

RUBY

The following is an account of the voyages of the ship Ruby.

The voyage first recorded is one made by Captain Thomas Walker, who left Bristol in November of 1788 and headed for Bananoes, where he arrived by July of the next year. He then continued his quest for slaves in Sierra Leone, and from Africa went to Kingston, where his slaves were sold. He did not load with any goods, but returned to Bristol with no freight.

The second, and last voyage recorded of the ship Ruby was under Captain John Kennedy, who left Bristol on June 5, 1790 and sailed to Bence Island which he reached in August. In Bananoes, he also bought slaves, and left in December for Montego Bay. He did not stay there long, probably finding a glutted market, and continued on to Dominica, but soon returned to Montego Bay where he finally decided to sell his slaves. He left Jamaica on March 15, 1791 for a return trip to Africa, to the Isles de Loss, to Old Calabar and Sierra Leone, where he spent his time buying slaves. He left Africa in February of 1792 and headed for Barbados. Once again he sold the slaves purchased in Martha Brae, and this time loaded the Ruby with rum and sugar. Kennedy then departed for Bristol in April or May.

Contained in these papers are:

1788-89 - insurance, India goods prices, cargo notes, negro sales

1790 - Muster roll, wages, agreement between the captain and the crew, clearing papers, cargo notes, invoice for mahogany

1792 - document saying the account of slave sales is correct, rum and sugar prices and their sales, palm oil sales, insett notes from Africa, insurance receipts

Aug 1790
Rudey

Dear Roger Erskine

Brunswick August 18. 1790

I trust you will receive my first letter
in time to give the Ruby - the Ruby's Rego
according to agreement is received. I am in good Order -
I have not seen Mrs. Cleveland except at night at
Metta but I am sorry to find that he has so many papers to
read. He should have had all the time to go through them
since nothing but a few days. That as I am going the
Blandford Hunting Days to cover the time. Rufford goes
so high I would wish the Master that it is impossible
to get the Ruby. Therefor Mrs. Eliza & Mr. C. H. Cleveland and that a very
good report. I am going to this place tomorrow as Mrs. Eliza
promised to accompany me. I do not expect can be done there
from them. I shall probably take the Ruby to Cleveland
in case of my return to say when the Ruby will be able to go off
as the diamond of others & the present Henry thinks as that a
high to all kinds - but you may ^{be assured} be having the Ruby or
Ruby of in a month. but not soon especially by me. Let
me now tell you what I have done. I have sent the Ruby to
the Ruby of Mrs. & Blandford every time & I am satisfied with
make a good state of money by Blandford. I shall be entirely out of
pique to the time my Master is dead. But the Ruby half diminished. &
I can do no more as tell the Ruby come out if any of you make
use of that is least but worth call out with 30 or 40 Pounds &
Ruby & Blandford & I will pay immediately & I will pay for a face
of 100 Pounds of good leather. Consider this is no wear. This coat is kind
of much more. Share taken all the goods out of the Ruby &
leaving you with some other materials & the Weather at
present is a nail to skin every thing - you will stop all monthly
pay I demand to Ruby of Mrs. Eliza & Blandford & during of they last
one day - we find a rate of how big with the Ruby - the Daniels
since the last found in time of William Cleveland, was a great sale
of the Ruby every day, with his usual Master the
Master of the Ruby & I do not think that was for 50 Pounds all damaged & lost by
austur. This is charged in the Avenue 50 Pounds of Gun Powder - of these

Capt H. Walker
Jamaica 28 July 1790.

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Reference:-

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is only 40 & this was not one Pint of Rummane, as this is charged
in the Succers Captain Price - amounting to £100.000 - Your Father
wrote that there will be a great ship of mortality amongst the crew
there is seven of the Ruby's crew are Capt Johnson, Capt Blaney &
Capt New is dead, and most of the crew at Name Island is very ill.
I hope by this time you have favourable account of the Captain, as I
understand the latter with a good cargo, if he make no draft of his making
a good average - you will please to make full summons for me on
the Captain from Jamaica. Paul or Name Capt Roger must fit
a very good cargo in his boat, so if this is no wear he will fit
a very great opposition - and nothing but high winds in the west Indies
can at this point stand Name a good average - as far as the
same but then I am glad to make all the waters I can, tho' at
very Encouraging Price - but as far as the Ruby is off I shall fit
down the coast and then to find a low passage that will be
in Price that I give here - I would be glad to know the
possibility in the different parts of the West Indies for fitting
the same fitting in the 6 days as we proposed

