British Records Relating to America in Microform (BRRAM) series

William Hewitt Papers, 1756-1790
(Mss 522)
in the University of London Library

Introduction to the microfilm collection by Paul Kelly

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British Records Relating to America in Microform (BRRAM) series

William Hewitt Papers, 1756-1790
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Introduction to the microfilm collection
by
Paul Kelly
1985
It is very remarkable that there should be any William Hewitt Papers at all. The commissioner was twice despoiled by the French and lost a considerable amount of property in the hurricane which hit Barbados in 1781. And yet here we have a long run of private and official papers which somehow survived both the French and the hurricane. The explanation could be that the commissioner's clerk and nephew, James Hewitt, who was not always in the same cataclysmic place as William Hewitt, had already taken charge of some of his uncle's papers before the latter's death in 1781. Further, on 24 August 1779, William Hewitt noted that his nephew was still in Dominica. James Hewitt might have been able to retrieve some of his uncle's papers from the French authorities.

At any rate, we can trace the story of how and why the collection survived after 1781. On the death of his uncle, James Hewitt went to report to his father (Lord Lifford) in Dublin. He evidently took the papers with him. It was from these papers that Lifford was able to see how much money the British Treasury owed his deceased brother. Since William Hewitt left considerable debts - Lifford and Joseph Hewitt of Coventry were owed over £1600 - it was clearly in the family's interest that the money should be recovered from the government. It was for this reason that the papers needed to be preserved. However, neither Lifford nor Joseph Hewitt - who were the next of kin - were willing to be the executors of the estate. So, since Hewitt owed Messrs Chambers & Birch of London some £2000 'with a considerable arrear of interest', it was decided to put the administration of the state into their hands (Ms 522/468, 495/1-8). The business was handled by Thomas Birch; and the solicitor employed was Thomas Lane who was Clerk of the Goldsmiths' Company. In 1790, Birch made over the power of attorney over William Hewitt's affairs to Charles Winstone, formerly Attorney-General of Dominica (Ms 522/498).

At some point, William Hewitt's papers were deposited with Thomas Lane at Goldsmiths' Hall; and there they remained until the mid-twentieth century. From 1785 until 1939 the Clerks of the Goldsmiths' Company were solicitors drawn from the Lane and Prideaux families who were allowed to practise at Goldsmiths' Hall. When Mr. W.A. Prideaux was appointed to that office in 1953, he consulted the Secretary of the Records Preservation Section of the British Records Association about the large quantity of documents then at the Hall. A list of the boxes was then made and suitable repositories suggested. The material was then dispersed. Then in 1960, the Librarian to the Company found more material in the basement of the Hall. Among this were papers which had belonged to the Lane family. It was agreed to send the material relating to the City of London to the Guildhall Library and that relating to Lane property in Staffordshire to Staffordshire Record Office. But in the Lane collection, there were also papers of old clients, some of which seem to constitute separate collections in their own right. These included the Newton and Hewitt papers containing material relating to the West Indies in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.
The Newton papers, which are concerned with Barbados plantations which belonged first to the Newton and then to the Lane families in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, were deposited on permanent loan with the University of London Library (Ms 523) by Mr. Prideaux together with a section of the William Hewitt papers. The remaining Hewitt papers were sent out to Barbados on 1 December 1965 even though they contain only a little material relating to Barbados. It is not surprising that when Mrs. Christine Micklem came to list the partial Hewitt collection at the University of London Library in 1966, she found them 'a chance collection and incomplete, full of loose ends and unknown persons'. And it is only thanks to Michael Chandler, Archivist of Barbados, that the 'Barbadian' Hewitt papers were returned to their more appropriate place in the University of London Library. He brought them with him on his visit to England in October 1971.

Note: this introduction is derived from Paul Kelly, 'An eighteenth-century colonial "civil servant": William Hewitt and his papers', Archives, IX (1971-2) 94[102. We are grateful to the British Records Association and the editor of Archives for permission to use it.
William Hewitt was born in 1719, was the son of William Hewitt, mercer and draper of Coventry. The latter was a member of the corporation and became mayor in 1744. There is little evidence of the younger William Hewitt's activities before 1766. Some of the early account books suggest that he was still in Coventry around 1760 though on a document dated April 1759 he is referred to as a warehouseman of Newgate Street, London. Considerably later there is a little evidence to suggest that he continued to hold property somewhere in England. Several English addresses are given for him over the whole period covered, two in Newman Street (off Oxford Street, London), one in Cavendish Square, one at Craven Hill, near Kensington. But very little is known of his movements in England. His elder brother was James Hewitt (1712-89) who became one of the M P's for Coventry in 1761, having been returned with the support of the corporation. James Hewitt was subsequently appointed Lord Chancellor of Ireland in 1768 - a post which he held for the rest of his life. In 1769, he was created Baron Lifford in the Irish peerage and Viscount in 1781. In 1765, Lifford asked the Duke of Newcastle for a post in favour of his brother, William Hewitt. The latter was appointed a commissioner for the sale and disposal of lands in the Ceded Islands in the West Indies.

William Hewitt's appointment was a consequence of the Peace of Paris of 1763 by which Britain gained the islands of Grenada, the Grenadines, St. Vincent, Dominica and Tobago. These were known as the Ceded Islands and were united under a single colonial government called the 'Government of the Southern Caribbee Islands'. Subsequently, Dominica was separated and received its own Governor in 1771, St. Vincent in 1776 and Tobago was separated and ceded to France in 1783. However, Britain did not gain as much as she might have done in 1763. The large and prosperous islands of Guadalupe and Martinique, which had been occupied by British forces during the Seven Years War, were handed back again to France and a considerable section of British trade was lost. The reason for this inequitable arrangement appears to lie chiefly with the opposition of the London West India merchants to any large extension of control over the West Indies since this would impair the value of existing monopoly rights. The West Indian planters, on the other hand, felt slighted at the insignificance of the new acquisitions in the Caribbean after one of the most successful wars in British history. In Parliament, Pitt attacked the peace proposals because they signified an immediate sacrifice on the part of British interests; and Pitt was the only politician at this time of front-bench calibre who could claim the support of public opinion.

The new colonies, therefore, had to prove their worth. And, as a result of a plan for the settlement of the islands - possibly that drawn up by Thomas Curlett and Alexander Clunie for the Committee on Trade - commissioners were appointed to sell and dispose of lands in the Ceded Islands. It was hoped that the consequent profits made by the government would help pay for the cost of the defence of the islands.
William Hewitt went out to the West Indies in the autumn of 1766 (Ms 522/48). His appointment as commissioner is dated March 1767 and he was appointed in place of one of the original commissioners, Hugh Graeme, who had since died (Ms 522/405). Hewitt's colleagues were Sir William Young, who headed the commission, Robert Stewart, Robert Wynne and John Hunt. Young was Lieutenant-Governor of Dominica 1763-70 and Governor 1771-74. He was also appointed the Receiver of Monies arising by the sale and leases of lands. Stewart was recommended by James Stewart Mackenzie, Lord Bute's younger brother and a notable 'king's friend'. Stewart had been previously collector of customs at Tobago. But since the island was entirely unsettled before the commissioners went out, Stewart's salary was 'very small, and the perquisites can amount to nothing'. Wynne, the son of an attorney, seems to have acquired his post through the intercession of Joseph Salvador, a merchant of Jewish-Portuguese extraction who negotiated loans for the government. Nothing more is known about John Hunt.

The commissioners were at work from 1765 to 1771. On the termination of the commission, William Hewitt tried with limited success to secure other posts in the West Indies. In 1771 he was appointed aide-de-camp, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, to General Robert Melvill. But Melvill's own appointment as Governor of the Southern Caribbean Islands ceased in 1771. In 1771 Hewitt secured the post of collector of customs at Dominica. But this was only a temporary post (Ms 522/321-2).

Hewitt had returned to England by the end of September 1772. In 1774, he took a lease on Ankerwyke House, on the Thames two miles north-west of Staines, in Buckinghamshire. The account book of Ankerwyke House for 1774 is in Buckinghamshire Record Office. By 1775, however, he was seeking further employment in the West Indies. He sought out influential friends (Ms 522/129, 372-3, 375). He failed to obtain the post of Inspector-General of the Leeward Islands (Ms 522/374). He was assured that the commissioners of the Treasury would give him preference if one or more commissioners was to be appointed for the sale of the residue of lands in St. Vincent. Then in 1776, William Hewitt entered upon the second and less happy phase of his West Indian career when he accepted the post of commissioner 'for adjusting the differences that have arisen or may arise in respect of sales of Lands in the Islands of Grenada, the Grenadines, St. Vincent, Dominica and Tobago' (Ms 522/410-11). The appointment is dated 4 July 1776.

The appointment was made necessary by sudden economic distress in the West Indies and the consequent non-payment of instalments on land bought or leased from the Crown. In 1773 the coffee planters were badly hit by the closure of the German market and the sudden upsurge of competition from the Dutch and French. In Britain, the market was glutted - selling prices fell by fifty per cent within a single season. The island of Dominica, where the planters declared they could no longer pay the instalments, suffered severely together with St. Vincent and Grenada.
William Hewitt sailed for the West Indies in the middle of February 1777, bound first for Grenada (Ms 522/69). He was joined by his nephew, James Hewitt (Lord Lifford's son), who acted as his clerk. It is clear from his papers that the new commissioner was kept well occupied with work. But it is difficult to see just what sort of success such work could have against a background of acute economic decline in the British West Indies. Further, when France went to war with Britain in 1778, the West Indies became a battle ground between the British and French fleets. During the Seven Years War, it was in the West Indies where Britain had scored some of her greatest successes against France. But now the balance swung in the other direction and Britain was very much on the defensive. In 1778 Dominica fell to the French and Lieutenant-Governor William Stuart signed the capitulation on 8 September. William Hewitt was in Dominica and fared badly at the hands of the French. The French military governor, the Marquis Duchilleau, appears to have gained notoriety for his 'tyranny and rapacity'. (!) The French misunderstood the nature of Hewitt's previous appointment to sell and dispose of lands in the Ceded Islands. So the commissioner was forcibly detained and he complained that his 'fortune & health have been much hurt by the severity of their treatment making me responsible for transactions under the late Commission' (Ms 522/352). Hewitt had to try and persuade the French authorities 'that I never had the receiving [of] any Moneys belonging to the Crown' (Ms 522/347). But he was still obliged to pay 3300 livres 'to acquit myself towards Monsieur Linge [Commissary-General for Martinique and its dependencies] for all demands & Indemnifications'; and Hewitt's books and papers were confiscated (Mss 522/417, 418A and B). He was not allowed to leave Dominica until the beginning of December 1778 (Mss 522/419, 1-2).

Further, Hewitt had put down roots on Dominica and these were now roughly torn up. The lands which he had bought, being now on an island under French control where he could not return, were now worth nothing. For details of Hewitt's land purchases - five lots totalling 1367 acres and costing almost £3000 - see Mss 522/164-8. For plans of the properties, see Mss 522/182-3, 505.

