

John Kirkpatrick to George Washington, September 17, 1757, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA 17th. Septemr. 1757 —

DEAR SIR

I am honoured with your very kind letter by Mr. Hamilton,¹ confirming the Obligations I lye under from the many instances of Your Friendship and Regard.—For which I can only offer my grateful Acknowledgements—a poor return for such unmeritted kindness —

Your candid and Just remarks, on the scheme of Settling a Store by Mr. Watson at Winchester, carry their due weight with me, and corroborate the Conclusions I drew from the proposal—Among severall reasons that discouraged our design, that of Mr. Watsons unfitness was one, very matterial—and the infirm State of Health I have been in, this Summer, rendered me unable to undertake the Affair—So that, I judged it more prudent to drop the design—at least for some time—I am now, thank God, upon the recovery & wou'd Gladly attempt some Way of Business conducive to an easie passage thro' life—and, believe shall break off my Connections with Mr. Watson—as My Brother is fit to undergo some fatigue and willing to join me in any Adventure of probable Advantage —

The Scheme you kindly hint of Suttling—and From which, as you observe, (under proper conduct) Advantage might arrise—is foreclosed—Mr. Ramsay return'd about Four days ago from Williamsburgh having Contracted to Victuall the Forces of Your Regiment

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Stationd in Frederick & Hampshire Countys—at what rate, I know not—but in Conjunction with Carlyle and Dalton—and with resolutions to pursue the plan of Suttlers, Retailers, Commissary, and what not, for the Compleat and proper Accomodating Your Regiment in every Requisite whatsoever—This much, I had learn'd, was their intentions, before I had the pleasure of receiving Your Affectionate Address—and was pleased with the Approaching prospects of the Commodious & Satisfactory entertainment so necessary & desirable amongst Your Troops —

You may rely on the Secrecy injoin'd on this Subject—and shall not add Further till I have the pleasure of seeing you—which I hope will be in a Fortnights time —

Inclosed is Mr. Johnson's recet. for the five Years rent of his Plantation £12. 10—Cury. —

Mr. Hamilton hastens to be gone,—& shall only add my sincere wishes for Your Health & happiness—and Am with very much Esteem

Dear Sir Your Much Obliged and Most Obedt. Huml. servt. JNO. KIRKPATRICK

¹ John Hamilton, quartermaster in the Virginia regiment.