

1765, 11 Outubro, Bristol. Carta de Henry Cruger Jr. para Aaron Lopez

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Bristol, 11th October, 1765.

Sir,

I've already had the pleasure of writing you by the *America*, who is detained by contrary winds and blowing weather.

I have now to congratulate you on the safe arrival of the *Friendship*, Capt. Lindsay, who delivered me your most esteemed favours of 22d August, covering invoice and bill lading of her cargo, not being able to meet a birth at our key to my liking, have orderd her not to come up for a day or two. Your drafts amounting to £1400. stg. that you advise of, shall all meet due honor, and your account charged accordingly. I wish to God we may have better success in the sale of this ship, than we had with the *America*, tho I much doubt if we shall, as at present trade, when compared to its usual state, is really stagnated; no manner of demand for ships. Times must mend, when they do, you may depend on the earliest advice and encouragement.

Oil is as high as I believe it will be this year, especially if the importations should be large, which a little time will determine. Vitious or spermaceti oil none at this market; at London it sells from £21 to £22 per ton, and a dull article; Newfoundland £18 to £20, little at market; New England £17; Whale £18. Please to observe all these prices are just now rather nominal than real, as the dealers won't break a price untill they are well ascertained what quantitys will arrive. Mahogany is become a mere drugg all over the Kingdom, three entire Cargoes of it arrived lately in London. Tar is just now quite down, tho I imagine will get up towards Spring, and the price of turpentine is likely to hold. Sugars are very high and a rising article, but alas, I fear they are out of your reach, the marketts in England you must be convinced from experience are very fluctuating; in the course of a month, they often rise or fall 20 per cent, which every now and then inclines me to think it quite needless sending even the prices current, it is impossible to be informed what quantitys of goods may be expected, so many are the ports in America from whence they come; frequently, when we think any articles are likely to be scarce, drop in cargoes from all quarters, when of course down goes the price again, and so vice versa; I have taken a good deal of pains to inform Capt. Osborne by word of mouth of the state of this market the year round; I would not take the liberty, Sir, to

refer you to him, but that I think him both an intelligent and an honest man. Never is a long while, but my belief of logwood is, that during our natural lives it will never exceed £7. per ton. Inclosed is an exact price current.

Yesterday my broker told me he expected soon, a large cargo of vitious oil from London, as that market was likely to be over stocked; the conveyances of goods from that port to this, and from this to that, are so easy, the difference of the market seldom continues long, or material, the price of the London market generally regulates this. You may depend I shall ever do everything in my power for your best advantage, avoiding as much as possible writing any intelligence but what may with safety be rely'd upon.

Capt. Lindsay being very desirous to embrace this so favourable an opportunity of returning home, I could not refuse indulging him with his discharge, seeing no loss can accrue to the ship in consequence thereof. I shall pay him and take his receipt accordingly, the sailors have also called for their pay agreeable to the portledge bill.

Capt. Lindsay is pleased to receive all the passage money for the two gentlemen he brought over. I think the ship ought to have credit for at least a moiety, he says you chose to allow him the whole, so I've done on that head; but, as you have allowed him £18: 15:0 stg. to bring him home, and as I have (for you) been so indulgent already to give him his discharge, he ought to pay his passage home (which is 5 gs. to the Capt. and 5 gs. to the ship) or at least refund to you some of the £18:15:0 I have paid him; if it was my case he should do one, or the other, as I think it is nothing but right, — this rests with you.

I shall not fail to send you the few articles you are pleased to order, and having some knowledge of these things, will be curious in collecting them.

We omitted in the invoice per the *America* to charge 12 doz. matts, amounting as per account herewith to £5.10.8. Capt. Osborne had occasion for 3 gs. more, which I paid him (as per his receipt) and your account debited for the same.

Time will not admit of my saying more than that I am, with great integrity and regard, Your most assured Humble Servant

Hen: Cruger, Junior