

William Hewitt. Papers: 1756-1790

(HIL-MICL FC LFR .H4W5P3)

Document Summaries: manuscript numbers 49-163, reel 3

Letters Received by Hewitt, Chronologically Arranged (49-128)

Number	Date/Place	Correspondents	Summary
49	1772, July 25/St. Vincent	Robert Wynn to William Hewitt	
50	1772 Sept. 17/No. 9, French Ordinary Court, London	Francis Daseoth	
51	1772 Sept. 28	Francis Daseoth	
52	1772 Oct. 15/Phoenix Park, Dublin	Lifford [brother]	Family news. Billy is preparing to set out on his return to us; James and his brother Jack went to Mr. Reilly's in County of Meath; expected them back but heard Jack got ill with cholick [colic] and something like pleurisy; blooded twice and hear his is better. Asks what is Pagona, which brother Wynne talks about and whether it is worth buying. Shows financials pertaining to Lifford's brother's account with Mr. Maynard that Lifford had paid in 1766. Lifford indicates he will be in Dublin for the winter.
53	1772 Oct. 23	B. Brockhurst	
54	1772 Oct. 29/Coventry	Jon Kirkman	
55	1772 Nov. 10/Dublin	William Hewitt [nephew] to Hewitt in London	Family news pertaining to his father, brother, and health. Arrived here last Thursday after very disagreeable journey, describes; father had flux for some time; Jack recovered but too weak to venture across sea; other brother expects to sail every tide; they promise to pay you a visit; mother says thank you for box and snuff; father very curious in enquiries about you and have kept in suspense; I have got into 28 th [Regiment?] and likely to be sent into the North. Will

			answer Mr. Atkins' letter that you have thrown at me to deal with.
56	1773 March 13/Dominica	Charles Winstone to Hewitt in Dominica	Personal financial matters – various people owe William money and includes some personal information on some and their reasons for being delinquent, such as scarcity of cash; happy for Dutch Loan bill to help Winstone's financial situation.
57	1774 June 28/Temple, London	James Monsell to [Governor Montfort Brown of Bahamas]	Comment - Governor Shirley of Dominica should take up his appointment as receiver of monies from sale of lands as soon as possible as Sir William Young is taking every advantage of his neglect to Shirley's great detriment; wishes Shirley well but concerned about "wretches" that will endeavour to get into his favour and then abuse his confidence, the most dangerous include – Lieutenant Governor Stuart, Charles Winstone, John Weir, and William Thompson Smith; mentions names of men more worthy. Does not speak well of past Scottish governors of Dominica.
58	1775 Jan. 10	E. Freeman	Personal finance. Agreeable to you, you have my draft for 300; if you could send me your Note at 2 months it would be more agreeable because I clear my accounts at the Exchequer the latter end of March and find I shall be very short then, and bank will only discharge Bills of Exchange and not anyone's Note.
59	1775 Jan. 21/Dominica	Robert Wynne	Just arrived at Dominica; Hewitt's finances – annuitants
60	1776 July 20/Liverpool	R. Syers	Syers' annuity arrangement with Hewitt and unhappiness with methods of Hewitt's nephew; congratulations on appointment, offers his house in Dominica near Roseau.
61	1776 Sept. 10/Dumfries	Joseph Hewitt, officer	Joseph's affairs – asks Hewitt for help with land granted 1769-70 in Dominica, complications in trying to dispose of, now left island and burdened with immediate debts to pay.
62	1776 Sept. 20/Lancaster	Rawlinson, Sons and Lindow	Concerns role as commissioner to settle disputes – specific case in St. Vincent – claim has been set up to part of lands purchased by Mr. Augier by the widow and children of Lewis Froga? in St. Vincent wherein our Mr. Lindow is very

			interested; been very troublesome and expensive affair and will let our agent explain; request assistance in settling; a good part of the purchase money has been many years ago paid and Mr. Augier can more fully inform.
63	1776 Sept. 26/Dominica	John Donaugo	Read good news of Hewitt's appointment as sole commissioner to the islands; Donaugo entered into agreement with Colonel Bruce?, Mr. Winstone and others, so off for the Mississippi on business and expect to return shortly; friend to Hewitt and looks forward to seeing soon.
64	1776 Oct. 5/Liverpool	Benson and Postlethwaite	William Hewitt's account of sales with Benson and Postlethwaite for sugar.
65	1776 Oct. 15/Cork	William Hewitt [nephew] to Hewitt in London	Asks for respite as greatly expensed in building and furnishing house.
66	1776 Nov. 12/Mincing Lane	Harrison and Poole	With account of sales of sugar from Dominica.
67	1776 Dec. 13/Lancaster	Rawlinson Sons and Lindow to Hewitt at London	Request help with land dispute in St. Vincent - names involved are misters Augier and Cook, long delayed and want expedited.
68	Jan. 16/London	William Merle for R. A. Coe	Bailey estate – Dominica, given to creditors; other names in text include Ann Terry of Wickham and George Crump.
69	1777 Feb. 7/Dublin	Lifford [brother]	Busy with official duties, heard you are off to Grenada, will let Lord Macartney know; anxious for your good health and safety; mentions other family members – Joseph and John; assures will help to the utmost.
70	1777 Feb. 12/Great Putteney Street	Major General Melvill [Melville] to Commissioner Hewitt	Requests delivery to Mr. Thomas Campbell, merchant in Grenada, a letter sent herewith which contains papers of consequence to General Melvill in his private affairs.
71	1777 Feb. 19/Dublin	Joseph Hewitt	"You are about separating yourself from all your relations but everyone wants your happiness. Indicates Joseph's father's willingness to help in any way; requests he do something for Lady Lifford's nephew in Grenada, who is employed by Mr. Ruker as superintendent of his estate or in some other capacity, and of good character.

