

TOBACCO CORN & CAVIAR

forborne from time to time to declare): yet have they by the unjust Calumnies & clamors of these men, been continually prosecuted with all variety of extremity, to the rewarding of them with evil for their good deservings, and to the disheartening of all other, to succeed in like care & industry.

Thirdly the present extreme poverty & consumption of the Plantation, being for want of the accustomed yearly supplies, reduced to that paucitie of men, & want of all sorts well neere of necessary provisions, that it cannot be restored, but with an huge expense, no less almost than to set up a new Plantation.

Now touching the disreputation of the Action, and the general disheartening of the Adventurers & Planters, such especially as have spared neither pains nor expense, for the recovering, supporting & advancing the Plantation: We humbly crave your Lordships favorable patience, though we somewhat enlarge our selves in this place, to present in part the Injustice & grievousness of those wounds to the honorable minds & skilful hands of your Lordships: Seeing that in our understanding, the curing of them by your Lordships, may be a means to revive again the generally deadded hearts of both Adventurers & Planters, & to add a new luster & grace to the Action.

Amongst the many glorious works of the late King, there was none more eminent, then his Gracious inclination, together with the propagation of Christian Religion, to advance & set forward a new Plantation in the new world. Which purpose of his continued till the last, manifested by his Majesties many public & private speeches by divers Letters of his, & by his sundry Proclamations; so that their faults are far the greater, who, as immediately shalbe declared, did maliciously and cunningly pervert those Gracious intentions of his Majesty by scandalizing the Government as it then stood, as neither convenient here, nor likely there to advance the prosperity of the Colony; and by insinuating assurances, that they themselves would maintain that work by better means. which his Majesty conceiving (as it was reason) they would not so boldly have promised of them selves, being so great a work, unless they had had both knowledge, & means to go through with it; did also believe: & so they became the Undertakers.

And now, as it hath been ever far from our practice, and against our present Desires, to fall upon the persons of any men, where the necessity & justice of the cause doth not necessarily require it: yet at this time it is impossible to clear this point to your Lordships without naming some of their persons, and particularizing their Actions. About Six years ago,