

Annapolis, February 8, 1770.

be very desirous of complying with every reasonable Demand of the Committee, but as what you require of us is very indeterminate in every Point, we have refused to answer our Letter, and the Queries therein enclosed, we are at a Loss in what Manner to conduct ourselves, as we are informed the same cannot be entered partially, and you have given Liberty to some Gentlemen to remove our Goods. For these Reasons, and others very substantial, we thought it absolutely necessary for you to answer these Queries.

We are, GENTLEMEN, your most obedient Servants,  
 JAMES DICK & STEWART,  
 JUDSON COOLIDGE,  
 WILLIAM LYON,  
 WILLIAM M'GACHIN,  
 ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN,  
 MAGRUDER & HEPBURN."

The Committee next Day acquainted the Parties concerned, by Letter, of their Appointment, and desired them to return the Papers they had taken from the Committee, upon a Promise of returning them.

In Answer to this Request, they received from Messieurs Dick and Stewart the following Letter, viz.

GENTLEMEN,

Annapolis, February 10, 1770.

“THE Gentlemen concerned, having settled every Point with Respect to the Dispatch of their respective Goods, on board the *Good Intent*, have gone out of Town, and carried their Papers with them; and as we would choose to act in Conformity with the Gentlemen under similar Circumstances with ourselves, we hope you will excuse us from complying with your Request. We did Promise to return our Papers to the Committee, but you well know that we were afterwards told that the Committee were dissolved, and would hear us no further on the Subject. We doubt not of your doing Justice to us, in whatever Representation you are pleased to make,

And are, GENTLEMEN, your humble Servants,  
 JAMES DICK & STEWART.”

To this Refusal the Public must attribute the imperfect Information that is given in many Parts of this Narrative.

A verbal Message was communicated to Mr. Mackie, one of the Special Committee, which, to prevent Mistakes was immediately reduced to Writing, and was as follows, viz.

GENTLEMEN,

“MR. Anthony Stewart desired me to inform the Committee, that they, viz. Messieurs James Dick and Stewart, Coolidge, Buchanan and Cowen, M'Gachin, and Magruder and Hepburn, were determined to submit, in every Respect to the Determination