

Aristarchus

Nov. 16 1780

4006

Doctor Franklin is extremely anxious to obtain authentic Information respecting Commodore Johnstone's Mission to the Court of Portugal. His Embassaries here in London are particularly instructed to get every possible Intelligence whether the principal Object of the Commodore's Embassy be or be not a Convention between the two Courts for an Exchange (on the part of Great Britain) of Gibraltar & the whole Island of Minorca in Lieu of the Madeira & other neighbouring Islands (on the part of Portugal)

Aristarchus.

Sire,

It is with great Regret that Aristarchus is obliged to acquaint your Majesty he finds the Expences of this private Correspondence too heavy to be entirely supported at his sole Expence. In his last Letter, numbered 32, and conveyed to the King through the official Line of Lord George Germaine, and in which your Majesty was pre-cautioned against an intended, nocturnal Assassination, Aristarchus took the Freedom to intimate his Wish of some pecuniary Assistance to enable ^{him} to make good the Engagements he hath entered into, for the Continuance of this Correspondence, during one whole year, computing from the second of April last. And he now submits his Case to your Majesty's Wisdom & Justice, humbly requesting that Order may be given to Lord George Germaine on this Head.

N^o 33.

Aristarchus.

Nov^r 16 1780.

[Faint, illegible handwritten text on lined paper, possibly a letter or document.]