

gruous alliance with a band of freebooters. He was finally recalled. It is hard to judge such a man's motives, but his proposal was quite plain. In a letter to John Bradshaw, February 16, 1652, he wrote that the "inhabitants of Barbadoes are now fully satisfied that they have fought for their bondage, and laid down their arms for their liberties; since the composure, they have new spirits in them. Entrusted with a share in the Government, he offers his advice how to preserve what has been gained, and to enlarge the English dominions in the West Indies. The people of Barbadoes would delight to have the same form of government as England, and he desires, although it may seem immodest, that two representatives should be chosen by the island to sit and vote in the English Parliament."¹ In all likelihood it was but a chance suggestion without any serious purpose behind it, for, in his subsequent career as Governor, though he erected an assembly which was not ratified by the King, he did not, as far as can be ascertained, once recur to this idea.

It is doubtful when, or by whom, in the Franklin eighteenth century, the first suggestion of ¹⁷⁵⁴.

¹ The substance of the letter quoted in the *Calendar of State Papers, West Indies*.