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innocent people & the ruin of more yet living in their Estates & Plantations You think You have done better by giving Us a power to maintain War without the Province by levying tob<sup>o</sup> what signifys that Act unless by a Cessation You bring it to a Value & Estimation could Tobacco procure so much as Credit for meat & drink & necessary Expences at New York for persons to be sent thither, Col Nicholls might perhaps procure Us a certain & cheap peace with the Ciniquos as is manifest by his noble Obliging & friendly Letters sent into this Province But as the Case stands the Governour can neither arm Soldiers to fight for You nor send Comm<sup>rs</sup> to treat for You, nor indeed accept of that Act for maintaining War without the Province without hazarding his Honour not only to the Censuring of our neighbouring Governments but also to the Scorn of the Pagan & Infidell. Wherefore We now as before protest We are innocent of the Blood already spilt having done our Endeavours in the last Assembly to prevent it, & will hold ourselves guiltless of all the Blood that may hereafter be shed for want of your Care in this Assembly if You consent not to a Cessation from planting Tob<sup>o</sup> for the Year 1667 which alone can put the Governour into a Condition to secure You

p. 114 Consider further that a Glutt must needs be the Effect of planting still as much as before, A Stint is impracticable so that there is no Way left but a Cessation

Upon a Glutt of Tobacco necessarily follows the Ruin of the House-holder & Master of Servants, the Tobacco they make being so little worth that a Servants Cargo shall not Cloath him & renew his time, the Consequence of which must be that the Richest of us all at last must beat his own Bread for want of Servants tho' the poor man will be the first shall feel it, because it may so fall that two Servant's Labour may clothe & purchase One when one Man's Labour shall not purchase any

We will yet for this poor man's sake make one Instance more, Quick Dispatch is the life of Trade, for which Reason the rich man that can compleat a Merchant's Freight with Speed shall be served when a poor man his Crop not exceeding 6 or 8 hh<sup>ds</sup> Tob<sup>o</sup> shall starve for Want

If that fail the Rich have means to take freight certain in England by which means if Freight be scant, the Rich will have it all, if plenty the Rich being supplied by their own Returns or Credit the poor will be sacrificed to the rapacious Avarice of the Trades there being none to beat the price but those whose Wants will not permit them to expect & must therefore perish or run more in Debt, so that upon the whole matter, if either You will hearken to the crying Necessitys of the poor, the groans of those that live in fear of a pagan Enemy or to hear the honour of Government You will join with Us in a