Having survived this ordeal, Hewitt now fixed his headquarters on St. Vincent. There he identified himself with the opposition to Governor Valentine Morris - particularly over Morris's free grants of land on St. Vincent. He was opposed by the large proprietors throughout the British West Indies 'as the prospect of securing free grants of land would inevitably draw off inferior whites from them to St. Vincent'. At their instigation, Morris was severely censured by the American Secretary, Lord George Germain, and all the grants made were invalidated. It has been concluded that Morris's 'defence and championing of few-acre residents' rights against those of absentee owners of vast estates is a noteworthy

episode in the history of tropical colonisation'. (2) But, though Hewitt may have been misled about the precise nature of the grants, he does reveal that Morris's action caused great offence to those who had already bought land on St. Vincent - including the small-holders:

Governor Morris's Conduct had so alienated the affections of almost every worthy Person in this country, and their resentments are so strong at his behaviour, as to make them indifferent about the welfare of the colony, in the most arbitrary manner he has granted to himself and his associates upwards of 3000 Acres of the most valuable soil in this Island. The Inhabitants have been with me to know if I have received any instructions concerning his Grants, as they think themselves much hurt and effected (sic) by such uncommon liberality, after having paid such high Prices for lands which are now given away in the most wanton manner (Ms 522/351).

Hewitt seems to have got his information about the grants from a list drawn up by the colonists in September-October 1777 which was clearly a distortion of the truth. (3) But it would have been only natural for Morris, who was facing considerable opposition on St Vincent, to give the land to people who were likely to support him. Hewitt had warned Morris on 1 May 1777 that no lands should be given away in the Ceded Islands without fresh instructions from the Treasury (Ms 522/414).

In the spring of 1779, Hewitt was ordered by the Treasury to go to Tobago to report on the memorial of the planters concerning threatened prosecution of people for default of land payments. He arrived at the beginning of May. On 1 June, he wrote to Edward Hewitt: 'I am much pleased with this Island tho the planters in general are much distress'd & want some reliefe' (Ms 522/357). However, on 10 September 1779, William Hewitt reported to the Treasury Board that he needed to have his commission renewed as the Inhabitants and Planters did not think the instructions imported to me by your Secretary [to the Treasury] to repair to Tobago and to report to your Hon[our]able Board on their Memorial were of sufficient authority; under these circumstances, for the present I silenced their Clamours by telling them I should directly write to your Lordships for a continuation of my Commission, and should upon receipt of it visit the Island again in about 3 months by which time I should expect my Commission from England, and then be ready to enter into that examination as would furnish me with materials necessary to make a true and proper Report (Ms 522/142 ff.14-15).


But Hewitt never received a renewal of his commission and he never visited Tobago again. Though he did send a report to the Treasury on Tobago (Ms 522/361). Copies of official correspondence concerning Tobago can be found in Mss 522/415 and 416, 1-17.

On leaving Tobago, Hewitt went to Grenada 'in order to confer with... Lord Macartney [Governor of Grenada] the necessary Steps that should be taken for the interest of the Colony' (Ms 522/142 ff.14). He then went to St. Vincent where he arrived on 14 June 1779. Two days later, the island fell to the French and once again Hewitt suffered under the enemy. The French authorities imposed a fine of £220 on him, and

I was strip'd of all my Papers Books Moneys &c by the French my wearing apparel plate &c by the Charibs, my person treated with indignity as the King's Servant to bring me here [Barbados], in the greatest danger of Foundering for seven days.

At the beginning of July, Grenada and the Grenadines were taken. The Governor, Lord Macartney, 'is sent a Prisoner to France; he has lost every thing, and was treated with Indignity'. Hewitt, however, who seems to have gone to Grenada before Barbados, 'was more fortunate sheltering myself under the Capitulation of St. Vincent, and the liberty of leaving the Island with my Person safe'.

Thoroughly disillusioned by his experiences, Hewitt determined to leave Barbados for England by April 1780 (Ms 522/142 ff.7-8). What he found in Barbados was scarcely calculated to raise his depressed spirits. He wrote to Edward Hewitt on 24 August 1779:

everything in this Island is miserable beyond Conception - the resources of Life at an enormous expense, no credit, no money, little dependence on the Mother Country in its present state - I have been very ill for some days past owing to a fatigue & perturbation of mind (Ms 522/142 ff.6-7).

His nephew, James Hewitt, was still at Dominica '& has been Ill of the Bile 4 months by which I have had no assistance from him in my Distresses but I find him a heavy Expense to me which humanity directs me to bear'.

But before he was able to leave Barbados, William Hewitt had to undergo one more ordeal - and this finally killed him. He did not leave in April 1780 - most likely because of the intensity of the naval war. In 1781, Barbados was hit by a hurricane. Three thousand people were killed and Bridgetown was all but destroyed. According to Lord Lifford, who received the account of his brother's death from James Hewitt, William Hewitt 'was buried for sometime under the ruins of his House and rece[ive]d such bodily hurt as he never recovered, besides the destruction of a great part of the Property he had with him'. The unfortunate commissioner then went to St. Eustatius - a Dutch island captured by the British in February 1781 - with the idea of returning to England from there. But he died a few days after his arrival on 16 May 1781 (Ms 522/466).
William Hewitt was an industrious and diligent official. But, in common with his contemporaries, he believed in combining public service with private profit. His motive for going to the West Indies was to make his fortune. He wanted in 1779 to be appointed to the post of Receiver of quit-rents on St. Vincent which, he claimed, would have enabled him to pay his own expenses besides being accountable to the British Treasury for £30-40,000 (Ms 522/142 ff.14-15). He also had ambitions to be Governor of St. Vincent or Grenada (Ms 522/352, 358); but of course the capture of those islands by the French precluded that possibility.

Indeed the dominant theme of the William Hewitt Papers is this principle of combining public service with private profit. And the crowning misfortune that occurred to William Hewitt was that he never made any profit at all out of the post to which he was appointed in 1776. In fact, he made a huge loss since he was never paid his salary or expenses. It appears that the Treasury Board could not make up their mind out of which fund he was to be paid. According to Lifford, Hewitt went out to the West Indies in 1777 'in very good Circumstances'. Four years later, he died hopelessly in debt. Most of these debts were contracted in the service of the British Treasury. From Hewitt's own papers (Ms 522/463, 1-14), Lifford was able to deduce that the Treasury owed his brother £9267 (Ms 522/468). And Hewitt's finances had been rendered even more perilous by his involvement with several bankruptcies - quite apart from the loss of his property on Dominica. James Ballner, merchant of Bishopsgate Street, London, went bankrupt in 1780 owing William Hewitt £700 (see Ms 522/203; 302-9; 371; 428; 437; 454, 1-2). There is no record of any dividend being paid. Lewis Chauvet and Peter Turquand, merchants of Old Jewry, went bankrupt in 1778. They owed Hewitt £1200. The dividend was not declared till 21 January 1791 - ten years after the death of the commissioner (see Ms 522/130; 144-5; 254-301; 43-4).
The papers provide a unique personal portrait of an eighteenth-century colonial official. So often, the history of colonial government takes the form of a dry narration of policies and executive acts which is divorced from the personalities of those responsible for devising or administering the acts and policies. Now, for a section of the West Indies in the 1760s and 1770s, the facts and a human personality can be brought into the same focus.

The time-span for most of the material is 1766-72 and 1777-81 - predominantly the latter. The West Indian territory covered is the islands of Grenada, the Grenadines, St. Vincent, Dominica and Tobago - predominantly Dominica. There is also a little material on Barbados - chiefly William Hewitt's description of the depressed state of the island when he arrived there in August 1779. In addition to his duties as commissioner for the disposal of land in the Ceded Islands, Hewitt also became a landowner in his own right in Dominica and was closely involved with British merchants who invested in the West Indies. There is substantial information in the papers on both these aspects of his career.

The papers will be of interest to the historian who is concerned with the experiences of individual people. It is not only the personality of William Hewitt which emerges. There is a great host of individuals who turn up in the papers; most of them can be identified at least by their occupation; and in many cases the material is more forthcoming. They are chiefly either West Indian planters and surveyors or English merchants with interests in the West Indies. Concerning the latter, William Hewitt was deeply immersed in the world of London finance and adversely involved with several bankruptcies. This involvement is well documented; and the financial historian of the period may well profit from examining this aspect of the papers.

There are a number of letters of Lord Lifford in the collection. However, though Lord Lifford was Lord Chancellor of Ireland, there is very little material in these letters which relates to Irish affairs. Despite his lofty office, Lifford himself was never a front-ranking politician.

The collection spans the period of the American Revolutionary War and the West Indies were an important theatre of the naval conflict. For the years 1779-80, there is much detailed information about military and naval movements in the West Indies.
4 CONTENTS OF THE HEWITT PAPERS

The following Calendar of the papers was compiled by Christine E. Micklem (First Deposit, items 1-342) and Paul Kelly (Second Deposit items 343-507) when they were members of staff in the University of London Library. The material has been organised into groups by the two archivists. Within each group, the material is arranged chronologically.

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1759-63 (with one additional entry 1773). 'Entry Book 1759'. England. 1 vol.; bound in vellum.


1756-68. 'Entry of the Goods sent to the... [illegible]'. Notes of letters sent, and accounts. West Indies. 1 vol.; exercise book, engraved paper wrapper. p.box.

1766-69. Various accounts. West Indies. 'Memorandum Book'. 1 vol.; bound in leather, interleaved with blotting paper. p.box.

1768-69. 'Mr. William Hewitt with [blank]'. Accounts. West Indies. 1 vol.; bound in vellum. p.box.

1769-72. Accounts and diary (notes of letters sent). West Indies. 1 vol.; paper wrapper, interleaved with blotting paper. p.box.

1770-74. Various accounts. West Indies. 1 vol.; paper wrapper. p.box.

1770-71. Accounts; lists of laundry (clothing and linen), and inventories of goods. West Indies. 1 vol.; bound in leather; interleaved with blotting paper. p.box.

1770-73. Monthly cash accounts, various. West Indies. 1 vol.; paper wrapper. p.box.

1772-77. Various accounts. West Indies. 1 vol.; paper wrapper. p.box. (12E/1-4 at pp.19 and 20 of this vol.)

128/1-4 n.d. Loose leaves found in 12A, two of which bear the hand of Thomas Lane. [See Newton Estate Papers Ms.523.]


1756-81. England and West Indies. Various accounts, receipts, notes, bills of exchange and protests. Each item arranged chronologically, according to its latest date. As far as it was possible to separate them from official accounts, these are private. Vol.I pieces 1-178 (1756-78) and Vol.II pieces 179-369 (1778-81).
Dealinge with Edward Hewitt, merchant, of London.


n.d. note of monetary calculations.


1779, 24 Aug. The original bill.


1779, 21 Sept. The original bill.
1780, 10 June. Protest of William Hewitt's bill on Lifford to Richard Eaton.

[1779, 7 Dec.] The original bill (part of).


1780, 19 Sep. The original bill.


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1780, 14 Sep. The original bill.


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1780, 23 Oct. Similar invoice to 38, listing different goods.


1781, 10 Jul. Invoice of goods sent by Edward Hewitt to William Hewitt, Barbados.

1781, 7 Feb. Wrapper.

(42-47) Other documents of financial character.


1777-78. Bills of lading for goods sent by Lewis Chauvet to William Hewitt.

1772. Bill of lading for coffee sent by William Hewitt to Chauvet.

1777. Bill of lading for trunks and cases sent from London to Dominica by William Hewitt.

1783, 18 Feb. Notes by Thomas Lane on the estate of William Hewitt.
n.d. Notes of debts to and from William Hewitt (after his death in 1781).

Diary of voyage to West Indies.

1766, 17 Sep. - 4 Nov. William Hewitt, diary of his voyage to the West Indies; (voyage not completed in this diary). 1 vol. notebook, paper wrapper.

Letters received, in chronological order.

