

I recommended the admittance of spirituous liquors as an article of commerce on the es-
= sation of your authority; and lest my intentions should be misunderstood, and the
propriety of the subject find in you anything but an agreement, I think it but
correct to give some reasons for my advice on this head. There has been a grog-shop
regularly kept up with supplies for over eight months, in the native town, where the
Colonists can purchase as much liquor as they please. - This shop is supported
by a gentleman of note, and of whose name you would blush, were I to inform you.
All amounts, nearly, of cash, which the frequenters of this shop may from time to time
become possessed of by means of labor afforded by Missions R, are spent there
for liquor, and these amounts are sometimes considerable. Nor does the sale of liquor
stop at the native town; I learn it is now being frequently sent out into the in-
= terior by jugglers, which accounts for the late engrossment of the trade herabouts by
a single individual, and there is no determining where this unfair traffick will
end. - The gentleman who supports this grog-shop, is, of course, the gainer, as
it yields a great profit, and as it was not till very lately that another shop was
started under similar circumstances, which is, as yet, but poorly supplied. As
for my part, I am for the fair thing, and am bitterly opposed to any thing in the
form of unfair competition. It cannot be supposed otherwise that the
continuance of this shop, which enables one individual to engross all sums spent
in that way, will provoke strenuous efforts on the part of others, with means,
to share in this lucrative speculation; and the result will be, that the law pro-
= hibiting the traffick and sale of ~~liquor~~ liquors, will become extinct from the
frequency of its violation. Knowing these things, and the probable advantage
to result in favor of the Colony; I advised the tolerance of liquor as an article
of merchandize, under specific duty, when the government shall have taken a
new form.

There is one thing, in speaking of which, I have not the least doubt,
it was your wish and intention, that conspicuous water lots, affording excellent
advantage and facilities for commercial business, should be reserved as your property,
and only parted with on lease, where the payment accruing would meet various
expenses of internal improvement, and contribute handsomely toward the support
of schools. In fact, all your former Agents gave this as your wish, and I am
aware of only one instance when it was departed from for personal advantage. Of
late, steps have been taken to nullify the principles of this understanding, from the fact that
lots let by Gov. R. on these terms - because no writings were given - have been regularly

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

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