72	1777 March 31/Adelphi, London	John Reynolds	Debtors and debt due Hewitt – cases against Boone and Pattison.
73	1777 May 5	Michael Keane	House rental for Hewitt in town lately occupied by Mr. Felton.
74	1777 May 13/La Soye	R. G. Bruce	Heard of your arrival at Roseau; mentions Dr. Walker's unfortunate adventure in this island and hopes with Hewitt's power of attorney and assistance to help Walker; expects see Hewitt when returns to island end of month.
75	1777 May 14/St. Vincent	Dr. Connor	Mentions Hewitt's arrival to Dominica; Governor Morris, as soon as your commission was sealed, has been busy granting lots of land, has given at least 300 acres, most put for himself and small lots which he demands annuities for; I send you our memorial agreement against Ingram which was presented to general in council, so if you can get the place for me, I will engage to remit it every shilling of quit rents due in a year, after I am properly authorized.
76	1777 May 14/Roseau	Morson	Sends balance of annuity on Waddington Estate [not included here].
77	1777 May 17	John Gay	Requests more time to pay annuity to Hewitt, needs to sell "negroes."
78	1777 August 6/London	[financial managers?]	Potentiality of making fortune in relation to land, and present problems; Hewitt's personal accounts with Mr. Reynolds; also mention of William Snell & Co. account; acknowledgements for favour conferred on Bellairs by granting them 36 acres free of fees you had a right to receive; Edward Hewitt gratified for favour conferred on his relative – appointment.
79	1777 Oct. 27/Adelphi	John Reynolds	Not received your draft.
80	1777 Dec. 19/Antigua	Looby to Hewitt at Dominica	Sends rum and will send ship.
81	1778 March 13	Abraham Rawlinson Sons & Lindow/Lancaster to Hewitt at Commissioners Office at Dominica	Your bill is honoured; sent ham as token of gratitude; requests favour of land contiguous to the estate, it may be a favour that will merit every grateful return on our part, and we presume we may give a hint of it to Mr. Augier, our

			partner in the Estate or Mr. Todd, our agent at St. Vincent, to enquire into the utility and value of the land.
82	1778 June 20/Liverpool	R. Syers to Honourable Hewitt at Dominica	Delivered your letter to Lord Sandwich and communicated about the situation of our commercial affairs in the islands and also the want of attention of the admiral to which he responded he would take proper notice; seems to be the case as find since then the frigates etc. have been far more active; Admiral Barrington has been out some weeks; reminder of service and compensation promised – disappointment and loss over lot you were pleased to grant me.
83	1778 Sept. 30/Oxford Street, London	Joseph Walker to Honourable Commissioner Hewitt	Sent hats; request help getting debt paid from Mr. Fulham, recommended by Hewitt; Walker is a tradesman.
84	1778 Oct. 12/Santry, Dublin	Lifford [brother]	Wrote to Lord North and Lord Germain and Sir Grey Cooper on government of Dominica and St. Vincent and continuation of your commission for 2 more years; tired after long government session; family news – eldest son James's wife died and he has suffered exceedingly, brother Joseph cynical and to be left alone, Tom [Strettel?] in England and affairs bad, son William on family circumstances noted; brief comments on home defence and precarious state of things, as well as privateers, and French Fleet.
85	1778 Oct. 15/Roseau	James Bernard	Complains about promise and directions made by Hewitt regarding land application process and misdeed, mentions Mr. Donaugho as part of story.
86	1778 Dec. 1	William T. Smyth	Pertaining to bills which Smyth purchased of Hewitt some time ago.
87	1778 Dec. 18	Governor Valentine Morris of St. Vincent	Efforts to hire cruising vessels – difficulties – assembly refused funding; intelligence D'Estaing arrived and gave to Admiral Barrington
88	1778 Dec. 24	Governor Valentine Morris of St. Vincent	General [the governor] acquaints Mr. Hewitt that the assembly have not only peremptorily refused to expunge from their last minutes their late indecent disloyal if not

			absolutely rebellious resolves, but justify the same in an answer to the general's message; Mr. Commissioner Hewitt will therefore judge what is left for the general to do.
89	1779 March 7/Coventry	Joseph Hewitt [brother]	Great concern for you since heard of your treatment at Dominica; received your last letter dated from St. Vincent 1 st of Jan and was greatly relieved for personal safety. Terms of capitulation on surrender of Dominica were such that it is strange they should be infringed in the manner they seem to have been in the case of a crown officer, which you were. Lord Macartney and Lord George Germain have taken notice. Sent your last letter from St. Vincent to Ireland and expect you should hear back from the Chancellor [Lifford]. We all hope junction of Admiral Byron with Admiral Barrington has made you all safe. Optimistic about Britain's chances in West Indies. No particular matters worth troubling you with since last written. Friends in Ireland are as removed from me socially as you are in St. Vincent. Heard from Lady Lifford that they were all well; nephew Will, the late banker at Cork, lives idly in England and has brought his family over who now live at Kingston upon Thames; dislike this English scheme which has in it strong marks of levity and inconsideration such that he will never see me at Kingston. Please send congratulations to our old friend Wynne upon his escape from French power.
90	1779 March 22/Antigua	William Dickinson	Misters Glanville and Burton cannot pay – times are very bad – crops not enough to cover expenses of estates and merchants began to enter up judgement against principal people, but will exert myself to get your monies which I believe is safe.
91	1779 March 22/Antigua	William J. Glanville to Hewitt at St. Vincent	Explains why late paying interest on principal due – shares in misfortunes of Dominica settlers.
92	1779 March 24	Gregg to Joseph Senhouse of Barbados	No letter received by Mr. Hewitt by packet, will forward if so.

