

distance. I have several times both in Virginy and here met P. R. O.
Negros both single, and six or 7 in Company in the night
time. The major part of the Negros speak English: and
most people have some of them as their domestick servants:
& the better sort may have 6 or 7 in those circumstances: and
may be not above one English: And they send the Negro men
and Boys about the Country, when they have Business; and
they commonly wait on them to all publick places: So that by
these means they know not only the publick, but private
Rodes of the Country, & Circumstances thereof. And as for
the Irish servants, they have more privileges: and I don't
know but they may confederate with the Negros; and in the
summer time they may keep out in the Woods about the
Frontiers, which are very thinly inhabited. But a great many
of the people's Stocks of Cattel & Hogs run there, which
may supply them with Victuals: In which parts there are
a great many Swamps that they may fortify; and it will be
very difficult and dangerous to come at, & force them out.

And if it please God these things should happen, even the
subduing of them would be a very great charge and loss to
the Country in gen^l and to their Masters in particular I
have put the House of Delegates in mind of these things, and
shall again at their meeting the 20th of October next, remind
them of them in order to have some Law made for the
restraining of servants and Negros going and rambling so
abrode

It's generally supposed that there will be left both in Vir-
giny and here, Goods enough to purchase, and Ships to carry
away half the next Crops of Tobaccos.

Here hath lately happened very great Rains, which will
probably drown some quantitys of the Tobaccos; especially in
the low Lands; (and the half of our Eastern shore is so) as
allso spoil some of the ripe and forward: but the greater part
of it is latter Tobacco. So that unless please God, there
should be seasonable weather for above a moneth; there
will be but indifferent Crops made in this Province.

By the best accounts which I can get, all the English Pro-
vinces here, on the Continent, have been allso overstocked
with ships and goods from Engld. so that in some places
they sell their Goods for less than they cost them in Eng^{ld}
Both in Virginy, and here, they are very cheap, and Tobaccos
pretty dear: and some ships go at very low Freight: So I
shall not p^rsume to trouble yo^r Lordp^s as formerly, about hav-
ing the Merchants send a quantity of Ships and Goods to
supply the Market &c.

I hope that I shall have yo^r Lordp^s Pardon, if I observe that
M^r Pen's chief insinuating Reason, That the ten p Cent laid