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Colonial  
Papers.

watching their opportunities, in a surprising and treacherous manner, and therefore som are cut of in the field before thy see their enemy or can recover their houses, others are treath-end in their houses, men, weomen and children and the houses pluntered before any neighbour coms to know of it, which is the cause that many plantations are deserted directly (aske the people in patoesk, gunnpowder river, bushriver, susquahana rivers ecorith, & others, neither it is not true, at Ritch: Wilton, was not Longe cut off, his wyff with two children and another weeman, both high with child, and two lusty able men but the third escaped by runninge, and all the house pluntered Ritch: Wilton himselfe beeing at his neighbours att worke and mean while knew nothing of it, and after this manner goes the poore planter to rak, and must pay taxes and leavies for souldiers too, which the great ones keep for their owne defence, but the poore outside plantations must defend themselves as well as they can, which is, every one is listed under a captaine, and when the misschiefe is done, thy press som men to goe to see, and when thy com to the place somtimes after the Indians are gone, and thy buruy the dead, with all the haest thy can and soe returne from whence thy came. The Grandees about S<sup>t</sup> Marys and the midle of the Country mean while beeing securely guarded by the outside plantations and able gangs or guarrised, knows nothing of it, nor will beleeve, and therefore upon the people's great complaint, all the assistance that came from owr Governor was of late a proclamation which comanded that 10 men of the neighbourhood should resort together into one plantation and fortify them selves, but if above 10, should assemble together besids the family of the house, should be punished as rebels and mutiniers; and so all is uppon that ketch pray produce that proclamation to the people of England, otherwise no man will beleeve this is true. And thus wee live and goe like unto the butchers sheep in the pastor, and this is owr rulers and proprietary's paternall care, for owr great leavies and doings thy so much bragg off.

O yee Assemby men why are yee so meal mouthed and affraighted to speke the truth and for the people's comon good and the publick welfare of the Country? Wee doe protest against the assentings and enactings and sumons you before owr souveraigne judge and Kings Majesty and his parliament in England, to declare with and for us, uppon your solemne Oaths and consciences as you or either of you will answer the contrary before the great judge of Heaven and Earth, wether this complaint and outcry is not true and the very truth itselfe. Nay that a great many enormities more will be discovered and privat wrongs made appear, when time shall serve, to represent all other transactions.