

No. 2.

HALIFAX, Oct'r 1st, 1764.

SR. :— Last night arrived here after four Days passage from St. John's — the first 24 hours at sea in a Severe Storm, the second passed a place called the Masquerades where there was seas and Whirlpools enough to have foundered the largest ships but were providentially saved with only the loss of all our Road [chain] & anchor by endeavouring to ride at anchor till ye tide slack'd (in vain). It was unlucky for us that we happen'd to fall in with that tremendous place in the strength of the flood tide in the highest spring tide that has been this year. Gentlemen here say it is presumptuous to attempt to return that way at this season of ye year in open boat but as the boat & men is at Pisquit* and I have no other way to get to St. John's in season for my business this fall, shall get our business done here as soon as may be & return there the same way I came, where I hope to meet some of our Vessels. The plea of the above difficulty will have a greater weight than any other to have business finished here immediately. This Morning I waited on the Governor, Secretary and all officers concerned in granting licence, &c, who assure me that my request respecting licence shall be granted directly so that I hope to be on my way to St. John's tomorrow. I am obliged to take it (licence) in my own name, as it is by the year, not by the Quantity sold, and if I acknowledge that I am in Co: with others each of their names must be made known and each pay for Licence separately at £10 pr year if they sell at more than one place and if any concerned live out of the Province they will not Licence them at all. Therefore it is highly Necessary that it is not known in this province that any are concern'd with me in a Company way (more than in ye fishery) for as sure as it is known I shall forfeit my Licence and be deprived of ever renewing again. A certain respectable Gent'n has lately been strip'd of all his employment for only a transgression of the above kind.

I have also been with the King's Chief Mason ; have shewn him a sample of our lime ; he likes it well and gives me encouragement that he will take all of me that he wants either for public or private use (he is the only Dealer in lime in town) at a rate that will neat at St. John's three dollars or more pr H'hd.

Likewise have encouragement from some Gentlemen of high rank to have the supplying of the Garrison at St. John's another year with wood & several other articles.

* Now Windsor, N. S.

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