

Dear Sir,

Caroline Feb 4 20th 1798

I received your favour of the 24th Oct^r last, & long ago answered it by post from Richmond. Mr Vanbibber's letter to Mr C. Armistead, was surely a very curious production & contemplated, as you justly observe, a spirit of repair to the Hefse house, very different from what was intended & indeed expressed in the Covenant at the time of leasing the buildings & land to him. The destruction of the house since by fire, has prevented any of his wild schemes from taking place, which probably he never meant to execute & I heartily wish now, we may be ever able to get the amount of the rent from him, without the course to Law. If Mr C. Armistead meant to have resided at Hefse, the fire has, in my humble opinion, been a fortunate event & one of those partial evils, by which, Providence in his wisdom and bounty, often produces real & substantial good to us, short-sighted mortals: if on the contrary, Mr Armistead

intended to have told his state, in that case,
 as the house probably would have intervened,
 the price. So far in Massachusetts,
 a man much determined to be a freeman,
 a remark complained in his own words,
 he much fell into the habit & custom of
 his neighbors; and to you, who are acquainted
 with the people, there is no occasion
 for any comment of mine. The precaution
 state of my own health, together with the
~~aware~~ ^{aware} though & extreme danger of my eldest
 son, have confirmed me for the whole winter
 so that I could not meet you below; but
 as you were so good as to write me, that if
 you were necessary in your collection,
 as I have heard that you were in ^{Washington}
 I take the liberty to request that you will
 be so obliging as to let me know by post
 addressed to the care of Mr. Benjamin Oliver
 York. Matter at Denver town, where I
 may expect to receive the amount of the
 share of Mr. Amherst's state, or that
 of your collection. My family join me

in best respects

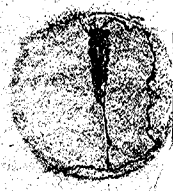
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tate, in that case, in best affections to Mrs Cooke,
to his interest,

I have enlarged
Matthews County,
be a freeholder,
is our will, or
to the customs of
who are acquainted
is no occasion

The precautions
either with the
age of my eldest
the whole winter
now below; but
state me that if
it be paid
or collections
were in Matthews,
that you will
now by party
Benjamin Oliver
Town, when I
moment of the
estate, or that
may join me

Sam D. T. Jr mo: h. h. h. Ser
Wm Nelson



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William Locke Esqr
of Cumberland County
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