealed in the presence of Abra: (X) Womack, John (X) Hatcher, John Brown.

Proved in open Court by the oaths of Mr. Abram Womack, Senr. & John Hatcher, two of the subscribed witnesses, to be the last will & Testament of Mrs. Mary Lygon, dec'd, & that at the time of her signing Sealing & Declaring, the same was of sound & perfect sence & memory to the best of their knowledge My desire is that the 200 acres given & bequeathed by me, Mary Ligon Sen., If any Dispute should arise about the same, the worshipful Court will consider the Gift to me, it being to the male issue of my Body, by which my Son William Ligon Dieing before he was possest of the Land, his Heirs have no right unto the same Land but that the same doth belong to the male heir of my Body liveing & if no male heir liveing it doth belong to the heir of the Liver to me.

I will that my son-in-law Robert Hancock to give unto my Indian Boy Robin one Kersie Cote, waistcoat & Breeches & a pair of hose & shoes, two shirts & a hatt.

Court at Varina, November 1, 1706: Note of land near Curles left by Mary Ligon, decd., daughter of Capt. Thomas Harris, decd., to Richard Lygon.^a

Issue of Colonel Thomas¹ and Mary (Harris) Ligon:

- I. i. William² Ligon.
- II. ii. Johan² Ligon.
- III. iii. Richard² Ligon.
- iv. Mathew² Ligon, b. 1659, Henrico Co., Va.; d. unm. before May 1, 1689.
- IV. v. Hugh² Ligon.
- vi. Mary² Ligon, b. 1663, Henrico Co., Va.; m. Thomas Farrar and had issue, a son Thomas³ Farrar.

^aExtracts from the Records of Henrico Co., Va., by Wm. G. Stanard, p. 193.

place, & also some members of this World Court, of whom ye sd. Sherriff was forced to demand Assistance, to the great breach of his Majestyes peace, & tending to ye Subversion of all good Rule, & Government, & highly to the dishonour of the Right World Court The sd Ligon is therefore, (for such his contemptuous behaviour, etc.) fined four hundred pds. of tob, And It is further Order'd that he be Comitted to prison untill he give bond with Good Security for his future good behaviour (during the pleasure of the Court).

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 2, p. 61: Mr. Richd Ligon, & Mr. Robert Hancock enter themselves Security for Mr. William Ligon's future good behaviour, to Continue dureing the pleasure of ye Court & to enter into bond for ye same.

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 2, p. 66: Att a Court holden at Varina for ye County of Henrico this eighteenth day of November by his Maties Justices of ye peace for ye sd County in ye thirtith yeare of ye reigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles ye second by ye Grace of God of Great Brittainne France and Ireland King Defender of ye ffaith &c and in ye yeare of our Lord God 1678.

Edward Hatcher aged about 46 yeares, Deposeth: That when ye right Hon^{ble} Govern^r was last up in these parts and this deponent and others kept guard at ye Worlds end one Tho: Perren or some other at ye worlds end told Major Lygon that Mr Tibbald had a fatt Cow at ye worlds end, upon which Major Lygon ordered this deponent and others to fetch her in, and kill her, upon wch this deponent went to looke her-- but could not fine her, but afterwards ye Cow was by ye same Order fetched in by Tho: Perrin & Others, and killed as this deponent heard, but he did not see her killed, and further saith not.

Edwd Hatcher.

Jur. in Cur. Test W R Cl. Recordat P W^{re} Randolph Cl.

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 2, p. 137: Comit: Henrici primo die feby Dom 1682. Mr William Lygon refusing to serve being sumoned as a Juryman is ordered to pay for the sd Contempt two hundred pounds of tobaccoe.

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 2, p. 201: October 18, 1685, judgment is granted Capt. Tho. Cocke plt agt Mr. William Ligon deft. for six hundred & Sixteen pds of tob & Casq (wch appears due on the ballance of a bill & Acct exhibited & examined in Court) wth Costs als. Exec.

