

but one, has a mighty Advantage over so many Sellers, who thereto have acted without any Correspondency among themselves, so that it has not been what Price we pleased, but that Gentleman has set his own Price; and if some refused to take it for a Time, others, perhaps but one Person, has complied to take the Price set, and then immediately every Body else have been obliged to do the same, some for one Reason, and some for another. One of the best Reasons I ever heard alledged, was, that if they did not take that Price now, by and by the *French* would fill their Price, and then they should not get so much, which made every one crowd to offer their Tobacco, and that naturally led the *French* Agent to fall his Price, if he had not before thought of doing of it; this I think is an evident Proof, that it has not been us, but that Gentleman that made the Price upon what Tobacco he bought.

THINGS being thus, I think it cannot be denied; but in this or any other Trade, where there shall be one Sole Grand Buyer, of a particular Commodity, what ever Price that Buyer gives, or can be obtained from him, will govern all other Buyers of that Commodity, tho' there may be some Difference in the Quality of that Commodity: That this is our Case with the *French*. I think I need not use more Arguments to evince.

THE REFORE in my Opinion, all we have to do is to provide against this Evil; but how that is to be done, I own is not so easy to find out.

YET I am strongly of Opinion, a Cure must be found, else the Trade must drop; it cannot long subsist upon the Terms as it has been for Years past, the Planters have not been able to live by their Labour, and how it has been with us that have acted either as Factors, or Purchasers. I need not mention; every Part of the Trade has tended to Destruction, and all owing in my Opinion, to the Ascendant the *French*.