

Letter Bk. III disappointed for to speak the Truth I never expected to be reimbursed any Part of the money which I had expended on the Journeys therein mentioned. In a Letter I received a few Days ago from M^r Dinwiddie he tells me that he had talked with you on a Proposal to bring me back again into the Army, as I flatter myself that what he said was out of regard to me I must return him Thanks for his kind Endeavours to have that accomplished which he imagined was agreeable to my Wishes, he likewise tells me that he has found a good Deal of Difficulty in getting his accounts passed but that at last he has obtained his quietus. I am very far from thinking that Gov^r Denny did well in Selling without having first taken good Advice thereon so many Flags of Truce to enable the Merch^{ts} of Phil^a to go into the Enemy's Ports in Hispaniola & purchase Sugars there for the European Marketts, but at the same time I do not entertain so ill an opinion of those who were concerned in that Trade as you seem to do, for I cannot help thinking that it was for the Interest of Great Britain in general since the Profitts to those that carried it on amounted to much more than the French Planters got for their Sugars, which were mostly purchased with Manufactures brought to N America from Great Britain & being sent to Europe in English Bottoms were sold at Leghorn, Genoa, Amsterdam, & other Forreign Ports as I have been told for Cash which was remitted from those Places to G. Britain to purchase more Goods there for the same Trade, & the Consumption of N America. Those Gentlemen whose Interest lies in the British Sugar Islands may possibly have in some measure suffered by it because it prevented their Sugars Selling at such extravagant Prices as they would otherwise have done, but then as most of their Sugars would have been still consumed in G Britain & these Colonies (for they could not supply both the English & Foreign Marketts) the Inhabitants of Great Britain must have been impoverished just so much the more to make the West Indians more rich, & if the Value of their Estates is not vastly exaggerated they are in my Opinion wealthy enough already & I think every Body must be of the same opinion who sees the Interest they at this time have in the House of Commons, while I believe there is not one Gentlⁿ there whose Estate lies in North America. I have been assured that Sugars at this time sell here at almost double the Price they did twenty years ago, owing in a great measure to the vast Increase of People on this Continent while the Produce of North America such as Corn & Lumber that is sent to the Sugar Islands is sold at a less Price than ever, because the Consumption of those Articles in the Islands is the same now as it was then & therefore we are now obliged to remit