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Mar. 4/14

P^d. to Com^r. Mar. 14/14.

Kensington Gore
March 4, 1814

W. Wilberforce, Esq. M. P. to Secretary,

My Dear Sir,

It appears from
the account I have received
from Mr. Hardcastle that
the vessel now Building by
the Missionaries in the South
Sea Island is by no means
such as to answer the pur-
pose, or supersede the ne-
cessity of the plan recommended
by Mr. Mawden. — If there-
fore our Society pause upon
the execution of the scheme

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which it had determined to adopt
on the credit of an adviser
so intelligent and experien-
ced as Mr. Mardden, in the
hope, or at least expectati-
-on, that the Missionary's
Vessel would be adequate to
the objects in view, it may
probably resume its intention,
and proceed to the carrying
into execution of the measure
recommended by Mr. Mardden.
I am grieved, I own, to re-
flect that we are losing

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so much precious time, after
Mr. Mardden's having so
strongly encouraged us to
adopt the plan several
years ago, and when we find
that subsequent experience
has tended only to confirm
his original persuasion.
The unwillingness to comply
with his advice appeared to
me to arise from the plan
being mistakenly supposed
to be primarily of a
commercial nature, rather

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than of a Missionary kind pro-
perly so called. — But if any
Gentlemen who are under
this impression will but at-
tentively peruse Mr. Mardden's
various communications,
they will, I am persuaded,
lay aside those ideas, and
admit the reasonableness
of Mr. Mardden's measure.
Let me beg you to have
the goodness to inform me
whenever the subject is to
be under consideration, if
I mean, it is to be regarded

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is a measure on which the
board has not made up its
mind on the principle, which
I must confess I understood
to be the case, that I may
have an opportunity of at-
tending. — It would give me
however far more pleasure
to hear that the committee
appointed to carry the scheme
into execution was proceed-
ing with its work. —

I am always
with esteem & regard

My Dear Sir
Yours faithful Serv^t
W. Milberforce

Rev. Josiah Pratt. (70)

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S. I trust you will excuse
my dictating as I have far
more writing than agrees
with my eyes —