1772, 28 Sep. n.a. Daseoth.
1772, 10 Nov. Dublin. William Hewitt [nephew].
1774, 28 June. Temple [London]. James Womell to 'My Dear Governor' about the Scots in the West Indies. [To Governor Montfort Brown]
1775, 10 Jan. n.a. E. Freeman.
1776, 10 Sep. Dumfries. Joseph Hewitt 'the officer'.
1776, 12 Nov. Mincing Lane, Harrison and Poole. With account of sales of sugar.


1777, 5 May. Michael Keane.

1777, 13 May. La Soys. R.G.Bruce.


1777, 17 May. n.a. John Gay, about an annuity which he has not paid to William Hewitt.

1777, 6 Aug. London. [From?] Incomplete.


1778, 13 March. Lancaster. Rawlinson.


1778, 18 Dec. n.a. Governor Valentine Morris.


1779, 7 March. Coventry. Joseph Hewitt [brother].


1779, 22 March. Antigua. William J.Glanville.

1779, 24 March. n.a. Gregg.


1779, 30 March. Dominica. Donaugho.


1779, 4 April. Dominica. Abraham Shaw.
1779, 5 April. Dublin. Lifford.
1780, 13 Feb. Antigua. Dickinson, with copy of 106 only.
1780, 11 April. n.a. Redwar to Henry Fisher about lodgings for William Hewitt.
1780, 4 May. Dominica. Shaw.
1780, 10 May. Antigua. Dickinson.
1780, 25 May. Tobago. Alexander Stiven [i.e. Stevens].
1780, 21 June. n.a. John Paul.
1781, 7 Jan. 'Colledge.' J. Vaughan.
1781, 10 Jan. Dublin. Lifford.
1781, 30 Jan. n.a. Raggett.
1781, 31 Jan. Raggett. (n.a.)
125 1781, 6 March. n.a. Raggett.

126 1781, 6 March. Parliament Street. James and John Mayrick refuse to honour Hewitt’s bill on the Lords of the Treasury.

127 1781, 28 March. Dominica. Shaw.


(129-141) Letters received, undated. In alphabetical order of writer.

129 Lord Beauchamp to William Hewitt in England. From Stanhope Street, Nov. 1. [1775]

130 Lewis Chauvet to William Hewitt in England. 'Friday'.

131 Connor to William Hewitt.

132 Connor to William Hewitt in Dominica. From Kingstown, 16 June.

133 William Dickinson to William Hewitt at Saint Vincent.

134 William Forbes to William Hewitt.

135 Garraway to William Hewitt. 'Thursday morning'.


137 Morris to William Hewitt at ‘Kingston’. 'Friday night'.

138 Morris to William Hewitt. 'Saturday night.'

139 John Nugent to William Hewitt at Mount Prospect.

140 Joseph Senhouse, Barbados, to William Hewitt. 21 May.

141 Thomas Shirley, Governor, to William Hewitt at Roseau.

(142-151) Drafts and copies of letters sent by William Hewitt, in chronological order.

142 1776-80. 'Commissioner Hewitt’s Book of Private Accts'; contains all but 3ff. copies of letters sent. 1 vol., foolscap, paper wrapper.
143 1769, 2 May. Dominica. To Freeman and Mason. [Incomplete].
144 1777, 12 June. Dominica. To Chauvet and Turquand, London.
145 1778, 8 Aug. Dominica. To Chauvet and Turquand?
146 1778, 10 Aug. Dominica. To Lifford?
147 1778, 1 Nov. Dominica. To Senhouse, Barbados.
149 1779, 12 March. n.a. To William Taylor and Frith?
150 1780, 24 Nov. - 1781, 28 March. Copies and abstracts of several letters sent.
151 1781, 27 March. Barbados. To ?, with part of another letter sent.

(152-159) Copies of letters sent, undated. In alphabetical order of recipient:

152 To Lord Beauchamp. February.
153 To Dickinson in Antigua.
154 To Lord Germain.
155 To Lifford.
156 To Monsieur Lingé, in French.
157 To Ellistone and John Perotz, merchants in Antigua. Instructions. Also notes of other letters sent.
158-159 To General Vaughan.

(160-163) Copies of letters sent, undated and unaddressed.

160 To 'Your Lordships' [of the Treasury?] about a governorship.
161 To 'My Lord' about governorship of Barbados.
162 Letter of recommendation for Mr. Eyers.
Documents concerning personal property (land).

Bond conveying payment for Crown lands in Dominica bought by William Hewitt personally:

164/1-4 1769, 14 May. 11 lots: 30 acres and 10 town and garden lots at Prince Rupert's Bay, bought for £324. Also 3 other copies.

165/1-3 1769, 15 June. 5 lots: 446 acres and 3 town lots, £525. Also 2 other copies.

166/1-4 1769, 8 April. 1 lot: 255 acres, £344.5.o. Also 3 other copies.

167/1-4 1770, 10 April. 2 lots: 446 acres, £1174. Also 3 other copies.

168/1-3 1772, 6 May. 2 lots: 190 acres and 1 town lot, £575.5.o. Also 2 other copies.

169 1769, 10 April. King George III, by Ulysses Fitz-Maurice, Commander in Chief of the Caribbean Islands, to Marcus and Ulysses Lynch. (Crown) grant of land at Roseau, with Great Seal of the Southern Caribbean Islands, (detached, in bag), with documents in p.box.


172 1770, 8 Feb. Henry Rice and wife to John Woodville, conveyance of house and land at Roseau. p.box.


175 1770, 24 July. Bond between William Hewitt and Eyam to perform covenants in a mortgage (i.e. concerning the above conveyance).


180 1775, 1 May. Articles of agreement between William Hewitt and James Roche McGrath concerning the purchase of land in Dominica.

181 1777, 4 Oct. Receipt, William Hewitt paid to Elizabeth Miahart for house and 3 lots of land.


183 Plan of 17 lots surrounding, not all abutting on, estate of William Hewitt.

(184-211) Documents concerning personal property (slaves).

Purchase and hiring:


187 1769, 21 Dec. Bond between Woodville and Hewitt for payment of above annuity.


Lists and valuations of slaves:
197 n.d. List of 108 slaves conveyed from Powars to James Ballmer, with some marked 'Mr Hewitt's' and an added note: 'Only 42 living Aug 19, 1777'.
200 List similar to no. 197 above—with different names marked.
201 n.d. Abstract of the 42 slaves leased to Powars and mortgaged to William Hewitt.
202 n.d. 'An abstract of ye names of ye 12 last slaves mortgaged to Powar'.
203 n.d. 'Negroes alive the property of the Honble William Hewitt Esq' when conveyed by Francis Powars Esq' to Jas Ballmer'.
204 n.d. 'List of contract negroes'.
205 n.d. '. . . the names of the negroes shown by Mr. Gren [Grao?] and agreed on'.
206 n.d. 'Valuation of Eight Negroes belonging to William Hewitt Esq.' ('Appraissment of Eyres Negress'.)
207-208 n.d. Two unspecified lists of slaves, the former c. 1778.
209 n.d. 'Abstract of what negroes are now on Powars estate'.
(212-230) Letters of attorney and related papers.


216 1774, 9 Nov. London. William Hewitt, instructions to his attorneys in the West Indies. (See 213).


218 n.d. Instructions regarding ownership of slaves.

Papers of James Hewitt as attorney to William Hewitt.


221 1781, 12 June. Dominica. Shaw to James Hewitt at Saint Eustatius or Tortola.


228 1778, 23 Sep. James Hewitt, order on Vance and Caldwell to Benjamin Sandford, and receipt.


(Personal legal papers. The papers for each case were found together, according to Mr. Rawlal, who first examined them.)

Case against Isaac Cossart:

1766-1770. Three almost identical accounts of William Hewitt with Cossart.


1770, 11 Apr. Protest of William Hewitt's bill on Cossart to Lovell and Morson.

1769, 8 Dec. The original bill.

Statement of case against Cossart, 1769-1779, and opinion of John Burke (Saint Vincent, 26 June 1779).

Case against Robert Smith the Younger:

Letters:


1772, 3 Nov. Aldermanbury. Smith to William Hewitt, with account.


'27 Oct. answered'. Draft of letter from William Hewitt to Smith?

Case against Smith, with opinion of James Wallace, Lincoln's Inn, 26 Nov. 1774.


1775, 18 Feb. Copy of order made by Apsley on this case.


Wrapper for these.

Case against Lewis Chauvet and Peter Turcuand.

1772, 1 May. London. Chauvet and Turcuand to William Hewitt in Dominica, with copies of letters of 1 and 20 April.


1777, 3 Sep. Chauvet and Turcuand to William Hewitt in Dominica, with complete copy of letter of 6 Aug. 1777.


[1777, 13 Nov]. Chauvet and Turcuand to William Hewitt.

1778, 10 Jan. Chauvet and Turcuand to William Hewitt.


1778, 6 May. Copy of 264/1, with copies of Chauvet’s letters of 9 and 12 Mar. 1778.


1778, 6 Jan. The original bill.


1778, 9 Jan. The original bill.

1779, 2 Nov. Note by Smyth.


1778, 9 Mar. The original bill.


1778, 15 Mar. The original bill.


1778, 20 Apr. The original bill.


1778, 21 Apr. The original bill.
1772, 15 Aug. Receipts from James Masfen for two promissory notes from William Hewitt, drawn on Chauvet.

1772, 15 Aug. One of the above-mentioned notes receipted.


1777. Similar account, not receipted.


n.d. 'Papers in the matter of Hewitt against Chauvet. Abstract of his [Chauvet's] debts & credits'.

1778-79. Two similar but not identical accounts of sales of effects of Chauvet and Turquand.

1778. Account of William Hewitt with Marshal's Office.

1778. Similar account, for levy on Chauvet and Turquand's effects.

1779, 9 Mar. Similar account, different items.

Transactions with Benjamin Graham, to whom William Hewitt assigned the execution against Chauvet and Turquand.

1779, 26 Nov. Receipt, William Hewitt paid to Graham.


1780. Similar account, different items.

1780-81. Similar account, different again, receipted 26 Apr. 1781.

1781, 16 Mar. Receipt, Graham received from Thomas and Charles Court.

1781, 29 Mar. Certificate that writ of execution against Chauvet & Co., 30 June 1778, and assignment of execution to Graham by W. Hewitt, 2 Dec. 1779, are true copies.

1781, 30 Mar. Certificate that execution was levied.
[1781, 30 Mar.] Note that estate levied was sold before assignment was made. Note torn from foot of 299.


Case against James Ballmer:

1773, 1 Aug. Ballmer, account with William Hewitt concerning slaves.


Copy of above.

1775, 12 Jan. Letter from Ballmer to William Hewitt at Charles Street, Marylebone.


1774, 8 June. All 3 copies of Henry Mourge's bill on Ballmer to William Hewitt. (Two on one sheet.)

1778. Account, Ballmer with William Hewitt.

1778. Similar account, not quite identical.

Miscellaneous agreements:

1777, 17 May. Between William Hewitt and Elizabeth Miashart, about his renting her house in Roseau.

1777, 4 Nov. Between William Hewitt and Stephen Seves, on household repairs, etc., in Dominica.

1780, 12 Nov. Between William Hewitt and Bridges, on Hewitt's renting room in Barbados.

Legal expenses:

1769-72. William Hewitt and John Woodville, legal account with Charles Winstone.

1770-72. William Hewitt, legal account with Charles Winstone.


1774-76. William Hewitt, legal account with George Jemmett.


