

to the Glut of all marketts & lastly so difficult to preserve, in expectation of a future vent, & therefore it can no way encourage, but must on the contrary discourage all men from planting it to except as we do. We do confess the other American Plantations are in the same plight we are for want of shipping but we deny that their Commodities are contemptible as ours. You instance Sugar Ginger Cotton Indico & we will follow your own method Sugar will not only keep many years in expectation of a markett but grow better, Tobacco either will not keep at all or if it do keep grow much worse. Ginger will keep if it have no other Quality, Cotton will not only keep but may be & is wrought up in great quantities into Clothing for the Planter daily. And lastly Indico is a Commodity of great Value & so long to be preserved that it may not improperly be called imperishable. We appeal then to your own judgments whether it be probable that the American Plantations should leave off planting these Staple valuable & imperishable Commodities though they have no present vent for them only to plant tobacco which we cannot live by having no greater certainty of vent for it than we have as certain to have it rot upon their Hands as we can be.

Besides were all that you alledge true which for the reasons above given we flatly deny yet by making an Act for a Cessation now & sending the news home we shall get a good supply of Clothing Arms & Ammunition for this next Crops which will be vented before the other American Plantations can plant any tobacco this we think sufficient to satisfy reasonable men but if this satisfy not we are ready at a Conference to give more reason than can conveniently be written at this time.

2. Did we not see that the greatest part of the World is too little for the English merchants Shipping & Seamen, & so much too little that they have in a manner forced the King by their clamours to a War with the Dutch to make room for them to trade your second reason had been of some weight, but that convincing Argument hath given you sufficient Security you shall never want Traders, or Shipping if you have a Commodity worth fetching. But to your second reason we further say it is not the Shippings barely coming hither that we are to wish for but their Importation of Goods to Colthells & if we take fifty thousand tons out of the Trade & not planting it for one year we shall make it valuable & worth adventuring Goods hither to purchase it and by consequence have Clothing & necessaries for it which if we persist to keep the markett glutted we shall never have & if we have necessaries for it & the next years Crops now ready to be planted what need we further devise shipping than to carry it away & so much will undoubtedly be vented by those whose Subsistence is by the Trade of Tobacco when they know before hand they can have none the next year following if Merchants trading this way do settle their Trade in other parts it will be no Reasoning