My dear Sir,

You will no doubt be much surprised to find me in this part of the World. I have been rather unpleasantly situated respecting my procedure to England. Soon after we arrived here (which was not before the Saturday following) Capt. Davenhill told me he should proceed to Barbadoes in the course of a few days. I made up my mind to remain & go with him, in the meantime the Packet sailed from this & two other opportunities, after remaining eleven days he informed me that his vessel was taken up to be loaded & consequently would not proceed on to Barbadoes & we have had no opportunities since leaving the Colony. This was placing me in an awkward dilemma, however as Roxburgh was loading fast & to sail on the 19th of this, the first ship to leave, I thought it prudent to take my passage with him at 60 guineas, he finding me in every thing. This disappointment has been rather unfavorable to my returning to Surinam so soon as expected at all events. I will make as little stay in England as possible therefore trust by the next Packet you will as well as my Mother write to me in strong terms urging the necessity of my bringing the younger part of the Family out. I shall go down to your Brother soon after I arrive & know their plans. I have met with several people here who have heard much of our Family consequently am treated with the greatest civilities imaginable. I spent Christmas and New Year in (?) amongst the Islands in the mouth of that river. I visited Islands & the Arabian coast. I have an opportunity of seeing the finest part of South America on the north side of the Equator for Sugar Estates. The estates make from one million to 15 hundred thousand weight of sugar & have a gang of nothing less than 400 negroes. I was so much pleased with their management that I have contemplated were you to adopt the same measures & turn Pieterzorg into sugar you would be able to clear it in a short time. The Estates chiefly are worked by steam engines or windmills, but no water mills as in Surinam. What think you were I to endeavour to procure you a small Engine of 6 horse power, would it answer. I am strongly taken up in the idea & would turn every acre of land I possessed immediately into canes, as the revenue arising from 300 acres of Canes is immense. I would wish you to write me particularly on the subject by the next Packet giving your opinion on the mode of proceeding could I procure & bring out the works for a sugar plantation & should it meet your idea in the same manner it has mine you can easily plant more canes. I trust when Pieter is made of age we shall be able to command cash to meet any demands the works of a sugar plantation may occur, provided we hold together, which I hope we ever shall. My expences has been very trifling here as I sleep every night on board the Henry & generally dine at some gentleman's house. The town here is very inferior to Paramaribo, but the society is exceedingly good. I have had many enquiries regarding Whites circumstances, but I am very reserved on the subject. There are no here whatsoever, it would be as well for Surinam were they restricted in the same way. Land is sold here in the same way as in England, so many years purchase & in some parts its very valuable. Wiltens son gave me two letters to merchants here, but they turned out to be totally upon business. I expected they were letters of introduction. Should you see him just mention it to him. We shall sail on Tuesday next from this & hope to be at Home by the beginning of March. I hope you will not forget to forward the pictures of the Indians, etc. by the very first opportunity. Should you think it necessary to enter them in Custom House please to do so as I think should be very sorry to have them seized. I hope my mother is well, I should have written to her but this comes to you it will be all the same. We
heard from Frith, he is at St. Vincent & will not sail before March. Captain Davenhill gives a of 900 guineas to get loaded & sail in the middle of May. Roxburgh has been & is particularly attentive to me, he begs to be kindly remembered. With my kind love to my mother & best wishes for your health & welfare, I remain with much truth, My Dear Sir,

Your very sincere Friend,

J. F. A. Wiltens.

P.S. The note of hand for £200 which you gave to Bower of London is here in the hands of a Mr. Finlayson who called & asked me concerning you. I told him that the Bill was very good & you would be much surprised to find that he kept it so long without advising could you conveniently discharge it, it would be much better as this Mr. Finlayson might put you to some trouble & Expence. Please to remember me most kindly to all my Friends in Surinam. I hope Millar is better & endeavouring to do something for himself, you will of course take Asam to Pieterszorg. God bless you.

To Isaac Hayward, Esq.,

SURINAM.

Per Schooner Kitty.