(321-322) Official appointments:

1771, 18 March. Saint Vincent, Robert Melville, Governor-in-Chief of the Southern Caribbeans Islands, appointment of William Hewitt as one of his aides-de-camp for Dominica, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.


(323-331) Official papers concerning land:

1765-71. Tobago land sales register. with memorial and report for 1776. 1 vol.

1765-73. Saint Vincent land sales register. 1 vol. Also gives the names of the previous French owners.

1772-78. Saint Vincent land sales instalment book. Copy, with payments due 1766-78. 1 vol.

1773. Minutes of Board for disposal of Crown lands relating to Saint Vincent and Dominica. 1 vol., mainly blank, including copies of letters, etc., respecting petitions, 1777.

1777-81. Dominica. List of complainants about land surveys.

1777. Dominica. Reports to the Treasury Commissioners by W.H. on petitions received.

1777-78. Dominica. Disposal of Crown lands, etc.: 1

1 1777. Notes of grants of poor settlers' lots.


4 [1778?} Note by William Hewitt about Mr. Rogerson, a prospective land purchaser.
1777-78. Dominica. Surveys, maps and correspondence, from surveyors Isaac Werden, William Rose, Joseph Bridges and John Donaughy:

3. 1778, 9 May. Copy of letter from James Hewitt to Isaac Werden.
5. 1778, 10 Nov. Letter from Werden to William Hewitt.
7. n.d. Similar account.
8. 1777. William Hewitt, account with William Rose, for salary, etc.
9. 1778. Similar account with Rose.
10. 1778, 1 Jul. Similar account with Rose.
11. 1778, 1 Jun. William Hewitt, account with Werden for expenses, etc.
18. 1778. Plan of land granted to John Roche, Werden.
20. 1778. Plan of land granted to Stephen Hewit, Donaughy.

1767-80. Dominica, Saint Vincent and Tobago. Accounts of expenses for land sales, travelling, stationery, etc.

1. 1770, 27 March. William Hewitt, account with Sir William Young, Receiver.
2. 1770, 25 Sep. Similar account.
3. 1772. 20 May. Similar account.
4. 1776-77. Rough account, Governor Shirley with William Hewitt.
7. 1777-79. Similar account.
9. 1778, Nov. Similar account, Benoni Hawkes.
10. 1780. Similar account.
Printed land grant form, unused, dated 1778.

Miscellaneous papers.

Papers concerning John Stokes of Coventry, bankrupt. William Hewitt was one of his assignees.

1 1756, 10 Nov. Stokes. Promissory note to William Hewitt.
2 1759-64. William Hewitt, account with executor of Thomas Cobb, deceased. Finally receipted 1776.
3 1759, 19 April. Bond between Stokes and William Hewitt.
4 1761. Account, William Hewitt, 'surviving assignee of John Stokes, a bankrupt'.
5 1766. William Hewitt, further account with executor of Cobb.
6 1773. James Paris, account of the commission against Stokes.
7A 1773. William Hewitt, account with Jemmet.
7B William Hewitt, account with George Jemmet received 26 Oct. 1773.
8 1773, account, incomplete.
10 1773, 26 Oct. Similar receipt.
13 n.d. Mr. Cotes, note and memoranda to William Hewitt.

Papers concerning Thomas and John Hetherington.

1 1765, 29 June. John Twiss, bond for land in Dominica.
2A 1765, 22 June. Thomas Hetherington, bond for land in Dominica.
2B 1765, 22 June. Thomas Hetherington, bond for land in Dominica.
3 1769, 8 April. Thomas Hetherington, bond for land in Dominica.
7 1769, 23 Jan. William Hewitt, promissory note to Thomas Hetherington.
8 1770. Charles Winstone, account with William Hewitt, attorney to John Hetherington.
9 1770, 24 April. Receipt, John Robinson, administrator of estate of Thomas Hetherington, paid to Dominica land commission.
10 1770, 10 Aug. Receipt, William Hewitt paid to John Robinson.


n.d. Memoranda.


1778. London. Letter from Joseph Walker to Thomas Fulham, Dominica, asking for payment of a debt.


n.d. 'Inventory of furniture in Carys house'.

n.d. Memoranda about leases of land.

n.d. Part of draft of a letter or petition.

n.d. Miscellaneous memoranda.

Newspaper cutting of advertisement of William Hewitt's departure from Roseau, 1778.
Drafts and copies of letters by W.H.


344/1-2  1776, 26 Dec. [London]. To the Treasury Board. Concerning the petition of Christopher Baldwin. There is also a separate note by John Robinson, dated 1 Nov. 1776, referring the matter to W.H.


346  [1777]. [St Vincent]. To General Valentine Morris. W.H. wants an appointment to see Morris 'before Thursday next'.

347  1778, 7 Oct. Dominica. To Monsieur Lingé. In compliance with Lingé's request, sends a copy of his commission, and of the warrant on General Thomas Shirley, the Receiver-General, for his salary, together with a copy of his instructions from the Treasury 'by which you see that I never had the receiving [of] any Moneys belonging to the Crown'.

348  1778, 1 Nov. Dominica. To Thomas and Rowland Hunt. Encloses the Paymaster's bill for £500. Complains about his detention by the French on Dominica 'in violation to every treaty & ye Articles of Capitulation'.


350  1779, 1 Jan. St Vincent. To the Secretary of the Treasury. Concerning the corruption of the collectors of quit-rents, the payments of his drafts, and the conditions of his detention on Dominica. Add: '... Governor Morris's conduct I am afraid will cause such disunion in this young Colony as will check the progress of its Prosperity'.

351  1779, 9 Jan. St Vincent. To [the Secretary of the Treasury]. Concerning the collection of quit-rents; the debts of £4000 left by Archibald Ingram, the collector of quit-rents who is now dead; and the harmful conduct of Governor Valentine Morris.
1779, 2 Feb. [St. Vincent]. To Lord George Germain. Complains about the conditions of his detention on Dominica: "My fortune & health have been much hurt by the severity of their [the French] treatment making me responsible for transactions under the late Commission". Wants to be appointed to the Governorship of St. Vincent which will soon be vacant.

1779, 2 Apr. [St Lucía]. 'Heads of a Letter sent to the Lords [of the Treasury] ....... Via St Lucía". Concerning his salary.

Two ff. containing two drafts.

[1779, May]. [Tobago]. To Lord George Germain. Will be happy if his work will improve the lot of those living in Tobago.

[1779, May]. [Tobago]. To Lord [George Germain]. Has suffered much in the service of the Crown - refers to his detention by the French on Dominica.

1779, 6 May. Tobago. To Thomas Rogers at St Vincent. "It is possible the business of this country may detain me longer than I expected. You'll therefore order the Attorney General & Mr Thripps to go on in their proceedings at Law, that the forfeited & abandoned Town Lotts in St Vincent may be brought to sale; at the same time to enforce payment of the Instalments non die, as I have no petition....... praying any reliefs from ye ....... Lords of his Majesty's Treasury".

1779, 26 May. Tobago. To G. Franklyn. Concerning quit-rents on Tobago.

1779, 1 June. Tobago. To Edward Hewitt. Wants Edward Hewitt to call on John Robinson at the Treasury to see if W.H.'s commission is renewed. And: "I am much pleased with this Island tho the planters in general are much distress'd & want some relief".

1779, 3 June. Tobago. To Lord George Germain. W.H.'s reason for going to Tobago was to quiet the minds of the planters and to take stock of the situation in order to report to the Treasury. En voyage to Tobago was chased by an American privateer. Governor Morris takes his leave for Europe on the June fleet. Lord Macartney talks of leaving his Governorship of Grenada about Dec. next. "Whether their removal will operate in my favour I don't pretend to say".

[1779, May-June]. [Tobago]. To Lord Lifford. En voyage to Tobago, was chased by an American privateer for twelve hours. Is much hurt at not hearing from Lifford for near five months. The French have been reinforced by five ships of the line lately arrived at Martinique. D'E斯塔ing remains in Fort Royal harbour: "... he does not seem to be the fighting Admiral".
1779, 3 June. Tobago. To Thomas & Rowland Hunt. Has not heard from the Hunts for six months. Reasons for going to Tobago. Dominica being in the hands of the French, W.H. has fixed his H.Q. on St Vincent.

[1779, June?]. Tobago. To the Treasury Board. Report on the state of Tobago.

1779, 21 Sept. Barbados. To the Treasury Board. Concerning the petition of Dr Robert Walton of Tobago.

Eight ff. Thirteen drafts and copies:

[1779-80]. [Barbados]. To the Treasury Board. Concerning the payment of his bills and salary.

1780, 29 May. Barbados. To John Robinson. Rodney has met the French fleet. The Sandwich suffered much in the first engagement. Three ships were a little disabled in the second engagement, and one has gone to St Lucia to refit. The French have taken a sloop, the Fortune. News has come from Lisbon that the Spanish fleet, consisting of ten ships of the line and ten frigates and sloops, have sailed with seventy transports to the West Indies. W.H. thinks that Jamaica is their object. "The Admiral & Gen. Vaughan spend next Sunday with me & it will give me great pleasure to lay before them every information that my long residence in the West Indies has furnish'd me with".


1780, 21 Sept. List of letters that went out on the Thynne, 21 Sept.

1780, 22 Sept. Barbados. To John Robinson. Complains about the non-payment of his salary. And: 'I am tired of remaining in this Sickly Climate'.


1780, 19 Aug. Barbados. 'Send by Mr [James] Hewitt to be Lodged with my Attorney in Dominica'. Concerning his finances.

1780, 24 Nov. Barbados. To [---]. Concerning his demands on the Treasury.

Lists of letters sent out.

1780, Apr. Barbados. To the Treasury Board. Concerning his salary. Has given useful information to General Vaughan and Admiral [Barrington?].


Undated drafts and copies by W.H.

364 n. pl. Unaddressed. Headed 'Appendix'.

365 n. pl. Unaddressed. Concerning quit-rents on one of the islands.

366 [1779, Jan.–Mar.?]. [St. Vincent?]. To Sir Grey Cooper. Concerning W.H.'s work on the island. Claims to have 'changed ye appearance of ye Country'. As the Governor [Valentine Morris?] is going home 'who may represent things in a dubious light, your friendship may be wanted to explain any little mean Artifice that fosters in a bad mind'.

367 Two drafts.

[1779?]. [Tobago?]. To Lord George Germain. [Incomplete]. Representatives of the island have thanked W.H. for 'the essential Service I have been productive of in the Colony as well as for my great attention to His Majesty's Service'. They want W.H. to signify the distresses of the colony to the Treasury.

n. pl. To Sir Grey Cooper 'to lay before the Lords of the Treasury'. Encloses the address 'as yr. Lordships may make use of ... to promote my Interest .... as you may see necessary'.

368 n. pl. Unaddressed. On one side there are details of personal items that W.H. wants sent to him from St. Vincent. On the other side, there is what appears to be the end of a rough draft of a letter concerning the distresses experienced by the settlers on the island of Tobago.

369 n. pl. Unaddressed. Part of a rough draft concerning his salary.

Letters to W.H. and Lord Lifford up to 1781.

370 1766, 10 Jan. 'Letter from Mr. [Grey] Cooper to the Commissioners for the Sale of Lands in the Ceded Islands in answer to their Report of the 12th. of August 1765'. Gives the Treasury Board's decision on a number of proposals made by the commissioners for the sale of lands in the Ceded Islands.

