To the Honourable the Speaker and Gentleman ~~of the House~~ of the house of Deligates. The petition of us the Subscribers of the County Bedford Humbly Sheweth:–

That your Petitioners has ever been faithful Subjects to the Common wealth of Virginia and has with Chearfulness Submitted to whatsoever was required by the Assembly of the said State or Recommended by Congress your Petitioners Humbly Sheweth that when the Assessors Came to Assess your Petitioners Properties they Required Them to Render an Account of their Properties on Oath which Sundry your Petitioners (through Religious Motives) Refused Offering at the same time to Affirm to the same purpose but as ~~they~~ ~~Did~~ your Petitioners Did not professe be Quakers the Assessors Did not Conceive themselves to be at Liberty to Grant your Petitioners that Indulgence but Returned your Petitioners as Refusing to take the said Oath on which a prosecution was Commenced against them and they fined the Sum of one Hundred pounds and Cost; your Petitioners further Sheweth that They Rendered a just and faithful Account of their Taxable Properties and their Refusal did not proceed from disaffection To American Liberty or the present Government, but through Conscienciousness that we ought not to Swear at all; therefore your Petitioners Humbly Desireth that they may be Released by an Order from your Honourable House from paying the Said fine and Cost and your petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray &c.

William Curnut
James Curnut
David Curnut
Joseph Payne
James Curnutt Jur
Thos Owens
John Bratcher
Reuben Curnut
George Simmons
Charles Simmons
John Basham
Simon Chafin
William Anderson
William Simmons
Charles anderson
Thos payn
John Anders
Anthoney Epperson
John Vaughan

Aj-1

September 27th 1779 We do hereby Certifie that we have for a Considuable time Known the within Petitioners that they have during that time Bore the Charector of Honest men And that they were pãticular honest and faithfull in Render=ing An Account of their Taxable properties on their words Certified under our hands

Jonathan Richason
Anthony Pate
Jeremiah Pate
Samuel Shrewsbury

Asses-sors

Aj-2

September ye 26th 1779 This is Certifie that the within petitioner Wm. Vaughan has to our knowledge for many years been well known to us during which times he has always bore the Charecter of a very honest ~~man~~ Innocent man and has always been Man Very Conscientious of Swearing At all

Certified under our hands as we Jeremiah Pate and Saml. Shrewsbury Acted as Assessors when the said Wm. Vaughan Was ~~Fined~~ Returned

Jeremiah Pate
Samuel Shrewsbury
John Wright
Matthew Pate
Thomas Pate

Bedford Petition
November 8th 1779.
referred to Propositions

(rejected)

praying to be relieved ~~against~~ from
the Judgments ~~[illegible]~~ of
obtained against each of
them ~~for [illegible]~~ by the Court
of the sd County ~~[illegible]~~ being the Sheriffs ca
persons refusing
to ~~[illegible]~~ give in account
of their taxable property
upon Oath - be rejected

AJ-4