93	1779 March 28/Halesowen, near Birmingham	H. Lyttelton	Mentions his son is in St. Lucia, near you.
94	1779 March 30/Dominica	John Donaugo to Hewitt at St. Vincent	Glad to hear health better and of safe arrival after disagreeable voyage; since left, waiting to hear from you as you had promised to put me on pay; reminds Hewitt of all unpaid work had done for him personally and as commissioner – plans and surveys at Roseau and for another at Grand Savanah; pertaining to latter, complains that Mr. Rose deprived me of fees and Rose thereafter put on pay; due to present disagreeable situation, no business and no money, requests money that would have been paid to Donaugo for unpaid work be put towards discharge of bond owing.
95	1779 April 3/Grove, Barbados	Joseph Senhouse	As requested, got livestock and sent to Bridge Town but spoiled due to delays and voyage altered by Captain Porter, now attempting to get more from the country; issues with mail deliveries; asks if he would like to go to Kensington Island this summer by convoy.
96	1779 April 4/Dominica	Abraham Shaw	[Shaw seems to be looking after Hewitt's financial affairs.] Our situation here is unpleasant; requests to put into Hewitt's hands speedy means to receive amount of Notes; offers to purchase the Cook on condition Hewitt receives Fulham's Note in part payment; requests he resolves soon as in May he must sue Fulham for money; exceedingly distressed at times for want of answer of your Note having still several small office demands which are embarrassing; unlucky in "slaves" you sold me – mentions 2.
97	1779 April 5/Dublin	Lifford [brother]	Lord Macartney at Grenada informed Lord George Germain of your situation while in the hands of the French. Have written to Lord North about renewal of your commission and to do something beneficial for you. Germain wrote and indicated he thought the king would want a military man in place at Dominica next opportunity. Mail issues as appears

			you have not received my mail. Hope we not only preserve our own islands but gain some of the French. If you stay in West Indies, let me know how I can best assist. Family news – all tolerably well; my eldest son lost his wife last year; Billy and his family live in England and his father-in-law’s affairs threw him out of business; John has a living in Dublin and is to get a small deanery; George grows a fine boy and my 2 girls engage my affections. Brother Joseph, love him but is so out of humour that I cannot have much comfortable correspondence.
98	1779 July 31/Antigua	William Dickinson	Received ours of 26 th and wrote Samuel Milgrove at St. Kitts to remit you net proceeds of goods from Kingston; as to demands of yours here – people not in position to pay anything.
99	1779 Oct. 18/Kew Lane	Lord George Germain to Lifford	Copy. Happy to obey your commands; Governor Shirley arrived but unknown of his intentions to return to Dominica; if that government becomes vacant, will recommend your brother but doubt in present dangerous situation of island if king will appoint any other than military man as governor.
100	1779 Dec. 15/Antigua	William Dickinson to Hewitt at [Joseph] Senhouses’ in Barbados	Written repeatedly, have had no answer; goods by Knarston disposed; net proceeds in hands of Eilliston and John Perots are waiting your orders; hats that came out by Knarston sent to merchant John Robinson; concerning Mr. Glanville and your demand, Glanville suggests a solution which includes Hewitt’s mortgage in Dominica.
101	1779 Dec. 24/Dominica	John Gillon	Heard of your travels to Barbados; sorry to hear of troubles; great deal anxiety in business here; discusses financial affairs with Mr. Graham; indicates willing to assist Hewitt.
102	1779 Dec. 27/Dominica	Abraham Shaw to Hewitt at Barbados	No answer to my letters; financial matters concerning payment of Dr. Walker’s “slaves” and difficulty of raising cash on islands, and alternate solutions; mentions Pierce Bryan.

103	1780 Jan. 8/London	Allen Hurrell to Hewitt at Barbados	Hurrell's ill fortunes since last saw each other; refers to Hewitt as old friend; nothing new or entertaining since recess of parliament, next week half the counties to petition king to suspend pensions and placemen. Friend Mortimer died; also Mr. Garrick within same week; saw Mr. Strettel and all friends in Ireland well. Have gout in my hand so write with pain. Lord North gained hearts of Irish by proposal for equal trade though much work still to do on that in commons. Irish are angry with great patriot Flood."
104	1780 Jan. 12/Antigua	William Dickinson to Hewitt at Clifton near Bridge Town, Barbados	Glanville, due to late success, inclined to settle; surprised did not receive money for goods from Knarston as they were sold at St. Kitts, and ordered money lodged with Elliston of St. Eustatius at your disposal in easiest and safest conveyance; will investigate.
105	1780 Jan. 24/Antigua	William Dickinson	John Glanville - could only get 520 pounds from him, and sending you in bills and cash. Mr. Johnson went down to St. Eustatius and found Mr. Hawkes had taken your money out of the hands of the Perots, who I suppose will account to you. Shows his current accounts.
106	1780 Feb. 6/Antigua	William Dickinson to Hewitt at Clifton near Bridge Town, Barbados	Copy of no. 105.
107	1780 Feb. 13/Antigua	William Dickinson	Encloses bills [not in here]; happy satisfied with settlement with Glanville.
108	1780 March 28/Antigua	William Dickinson	Encloses 2 letters which never seem to get to you.
109	1780 March 19/Antigua	William Dickinson to Hewitt at Barbados house of Paul & Caton	Received from you Ragget's Bill and will try to get payment; reason you have not received 2 nd and 3 rd bills are due to embargo here for last 3 weeks.
110	1780 April 3/custom House, Roseau	Joseph Keeling	Shall have for you in day or 2 100 pounds you require.
111	1780 April 11	Redwar to Henry Fisher	Concerning Hewitt's lodging; also mentions lodging options for Hewitt's servant.
112	1780 May 4/Dominica to Hewitt at Barbados	Abraham Shaw	Financial issues pertaining to certain people, one example – Mr. Donaugho and wife dead and need instructions now to

