

Dear Sir,

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Barbados, Octr 17th, 1816.

At my departure from Philadelphia all your friends seemed apprehensive of a fatal termination to your then existing complaints, & must be very agreeably disappointed at your wonderful recovery. I sincerely congratulate you on it, not only on your own account, as affording you a longer time to prepare your soul for Death, but on the score of your family's comfort & benefit. Early experience in the loss of a prudent father, taught me the inestimable merit of an industrious careful head of a family, who possesses discretion to govern them, & to manage their temporal concerns. Mrs Yeates & yourself have been very happy in training up virtuous obedient children, whose good sense & affection, though they have attained to the years of mature judgment, would make them extremely unwilling to lose your useful parental superintendance.

In my last letter I introduced to your notice the designated Governor of our insurgents, Joseph Pitt Washington Franklin, who has been since condemned & hanged. The deceitful rogue protested his innocence to the last moment of his existence; but the testimony against him could not be doubted. He was on horse-back, neatly dressed as a military officer, marching with a body of the insurgents, when the approach of a formidable detachment of regulars & militia frightened him off the field; as he rode off, he told <sup>his followers</sup> ~~them~~ to fight bravely, until he could bring them a reinforcement, which he pretended to be the object of his departure. When he reached a retired place, he threw aside his dress of military rank, & became plain Washington Franklin, a free militia man, & in that character joined a company or battalion of the colonial Militia. His guilt could not be long concealed; for all the insurgent prisoners declared him to be their intended Chief. — The Rector of St. Michaels attended him in jail, & at the gal-  
lows, & could persuade him to no confession: His moral character had been so frequently impeached, that it gave no weight to his artful assertions of innocence. —



I feel myself most gratefully obliged to my friends in Pennsylvania for their kind concern for my preservation. Our internal danger was very great, & could only have been secretly removed by that Omnipotent Merciful Being, who has the hearts of rebels & subjects, as well as of Kings, under his supreme Rule & Government. Gods controlling Spirit must have restrained the temper & hands of the insurgents from an immediate bloody massacre of the Whites, whom they had for several hours at their Mercy. The same Divine Spirit must have subdued the national prepossession of the Bourbon Regiment, consisting of 1500 black soldiers completely disciplined, in favour of their own kindred & colour, & must have kept them steady in their fidelity & allegiance to the British Government, & to the white officers who commanded them: Had they revolted, & joined their arms & discipline to our rebels, very doubtful indeed would have been our victory & safety. Another instance of heavenly interposition appeared in the wonderful courage, promptitude, & energy of our Militia, who equalled in long fatiguing marches & self-deprivation even veteran regulars. One day's delay of these extraordinary exertions might have encouraged a general insurrection among the slaves, whose minds were heartily disposed for such a measure, in which they would have concurred throughout the island, had not the time of rising been partially anticipated. This anticipation in three of our parishes, & the temporary distraction in the rebels' councils, may be ascribed to an over-ruling infatuation: "quos Deus vult perdere, dementat." — My countrymen, when they went out against the rebels, seemed to be animated by the patriotic voice of Nehemiah: "Be ye not afraid of them: remember the Lord, who is great & terrible, & fight for your brethren, your sons & your daughters, your wives & your houses!"

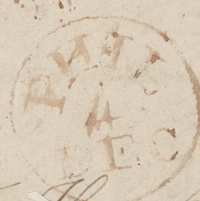
It is my daily prayer, that your fears about a collision of sentiment on a certain subject with my countrymen may not be verified. On account of my hardness of hearing, I very seldom go into company, & will be as cautious as possible in my conversation. But Mr. Marryatt's first pamphlet, which I have read, & which is deservedly popular in this country, has almost made me a convert to the Creolian prejudices, & will consequently prevent me from opposing them with my weak judgment & voice. Mr. M's second pamphlet I expect soon to borrow & read. In favour of my countrymen I must say, that they unanimously approve the Abolition Act, & have no desire to import any more slaves from Africa. We plead necessity for keeping possession of our present slaves, & the impossibility of a general emancipation, but at the hazard of destroying all the white inhabitants. Would England pay for the slaves, & remove their

owners to another country, where they could find a comfortable subsistence in peace & safety, no objection perhaps would be made to the wishes of the British advocates for a general emancipation. — I thank you most cordially for your kind apprehensions on the score of my comfortable residence in Barbados. Although I may live undisturbed by the white inhabitants of the island, yet the slaves are restless & discontented, & superstitiously affirm, that they are worried by the ghosts & cries of their relations & friends, who were killed & hanged in consequence of their insurrection, to revenge their deaths on the white inhabitants. These sons of vengeance are afraid to rise in open rebellion; but they may destroy many lives by poisonings & secret assassinations. There are twenty odd slaves upon the Glebe, where my nieces & myself reside, & on these slaves of my absent employer we depend for our lives & comfort. Our cook, the chief source of our eating hopes & fears, seems to be the best negro among them.

Your daughter's letter has been safely forwarded to me, & my answer to it is ready for the first opportunity. Present my respectful compliments to the Chief Justice. His daughter was a most interesting young lady, & has, I hope, made a discreet choice of a good husband, to make her still more interesting in the departments of a Wife & Mother. — Remember me most kindly to Mrs. Tilghman & Mary. I am pleased to hear that Mr. E. Tilghman left his family in comfortable circumstances. He was always kind & friendly to me, & I feel a great partiality for his whole family. Does Benjamin promise to equal his father in his professional talents? — The report of the death of Sir James Leith, ~~the~~ Governor, is this moment brought me. Our slaves considered him as their Friend. I hope his death will make no disturbance. Distribute my respects among all my friends in Lancaster, & particularly a great deal of love to my good Mrs. Yeates, & all your family to the third & fourth generation. Beg them all to pray for my safety among these black savages, as our good sexton calls them. I am, dear Sir, your affectionate friend,  
Joseph Stutchins.



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The Hon. Jasper Yeates Esq.  
Lancaster,  
Pennsylvania.

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Bartholomew Octob 17. 1816  
Stew & Jergin R. R. R. R. R.