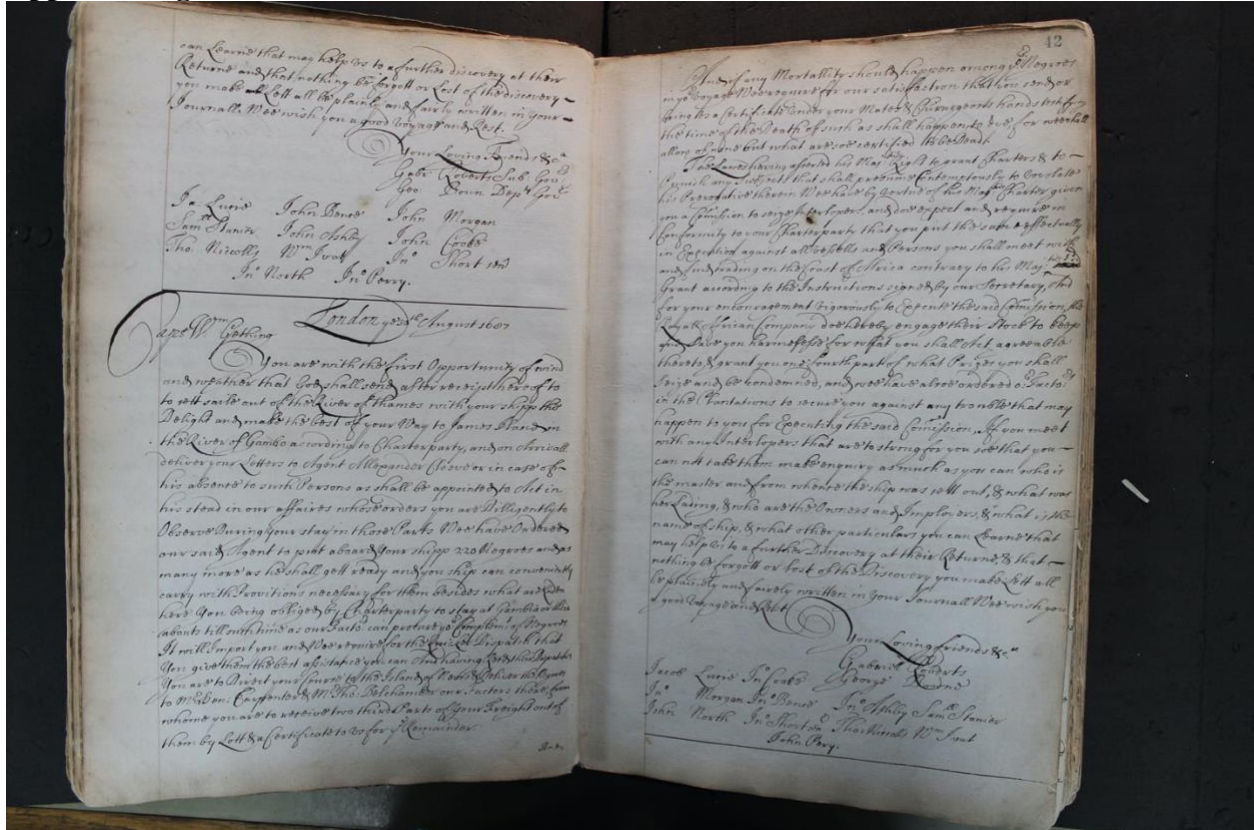


# APPENDIX 1 - DATASET

## A.1 SOURCES AND CODING APPROACH

For our analysis, we exploit the instruction letters that were issued by the Royal African Company to its captains in the T70/61-63 series of The National Archives (TNA) in Kew, UK.

Appendix Figure A.1.1



Our coding process was structured along the following lines:

**Step 1:** We had RAs that were trained in paleography transcribe the original sources. Because we were primarily interested in the larger content of the letters, we did not emphasize grammatical precision. In the examples from the letters quoted below in this appendix there may thus be minor typos.

