

September & self. Benj. Franklin Esq^r sent us the Act of Assembly of that
 26 state empowering us to sell the Stock to pay the bills and apply the
 Red Book money under his directions, however willing I might have been
 No. 28 to transact the affair under their act my Partners thought it necessary
 Letter to consult the attorney and solicitor general who's opinions we sent
 No. 22 to Benj. Franklin Esq^r with our answer to his letter dated the 6 Curr^t
 a copy of our letter I inclose you and begg leave to refer you to that
 answer; shall be happy to see your partner here,

P. S. I am extremely sorry to find there has been no account of
 the arrival of M^r J: Grahame, If you hear any thing of him, you
 will oblige me very much by informing me of it.

September [O. Stansbury, S. Grove, and J. Russell London to
 26 Benj. Franklin Esqr]

Red Book His Excellency The not having had it in our power to transmit
 No. 28 to you sooner a precise Answer to your several favors has given us
 Back of much concern, we trust you will not impute any intentional delay
 Letter to us when we assure you that for our Guidance in the business we
 No. 22 took the earliest opportunity of having a fair and impartial State of
 our Case as Trustees prepared and laid before M^r Wallace his
 Majesty's Attorney Gen^l and M^r Masfield who it is expected will be
 solicitor Gen^l whose opinions we have the honor to Inclose you;
 upon the perusal of which we persuade ourselves you will readily
 agree that in the very particular situation in which we stand as trust-
 ees under the several Acts of Assembly, we are compelled to the
 disagreeable necessity to comply with the request made to us by
 your favor of the 20 of May. We yet beg leave to observe that when
 the favorable opportunity occurs that we can discharge our trust
 with honor & fidelity we shall have the greatest satisfaction Imagi-
 nable in so doing, in the Interim we hope that from your Candour
 and that of your Gov^r and State of Maryland our Conduct will re-
 ceive the most friendly interpretation.

September [Wm. Carmichael, St. Ildefonse, to J & P French & Nephew]
 25 Gentlemen I had the pleasure to receive your favor of the 16th
 Red Book Ins^t with its inclosure on the 23^d and my Satisfaction would have
 No. 28 been heightened, had it been in my power to have given you any
 Letter agreeable information touching the bill of Exchange I now return
 No. 23 you I received notice in the month of may last of the honor done me
 by the state in naming me one of the Trustees for this business in
 case Mess^{rs} Hanbury, Grove and Russell did not chuse to comply
 with the Intentions of the act.

I immediately wrote to his Excellency B. Franklin as he was im-
 powered to authorize any one of the five last named Persons & in-
 treated him not to think of me as it was a trust incompatible with