

*S.<sup>r</sup>*  
 I have been given to understand *yo.<sup>r</sup>* Excell<sup>y</sup> particular Kindness to the  
 Masters of Ships and other Vessels belonging unto this Province  
 trading to *yo.<sup>r</sup>* Island, and *yo.<sup>r</sup>* assigning a Convoy for them  
 unto Salt Terredos; which Favour I acknowledge ~~with~~  
~~much gratitude~~, and shall gladly embrace any opportunity  
 to demonstrate <sup>my gratitude for</sup> the same wherein I may be serviceable unto  
*yo.<sup>r</sup>* Excell<sup>y</sup>. Being ambitious of maintaining a good Correspondence  
 with all their Maj<sup>ties</sup> Govern<sup>rs</sup> of their respective  
 Plantations, and to contribute what I may to the Encouragement  
 of Trade and commerce betwixt their Maj<sup>ties</sup> Subjects, more  
 especially necessary at such a time when their losses are  
 so many & great, and publick charges heavy upon them.

*S.<sup>r</sup>* I have nothing at present to observe of the Affaires of this  
 Province worthy *yo.<sup>r</sup>* Excell<sup>y</sup> notice, there having been a  
 Respite for several months past from any annoyance by the  
 Indians, and we have had some advantage upon them by  
 Seizing and getting under our power some of their men of  
 principal acco<sup>u</sup> with them; whereby possibly we may oblige  
 them to better Term<sup>s</sup> than hitherto they have been willing  
 to comply with. About ten days since we brought hither the  
 Surprising & sorrowful tidings of the death of her Maj<sup>ty</sup> the Queen  
 by a Ship ~~from~~ that came from Oporto, and touched at the  
 Groine and also at Madera in her way hither, at both <sup>of</sup>  
 places the master say<sup>s</sup> he had the Intelligence there  
 and relates it with such circumstances as causes me to fear  
 that it may be true; We have for sometime past Expected the  
 arrival of two or more Ships for magts, and by them to  
 receive a more certain ~~and~~ Intelligence from England  
 I cannot but <sup>sadly</sup> reflect upon the Influence such a solemn  
 change will have into the Affaires of Europe, at such a  
 juncture when they seem to have a more favourable aspect than  
 for sometime past; ~~but~~ <sup>we shall</sup> ~~the~~ high aggravation of the loss of  
 so illustrious a Sovereign; whose Royal Vertues & Excell<sup>ent</sup> Endeavours  
 will

56/ I did recommend her to the more Endear'd affections of her Subjects, and  
will Embalm her memory with y<sup>e</sup> dutiful acknowledgements thereof to her  
perpetual praise by all true Englishmen, of which number I shall account  
it my honour to be reckoned One. I am.

Boston April 8. 1695.

J<sup>r</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> Obedient, Obliged and very  
affectionate Friend & humble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
W. S.

To his Excell<sup>y</sup>  
Francis E. Russell  
Gov<sup>r</sup> of Barbados.