**Step 2:** We had our RAs sort the letters by type:

Type 1: Letters that were written to captains embarking on voyage that would stop at a fort, purchase slaves and transport them to the New World

Type 2: Letters that were written to captains embarking on voyage that would not stop at a fort, but would still purchase slaves and transport them to the New World

Type 3: Letters that were written to captains embarking on voyage that operated as a messenger ship. These ships would not go to the New World, but return straight to England from Africa.

Type 4: Postscripts to letters of either type 1, 2 or 3. We connect these to the original letters. For example, if we realized that a letters was a postscript to unique ID number 196, the respective unique IDs would become: 196 for the entire letter (main letter + postscript), 196.1 for the main letter component and 196.2 for the postscript component.

Type 5: Letters in the original source that did not conform to any of the types 1-4 (other)

All letter types are listed in Table A.1 below.

*Step 3:* We had our RAs code the letters in teams, creating a sort of ‘double-entry’ system. While all of our RAs were highly skilled and trained in historical methods, coding these historical letters was a labor-intensive and difficult task. The complexity of the language, the lack of punctuation in the original sources, and the growing number of instructions per letter over time raised the risk of overlooking instructions. To minimize the potential number of mistakes, we had our RAs work in teams of 2: They would each enter a letter on their own, and then compare their coding entries with each other and debate any differences. We held bi-weekly meetings with the entire team of RAs to walk through any questions they had and to enter 1 letter together with one of us. When adding new variables to the database, one of the RAs would double check earlier letters to see whether we may have missed this before.

*Step 4:* We grouped our variables in 16 overarching categories (see appendix A.2 below), sorting them by specific aspects of the voyages.

**Table A1: Letter type by UID**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain last name</b>
1	fort-slave	Sarah Bonadventure	Woodfine
2	fort-slave	Speedwell	Goodhand
3	fort-slave	Hunter	Pickard
4	fort-slave	Two Friends	James
5	non-fort-slave	Loyall Factor	Kempthorne
6	fort-slave	Hare	Poston
7	fort-slave	Jeffrey	Daile
8	fort-slave	Alexander	Branfill
9	non-fort-slave	Robert	Ashwicke
10	messenger	Lady Mary	Jobson
11	non-fort-slave	Benjamin	Andrews
12	non-fort-slave	Ann	Browne
13	messenger	Francis	Mitchell
14	fort-slave	East India Merchant	Hosea
15	non-fort-slave	Friends Adventure	Barker
16	fort-slave	Dragon	Buttram
17	non-fort-slave	Margarett	Watkins
18	messenger	Little Berkley Castle	Fuller
19	fort-slave	Sherbrow	Lomax
20	messenger	Unity	Goose
21	messenger	Sherbrow Smack	Baileman
22	messenger	Margarett	Stafford
23	non-fort-slave	Blossom	Brusher
24	messenger	N/A	Shares
25	non-fort-slave	Ann	Smart
26	non-fort-slave	Pine Apple	Osney
27	fort-slave	Roebuck	Crookshank
28	fort-slave	Lusitania Merchant	Bristow
29	fort-slave	Mary	Gilbert
30	non-fort-slave	Betty	May
31	fort-slave	Princess Ann	Draper
32	non-fort-slave	Lucie	Fincham
33	fort-slave	Speedwell	Goodhand
34	messenger	Dolphin	Barrett
35	fort-slave	Good Fellowship	Thompson
36	fort-slave	Maynard	Gould
37	non-fort-slave	John	Portlocke
38	fort-slave	Benian	Daniell
39	messenger	Francis	Mitchell
40	fort-slave	Mary	Bradley
41	non-fort-slave	Hawke	Standard
42	fort-slave	Hannah	Conlay
43	non-fort-slave	Benjamin	Andrews

