1776 JUNE 5 WILLIAM RUSSELL TO CHARLES RUSSELL

reason than that of puting some diabolical scheme or other in execution, If I know myself, as soon as I became obnoxious to him or any other partner I would readily consent to a dissolution unless where ruin of both parties must ensue here we had nothing in View — but that of winding up all old matters —

Now Sir for the last 2 years of my time have I before the Clark been obliged to badger him about the Day book that would some times lay 2 or 3 mos without a pen being struck in it the promises enter'd into when we came together of the books being kept up every month & bal lanc'd once a year, this is the 5th of June & I am as hard to tell you he has not put pen to paper since the 28th of Decr last, he promises every time I write or send to him he will come & adjust the books & so am I amus'd as you find for time to time without a power of helping myself he as having a power to Act for you has hitherto prevented my doing any thing of myself as having been by my attorney advis'd twoud not be prudent in me till you came home, however Sir as you have now vested me with a power (at least as soon as it comes to hand) you may be assured I will leave no Stone unturn'd till all our affairs are by some means or other adjusted —

Your Br Dan.l is now in London but I suppose on receipt of your letter which goes by this even ings Post he will come down, and as soon as the Partner ship Acts are all adjusted, I will then with his assist ance demand how your affairs stand with WS, you will please to observe he has had out of the Partnership of S R & C about £2000 on Acct of WS & WS & Co & about £ 2000 more sent to him by you as a remittance, to these two Sums you will please to observe must be added on your own Acct £3000 Currency by your own direction last fall, also severall small sums paid your Sister to gether with some goods sent for your own Acct from time to time & some little matters for your Br Dan while in Mary.d these Circumstances I only mention for your Government, It will be necessary to say likewise what sum I have had out of the Partnership in answer to which I am to observe not quite £1500 — to this day so that you will please to take notice there will be some money to be pid me before we can proceed to a dividend & an intrest Acct to be stated against WS & WS & Co in favour of WR this I mean after all the Partnership debts are paid, the chief of which now seem to have been incurr'd on Ships out fits & the Cooperage of the last Cargo of Tob.o — which Cargo is all sold to about 13 hhds the prices for which they have been sold run from 3d to 2s for export & from 4 to 4½ & 5 for home Consumption these last 13 hhds I expect to make 5½ ₰tt off — so that we shall soon be without a single hhd of Tob.o or any thing else as Merchants — If as soon as the Ports are open you could push a little tight staunch vessel home with 150 or 200 hhds Tob.o it would come to a good mar ket or if Spencer who is now in America in the Susanna late the Isabella & who has orders to apply for his dis charge & proceed to Baltimore as soon as he finds a recon ciliation likely to take place could be loaded with good Staves & about 150 hhds Tob.o I would not wish more Tob.o he would do well & in order to compleat such load you might draw on me for 1000 or £1500 — provided I mean you could not collect so much of our own debts as would do it & in order to get as early to a market as possible, how ever all this I must leave to your own prudent discretion & when ever you think proper to come to England your self I hope but take care to keep a staff in yr own hand you will not come emptyhanded, so as to se cure yourself with Stevenson in case he may have misap plied yours or your Brother's fortunes this hint you'll find necessary hope you will keep it to yourself & doubt not you'll make a necessary use of it — I will now pro ceed to give you an Acct of Ds Ships as they are all fm home. the Restoration sailed 22d Sept.r last with a sorta ble Cargo all paid for, for Gibraltar, among which was the 90 Bls flour by Ds Elizabeth, which was there disposed of & she loaded with 80 Barbary Mules for Tobago where