

Sir

Lib. C. B.
No. 20

I received yours acquainting me that as the Bearer M^r Joseph Waters is to appear before the Governor and Council as an Evidence in behalf of your Son relative to the Complaints of some of his Prisoners and as he is an entire Stranger to the Governor and Council you are desirous I would write you what I know of his Behaviour and whether he does not Support the Character of an Honest Man. In Answer to which request I am very ready Sir to declare what I know of the young Man especially as I am of Opinion Justice done his Character ought to gain ample Credit to his Evidence which I hope will be of such a nature that the Complaints made against your Son will appear to be the Fictions of a Peevish and groundless Discontent. As to this young Man Joseph Waters he is the Son of Joseph a parishioner of mine who I am well satisfied has with dutiful pains brought up his Children in the Principles of Piety and virtuous Industry and altho' it be too apparent his son Joseph's present Circumstances are not the natural fruits of such an Education yet I am far from thinking he has ever acted intentionally upon different Principles but know he has been partly reduced by Sickness and I am apt to believe upon credible Information partly by the unsuspected Injustice and Cunning of others who have made a Prey of his honest Simplicity. His apparent orderly Behaviour from his Childhood when I had every Sunday almost an opportunity of observing at Church and at other times at his Father's House and elsewhere long ago pre-engaged my Opinion in his favour which induced me some few Years past and soon after he set up as a House Carpenter to employ him to do me some Jobs, I then became more intimately acquainted with him and found he did not falsify my former opinion for I experienced him to be not only a diligent and faithful Workman but a Sober honest Lad and one that paid a strict Regard to Veracity and I must say further I never heard any one worthy of Credit say any thing of him inconsistent with this Character but a great deal in support of it. As to William Wright's whom you mention in a Postscript tho' I understand he has sometime lived in my Parish yet it is in a distant Corner where I have seldom had occasion to Visit and have no manner of Knowledge of him but expecting the pleasure of hearing that your Son shall make it appear that his and the Complaints of his Confederates are mere Calumnies, I remain with great Respect Sir,

To
The Honble Richard Lee Esq^r

Your most Obed^t & humble Serv^t
Isaac Campbell
May 4th 1770