

[Forbes to Sharpe.]

Original.

Shippensbourg 3^d September 1758.

Sir

By a letter from M^r Howell at Philadelphia dated August 30th I find D^r Ross's affair not fully settled, altho by the return of your Express I sent M^r Howell credit for £1519.. 18.. 8 Sterling to reimburse him for the money advanced to D^r Ross over and above the £1500 sterling allowed off by M^r Kilby; This as far as I could account was the whole sum; but M^r Howell writes me that D^r Ross received from him £2770.. 9.. 8 Sterling in Bills of Exchange, besides £510 Currency, which two sums is some hundreds more than the £3019.. 18.. 8.. sterling paid By M^r Kilby and me, but M^r Howell says that M^r Kilby is to be there in a day or two, who will easily set those matters to rights; So there is the less matter as M^r Ross is not, nor never was in prison, and might have prevented all this trouble by returning M^r Howell the Bills he had had from him, which I find he must do at last, as M^r Howell writes me that he believes I must send new Bills at last to prevent some losses, or some other things which I understand nothing off, such as Course of Exchange &c.

I must take notice of D^r Ross's indiscretion who when M^r Howell proposed to him to lodge the Bills and Cash in any indifferent persons Hands untill M^r Kilby or I could send our instructions about the affair, refused positively to do so, giving as his reason that as he had now got hold, he would not let go, which answer obliged M^r Howell to take the steps he did, and must of consequence oblige M^r Kilby and me to take proper receipts from D^r Ross for the money we advance upon the General account as neither his acc^{ts} nor Vouchers have been looked over by us, or properly authenticated, for us to advance money upon, you will therefore be so good as write the D^r upon this subject and acquaint him that whatever money he receives now, he must be accountable for, and therefore ought to make no payments nor reimbursements without your particular allowance, as you know some of the accounts may upon examination admit of disputes unless very clearly Vouched.

I must likewise add that the sum I have ordered payment for to D^r Ross greatly exceeds what M^r Kilby and I at first thought necessary to be advanced, for supporting the D^{rs} Credit and further carrying on the service, so it, will be necessary before you allow the D^r to pay away that money advanced by me, that I have a Copy of the D^{rs} accounts sent me, and that those articles not clearly vouched be the last that any money is paid upon.

I propose leaving this to morrow morning in a kind of