MS. 498/60

William Wilberforce to Josiah Pratt

Hastings

Decr 20th 1816

My dear Sir,

My Eyes being to day very indifferent, I hope only occasionally from over exertion, allow me to dictate a few lines on a subject which I have before mentioned to you that of a Missionary for Christopher part of Hayti — It is with extreme pain that I reflect that though we have sent out several other instructors I have not yet been able to supply or recommend to them a single spiritual instructor. I sho' certainly much prefer a Church of England Minister if a proper one could be got, but I had far rather send a Methodist or a Dissenter than none at all — The person shod be able to speak French colloquially though we need not regard the pronunciation as might be necessary if he were intended for Paris or any other place in France — Let me earnestly entreat you to do all you can for us, and to let me know if you have any one in view likely at all to suit us — There is one Clergyman, Entre nous, who has thought of the situation but he is not [f] quite such as you or I sho'd like

I am

My dear Sir

most sincerely yours

W. Wilberforce

P.S. Pray excuse the effects of haste –