

William R.

Trusty and welbeloved, We Greet you well. Whereas wee have thought fitt that all due Encouragement be given to the College of Wm and Mary lately founded in our Town of Williamsburgh in Virginia for promoting Religion & Learning in those parts; wee do therefore hereby recomend the same to you willing and requiring you to doe whatever lyes in you for the due encouraging the sd College, and in perticular that you call upon the persons that have promised to Contribute towards the maintenance of the said College, to pay in full their severall Contributions to the end so Good and pious a Work may be carryed on for the Generall benefit & good of that Country. And soe we bid you farewell. Given at our Court at Hampton Court the 30th day of December, 1700, in the twelfth yeare of our Reigne.

By his majesties Command

Ja: Vernon

To our Trusty and Welbeloved ffrancis Nicholson Esqr. Our Lieutent and Governr Generall of our Colony and Dominion of Virginia in America; Or to our Commandr in Chief of our said Colony for the time being.

Transcript of a copy of the Royal Proclamation of 1700 in the College Archives, Swem Library. Differs from the transcript in Mary R. M. Goodwin's Historical Notes the College of William and Mary, p. 78. Original in Public Record Office, London. C. O. 5/1312 Vol. 1
[Photostat Colonial Williamsburg]

WILLIAM R.

Trusty and Welbeloved, We Greet You well. Whereas We have thought fitt, that all due Encouragement be given to the College of William and Mary lately founded in Our Towne of Williamsburg in Virginia, for promoting Religion and Learning in those Parts; We do therefore earnestly recommend the same to You, willing and requiring You to do whatever lyes in You for the due encouraging the said College And in particular that You call upon the Persons that have promised to contribute towards the maintenance of the said College, to pay in forthwith their severall Contributions, to the end, so good and pious a Work may be carryed on for the generall benefit of that Countrey; And so We bid You Farewell. Given at Our Court at Hampton Court the 30th day of December 1700. in the Twelfth Yeare of Our Reigne.

By His Majesty's Comand
Ca: Vernon

To Our Trusty and Welbeloved
Francis Nicholson Esqr etc.
[Endorsed] Recd Janry 29th 1700/01

[Oldmixon, John]
THE BRITISH EMPIRE IN AMERICA. London: 1741. Vol. I,
The History of Virginia. p. 437 [1700]

...
The first President of the College by Charter, was Mr. Blair.
Dr. Bray, who went to Virginia, procured considerable Contributions in
England, towards collecting a Library. It proceeded so far, that there
was a Commencement there in the Year 1700, at which there was a great
Concourse of People; several Planters came thither in their Coaches, and
several in Sloops from New-York, Pennsylvania and Maryland. It being a
new thing in America to hear Graduates perform their Academical Exercises,
the Indians themselves had the Curiosity to come to Williamsburgh on this
Occasion, and the whole Country rejoiced as if they had some Relish of
Learning.

...
EXECUTIVE JOURNALS OF THE COUNCIL OF COLONIAL VIRGINIA,
Vol. II, p. 128

At a Councill held at Mr Auditor Byrds March ye 9th 1700 [1701]

...
His Excy Laid before ye Councill his Majtys Letter of ye 30th of
December 1700. Declaring his Majtys Royall Will and Pleasure that all
Due Encouragement be given to the Colledge of William and Mary & a which
was read in Councill.