1706 Dec 31

SIDE ONE

Dear Sir

We have not had the pleasure of hearing from our friends at West River since we crossed the Bay and since my return have been so closely engaged in preparing my business for closing my books that I have not had time to write you —

When I saw you last you mentioned having a State Certificate which you could answer to pay our Taxes or at least part of them — wish you would enquire further into that matter; believe they will answer your purpose but am doubtful whether it will be taken of you in payment of mine, wish to be on a certainty that I may be prepared in case it will not answer — Should our Carpenters be not particularly engaged I think they might this Winter saw up the dead Poplars at the head of the plantation into pailing with which in the Spring I would have the Garden pailed — Desire Tranny to have all the Leaves in the old Garden gathered up and it were clean of all rubbish — If I could get young trees of a good kind of fruit, should be glad to purchase as many as would plant an Orchard in the Swamp — When you engage with a man to make your bricks mention to him that I shall want a Quantity made next Summer at Tulip Hill —

Mr R. Ridgely promised to pay £100 in a few days when I saw him last but as I left Annapolis the day after have heard nothing of it since; please to call on him for the money — What has become of your madcap Scheme, shall be glad to join you in it