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 2, p. 197: October 22, 1685, Whereas there was two Indian Servants belonging to Mr. Will Ligon who were this year tythable & not by their sd Master listed According to law For wch there being two informacons exhibitted agt him on behalf of his Majestyes he ye sd Ligon now appearing & pretending that he was ignorant of their ages, & therefore begging ye forfeiture by law imposed may not be inflicted on him, in consideracon of his ignorance & noe person being present to prosecute It is Ordered that ye sd Indians be inserted in, & added to ye list of their sd Masters family, he ye sd Ligon paying Costs als Exec.

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 5, pp. 75-76: AT A COURT HELD AT VARINA, for Henrico County by their Ma:^{ties} Justices of ye peace for ye sd County on ye first day of our Sovereign Lord & Lady Will:^m & Mary bye ye Grace of God of England, France & Ireland King & Queen Defenders of ye faith &c. & in ye year our Lord Xt 1689.

In the name of God Amen I Will:^m Ligon being in a Sick weak condition doe make & ordain this my last will & testam:^t in manner & form as followeth. I give & bequeath my Soul to Almighty God who gave it hoping in his mercy to

Thom Shippey Jos: Royall Richd Lygon Edwd. Stratton, Jr.
 Edwd Stratton Tho. (X) Vinfon Sam'll Knibbe Edwd. Thatcher
 Martin Elam ifran Epes Robt Hancock

Recorded by Wm. Randolph, Cl. of Ct.

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 1, p. 145: Richard Lygon deposeth:
 The very same as is afore Expressd & further saith not.

Sworn in Court October 8, 1680/1.

Richard Lygon

Teste: H. Davis. Recorded by Hugh Davis: dep. Cl. of Court: To all to whom these presents shall come greetings &c Whereas John Burton late of this County of Henrico in Virginia deced did by his last will and testamt. make and appointe Mary his relict the soul executrix of the said will, And the said Mary did at a Court holden at Varina for the County of Henrico the second day of february 1679/80 make humble suite to the board that a probate of the said Will might be graunted unto her, And whereas there is a clause in an act of Assembly made at Green spring the 20th day of february 1676/7 which impowers any two Justices of the quorum in their respective counties to signe pbate & letters of Adm.^{tion} (by virtue where of for the causes aforesaid) Wee Wm. Byrd & John Farrar two of his Maties Justices of the peace in quomm of the above said county of Henrico doe hereby give and graunt unto the said Mary relict of the said deced. full power and lawful authority to dispose of all and singular the goods, chattells, and estate of the said deced. according to the true intent and meaning of the said Will expresst, Given under our hands this p^t day of October Anno 1680/1.

William Byrd, John Farrar.

Recorded by H. Davis, dep: clerk.

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 2, p. 399: December, 1691/92. Susanno Cole one of the Orphs of John Partridge decd exhibiting a list of some particulars to ye sd deced^t belonging left ye Custody of Col Will^m Farrar decd, & Mr. W^m Farrar being psent acknowledging ye rec^t of them but declaring that he cannot give an Acc^t thereof & the value of being incertain It is therefore Order'd (by Consent) That Mr Richd Ligon Ed Hatcher & Abra Womeck doe forth w^b goe apart & sett a value on ye sd Goods & make repart to the Court.

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 3, p. 214: December ye 1st. 1698.

The Court adjourn for one hour. The Court is mett. Justices now Present are, Mr. Richard Cocks, Capt. William Randolph, Capt. Peter Field, Capt. Will Farrar, Capt. Tho Cock.

Upon the motion of Martha Stratton. It is ordered that Capt. ffra: Epes, Capt. Jos. Royall Mr. Richd Ligon Mr Edw'd Haskins, Mr Abraham Womack or any four of them doe appraise the Estate of Mr. Edw:^d Stratton some time between this and next Court, and Mr. John Worsham is hereby requested and Impowered to swear the Appraisers.

In 1710 Elizabeth Chamberlayne of Henrico County gave power of attorney to Mr. Richard Lygon to acknowledge "my right of dower" in a certain tract of land sold by my husband Major Thomas Chamberlayne to Mr. Richard Grills, etc. Witness: Dan.ⁿ Jones, Richard Jones. Recorded Aug. 1, 1710, Henrico Records, Vol. 1710-14, p. 21.^a

Minute Book 1719-24, p 4: Henrico County December Court 1720: The last will and testament of Thomas Chamberlayn decd. was presented in Court by Elizabeth Chamberlayn, his Executrix who made oath thereto, and the same

^aWilliam and Mary Quarterly, 1st series, Vol. 24, p. 269.

