

WHEN DID THE HOUSE OF BURGESSES BEGIN?

By 1619, the Jamestown colony is a real problem for the Virginia Company of London.



JAMESTOWN HAS EXISTED FOR 12 YEARS, BUT IT HAS SENT US NO GOLD, NO SILVER, NO IRON, NO...

NO MONEY!! OUR ECONOMIC INVESTMENT IS DOWN THE DRAIN!!!

THE TROUBLE IS THOSE LAZY LOWLIFES WILL NOT LISTEN TO US!

WELL, MAYBE THEY WOULD WORK FOR... THEMSELVES?

GEORGE YEARDLEY IS SENT TO BE THE NEW GOVERNOR AT JAMESTOWN.



I BRING YOU "THE CHARTER OF GRANTS AND LIBERTIES!" IT IS A NEW GOVERNMENT FOR THE VIRGINIA COLONY.



NO MORE HARSH "NO WORK, NO EAT" LAWS. YOU COLONISTS NOW HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS ENGLISHMEN IN ENGLAND!

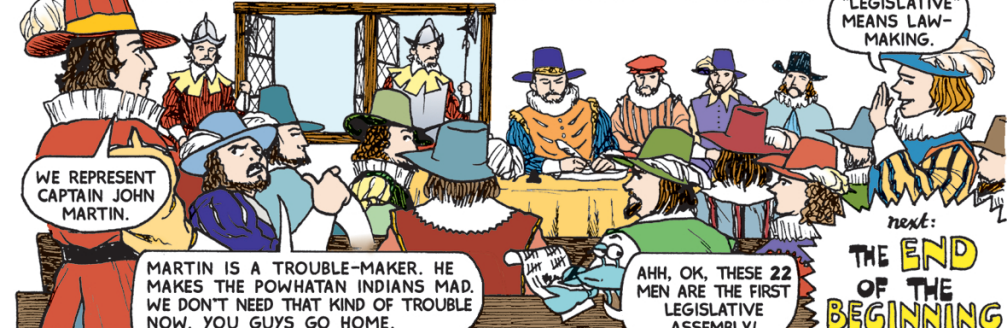
1619 Charter of Virginia Company
 (I hereby give and grant unto the Colonists of the Virginia Company the same rights and liberties that our English subjects enjoy in England.)
 A new government for the Virginia Colony.

YES! EACH YEAR WE WILL HAVE A GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO SUGGEST NEW LAWS. IF THE COMPANY IN LONDON LIKES THE IDEA, IT BECOMES A LAW!

ALL WHITE MEN WHO OWN PROPERTY ARE IN CHARGE! YOU GET REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT!

LIKE IN ROME?

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE HOUSE OF BURGESSES BEGINS JULY 30, 1619. THESE 24 MEN ARE THE FIRST REPRESENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY IN NORTH AMERICA.



WE REPRESENT CAPTAIN JOHN MARTIN.

"LEGISLATIVE" MEANS LAW-MAKING.

MARTIN IS A TROUBLE-MAKER. HE MAKES THE POWHATAN INDIANS MAD. WE DON'T NEED THAT KIND OF TROUBLE NOW. YOU GUYS GO HOME.

AHH, OK, THESE 22 MEN ARE THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY!

next:
THE END OF THE BEGINNING

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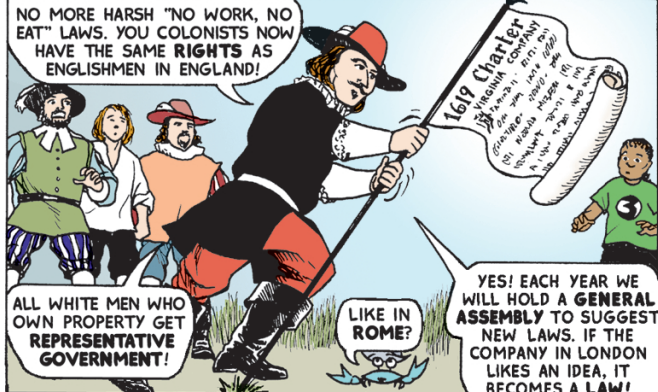
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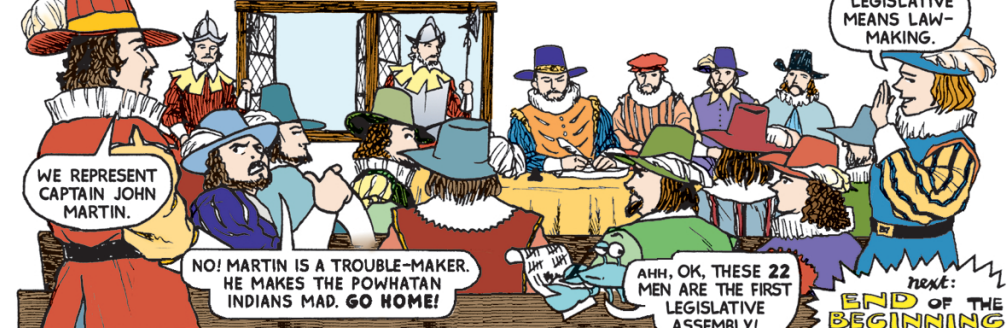
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