			act, as fear injuring your incumbrances; afraid shall have to return your "slaves" for issues complying with terms if produce prices do not improve.
113	1780 May 10/Antigua	William Dickinson to Hewitt care of misters Paul & Caton, Barbados	Glad to hear of safe arrival of Bills of exchange; Glanville done at St. Kitts and able now to make a request as directed, but fear of cash scarcity here as in Barbados.
114	1780 May 12/London?	Paul and Caton	Glad you had good news by the packet but ours is different; your draft on Edward Hewitt in favour of Richard and Thomas Eaton is not accepted, consequently we are afraid will be protested; out of our power to lend you money as we are not able to satisfy demands that are against ourselves.
115	1780 May 23/Tobago	Alexander Stevens to Hewitt at Barbados	No answers so believe you did not receive my letters; since you have left, advised to apply to you for repayment of money you received from me as consideration of grant of land you gave me, as the grant is good for nothing without great seal; will start action against you if refuse; have drawn an order for amount in favour of John Paul to whom I beg you will pay.
116	1780 June 21	John Paul	Encloses Stevens' order on you for 50 pounds; if you can pay, will send order with receipt and remit to him.
117	1780 Sept. 23/Dominica	Abraham Shaw	Answered yours of 26 April; Mr. Fulham and family driven leeward and now at Antigua in distress; sorry Bill gave you by Mr. Hewitt was not convenient but still hope will not return; if it should not, I shall easily settle our concerns with each other, both of your own and Dr. Walker's; I have the Bill of 112 pounds returned and Mr. Powell has his of 150 pounds returned. I have had happiness to dispose of all my lands and "slaves" except yours, which alleviates my mind and debts; your "slaves" I mean to give to Mr. Powell. Mr. Largaritte? obtained judgement on each of your Notes in his hands; levy made against Charlotte [black woman?; see manuscript no. 211]. Imperfect description of your affairs made me inattentive at first but now settling several

			demands, and freed poor Charlotte of the marshal whose sale of I mean to take in Mr. Hewitt's name. I do not yet thoroughly comprehend true state of your circumstances in this island, if you intend keep me administering your affairs, ought to be more explicit. Bill 30 pounds to Lapp has fallen into J. Robinson's (merchant) hands. Encloses letter [not in here] from old Worden who wishes to do you injury in reputation and to pursue money. Much British out migration, absenteeism, and sickness than can remember, 2 reasons given for sickness – chagrin and bad diet. Variety of late transactions here, Mr. Elmy ill; myself, had agreed to sell everything but government chose me to succeed Wilson; had nothing to hope and much to fear yet moderate medium may effect good purpose.
118	1781 Jan. 7/College	J. Vaughan	As requested spoke to paymaster; concerned to hear of your health impaired but trust good air you are now in will benefit.
119	1781 Jan. 10/Dublin	Lifford [brother]	All of us deeply concerned about you, supposing you have been at Barbados during late dreadful hurricane; from others correspondence from the area, now have hope you are ok and wish to send you any relief possible; have asked Mr. Strettel of Cork to send to you upon my account what is called a gentleman's assortment of provisions and to consign them to the governor. I spent last autumn in England at Bath and in London, and after the drinking the water at Bath, came away feeling well or better than I have last 20 years. Saw brother Joseph, though he complains, he looks well. I applied to Treasury your demand. Lord North said they have no fund at present but from what he said expect one to be found. Old friend Sir Richard Sutton is one of the Lords at Treasury and pressed him on this; he promised to do the best he could. Comments on beginning of hostilities with the Dutch.

120	1718 Jan. 15/Dublin	Joseph Hewitt [nephew]	<p>Everyone here anxious to relieve islands since heard of devastation caused by the hurricane, and a subscription has started; every man from the highest to the lowest contribute his mite. Situation here melancholy; we are at war with three parts of the globe – France, Spain, America and Holland. Even though individuals have gained since declaration of war with Holland, fear summer storm that will overwhelm us. United fleets of these must be so superior to ours that I am very apprehensive we shall not be able to face them. French last week landed upon Jersey; arrival of our fleets has raised people’s spirits. Ireland in more favourable position than have for many years – free trade and trade to West Indies; and colonies are showing a spirit of industry which should render this country rich and populous. Friends tolerably well; chancellor [Lifford] better than ever – king has advanced him a viscount. Wish to God we knew with certainty where you were and what you were doing abroad. Family news: eldest brother may soon hear has been appointed Dean of Derryworth upwards of 2000 a year; William lives in Warwickshire, where he hunts, shoots, drinks ale and gets children; John, who is a Dean, is married with one child; your brother at Coventry is ill humoured but hope time will work a reconciliation; John is as fat as ever and drinks much claret as ever; your brother Wynn is very deaf; Strettell is a most consummate politician (expands on his impressive characteristics); our cousin Porteous is in sad way ruined; Ned goes on extremely well and rubs his hand over a cup of port and cajoles his Scotch customers delightfully.</p>
121	1781 Jan. 30	William Raggett	<p>Sorry you should harass me for money after the candour I showed you in acquainting you I had put myself to inconvenience to spare you money. Now repeat to you that it is out of my power to assist you further at present, when I can, I will; not only from a principle of honour, but I am not</p>

			unacquainted with the situation of your affairs both at home and abroad, a knowledge of which leads me to hope you will show that favour to me you expect from others. As to applying public money I am entrusted with to my private use, neither persuasion nor compulsion, or any consideration will induce me. P.S. I must observe further that I do not know I am justified in paying you money which may be owing your nephew.
122	1781 Jan. 31	William Ragget	Sorry any misconstruction should be put on my letter; I can assure you I meant no impoliteness and whoever knows me will say a deportment of that sort is no part of my character. I take the liberty to assure you further that I shall lose no time to discharge what I may owe.
123	1781 Feb. 5/Dublin	Lifford [brother] to Hewitt at Barbados or elsewhere to the care of His Excellency the Governor	Heard Hewitt has removed from Barbados to Antigua before the hurricane; details who he has been communicating with to assist Hewitt; in reference to Lord North, comments he is so indolent that he should never hear from him. Mentions the Dutch war goes on with a great deal depending on the Empress of Russia.
124	1781 Feb. 15/Cork	James Parr and George Goold to Hewitt at Barbados or Antigua	By direction of your brother, The Lord Chancellor of Ireland, put on board the <i>Providence</i> of Cork provisions including beef, tongues, butter, and claret for you.
125	1781 March 6	William Ragget	I shall adjust matters between your relative and me finally for I know of no money transacting between you and me other than in consideration of your having a call for money I advanced you, a sum trusting Mr. Hewitt will allow it me when we settle. If you have anything further to say to me, I must request you write it and seal your letter, it being a ceremony usual among gentlemen and as I have not been used to receive open notes by persons unknown to me.
126	1781 March 6/Parliament Street	James and John Meyrick to Hewitt at Barbados	Recently received your letter enclosing your bill for 370 pounds on the Lords of the Treasury, which they have refused to honour; therefore, we return it to you enclosed [not in here].

