

3 Jan 1787

Dear Sir,

Excuse me for not having writ to you

long time, as I have been in a constant success of disappoi-

-on from my first arrival on the West Indian and I am

afraid it will continue as long as I remain in this sea.

At present I must trouble you with a request, which must

not every obstacle from the King, and will require all

your art to find satisfaction. I cannot propose this with

so much propriety to any man as yourself. It is to request

of His Majesty that my allowance is really too small. Hence

perceived that 3000 Lanzas, would not answer my necessary ex-
pences, in the first six months. I spent more than that sum, and
during my stay in the West Indies for the exorbitant price
of all provisions, I must at least spend as much. His Majesty
did not consider that it is expected of me to govern in the
the people in office in the different islands and plantations,
and if I should but pay the extraordinary expences, I should
then be able to make both ends meet, which at present is
utterly impossible. By the death of Prince Amelia the
King owes 17000 Lanzas, and if I should but allow me a
certain proportion more, I shall be enabled to live as a gentle-
man, otherwise I must resign the command of my ship, and

lead a private life. The Duke of York from the age of seven

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then the having the revenue of that rich Bishoprick and

being under the necessity of supporting his table, has been allowed

5000 L. per Annum of the first year. I must not that he

is owing my allowance increased, but still 3000 L. I will the

matter over with Mr. Howard and find out his opinion; you

are though so well acquainted with the situation of things,

that every step you take will I am sure be for the best

this letter to Prince of Wales, and always inform him of the steps

you mean to take. Write as soon as you receive this. My time

I spend pleasantly enough; tho' I have had two or three severe

compliments in my stomach. The people here say I ought to

to drink wine, & wine: but I don't agree with them on that point.
-yet. You will be aware that of the ad. & the fine proceeds, & the
bills the Gentlemen in these islands have given me. So long
it doesn't hurt my health, it is well and good, but I
I shall fall a sacrifice to this fasting.

I am,
Dear Sir,

Your obedient
servant

J. Williams

Jan 3rd 1787.

W. R. H. M. D. K.

W. R. H. M. D. K.

English Harbour
Antigua
Jan 3rd 1787.