

Since if there were not some very strong intention to lessen  
the Clergy's maintenance, no fair reason can be given why these  
clauses were again inserted in an Act of this public Nature,  
& such an Act put in the Hazard thereby? And it is not the  
least of the Hardships put upon y<sup>r</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup>s, to be made the  
Object of gen<sup>e</sup>. Dissatisfaction, by Necessitating them to  
apply for Relief in the only Method they can by a repeal  
of this gen<sup>e</sup>. Law; but after that End obtain'd, for the Ap<sup>t</sup>ly  
to turn the Weight of this gen<sup>e</sup>. Law ag<sup>st</sup> y<sup>r</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup>s, is without  
any colour of reason as y<sup>r</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup>s humbly hope. And there was  
the Law pretence to including y<sup>e</sup> Clergy, they as before Observ'd  
if they had their 40 p<sup>r</sup> cent in Tobacco, not having the 20<sup>th</sup>  
part of the Tobacco made.

The next reason offer'd by y<sup>e</sup> Houses to y<sup>r</sup> Dis<sup>p</sup> for  
Supporting this Act, is, that y<sup>e</sup> Grain to be allowed the  
Clergy will be worth as much as the Tobacco taken away  
would be, if such Law had past. And y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> restraint by  
the Act laid upon the planters will render the  $\frac{3}{4}$  of  
the Tobacco still to be paid to the Clergy of more value  
than the whole would have been, without such a restraint.  
But y<sup>r</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup>s Submit to y<sup>r</sup> Lordship, whether both these reasons  
or indeed either of them, have any certain Foundation; For as  
it's manifestly hop'd at least, that less Tobacco shall be made  
now than heretofore. If the planters therefore shall  
for want of other Employment sow any of the Enumerated  
Sorts of Grain, they may become so plenty, as not to be  
worth the price they are now set at, & yet the Clergy  
are to take them at the full price in the Act, whereas the  
Grain would not, in such case be near the Value of Tobacco.  
On the other hand also, it's by no means fixt or certain  
that the making a less quantity of Tobacco in Maryland  
than heretofore (if this Act does produce that Effect,  
ch<sup>ch</sup> is not admitted) will, in all Events raise the price of  
Tobacco in Foreign Markets, so as to make  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the  
Value of the whole; as the Markets do not depend upon  
Maryland alone for Supply.

The last reason given by the Houses for your  
Lordship's Approbation of the Act, your Pet<sup>r</sup>s humbly hope  
is, that it is sufficient for the repeal of it; It is  
not sufficient to have it have it same prices for their