127	1781 March 28/Dominica	Abraham Shaw	J. Hewitt delivered your letter of 18 th August. He will inform you of our situation which is far from agreeable – some laughable others seriously interesting. Settled your accounts (shows total in debt for); thought then and still do I had a very good right to draw. Your letter of attorney to Mr. Gillon and myself is put on record and will do my part to be useful in your affairs. One of the bills you drew and passed to me was one for Frank Moore – explains confusion and Hewitt's role. Frank Margaret has been visiting for change of air, he and wife had had island fever most severely and they hope to get away to England this summer. Mr. Hewitt tells me you may not take your boy George to England, I will take if so and he is healthy. If any fresh prize brought into your island, should like some claret; they tell me the master of this flag of truce will not refuse to bring it in.
128	1781 March 29/Dominica	John Gillon to Honourable Mr. Commissioner Hewitt at Barbados	Considerable time has passed since you appointed me one of your attorneys at this island. Mr. Hewitt, while he's been at Dominica has been very attentive so my assistance has not been necessary. Now that he leaves, I will attend to this. He will tell you with how much difficulties he has been able to do anything. If he had not been particularly parsimonious, such is now the enormous expence of everything here that his collections would have been almost all swallowed up by his expences. Hope to hear you have arrived safely in England.
Letters Received, Undated and in Alphabetical Order of Writer (129-141)			
129	[1775] Nov.1/Fort Stanhope Street	Lord Beauchamp [William Lygon, 1 st Earl Beauchamp] to Hewitt in England	[Beauchamp was a member of Parliament, 1775-1806.] After receiving your letter, checked with the Treasury as asked, and told your indifferent state of health seems to be the main reason why it has been at a stand; whenever you

			are able to come out, I shall be very glad to meet you at the Treasury on a board day.
130	"Friday 12 oClock"	Lewis Chauvet to Hewitt in England	Pertaining to a draft, indicates Hewitt can send for the money next week; have heard nothing much from Dominica, in particular from Sir William Young. Informs Mr. Ottley will not be dining with Hewitt tomorrow due to his lady being very ill, obliging him to leave town this morning; Mr. Turquand and I cannot accept your kind invitation.
131		Connor to Hewitt	Respecting his interaction with Morris – wanted to share information of Morris' conduct as a friend; thought he should wait for your return before he granted away lands in the settled country; when asked for land you agreed to give me preference; he put his great seal to it but would not give it to me without a premium. He has granted land to others in trust for himself. Happy to hear your commands.
132	June 10/Kingstown [Kingston]	[John?] Connor to Hewitt as Commissioner for the Disposal of Lands at Dominica	Had sent you previously the memorial of the assembly of this island against Ingram who has recently disappeared. General [governor] still continues to dispose of lands; I believe he means to leave very little for you to do. Wish to hear if you will be visiting shortly. Do not wish Morris to know that I acquaint you with what is going on here. Sorry you did not appoint Byers he could have been of great service to you here.
133		William Dickinson to Commissioner Hewitt at St. Vincent	Received your favour of 18 th ; just received and immediately inquired about your letters by White and Knarston and am sorry to inform you that they both sent over their bags of letters to Dominica immediately after their arrival here. When I was down in St. Eustatius, Knarston says there were some letters for you and he has paints for you on board his ship; he is going down to St. Kitts in a day or two, and White, with their ships
134		William Forbes to The Honourable William Hewitt	I send you amount of your bill principal interest, damages and charges – I can pay half in cash and will accept your order on me payable in 2 months for remainder; this is

			utmost I can do and if acceptable, will wait upon you with the cash tomorrow.
135	"Thursday morning"	Garraway to Hewitt	Informs Hewitt Doctor Connor goes to St. Vincent this evening which would be a good time to send Mr. Haffey those 4 [?].
136	Sunday Sept. 20/Coventry	Joseph Hewitt [brother] to Hewitt at 60 Newman Street, London	Thank you for most enjoyable oysters; hope Capt. Hewitt received his watch which I sent by the Coventry Coach; have heard nothing from Ireland since he came over. Asks how Hewitt is doing. Have not heard from about venison I was to send you and the season ends this week. First hare I can procure shall be in Newman Street in 24 hours after I have it, as promised. Not single letter from Billy. As was mailing, your letter came and happy to hear you are so well notwithstanding Dr. Rice's prognostications. Poor Bob Abney is reduced – has been mistaken in his politics and his sincerity is here much called in question
137	"Friday night"	[Valentine] Morris to Hewitt at Kingston	Lest Hewitt doesn't know, the general acquaints Hewitt that Mr. Todd's vessel the <i>Rawlinson</i> sails tomorrow for England; Todd takes despatches to government from the general.
138	"Saturday night"	Valentine Morris to Hewitt	General presents his compliments to commissioner; glad to give him intelligence, includes Admiral Barrington, Admiral D'Estaing and their fleets. Asks Hewitt to send this letter to Dr. [Marchant/Merchant?] who is sick in bed and longs to hear news. [Morris was governor of St. Vincent, 1772-79. Morris refers to D'Estaing's goal of taking "this island" which may indicate the date of this letter was during his tenure at St. Vincent.]
139		John Nugent to Hewitt at Mount Prospect	Sorry to inform Hewitt but will not be in his power to wait on him with the papers today as promised as a matter of national consequence intervened. Everything will be ready for Wednesday.
140	May 21/Barbados	Joseph Senhouse to Hewitt	Would give me great pleasure to meet you in old England where I hope to be in 8 or 9 weeks; if I can be of any