I have nothing more particular to add but am to write
to you as soon as I get your next old ship

Thomas Holton

As far as I could see I had no money in my pocket when I came
with my boat. So when I got in Name I got the gear there
a boat & Price were paid on - - - - I have got the gear
in my boat so it goes - hope to get to land - - - -

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Riley
Oct. 1788

Oct. 22. 88
Mr. 30
John White Jr.
Jewelry 75.6.
Ls. 300.00 £ 340.10.
£ 340.10.

Mr. James Rogers 86-

Mr. James Rogers Jr.

Dr. of Mrs. James Rogers Dugg

31st Oct. & Riley

R. & W. Mart 2 pairs 120 D. Green
 1 D. 80 D. Black
 2 D. 160 D. Red
 1 D. 80 D. White
 1 D. 80 D. Green
 1 D. 80 D. Black
 600 D. Diamonds Cane w £ 12.10-
 6 D. 2 D. Blue
 24 D. Purple
 30 D. White
 30 D. Red
 30 D. Black
120 D. P. 288.8
 w 10. m 12.0 m
 Mart 2 7
£ 24.17-
12.

6 Nov. 1788
R. 2 W. Mart

E.C. - { 10 bracelets P. White 75 Agates 2 1/2 = 3.15-
 10 D. red 10 2gbs 2 D. Blue 10 12.6.8
 10 D. purple 10 350 Agate Stones 2 1/2 17.10-
 10 D. Black 10
 1 pair 75 Agate Stones Mart 7-
 E.C. { 20 bracelets P. Red 4 pairs 350 Agates £ 433.18.8
 20 D. Black
 10 D. purple
 15 D. white
 £ 20

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Riley
Oct. 1788

Andros Roger & Biggs 130.8 of James Jones	
1788 Oct. 31. { R. i Chest Beads - via:	
6	2 paper green Bailey com 120 Bins.
10	6 pack 80 80
2	80 80
1	White 80
1	Green 80
1	Black 80
	6.00 24
	8.00 8.00
6	Bunch. round blue
24	8. White
30	8. Red
30	8. Black
30	8. w. 2. 2. 8. 288 N.
120	9 10.16. £23.3.0
1788 Novem. 6. { 130.8 of James Jones	
R. 2. { Chest Beads - via:	
10	Bin. round White
10	8. Red
10	8. Purple
50	8. Black
	1 paper 75 Agate Stones 2.10. 3.2.6
20	2 Bin. round Red
20	8. Black
20	8. Purple
15	8. White
150	8. W. 296 N.
	9 11.2.0
	10 14.11.8
	1 paper 350 Agate Stones 7 £29.3.2
(Copy of two Invoices from J. Jones)	

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Inv. of Andros Roger & Biggs	
D. Green	
D. White	
D. Red	
D. White	
D. Green	
D. White	
D. Doves Com	W £ 12.10-
D. Blue	
purple	
white	
red	
black	
12. 288	W 10. in 12.0 in
	Mast 2. 7.
	£ 24.17.-
white	
12	75 Agates 2 1/2 = 3.15-
purple	10 296 8. 2 Bin. 10. 12.6.8
purple	10 350 Agate Stones 1/17.10-
Agate Stones	Black 2. 7 in
red	4 paper 350 Agates
purple	£ 33.18.8
black	8.0

April 1792
Rury Slave sales

Jamaica S. . .
Port of Martha Brae }

Mortality list

I John Kennedy master of the Ship Rury of Bristol
and I Thomas Adair Matl. of said Ship (there being no Surgeon
on board he having left the Ship on the coast of Africa) Swear
from the coast of Africa laden with Slaves do make Oath that
the annexed Journal contains a full and true account of all
the Slaves saved on Board said Ship from the time of her
leaving the said port of Bristol, or this present Voyage till
the time of her arrival at this port and that the Mortality
List annexed contains a full and true account of
all the deaths that have happened on Board the said
Ship during same Period

