

George Washington to Sarah Bomford, August 28, 1774, fragment missing, The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. John C. Fitzpatrick, Editor.

***To MRS. SARAH BOMFORD**

August 28, 1774.

Madam: In acknowledging receipt of your obliging favour of the 25th. of May (which came to my hands a few days ago) I should find myself much at a loss if I did not consider the many flattering expressions containd in it as the effect of your politness, not my deserts, however if in my part of the transaction of Mrs. Savages business in this Country I have been able to give satisfaction to that Lady and her friends and convince them that her Interest has been the governing motive of my Conduct I shall think myself happy, more especially as the unreasonable delay, which have attended the prosecution of this Right [sic] would naturally lead strangers to believe that there had been a very great remissness somewhere. A few Months ago I flattered myself with a belief that we were upon the Eve of remitting the money having obtaind a judgment immediately upon which I ordered Execution but when behold! as the Doctr. had one card more to play havg. played all the Game but that he was resolved not to give it up and stopd the Execution by obtaining an Injunction in Chancery wch. however as we were determind to ferret him out of this hold as soon as possible would not have availd him long had it not been for a circumstance which is a publick misfortune to this Country as well as peculiarly unlucky and injurious to Mrs. Savage and that is a total stop to all judicial proceedings for want of a Fee Bill which we were deprivd of by a sudden and unexpected Dissolution of our assembly (or Parliament) in May last, and by the unhappy difference which at this time subsists betw'n great Britain

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and her Colonies which has thrown every thing into great confusion and disorder from whence I can not with certainty, say when we shall be relievd.

This being the Situation of things, it does in my opinion behoove Mrs. Savage I think not to be unprovid with a will as by the Doctr. Bond her Annuity is devisable and if her obligation's to your Family did not call for a grateful return it would be a wrong to suffer the small pittance she reservd to herself the time of her unhappy Marriage to fall into the hands of a v—n who has not only endeavourd to wrong of it but would I suppose deprive her of the very means of Existance if he could do it. I should do injustice to my own feelings, at the sametime I should discover a very great want of taste if I was to decline a corrispondance which confers such hon'r upon me as yours.

Mrs. Washington also thanks you for your polite notice of her and begs your acceptance of her Compliments and that you will take the trouble of presenting them to Mrs. Savage at the sametime to whom please also to make a tender of my best respects and inform her (as I have also done in a former Letter wch. I suppose to be miscarried) that the black Wax on my Letter was occasion'd by the death of Miss Custis whom we were unhappily deprivd of in June, 73.

Though unknown, I take the liberty of presenting my Complim'ts to Mr. Bumford and to assure you with [*sic*] that I have the hon'r to be; etc.