"Oct., 1678." And further sayth not, PHILLIP JONES."^a

Colonial Records of Henrico Co., Book 1, p. 99: John Millner Aged about 38 or 39 years. Sheweth that some tyme the last summer, I was at Coll Epes' store, & there was Mr. Richard Lygon & Abraham Womecke. & did make a horse race for three hundred pounds of tobacco, & that Coll Epes was both their securityes for ye payment of the tobo to them that won it, And according to the day they mett. Sworn in Court Jan. 2, 1679/80.

Teste: W. R., Clerk.

JOHN MILLNER

Recorded: Wm. Randolph.

From recorded activities, both Ligon and Womack were deeply interested in horse racing. In 1683, a number of persons who had assembled at Womack's house on some convivial occasion^b engaged in an animated discourse on the subject, and soon there was a challenge from one of the company, Edward Hatcher, to run his horse against the horse of Edward Martin, who was also present. All exclaimed loudly: "Done, done," with the exception of Richard Ligon, who started up eagerly, "Mr. Edward Hatcher," called out Ligon, "my horse shall not run any more to-day or to-night." Hatcher, uttering a great oath, shouted back that it was not his horse, not Ligon's, and at once led the animal off to a pasture near by, where the races took place, followed by Andrew Martin. Ligon now came up, and seizing Hatcher as he was about to mount, said again: "Edward Hatcher, this is my horse, and he shall not run." Hatcher, seeing Ligon's determination, turned to the persons who were to act as judges, and exclaimed: "I can't help it," meaning that he was prevented from carrying out his agreement, and, therefore, should not be held liable for the wager as if his horse had lost the race. But the judges refused to listen to him, and directed Martin to run over the track alone. When he reached the end of the course, he stopped, dismounted, and fixed his knife in the ground; then, returning to the starting point, claimed the horse which Ligon had asserted to be his own. This was probably the stake. Ligon, however, still refused to give it up, and the dispute finally found its way into the county court. The account of this race which appears in the records is of interest as showing how rigid the judges in a horse race at this period were in upholding the terms of an agreement even under circumstances when it would seem the agreement should properly have been considered no longer in force. Hatcher was held strictly to his verbal contract, though the action of Ligon had made it impossible for him to perform his part of it.

A second race-course in Henrico county was situated at Varina, and here races were run at regular intervals. Among those taking place on this course was one between the horses of the younger Thomas Batte and Richard Parker. The stake consisted of one hundred pounds of

^aVirginia Historical Magazine, Vol. 2, p. 295 (Henrico Records, 1677-92, p. 65).

^bThe company, it would appear from Ligon's words regarding his horse, had been engaged in running horses.

William Ligon for £150: 134 acres called Neck of Land being on the south side of James River in Dale Parrish, Henrico "reserving Thirty feet square where the burying place is it being part of a patent which was formerly granted to Henry _____ and by him sold and conveyed to William Ligon" sd. deed dated February, 1734, it being ½ the tract mentioned bounded by the land of William Stratin, Tarleton Woodson, Henry Batts and James River. May 6, 1745. Elizabeth, wife to said William Ligon, relinquishes her right of dower on privy examination.

April 3, 1735. Col. Richard Randolph, of parish & county of Henrico to Tarlton Woodson, of same county & parish, £50 curr. 50 a. in parish & county aforesaid. on N. side James River, beginning at a Spanish Oake corner standing on the river bank below Tarlton Woodson's landing or old warf; adj. line of Maj. Bowler Cocke, commonly called Brems Tract; touching Harris's patent and Ferri's or Colman's patent; "it being part of two hundred acres of land given by will and Intailed on the male issue of Mary Ligon deceased by her father Thos. Harris deceased and so descended in a right line of Succession to William Ligon and by him exchanged with the above said Colo. Richard Randolph the *INTALE* of which was cut off by virtue of an act of Assembly of Virginia & proceedings in England." Recd. 7 Apr. 1734^a.

