

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> William Penn Esq<sup>r</sup> Lieutenant Govern<sup>r</sup>  
: nor & Commander in Chief of this Colony, And to the  
Honourable his Majesties Council -

The petition of the Subscribers humbly shew

That About four years past they purchase  
five thousand Acres of land of one Jacob Stover & paid him a great Sum of money for the sa<sup>me</sup>  
amounting to upwards of four hundred pounds, that y<sup>r</sup> petitioners were Informed & believed  
J<sup>r</sup> Stover had a good right & title in the said land, that Immediately after the s<sup>d</sup> Purchase they sold  
all their lands & <sup>some</sup> <sup>other</sup> things in the County of Lancaster & Province of Pennsylvania where  
they then lived, & came & seated on the land they had bought of the s<sup>d</sup> Stover, And cleared & s<sup>d</sup>  
Plantations & made great Improvements thereon, since which they have been Informed the  
s<sup>d</sup> land (known by the name of Mahanuttig) is claimed by one William Beverley Gent, & the  
s<sup>d</sup> Beverley hath brought suit ag<sup>t</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> Stover for the same, in the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Generall Cou<sup>ncil</sup>  
y<sup>r</sup> Petitioners further shew that should the s<sup>d</sup> Beverley recover the s<sup>d</sup> land that he will turn  
y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> out of Doors or Oblige them to give much more for their lands & plantations than they  
are worth, Which will <sup>infinidly</sup> ruin y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup>. And y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> cannot recover anything again, of the s<sup>d</sup> Stover  
to make them Amends for the loss of their said lands, plantations, &c. he being very poor, and  
Daily expected to Runaway.

Wherefore y<sup>r</sup> Petitioners humbly hope, that as they are not  
Privy to any fraud done by the s<sup>d</sup> Stover in obtaining the s<sup>d</sup> land, & y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> being Dutch men &  
not acquainted with the laws here concerning lands, & imagined the s<sup>d</sup> Stover's right to be good, & have  
Run the hazard of their lives & Estates, in removing from Pennsylvania to the s<sup>d</sup> land being above  
two hundred Miles, & at a time when there was very few Inhabitants in these parts of the Province,  
& they frequently visited by the Indians, and at this time y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> have Nine plantations ~~near~~ &  
fifty one people old & young thereon, & expect to have two more families to seat on the s<sup>d</sup> land this  
Spring (none of which are any of the persons the s<sup>d</sup> Stover swore was on the s<sup>d</sup> land when he obtain<sup>d</sup>  
the s<sup>d</sup> patent, as y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> have been Informed) nor did y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> hear of the s<sup>d</sup> Beverleys claim<sup>ing</sup> to  
said land, till they had made plantations thereon, and y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> have also paid his Majesties  
Quitrents for the s<sup>d</sup> land ever since they bought the s<sup>d</sup> land of the s<sup>d</sup> Jacob Stover that you  
Hon<sup>ors</sup> taking all & singular the premises into y<sup>r</sup> Consideration, will be pleased to make <sup>such</sup>  
order or Decree therein, that y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> may quietly enjoy the said land

Abraham Strickler  
Matthias Selzer  
Philip Lung  
Paul (?) Lung (?)  
Adam Miller  
Michael Kinehart

pray y<sup>r</sup>

Abraham Strickler  
Matthias Selzer  
Philip Lung  
Paul Lung  
Adam Miller  
Michael Kinehart  
Gaus  
HR  
Mart Ranjmann

and y<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>rs</sup> will over

Hans rrood (?)  
HR rood  
Mach Kauffman  
Mart

Date of petition, 1733. (over)

This petition is not dated, but it is placed in Palmer's Calendar of Virginia State Papers as belonging to the year 1733, which is probably the correct date.

This copy is the property of John W. Wayland, Harrisonburg, Virginia. It is quoted on pages 35, 36 of Wayland's "The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia," published in 1907, but the names appended are not accurately given. The author at that time had not seen the original or this photostat copy.

To The Hon,ble William Gooch, Esq. Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of this Colony, And to the Honourable his Majesties Council --

The petition of the Subscribers humbly Shews

That About four years past they purchased five thousand Acres of land of one Jacob Stover & paid him a great Sum of money for the same Amounting to Upwards of four hundred pounds, that yr. petitioners were informed & believed sd. Stover had a good right & title to the said land, that Immediately after the sd. Purchase they sold all their lands & Sevrl other things in the County of Lancaster & Province of Pennsylvania where they then lived & came & Seated on the land they had bought of the sd. Stover, And Cleared Sevrl Plantations & made Great Improvements thereon, Since which they have been informed that the sd. land (known by the name of Masanutting) is Claimed by one William Beverley Gent, & the sd. Beverley hath brought suit agst. the sd. Stover for the same, in the Hon<sup>ble</sup>. the General Court.

Yr. Petitioners further Shew that Should the sd. Beverley recover the sd. land that he will turn yr. petrs. out of Doors or Oblige them to give much more for their lands & plantations than they are worth, Which will Intirely ruin yr. petrs. And yr. petrs. cannot recover anything again, of the sd. Stover to make them Amends for the Loss of their said Lands, plantations, &c. he being very poor, And Daily Expected to Runaway.

Wherefore yr. Petitioners humbly hope, that as they are not Privy to any fraud done by the sd. Stover in Obtaining the sd. land, & yr. petrs. being Dutchmen & not Acquainted with the laws here concerning lands, & Imagined the sd. Stovers right to be good, & have Run the hazard of their lives & Estates, in removing from

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Pennsylvania to the sd. land being above two hundred Miles, & at a time when there was very few Inhabitants in them parts of Sherrando & they frequently Visited by the Indians, And at this time yr. petrs. have Nine plantations & fifty one people old & Young thereon, & Expect to have two more Familys to seat on the sd. land this Spring (none of which are any of the persons the sd. Stover Swore was on the sd. land, when he obtained the sd. patent, as yr. petrs. have been Informed) nor did yr. petrs. hear of the sd. Beverleys claiming the said land, till they had made plantations thereon, And yr. petrs. have also paid his Majesties Quit-rents for the sd. land ever since they bought the sd. Land of the sd. Jacob Stover

that Your Honrs. taking all & Singular the premises into yr. Consideration, will be pleased to make such order or ~~Decree~~ Decree therein, that yr. petrs. may Quietly Injoy the said land

And yr. petrs. will ever pray &c.

Abraham Strickler  
Mathis Selzer  
Philip Lüng  
Paul Lüng  
Adam Müller  
Michael Reinhart

*Illegible*  
Hans Rood  
Mart Kaufman

(All names written in German script.)

Tis petition is not dated, but it is placed in Palmer's Calendar of Virginia State Papers as belonging to the year 1733, which is probably the correct date.