

and for the new Estate works they did more work  
by three times than the same number of any cattle in  
the Island as to what Capt. of Desjardins may have  
told him there will always such survey follow, when they  
meet with people that will listen to them.

*in 1778*  
Mr. Broxon's Answer to Mr. Hall's Letter to Mr.  
Kee explaining of his Management. &c.

I observe what Mr. Hall writes you in respect to my conduct  
in his affairs by his letter dated the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1778 And will now give  
you what account I can call to my memory of these matters I call on  
Mr. Hall to refer to my act down to the first of Oct 1776 to consider  
that the settlement of a New Estate is included therein, the first pay-  
ment for Indentured Land much approved of by him, the pur-  
chase of New Negroes made by his direction, and declare whether or  
not his affairs were not conducted with economy and to his satisfac-  
tion for this period I took upon myself an answerable and no  
longer the crop might not be large owing to bad seasons, but the con-  
tingencies were situated there to, about this time Mr. Hall thought proper  
to make a new arrangement of his affairs by the appointment of  
Mr. Hennion, who was by his direction to take upon him the manage-  
ment of the Planting I was only retained as Clerk to make up his  
accounts annually which he wrote me had hitherto given him much  
satisfaction the mills were put about at the usual time but the stock  
of Mules both <sup>Wyal</sup> and Breven were found very insufficient, interly  
owing to old age and not giving to their being in bad order as seems  
to have been represented to Mr. Hall; the end of the preceding crop  
was obliged borrow Mules to get off the crop at Wyal so that there  
was an absolute necessity for a supply, I accordingly bought a couple  
of full for a Wyal which was the only heavy charge in that Estate  
acc't. for 1777, I likewise bought 10 Mules for Breven and 10 New  
Negroes one half to be paid for crop 1777 the other half crop 1778  
Mr. Hennion on leaving the plantation having the Island bought  
5 Negroes from him all of which I paid except £280. for which Mr.  
Hennion gave a Bond payable crop 1778 there were the charges on  
Breven Estate acc't. for 1777. The charges in Fort Patrick Co. acc't.  
where the Tobacco acc't. for 30 acres of plantain well put in  
by my direction & 40 acres of lance and some other hard  
labour by direction of Mr. Hennion; 21 Mares purchased and  
12 Mules which were absolutely wanted to put a tolerable  
strength of stock on that Estate anything equal to the  
work

1770  
from the Breven  
depending on  
and a D in  
affairs in  
Breven is



back thereof the other heavy articles were the annual pay-  
ment to Lindlar £796-10 and the first payment of Mr  
Lawrence's Negroes £516-3. The purchase of Negroes I a-  
vow was by his direction for he wrote me he wanted his  
number of Negroes on his property made up to 1000 and  
to purchase them accordingly may at one time directed me  
to take 200 out of Mr. Earle of Liverpool's ship, I thought the  
purchase of Mr. Lawrence's Negroes more ~~profit~~ for his inter-  
est than any other Negroes whatever as Mr. Lawrence let  
them go on so easy terms as to take the payment in thirds  
and therefore agreed to it. the other expenses that I have enum-  
erated I submit to yourself whether they were not necessary it  
is true they fall heavy in one year but they could not be  
avoided and whatever Mr. Dennison may have wrote Mr.  
Hall in regard to the purchase of Stock by me he found more  
were wanted and bought 40 Head of Cattle & Mul<sup>ten</sup> afterwards  
he came to the Estate about February stop'd them from go-  
ing on with the crop and went to work about putting in a  
spring plant kept about 80 acres of the best Rattoon land on  
the Estate till the month of June in order to get the tops to  
plant and then did not put in 20 acres altogether by this  
means the Estate was neglected to be cleared till very late and  
the best yielding Canev then on back and out of season and  
a Rattcatcher kept out, in short it is evident to every person  
who knew any thing of the Estate that more effectual steps  
could not have been taken to prevent the Est. making any  
crop. I am perfectly at a loss how they employed the Negroes  
in the fall of 1777 they prepared but little land and plant  
but one piece this last year he did not put about till the  
month of Feb'y was almost gone when the dry weather had  
almost ruined one side of the Estate the bottom from  
being so late out the year before and the dry weather had  
no length of Canev and made little his spring plant  
was not fit to cut at all, so that it was impossible he  
could make any crop this year he has got all the  
Pon side of the Estate in a spring plant the other side  
cleared

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cleared and supply'd very late & most of the bottom he ~~stated~~  
so that you see the whole scheme was to damn every thing  
in 1777 & 1778 in order to effect a great crop in 1779 which I am  
much mistaken if he succeeds in & the Estate must fall the  
year after - and this <sup>after</sup> running Mr. Hall in debt £10,000, he  
has not kept one of the white people on the Estate but Mr. Hall  
who he cannot do without, or he would have been gone long ago  
for he says that no man that is not employ'd by the im-  
mediate manager will ever do business & allows that  
Mr. View was there long enough and that he relaxed  
considerably in his attention but the crop falling short  
was not so much owing to that as very dry seasons there  
better sugar made on Drwin Estate before ever his boiler  
put his foot on it than ever was made since, his having  
improved the quality of the sugar is a mere farce for  
he to this day knows nothing of boiling sugar nor does  
any one of them I ever saw yet know any thing of the  
boiling of Muscovado's till they learn it here Irish Patrick made  
more and better sugar in 1774 than last crop notwith-  
standing the addition of Negroes and 40 acres of Canev  
for this simple reason they neglected to keep them in order.  
Tryal has done tolerable well because they had an addition  
of 20 Negroes and the Estate has been under the same  
steady management. That the works or buildings of any  
of the Estates were suffered to go decay is utterly false  
for to this day they have had no repairs on any white  
Washed to set them off a little if they had wanted little  
repairs it would not been surprising when he recollects  
that his Freedmen had been employ'd at the new Estate  
since the year 1774 and had nearly built a set of works  
~~work~~ near as much money as the expense of  
Irish Patrick Hall Settlement cost him the first three years  
when the works were building - His very certain Dr. one  
Castle were rather low but what was the occasion of  
it carrying materials for his new store at Montego Bay  
and



# **Hall Family Papers and Sugar Plantation Records**

**1709 - 1892**

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**CORRESPONDENCE - Mr. Brown's answer  
to Mr. Hall's Letter in 1778 to Mr. K[eer], 1778**



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