			service, you will find me at Mr. Thomas Brown's, Goulds Square, Crutched Friars, London. Governor Stuart arrived in <i>St. Abans</i> convoy and expect means to proceed to Britain; no churning news except reduction of Pondicherry [Ponducherry, India]. My brother unites in best wishes for your health.
141		Governor Thomas Shirley to Commissioner Hewitt at Roseau	Happy to take Captain [Shafford?] by the <i>Hound</i> . [Shirley was governor of Dominica, 1774-78, and governor of Leeward Islands 1781-88]
Drafts and Copies of Letters Sent by William Hewitt, in Chronological Order (142-151)			
142	1776-1780		<p>"Commissioner Hewitts Book of Private Accts" containing copies of letters sent (48 pp.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1777 July 25, Hewitt, Dominica to Misters Chauvet & Turquand. Finances: enclosed first 6 bills of exchange for you to carry to my account [included]. Last letter enclosed order for casemere [cashmere?] cloth and would like to add lime. With accounts, provides directions pertaining to arrangements for his personal finances. Personal comments: after hurricane season is over hopes to visit Tobago and St. Vincent; health better in this country than Europe; given your friends the Bellairs the land wanted. • 1779 August 24, Hewitt, Barbados to Edward Hewitt. Personal finance, example: sent out 2 small urgent bills, the values to be carried to account of my brother, the Chancellor and addressed to your House for payment. William Forbes, Esq. and Misters Collins and Wilson mentioned. Personal comments: suffering at capitulation of St. Vincent; precarious state of the island and his prediction for