**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain last name</b>
44	fort-slave	Elizabeth	Bathend
45	fort-slave	Delight	Gothing
46	messenger	Margarett	Stafford
47	non-fort-slave (combined)	St. George	Low
47.1	non-fort-slave	St. George	Low
47.2	postscript	St. George	Low
48	messenger	Unity	Goose
49	messenger	Stanior Sloop	Selman
50	messenger	York's mate	Jeffreys
51	messenger	Unity	Goose
52	fort-slave	Dolphin	Barrett
53	fort-slave	Dragon	Buttram
54	fort-slave	Sherbrow	Lomax
55	non-fort-slave	Pine Apple	Osney
56	fort-slave	Expedition	Strutt
57	messenger	Guynie Frigate	Bridges
58	fort-slave (combined)	Henry and William	Parris
58.1	fort-slave	Henry and William	Parris
58.2	postscript	Henry and William	Parris
58.3	postscript	Henry and William	Parris
59	fort-slave	John Bonadventure	Woodfine
60	messenger	John Bonadventure	Woodfine
61	fort-slave	Speedwell	Goodhand
62	messenger	Phenix Frigate	Thorpe
63	fort-slave	Loyall Factor	Kempthorne
64	fort-slave	Mary	Mascombe
65	fort-slave	Princess	Crookshank
66	messenger	Stanior Sloop	Selman
67	fort-slave	Princess Ann	Ingle
68	fort-slave	African	Barnes
69	non-fort-slave	John	Portlock
70	fort-slave	Hawke	Standard
71	fort-slave	Jeffrey	Soane
72	fort-slave	East India Merchant	Shirley
73	fort-slave	Hare	Poston
74	fort-slave	Blossom	Brusher
75	fort-slave	Antilope	Hogbin
76	messenger (combined)	Guynie Frigate	Bridges
76.1	messenger	Guynie Frigate	Bridges
76.2	postscript	Guynie Frigate	Bridges
76.3	postscript	Guynie Frigate	Bridges
77	messenger	Drake Yaucht	Harnett
78	messenger	Unity	Goose

**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain last name</b>
79	messenger	Hean Yatch	Summers
80	messenger	Margarett	Stafford
81	fort-slave	Delight	Gothing
82	non-fort-slave	Thomas and Susanna	Everand
83	fort-slave	Alexander	Richard
84	non-fort-slave	Betty	Tucker
85	other	Swan Frigate	Daniell
86	messenger	Phenix Frigate	Thorpe
87	messenger	Coaster	Smith
88	messenger	Phenix Frigate	Flaucone
89	fort-slave (combined)	Speedwell	Perry
89.1	fort-slave	Speedwell	Perry
89.2	postscript	Speedwell	Perry
90	fort-slave	Hannah	Danvers
91	other	N/A	N/A
92	non-fort-slave	Benjamin	Hone
93	non-fort-slave	Mediterranean	Daniell
94	fort-slave	China Merchant	Roberts
95	messenger	Stanior Sloop	Charley
96	fort-slave	Armenian Merchant	Hosea
97	other	Guynie Frigate	Chantrelby
98	non-fort-slave	Expedition	Godfrey
99	non-fort-slave	Warrington	Kempthorne
100	fort-slave (combined)	Kendall Frigate	Edwards
100.1	fort-slave	Kendall Frigate	Edwards
100.2	postscript	Kendall Frigate	Edwards
101	fort-slave (combined)	East India Merchant	Shirley
101.1	fort-slave	East India Merchant	Shirley
101.2	postscript	East India Merchant	Shirley
102	fort-slave	Mediterranean	Daniell
103	messenger	Coaster	Tackman
104	fort-slave (combined)	Fauconbergh	Buttram
104.1	fort-slave	Fauconbergh	Buttram
104.2	postscript	Fauconbergh	Buttram
105	messenger	America	Broome
106	messenger	Seville Merchant	Stafford
107	non-fort-slave	John Bonadventure	Zebbett
108	messenger	Experiment	May
109	fort-slave	Tyger	Gothing
110	fort-slave	Coast Frigate	Morley
111	messenger	Anne	Leech
112	fort-slave	America	Broome
113	messenger	Swallow	Bradshaw

