



QUEEN ANNE'S HERALD

SOCIETY OF THE 1704 VA QUIT RENTS

WINTER 2023-2024

I am so happy to bring you greetings during the most wonderful time of the year. I continue to wish for snow every day here in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. This area of Virginia can have lots of snow, or none, as happened last winter.

Our Society is in good standing. We just welcomed our 75th member. Lynda Moreau reports as of our November 30th, 2023, bank statement, we have \$14,005.83 in our Treasury.

It is difficult to believe that 2024 is just a few weeks away. The administration will change for the 2024-2026 for Virginia Quit Rents. I am delighted to announce that our current First Vice President, Leslie Kirk, will be serving as the 2024-2026 Governor. Leslie has years of experience with leading and managing lineage societies and I know Virginia Quit Rents will be in good hands.

I have reached out to the Army and Navy Club regarding a day and time for the April 2024 Colonial Assembly. I have yet to hear back. I understand that our previous A&N contact, Elizabeth Newcomer, is leaving. This may be why I have not heard back. The Order of Bacon's Rebellion and Descendants of Colonial Mothers will be joining us. As meeting dates and times become more difficult to schedule, we would gladly consider welcoming other likeminded societies to join us.

I am pleased to announce that Jim Partin is joining Virginia Quit Rents as genealogist. Jim will also fulfill the duties of Marshal. The Genealogist's fee has been increased to \$50 to cover Jim's additional duties.

My heartfelt thanks to my wonderful Governour's Council. You are most certainly the cream of the crop. I appreciate your friendship, wisdom, and support. May the Lord richly bless you!

I hope you enjoy Queen Anne's Herald!

Warmest Wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas,

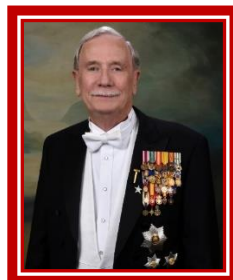
Lila

Lila Housden, Governor
Society of the 1704 Virginia Quit Rents

With deep affection and heartfelt loss, we dedicate this newsletter to our departed friend, leader, and mentor.

CHARLES ROBERT ODOM

23 JULY 1941 – 11 AUGUST 2023



ANNE, QUEEN OF ENGLAND



The last of the Stuart Monarchs

Anne Stuart, the Princess

Anne Stuart, born 6 February 1665, and her older sister Mary were the only surviving offspring of James, Duke of York by his first Duchess, Anne Hyde. At the age of three, Anne was sent to France to have her eyes treated (as she suffered from an eye condition). There she stayed more than two years, learning the language perfectly.

In 1671, not long after her return, her mother died, and her father, who had become a Roman Catholic, was soon in search of a duchess. His 15-year-old bride, Maria Beatrice of Modena, was less than four years older than Princess Mary, who would later be married (at 15) to William of Orange.

Princess Anne's own marriage was delayed by politics: fearful of Catholics in the wake of a supposed plot to assassinate the king, a strong party in parliament attempted to pass laws preventing James from succeeding to the throne. Charles sought to defuse the crisis by sending James and Maria to Scotland, where Anne visited them in 1681–82.

In 1683, shortly after Charles had defeated his foes, Anne married Prince George of Denmark. When the king died (on Anne's 20th birthday), her father succeeded as James II, but his arrogant attitude toward parliament and his aggressive Catholicism alienated the English establishment, and a group of powerful men invited William of Orange to invade.

Anne and her husband supported the Revolution of 1688, which replaced James II with William and Mary, though they later had reasons to regret that choice. The princess, who had already suffered several miscarriages and had lost two infant daughters to smallpox in 1687, gave birth to a son in 1689, just months after the coronation. Named William, Duke of Gloucester, he would live the longest of her children.

Despite the welcome presence of a Protestant heir, the two sisters quarreled, and when William removed John Churchill, Earl of Marlborough, from his court and military posts, Mary insisted that Anne part company with Sarah Churchill, who was her favorite. Refusing to obey this command, Anne left the court and moved into separate lodgings – this was the beginning of estrangement that continued until Mary's death in 1694. To Anne's eternal regret, Gloucester died in 1700, a few days after his 11th birthday.

The Reign of Queen Anne

When William died (on 8 March 1702), Anne succeeded to the throne.

In 1702, Anne adopted the motto *semper eadem* ("always the same"), the same motto used by Queen Elizabeth I. The Acts of Union declared that: "the Ensigns Armorial of the said United Kingdom be such as Her Majesty shall appoint".



