

land, instituted, under the charter, a military form of government that was set forth two years later in the notorious *Larwes Divine, Morall and Martiall*. Governor Gates, Lord De la Warr, Sir Thomas Dale, and their successors enforced them strictly and rigorously to good effect until 1619, and it seems likely that a series of military governors continued, for a time at least, to administer all civil affairs until the collapse of the Virginia Company.¹

When Sir Thomas Dale moved up the James River with 350 men in September 1611 to found the town of Henrico, he left only fifty men behind at the fort under the command of George Percy, whom he had appointed "Governor of James Town." Even though military duties occupied far more of his time than civil ones, he regarded the maintaining of a "continuall and dayly Table for Gentlemen of fashion about us" as the most onerous and costly obligation of the assignment. This independent sub-command is important as the first step in differentiating local from provincial government, but it should be noted that the choice for "Governor" was a military man.²

At first such an officer served at the pleasure of the Governor. Ralph Hamor mentioned in 1614 that "Master John Scarfe, Lieutenant to Captain Francis West" held that post. But in 1617 Governor Samuel Argall appointed William Powell for life to be "Captain of his guards and company, Lieutenant Governor and Commander of James Town block-houses and people there." He was succeeded by Lieutenant, later Captain, William Pierce "now of Jamestown." In view of the disruption caused by the Indian uprising and the demise of the Virginia Company, we may conjecture that Captain Pierce went right ahead to "possess and exercise authority to command, rule, and govern . . . all the people there resi-