

Mess^{rs}. Menet & Factor
Post.

London 1 August 1774

Gent.

We now wait on you to inform you that our J. Johnson arrived safe at home on Yesterday Evening & that we have had a meeting of the Underwriters who approve of our appointment & who have only to request that you will use all possible dispatch in forwarding all the Goods to London. they likewise join us in begging that no one Package may be opened. We are glad the order from the Commissioners went down on Saturday, it will hasten Barber's departure whom we hope to see here tomorrow. We believe the order was directed to our J. Johnson or Mr. Litcher if it was we hope you have so received it, if not we beg you will on receipt of this. We hope to hear from you tomorrow & are
Yours &c
J. D. T.

Mess^{rs}. Wallace Davidson & Johnson
#the Packett.

London 2 August 1774

Gent.

The foregoing is a copy of my last Paper. Naam since which I have call'd a meeting of the underwriters, & have got three of them appointed to take the management of those goods, & towards I have not given up my right entirely in the disposal of them, my reason is for not doing it that I think I can forward the Sale by which means it will expedite the settlement & Recovery with the underwriters, I have had a great deal of trouble & plague with this Business already, most sincerely wish that the accident had not happened, tho we shall be no losers in the whole but gain nearly £100. as I have taken the residue which is £283.158 wrote the Policy for that sum so that we are equally intitled to every advantage that the underwriters are, & which will save ofhaps 50% of that sum. What to think of restituting the Goods I cannot tell. I have look'd over your letters & some others, who caution me not to ship any thing after the 20th of the month, & which together with the report of the steps taken with you will determine me against doing any thing untill I hear what are your determinations, at the general meeting, I find the time for your receiving Goods from here prolonged to a farther day, I will directly forward them but this being assur'd I will not for any consideration directly or indirectly do any thing that shall fly in the Face of your resolves, I look upon the time as a very critical one, the Fellow who would take an advantage at such one would at any other sacrifice you all for the sake of that very thing could gain. If I am lucky enough to recover this money quickly for the Goods that was lost in this I shall have enough to make instant entries on whatever Tobacco that comes home to us & be enabled to keep it by us for next Spring's Market when we shall be able to obtain our own price for it, provided the Exports are stop'd with you, & in that case I think you ought to purchase whatever you can so that it is good & the price dont exceed 20% of your Money. I am of an opinion that the People being made acquainted with this matter would influence some of them to ship to us especially as there is not one except Hanbury & Grove who is able or can lay out of the duties but are oblig'd to sell immediately on the Ships Arrival. I am inform'd by some of Andersons