

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting in the upper section of the page.]*

It was very pleasing to me to receive  
and had seen y more ament  
any Comands. which

I doe esteem  
in which I doe with  
acknowledgm. I can make  
me, a sincere mind. devoted

I am very glad of y opportunity  
my June relating to y 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  of Cent. & shall y  
if from y Scheme I offer any methods may be found  
may contribute to his Ma<sup>ties</sup> service.

4 $\frac{1}{2}$  was m Aug<sup>th</sup> 1663. m y

Willoughby raised. & granted

to y

...erably obtained a Grant from y<sup>e</sup> King of y<sup>e</sup> moiety  
... act his - Sp. was to putt in & place. Such officers  
... with out case to this Colony collect y<sup>e</sup> same. he putt in his  
... Col. W<sup>m</sup> Willoughby as chief officer. by y<sup>e</sup> name of Treasurers  
... appointed. Receivers. Searchers. & Waiters. in 1669 (when

... moiety to y<sup>e</sup> Col. Willoughby expired.) it was farmed.

...ha: Wheeler. Col. Strode &c. who at first  
... chief officer. but in a short time had two,  
... managed by 2 deputies. (from

... Interest of y<sup>e</sup> present  
... name of Com<sup>rs</sup>. under the  
... duty. these two have y<sup>e</sup> power of  
... of all other officers relating to that Revenue.

... no information can discover, y<sup>e</sup> present Farmers are,  
... have gained by their Farms better then 3000<sup>l</sup> ann.  
... their charges are pretty high. being about 1500<sup>l</sup> ann. in salaries  
... their officers house Rent, & other incumbent charges. of which their  
... 200 each <sup>l</sup> ann. each Waiter 50<sup>l</sup> ann. their Searchers  
... they have Receivers. Book keepers. &c their certain  
... what y<sup>e</sup> annual total amount is, of

This Reserve can never be here known,  
refus'd it to Sr Jon<sup>ts</sup> & King's Council, & out  
it from y<sup>e</sup> annual au<sup>o</sup>. removed into y<sup>e</sup> Excheq<sup>r</sup>. by y<sup>e</sup>  
tho' that au<sup>o</sup> is of y<sup>e</sup> several species only. as rec<sup>d</sup> here by y<sup>e</sup>  
dep<sup>ty</sup> of which if yo<sup>u</sup> please to take y<sup>e</sup> abstract. any able Man  
will reduce those species into their intrinick value  
curr<sup>ent</sup> in London. for doing of this  
my worthy Fr<sup>nd</sup> & correspond<sup>ent</sup>.

all y<sup>e</sup> ways that can most conduce

old fly-boats upon easy terms  
of Freight.

have offer<sup>d</sup> made to them to  
again<sup>e</sup> farm'd. on good security.

hazards & changes. yet y<sup>e</sup> true value

is well discern'd. until it come to be a year or two

handy. manag'd by his owne Com<sup>rs</sup>. & then it may certaintly

knowne. what it really may be worth one year with ano<sup>ther</sup>

for there is a considerable difference many times between  
produce. & another. here is a disagree<sup>ment</sup> that

is to be farm'd next Christm<sup>as</sup>. I have

y<sup>e</sup> present farm of y<sup>e</sup> farme doe

some expectations to have y<sup>e</sup> managing & ordering  
of the same is elapsed. & y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>rs</sup> & officers to be ap-  
pointed before this terme expires. I intend (with god almighty's  
assistance) to see England when more particularly & fully, I can satisfie yo<sup>r</sup> all questions  
concerning the same. I had thought y<sup>e</sup> next Spring to be there, but his Ex<sup>ty</sup> has  
ordered me to a yeare longer stay. he saith, because he will have occasion  
to be long here in his Mat<sup>ties</sup> affaire, himselfe designing  
to be here, which I know yo<sup>r</sup> are privy to nothing could have

been so much desired. I imagine it will be most for his  
service, that he should be separate from y<sup>e</sup> Leeward  
Islands, because at y<sup>e</sup> time of the  
conquest they were under one Govern<sup>r</sup>, viz: y<sup>e</sup>  
Governor of Barbadoes, which he has since  
continued for since.

It is necessary also, that yo<sup>r</sup> should be well discern'd what their profit is.  
I think it best, that y<sup>e</sup> Govern<sup>r</sup> should take y<sup>e</sup> same into his hands, then unanimo-  
sly, that the Revenue of y<sup>e</sup> Leeward Islands be managed by distinct  
Governors. And when y<sup>e</sup> present terme expires if it be  
thought best, to have it managed by Com<sup>rs</sup> for his service, two  
of them to be appointed at this place. It is necessary also, as I conceive  
for the better management, that yo<sup>r</sup> should have a single person best  
qualified, to have power to place & displace all

officers & serv<sup>ts</sup> relating to that Revenue  
believe that my endeaour may be conuenient  
as a Com<sup>r</sup> in this Revenue. I shall accept it (as  
y<sup>e</sup> Island) with due acknowledgm<sup>ts</sup> to yo<sup>r</sup> for yo<sup>r</sup> kindnes. It  
should happen that there is much contending for it. I am not  
solicitous. my designe being that I might have opportunity to  
Ma<sup>tie</sup> an aueritable serouice in improouing y<sup>e</sup> Revenue to  
of his Ma<sup>tie</sup> advantage. rather then it should be  
to me as to be worth my contending  
be very acceptable to a great many more  
Such a support. others  
thereby, more then his Ma<sup>tie</sup>  
His Ex<sup>ae</sup> has been pleased to  
y<sup>e</sup> Council have comunicated to him.  
this Govern. they are such as are agreeable to  
glad they are so appointed by his sacred Ma<sup>tie</sup> & it  
more pleasant if his Ex<sup>ae</sup> does not too much suffer  
to be misguided. & loose ground.  
A particular fauour I haue to beg of yo<sup>r</sup> that you  
trouise me. or seek my prejudice at  
Friend. I endeaour that I may be

part of y<sup>e</sup> world to emulate aswell their  
any in publick Imploym<sup>t</sup> carry himselfe neuer  
shall he have many backbiters. if he does not  
see all men in their unreasonable desires. & Factions. which  
is fitt to be done: our greatest number of Inhabitants are cheery  
have zealously imbib'd y<sup>e</sup> Humour & principles of y<sup>e</sup> late time

It is most acceptable to me to find matters  
to his Ma<sup>ties</sup> service. as in that dispute, about  
zeal is very ardent. & Industry has been  
Ma<sup>ties</sup> interest in this place. I have  
Faction & popular designs.

I have been tax'd of  
Torrent.

of any narrative of M<sup>r</sup> Hansons  
sai'd Ma<sup>ties</sup> or what has here since  
to him. or of his confinem<sup>t</sup> & escape. because I  
has fully signified y<sup>e</sup> same with all circumstances  
particular. which will come to yo<sup>r</sup> view. & y<sup>e</sup> officer from  
now following him to London. can viva voce  
of all affaires. & I know that most of y<sup>e</sup>  
in his petition are great truths.

For yo<sup>w</sup> are very obliging for  
acknowledgm<sup>t</sup> in those presents I sent yo<sup>w</sup>  
yeare in y<sup>e</sup> manner oblige yo<sup>w</sup>. for our seasons have been such  
that we have very little fruit. & what we have is very ordinarie  
which will deprive me of that further tender of my acknowledg<sup>m</sup>  
to yo<sup>w</sup>. for I doe with much passion desire to manifest my self  
with that Truth, that I am.

For

Your most faithful

Edm.

M21

5:45 Dec: 1682

From Mr. Whitman

4 1/2 Penn

1782

*[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

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