

II. THE second Thing agreed to at last Meeting, was, The Continuing Three Pence per Hoghead on all Tobacco, which I very much approve of ; without such a Fund we shall not be able to defend our selves against many Inroachments, or Hardships, that may be offered ( as in Times past ) to be afresh put upon the Trade : That Duty has been a Means of uniting us so, as to ward off Foreign Evils that affected us only in common with our Fellow Subjects ; but henceforward I hope a Part of that Duty will be employed so, as to ward off Evils immediately relating to our selves, by begetting a friendly Acquaintance and Society, towards which, Monthly Meetings will very much conduce.

AND therefore I propose Two or Three Guineas be appropriated to defray the Charge of each Monthly Meeting : And, supposing so much may not be actually spent at each Meeting, I wish all the Savings may be kept distinct by it self ; and when it amounts to a Sum sufficient, may be bestowed upon a Dinner, once or twice a Year, for the whole Trade. What I aim at by this, is to beget a good Friendship and Harmony among the Merchants ; which Eating together, does more often produce among Mankind, than bare Drinking.

III. THE third Thing agreed at last Meeting, was, Continuing our Treasurer, Alderman Perry, than whom I think we cannot have a better.

IV. THE Fourth was Confirming the former Managers, and filling up the Number to Twelve in all. This I think is a very good Part towards a regular Society, as they are a Controul upon the Treasurer, for all Monies expended, and are a sort of Guardians for the Trade, to watch against all Foreign Attacks.

BUT, in my Opinion, they may be made still more useful, were they appointed to take the immediate Care of the Trade into their Thoughts : And, for that End, to have fix'd Meetings every Fortnight, between