1773 JAN. 25 WILLIAM STEVENSON & WILLIAM RANDOLPH TO JAMES EWELSTON

SIDE TWO

to have her launched in October next as we have some thoughts of loading her with Lumber to Jamaica before the winter sets in, pray in treaty with a Gentleman here to give her a freight home. You have omitted to send Certificates for the last Convicts by the Elizabeth Andrew, pray let us have them by Thomas who now brings Convicts & Servants & 52 hhds of Beef which we hope you will be able to dispose of advantageously the former we would recommend by Wholesale as the most speedy method of remittance but We would advise you to be Cautious of what Bills you may take; We have already wrote you ye State of the market for Wheat, Indian Corn, Tobo. &c. which continues the same tho the prospect for Tob. seems worse as there is little or no demand & we think will be down to 17/8 or Lower for export, you will therefore be best able to judge whether you shall load the Restoration with that Article or Grain in either case we flatter ourselves her Cargo may be procured as a remittance for Convicts or Goods with Pages assistance & if necessary from Ringgold besides which we hope to have large remittances in Bills from those to whom we have Shipt Goods great part of which is already due & £3000 more in April & near £5000 in August, you therefore see the necessity of using your utmost endeavours to enable us to comply with our engagements & from the large sums of money due to us in the Country, the great right we have to expect ample remittances, permit us once more to urge you to use every expedient to draw our money out of Smyth & Sandlers hands who have trifled with us so long that our patience is quite exhausted & if it cannot be done by fair means we must make use of more Rigorous methods

turn over

The importation of all kinds of Grain & flour is allowed duty free till the 1st. of Jany. next, but the Distillery is not stopt: which will certainly contribute to keeping up the price, & we think there can be no doubt but that Wheat will fetch 6/ & Indian Corn 3/ & flour in proportion, so that if the Snow could be immediately dispatched with some of each of those Articles if they can be got on reasonable terms it would pay us handsomely, but as we have before observed, this must be left to y^r own judgment, as we have given you the fullest information respecting the prospect for both Grain & Tob.; the former of which is much more readyly turned into money than the latter & without advancing the large sums for duties that Tob. takes, which is certainly a Consideration in some measure to be attended to; We think therefore imagine that it must in the course of the year get down with you to 16/8 Currency as the purchasers this last year must lose at least £8 ⅌ hhd which is enough to deter them from going the lengths they have done. We doubt not your utmost attention to every thing that may tend to our Mutual benefit &c.

Dear Sir

Your Aff^t Frd. & Servts

Wm Stevenson

William Randolph

PS

You will please to Observe a proportion of heading must be got for the Cargo of Staves for the new Ship intended for Jamaica

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