

To the: 15: I doe not knowe of any salt peter produced or  
produceable in this Provynce.

P. R. O.  
Colonial  
Papers.  
B. B.

As: to the: 18: 19: 20: 26: & 27: All that I am able to  
answer is ffirst That whereas in many other parts of America  
They refuse (out of covetousness) to permitt their Negroes and  
Mulatto's to be Baptised Out of an Opyinion That Baptisme is  
a Manumission from their services and consequently the same  
thing as to the Dammage of the Masters and Owners as if  
their said servants were actually Dead.—And this Opyinion  
beginning to take place in this Provynce a Law was made to  
encourage the Baptizeing of them By which it was and is  
declared That as in former tymes The Baptizeing of Villaynes in  
England was not taken by the Lawe of England. To be a  
Manumission or Infranchiseing of the Villaynes soe neither  
shall it be in this Provynce as to Negroes or Mulattoes and  
there have been found good effects from this Lawe all Masters  
generally since the making of this Lawe haveing beene  
willing to Instruct those kynde of Servants in the ffayth of  
Christ and to bring them to desyre and receive Baptisme.  
Secondly that haveing as yett no farther Division of the said  
Provynce. Then into Countyes Nor in Truth any possibility of  
makeing as yett any farther subdivisions into Parishes for the  
Reasons before given There is no way to be found to make  
calculations to satisfy theis Inquiries (in case I were upon the  
place) without takeing a very great tyme And makeing such  
scuteinyes as would certaynly either endanger Insurections or  
a Generall Dispeopleing of the Provynce w<sup>ch</sup> is at present in  
great peace and Quiett all persons there beinge secured to  
their content for a quiett enjoyment. Of every Thing that they  
cann Reasonably desyre. The Reason why such scuteinyes  
would be thus Dangerous is that viz<sup>t</sup> That at the first planteing  
of this Provynce by my ffather Albeit he had an Absolute  
Liberty given to him and his heires to carry thither any Persons  
out of any the Dominions that belonged to the Crowne of  
England who should be found Wylling to goe thither yett  
when he came to make use of this Liberty He found very few  
who were inclined to goe and seat themselves in those parts  
But such as for some Reason or other could not lyve with ease  
in other places And of these a great parte were such as could  
not conforme in all particulars to the severall Lawes of  
England relateing to Religion Many there were of this sort of  
People who declared their Wyllingness to goe and Plant  
themselves in this Provynce soe as they might have a Generall  
Toleraccōn settled there by a Lawe by which all of all sorts  
who professed Christianity in Generall might be at Liberty to  
Worshipp God in such Manner as was most agreeable with  
their respective Iudgm<sup>ts</sup> and Consciences without being subject