

To  
His Majesty

in English Harbour

Jan: 17<sup>th</sup> 1787

Sir,

Your Majesty will be assured the

above mentioned manuscript, in which I conclude my last letter, owing

to the packet being under sail at the time we anchored at

Rogues in Dominique. The manner in which I was

renewed by the inhabitants, convinced me of their affectionate

and loyalty to your Majesty, the Colony is now by all hands

4  
course small. The island is too mountainous ever to be well  
cultivated; its principal use to Great Britain is the wood and  
water found in Prince Rupert's Bay, and the situation  
between Martinique and Guadeloupe, two of the most  
powerful islands belonging to the French since the  
Treaty of Utrecht, which is the defense of the bay is a most noble  
head land, almost as strong as Gibraltar, and if I may say  
I was an opinion on the proposed fortifications, Major  
Wagner the Engineer Officer has been a good judge  
and in the manner he intends if approved of rendering  
it very strong. In that Bay there are three batteries, and all

round the shore the wood grows in forest down to the seaside, the

largest fleet may be in the gulph & safely caught in the hurricane

and as a fence is fence may under the latter

be perfectly secured from the attack of a superior one, as the

wind runs southerly down out of the Bay, so that ships are

obliged to work in. Dominique is charmingly situated

to render us a field for the attack of Martinique & Gu

adelupe, as in former times it is easy to reach either of them.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment and a Company of Royal Artillery are

upon the hills about the town of St. Paul, they enjoy good health,

and are well disciplined. The trade in slaves at this island

is very great owing to our supplying the French with the most

able commodity.

In my last letter to your Majesty, I had the honour of writing

1674  
I mentioned the Vicente de Canaventes did receive an

invitation to visit the Prince of Portugal, he was accompanied

by a caravan of 200 persons on board of which there were also

the three officers in command at Martinique arrived at Rio

de Janeiro with a letter from the Vicente and a formal invitation

on my answer, was that I was highly honoured and

flattered with this mark of distinction, but that your

Majesty did not approve of my visiting the foreign parts; and

-mission, I could not positively accept this polite invitation.

The preparations at Martinique were wonderful, so much so

that a guard of soldiers always attended the machines on the

play house. During our stay at Dominique the Baron de

Chigny Governor of Guadeloupe sent the commanding Officer

of the troops with the same message in the Pointe de la

-gate of 39 guns commanded by the <sup>Off</sup> Vionte de la

supplies to the <sup>Off</sup> Vionte de la. I made the same answer;

as I had on the former occasion. The <sup>Off</sup> Vionte de la

had some conversation with me, by which I saw the

French Navy are so fully upon another project. His main

plan to be placed on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1786. It has given me a

ful office, and it is supposed the French King will not be  
able to carry it through: the Viscount gave me the same signi-

fications.

Gov<sup>th</sup> 3 of Newbergh after having written some Reports  
head of Bay with Governor Corder and Major Mazer  
sailed for English Harbour in company with Mr Bowen  
Solway, and Kibbler, who were married on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and  
have been employed ever since in settling. I must now

beg leave to conclude and defer an account of our proceed-  
ings at this island till I have the honour of writing you

to Your Majesty.

With this I beg leave to enclose the said Report

and my answers.

Your Majesty will please approve of my conduct in de-

ing as much as is in my power to prevent, all unnece-

and distinctions. Since I have had the honor of conversing

with Your Majesty at Windsor concerning my future

projects in life, I have studiously attended to my profes-

—, and shall continue with pleasure this pursuit to

enable myself when called upon to serve Your Majesty

with zeal, and merit the approbation of the distinguished

officers in the Royal Navy; I am happy to find that my

grossness of fact, and that the figures do not by any means

meet with the disapprobation of the different commanders in

Chief. The first officer in the West India command of a certain

standing in the service, and attentive to his duty; from them  
I have already heard much, particularly of your services  
in these islands, and from their kindness in teaching  
I shall continue to be better and better acquainted  
with the Planters and their adopted for the good of your Majesty's  
service,

I am,

Sir,

Your Majesty's most affectionate  
and most dutiful Son and Subject,

W. Pitt