1770 SEPT. 24 W[illiam] Stevenson to James Chaston

SIDE ONE

Bristol 24th Sept. 1770

Dear Jemmy

The Snow went down into ye Road this morning expected she would have sailed, but as they could not purchase their Anchor were obligd to cut ye Cable, which ye Mate came up about this evening & gives me just time to tell you that it is expected We are upon ye eve of a War, 26 Sail of ye Line are put in Commission within these few days, tho' for my own part I rather think this step will rather prevent a War, as these Armaments are making in consequence of ye French & Spaniards fitting out large Fleets, it is thought with intention to check ye rapid progress ye Russians are making up ye Medit.n & other places agt. ye Turks, but as those Powers will find We are prepaid I fancy they will hardly burn their fingers so soon after having suffered in such a Manner ye last War; This

Mr Stevenson
Sept 24 1770

(10)

Mr James Chaston
Merch.t in
Baltimore Town
Maryland