Coat of arms of Anne, Queen of England, 1702 to 1707

Within a few weeks she had named Marlborough as her Captain-General and her longtime friend Sidney Godolphin as Lord Treasurer. For most of her reign, these two men executed her policies at home and abroad. Forming an alliance with the Netherlands and the Holy Roman Empire, the queen declared war on France in May, and Marlborough won significant victories at Blenheim (1704), Ramillies (1706), Oudenarde (1708), and Malplaquet (1709).

Despite these unprecedented successes, domestic politics were fierce. The Tory party gained a substantial majority in the election of 1702 and withstood an attempt by the ministry to break their power in 1705. The Whigs swept into power in 1708 but were soundly defeated in 1710 and 1713.

Because the party holding a majority in parliament did not automatically gain all the ministerial posts, the queen was subject to relentless partisan pressure from both sides, yet she managed to prevent party passions from erupting into violence and achieved a major success in forging the Union with Scotland in 1707.

On 1 May 1707, under the Acts of Union, the kingdoms of England and Scotland united as a single sovereign state known as Great Britain. She continued to reign as Queen of Great Britain and Ireland until her death in 1714.

Anne personally disliked the Hanoverian House of Brunswick, whom the succession had been settled on by act of Parliament in 1701 (over the claim of her half-brother, James, known as 'the Pretender'). The queen was unforgiving of the Elector Georg Ludwig (the future George I) right up to the day she died, having been rejected in marriage by him in 1680.

His mother, the Dowager Electress (daughter of Elizabeth Stuart, the 'Winter Queen,' and sister of Prince Rupert of the Rhine), whose greatest wish it was said was to have 'Sophia Queen of Great Britain' inscribed on her tomb, narrowly missed her ambition when she died suddenly (aged 83) on 8 June 1714, just a few weeks before Queen Anne. On 27 July Anne finally decided in favor of George and the Hanoverian Succession.

Towards the end of her life Anne suffered increasingly more from gout and could hardly walk. Having been taken ill on the morning of 30 July she died around 7.30 a.m. on 1 August 1714 at Kensington Palace, her body being so swollen with dropsy that she had to be interred in a vast square shaped coffin. She was buried in the same vault beside her husband and children, in Henry VII's Collegiate Chapel of St Peter, Westminster Abbey on 24 August. John Arbuthnot, one of her doctors thought her death was a release of life from ill-health and tragedy; he wrote to Jonathan Swift, 'I believe sleep, was never more welcome to a weary traveler than death was to her'. Sadly, while Queen Anne ultimately brought parliamentary union to her kingdoms she failed to give them an heir.

In the opinion of many historians that Queen Anne wielded considerable power, yet time and again she had to capitulate. Others conclude that Anne was often able to impose her authority, even though her reign was marked by an increase in the influence of ministers and a decrease in the influence of the Crown. She attended more Council meetings than any of her predecessors and presided over an age (as personified by the work of John Vanburgh and Daniel Defoe) of artistic, literary, economic, and political advancement that was made possible by the stability of her rule. Indeed, Anne was internationally so well regarded that a Russian Bestuzev at the Hanoverian Court, was sent to report the queen's death to the Tsar (Peter the Great) who ordered six weeks of mourning.

Sources:
James Anderson Winn, professor of English at Boston University and author of
Queen Anne: Patroness of Arts (Oxford University Press, 2014).
This article was first published by History Extra in July 2014

nationalarchives.gov.uk

[The Quit-Rent System in the American Colonies](#) by Beverly Bond, Jr.

“One of the most distinctive features of the English Land-tenure in the sixteenth and seventeen centuries was the quit-rent.”
The quit rent was a survival of feudalism. Varied feudal dues were converted into fixed quit rents and by the beginning of the sixteenth century had become common.

The imposition of the quit rent in the American Colonies emphasized their relation to the mother country as fiefs of the Crown. The feudal notion of land tenure, that the soil belonged to the Crown, who either collected the feudal dues, chiefly in the form of quit rents, or else transferred this right to the proprietors, was carried to the New World. This feudal notion may be traced in all the early charters.

In Virginia attempts to establish an effective system of collection involved a long struggle for control begin the governor and the office-holding class. In the earliest days of the colony the treasurer or his deputy collected the rents; later the sheriffs assumed this duty. Many abuses attended such a scheme of collection by officers, themselves usually landowners, who sided with the tenants rather than the Crown.

In the Royal Colonies the revenue from the quit rents was theoretically under the control of the Crown as overlord. Since the rents were frequently employed for local purposes, the assemblies tended to assert authority over them, but the policy of the home authorities was to allow expenditures from the quit rents only with royal permission. The value of such a source of income, in rendering the royal government independent of local control, is obvious.

