

London Feb: 9<sup>th</sup> 1696

Cap<sup>t</sup> Matthew

Yo<sup>r</sup> by Cap<sup>t</sup> Hart in y<sup>e</sup> Leopard (w<sup>ch</sup> I heare is arrived  
at Bristol) I received with y<sup>e</sup> inclosed bill of Lading  
for five Tunes & four kinderkins of suga<sup>r</sup> consigned to  
m<sup>r</sup> Clarke of Bristol for w<sup>ch</sup> I returne you thanks and for  
yo<sup>r</sup> trouble & care in my concerne I have taken Three Tunns  
freight upon Capt Smith w<sup>ch</sup> was all I durst venture till I had  
received yo<sup>r</sup> last whereby you advise to take six Tunns but it  
is now too late to deest by this. Fleet w<sup>ch</sup> is fallen downe to  
Graves end freight continues very deare and Sugars are as cheap  
If y<sup>e</sup> peace goe forward (of w<sup>ch</sup> people talke very variously) I am  
apt to thinke freight will fall apace and Sugars will <sup>scarcely</sup> rise but  
I pray let y<sup>e</sup> 3 Tun on board Smith be comprised w<sup>th</sup> else I must pay  
dead freight which would be very severe now moneys are very scarce  
It would be very satisfactory if you would oblige me w<sup>th</sup> an Acce<sup>t</sup>  
of y<sup>e</sup> profits & charges of my Interest y<sup>e</sup> Debts & Credits thereof from  
y<sup>e</sup> Tyme you were pleas<sup>d</sup> to accept y<sup>e</sup> trouble of it to y<sup>e</sup> some that  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Burrell entered upon my Plantation whose last letter made  
me hope for some advice at large from yo<sup>r</sup> hands touching that  
matter that I might have knowne from what day to date his lease  
and what regross young as well as old you delivered to him what  
young canes were standing or growing upon y<sup>e</sup> Plantation at y<sup>e</sup> Tyme  
of his entry and all such other particulars as are necessary to bee  
knowne before y<sup>e</sup> lease can be drawne I dont designe that Cap<sup>t</sup> Burrell  
should be prejudiced by y<sup>e</sup> delay that happens nor would I suffer as I  
may if he should start new Articles or objections I sent him my terms  
or proposals long since that he might accept or not as he saw fit &  
by his entry I understande he has accepted them not w<sup>th</sup> out say<sup>ing</sup> of  
Hurricanes and w<sup>ch</sup> I shall never allow in defaultation of  
rent and as to y<sup>e</sup> other article I let a ruined Plantation buy<sup>er</sup> for 10 or  
20 yeares to come so that he will have Tyme to use and make his own  
advantage of y<sup>e</sup> houses & works w<sup>ch</sup> he must be at y<sup>e</sup> charge to erect for  
his own convenience and at y<sup>e</sup> expiration of his Terme if he do not renew  
his lease he shall leave them standing and I will not be obliged to allow  
anything for them as I will to him is to yo<sup>r</sup> use in those letters which I  
perceive you have received and I presume it is upon those termes that you  
have admitted him to enter upon my Plantation I want also to know  
his securities for y<sup>e</sup> performance of Covenants for m<sup>r</sup> Du Witt if dead  
or dying has beene speechlesse these 3 or 6 dayes I pray let me know w<sup>th</sup>  
Sugars Major Macky<sup>e</sup> & Capt Burrell have made to halve & by yo<sup>r</sup> next  
give me full instructions & let Capt Burrell provide his first yeares rent  
against y<sup>e</sup> Tyme for m<sup>r</sup> Carpenter sayes he has but little of his<sup>r</sup> in his hand  
moneys are in a scarce commodity & Taxes are growne very heavy I have  
seene so large in my other letters that shall add<sup>e</sup> no more at present but  
my humble service who am

I<sup>e</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> most faithful servant  
C. Deafreson

Ch. Scappon  
to  
Capt Methuen 26<sup>th</sup> 1764

M3T