

To Governor John Winthrop, 21 July 1637

New Providence 21 of 5t[h] month<sup>1</sup>

Much honoured Sir

My unfained love and respect to your soules eternall comfort, and firme perswasions of your Levelling at the highest white<sup>2</sup> have imboldned me once more to tell you of some poore thought of mine owne pend and sent to some Friends amongst you: wch happily (if the good Lord so please) may some way conduce to your soules satisfaction in the midst of all your troubles.

I have bene long requested to write my grounds agst the English preaching etc. and especially my answeres to some reasons of Mr Robinsons for hearing.<sup>3</sup>

In the midst of a multitude of barbarous distractions I have fitted something to that purpose: and being not able at present to transcribe the whole: yet having bene long solicited by Mr Buckley (from whome I receaved some Objections) and by many others, and of late by my worthy friend Mr Peters (who had) sight of them: I have thought good to send so much as (I) have transcribed to the hand of my lo. [loving] friend Mr Buckly.<sup>4</sup>

Sir I am bold to give you this Intimacion because in these first loose leaves, handling the state of a nationall church from the 38 page I have enlarged the differences betweene Israell and all other states. I know and am perswaded that your misguidings are great and lamentable, and as the further you pass in your way, the further you wander, and have the further to come back, and the end of one vexation, will be but the beginning of another, till Conscience be permitted (though Erronious) to be free amongst you.<sup>5</sup>

I am Sorry my straights are such that I can not transcribe the

remaynder and especially, what concernes the matter, most concerning your deare selfe, and there in especially the assoiling [i.e., assailing] of some objections. But if the Lord please I live I shall endeavour the rest and thanckfully receive any Intimacion from your selfe yea from the least, whereby I might my selfe returne from any wandrings. The Lord Jesus be to you and me the Way, the Truth, and he will be the Life allso.<sup>6</sup> So prayes Your Worps [Worship's] most unfained

Roger Williams

I have no newes, but from Qunnihticut, the receaving of Sasacous, his present and company by the Mawhauogs, and some promises of theirs to him to settle him againe at Pequot. This weeke Souwonckquawsin old Sequins Sonn cut of [off] 20 Pequot women and children in their passage to the Mowhauogs allso one Sachim who 3 yeares agoe was with you in the Bay with a present.<sup>7</sup>