The quit rents were also employed in Virginia to supplement the 2 shillings duty for the ordinary purpose of government. This aid, however, was granted only for the salaries of officers directly dependent upon the crown.

Occasionally grants were made to aid local interests, including an appropriation in 1692 of 1,982 pounds, 14 shilling to found the college of William and Mary.



Christmas in Colonial Virginia

During the colonial period in Virginia, the Christmas season followed a four-week period of Advent. As most Virginians were devout Anglicans, they would have observed a period of fasting, prayer, and reflection. They would have read daily from the Book of Common Prayer. Fasting would have been only one full meal, which generally would have been meatless during the day. After the four weeks, Advent would end with a large Christmas meal and the start of the Christmas season.

The Christmas season was a twelve-day event during the colonial period beginning on Christmas Day and ending end on January 6th. January 6 was called Twelfth Day, and colonists found it the perfect occasion for balls, parties, and other festivals. Throughout the Twelve Days of Christmas, Virginians made the most of that spirit. Christmas days were spent visiting friends at their homes or receiving guests of one's own, and at night, great parties were held, where guests danced, sang, and celebrated well into the night to lively music played in halls lavishly filled with wreaths and garlands of holly and ivy, laurel and evergreens, and balls of mistletoe. The scents of lavender, rose petals, pungent herbs like rosemary and bay, and evergreens, would fill homes with lovely holiday scents.

Christmas feasts were often extravagant consisting of seven or eight courses in wealthy households. Oysters, crab, and other fish; roast beef, smoked ham, roast turkey, venison, and a wealth of game were all known to grace the Christmas table alongside stuffing, roast vegetables biscuits and cornbread. For dessert: pies, tarts, puddings, and a delightful assortment of cakes and sweets. It was said that should you go blind and deaf; you would still be able to recognize Christmastime by the smells emanating from the kitchen!

The tradition of gift giving did show up in colonial America, with an interesting twist. People gave gifts to their dependents, whether it be to servants, apprentices, or children. People did not return the gift giving to their superiors. And the gift giving was not the elaborate ordeal that it is today. Each recipient would most likely receive one special treasure. And the gifts were more treasured than they are today.

Both Christmas carols and hymns were enjoyed during the colonial period. While Hymns were sung at church services, the beloved sound of "Joy to the World", "The First Noel" and "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen" were regulated to parties.

From this look back at the colonial period, when things were truly simpler may you embrace the Christmas season and focus on the true meaning of the time.

Sources:
Christmas during Colonial America
Word Press Belle Grove Plantation
December 8, 2012
from Early American Life online
(<http://www.ealonline.com/christmas/history/main.php>)
My Merry Christmas (<https://mymerrychristmas.com>)
<https://www.byerschoice.com/christmas-traditions/colonial-virginia>



Virginia Holiday Nut Cake

From Colonial Williamsburg

Ingredients

- 2 pounds golden raisins
- 1/4-pound glacé red cherries, cut up
- 1/4-pound glacé green pineapple slices, cut up
- 1 3/4 cup sherry, divided
- 2 cups butter, softened
- 3 cups sugar
- 12 eggs, separated
- juice of 1 lemon
- 1 Tbsp. vanilla
- 6 cups all-purpose flour
- 5 1/4 cups almonds, chopped
- 6 cups walnuts, chopped
- 2/3 cup black walnuts, chopped

DIRECTIONS

Soak the raisins, cherries, and pineapple in 3/4 cup of the sherry overnight in a covered container. Preheat the oven to 300°F. Grease well and lightly flour one 10-inch, two 8-inch, and one 5-inch tube pans.

Cream the butter and sugar. Add the egg yolks one at a time. Combine the remaining sherry, lemon juice, and vanilla. Add the flour and the sherry mixture alternately, beginning and ending with the flour. Beat the egg whites until they form soft peaks. Add the nuts, fruit, and egg whites alternately, stirring until well blended.

Transfer the batter into the prepared pans and bake at 300°F. Bake the smallest cake for 3/4 to one hour, the two medium cakes 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 hours, and the large cake for 2 to 2 1/2 hours, or until each cake tests done. When cool, stack cakes on top of each other on a pretty plate to form a pyramid, and garnish with festive fruits and holiday leaves.

THE QUIT RENTS
OF
VIRGINIA
1704



Compiled by
Annie Laurie Wright Smith

This little book, published in June 2009, is pure gold as it holds the names of ALL eligible ancestors for the Society of the 1704 Virginia Quit Rents. Should you like to purchase, it is available on Amazon or from the publisher, Genealogical Publishing Company.

**Society of 1704 Virginia Quit Rents
Gouverneur's Council**

1 January 2022 – 1 January 2024

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