Returns of Procession for the year 1731. Henry Batt and Peter Baugh processioned all but Alexander Marshall with William Legan (Ligon) & John Puckett shoemaker with Jon Puckett Turner they refusing.^b

January 1, 1735. William Ligon, of Dale Parish, Henrico Co. to Tarleton Woodson of same Par. & Co. £5 curr.: 7 acres in County & Parish afsd. Beginning on the River Bank on W. side Neck of land, on Hill side above the hogpen Bottom landing.^c

June 25, 1736. John Hatcher formerly of Henrico Co. in Virginia, but now Edgecombe precinct on (Pamlico) Pantico River, in North Carolina and John Hatcher, eldest son of the afsd. John Hatcher, of said Precinct, Planters to Tarlton Woodson, Eldest son and heir apparent of John Woodson deed. of Henrico Co. in Virginia Gentleman: £200: lawful money of Virginia. 460 acres at a place called neck of land, in Henrico Co. on S. side James River, adj. lines of William Ligon (formerly Henry Lawn or Lowns) also 42 2/3 a. given by Edward Hatcher, Snr. to John Hatcher, by deed of gift, dated 30th 9t Month 1694.^d

Journals of the Council of Virginia in Executive Sessions, 1737-1763, (from the originals in the Virginia State Archives):

At a Council held at the Capitol Nov. 9th, 1738. Present: The Governor, Mr. Com'y Blair, Jno Robinson, Jno. Carter, Jno. Grymes, Wm. Randolph, John Tayloc, Phil'p Lightfoot, Thos. Lee, Esq.;

To Charles Burker two thousand Acres lying upon a branch of Sandy River (in the present Prince Edward) beginning at William Ligings (Ligon) line and running up the Pole branch on both sides for Compliment in Amelia County:

Whereas notwithstanding the repeated Orders of the Government that no person not having the License of this Board should be admitted to enter for more than four hundred Acres of his Majestie lands Yet divers Persons of small Substances in Combination with the Surveyors have made separate Entries for

^aEdward Pleasants Valentine Papers, Vol. 3, p. 1424.

^bThe Vestry Book and Register of Bristol Parish, Va., 1720-89, by C. G. Chamberlayne, p. 57.

^cEdward Pleasants Valentine Papers, Vol. 3, pp. 556, 2011.

^dIbid. p. 664.

- 846, (17) 847, 848, 851; John B., 619; John F., 848, (20) 849; John P. B., 851; John R., 538; Jordan (16) 847; Jordena C. (22) 848; Joseph, 753; Josephine, 452; Josephine B., (21) 848; Josephine K., 446; Judith, 847, (18) 849; Julia, 852; Julia C., 852; K. Brander, 852; Lavinia, 851; Louisa, 847; Lucy, 844, 847; Lucy G., 613, 619; Luvina, 623; Marcella (27) 851; Marcus A., 613, 616, 617, 619; Maria F., 849; Maria T., 847; Martha, 845, 851; Martha A., 631; Martha E., 613; Martha O., 848; Mary, ix, 105, 314, 319, 360, 837, 840, 844, 845, 847, 850, 851, 852, 855; Mary E., 851; Mary E. J., 848; Mathew H. and family, 706; Matilda, 847; Melissa, 619; Micajah, 580; Mr., 554, 632; Nathaniel, 582; Obedience A., 851; Patrick, 851; Peter E., 848; Philip N., 851; Phoebe, 845, 851; Phyllis, 838; Richard, 838; Robert, 844, 851; Robert E., 662; R. H., 627; Robert H., 677; Rowland, 838; Sally, 850; Samuel, 851; Samuel S., 604; Sarah, 845; Silas H., 541; Stockton, 852; Susan, 838; Thomas, ix, 40, 314, 315, 318, 330, 335, 349, 365, 370, 837, 838, 839, 840, (6) 841, 842, (10) 845, 847, (26) 850, 851, 852; Will of, 844; Thomas M., 851; Timothy, 845; Vincent, 838; William, 308, 310, 311, 313, 334, 338, 355, 356, 803, (1) 837, (3) 837, 838, 839, (5) 839, 840, (9) 844, 845, (12) 850, 851, tomb of, 837; William J., 470, 847; W. Jordan, 847.
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- Harwood, Bathsheba, 547.
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