			<p>St. Kitts and Antigua; been very ill due to fatigue and mental uneasiness so have retired into the country; Mr. Hewitt [nephew James?] ill so no assistance from him, his actually heavy burden to bear; Chauvet's misfortune. Hopes to go to England in April next. Will send Bill on <i>Robeley</i> for order of needed provisions to be delivered here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1779 August 24, Hewitt, Barbados to Lord Lifford [brother]. Personal finance: under great distress such that had to give out 2 bills (for Forbes and Misters Collins and Wilson) and have altered mode of payments to prevent trouble to you having addressed bills to Mr. Edward Hewitt in London the value to be carried to your account. This sum just pays off fine French imposed on me at St. Vincent and it released security that my friends were so kind as to give for my liberty to depart the island. Hope to reinstate to you soon if Treasury pays me. Personal comments: superiority of D'Estaing concerning; distress of island (necessaries of life scarcer, no credit or money, expectation of being invaded every moment). Fixed departure for England next April so will be busy making up my dispatches and accounts for government, who stand largely in my debt. Treatment in St. Vincent (indignity; stripped of everything by French and Charibbs). • 1779 August 9, Hewitt, Barbados to Lord Lifford [brother]. Personal comments: just arrived from St. Vincent; being plundered, St. Vincent taken, and 2 days after leaving Tobago and Grenada, Grenada with Grenadines taken beginning July by storm and town given to soldiers for plunder. Lord Macartney been sent a prisoner to France; he has lost
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			<p>everything. Barbados in state of confusion. So fatigued need to stay here few months till relief comes from Europe. Due to French financial obligations, need your assistance. Admiral Barrington gone, and Admiral Byron has much to answer for his inactivity. Produce of Grenada is to be shipped to France and not a penny of it to come into English merchants' hands. No letters received from Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1779 August 30, Hewitt, Barbados to Mr. Samuel Wildgoose. Goods William Dickinson lodged for me in your hands and sold for my account – due to state of St. Vincent, please send value from sales to me to Barbados; any unsold and unfit for St. Kitts, direct for me at House of Misters Collins and Wilson, merchants at Barbados.• 1779 September 8, Hewitt, Barbados to [?]. Just settled into the country; preparing a power of attorney for you. My demand on Chauvet's Estate unsatisfied. Mr. Hawkes will be at St. Vincent to discharge you and Mr. Paul from Bolton's affair and to clear Byre's note now in Macdonal's hands and to collect household furniture left in Kean's house in our great hurry to depart. All letters for me to go to William Forbes at Bridge Town, Barbados.• 1779 September 15, Hewitt, Barbados to Misters Lambert & Co., upholsterers in London. Provides reasons for not remitting as intended – long captivity with French and confusion of the times.• 1779 September 8, Hewitt, Barbados to Thomas Hunt & Co, London. Confounded by Treasury's not having paid you my draft since haven't even had salary from them; my existence depends on them. Statement that the taking of Grenada and St.
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			<p>Vincent has affected credit and merchants. P. S. Hurt me your returning bills which had no right to return for my agreement with your brother, Rowland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1779 September 15, Hewitt, Barbados to Lord [Lifford?], refers to him as his brother. Acknowledges receipt of letter 5 April being only letter since 9 months. Grateful for help. Only thing wanted here is paymaster general to troops; this is in the gift of Mr. Rigby and would be honourable and lucrative and my situation in this island would make it very convenient for the army. To prevent inconvenience to you, wrote Hewitt & Co. And enclosed my draft in bills on Lords of Treasury, being years' salary for self and clerk as specified by their own warrant and which became due on 4 July 1778. Shows frustration and desperation about this situation. States only excuse Treasury ever had not to honour our bills were that the receiver of moneys residing here was to pay us, which is now invalidated by no receiver or deputy receiver being here in this part of the world for some months and all payments due to government stopped for present. My late fatigue and indisposition has left a weakness upon me that I feel very much; I live in country upon milk and oat when I can procure it.• 1779 September 15, Hewitt, Barbados to [?]. Enclosing my first bill of exchange on Treasury dated 10 September for 30 days sight for 882 pounds and 10 shillings being one years' salary due 1778, by which you see there is another year due in 2 months. Also informed Treasury of financial help you have been to keep me from starving. Bills are drawn first, second, and third and will be
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			<p>dispatched soon. Would like a newspaper sent to keep up with European news until April 15. Mentions account with French and Hobson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1779 September 10, Hewitt, Barbados to Right Honourable Lords [of Treasury?]. Concerns renewal of his commission as inhabitants of Tobago require more authority for me to do as requested and make a report. Indicates left Tobago, then to Grenada meeting with Lord Macartney on steps to be taken for interest of colony. After 3 days' arrival at St. Vincent, taken by French. Given heavy fine by French in order to leave. In great debt such that gave on your Lordship's account at 30 days for 882 pounds payable to Edward Hewitt & Co, merchants in London, being one years' salary for self and clerk, which became due 1778. Critical of receiver general and deputy – quit rents lost and spent by persons in office; and effect on his business accounts. Transmitting my account of expences soon for surveying, etc. for about 4,000 pounds which is moderate sum when compared to cost for late commission for one year. H.M.S. <i>Sphinx</i> with clothing for 48th Regiment taken to windward of Martinique by French frigate. • 1779 September 20, Hewitt, Barbados, to [?]. Again mentions hurt by returning of drafts; I am not a common correspondent. Wish to have the accounts closed. • 1779 September 21, Hewitt, Barbados to Luke R. Phipps, Esq. [Hewitt's attorney]. Have settled Bolton's affair with Mr. Paul who has undertaken to furnish money to discharge our joint bond; send bond here quickly as intend to bring an action against Sandford for malpractice. Enclosed for you
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			<p>Mr. Paul's receipt [included] to be applied as receipt directs to release us from iniquitous proceeding. Please pick up and send me things left behind in Kean's house [list of items included]. Tell Mr. MacDonal will order him money for Byres account. No scarlet cloth but expect some of my own imported from St. Kitts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1799 September 25, Hewitt, to Doctor Connor/Conner. Suggest telling his Lordship [brother?] you hope he does not lose sight of putting you on staff by his interest with 60th or any other regiment. Send letter to me and I will strengthen it with one from me. Paul brings money for Bolton which discharges our joint bond. News shared from Lord Lifford about Ireland.• 1799 September 21, Hewitt, Barbados to Edward Hewitt. Under necessity of taking up protested bill of 250 pounds which was offered me this day, the charges and interest with damages increased the total. Have given draft at 60 days payable to Misters Turner and Paul; the value to be carried to chancellor's account. The bill is addressed to your house. You will be furnished with money which will be reinstated in 29 or 3 months.• 1780 February 2, Hewitt to William Dickinson. Received bills of exchange – one a paymaster bill. Send 2nd, 3rd and 4th bills as no opportunity may be lost in remitting them home. Mr. Hawkes has accounted with me for money the goods sold for though very heavy expence runs so far into the principal as will occasion a dreadful loss. Thanks for great attention paid to my concerns; though we find considerable loss in Glanville's settlement upwards of 250 pounds, yet I agree with you that it
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			<p>was right to finish with him for reasons best known to ourselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1780 February 17, Hewitt, Barbados to Masters [T?] & [B or R] Hunt. I have 2 accounts with government, one for salary, the other for expences of surveyors, vessel hires, etc. which amounts to 4,000 pounds for 4 years. Your bill is upon this account and no delay should have been made with payment. In regard to Chauvet's affair, still not satisfied and not yet paid 1,200 pounds. Repeat request for status of my account.• 1780 February 17, Hewitt, Barbados to Edward Hewitt & Co. London fleet came yesterday; good news for underwriters. Send remainder of my provision commission as afraid I must spend another year in West Indies. Enclosed 3 bills of exchange [included here]. Have not heard anything of your goods that were put into the hands of Perrot & Co. James Hewitt [nephew] just arrived from Dominica in Dutch sloop. Chauvet & Co. account far from settled as no paymaster in ceded islands. News: Monsieur Piquet being blocked up in Gaurdeloupe Road by men of war commanded by Collingwood. Names mentioned in bills remitted: John Forbes Captain and paymaster's draft on Cox & Mair, agents in London dated Antigua; John Smith captain and paymaster on Edward Bishop, London dated at St. Christophers; and Abram Shaw on Pierce Bryan, London.• 1780 February [?], Hewitt to [Lord Lifford?]. Mentions success of Admiral Parker. Concerned his credit problems and having to get so much assistance from Lifford is weakening Lifford's confidence in Hewitt. Am soliciting the government
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			<p>of Barbados in place of Governor Hay and begs assistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1780 February 18, Hewitt, Barbados to John Robinson, Esq., [Treasury?], Whitehall, London. Had been waiting some time for dispatches from Tobago to finish report on their memorial. Ready to send report now to Treasury; as well as my account with expenses such as surveying. Hints at the necessity of continuation of commission since strongest probability of some of the islands being soon retaken. • 1780 March 4, Hewitt, Barbados to William Dickinson. Hurt in not receiving 2nd and 3rd part of bills remitted me by Johnson which has hindered negotiation of those bills and has distressed me. Encloses William Raggett's draft on William Chapman, Newcastle upon Tyme, which was refused payment, and being an inland bill, neglected to be protested so came to me in London from Dominica 1776 June 16. Raggett is now clerk to commissary to the Navy who is in Antigua so lose no time getting principal and interest of this draft any way likely to get payment. • 1780 March 16, Hewitt, Barbados to Edward Hewitt. Mentions no letter from you in this packet which leaves me in suspense about my Treasury bill being paid. How can you be so neglectful – 2 bills came out this packet protested for which greatly distressed. Confusion here and packet sailing 24 hours sooner than normal so only time to send you 2nd bills of exchange valued 500 pounds. • 1780 March 16, Hewitt, Barbados to Right Honourable Lords [Treasury?]. Encloses account for surveying services, vessels hired, etc. [not included
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			<p>here] to your Lordships, for work related to my commission up to this month, totalling 2 years and 6 months. Also encloses Tobago Memorial with my Report upon it [not included here]. Waiting on further instructions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of correspondence; bottom letter is one sent to John Robinson indicating Hewitt's disappointment at not receiving continuation of commission at Tobago.
143	1767 May 2/Dominica	Hewitt to Freeman and Mason	<p>Difficulties sending bill home; sales at Grenada finished April 14; here at Grenada thereafter after dangerous journey, and sales begin here tomorrow and at St. Vincent 25th when we will finish the business of the year. Makes Dominica place of residence as most healthy. Comments the new islands are in perpetual spring flourishes. Discrepancy in invoice pertaining to candles; comments these fetch nothing in this part of the world as the heat melts them, so that wax or spermaceti is used. As short stay in Grenada, put all goods into hands of friend to dispose of to my account; do not expect to see any money for them till next March when there for public business. States his situation in life now will enable Hewitt to pay balance of accounts in England. Happy I am that my fortune in life now will soon enable me to be of service to my family and friends and to clear off every score against me. My remittance shall always send to you with instructions how to apply them. [Incomplete]</p>
144	1777 June 12/Dominica	Hewitt to Chauvet and Turquand, merchants in London	<p>Finances. Starts with stating he has just arrived after infinite hardship; sees opportunities to attain great fortune. Instructions pertaining to J. Reynold's acceptance and Hewitt's relevant note from Reynolds. Ordered Mr. Rogerson, our deputy receiver, to remit you sugars from St.</p>