J. John Kennedy
Thos Adair

Sworn before us this
3 day of April 1792

J. James Fannin Comr
J. Peter Grant Comr

Custom House Monks Bay in Jamaica These are to
certify that the above is a true copy of the original
Journal produced at this Office

Given under our hands & Seals of Office
this second day of May 1792 —

James Fannin R.A.
Peter Grant Comr

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In Compliance with the late act for regulating the transportation
of Slaves from Africa to the West Indies and elsewhere in
British Possessions I commence this Journal

date	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total
1792					
July 17	30	16	44	23	113
20	15	4	2	2	23
21	10	6	3	2	21
	55	26	49	27	157
	5	3	13	2	23
	50	21	36	25	132

Mortality List of Ship Ruby

date	Mon	Amico	Reg.	Gift	Other Recd	Disorders
Feb 28	-	-	1	-	do	Dysentery }
29	-	-	1	-	do	do
March 1	1	-	1	-	do	do
2	-	-	2	1	do	Consumption
3	-	-	-	1	do	Dysentery
6	"	"	2	-	do	ditto
8	1	-	-	-	do	do
9	-	-	1	-	do	do
11	-	1	-	-	do	do
10	1	-	-	-	do	do
11	-	1	1	-	do	do
22	-	1	1	-	do	do
26	-	-	1	-	do	do
27	-	-	1	-	do	Insane
28	1	1	-	-	do	Dysentery
30	-	-	1	-	do	do
April 3	1	1	-	-	4.00	do



Ruby
Oct. 1788

Mr. & Mrs. John

Ent.

3 Oct. 1788

I recd the favor of your letter of 1st Inst.
I now enclose you the order for the Goods for Capt. Walkers Bank
July - You should have had the order a few days sooner
but He is not just yet at Manchester

Ent. 113 —



Ridley
June 1787

Mr Rogers

Sir

I arrived home the 5th of this Month
on the 7th fore you a Letter from Captain
Walker of your Ship the Ruby, whom I see
very reason to believe he commanded me to
you for a while. I lately was in the employ
of Mr John Fisher that present am under
no engagements - Should be much obliged
if you be pleasure to forward a few lines
in answer to Capt. Walker's Letter dat
or about the 12th Ap^r. I left the Bay
the 17th Ap^r when both Capt. Walker was well
Capt. D. informed me he would send the
Cpy of the 14th Ap^r. - Had every appearance
of making a very good voyage. Please to
direct to me at Mr Hayes West Smithall
House Park. I am wth the best regards

