

Sufficient deputy to send them to execute that Trust their Maj.
have thereupon ordered

Then read the Opinion of the House about Bulke Tobacco
follows viz⁶

By the Burgesses of Assembly Sept¹⁴ 25 1694

Upon reading the Queens Letter concerning Bulke Tobacco your
Consideration thereof the House doth conceive that to make an Act
Prohibiting the same will be very great Diminution to their Ma-
jesty's Revenue and also an Impoverishing to their Majesty's Sub-
jects of this Province of Maryland &c for the Reasons hereafter viz

First The Prohibition of Bulke Tobacco will lessen their Majesty's
Revenue very much because every Ship that can Carry away but 100
hds in Cash the same Ship will Carry in Bulke 200 hds and so
Consequently for bigger or lesser Ships and the Greater Quantity
of Tobacco that is imported in England is the Advancement of their
Majesty's Revenue and further that Tobacco that is Generally Bulked
is such mean dark Tobacco that it will not pay the Freight in Cash
as Freight at this instant Runs but being Bulked the Freight is Le-
ssened to one half which make such Tobacco in some demand which
otherwise would not bear it Therefore if the Merchant Freighters should
be Compelled to Transport the same in Cash Considering the manner
thereof they would not purchase such Tobacco from the Planters but
the same would lie in the Country Out of Demand and Useless for
Trade Expects profit and that profit arises chiefly upon the lessening
Freight then if that Cause be removed the Effect thereof Ceaseth and
Consequently that Trade Extinguished which would very much Lessen
their Majesty's Revenue Run their Majesty's Subjects here Consi-
dering that almost one half of the Tobacco is such dark Tobacco which
Pays their Majesty as much duty as the best Tobacco and as trade
Runs at this Instant there is not Ships enough to Carry away all
the Tobacco that is made when they have used all the Ways and means
that Possibly they can yet Great Quantities lies and rots in the Coun-
try to the Great Prejudice of their Majesty's Revenue & Impoverishing
their Majesty's Subjects here

2 If any Act should Pass the Planters must of necessity leave off
making such Tobacco and Apply themselves to Manufactory