

# TOBACCO CORN & CAVIAR

native Corn called Maize at Ten and fifteen shillings the bushel, the which howsoever it lay heavy upon the shoulders of the Generality it may be suspected not to be unaffected by some of the chief; for they only having the means in these extremities to Trade for Corn with the Natives do hereby engross all into their hands and so sell it abroad at their own prizes and myself have heard from the mouth of a prime one amongst them that he would never wish that their own Corn should be cheaper amongst them then eight shillings the bushel.

Their houses are generally the worst that ever I saw the meanest Cottages in England being every way equal (if not superior) with the most of the best. And besides so improvidently and scatteringly are they seated one from an other as partly by their distance but especially by the interpositions of Creeks and Swamps as they call them, they offer all advantages to their Savage enemies and are utterly deprived of all sudden recollection of them selves upon any terms whatsoever.

I found not the least piece of fortification: Three pieces of Ordinance only mounted at James City and one at fflowerdue hundred but never a one of them serviceable; So yet it is most certain that a Small Bark of 100 Ton may take its time to pass up the River in spite of them; & coming to an Anchor before the Towne may beat all their houses down about their ears and so forcing them to retreat into the woods may Land under the favor of their Ordinance and rifle the Town at pleasure.

Expecting according to their printed books a great forwardness of divers and sundry Commodities at myne arrival I found not any one of them so much as in any towardnes of being for the Iron-works were utterly vasted and the men dead the furnaces for Glass and Pots at a stay and in small hope; As for the rest they were had in a general derision even amongst themselves & the Pamphlets y<sup>t</sup> had published their being sent thither by hundreds were laughed to scorn and every base fellow boldly gave them the lye in divers particulars So that Tobacco only was the business and for ought that I could hear every man madded upon that and little thought or looked for any thing else.

I found the Ancient Plantations of Henrico and Charles City wholly quitted and left to the spoil of the Indians who not only burned the houses said to be once the best of all others, but fell upon the Poultry, Hogs, Cows, Goats and Horses whereof they killed great numbers to the great grief as well as ruin of the Old Inhabitants who stick not to affirm that these were not only the best and healthiest parts of all others but might also by their natural strength of situation have been the most easefully preserved of all others.