

The House at nine of the Clock met again Present as before

U. H.
Journal
1659-98

Then was sent to the Lower House the Answer to the Reasons against a Cessation and ordered that the Lower House be desired to consider of them & after Consideration had to reassume the debate of the Act for Encouragement of Trade & the other Act for advance of more staple Commoditys than Tobacco

The Answer to the Reasons of the Lower House given against a Cessation for Planting Tobacco are as followeth

To your first reason We answer that It is impossible our Cessation should rather encrease than lessen the Quantity of Tobacco because it is of so little value in itself & rendered so Contemptible by the abundance made even to the Glutt of all Marketts & lastly so difficult to preserve, in Expectation of a future Vent, & therefore It can no way Encourage but must on the Contrary discourage all men from planting it to Excess as We do We do confess the other American Plantations are in the same Plight We are for Want of Shipping but We deny that their Commoditys are as Contemptible as Ours You instance Sugar Ginger Cotton Indico & we will follow your own Method Sugar will not only keep many Years in expectation of a Markett but grow better, Tobacco either will not keep at all or if it do keep grow much worse Ginger will keep if it have no other Quality, Cotton will not only keep but may be & is wrought up in great quantitys into Clothing for the Planter daily. And lastly Indico is a Commodity of great Value & so long to be preserved that it may not improperly be called imperishable, We appeal then to your own Judgments whither it be probable that the American Plantations should leave of Planting these Staple valuable & imperishable Commoditys though they have no present Vent for them only to plant tobacco which We cannot live by having no greater Certainty of Vent for it than We have & as certain to have it rott upon their Hands as We can be. p. 111

Besides were all that You alledge true which for the reasons above given We flatly deny Yet by making an Act for a Cessation now & sending the News home We shall get a good supply of Clothing Arms & Ammunition for this next Cropp which will be vented before the other American Plantations can Plant any tobacco this We think sufficient to satisfy reasonable Men but if this satisfy not We are ready at a Conference to give more reason than can Conveniently be written at this time

2. Did We not see that the greatest part of the World is too little for the English Merchants Shipping & Seamen, & so