

Honored ¹

When you first wrote to me about renting my Plantation
I was under such engagements of a promise made to m^r Wether
& his Agent here that I was not at liberty to treat wth yo^r friends
here till I had heard what they had to say to me but when
when I understood by discourseing wth his Agent that his power
& instructions were deficient so y^e end aimed at I found my
self free to hearken to yo^r proposals & in a few days came to
an agreement wth m^r Micajah Perry & m^r Merryweather on your
behalf & writings were drawn & engraved by a day fixed for
y^e executing of them & we met accordingly but that very
day y^e unwelcome news of m^r Roberts attacke of Montreal y^e
arrived & put a full stop to o^r proceedings yo^r friends then requiring
time to see what farther progresse y^e French would make
amongst y^e Islands before they would signe or execute y^e
bond (or any writing) relating to that concerne however
I did all that was requisite for me to doe being then at London
that I might bee excused from a second journey on that score
(my businesse lying most in y^e country) and I wrote then (w^{ch}
was in September) to Col Francis Phipps w^{ch} I left my letter wth a Ball
(his correspondant her) to be sent by y^e first opportunity thereby
to acquaint him that I had executed a letter of Attorney to
him & Capt William Widdel to put you as my tenant in pos-
session of my Plantation & to see y^e counter part of y^e lease
executed by you and I doubted not then but that yo^r friends
would have done their part in a few weeks but by reason of
m^r Merryweathers great indisposition of body the businesse
was retarded till some tyme in February following and as
soon as I understood that they had executed y^e bond for performance
of articles & covenants I took y^e first opportunity of giving my
most humble service to yo^r hono^r & to thanke you for yo^r two
letters y^e first of w^{ch} I received y^e 26th of my last & y^e other y^e 19th
of January following and I knew not what to say till yo^r friends
had concluded matters by signing y^e bond and I was sorry to hear
that upon y^e going off of Capt Burnell & his partner my Plantation
suffered so much as by yo^r of y^e 19th of September I understand it
did which I thinke in a great measure might have bene prevented
but it is too late now to speake of that I must now look forward
& not backward I had no opportunity of writing & besides it was
too late when I received yo^r first at y^e later end of May to crave yo^r
protection from these depredations you mention from w^{ch} I thought
myself safe under y^e protection of common Justice

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I am a great loser every way my Tenant going off deepe in my debt and my Plantation being so long interanted as it did however I am now easie that it is in y^e hands of so honourable a person from whom I dont doubt but y^e I shall meet wth better dealings than hitherto I have done & I hope you shall have no cause to complaine of me but that y^e Plantation will more than answer yo^r expectations in a tyme of Peace by w^{ch} y^e Island is intirely made English and settled vnder one government by w^{ch} means it is likely to flourish & become more valuable than ever I knew it and I heartily wish you good success upon it and I shall always pray for yo^r prosperity who am

Dulingham in Cambridgeshire 22
March y^e 4th: 1712

Yo^r Hon^{rs}

Most Faithful humble serv^t

R^t Jeffreyson

By mine of y^e 4th of March last (w^{ch} I solicited Perry promised to forward) I gave you by way of Apologie the true Reasons of my Slothfull in answering yo^r letter & yo^r proposal I was glad to hear that you had put a title man upon my Plantation when Major Gildard had left it to employ & last after y^e Negroe & y^e Plantation w^{ch} I accept as a job out It was advised by my lawyer that I should employ two Gentlemen to put you in legal possession of my lands & Negroe and Christopher w^{ch} I did in September last Thinking that we were then agreed upon termes but y^e accidents w^{ch} interted delaying y^e signing by your Correspondant I knew not what to write to yo^r Hon^{rs} but had written at y^e same tyme to Col Francis Shipp to advise him of y^e said letter of Attourney w^{ch} I presume he communicated to you as being chiefly concerned therein The Peace is now ratified & tho not so General as was expected because y^e Emperour & y^e Empire were not satisfied wth y^e Articles relating to them & have not yet accepted them by may if they please before y^e first of June s^t Christopher will probably be a rich & flourishing Island now it is intirely English Sugars are now a very good commodity & bears a good price w^{ch} will be an encouragement to Planters now freight & insurances will be easie & y^e danger of Privateers at an end for y^e present I shall do no more but my best wishes for yo^r health long life & prosperity who am yo^r Hon^{rs}

Most Faithful humble serv^t
Christopher Jeffreyson

4 March and 6 May

1712, 3

Copy of letters from C^t to

Maj^r General Lambert