

THE COLONIAL RECORDS OF NORTH CAROLINA
[Second Series]

VOLUME X

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
IN NORTH CAROLINA:
DOCUMENTS, 1699-1741

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cause regret in all that press't me to it, but if I go with Convoy I must be content with the common fate of the whole Fleet, come what will.

These, with submission, are I think urgent reasons enough, why I should desire to be excused from going now, with the Palatines and hope I shall not be worse treated than the rest of my Brethren who are appointed Missionaries in America; but if after application made to his Grace my Lord Arch-Bishop of Canterbury and others, which favour I humbly beg of you, on my behalf; the Honorable Societie will not be pleased to allow me salary from the time I was admitted, I freely submit my self to their Good will and Pleasure in this and all other matters that have relation to the Mission, as I think myself in duty bound and am Sir Your Worships most obedient and humble servant.

Jno. Urmston

East Ham
 Septr. 28, 1709.

ALS. Read at a meeting of the SPG on October 21, 1709. Journal of the SPG, I, 417.

[LAM/SPG/XV]

**Rev. John Urmston to Secretary, SPG
 1709 October 3**

Worshipfull Sir

Nothing doubting but mine might come to hand soon after you had dispatch't yours to me. I delay'd writing or coming till friday following, thursday being Holy day and supplies not so easily gotten in the Countrey as in Town, but on thursday in the Evening was seiz'd with a violent quotidean¹ with little or noe intermission, till this morning. This day I've spent in preparing my body for the Bark, so that after another fit which I perceive coming on this evening I hope I may be able to wait on you towards the end of the week or the beginning of the next; if should fail thro' sickness and the Ship be gone, I hope this will be an unanswerable reason above all the rest, for the old Maxim is nemo tenetur ad impossibile,² my going is morally so, besides upon 2d thoughts, till that pernicious Act of placing and displacing Ministers at pleasure be set aside as it was in S. Carolina 'tis uncertain whether they'll receive me or not. I've understood that two of the Districts contend mightily for having a Minister entirely to themselves, which will create great confusion and Mr. Lawson³ moreover tells me, that 'tis impossible I should supply places so distant as Perquimise and Bath, besides the difficulty and charge of passing the Rivers. I hope to have a favourable answer to all these things the Next Court day at St. Martin's, but if able I shall wait on you before then. In the interim I am Sir with all humble respects yr. Worships most humble servant.

Jno. Urmston

E. Ham
 Oct. 3, 1709.

Pardon this scribble because written in ane tremments.

[Addressed:]

To The Worshipfull
Jno. Chamberlayne Esqr.
in Petty France Westminster.

[Endorsed:]

(13)
Mr. Urmston. E. Ham
3 Octob. 1709

ALS. Read at a meeting of the SPG on October 21, 1709. Journal of the SPG, I, 417.

¹In the sense used here, *quotidian* means "of an intermittent fever or ague, recurring every day." OED.

²One rendering of this phrase is *no man should be held to such an impossible thing*.

³John Lawson (1674-1711), native of Yorkshire, explorer, surveyor, author of *A New Voyage to Carolina* (London, 1709), was in North Carolina from 1701, and in 1708 was appointed surveyor-general by the Lords Proprietors. In October, 1709, he was in England making arrangements for publication of his book, and also promoting development of the region south of Albemarle Sound. He arrived back in North Carolina in April, 1710, with several hundred Palatines, and soon had laid out the town of New Bern. In September, 1711, he was tortured and murdered by Tuscarora Indians in the opening days of the uprising known as the Tuscarora War. DNCB.

[SPG/A/5]

**Rev. James Adams to Secretary, SPG
1709 October 4**

<CII.> Mr. Adams to the Secretary.

Virginia Oct. 4th, 1709.

Sir.

I wrote April last by Mr. Glover our late president, who went as far as Virginia in order to embarque for England but being unluckily disappointed of his passage left my Letters with a friend of his who promised to be very carefull in sending them speedily and safely over, but whether or not they came to your hands I am altogether ignorant, having had no Letters from Europe since my arrival in America. I have taken this Journey into Virginia (there being never any opportunity from North Carolina) to let you hear from me again, according to my Instructions. I doubt not but Mr. Gordon inform'd you by word of Mouth, that when we came hither we found the Government in the hands of such persons as were promoters for Gods Service, and good Order and from whom we met with all reasonable encouragement in the discharge of Our Mission; But now the Case is sadly Alter'd, for the Quakers alarm'd at our Arrival did in a most tumultuous manner stir up the ignorant and irreligious who are by much the greater Number in this Colony, by bold Lies and Calumnies against both the Government and us. And we are now ruled by such as are generally friends only to Drunkenness,