

Mr. Parks,

I Have expected (with some Impatience) an Answer to your Correspondent F's Letter, inserted in your GAZETTE No. 72; which I am certain would have been very acceptable: But, since nothing of that kind is publish'd, I take the Liberty of informing my Country-men, by your Means, That the Merchants in London have frequently complained of one another's Conduct, declared that the Want of Unanimity among themselves, would greatly prejudice the Tobacco-Trade, and that no better Expedient could be thought of, either to remedy the Disadvantages under which it lay, or to avert future Inconveniences, than for them to act in Concert for the Advantage of us their Employers.

That our Trade is reduced to the lowest Ebb, we know to be a sad and melancholly Truth, and that it was the Duty of those we intrusted with the Disposal of our Tobacco, to use their best Endeavours to extricate us out of the Miseries, which their own Misconduct occasioned, is also certain. Of this they seem'd to be very sensible last Spring, when they formed themselves into a regular Society, in order to concert Measures to raise our Staple to a living Price; from the good Management of which Society, the People of Maryland promised themselves the greatest Advantages: And therefore great Numbers of them subscribed several Letters that were sent to London to press the Merchants to pursue what they had so well began; and to assure them that they would be looked on as Friends or Enemies to the People here, as they should adhere to, or deviate from the Agreements made or to be made amongst themselves. These Letters, or some sent by the Merchants themselves, for two or three Months past, have been taken notice of by their Employers, might signify our being entred into, and that we are to be content from

easily have kept it up to, (or even raised higher) and which is the very lowest that People can subsist by. Then it became the indispensable Duty of the whole Body of the Merchants, and of every one of them in particular, to observe punctually the said Agreement, and all other Agreements that should be made by the instituted Majority of their own Body, for the Purposes already mentioned. And I do assert, that whatever Merchant has broke thro' the Measures concerted and agreed upon for the Good of Maryland, has betrayed the Interest of Maryland, and is an Enemy to the People thereof: And that the said People ought, and are obliged in Justice to themselves, to resent the Conduct of such a Merchant so far at least, as never to intrust him with any of their Tobacco for the future.

That the Agreement which the Merchants entered into, is broke by some of their own Body, is very certain; as it is, that all the Hopes we had of reaping some Advantages from it, are vanished. But who occasioned that Breach is not yet (that I have heard of) certainly known. I am inform'd that Capt. Hyde's Friends charge Mr. John Falconar, which Charge is denyed by the Friends of the latter.

As to the Former, I can easily prove that a Commander of one of his own Ships, has declared that he desired Capt. Hyde, when his Ship was ready to sail from London, to let him know what Answer he (the Commander) should give the People here, if they should ask him any Questions concerning the said Agreement, and that all the Directions he received was, not to mind it.

Whether Mr. Hyde's Behaviour proceeded from a Conscience that he had done nothing that needed an Apology, or that his Conduct would not admit of Any, or from a Contempt of the People he is concern'd with, I leave to be considered by others, or explained by him.

As to Mr. Hyde, and Mr. Falconar, (who are the Persons hitherto chiefly talk'd of) I am independant of both, and not prejudiced against, or attached to either; but as I find either of them more or less a Friend to Maryland. I consider them in that Relation only, and I think it is the Interest of every Person in Maryland, to know who has acted justly and justly by them; wherein my Endeavours shall be wanting: And I hope for all the Assistance that can be, in a Matter of such great Importance.

I am

No. 1;

Your humble Servant

P. P.

IGN AFFAIRS.

The Court has received a Courier from the Emperor relating to the projected Truce; and encourages us to hope, that the said Truce will soon come to a Conclusion. 'Tis reported that the Emperor has offered the Emperor, in Case of a Peace, a Subsidy of 200,000 Pistoles, to 4000,000 Pistoles; and that the Duke of Savoy's having sent Orders to his Duke to lay in a Stock of Wine, and to believe that Minister will return hither in a short time from the King of Spain. We hear that the Count de Matteufel was on the Point of coming thence, to come to this Court, to receive a Commission from the Part of the King of Poland here for Truth, that the Emperor will give up some of his Possessions into some Places of Tuscany, in order to give Satisfaction to that Grand Duchy to the

the Nuns of the Invalids, who had been expelled from the Convent of the Priests of St. Philip; and that the Priests, refusing to quit Possession and to give up an amicable Accommodation, the Emperor has ordered to send thither a Detachment of Soldiers, who in Pursuance of their Order have used the Methods of Intreaty and Persuasion, and the Nuns standing on the