Madeira 31 January 1702

We confirme the aforegoing via Canaries, & herewith goes our second Bill on Mr. Solomon Merrett for £56= Mr. Nicholle Thetwals second Bill on Mr. William Brigines £38:17:10. & Capt. James Barrys first Bill on Capt. Philip Raine of Bristol for £47:03:09d, This Bill wil be paid by Mr. Thomas Clarke, wee send you likewise our second Bill on Capt. Philip Raine, Mr. Francis Rogers & Company: of Bristol for 507U735 reis payable as mentioned in the Coppy —

Wee have received by Mr. Bowles ship the Chair, case, & Bundle of mapps, here is now in Porte the Mackles field Gally, Capt. John Hurle Comander for China, by whom Mr. John Gardner writes us under the 26th Ultimo, that the two East India Companys are joyned & that the warr with France is inevitable, & thought that Portugal would stand Neuter in the warr, Butt that which wee fear, gives us cause to doubt, wee have noe late advice from Lisbon, nor doe wee suddanly expect any, soe that it is probably wee shall bee first advised from England, how matters are like to governe as to the warr & with whom please to send us

2 pr. fashonable Druggett
6 Hatts about 8 s
6 pr. fine Hose coloured
2 pr. fashonable Stuffs
3 1/3 yards of fine blew Cloath
11 1/2 yards of fine flowered silke of Liveleist Gaudy Colours —

This is to be supposed if noe warr with Portugal by the time you can ship them, otherwise our Trade is at an End —

Noe vessel left in Porte, but a small Sloope bound to Antigua, This goes via Scotland & if any thing offers I shall write you in Postscript —

This year hath not come the quantity of wheate as was usual from the westerne Islands, by wch meanes wee have with much adee got off what wee had left, that came from Falmouth, whereof wee shall send the acct. of sales, soe soone as wee can finish them, & now as matters are like to goe, if you can find a vessel at any of the out Ports that will take in 6a800 quarters soe that it may bee done privately, without notice, it may doe well, but this must not bee delay'd & if there bee not sacks to bee had, Lett it come in Butt, rather then wast time, you may send it in halves Betwixt us & charge us accordingly, wee find it is reasonable in England but must stil continue to note to you that a great quantity glutts us, as it did two years wee have not else to advise, but wish you an happy New year & remaine

Ditto 15th February 1702

[illegible] bound to Scotland to which refer you, This goes [illegible] be forwarded by any Conveyance that offers, noe English vessel [illegible]rt a Portequize bound to said Island, will lade about 400 Moys. of wheate [illegible]earer hereof 200 Moys., being a Bermuda Brigantine, wherein wee [illegible] parte owners, soe according as you find others inclined to lade wheate in England, you take measures about what wee advised on that Comodity, it sells well where there is a Scarsity, & nothing soe greate a Drugg when Plenty being what offers from

[illegible]ob[illegible] Feysham

Madeira 10th March 1702

Since the aforegoing Coppys of our last, arrived the Elizabeth Capt. Fisher from Cape de Verde bound for London, on whom Eight of our Nation embarke, most of them Women, noe ship lately from England, which makes us conclude there is an Embargoe and by consequence a Warr wil follow with France Spaine &c —

and for the Reason that W.B. [illegible] we [illegible] home,
wil likewise take a part in this War, which ot[illegible]
her adventure, God send us good Newes of her, wch wee
any other Way then p. Lisbon, for, Two Things were certa[illegible]
England, the first an Embargo, and the other, if a Warr fo[illegible]
(likely) declared first by us, that our Nation wil be soe prudent n[illegible]
before the Navy is in a Condition to put to Sea, for if our hot Men pre[illegible]
to get a Declaration of Warr before that, it wil be the Lending a Weap[illegible]
to cut our owne Throates, because the French Privateers lye ready to [illegible]
the first Oppertunity of goeing out to Surprize our Merchants Ships —
Wee have mentiond in the Copy that wee are concerned in a Bermudas [illegible]
gone to Terceira to lade Wheate, wee owne $\frac{1}{4}$th, and its probable may retuxne
be with us by the Time that wee may have advice from Lisbon, wch may be
in Three weekes, because their ships come out about the 25th of this Month, and
if what wee fear of Portugal joyning with France, should happen, wee hav[illegible]
thoughts of Ladeing for your acct to Barbados what shee can carry, ov[illegible]
and above the Effects off the Owners, in Such Case wee shall act wth Cautio[illegible]
for if wee are advised that Portugal is inclined to a neutrality, wee shall
doe nothing in it, but leave you to your Owne Orders as you shall from
Time to Time to advise the needfull, but if our friends in Lisbon write
us that they are any way apprehensive of a Warr with England, then
are resolved to proceed as wee say to lade for your acct, please to excu[illegible]
that wee are thus free with you, for wee must Speake plaine
say that our designe is to get off some of our Effects, and a[illegible]
value wil remaine in your hands, and as the Bent of your Busin[illegible]
to Barbados, wee conceive this Designe wil meete wth your Appro[illegible]
several of our owne Nation have solicited us on this acct, bu[illegible]
begins at home, & therfore, as wee would sooner ship[illegible]
then others, soe wee would sooner serve our Owne [illegible]
wee have little Trade in ye West Indies for our Owne [illegible]
you the Preference — Wee ha[illegible]
what wee suppose (as to the Warr) may bee, should [illegible]
you may say afterwards, this was none of my design[illegible]
candidly with you, and tel you all the Reason wee have,
you wil rest Satisfied, because wee have noe other Reason then
have already told you —

wee are God be praised att the 19th ditto, yesterday came into this Road his Majesties Sh[illegible]
Capt. Talet comander bound to the Cape, wee have seene the Kings Speech & t[illegible]
of the Parliment upon it, soe that wee are now confirmed in what wee sugge[illegible]
touching the Warr, what more remaines, is the Resolution of Portug[illegible]
declaring against France —

Wee have a Letter from Wm. Hutchins by this Ship of 22th January noteing [illegible]
of ours of 21th December via St Malo, & that W.B. wife was arived there in S[illegible]
wch is much to our Satisfaction —