1773 AUG. 10 Tho[mas] Ringgold to ?

SIDE ONE

Chester Town 10th Aug.t 1773

Dear Sir

When I was at Baltimore Town I looked at my Tob.o under Mr. Brereton's Care and then apprehended from its being so badly covered and laying so near and indeed some of it on the Ground that it had received some Injury. I hoped however it was not so bad as I now find it and forbore to mention it to you till I knew how it really was. I spoke however to Mr. Brereton about it told him of his Want of Care and desired him to have it better secured immediately untill I could have it removed. I have the mortification to find that at least a 5th of it is entirely damaged & rotten and that in order to save any of it I must overhaul & repack every Hhd of it. You'll at least please forbear to pay Mr. Brereton for the ~~Warehouse~~ Rent of the Yard and I must consider whether I am not to be reimbursed so considerable a loss should I find Mr. Brereton is able to pay it. —

I was induced from what you said to me to think it entirely safe, & no Doubt you thought it so, or I should have taken it away immediately on finding that Store room could not be got for it. — It turns out so extremely unfortunate that I ever sent it. The loss on it arising from the Damage it falls the heavier too considering the disadvantage I had before sustained by the ~~[illegible]~~ fall of the Price. I shall send my Sloop off this Day for the remaining 30 Hhds and you will please have it delivered to her on I hope too the Wheat will be come from the back Country. If it is you will please send it. If it appears to you that I can recover anything of Brereton and you think an Inquiry into ~~it~~ his Want of Care and the present Condition of the Tob.o will be necessary you'll please have it