

2d, Extract of a Letter from *John Buchanan* to *Ridgely* and *Goodwin*, dated *London*, September 30th 1769.

“ I HAVE received your Favour of the 25th *March* last, and in Compliance there-with, enclosed you have a Bill of Loading for Goods shipped on your Account, on board the *Good Intent*, Captain *Errington*, as per Invoice, amount to 1007 l. 17 s. 5 d. which I have passed to your Debit.

“ P. S. I have received your Favour of 13th *July* last. I have also received Mr. *William Goodwin's* Letter of the 9th of *August* last.”

Messieurs *Ridgely* and *Goodwin* not being present, nor any Person attending on their Behalf, to give any Light or Intelligence into this Importation, the Committee were under the greatest Perplexity and Difficulty how to form an Opinion of this Matter. Mr. *Dick* was asked, and Mr. *Anthony Stewart* was repeatedly sent for and asked, to inform the Committee of what they knew of this Transaction. They said they knew nothing but what was contained in the sealed Packet. This was repeated more than once.

Q. What! no Letter from *Ridgely* and *Goodwin*?

A. Mr. *Stewart* answered, yes, a private Letter to Mr. *Dick*, on private Business.

Q. What can be done with a Matter so circumstanced? Are you sure that *Ridgely* and *Goodwin* have wrote nothing respecting this Business?

A. Nothing but a private Letter to Mr. *Dick*, no ways relative to the Importation of the Goods.

The Committee prayed the Favour of Mr. *Stewart* to let them see the Letter. Mr. *Stewart* then produced the Letter to the Committee, which was as follows :

Mr. *James Dick*,

S I R,

*Baltimore*, February 5, 1770.

“ WE have herewith enclosed you Invoice and Shop-Notes of a Cargo of Goods shipped us by Mr. *John Buchanan*, per the *Good Intent*, Captain *Errington*; as they have not been shipped agreeable to our Orders, and coming at this Time, when it will not be in our Power to dispose of them, or at least the major Part of them, (as they are all Fall Goods) until the next Fall, we cannot receive them: We are sorry Mr. *Buchanan* should suffer by it; its probable you may dispose of them, more especially should they not allow some of the Cargoes in the same Ship to be received by the Importers. We don't apprehend there can be any Dispute about ours, as they were ordered the 28th *March* last, which was before any Resolves were entered into here. If you cannot dispose of them to a greater Advantage, we will take them, provided you will allow us *Twelve Months* Credit from *October* next; 'til which Time most of them would be on Hand. We are allowed by Mr. *Buchanan*, *Seventeen Months* from the Time of their being shipped. The Bearer hereof, Captain *Wells*, has Mr. *Buchanan's* Letter to us, which you may see; and if you think it will be of any Service in obtaining Leave to land them, you'll please to keep it, and when done with it, enclose it to us; or should there be any Thing else requisite for us to do, will readily do it on your informing us. Our *C. R.* is living 15 Miles distant from Town, and our *W. G.* can't possibly, or he would have attended. Your Answer will oblige,

S I R, your most humble Servants,

RIDGELY and GOODWIN.”