

A just Account of the *Transactions* of
the Merchants, for the Advancement
of the Tobacco-Trade, &c.

Gentlemen,

Sept. 18. 1728.



I AM fully persuaded, that I cannot furnish my Friends, and Countrymen with a more agreeable Entertainment, than in acquainting them with what was done by the Merchants in *London*, who trade to *Maryland* and *Virginia*, whilst I stayed there, for the Relief of our most deplorable Trade. And, as the only effectual Means to communicate to the Publick a just and impartial Account of those Transactions, is, to have Recourse to the P R E S S, I have therefore taken this Method to inform them, that (upon a due Consideration of the melancholly State of our Trade) I thought I could not better employ my Time, for the Service of my Country, my Self, and Posterity, than by using my utmost Endeavours to bring the Merchants there, to frequent Meetings together, in order to consider of some Means for our Relief; which I was the more induced to attempt, as I was well assured from the Gentlemen themselves, that one of the chief Causes of the melancholly State of our Trade, was owing to their Disagreement amongst themselves. Therefore, I took some Pains to prevail with them, to unite themselves into a Body, and to act in Concert for the future: And