371 1775, 9 May. James Ballmer to W.H. Assures him that Mr. [Henry] Murgie's bill will be paid.
1775, 17 Dec. Lord Beauchamp to W.H. 'At every board [of the Treasury] before I left town I endeavoured to bring forward the business of your commission but the weight of other business depending was I apprehend the only occasion of its being postponed. During my absence from London I must refer you to Sir Grey Cooper, who shewed so [much] readiness to carry your wishes into effect, and on my return (the I hope it will be finished before) I shall certainly not neglect your commands'.

[1776], 23 Feb. Lord Beauchamp to W.H. 'I have been in Yorkshire since I last saw you at the Treasury, and was therefore unable to say whether any further proceedings have been had in your business at the Board. I am sorry to find that the delay is so inconvenient to you, but you must be sensible that it is not in my power to expedite it. I have been seldom there without enquiring when your commission would be forwarded, and have stated the hardships of your situation as forcibly as I could. I am sorry I cannot do more for your service.' I recommended your case to Mr [Charles Wolfram] Cornwall's attention when I left town, who promised to think of it'.

1776, 5 Mar. Sir Grey Cooper to W.H. Has laid his request before Lord North who would have been glad to appoint W.H. Inspector General of the Leeward Islands, had that not been a special temporary appointment which has already answered the purpose for which it was created. Concerning the other application, the Treasury Board will give W.H. preference if one or more commissioners are to be appointed for the sale of the residue of the lands in St Vincent.

1776, 28 Mar. Sir John Irwin to Lord Lifford. Has laid W.H.'s case before Lord George Germain, Lord North, John Robinson, Charles Wolfram Cornwall and the other members of the Treasury Board. Advises Lifford to write to Lord North direct: '... you know how difficult it is to get Lord North to come to a decision'.

1776, 14 Apr. Governor Thomas Shirley of Dominica to W.H. Concerning the discharge of a debt by W.H.


1776, 9 Aug. John Robinson to W.H. Is instructed by the Treasury Board 'to transmit to you the inclosed Memorial and Papers [see 412] relative to the Islands of Tobago and Dominica; and I am to signify to you their Lordships' direction to consider the same and report to the Board what is fit to be done therein'.

37
1776, 25 Oct. John Robinson to the commissioners for the sale of lands in the Ceded Islands. The Treasury Board requires the commissioners to deliver to it 'all the Surveys, Plans &c. made by your orders of the lands in the ceded Islands', and that copies should be sent to the Governor of each of the islands.

1777, 29 Jan. Sir Grey Cooper to W.H. Concerning the petition of Christopher Baldwin.

1777, 24 Apr. Abraham Harris to W.H. 'I have instructions from Messrs. Hunt of London to offer you their House, either on rent, or for sale...'.

1777, 20 June. Governor Thomas Shirley to W.H. Concerning the liberties taken by William Pulteney. 'You have from him, Sir, a specimen of the Difficulties...affecting the Object of your appointment'.

1777, 23 June. Alexander Forbes in Montserrat to W.H. Concerning his memorial which W.H. has sent to the Treasury.

1777, 9 Sept. Henry Wilmot to Lord Lifford. Has been visiting the Bishop of St Asaph [Jonathan Shipley] 'who is a very excellent man, & an old friend of mine, tho' we don't agree about America, & therefore never talk upon the Subject'. Rest of the letter concerns the method of appointing Masters in Chancery in the Ceded Islands.

1777, 14 Sept. Lord George Germain to Lord Lifford. Promises to do his best for W.H.

1777, 29 Nov. Governor Thomas Shirley to W.H. Has no office money to answer W.H.'s demand but will willingly lend him a hundred 'Johanneses' if he wants them at once. (Note: 100 'Johanneses' was the equivalent of £330 sterling in contemporary money)


1778, 16 Mar. Governor Shirley to W.H. Shirley will shortly be going to England and must explain to the Treasury 'the present state of the Revenue arising from the Sale of Lands in the Ceded Islands & for which purpose I am endeavouring to make myself Master of every particular relative thereto'. Wants W.H. to send him a copy of his instructions and an account of all transactions pertaining to the sale of lands.
1778, 30 June. Henry Wilmot to W.H. Lord George Germain cannot appoint W.H. as an additional Master in Chancery as he thinks 'he can't do it with any Propriety without being certified by... the Governor that an additional Master is requisite'.

1778. Three letters to W.H. from the French authorities at Dominica, concerning W.H.'s commission:

4 Oct. The Marquis Duchilleau.

1778, 5 Nov. Lord Macartney to W.H. Has written to Germain and Lifford 'to acquaint them with your situation. I flatter myself that you have nothing to apprehend from the French Governor's advertisement. I should think he is acquainted with the nature of your Employment ...'.

1779, 30 May. Lord Macartney to W.H. Congratulates W.H. 'on the recovery of your Liberty & your safe arrival at Tobago'. Will be happy to supply him with information about Tobago; but this is best done by conversation rather than by letter.

Undated Letters

Governor Shirley to W.H. Concerning the instalments of William Pulteney and William Mackintosh.

[1779?]. 'Saturday morning'. Thomas Rogerson at St Vincent to W.H. 'I shall be ready to give you every assistance with respect to any Monies that may be due to you from Government as soon as it is in my power'. Will not leave the island 'until the very last extremity'. His books and papers are packed up in a safe place in case of any immediate danger.


[1781, Jan.-Apr.]. 'Friday Morn.' General Vaughan to W.H. Endorsed by W.H. 'Genl. Vaughan's Account of my Plans being destroyed'.

(See also 431-2)

[1780]. 'Monday Noon'. General John Vaughan to W.H. Cannot lend W.H. any money 'as the General has no other Connection with the money in his hands than what relates to the publick issue of it'.

[1778?]. Governor Thomas Shirley to W.H. Sends all the intelligence he has relative to the Angel Convoy.
[1779]. 'Monday morning'. Jonathan Atkinson at St Vincent to W.H. Has been appointed the Receiver by Governor Valentine Morris. Cannot give his accounts to anybody except the Treasury or the Governor.

Letters from Thomas & Rowland Hunt.

401/1-5 1777-83. Five letters to W.H., and one of 1783 to Joseph Hewitt of Coventry, concerning W.H.'s financial affairs:
1 1777, 11 Feb.
2 1778, 5 Sept.
3 (a, b, & c)1779, 6 Mar. Three copies.
4 1779, 20 May.
5 1779, 3 Dec.
6 1783, 18 Nov. To Joseph Hewitt of Coventry.

Official papers of W.H.

402 1764, 24 Mar. Instructions from the Treasury Board to be observed by the commissioners for disposing of certain lands in the Ceded Islands.

403 1764, 6 Dec. Copy of instructions, issued by the Treasury Board, to the commissioners for the sale of lands in the Ceded Islands.

404 1765, 28 Apr. "Reservations of Lands in the Island of Dominica for public Uses, proposed by Governor [George] Scott to His Majesty's Commissioners for the Sale and Disposal of Lands in the Southern Caribbean Islands'.

405 1767, 7 Mar. Appointment of commissioners to sell land in the Ceded Islands. The commissioners are to be William Young, John Hunt, Robert Stewart, Robert Wynne and Hugh Graeme. The last being lately deceased, W.H. is appointed in his stead.


407 [1774], 20 May. Award by the British government of £2000 for his work in the Ceded Islands.
1775, 6 July. To the Treasury Board. The petition of René Vincent, a planter of St Vincent, and John Baptiste Emmanuel, a free negro.

1777, 10 Jan. A note affixed by John Robinson referring the petition to W.H.

1776, 4 July. 'Instructions for William Hewitt Esq. appointed a Commissioner for adjusting the differences that have arisen or may arise in respect to sales of lands in the Islands of Grenada, the Grenadines, St Vincent, Dominica, and Tobago'.

1776, 4 July. King's warrant for the appointment of W.H.


1776, Apr. The petition of the House of Assembly of Dominica.

1776, 24 July. Memorial of Alexander Forbes, referred to W.H. (See also 394)


1777, 1 May. St Vincent. W.H. to Governor Valentine Morris. '...I must take the liberty of making known to your Excellency that the Instructions of Government are that no lands shall be given away in the Ceded Islands without direct & fresh instructions from the Right Honourable Lords of his Majesty's Treasury'.

1777, 15 May. W.H. to Governor Thomas Shirley. Concerning the payment of instalments at Dominica and the Treasury's instructions on the matter.

1776, 9 Aug. John Robinson to Governor Shirley. Concerning the payment of instalments.


(On these last three letters, see 412/1-8).

1776-9. 'Copy of the several Letters ... concerning the Tobago Instalments'.

1776, 2 Aug. Extract from the Treasury Board minutes.

1776, 9 Aug. John Robinson to W.H.

1776, 9 Aug. John Robinson to Governor Thomas Shirley.

1779, 3 Feb. William Pulteney to Sir Grey Cooper.


1779, 5 Feb. John Robinson to W.H.

1779, 6 Feb. John Spotteswood [agent for Tobago] to the Committee of Correspondence, Tobago.

The whole document is endorsed: 'To be entered in a Book with the Tobago transactions'.

41
1776-9. Copybook. [This is the 'Book' referred to in the endorsement on 415]. 23 ff.

1 1776, 2 Aug. Extract from Treasury Board minutes.
2 1776, 9 Aug. John Robinson to W.H.
3 1776, 9 Aug. John Robinson to Governor Shirley.
4 [1779, 5 Feb.]. William Pulteney to Sir Grey Cooper.
7 1779, 6 Feb. John Spotteswood to the Committee of Correspondence, Tobago.
8 [1779]. Memorial of the Council and Assembly of Tobago.
9 1779, 31 Apr. 'Arrived at Tobago and the next day published the following advertisement'. MS draft.
10 1779, 11 May. W.H. to Lord Macartney.
11 1779, 10 May. 'Published by 100 hand Bills the following advertisement. Tobago'. MS draft.
12 Copy of the printed handbill (loose folio).
13 1779, 1 June. W.H. to John Robinson.
14 1779, 1 June. W.H. to Lord George Germain.
15 1779, 1 June. W.H. to Lord Lifford.
17 1779, 1 June. List of letters sent out.


418A [1778, Nov.]. Incomplete draft by W.H. promising to pay 3,300 livres 'to acquit myself towards Monsieur Lainger [Lingé] of all demands and Indemnifications...'.

418B [1778], 20 Oct. 'Account of Books in Lingé's hands forced from me'. Draft by W.H.

419/1-2 Two passes, one in French and one in English, allowing W.H. to leave Dominica. Dated 3 Dec. 1778 and valid for eight days.

420 1779, 20 Apr. Printed handbill, issued by the Receiver-General, demanding immediate payment of quit-rents [St Vincent?].

Financial Papers of W.H.

422A 1773, 7 Feb. Received on account from W.H. £30. Rowland Burton.

422B 1773, 21 Sept. Received on account from W.H. £100. Thomas Hunt.

423 1774, 22 Feb. Received on account from W.H. £102/4/10d. Rowland Hunt.

424 1774, 7 Mar. Received on account from W.H. £350. Thomas Hunt.


(See 407)

427 1775, 17 Feb. Received from W.H. £1091/17/7d 'being the amount of two Bills which we promise to deliver up to be cancelled'. Thomas & Rowland Hunt.


430/1-2 1775, 1 Dec. The Receiver of the Moneys arising from the sale and disposal of lands to Alexander Forbes, salary as Chief Surveyor &c. £5/40/12/4d. [Dominica]. Two copies.

