

Sir

I have not yett received the information from Leeward which was to direct me in the purchase of the Land at Brewer's Bay in Tortola, w<sup>ch</sup> your Excellency gave Patents for to Mr. Jarvis and Mr. Duncowdee, but the Fleet sailing so soon, I would heat at a venture, and send my son to wait on your Excellency without it, and offer my proposals for adjusting our Claims to the Negroes Watts dyd possessd of.

I presume your Excellency will admit, that my right to those which Watts purchasd himself is incontestable, I am consequently intitled to satisfaction for their labours, and that, I presume, will be computed by the customary rate of  
His Excellency the General

of hire. Least yo<sup>r</sup> Excellency should be in doubt on  
this head I inclose copies of the Attorney Generals  
and Mr. Hazakerly's opinions. As to the rest  
of the Negroes, when Coll<sup>o</sup> Burt for yo<sup>r</sup> Excellency  
took possession of them, and your Excellency wrote  
to me on Stockman's claim, as I inform'd your  
Excellency by my letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> Octob. 1734, the  
Lawyers at home differ'd in their opinions, they  
do so still, but I must admit that the most  
eminent, who then were ag<sup>t</sup> Stockman, are now  
as much in his favour.

On this State of the Case, I hope your  
Excellency will think some of the proposals I am  
going to make, not unfit to be accepted.

If your Excellency will purchase for  
me the 350 acres of Land at Cortola I will  
release my claim, <sup>to</sup> all the Negroes Watts dy'd  
possess'd of, as well as to their Hire.

If the purchase can't be made for such  
a sum as your Excellency thinks an equivalent for  
my claim, then, If your Excellency will please to  
order the Negroes of Watts's purchase to be deliver'd  
to

To me, I will adjust a satisfaction for their hire  
in any reasonable way your Excellency shall  
propose; and your Excellency will have no trouble  
about the rest. If this is not agreeable to your  
Excellency, (as I can rely on yo<sup>r</sup> Excellency's honour  
for a specifick performance of an award between  
us)

I will refer the whole to any three  
Lawyers of Eminence at home who yo<sup>r</sup> Excellency  
shall name, and who have not already given their  
Opinions in the Case. Or

We may have it decided by a short  
amicable Bill in ~~the~~ Chancery or the Exchequer,  
each to bear his own expence, by which your  
Excellency will save some trouble, and the costs  
that will be given, if a suit should be carried in  
an adverse way, and I should recover any of the  
Negros, whether King's or Watts's purchase.

If either of these overtures should want  
explanation, my son knows my sense as to each,  
and I will confirm what he agrees to, and if this  
should not produce an adjustment, and your  
Excellency

1799d  
Your Excellency will favour me w<sup>th</sup> your sense on each  
proposition, or propose any other terms, I will do  
all, that my apprehension of them and reason will  
admitt permit, to convince your Excellency that  
my disposition in this affair is equitable at least,  
and averse to litigation.

I have the honour to be

24<sup>th</sup> June 1740

Sir

Your Excellency's most  
Obedient and most

Humble Servant

Jill: Fleming

A.

Recd  
Jill Fleming  
24 June 1740