1773 SEPT. 23 STEVENSON & RANDOLPH TO JAMES CHESTON

SIDE ONE

Bristol 23d Sept.r 1773

Mr James Cheston

Dear Sir

Since Ours of 18th & 1st Instt. 23d 17th Ult.o We have Your favors of 19th 20th & 22d July covering Sundry Bills; Plowman on Mollison for £200 is Noted & We have reason to think will not be paid, We suppose this was intended to replace y.e former Draft on Lopez Fernandes &c.a, it being for y.e same Sum, on which no doubt You took care to receive y.e Interest Damages & Charges.

We have shipd on board y.e Isabella 72 Sacks Salt on our Joint Acct. as p.r Invoice inclosd amounting to £17.-15.-8 also a Gun & Woolens for y.e Mark TS which could not be got ready for y.e Snow value £8.-18.-6 to the Debit of general Acct. & We also inclose You Copys of Conviction for Convicts & Indentures for Servants, Who We hope will arrive healthy & meet a ready & good Sale.

We are sorry to find the Planters were so backward in carrying their Tob.o to y.e Warehouses, as y.e delay of y.e Ship will be much against y.e Voyage, however We hope to see Her here very shortly, as y.e sooner she arrives, y.e better chance We shall stand in y.e Sale of Her Cargo, y.e French Agent now has orders to give 7/6, but are in daily apprehension of it being withdrawn, when they will give only 3/6, however We are persuaded You have done every thing in Your power that y.e circumstances of y.e time would permit. We have been informed that y.e price of Tob.o in Virginia has got down very low tis shot is to be bought almost on any terms especially with Cash, We therefore hope y.e price with You will decline in proportion, or They will be able to undersell us partic:ularly for y.e Home Trade, on which You know We put much depen:dance, to make us some amends for y.e wretched prices given by y.e French, We would recommend to You to procure from thence