

BY knowing what Tobacco there is upon Hand at any Time, and the Number and Burthen of Ships gone out for the ensuing Year, we shall be enabled the better to judge what Measures to take in respect to the Price.

We might also settle a good Correspondency with the Merchants in the Out-Ports, by communicating Thoughts and Advice, by Letters directed to each Port, prepared by our Secretary, and Signed by him; or by their Direction, only by the Secretary, who must keep Copies of them, and all Letters from the Out-Ports, to be directed to the Secretary, to be by him communicated to the Managers.

I think we should, as a Body, settle a Correspondency with our Principals. I know not how it is in *Virginia*, but in *Maryland* I am told there are settled Clubs in every County, where they talk over Affairs. With these Clubs, I think would be our mutual Interest to communicate Councils. I make no doubt what Advice they should have from us, as a Body, would have a great Weight to remedie many Evils we have long complained of, which only lies in Their Power to cure; as, mending the Quality, and lessning the Quantity of Tobacco, giving the Ships better Dispatch, and better Freight too; which I am hopeful they would not begrudge, when they saw us so much in Earnest to advance Tobacco, and put the Trade upon such a Foot as they may live comfortably by their Labour. I make no doubt when they see the good Effects of our Agreement, they will think it unreasonable we should be so great Sufferers by our Ships as we have been of late Years, which put nothing in their Pockets, tho' it has taken a great deal out of ours, and chiefly by the unaccountable Delay, and extravagant Charge in Loading: The Delay has been many Ways to their Detriment as well as ours; the Tobacco spoilt by hanging