**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain last name</b>
114	non-fort-slave	Anna	Dowding
115	fort-slave	China Merchant	Roberts
116	fort-slave	Kendall Frigate	Hunnell
117	fort-slave	Katherine	Curtis
118	messenger	Jeffrey	Soane
119	fort-slave	Hannibal	Phillips
120	fort-slave	East India Merchant	Shirley
121	non-fort-slave	Mediterranean	Daniell
122	non-fort-slave	Fortune	Hereford
123	messenger	Eagle	Perry
124	fort-slave	African	Thompson
125	messenger	Joseph	Bradley
126	messenger	Guynie Gally	Piles
127	fort-slave (combined)	Fauconbergh	Buttram
127.1	fort-slave	Fauconbergh	Buttram
127.2	postscript	Fauconbergh	Buttram
128	fort-slave	Coaster	Burrell
129	non-fort-slave (combined)	Returne	Reeves
129.1	non-fort-slave	Returne	Reeves
129.2	postscript	Returne	Reeves
130	fort-slave	John	Wade
131	messenger	N/A	Hodson
132	fort-slave	Three Brothers	Hodson
133	fort-slave	John Bonadventure	Zebbett
134	fort-slave	Averilla	Robinson
135	messenger	Walter and Sarah	Bugby
136	fort-slave	Edward and William	Wilson
137	fort-slave	Fauconbergh	Browne
138	fort-slave (combined)	Kendall Frigate	Child
138.1	fort-slave	Kendall Frigate	Child
138.2	postscript	Kendall Frigate	Child
139	fort-slave	Mary and Margaret Gally	Kally
140	messenger	Success	Soane
141	messenger (combined)	Swallow	Pepperill
141.1	messenger	Swallow	Pepperill
141.2	postscript	Swallow	Pepperill
142	messenger	Companion	Tippetts
143	fort-slave	Sally Rose	Piles
144	fort-slave	William and John	Addison
145	fort-slave	Hannibal	Hill
146	messenger	Unity	Rowde
147	fort-slave	Fauconbergh	Luke
148	fort-slave	Prince George	Company

**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain last name</b>
149	non-fort-slave	Fortune	Hereford
150	messenger	Rebecca	Beers
151	messenger	Sherbrow Brigantine	Burnham
152	fort-slave	Prince of Orange	Daniel
153	messenger	Hannah and Elizabeth	Kerby
154	fort-slave (combined)	Mary and Margaret Gally	Kally
154.1	fort-slave	Mary and Margaret Gally	Kally
154.2	postscript	Mary and Margaret Gally	Kally
155	other	Mary and Margaret Gally	Story
156	fort-slave (combined)	Fauconbergh	Luke
156.1	fort-slave	Fauconbergh	Luke
156.2	postscript	Fauconbergh	Luke
157	messenger	Delight	Cuttance
158	messenger	Pagett Frigate	Williams
159	messenger	Amity	Baggs
160	messenger	Swallow	Tilsley
161	fort-slave	Edward and William	Flint
162	fort-slave	Recovery Pink	Burtley
163	fort-slave	Sommers Frigate	Piles
164	fort-slave	Susan	Dew
165	messenger	Coaster	Burroughs
166	messenger	Littleton Gally	Roope
167	other	Fauconbergh	N/A
168	other	Adventure	Johnson
169	other	N/A	Beers
170	fort-slave	Ekines Frigate	Stretel
171	fort-slave	Warrington	Garvey
172	other	N/A	Lewis
173	fort-slave	Rainbow	Plumley
174	fort-slave	Lawrence Brigantine	March
175	fort-slave	Fauconbergh	Luke
176	other	Diligence	N/A
177	messenger	Diligence	Seywell
178	fort-slave	Dellaval Gally	Minson
179	fort-slave	Griffith	Phillips
180	messenger	Daget Frigate	Williams
181	fort-slave (combined)	Urban Frigate	Prowde
181.1	fort-slave	Urban Frigate	Prowde
181.2	postscript	Urban Frigate	Prowde
182	fort-slave (combined)	Prince of Orange	Daniel
182.1	fort-slave	Prince of Orange	Daniel
182.2	postscript	Prince of Orange	Starife
182.3	postscript	Prince of Orange	Daniel

