

ment to you a wise and discreet Use and Improvement of those fortunate Circumstances by a closer Attention to the enacting of such salutary Laws, and concerting such judicious Measures, as may be thought most conducive to the mutual Interest of his Majesty's Service, and the Prosperity of this Island.—the flourishing State of which, it must be acknowledged, is most conspicuously evident, from the greatly improved Aspect and Appearance of the Face of the Country in Point of Cultivation and Agriculture, but more unequivocally certain from the vast annual Increase of our Exports of various Kinds of Produce, and most distinguishingly so in the valuable Articles of Wheat and black Cattle.

The erecting of a Church in this Town since the last Session of the General Assembly, for the more decent and devout Public Worship of Almighty God, begun and so far carried on by private Subscription, I persuade myself cannot be either unobserved by you, or regarded with Indifference.—And while contemplating the Means of affording some Assistance towards the completing an Edifice for religious Worship, suffer me, Gentlemen, once more to recal to your Recollection the great Duty which we owe to the present rising and succeeding Generations, of making some Provision and Endowments for the permanent Establishment of a Public School, or Academy, for the better Education and Instruction of the Youth of this Island.—The transcendant Benefits and Advantages of a polished and liberal Education have too often been made the well chosen Theme of both ancient and modern Declamation to receive any additional Elucidation, or Encomium, from any Thing that I am able to say upon the Subject. I, however, do not hesitate to believe, that Religion and Learning are, at this enlightened Period and Age of the World, universally acknowledged to be not only the highest Ornament and Glory, but the principal Source and Basis of substantial Happiness in every Government, and of every People. And under such Impressions it is, that I now submit the Consideration of those truly important and lastingly interesting Subjects, to the liberal Result of your deliberate and united Consultations,

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

I SHALL give Directions to the proper Officers to lay before you the Public Accounts of this Government; whereby you will be enabled to discover how far the Public Revenue of this Island has fallen short of discharging the Public Debts, and defraying the current unavoidable Expenditures of the Year, and consequently you will perceive the Propriety of devising some Ways and Means of paying or otherwise doing Justice to the Demands of Public Creditors.

*Gentlemen of his Majesty's Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

REPOSING an entire Confidence in your Loyalty and Affection to our Most Gracious Sovereign and his Royal and illustrious Family, and of your Zeal for his Majesty's Interests, and Attachment to his Government, I will only add, that I shall at all Times most cheerfully and cordially concur with you in every proper Measure and Effort which may tend to a Manifestation of such laudable Principles, or that can in any Manner or Degree promote the Prosperity and Happiness of his Majesty's faithful Subjects in this Island.

EDMUND FANNING.

Council Chamber, Charlotte Town, Island Saint John, 2d February, 1796.