Gentn

Annapolis 13. 1774

I have now to advise you, the Elizabeth arrived at Annapolis the 15th with her Convicts in such a condition, as not to admit her to Enter, During the course of the Passage upwards of 20 had the Small Pox, which together with the fevers, altho' not Violent, effectually prevented the Capt.n taking the Oath. Unluckily too, the president, (the Governor being sailed for England,) I found on my Getting to Annapolis the Evening before last, was out of Town, at the Distance of near 70 miles, to whom I sent an Express Yesterday with the Captains Petition stating the Facts, and the Doct.rs certificate specifying the Present condition of the Crew & Servants, which I dare say, will induce him to suffer the Ship to enter. If he shou'd not, I cannot conceive the Time of Quarantine can be very long. 14 died on the Passage, the rest the Captain tells me look pretty well, tho' are afraid the circumstance of the small pox having been on Board, together with the large number that has been constantly coming in this Spring will effect the sale very much, both Price & time of Payment —

The load of Tob.o can be very easily procured, I dare say immediately after harvest the planters after hearing of the none exportation scheme that is talked off taking Place, will be [illegible] to push their Crops to Market as fast as possible —

The

William, is now loading & I think will certainly sail abt. the 10th of next month; she would have been ready by the last of this, but the uncommon Dryness of the season has prevented the Tobo being got ready — with respect to Wheat & flour, I would remark in general that at this time of the Year its impossible to provide a Cargo of them — after April but a very trifling Quantity of the former comes to Market & after this time none of the latter. For both of them there, has been so great a Demand since the 1st May that it was impossible to provide a load for the Isabella, indeed I have found it more Difficult than I expected to provide the flour for the William, altho' there has been several Cargoes shipt within that time, Yet 4/5th of them were provided before. — I mentioned to you before the New Ships Cargo would consist of abt. 200 Hhds Tob.o & 12 or 1300 Bbls which I now confirm for Your Government abt. Insurance —