**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain last name</b>
183	messenger	Amity	Miller
184	fort-slave	Encouragement	Sadler
185	fort-slave	Ann and Sarah	Fleet
186	fort-slave	Gambia Gally	Bourne
187	fort-slave	Davers Gally	Willis
188	non-fort-slave	Spy Gally	Searle
189	non-fort-slave	Daniel and Lester	Harwood
190	fort-slave	Constantinople	Drinkswater
191	messenger	John	Carpenter
192	non-fort-slave	Ann and Susanna	Hussey
193	messenger	John and Sarah	Brent
194	other	N/A	Borne, Thomas, and Willy
195	other	N/A	Baggs
196	other	Pagett Frigate	Newte
197	other	N/A	Freeman
198	messenger	Pagett Frigate	Coles
199	fort-slave	Sommers Frigate	Emberley
200	other	Robert and John	Goff
201	fort-slave	Royall Africa	Holloway
202	messenger	Amily	Shaxton
203	fort-slave	Lark	Wild
204	non-fort-slave	Angola Frigate	Arnold
205	fort-slave	Evans Frigate	Prowde
206	fort-slave	Urban Frigate	Bomister
207	messenger	Upton Yacht	Lloyd
208	fort-slave	Cape Coast Frigate	Groome
209	non-fort-slave	Bridgewater	Bredgar
210	messenger	Serelion	Motherly
211	fort-slave	Golden Frigate	Driskell
212	messenger	Thomas and Elizabeth	Sell
213	fort-slave	Spanish Merchant	Ludman
214	non-fort-slave	Canterbury	Read
215	fort-slave	William and Jane	Harding
216	fort-slave	Davers Gally	Willis
217	non-fort-slave	Lusitania	Sorell
218	messenger	Intelligence	Garland
219	messenger	Success	Cure
220	messenger	Supply	Thomas
221	messenger	N/A	Johnson
222	fort-slave	Wheeler Frigate	Hayes
223	non-fort-slave (combined)	Angola Frigate	Arnall
223.1	non-fort-slave	Angola Frigate	Arnall
223.2	postscript	Angola Frigate	Arnall



**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain last name</b>
224	non-fort-slave (combined)	St. Winifrede	Owen
224.1	non-fort-slave	St. Winifrede	Owen
224.2	postscript	St. Winifrede	Owen
225	messenger	Serelion	Cockerell
226	fort-slave (combined)	Royall Africa	Gaets
226.1	fort-slave	Royall Africa	Gaets
226.2	postscript	Royall Africa	Gaets
226.3	postscript	Royall Africa	Gaets
226.4	postscript	Royall Africa	Gaets
227	messenger	James	Bonham
228	fort-slave (combined)	Evans Frigate	Bound
228.1	fort-slave	Evans Frigate	Bound
228.2	postscript	Evans Frigate	Bound
229	messenger (combined)	Pagett Frigate	Carpenter
229.1	messenger	Pagett Frigate	Carpenter
229.2	postscript	Pagett Frigate	Carpenter
229.3	postscript	Pagett Frigate	Carpenter
230	messenger	Adventure	Biggs
231	messenger	Broughton	Hardingham
232	fort-slave	Martha	Marsh
233	messenger	Mallagetta	Wilson
234	messenger	Spy Gally	Wheeler
235	messenger	Hunter	Beasley
236	fort-slave (combined)	Urban Frigate	Bennister
236.1	fort-slave	Urban Frigate	Bennister
236.2	postscript	Urban Frigate	Bennister
237	fort-slave	Bridgewater	Lenton
238	messenger (combined)	N/A	Bonham
238.1	messenger	N/A	Bonham
238.2	postscript	N/A	Bonham
239	messenger	Broughton	Thomas
240	fort-slave (combined)	Fauconbergh	Warren
240.1	fort-slave	Fauconbergh	Warren
240.2	postscript	Fauconbergh	Warren
241	fort-slave	Daver	Maxwell
242	fort-slave	Lion and Lamb	Green
243	fort-slave	Friendship	Lawrence
244	fort-slave	Intelligence	Marchbank
245	messenger (combined)	Hunter	Russell
245.1	messenger	Hunter	Russell
245.2	postscript	Hunter	Russell
246	messenger (combined)	Nicholson	Barrington
246.1	messenger	Nicholson	Barrington