431 1776. Draft of £50 from W.H. to Daniel Patterson 'to drawing a sett of Plans of the Islands of Dominica, St. Vincent, Tobago and Bequia, with Books of References, &c. compleat'.

432 [1776]. Draft of £50 from W.H. to Daniel Patterson 'to money expended on payment of Draftsmen and finding Naterials for a sett of Plans of the Ceded Islands drawn under my inspection'. Endorsed: 'N.B. These plans were given to Genl. Vaughan wch. were destroyed...' (see 357).
W.H.'s account with Thomas & Rowland Hunt, Jan.-Dec. 1774, and 1775. Endorsed: "Mr Hunt's Account Settled... Dec. 14, 1774.".

Received from Robert Vance, 24 May 1776, a Treasury warrant in favour of W.H. for £2000. "The balance due on said warrant I promise to be accountable for to said Vance." Signed by James Hewitt.

1776, 29 May. Signed by James Hewitt, attorney for W.H. "I promise to be accountable to Robert Vance on his order for Eight Hundred and Ninety pounds... being Balance due on a Treasury Warrant in Favour of Mr [William] Hewitt... Transferred Messrs. Tho. & Rowland Hunt, which R. Vance has given me up & I promise to pay the said Vance Interest on the above Balance...".

1776, W.H. to Thomas & Rowland Hunt. Bill.

1776, 17 Sept. Dominica. Received from W.H. by his attorney, James Hewitt, a bill of exchange drawn on James Balmer for £492/9/10d "being in part of a Protested bill of Exchange for £700 Sterling now in our hands". Thomas & Rowland Hunt.

1777, 6 Feb. "Account of the payments made, & the Balance due in for Lotts 17, 18, 19, & 24 in Great River Division in the Island of Tobago, now the Property of William Pulteney Esq.".

Copy. W.H.'s balance due to Thomas & Rowland Hunt, 17 May 1777. £259/15/3d.

By Roger Jones [of Roseau, Dominica] Received, August 4, 1777, of Wm. Hewitt Esq., Commissioner, Thirty seven pounds 15/6 being in full for printing business .....". Together with itemised account in W.H.'s handwriting.

'Hunt's papers as settled by Mr [Abraham] Harris, their Attorney, 9 July 1777.'

1777, 30 July. W.H.'s account from Hunt's.

1777, 13 Aug. Receipt of £20/7/7d by Thomas Fulham of Roseau, Dominica, surveyor, 'being expenses incurred in the service of surveying St. Andrew's Parish' [Dominica]. On the back, itemised personal expenses of W.H.

1777, 27 Aug. Payment by W.H. of £30 to John Lowndes for "4 days employment in making out a new plan of Roseau" [Dominica].

1777, 8 Sept. Payment by W.H. of £21/8s to James Hewitt "for Sundries for the King's Service."
1777, 10 June. Payment of £173/6s by W.H. to Warden & Fulham for "the hire and feeding of 19 Negroes from the 18 of June to the 18 of Aug. 61 days at 3/-. ... Being employed in his Majesties Surveying Service". The names of the nineteen are given.

Instalments remaining due on Stephen Caffarena's land in Dominica up to 15 June 1777.

W.H. to Thomas Fulham of Dominica, salary as Chief Surveyor from 1 May 1777 to 8 Sept. 1777. £137/16/8d.

1777, 1 Sept. W.H. to Thomas Fulham, £60 for "Instruments & Books in London necessary for his Majesty's Surveying Service".

1777, 8 Sept. Dominica. W.H. to William Rose, £73/10s, salary as one of his majesty's surveyors from 16 June to 8 Sept. 1777 at 17/6d per day. And £24/9/5d. for the hire and feeding of six negroes from 16 June to 8 Sept. at 1/9d per day. Total £117/19/5d.

1777, 3 Sept. W.H. to John Lowdes, £5/12s. for "3 days employment in Surveying some impracticable land in the Parish of St. Joseph" [Dominica].

1777. Isaac Warden's account as Chief Surveyor from 8 May to 8 Sept. £246/12/1d. Dominica.


1778, Sept. - Oct. [Dominica?]. Concerning a bill of exchange for £500 drawn by W.H. on the principal offices of H.M. Ordnance. To be charged "to the Account of the works of Fortification and Buildings carried on in this Island".

1778, 12 Sept. Roseau. Dominica. Rowland Hunt to W.H. Demand to pay Hugh Irwin £190 "for value received & place it to Account as per Agreement". (See 455/1-3)

1779, 10 Sept. Exchequer draft for £882/10s by W.H. requesting that the sum be paid to Edward Hewitt & Co., Merchants in London, 'being for one year's salary for myself and Clerk as specified by your Lordships' Warrant'.

1779, 1 Jan. 'Sundry Receipts and payments made by the late Receiver General Archibald Ingram...deceas'd during the time of Mr. Miller being in his Service'.


1776-80. W.H.'s account with the Treasury for his salary.

Account books of W.H.
1...the pocket book of the late Commissioner Mr Wm. Hewitt'. In a paper wrapper with Thomas Lane's address on it.
4a & b Two small account books relating mainly to personal and domestic affairs.

1777-81. King's service account.

Legal papers.

Indentures &c
1 1775, 30 May. Bond for annuity from Stephen Sayre to W.H. Sealed.
2 1775. Lease of lands in Dominica from W.H. to Sayre and Reynolds. Sealed.

1779, 3 Dec. Thomas Beech, deputy provost marshal, to James Hewitt. Conveyance of the plantations of Robert Smith the younger of St. Andrew's parish, Dominica.
Papers relating to the death and funeral of W.H. on St. Eustatius in May 1781.

466/1-9


2. 1781, 21 May. Receipt of £6/12s signed by Mary Hazell 'for nursing & attending the late Commissioner Hewitt'.

3. 1781, 2 June. Payment of £3/18s to Mary Hazell for three days and two nights attendance on W.H.; for shrouding him and laying him out and for other duties at his funeral.

4. Transfer of W.H.'s effects. Received from James Hewitt by Lewis Grant, 30 June 1781, £10/10s. for freight of baggage and stock.

5. 1781, 20 May. Signed by the clerk of the English Church [St. Eustatius]. Burial fees of £7/17/6d.

6. 1781, 9 June. St. Eustatius. Signed by Dr. J. Williams receipt of seven 'Johannes' for attendance on W.H.
   (Note: the exchange rate for one 'Jo' was £3/6s.

7. 1781, 23 May. Payment of £20 to Dr. Goldwin and Dr. Williams for medicines and attendance.

8. 1781, 2 June. Payment of £1/4/9d. to Mrs. Elizabeth Willibey [Willoughby?] for pinning and making the shroud of W.H.

9. Elizabeth Willibey's receipt of £1/4/9d. for pinning and making the shroud.

Drafts, copies and letters of Lord Lifford on the death of W.H.


468. 1781, 31 Dec. Copy to Sir Grey Cooper. James Hewitt has arrived in Dublin. According to him, W.H. died on St. Eustatius on 16 May. After leaving Tobago, W.H. went to Barbados where he was at the time of the hurricane. His house was destroyed and he lay buried for a while among the ruins. He never recovered from his injuries. He went to St. Eustatius with the idea of returning to England from there but died within a few days of his arrival.
   Rest of the letter concerns the non-payment of W.H.'s salary and what is still due to the estate from the government.
1782, 7 Jan. Copy of a letter to Sir Richard Sutton. Has virtually the same contents as the previous letter (468).


1786, 13 Apr. Letter to Thomas Lane. W.H.'s affairs.

Correspondence after the death of W.H. concerning his affairs.


1782, 7 May. James Hewitt to Lord Lifford.

List of papers given to Thomas Lane by Lord Lifford in July 1782.

1782, 31 Dec. Thomas Birch to Thomas Lane.

1783, 1 Jan. Thomas Birch to Thomas Lane.

1783, 25 Mar. Thomas Birch to Thomas & Rowland Hunt.

1783, 3 Apr. Unaddressed. Thomas Lane.


1783, 1 Dec. To Thomas Lane [signature illegible].

1784, 25 Aug. Thomas Steele to Thomas Birch.

[1784?], 5 June. Stephen Sayre to Thomas Lane.

1784, 20 Dec. G. W. Goodenough to Thomas Lane.

1786, 1 July. Stephen Sayre to Thomas Lane.

487 Commissioner Hewitt's account with the Treasury for salary only. Copy.

488/1-3 'A Copy of the late Commissr. Hewitt's Bond to the Lord Chancellor [Lifford] for £1607/4/17d. with Interest for 15 years'.

489 Bill in the possession of Jacob Jenmet of Spital Square, Bishopsgate Street, London, drawn by W.H., dated Dominica 16 Oct. 1778 at six months sight on Thomas Hunt & Co. 'which was duly noted for non acceptance & also for non payment'. Endorsed: 'For Mr Lane, King's Street, W. Hewitt's affairs'.


491 1783, 3 Apr. 'Account of monies paid by the administrator to James Hewitt'. 14 Nov. 1782 to 3 Apr. 1783. £198/7/8.

492 1777-81. W.H.'s account with Caldwell, Vance & Vance.

493/1-8 W.H.'s account with Thomas & Rowland Hunt.


494/1-6 Memorials and petitions of Thomas Birch to the Treasury Board.


496/1-8 1782. Drafts of the agreement between Lord Lifford and his brother, Joseph Hewitt, and Messrs. Chambers & Birch by which Lifford and Joseph Hewitt renounce their powers of administration over the affairs of W.H. into the hands of Thomas Birch, together with the certificate registering the agreement in the ecclesiastical court of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and notes and observations by Lifford and Joseph Hewitt.

497 1786, 12 May. Thomas Birch's conversation with James Hewitt 'who is ready to give any information in the matter'. Concerning W.H.'s estate in Dominica and Alderman William Lee's bills.

1778, "Articles de la Capitulation entre le Marquis de Bouillé, Général des Îles du Vent Françaises, appartenant à sa Majesté très Chrétienne et le Gouverneur Stuart, Commandant en Chef, & les Habitants de l'île Dominique appartenant à sa Majesté Britannique".

1778, 24 Oct. Dominica Gazette. Also a MS copy of the paragraph relating to the departure of W.H. from Dominica; and a cutting from the Gazette which is a paragraph relating to W.H.'s departure.


1781, 21 June. Gazette de la Martinique.

Jones's Almanak for the Pocket for...1778. Printed by Roger Jones, Roseau, Dominica. MS. notes by W.H.

An Almanack calculated for the Island of St. Vincent for...1779. Printed by Joseph Barrow, St. Vincent. MS. notes by W.H.

Map

Endorsed: "Mr. Hunt's remarks upon the unappropriated Land contiguous to Moors refining House. Presented 27 March". Contains a map of the land [Roseau].

n. d. On a separate piece of paper, Rowland Hunt's remarks referred to above.

Plan of Lifford Estate belonging to the Honble. William Hewitt in the Parish of St. Andrew, Dominica, containing 190 acres.

Miscellaneous documents.

13 undated documents, mainly small receipts &c.

