

Mr Robert Hysham

Madeira 15th May 1703

Wee have now yours of 23th January a Coppy & 19th February & 4th March originals of the George of Plym: Capp Regoes Commander who came in Company of the Governour of Barbados wee have laden the hundred ⁱⁿ ~~to~~ conformity to your Order Invoice whereof goes Inclosed the Import ²⁵⁷⁰¹⁵⁰ ~~2200000~~ wee debet you in our acc^t Curr: —
Wee note you had let to freight 120 Pipes on the Employ Capp Charles Culliford Commander and that you had laden sundry goods according to the Lists sent you as appears by the Bills of Lading and wee further observe you had given us credit 22^s 16^d: by the abatement of freight in Capp Heasar but you say altho it was just wee had noe reason to complaine because of the Risque & that your kinsman should have put 40^s Cent being warr time w^{ch}: you say you charge upon all the goodes for your Halfe — now wee must tel you that either you or wee must bee mistaken for if the Persons for whose acc^t: wee sent for these goodes wil bee soe content wee shall say nothing but if they refuse to accept them on your Termes because wee agreed to send for them as formerly upon the same conditions wee have nothing^{to} alledge ~~nor~~ nor indeed doe wee find any reason for it if you wil bee informed what wee know that goodes are not worth more since the warr then before but rather Less because wee have greater plenty by reason of soe many ships in Fleetes alwayes dropping in w^{ch}: spoyle the trade wee need not mention these reasons but only assure you that wee cannot expect that any man should give us more then that for w^{ch}: wee had agreed and if you doe not think it adviseable to doe it on shore termes it had been much more reasonable for you to Advise us or sent them upon our acc^t: rather then to say you had charged us 40^s Cent because it is now warr it is true in the last warr there was allotted 40^s Cent 7^s 6^d Mil Rey and if you examine whether 20^s Cent 6^s 6^d Mil Rey makes the same moky you wil find them equal but it wil bee needles to urge this as an argument all that wee can say is that wee doe not think ourselves obliged to abide by the Arbitrary disposition of another nor because he says it must bee that it is reasonable therefore that it should bee soe wee could mention more w^{ch}: would bee to the same Effect but wee rather incline to tel you that wee are not disposed to receive more of the goodes then our owne Halfe when they come and the other Halfe to remaine in the custome House for your acc^t: until you are better informed — otherwise wee must act like men of little thought to take goodes at 20^s Cent los and those goodes to bee sold for next years paym: when the whole amount is made good out of the value of wines laden in the same ships wee have contented ourselves to serve our friends were there is noe loss to us but how any Gent: can expect that wee should lose by his game wee cannot understand w^{ch}: wil bee evident because wee sent for the goodes upon the same conditions without any alteration and must deliver them at the same Price as former — and therefore wee desire you to ship us in the first ship for our all the quantity of one Halfe of the goodes w^{ch}: you have already shipped