**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain lastname</b>
246.2	postscript	Nicholson	Barrington
247	messenger	N/A	Worral
248	fort-slave (combined)	Silvester	Hearing
248.1	fort-slave	Silvester	Hearing
248.2	postscript	Silvester	Hearing
249	other	Thomas and Gregory	Newill
250	messenger (combined)	Broughton	Thomas
250.1	messenger	Broughton	Thomas
250.2	postscript	Broughton	Thomas
251	fort-slave (combined)	Swan	Eaglesfield
251.1	fort-slave	Swan	Eaglesfield
251.2	postscript	Swan	Eaglesfield
252	fort-slave (combined)	Whidah	Thomas
252.1	fort-slave	Whidah	Thomas
252.2	postscript	Whidah	Thomas
252.3	postscript	Whidah	Thomas
253	messenger (combined)	Freeman	Bonham
253.1	messenger	Freeman	Bonham
253.2	postscript	Freeman	Bonham
254	fort-slave (combined)	Eagle	Bound
254.1	fort-slave	Eagle	Bound
254.2	postscript	Eagle	Bound
255	other	Industry	Saunder
256	fort-slave (combined)	Don Carlos	Sorrell
256.1	fort-slave	Don Carlos	Sorrell
256.2	postscript	Don Carlos	Sorrell
257	fort-slave (combined)	Lusitania	Hayes
257.1	fort-slave	Lusitania	Hayes
257.2	postscript	Lusitania	Hayes
258	fort-slave (combined)	Martha	Elliot
258.1	fort-slave	Martha	Elliot
258.2	postscript	Martha	Elliot
259	fort-slave (combined)	Postillion	Tozer
259.1	fort-slave	Postillion	Tozer
259.2	postscript	Postillion	Tozer
260	messenger (combined)	Swallow Briggantine	Foster
260.1	messenger	Swallow Briggantine	Foster
260.2	postscript	Swallow Briggantine	Foster
261	messenger (combined)	Thomas Gally	Bartlett
261.1	messenger	Thomas Gally	Bartlett
261.2	postscript	Thomas Gally	Bartlett
262	fort-slave (combined)	Neptune	Rust
262.1	fort-slave	Neptune	Rust

