

Dorchester near Charleston May 30th
1786

Dear Sir,

I duly received your Esteemed favours of the 5th, 8th and tenth. I have also got this day, the Waggon and Cart safe, and in good Order. I return you many thanks for your attention to such a Commission. They are both so extensively well executed, and so entirely to my wish, that I fear you have had more trouble than I intended you should.

I am thus far on my way to the Virginia Springs. I fear we shall have a warm ride of it.

Our Legislature at their last Sitting declined Appointing Commissioners to the Commercial Congress Assigning for a reason, that as they had given powers to Congress to regulate all matters respectively Trade, it would be inconsistent and have an appearance of either revoking or infringing on those powers. Much good I think will result from the meeting, provided You, that is the States, confine your Choice of Delligates

to Men who are not only conversant in the nature and principles of the trade of America in general, of their own States in particular, but who also went through the different Scenes and vicissitudes of fortune, in some time or other, with the Country during the Contest; they are the Men, the Sincerity of whose proffessions you can best depend on. If you admit among you Men of yesterday, if you will allow me the opinion they will rather confound your Council; they will intrigue with a view of dividing you. I am in my own mind pretty clear, that most of the Merchants who have come to, and settled in America since the peace, are no more than the Factors of tools of greater Merchants in Europe; of course then in also their functions and opinions they will be guided by the Interest of their Employers; that Interest, in many Instances, Military with the true Interest of the General trade Of the United States. It is to me astonishing how little We Planters of Carolina know of the benefits resulting from Trade to the Country that is the seat of it. We do not sett half the value on it we should. The disgust of the Planter in some measure arises

From not having to do always with a liberal minded Merchant. We want a few more of this rank among Us, to give that respectability to the Profession that It justly merits. I wish to God, at the time you Thought of sitting down among us, that my friend Thom Fitzsimmons had consented to it. I am sure it would have answered well; and you would have given consequence to the Profession. You might, on my opinion and belief, be at the head of the Trade here, if you would settle among us even at this day.

I am very sincerely
Dear Sir,
Your friend and Obed. Servant
P Butler.