list at the foot of this letter. I have likewise sent you the rigging of the new ship and charged it to her account, which you will be pleased to attend to and not pass it through your books. I have shipped the following gentlemen goods by this ship: Wm. Lux & Bowly [Baltimore], John Paca, Chas. Carroll, barrister, James Johnson & Co. [brother's ironworks] and C. Wallace, so that every order that has come to hand is now executed. And I hope I shall not have another shipping before the fall, for it is not only troublesome but you never know when you are done providing for payments. I have delivered in Capt Buchanan's care one or two small parcels for our friends, which you will be pleased to remember that he delivers. You have likewise under cover three protested bills which I have placed [to] your debit and which be pleased to pass to my credit. It frequently makes me sigh when I think on the quantity of goods we are shipping. I hope in God our friends will make punctual payments; if they do not, the Lord have mercy on poor J.J. . . .

Amount of goods for	the Annapolis	store	£159:18: 5
ditto	Nottingham	ditto	81:18:11
ditto	Witchcroft	ditto	69: 2: 6
ditto	J. Chalmers		15:10: 6
ditto	Jacob & Claud		67: 9: 3
			£393:19: 7

139. (pp. 386–7) to John Davidson per the *Brothers*, Capt Craymer
14 May 1774

I now send you, per Capt George Buchanan, Mrs Davidson's and Mrs Harwood's gowns dyed agreeable to directions and which I hope will please, the expense of which and the cost of the silk that was added is below. I have had your watch in Allam's hands and Howes' [Charles Howse, watchmaker] and still find she runs false, which has determined me to exchange her and by Mr Bowly I propose to send you a good one with a gold seal etc.

The wind has been ablowing for this month past easterly. We have not had a line from that quarter [America] since the arrival of Nicholson's ship, which put me to a loss to know what to do. God send Archy's snow would arrive. It is more than hard her staying out so long. If she would but pop in, I have a fair opportunity of doing something clever.

We have had the French king [Louis XV] dead and buried half a dozen times within this week and nothing but war agoing on. I wish they would war with anybody so that the Americans might rest in peace. . . .

4 yards silk a 6/	£1:4:0
Dying 4 gowns	1:2:0
	£2:6:0

140. (p. 389) to Charles Wallace per the *Brothers*, Capt Craymer
17 May 1774

We now forward enclosed bill loading, bills parcels and invoice of copper and plaster of Paris amounting to £1,069:6:0 to your debit on account of

the public building [Capitol] which we hope will arrive safe and please. We heretofore mentioned the conditions on which we purchased this copper and we therefore hope you will use your best endeavours to remit in time. We have had a conversation with Colonel [Horatio] Sharp who much doubts the ability of any person with you to lay on this covering of copper and has recommended our sending out a proper person for that purpose. We have considered the power your letters have invested in us and are of opinion that we are not authorised in entering into any engagement with one; therefore, choose to decline it until we have your farther instructions. In the meantime we will be on the lookout for one that we may forward him immediately on your order. . . .

141. (pp. 390–1) to the firm per the *Brothers*, Capt Craymer 17 May 1774

I wrote you the 14th per this opportunity and was in hopes by this to have been able to inform you of the *Farmer*'s arrival, but misfortune runs against us, the wind continues blowing strong easterly, where it has been for these three weeks past. I much fear [Capt] Greig's popping in. If he does, he will hurt my sale, but, if he does not, I have hopes of getting a very great price for the cargo. The last advices from your place was 13 March from S. West, who writes that he had wrote by the snow [*Farmer*] the 10th or 11th; if so, it is high time she was here and, if she does not arrive soon, I shall begin to fear she is lost. I have insured £1,200 on her [tobacco] cargo and Capt George [Buchanan] has made £200 [insurance] on iron and 200 on freight which will bar a total loss.

Capt [George] Buchanan took his leave of me yesterday and this morning goes to Gravesend to embark on board Craymer for your place. I have had several long conversations with him and are so much pleased at his honesty and integrity that I am very much for fixing him constantly in our employ. He promises me to exert himself in our interest and, if he finds it sufficient to load a ship annually, will propose to you to build such a one as you may agree on for him. I think it an object worthy of your attention and do wish you to encourage it, provided you are sure it will answer and I am almost morally sure that he will not request it unless he finds it can be done. Indeed, I am of an opinion that, if it can be done this year, we need not fear hereafter, for I assure you that I am of an opinion that it will be a most trying one and that many who has sent out ships will be ruined this year. Therefore, I repeat my caution and must insist that you do not purchase a hhd. for no price here will indemnify more than ten shillings sterling [per cwt.] with you.

I have sent out the account sales of the *Kitty & Nelly*'s load and sales of that tobacco per the *Molly & Betsey*, both of which I am of an opinion will give satisfaction. You have under a cover a list of the net proceeds [earned by consigning planters, etc.] for your government in settling with those to whom you have advanced. The list has a debit column in which the amount of goods and bills paid is against each man's name. I think it would be advisable to get their draughts and orders for the net proceeds as fast as possible to prevent their selling [bills of exchange] to others.

I have great hopes of Capt James Buchanan meeting with dispatch and