wrote you, when I have varied from Your Directions about the Business this Summer the Reasons that induced me to it; to those and the confused State of Things in this part of the world you must attribute my not complying with them. I have done for the best and indeed all that was in my Power: I am now endeavouring to reduce all our Debts to as great a certainty as possible - a stand is put to all Payments and they therefore must lie til these Disputes are settled - By Thomas you shall have a particular State of My Books, a List of Debts &c that incase any Accident happens to the originals here we may have something to shew by & by - for the same purpose I shall leave Copies in two or three different places in this Province that we may have more than one Chance - as to News Spencer can tel you; Matters are thickening fast, so much so that I think it probable You may yet see me in a Month or six weeks after him. — I have drawn on You in favour of John Ridout Esqr £43.2.8 for Tonnage Maryland Duties & Fees on this Ship —

I was under a Necessity of giving a Comm^n for the purchasing the 250 Hhds Tob^o. indeed it was well I made the Contract as I did, as the Gen=-tlemen who bought it could have got in a little Time after 27/

a few of the Servants that came in Spencer are yet unsold, the acc^t of Sales could not there=-fore be made up for this Vessel; You shall have them by the next —

Thomas writes me he expects to be loaded by the 20 or 25th of this M^o at farthest: I suppose he will sail about the last

I am Gentlemen
Your Very Humble Servt.
J C

To Messrs Stevenson
Randolph & Cheston
Bristol

Gentlemen Annapolis 26th august 1775

Captn Thomas is now just ready to leave me: This Ship carries 453 Hogsheads of Tob^o.

Inclosed you have Invoice of Slaves & Iron amt^g to £132 8/ & £83 Curr^y which together with his Disbursements amounting as per Acc^t Inclosed to £19.2.6 8/9 & £244.2.11 Curr^y You will please place to the Cr of the general acc^t

I wrote you when I accepted this Charter for the Ship, that as Money was so excessively scarce, I could do nothing else with her: Indeed it is not till within these 10 days that I have quite paid for the Elizabeth's Load, & now I am left so bare, that I am afraid I shall be obliged to draw on You for my own Expences, without some Person or other unexpectedly pay their Debts. as there is an End to all Business and every Thing in the utmost Confusion I was in hopes I might have been able to have left this Country about this Time; but have now but little Prospect, what I may suffer in consequence God knows: I fear my Situation will be bad enough: I suppose You will fall upon some Plan or other to employ

the