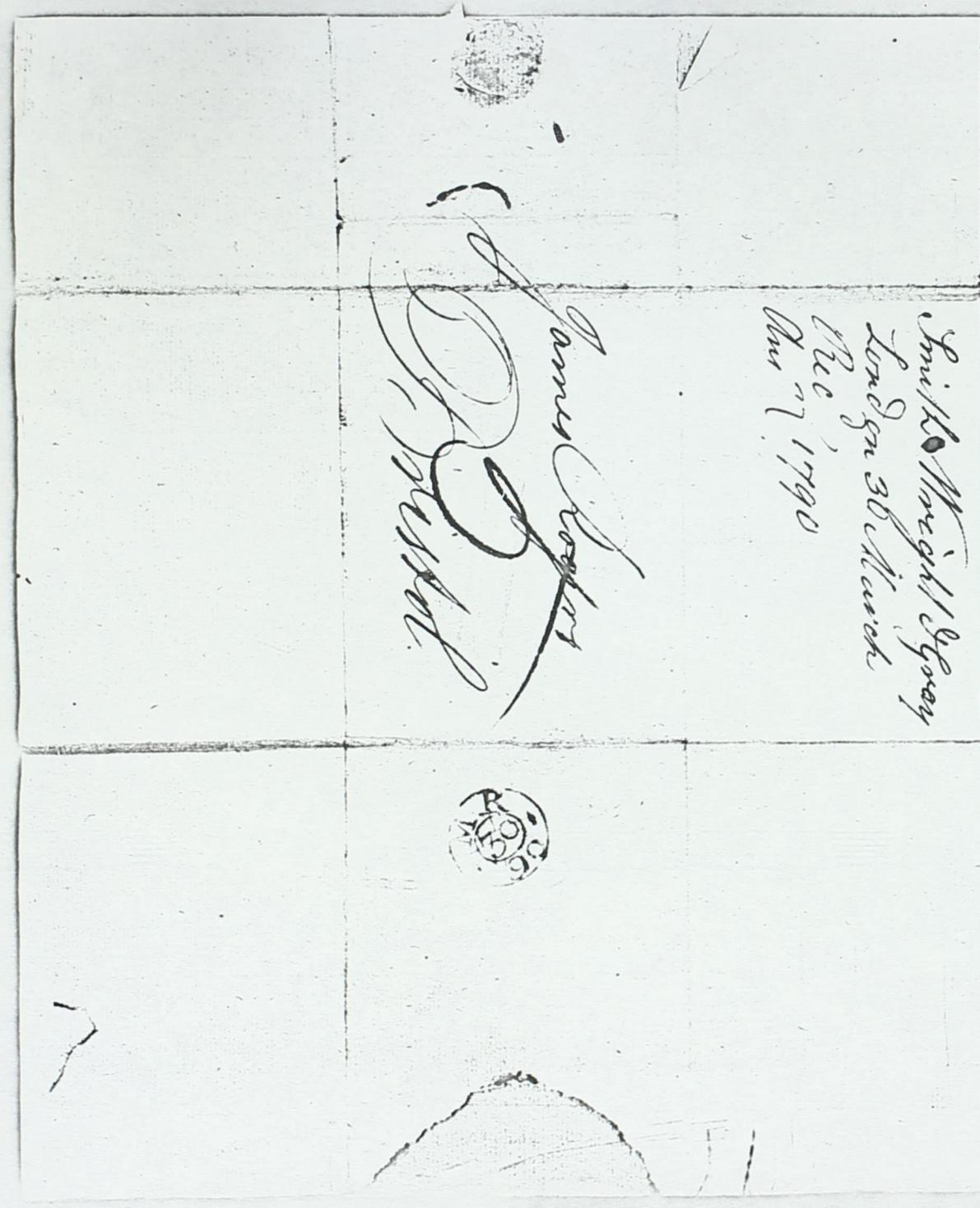
Sir

Liverpool
- 16th June 1787 -
18 Received -
18 ans.

