

exaggerated they are in my Opinion wealthy enough already, & I think  
every Body must be of the same Opinion who sees the Interest they at  
this time have in the House of Commons, while I believe there is not one  
Gentl<sup>r</sup> there whose Estate lies in North America. I have been assured that  
Sugars at this time sell here at almost double the Price they did twenty  
Years ago; owing in a great Measure to the vast Increase of People on  
this Continent while the Produce of North America such as Corn &  
Lumber that is sent to the Sugar Islands is sold at a less Price than was  
because the Consumption of those Articles in the Islands is the same now  
as it was then & therefore we are now obliged to remit Bills of Exchange to  
the Islands for a great Part of the Commodities we get from them. Had  
those Vessels which have been employed in that Hispaniola Trade car-  
ried Provisions thither from Phila<sup>a</sup> & other Places perhaps more might  
have been urged against it but I have heard that this has not been  
the Case & as the Act of Parliament which was made two or three Years  
ago forbidding the Exportation of Grain from this Continent to any Neu-  
tral Ports in a manner put an End to the greatest Branch of Business  
which had been before carried on here; I mean in the Northern Colonies  
the Merchants were at a Loss how to employ their Vessels & themselves  
till they fell into the Trade You condemn. I ask Your Pardon for  
troubling You with my Sentiments on this Subject which You may  
probably think appears to me in a wrong Light; perhaps it does, & I do  
not for my part know but the Trade that has been carried on might  
be contrary to Law; however it is said that some Lawyers are of a diffe-  
rent Opinion. I think myself obliged to You for the Civilities  
You