

creditors that his affairs are in a very bad situation & that he must wind them up so that I think you ought to be industrious amongst his Friends & secure whatever of their Tobacco you can; perhaps you may get Love loaded to us the Wives Chester River Tobacco will sell very well and pay us a Commission that is worth accepting of; You will have nobody to encounter but Hollison; his Friends will be active you may be assured. I wrote you before that I had sold the Peggy Stewart's cargo. I am now making out the bills & which I think will please our Friends on Patuxent they shall come as soon as ever they can be got ready & which will not be long first indeed if it had not been for this Plague & absent they would have been ready by this time. If the communication is stop'd between this & your country, I imagine that you will be attentive to your collections that we may begin on the accommodation of matters with a strong capital & if you manage cleverly & remit so as to pay punctually for what is past we shall be in Top credit & beyond the reach of envy.

I should not be surpris'd to hear that you made a Bon Fire of the Peggy Stewart as I have a hint that a certain J. W. has ship'd Tea on board of her & that Capt. Jackson applied to old Russell & told him that he was suspicious of it but Russell told him it was not his Business so that he got the 2^d pt^l Freight on Jackson's perishing to be uneasy Russell satisfied him by telling him it was Linens. I am suspicious that it is done up in that way to deceive; if he has been hardy enough to do so daring a thing I hope that you will adopt a proper punishment ^{of the sort which will be a just retri- bution} for him. We look for the Jackall every Hour & most heartily wish she would arrive that we might have some Accounts how the Kitty & Nelly goes on loading There is a stop to the purchase of Tobacco the people in Holland & so thinks their Friends here has given too much & have order'd them to buy no more till the ships arrive. I told that of the Peggy Stewart as bad as it was for 250000 & for a few fine Stones can give still our Friend J. Tyler has one of them & J. Hollander another Hollison has sold A Lighters of Jewels very high but is left in the lurch with the others Court has sold his very well & ship'd it together on their own Accounts, both he & Capt. Coon is gone to Holland I suppose to solicit Orders, they are expected to return soon as the Amrapote is to sail on the 20th without fail, what think you of the Ten thousand pounds worth of Goods that she is to carry do you think that they will be in time it would be an ugly affair to be sent back. I fancy it would cause another stoppage. You request'd that I would get the Merchants conduct authenticated respecting their behaviour about Petioning, I am now about that Business & shall do it to your satisfaction, I could not before for particular Reasons. Capt. Nearn refus'd to take 11 chests of Tea after Kelly told he had sent them on board his ship & this day old Russell has been trying to prevail on Capt. Wicks of Chester to take them who much to his credit positively refus'd to take them. We have Acc^{ts} here from Boston by a Man of War that came express as late as the 6th July, we are all in confusion in consequence of the steps taken by Gener. Gage everyone dreading the Terror of a civil War which we fear is before this begun. Your cause is noble it's for liberty you struggle persevere, be steady & faithful to each other & the Almighty will be on your side. I will write you in a few days by Clark from Bristol. & in the mean time I am most faithfully

J. Barnes is out of soul. Dear Sirs &c J. J.