

Lord and the King, and again fear God and honour the King, Lib. W. H.
for that a Divine Sentence is in the Lips of the King, and the King by Judgment Establisheth the Land, and his mouth Transgresseth not in Judgment, and the Kings Commands We are by the Laws of God bound to keep, for that it is said keep the Kings Commandm^t and that in regard of the Oath of God, for whoso keepeth the Commandment of the king shall feel no evill thing. The King (Gentlemen) by his Order in Council bearing Date the fourth Day of November 1687 hath required of Us that We with Virginia pass an Act prohibiting Bulk Tobacco to be Exported out of this Province &^{ca} This Order (Gentlemen) should have been here Sooner, but by some neglect or other of the Clerks in England it came not to my Lords hands in time, so as to have been sent by the last years Shipping, But sooner or later the King is and ought to be Obeyed. Some perhaps will presume to question the Advantage or Disadvantage that may arise by passing of such an Act which is indeed unbecoming Subjects to call in Question the proceedings of the King, as if the good and Evill which thereby might or could arise were not fully and duely Considered of in England by the Kings most honourable Council from whom and by whose Advice that Order did proceed, But such is the Leven of Some, as always to treat with dislike the best of things even proceeding from the best of Kings, & best of Governments, and that for no other reason but because it Came from the King.

Gentlemen I hope the ill advised proceedings of a late Neighbouring Assembly on this Occasion will be no president or of force to weigh with you But as Men of better principles you will shew that in Alleigance and Loyalty to your King you know better to obey. I say you will know better for that it is Obvious to every man of Sense that they were Strangers to their Duty in as much as they ought to know, that, Mercy and truth preserve the King, and that in the Light of the Kings Countenance is Life, and also that the Wrath of a King is as Messengers of Death and that he who so provoketh the King to Anger sinneth against his own Soul and who knows what Just Resentments the King may have of such as well Undutifull as Disloyall practises.

Therefore Gentlemen I am of Opinion that if it will become as well the Duty as Allegiance of this Assembly to pass this Act so as it may not be Binding to the People of this Province till the same be also done and past in Virginia. And on other Terms the King desires it not for that it can be of no Advantage to the King or people till the Same be Equally Concluded p. 550
as well there as here, nor is the passing of this Act Recom-