Yours M^r F. D. Fisher

M^r Rogers

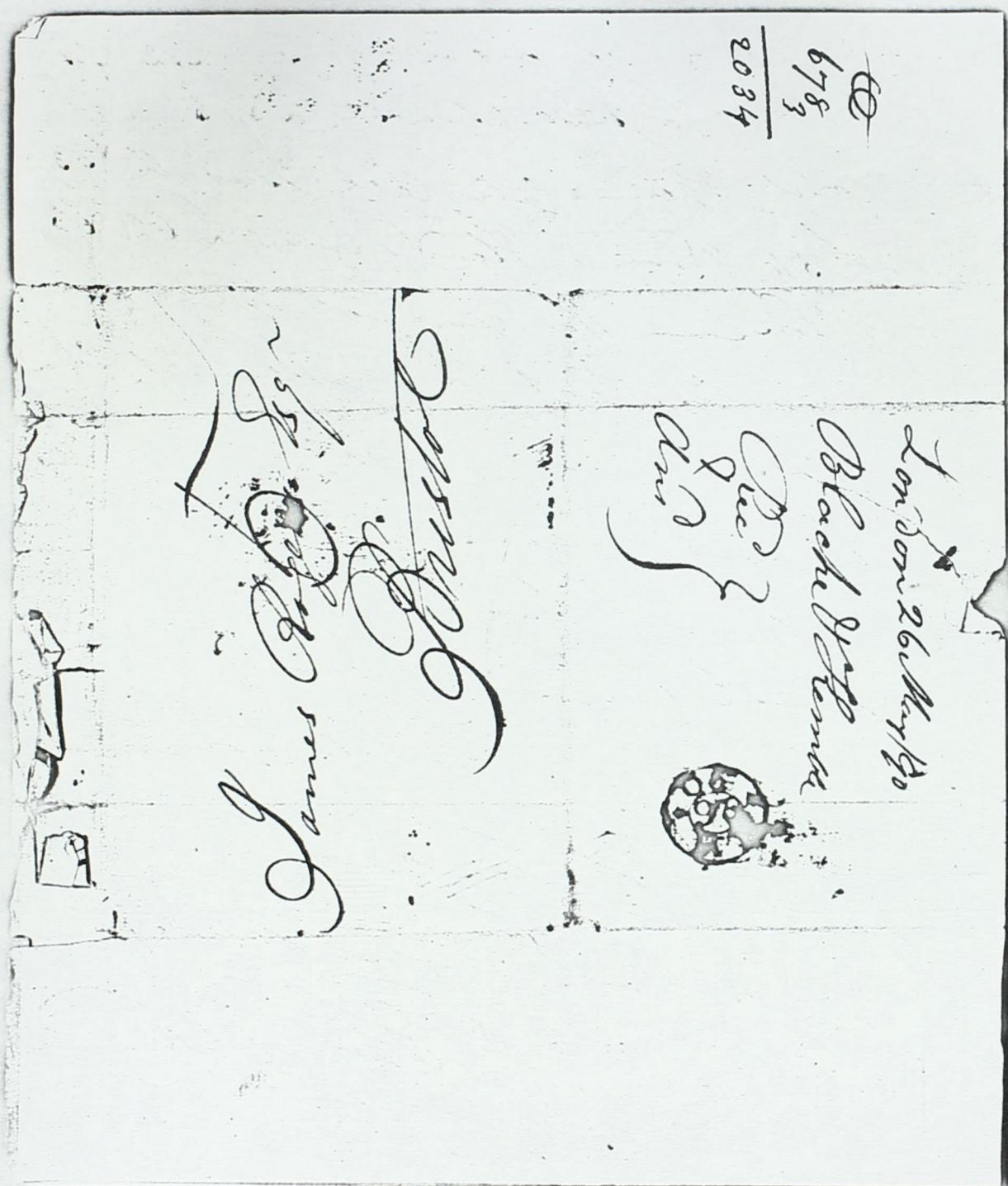
Riley
March 1290



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May 1790
Ruby



James Rogers Esq.
Sir

Birmingham 25 May

We have received in course an A/c
from our man Wilkinson of the package of guns
for the Ruby. My Father is at this time in London
My Brother since the A/c came to our hands
has been prevented by an accident from attending
to Business but in a day or two I expect his usual
attendance in Birmingham where he will immediately
make out our Bill of Parcels against the Ruby
in the mean time I beg your pardon for this
delay.

I have this morning had the pleasure
of waiting on Mr. & Mrs. George & have just left
them to proceed on their journey. We shall
be happy on all occasions in rendering our
best services to your friends I am respectfully

Sir
Your obd^r: humble Servt
John Whately Esq.

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June 1790

Riley - Bill

London June 1790

Henry Hollister
Recey'd
Ans.

James Rogers Esq'r
College Green
Bristol
P.S. 21/5

London 1 June 1790
Mess^r James Rogers Esq^r —

Am not favoured with your answer to my letter of 19th ^{Imp} which may have miscarried, having some large payments to make I take the liberty of requesting your remittance for the Goods sent upon for the Ruby the 19th April, I am respectfully
Yours most humblyd

Robert Wigney

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Riley
Oct. 1790

Bence Island Jan'y 23

1790 —

James Williams
Reed
Ans'd

James Rogers Esq

Young Sister October 20th 1790

In this opportunity I will tell you
as I am running down the board with
some a few lines. The climate will be
of by the middle of December & still cold
for the months after. ~~being~~ the Rain
comes of the River. The air monthly very
rough & tempestuous. The time on the
board has caused the Captain to purchase
a Slave ship for less than 22th. It has
a war in three months. Commerce is
very good. I am but very poorly in
Health.

Your most Oft & best

Thomas Hester

My love to my wife & children

I do expect to send some a set of very
soon as we know, Price & Letter

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