

MARCH 5, 1622/3

41

CCXCIII. RICHARD FFRETHORNE. LETTER TO MR. BATEMAN

MARCH 5, 1622/3

Manchester Papers, No. 317
Document in Public Record Office, London
List of Records No. 419

5th Marche 1622 in Virginia

Right Worth this is to lett yow vnderstand that I am in a most miserable and pittiful Case both for want of meat and want of cloathes for we had meale and pusion for twenty and there is ten dead, and yett our prouision will not laste till the Seafflower come in, for those seruante that were there before vs were allmost Pined, and then they fell to feedinge soe hard of our prouision that itt killed them that were ould Virginians as fast, as the scurvie & bloody fluxe did kill vs new Virginians: for they were in such a Case by reason of the murder done all ouer the land that they Could not plant anythinge att all, and att euerie Plantacon all of them for the most part were slaine and theyr howses & goodell burnt. some, the Indians kept alieue and tooke them awaie wth them, and nowe theise two Indians that they haue taken doe tell vs that the Indians haue 15 alieue wth them thus through theyr Roguery the land is ruinated and spoyled, and itt will not bee soe stronge againe not this 12 yeares, for att our Plantacon of seauenscore, there was butt 22 lefte alieue, and of all theyr houses there is butt 2 lefte and a peece of a Church, and our master doth saye that 3000 poundell will not make good our Plantacon againe, And the Marchaunte lost by itt the last yeare, and they can gett little or nothings this yeare, ffor we must plant butt a little Tobago, butt all corne for breade, and when we haue done yf the Rogues come and Cutt itt from vs as they haue sent all the Plantacons word that they will haue a bout wth them, and then we shall quite be starued, ffor is itt not a poore Case when a pinte of meale must serue a man 3 dayes as I haue seene itt since I came Wherefore my humble request is that I maye be freed out of this Egipt, or els that itt would please yow to send ouer some beife & some Cheese and butter, or any eatinge victuallell will bee good tradinge and I will send you all that I make of itt onely I would intreat the gaine to redeeme me, or yf yow please to speake to the rest of the Parishioners, that a smale gatheringe maye be made to send me theise thingell or els to redeeme me sodanly

Virginia Company Of London, Library Of Congress & Woodrow Wilson Collection, Kingsbury, S. M., ed. (1906) The records of the Virginia Company of London. Washington: Govt. Print. Off., to 1935. [Image] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/06035006/>. (Book IV, Image 59-60)

for I am almost pined and I want Clothes for truly I haue but one shirt one Ragged one & one payer of hose, one payer of shoes one suite of Cloothes soe that I am like to Perish for want of succor & releife, Therefore I beseech yow and most humblie intreat & entyrelly att yo^r mercifull hande (not wth Pharoes ~~brother~~ §buttler§ to forgett me, as he did forgett Joseph in the Prison) butt I intreat yow to vse the wordē of god Jeremieh in his 31 Chapter and the 10 verse where he sayeth I haue suerly heard Ephrahim bemoaninge himselfe, euen soe yow maye see me bemoaninge myselfe, wherefore I intreat yow to follow his wordē in the latter ende of the 20th verse of the same Chapter (that is) I will suerly haue mercye vppon him sayeth the lord; Soe I beseech yow to haue mercy vppon me, remembringe what Sallomon sayeth in the 35th Chapter of Ecclesiasticus and the 20 verse, that mercy is seasonable in the tyme of ~~affliction~~ affliction & §as§ Cloudes of Rayne in the tyme of drought soe now mercie is seasonable to me att this tyme I neede not sett downe the wordē of Sallomon in the 37 of Ecclesiasticus and the 6th verse because the lord hath endued yo^r hart wth many of those blessingē And thus I comitt yow into the handē of allmightie god and intreat yow to helpe me soe suddaynely as yow Can Soe vale in Christo

Yo^r poore seruant to Comaund

RICHARD FFRETHORNE [sic]

[Indorsed:¹] Coppie of a Ire written to M^r Bateman from Virginia the 5th of March 1622 from Richard ffreethorne.

CCXCIV. ORDER OF COURT FOR VIRGINIA AND THE SOMERS ISLANDS

MARCH 7, 1622/3

Ferrar Papers

Document in Magdalene College, Cambridge

List of Records No. 421

At a Court held for Virginia and the Somer Islands on Friday the -7- of March 1622. There being present the number of -80- Persons.

Whereas in reading the court held the ffifth of this present moneth, there was observed an omission in my reeding Lo: Cavendishis report of part

¹ In a contemporary hand.