

P. R. O.
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1st In regard all Masters are obliged by the Custome of both Collonies to give every one of their servants that have served out his time a years provision of corn, clothes & planting tooles upon his departure out of service to set up for himself, it would so happen that the said Masters would not be able to perform this obligation to such servants as should become free at the end of the Cessacōn yeare, because they would have no crops of Tobacco to purchase clothes, planting tooles, and other necessaries for them. Because in such year of Cessacōn no shipping would come into those parts, and such Cessacōn would be a means to force those ships which usually traded thither to seek and settle in new employments, and to engage in new waies of Trade never in probability to return thither again. This way therefore not being approved another way by a stint from planting of Tobacco after the 20th day of Iune, every yeare was agree'd on to be proposed to the next respective Assemblies of each government, and accordingly it was proposed unto, but disapproved by the next Assembly of Maryland.

1st Because of the disadvantage that would be drawn upon them in Maryland as scituate more northerly than Virginia.

2nd Because for the present the people of Maryland were incapable of carrying on any other worke to procure a livlyhood.

3rd Because it would not answer the end proposed unless your Majesty put the same restraint upon all your Majesties Dominions in the West Indies to whom occasion might be given to increase their quantities, by the lessening or Cessacōn imposed in Virginia and Maryland. This being the issue of that Meeting and Treaty by Commissioners, it pleased the governor Councill & Burgesses of Virginia to prefer a petition in the year 1664 unto your Majesty in Councill, by way of complaint, or charge against those of Maryland as refusing to give obedience unto your Ma^{ties} Commands, & praying your Ma^{ties} reliefe in relacōn to the premises, & to annex certaine Proposals thereunto upon which your Majesty was graciously pleased to order copies of all their papers to be sent unto the Lord Baltemore, and an answer was then humbly given in by him in which he humbly offered, (amongst other things) these reasons against the lessening of the Quantity of Tobacco vizt:

1^o That if the quantity were notably lessened it would not answer the desired end, and if it were notably lessened it would notably lessen your Majesties Customes & Excise.

2^o That the industrious Planters in Virginia and Maryland live in much greater plenty, and gaine estates much sooner than those of their quality in England consequently the value