Two empty envelopes addressed to W.H. from the Treasury. One is sealed.
5 CONTENTS OF THE FILM

Reel 1 Ms 522/1-14
Reel 2 Ms 522/15-16
Reel 3 Ms 522/17-230
Reel 4 Ms 522/231-342
Reel 5 Ms 522/343-464
Reel 6 Ms 522/465-507
6 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND INDEX OF PERSONS

For the location of other manuscript material pertaining to the Ceded Islands, see Lawrence G. Gipson, A guide to manuscripts relating to the history of the British empire, 1748-1776 (New York: Knopf, 1970). See also the papers in the Report of the Caribbean Archives Conference, held at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, September 20-27, 1965, which add up to a comprehensive survey of West Indian archives. Finally, Lowell J. Ragatz, A guide to the official correspondence of the Governors of the British West India colonies with the Secretary of State, 1763-1832 (Bryan Edwards Press, 1923) provides a useful detailed description of some of the material in the Public Record Office.

There is no easy source of biographical information on the persons mentioned in the Hewitt papers except what is contained in the papers themselves. The only exceptions to this rule are those persons who were British members of parliament whose biographies can be found in Sir Lewis Namier and John Brooke, ed. The House of Commons, 1754-1790 (3 vols. London, 1964). Of the others, I have only found two - Robert Melvill and Jonathan Shipley - in the Dictionary of National Biography; and neither of these two feature at all prominently in the papers. Concerning MPs, I have only included their offices in the index where they are relevant to the papers and have omitted to name the constituencies which they represented in Parliament - this information is not relevant for our purposes and can easily be obtained by reference to Namier and Brooke, ed. The House of Commons. Where no source is given for the information in the index, the source is in fact the documents cited in the right-hand column.

Listed below are the various sources where I have picked up references. In addition, Mrs. Clifton of Warwick University was able to provide some details of the Hewitts and their Coventry connections. With the exception of Debrett's Peerage (which I used only for the lineage of the Hewitt family), an appendix in Jean-Claude Nardin, La mise en valeur de l'Île de Tobago, 1763-1783 (Paris: Mouton, 1969) which contains lists of Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of the southern Caribbean islands, the DNB and Namier and Brooke, ed. The House of Commons, the sources are indicated under the particular entries in the index.

Burke's Landed Gentry of Ireland (1958 edition)
Debrett's Peerage etc (1970 edition)
Gentleman's Magazine
Edward Hughes, North country life in the eighteenth century, II
Cumberland and Westmorland (Oxford University Press, 1965)


Lillian M. Penson, *The colonial agents of the British West Indies: a study in colonial administration, mainly in the eighteenth century* (London University Press, 1924; Cass, 1971)


Ivor Waters, *The unfortunate Valentine Morris* (Chepstow, 1964)
ATKINSON, Jonathan
of Kingstown, St Vincent.
Appointed Receiver of quit-rents in
succession to Archibald Ingram
(g.y.) in 1779 by Governor
Valentine Morris (g.y.).

BALDWIN, Christopher
of London. Owned plantations
in Dominica.

BALLEMER, James.
Merchant of Bishopsgate Street,
London. Owned plantations in
Dominica. Went bankrupt in 1780
(Bailey, ii, 2) owing W.H. £700.

BARING, Francis (1740-1810).
Financier. Chairman of the East
India Company 1792-3. M.P. 1784-
90 and 1794-1806. One of the
assignees to the estate of Chauvet
& Turquand (g.y.).

BAYE, Bernard.
Planter of Dominica.

BEAUCHAMP, Lord. See SEYMOUR-CONWAY.

BEECH, Thomas.
Deputy Provost-Marshall of
Dominica.

BELLAIR, Charles Martin Roger and
Francis Roger.
Owned land in Dominica.

BENSON & POSTLETHWAITE.
Liverpool West India Merchants.

BERNARD, James.
Planter of Dominica.

BEVES (or BEVIS), Stephen.
Planter of Dominica.

BIRCH, Thomas. See CHAMBERS & BIRCH.

BOLTON, John
of [Dominica?].

BRIDGES, Joseph
of Barbados.

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BROCKHURST, B.
Member of Coventry Corporation.

BRUCE, R.G.
Planter of Dominica.

BURKE, John.
Lawyer of St Vincent.

BURTON, Garret Finley (died 1772).
Comptroller of Dominica.

BURTON, Rowland.
London merchant with interests in Dominica.

BYAM, William.
Planter of Dominica.

CAFFARENA, Stephen.
Planter of Dominica.

CALDWELL. See VANCE, CALDWELL & VANCE.

CARTER, Thomas
of [Barbados?].

CATTON. See PAUL & CATTON.

CAZENOVE, J.H.
One of the assignees to the estate of Chauvet & Turquand (G.V.).

CHAMBERS & BIRCH.
Abraham Chambers & Thomas Birch
of St George Hanover Square.
Merchants to whom W.H. was indebted,
and who became the administrators
of W.H.'s estate. The Birch family
was closely connected with Coventry.

CHARLOTTE.
Slave belonging to W.H.

CHAUVET & TURQUAND.
Lewis Chauvet and Peter Turquand.
Merchants of Old Jewry, London.
Owned land in Dominica and Tobago.
Went bankrupt in 1778 and the dividend
was not declared until 21 Jan. 1791
(Bailey, i, 97 & ii, 227). W.H. was
owed £1200.

COBB, Thomas (died 1759)
of Coventry.
CONNOR, Dr
Physician of Kingstown, St Vincent.
A friend of W.H. and involved with
Michael Keane (q.v.) in the opposition
to Governor Norris (q.v.) on St Vincent.

CONSTANCE & FULHAM,
Thomas Fulham. Surveyors of Roseau,
Dominica.

COOPER, Sir Grey (c. 1726-1801).
M.P. 1765-84, 1786-90. Secretary
to the Treasury, 1765-82.

COSSART, Isaac.
London merchant who went bankrupt in
c. 1769-70.

COURT, Thomas & Charles
of Roseau, Dominica.

DABSEX, Francis
of London.

DEWAR, Andrew (died 1771).
Collector of Customs at Roseau,
Dominica. Most likely came from
the Dewar family who owned plantations
on Antigua (See Sheridan, 'Planters
and Merchants...').

DICKENSON, William
of Antigua. Attorney to W.H. May
have been a relation of William
Dickenson (1745-1806), M.P. 1766-74,
1777-90, 1796-1806, who had close
connections with the West Indies.

DONAGHO, John.
Surveyor of Roseau, Dominica.
Mortgaged his estates in Dominica to W.H.

DUBOIS, Pierre.
Planter of Dominica.

DUCHEILLEAU, Marquis.
French military governor of Dominica in
1778. Gained notoriety for his 'tyranny
and rapacity' (Martin, History of the
of the Colonies of the British Empire, p. 74).

EASTON, John
of Dominica.

EATON, Richard and Thomas.
Bankers of Dominica.
ELLISTONE & FORTTZ.
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EMMANUEL, John Baptist.
A free negro of St Vincent. 408/1-2

FISHER, Henry.
Merchant of Barbados. 37A-B, 111.

FITZMAURICE, Ulysses.
Commander-in-chief of the Southern Caribbean Islands 1763-70. Most likely came of an Irish family (see Burke's Landed Gentry of Ireland). 169

FORBES, Alexander of Montserrat. 384, 413, 430/1-2

FORBES, William of Bridgetown, Barbados. 134

FOWLER, John.
London merchant. 330/5

FRANKLIN, G. of Tobago. 356

FREEMAN & MASON.
London merchants. E. Freeman was a member of Coventry corporation. 58, 143

FULHAM, Thomas. See CONSTABLE & FULHAM.

GARDIE, James (died c. 1777).
Planter of Dominica. 189

GARRAWAY, John of [Dominica?]. 34A-C, 135

GAY, John.
Planter of Dominica. 77, 46-7

GERMAIN, Lord George (1716-85).
M.P. 1741-82. Secretary of State for America 1775-82. 154, 352, 358, 363, 386

GILES, D.
One of the assignees to the estate of Chauvet & Turquand (q.v.). 264/1

GILLOX, John.
Planter of Dominica. Acted as attorney for W.H. on Dominica. 101, 117, 128, 230

GLANVILLE, William John.
Speaker of the Dominica Assembly. 56, 91, 319, 343, 377
GOLDSWIN, Dr.
Physician who attended W.H. on
St. Eustatius in May 1781.

GOODENOUGH, G.W.
of London.

GRAHAEME, Benjamin of London.

GRAYNE, Hugh (died c. 1767).
Appointed a commissioner for the
Ceded Islands in 1765. W.H. was
appointed in his stead in 1767.

GRANCO, Joseph.
Planter of Dominica. Executor of
the estate of James Gardie (q.v.).

GREES, John.
Planter of Dominica.

GROVE, Henry.
Planter of Dominica.

HARRIS, Abraham.
Attorney for Messrs Hunt (q.v.)
in Dominica.

HARRISON & POOLE.
West India Merchants of Mincing Lane,
London.

HAWKES, Benjamin
of Dominica.

HAZELL, Mary
of St. Eustatius. Nursed W.H. in his
last days and laid out his corpse.

HEATHERINGTON, Thomas and John.
Owned estates in Dominica. W.H. acted
as their attorney.

HEWITT, Edward.
Merchant of London. Brother of John
Hewitt (q.v.). Probably a cousin of
W.H. Handled financial affairs for
W.H. in London.

HEWITT, James (1712-89).
First Viscount Lifford. Elder
brother of W.H. Lord Chancellor of
Ireland 1768-89, out of which office
he made a considerable profit (see his
obituary in the Gentleman's Magazine
for 1789).
HEWITT, James (1751-1830).
Succeeded his father as second Viscount Lifford in 1789. Acted as clerk to W.H. in the West Indies in 1777-81. Was in holy orders and became Dean of Armagh 1796-1830.

HEWITT, John (1719-1802).
Mayor of Coventry 1755, 1758, 1760. Brother of Edward Hewitt (g.v.). Wine merchant who went bankrupt in 1780 (Bailly, ii, 4).

HEWITT, Joseph (1725-1813)
of Coventry. Brother of Lifford and W.H.

HEWITT, Joseph (died 1794).
Son of Lifford. One of the judges of the King's Bench in Ireland.

HEWITT, Joseph
of Dumfries. Does not appear to have been a relation of the Coventry Hewitts. An army officer who was given a poor settler's lot by Governor Fitzmaurice (g.v.) in Prince Rupert's Bay, Dominica, in 1769.

HEWITT, Thomas
of Cork. Not the same family as the Coventry Hewitts. Most likely came from the family known later as Ludlow-Hewitt, at this time based at Glanacoole, Co. Cork (See Burke's Landed Gentry of Ireland, 1958 edn.).

HEWITT, William.
Nephew of W.H. Paternity is uncertain. Became a country gentleman in Warwickshire.

HODGSON, John.
Attorney of North Street, London. Acted for Benjamin Grahame (g.v.).

HUNT, John.
Appointed a commissioner in 1765 for the Ceded Islands.

HUNT, Thomas & Rowland.
Merchants of London with whom W.H. had his account. The family's roots were in Warwickshire.