			Vincent under cover of bill of lading, and paid into his hands 500 pounds for your service.
145	1778 August 8/Dominica	Hewitt to Chauvet and Turquand?	Concerns information related to Hewitt from Chauvet and Turquand concerning the state of their financial affairs.
146	1778 August 10/Dominica	Hewitt to Lord Lifford? [brother]	Sent with fleet an authenticated copy of memorial of representatives of this island thanking me for my attention to their preservation. Believes this would help in promoting Hewitt's application for government of Dominica, with his brother's help.
147	1778 Nov. 1/Dominica	Hewitt to Joseph Senhouse at Barbados	Asks to deliver to Hewitt's merchants in London a letter of great consequence to Hewitt. Asks that Senhouse takes care of his mail and redirects carefully any of his to Dominica under favour to Honourable Abram Shaw, observing to send nothing after expiration of this month when Hewitt's captivity expires. States: I am most cruelly treated in violation of all humanity, honour and capitulation.
148	1779 Jan. 1/St. Vincent	Hewitt to "Sir" in England?	Grateful for your visit when at Craven Hill, in company with helpful doctor. In your department is a vacancy in 60 th Regiment of Foot, quartered here, by the death of Doctor Notter. Recommends Doctor John Connor who would be useful serving soldiers subjected to dangerous exposure of this climate.
149	1779 March 12	Hewitt to William Taylor and Frith?	Briefly concerns Sharp's action with no details except to say – if you see Mr. Phipps, he will tell you more.
150	1780 Nov. 24 – 1781 March 28		Copies of 2 letters from Barbados, and lists of letters, some with abstracts, sent via named vessels. First letter dated 24 Nov. 1780, makes statement of his situation during the hurricane – was dug out of the ruins of my house bruised from under a staircase on which fell 20 tons of stone. States has "yours" of 6 Sept and 4 Oct., first covering bill of lading, the contents of which are carried into Spain, but I hope your prudence has covered me from any loss by insuring. The latter of 4 Oct. brings me disagreeable news of my bills

			<p>being refused in favour of Mr. Bradshaw, the paymaster here for 200 pounds. This has stopped all my credit with him and what I shall do I do not know, for God's sake go yourself to Treasury and tell Mr. Robinson my situation.</p> <p>Second letter dated 1781 March 27, shows his despair at not receiving any money due him from the Treasury. I am plunged into such distress as no pen can paint being detained upon the dreadful island for about 500 pounds, incurred by payments of moneys to discharge the debts of my commission.</p>
151	1781 March 27/Barbados	Hewitt to [?]	Includes part of another sent.
Copies of Letters Sent, Undated and in Alphabetical Order of Recipient (152-159)			
152	February	Hewitt to Lord Beauchamp	Address myself now to your humanity after my ill treatment at Treasury this day. For 12 months I have been existing upon Treasury hopes, upon repeated promises from time to time of my appointment. Please acquaint Lord North.
153		Hewitt to William Dickinson at Antigua	States he is so unfortunate to lose much a second time due to war, including plundering of "Indians"; for particulars refers Dickinson to Mr. Walker, the bearer of letter. Encloses [not in here] bill of lading for goods shipped by Darlington; not sure if they have landed at Antigua or St. Kitts, but please immediately dispose of and send money.
154		Hewitt to Lord George Germain	Requesting to take Governor Shirley's place in government on the island.
155		Hewitt to Lifford [brother]	Have not heard from your Lordship in 4 months; Governor Shirley has left this island for England this day and Hewitt asks for assistance getting Shirley's job as Hewitt's commission soon ends. Bankruptcy of Chauvet's house hurt me much having 1854 pounds in their hands when they stopped payment, but it will be next year before I can do

			anything as court is all over till next March. Thank goodness enjoys good health.
156		Hewitt to Monsieur Linge, Commissaire	Suivant ce qu nous avons fixe hier Je suis actuellement a vous attendre ici pour vous donner l'explication des livres et papiers que vous demandrie au sujet de la commission avant que j'aille a la campagne.
157		Hewitt to Ellistone and John Perots at Antigua	[Merchants who sold goods for William Dickenson, Jr. per Knarston.] Instructions for Ellistone and Perots.
158-9		Hewitt to General Vaughan	Shows interest in attaining job appointments – 1. commissioner to settle disputes at Demerara, Essequibo, and Barbice; 2. deputy commissary; and 3. treasurer to the islands. Also troubles of protested bills due to government non payment; begs assistance.
Copies of Letters Sent, Undated and Unaddressed			
160		To "Your Lordships"	Concerning a governorship if vacancy available after Governor Shirley leaves. Would like to stay employed in the islands.
161		To "My Lord"	Would be interested in governorship of Barbados since Governor Edward Hay has died.
162			Letter of recommendation for Mr. Byers, bearer of letter, who was our chief surveyor in the last commission and very well acquainted with all the islands.
163			