

is made for the deterioration which takes place during the voyage, but the complaints apply more particularly to the false packing effected, as supposed by the planters.

Generally the Kegsheads containing the fine qualities are subject to this defect, for instance loose and short greenish leaves and sweepings are found between the layers of fine quality or bunches of short & inferior quality are packed round the inside of the Keghead; it also happens that the top or bottom of the Keghead consists entirely out of such inferior quality so that it would seem that the Inspectors do not draw samples from that part of the Keghead.

The Tobacco being sold in Holland by American samples (the trade trusting in the good faith of the Inspectors) this experience gave a check to the business, several Dealers being unwilling to buy on samples except those taken here which occasioned delay and extra expenses and caused also difficulties in competing with the other kinds of Tobacco.

It is therefore that the undersigned bring this matter under the notice of your Government and request that such measures may be taken so as to restore the confidence which an Inspection established by a Government ought to inspire.

Signed by 23 Firms in Rotterdam addressed

To

George E. Wiss Esq.
Consul of the United States of North America
at Rotterdam

State of Maryland
Executive Department
Annapolis Sept 12th 1862

James Turner Perkins Esq.
Inspector of Tobacco &c
Sir:

I have received from the Secretary of the Treasury a Communication enclosing a written Complaint signed by some twenty or more of the Merchants of Rotterdam represented by our Consul there as being the first firms of that City engaged in the Tobacco trade.

This Communication from the Merchants of Rotterdam represents a state of things in reference to Maryland Tobacco received at that port which would seem to indicate that some frauds have been committed in the packing of Tobacco, which by some neglect in the inspection, have not been detected.

I have therefore caused a copy to be made of the Complaint of these Gentlemen and now enclose it to you and each of the other Inspectors, that by having your attention particularly directed to the subject you may possibly be able to