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presented if Mr Stewart had not been given to understand  
by Mr Phil Hammond last December that a second Duty  
of 20/ was about to be imposed, I hope Mr Stewart will rest  
contented when he finds no such second Duty was imposed,  
that the Proposal to impose such a second Duty was made  
an Objection to the Bill by the Upper House; I say on these  
Considerations & your promise that he has nothing further to  
fear after the present Law expires which will be in four  
or five Years, I hope he will make no Objection to pay the  
£1 a poll on the Convicts that he imports, otherwise we shall  
be involved in great Difficulties about replacing the £6000  
that was granted by that Act of July 1754 for His Majesty's  
Service & is now expended. There is nothing of a particular  
or extraordinary Nature in the Law, or that requires Expla-  
nation or Observations; the Bill to prevent the Exportation  
of Provisions to the French Colonies is little more than the former  
Act that expired, & is similar to those that have been made  
this Summer in the several other Govern<sup>ts</sup>. I have just  
received a Letter from General Shirley dated the 7<sup>th</sup> Inst  
wherein he tells me that the Report I mentioned in my other  
Lett<sup>r</sup> concerning his Inability to act offensively this Summer  
is too well founded, & earnestly desires me to meet himself  
Gov: Hardy & Gov: Morris at New York the 7<sup>th</sup> of next Month  
to advise with them on taking some Measures for making an early  
Campaign next Spring in some part of the Continent.

J.