I write to Mr. Buchanan by you boy, requesting him to come to some Determination abt. the claim I have agt. Perkins Buchanan & Brown. You will much oblige me, if you further it as much as you can with propriety – I wou'd wish the Matter Settled with as little trouble to Mr. Buchanan as possible, but at the same time, its too large a sum to lay in the Uncertain State, it does at present & something Must be done to put the Debt, at least in a better Situation, If a speedy paym.t of the Money cannot be made – I shall be much obliged to hear from you on the Subject of with my best Compliments to Mrs. Cook in which Mrs. Chester most cordially Joins me I am

D.r Sir Yr. Most Ob.t Serv.t

To Mr. William Cook
Prince George's Co.y

James Chester

D.r Sir West River Decem.r 5. 1783 –

Abt. 3 or 4 months ago, I spoke to Mr. Brown at Annapolis, requesting to know, whether you & he had come to any Determination, respecting the claim I had Made, in behalf of the late house of Stevenson Randolph & Chester of Bristol, of you & him, partners of the late house of Perkins Buchanan & Brown of London. His Answer was, that you both Expected every Moment, some advices from London, respecting the affairs of Perkins Buchanan & Brown, which in all probability wou'd Determine you both, as the Measures necessary to be taken frequented I wou'd wait some little time longer before I took any further Steps in prosecuting my claim. Not hearing any thing further from Mr. Brown Since, I must request, you will be so obliging as to Inform me, whether the plan Mr. Cook proposed "a suit to be brought, two Non est's to be suffered And attachments to be laid in the hand of your Debtors" wou'd be the most agreeable to you or if any Measure has occurred that wou'd answer the Same end. I much wish the Matter was put in some train for Settlement and Shall be extreamly obliged for your endeavors to bring about a speedy one.

I wish just add, that the Assignee of Mr. Stevenson, is Now in this Country, has recorded a copy of the Commission of Bankruptcy and given Bond as the act of Assembly requires for the payment of the country Debts; I have a power of attorney from Mr. Randolph, so that we have Sufficient Authority at present to settle all the affairs of Stevenson Randolph & Chester, were there any Doubt of it before.

I hope to be favord with an Answer by the first Opportunity I am D.r Sir

Your Most Ob.t Serv.t

To Mr. Thomas Buchanan
Prince George's Co.y

James Chester