

# Hall Family Papers and Sugar Plantation Records

1709 - 1892

MSS.220

1762, February 20: Thomas Hall to Molly Hall [wife]



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Feb 20 1762 To

Mrs Hall

Dear Madam  
London

Dear Molly.

Tryall Feb 20 1762

I wrote to you from Kingston just after  
our Arrival. We staid there about 10 days & then took passage  
again on board the Mary & in two day landed safe at  
Annapolis where I deliver'd up my charge of Miss  
Lewis to her Uncle George & Bosley and went up myself with  
Coll: Barclay to Kirkpatrick where I staid 3 day but was  
greatly affected with melancholly reflections, the old Coll:  
altho somewhat broke is still pretty hearty, he was very  
kind and obliging and would accompany me over here  
we lodged on our way at Bosleys, they are both well, she  
seems very happy and well pleased with her Daughter?  
Mr: Radson came down with Miss Lewis, but as Mrs: Bosley  
doth not want such a person, she must look out for a Place  
she might have had a very good one in Town, but was desirous  
of seeing the Country before she settled. We spent a day with  
her & our Sister at the Point where they live since y:  
Mama's death, they are both in good health tho' y: Sister is  
not so fat as formerly. I got to Drwain the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst. Coll: Barclay  
staid about a week with me & then returned. I found my  
Estates & Affairs in great disorder & confusion and my  
presence much wanted. Mr: Russia has been too severe  
& tyrannical, there has been no less than 7 or 8 over-  
seers at Drwain & 4 upon Tryall since my absence, you  
may imagine such frequent changes & alterations  
must be a great injury to my Gray Estates; he is of such  
an unhappy disposition that he has farrnell fallen  
out with almost the whole Neighbourhood & in short  
no Overwir of any reputation would live under him  
I have not yet had time to settle or look over my  
Affairs

they are also in confusion & not kept in the manner I would  
have them I intended Mr. Cleland should have transacted  
these matters but Rousea would take them upon himself, but  
upon the whole I cannot as yet charge them with any  
injustice, he has been at a good deal of trouble & I believe  
his intentions might have been good, but he is of too severe  
& absolute a disposition for such a Trust. The greatest  
satisfaction I have is to find that I have not met with  
any great mortality amongst my Slaves, it is true they  
were greatly dejected & depressed with severe usage but my  
prudence has sat that tonight I believe I have notified  
you enough of Plantation affairs which I know you  
are not fond of. As to my Health while I was in Town  
I had a little of the Gout which made me very lame  
but went off as soon as I got on board the Ship &  
continued very well until last Saturday Night being  
this day seven Night when I found my self a little queasie  
the next day I took a Dose but at Night was seized with  
a very smart fit of the fever which continued 18 hours  
& put me in such a fright that I immediately got a  
large quantity of Blood taken from me and as soon  
as it intermitted took a dozen Doses of Bark which  
has prevented any return & by Purgings & abstinence  
I am now perfectly recovered again & have had no return  
I am hope I have now gone thro all the Seasoning that I am  
to have, for after having lost some of my English Blood  
you need not be in such fear for me, I came here from  
Trinidad Yesterday Evening - We have been greatly  
alarm'd with the apprehensions of an Invasion & been  
under Martial Law which still continues, However  
Peoples fears begin to subside, we have just arriv'd the

the agreeable accounts that the principal Fort & Town at Mar-  
tinico is taken which gives us hopes the conquest of that Island  
will be soon compleat'd & that we shall have a sufficient  
reinforcement from thence; but I am sorry to find that a  
Spanish War seems unavoidable which will distress us a  
great deal on this Side of the Island, where we are so much  
exposed to be plunder'd & pillag'd & it will also exhance the  
price of Mules & Cattle immensely - I hope by the next  
Voyage to have the pleasure to receive some of your  
Letters & give me the happiness to hear that you & my  
Family are well I shall in return write so frequently  
as I have opportunity. I shall forward my business  
to return as soon as possible, direct your Letters with  
your own hand & I shall leave Instructions with  
Mr. Cleland to return them unopen'd in case they  
should come after my departure - My kindest  
Tenders to the Children & keep up your Spirits in  
hope of a happy meeting with  
Dear Mother  
All our friends here are well.  
Please give my Compl'ts to Miss  
Blakes & inform them Jos. Ansbury  
is well & is a very sober honest  
good Lad

Your most affect.  
The Hall

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