HURRELL, Allen.
London merchant.
INGRAM, Archibald (died 1779). Receiver-General of quit-rents on St. Vincent. 142 (ff. 14-15), 351, 460

IRAN, Hugh. Planter of Dominica. 46, 457

IRWIN, Sir John (c. 1728-88). Lieutenant-General, Commander-in-chief, Ireland, 1775-82. M.P. 1762-83. Close friend of Lord George Germain (q.v.). 375

JEMMETT, George. Lawyer of Coventry. 317, 332/7A-B & /12

JEMMETT, Jacob. Merchant of Spital Square, Bishopsgate Street, London. 489

JENNINGS, Dennis of Dominica. 298

JOLLY, Thomas William. London merchant who went bankrupt in July 1772 - the dividend being declared on 1 Mar. 1773 (Bailey, 1, 6 & 36). 271

JONES, Roger. Printer of Roseau, Dominica. 330/6, 440, 503/1

KEANE, Michael of Kingstown, St Vincent. Took an active part in opposing Morris's settlement scheme 1777-9 and was later appointed Attorney-General of St. Vincent (see Waters, The Unfortunate Valentine Morris, pp. 59, 63-4). 73

KEELING, Joseph of the Customs House, Roseau, Dominica. 36A-B, 110, 194

KIRKMAN, John. Member of Coventry Corporation. 54


LAWRENCE, James of [Dominica?]. 191

LEE, Alderman William. London merchant. W.H. mortgaged an estate in Dominica to him but failed to get the money. 46, 453/1-9, 464/4, 497.
LEMAISTRE, Adrien.  
Commissary-in-chief for the civil administration in Dominica (1778), acting under the orders of the Commissary-General for the island of Martinique and its dependencies.  

LIPPORD, Viscount. See HEMIT, James.  

LINÉ.  
Commissary-General for the island of Martinique and its dependencies.  

LOOBY  
of Antigua.  

LOVELL, MORSON & WADDINGTON  
of Roseau, Dominica. The Lovells had roots in Antigua and were related to the Olivers (see Sheridan, 'Planters and Merchants...').  

LOVELOCK, James  
of [Dominica?].  

LOWNDERS, John.  
Surveyor of Roseau, Dominica.  

LUCAS, William  
of Grenada. Purchased land in Tobago.  

LYNCH, Marcus & Ulysses.  
Owned land in Dominica.  

LYTTELTON  
of Halesowen, near Birmingham.  

MACARTNEY, Baron (1737-1806).  
George Macartney. Raised to the peerage in 1776. Governor of Grenada May 1776 - July 1779. Governor of Madras 1780-5 and subsequently held other posts of a colonial-diplomatic kind.  

McGAY, John.  
Planter of Dominica.  

MACKINTOSH, William.  
Owned land in Tobago.  

McCONNELL, kendal & Foster.  
Merchants of Antigua.
McGRATH, James Roche. Planter of Dominica. Was a partner of John Reynolds (q.v.). In 1775, was described as being a 'planter but now residing in the City of London' (180).

MADOCKS, John. Lawyer of London. 303/1

MARGARETT, Frank. Planter of Dominica. 57, 127

MASPEN, James. Of [London?]. 231

MASON. See FREEMAN & MASON.

MELVILLE, Robert (1723-1809). Major-General, Governor of the Southern Caribbe Islands 1763-71. Governor of Grenada Dec. 1764 - Aug. 1768 and July-Nov. 1771. 70

MERIE, William. London lawyer. 68

MAYRICK, James & John. Merchants of Parliament Street, Westminster. 126, 363

MIASHART, Elizabeth. Of Roseau, Dominica. Owned land on the island. 181, 310

MILLER. Of Kingstown. St Vincent. Employed by A. Ingram (q.v.). 460

MONSELL, James. Had some connection with Dominica, and was articulate on the politics of that island. 57

MOORE, Frank (died c. 1780). Owned a refinery at Roseau, Dominica. 57, 127, 504/1

MORRIS, Valentine (1727-1799). Lived for most of his life at Piercefield estate in Monmouthshire and was the unsuccessful parliamentary candidate for the county in 1774. In Dec. 1772, was appointed by Lord Dartmouth to be Lieutenant-Governor of St Vincent. Was Governor from 1776 until the French captured the island in July 1779. See Ivor Waters's biography, The Unfortunate Valentine Morris. 87-8, 137-8, 414 (passim); 348, 350-1, 358; 414

62
MORSON. See LOVELL, MORSON & WADDINGTON.

MOURGE, Henry.
London merchant. 307, 428

NELSON, William
of Dominica and Barbados. Was a
connection of the Senhouses (g.v.).
Held an office in the customs at
Barbados (see Hughes, North Country
Life, ii, 335 & 347).

NUGENT, John.
Lieutenant-Governor of the
Leeward Islands.

OLIVER, Isaac.
London merchant. Possibly of the
same family as the Olivers of London
and Antigua.

PARR, James
of Cork.

PATTERSON, Daniel.

PAUL & CATTON.

PEROTZ. See ELLISTONE & PEROTZ.

PORTER, Levi
of Dominica.

POWARS, Dr. Francis.
Owned land in Dominica which he sold to
James Ballmer (g.v.). Leased slaves from
W.H.

PULTENEY, William (1729-1805).
M.P. 1768-74, 1775-1805. Surname
was originally Johnstone. Took the
name of Pulteney in 1767 on marrying
the heiress of the Earl of Bath. Owned
land in the Great River Division, Tobago.

RAGGITT
of Barbados. In 1773, was dismissed
from his post of Searcher and Waifer of
the Customs at Barbados for absenteeism.
Borrowed money wherever he could, and was
a notorious 'sponger'. See Hughes,
North Country Life, ii, 344.

REYNOLDS, John of Salisbury Court, Fleet Street, London. Owned 255 acres of land in Windsor Forest, St Andrew's parish, Dominica, which had previously belonged to James Fallon. His partner was James Roche McGrath (q.v.). W.H. acted as his attorney. See also under Bayre, who was Reynolds's partner.

REYNOLDS, Jonathan Robert. Son of John Reynolds who went out to Dominica.

RICE, Henry. Planter of Dominica.

ROBERT, Christopher. Planter of Dominica.

ROBERT, Dr Daniel. Physician of Dominica.

ROBINSON, John (1727-1802). M.P. 1764-1802. Secretary to the Treasury 1770-82.

ROBINSON, John. Administrator of the estate of Thomas Heatherington (q.v.).

ROCHE, John. Planter of Dominica.

ROGERS, Thomas of Kingstown, St Vincent. Deputy Receiver.


SANDFORD, Benjamin.

SAYRE, Stephen of Wimpole Street, Cavendish Square, Middlesex. Partner of John Reynolds (q.v.).
SCOTT, George.
Lieutenant-Governor of Dominica, 1763-71.
Governor of Grenada, Feb. - Dec. 1764.

SENHOUZE, Joseph.
Collector of the Customs at Roseau, Dominica, May 1771-75. Came from a West Cumberland family. Brother was William Senhouse, Surveyor-General of the Customs in Barbados and the Leeward Islands 1764-86. It was he who secured Joseph his post. But Joseph was dismissed in 1786 for being an absentee. On him and his family, see Hughes, North Country Life, ii, passim.

SEYMOUR-CONWAY, Francis (1743-1822).
Known as Lord Beauchamp until 1794 when he succeeded as Marquis of Hertford. M.P. 1766-84. Lord of the Treasury 1774-80.

SHAW, Abraham.
Owned land in the Roseau Valley, Dominica, where he grew indigo.
Acted as attorney for W.H.

SHERIDAN, Richard Brinsley (1751-1816).
The playwright. M.P. 1780-1812.
Secretary to the Treasury Apr. - Dec. 1783.

SHIPLEY, Jonathan (1714-88).
Bishop of St Asaph 1769-88.
Vigorous opponent of the American War.

SHIRLEY, Thomas.
Governor of Dominica 1774-8.
Succeeded Sir William Young (g.v.)
as Receiver-General of Monies arising from the sale and disposal of lands in the Ceded Islands.

SMITH, Robert.
Owned plantations in St Andrew's parish, Dominica. Went bankrupt c. 1772.

SMITH, William Thompson.
Provost Marshal of Dominica.

SPOTTISWOODE, John.
Agent for Tobago 1775-83 (see Pensh, British Colonial Agents, app.).

STEELE, Thomas (1753-1823).
M.P. 1780-1807. Secretary to the Treasury 1784-1801.
STEWEN, Alexander
of Tobago.

STOKES, Thomas
of Coventry. Went bankrupt at the end
of the 1750s.

STEWART, Robert.
Appointed a commissioner in 1765 for the
Ceded Islands. Subsequently became a
prosperous planter in Tobago. See Nardin,
Le mise en valeur, p. 113; and Jucker,
The Jenkinson Papers, p. 169.

STRETTELL, Thomas
of Cork. In 1774, Lifford’s son;
William Williams Hewitt, married Anne,
only daughter of Thomas Strettell. The
latter went bankrupt in 1781. For a vivid
character sketch, see 120.

STUART, William.
Lieutenant-Governor of Dominica, 1771-8.

SUTTTON, Sir Richard (1733-1802).
M.P. 1768-96. Under-Secretary of
State 1766-72; Lord of the Treasury
1780-2.

SYERS, Robert.
West India merchant of Liverpool.
Owned an estate in Dominica which he
had sold by 1776.

TRAVERSIER, Aitken.
Planter of Dominica.

TURQUAND. See CHAUVET & TURQUAND.

TWISS, John.
Planter of Dominica.

VANCE, CAILLEWELL & VANCE.
London merchants.

VAUGHAN, John (c. 1731-95).
M.P. 1774-95. Major-General.
Commander-in-Chief of the Leeward
Islands 1 Dec. 1779 - Mar. 1782.

VERNON, Henry.
Planter of Dominica.

VINCENT, René.
Planter of St Vincent.
WADDINGTON. See LOVELL, MORSON & WADDINGTON.

WALKER, Joseph.
of Oxford Street, London. 83, 335.

WALLACE, James (1729-83)
of Lincoln's Inn. K.C. 1769.
m.p. 1770-83. 246

WALSON, Dr Robert.
Owned land in Barbados and Tobago. 362, 416/16.

WEIR, John.
of Dominica. 57

WEDDEN, Isaac.
Surveyor of Roseau, Dominica. 329 (passim),
446, 452.

WHITTEY family.
of Wexford. A Nicholas Whittey
had gone first to France and then
to St. Vincent where he died in 1763. 212, 315

WILMOT, Henry.
Married Sarah, sister of Valentine
Morris (q.y.). Morris's father,
Colonel Morris, had married Elizabeth,
daughter of Sir Nicholas Wilmot and sister
of Henry - Valentine being the product of
this marriage. Henry was the trustee of
Colonel Morris's estate. Sergeant-at-law;
Principal-Secretary to Lord Chancellor
Bathurst; and agent for the Leeward Islands
(see Penson, British Colonial Agents. app.;
and Waters, The Unfortunate Valentine Morris,
pp. 5, 6, 8, 23, 58n.). 385, 390.

WILLIAMS, Dr
Physician who attended W.H. on
St. Eustatius in May 1781. 466/8-9

WILLIAMS, Elizabeth
of St. Eustatius. 466/8-9.

WILSON, George. 350

WILSON, Thomas.
Chief Justice of Dominica and
St. Vincent. 481, 495

WISTON, Charles,
Attorney-General of Dominica. Acted
as attorney for W.H. In 1790, took over
the administration of W.H.'s estate. 46, 55, 57,
213, 268,
313-314, 333/8,
498, 506/7

67
WOODYVILLE, John.
Leased land from W.H. in Dominica.
Reported to be in England in March 1773.

WYNNE, Robert.

YOUNG, Sir William.
First bart. 1769. Headed the commission to the Ceded Islands 1765-71. Receiver-General of Monies arising from the sale and disposal of lands in the Ceded Islands 1765-74. Lieutenant-Governor of Dominica 1763-71 and Governor 1771-4. He was a native of the West Indies, his father having emigrated there after the Jacobite rising of 1715 (see Jucker, The Jenkinson Papers, pp. 120-1).
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