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1784 OCT. 15 W[illiam] Cooke to SAM[UE]L GALLOWAY MS. 1784.

SIDE ONE

Dr Sir

I have taken the liberty to speak with freedom to your Son Benjamin on the Subject of the unhappy difference that is likely to take place between you. I thought my attachment and Friendship for your family would justify my offering myself as a mediator, and it would have afforded me the most sincere satisfaction if my endeavours had proved equal to my wishes, or hopes on the Occasion; but I am sorry to inform you, your Son seems determined to enforce the Opinion he has obtained from Mr Wayne at all hazards, and upon my remonstrating to him the uneasiness such a step would necessarily occasion in the family, he impowered me to inform you that to avoid making the Subject a matter of Public discussion in a Court of Chancery, he would consent to refer the Matter to the Chancellor in a private manner, or would agree to have the argument in the Chancellor's own House whenever it is brought forward for his decision, or he will consent to convey to you some Land he holds in Montgomery County provided you will convey the Reversionary Interest in fee Simple, of the Land he claims, to take place after your own Decease in possession to himself or any other person to whom he may assign it. He thinks the Land in Montgomery is of such Value as to enable you to make that equitable disposition of your Estate you wish to do among your Children. I have thought it my Duty to lay these propositions before you, and if I can be Useful I need not assure you it would afford me the greatest satisfaction to be freely commanded. With sincere wishes for your Health & Happiness I am with great truth & Regard Yr. Ob Friend & Ser.

W Cooke

15 Octo 1784.