**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain lastname</b>
262.2	postscript	Neptune	Rust
263	fort-slave (combined)	Prince of Orange	Seale
263.1	fort-slave	Prince of Orange	Seale
263.2	postscript	Prince of Orange	Seale
263.3	postscript	Prince of Orange	Seale
264	fort-slave (combined)	Siam	Read
264.1	fort-slave	Siam	Read
264.2	postscript	Siam	Read
265	fort-slave (combined)	Bridgewater	Cooke
265.1	fort-slave	Bridgewater	Cooke
265.2	postscript	Bridgewater	Cooke
266	messenger (combined)	Broughton	Thomas
266.1	messenger	Broughton	Thomas
266.2	postscript	Broughton	Thomas
266.3	postscript	Broughton	Thomas
267	fort-slave (combined)	Rook Gally	Blanket
267.1	fort-slave	Rook Gally	Blanket
267.2	postscript	Rook Gally	Blanket
268	fort-slave (combined)	Royall Africa	Mackley
268.1	fort-slave	Royall Africa	Mackley
268.2	postscript	Royall Africa	Mackley
268.3	postscript	Royall Africa	Mackley
268.4	postscript	Royall Africa	Mackley
269	fort-slave (combined)	Gould Frigate	Bright
269.1	fort-slave	Gould Frigate	Bright
269.2	postscript	Gould Frigate	Bright
269.3	postscript	Gould Frigate	Bright
270	fort-slave (combined)	Angola Frigate	Arnall
270.1	fort-slave	Angola Frigate	Arnall
270.2	postscript	Angola Frigate	Arnall
270.3	postscript	Angola Frigate	Arnall
271	messenger (combined)	Dorothy	Tomlin
271.1	messenger	Dorothy	Tomlin
271.2	postscript	Dorothy	Tomlin
271.3	postscript	Dorothy	Tomlin
272	messenger (combined)	Freeman	Bonham
272.1	messenger	Freeman	Bonham
272.2	postscript	Freeman	Bonham
273	messenger (combined)	Greyhound	Green
273.1	messenger	Greyhound	Green
273.2	postscript	Greyhound	Green
274	other	Barbadoes Merchant	N/A
275	other	Nicholson	Tozer

**Table A1: Letter type by UID (continued)**

<b>UID</b>	<b>Letter type</b>	<b>Shipname</b>	<b>Captain lastname</b>
276	other	Nicholson	N/A
277	fort-slave (combined)	Fame	Brown
277.1	fort-slave	Fame	Brown
277.2	postscript	Fame	Brown
277.3	postscript	Fame	Brown
278	fort-slave (combined)	Maurice and George	Maxwell
278.1	fort-slave	Maurice and George	Maxwell
278.2	postscript	Maurice and George	Maxwell
279	fort-slave	Union	Goodsole
280	fort-slave	Regard	Gunnell
281	other	Broughton	Thomas
282	fort-slave	Royall Consort	Crispin
283	messenger	Resolution	Gallway
284	messenger (combined)	Dorothy	Ashby
284.1	messenger	Dorothy	Ashby
284.2	postscript	Dorothy	Ashby
285	messenger	Nicholson	Page
286	fort-slave	Bridgewater	Cooke
287	other	Barbadoes Merchant	Deeble
288	fort-slave	Angola Frigate	Arnall
289	fort-slave (combined)	Pindar Gally	Taylor
289.1	fort-slave	Pindar Gally	Taylor
289.2	postscript	Pindar Gally	Taylor
289.3	postscript	Pindar Gally	Taylor
290	messenger	Broughton	Thomas
291	messenger	Greyhound	Green
292	fort-slave (combined)	Barbadoes Merchant	Russell
292.1	fort-slave	Barbadoes Merchant	Russell
292.2	postscript	Barbadoes Merchant	Russell

## **A.2 OVERVIEW VARIABLES**

### **Category 1: Letter Date and Type**

- 1.1. Letter unique ID
- 1.2. Letter archive reference
- 1.3. Letter type fort-slave – all
- 1.4. Letter type fort-slave – partial
- 1.5. Letter type non-fort-slave – all
- 1.6. Letter type non-fort-slave – partial
- 1.7. Letter type messenger – all
- 1.8. Letter type messenger – partial
- 1.9. Letter type other
- 1.10. Letter type postscript
- 1.11. Postscript to ID
- 1.12. Letter date year
- 1.13. Letter date month
- 1.14. Letter date day

### **Category 2: Boat and Captain Information**

- 2.1. Shipname - standardized
- 2.2. TASTD voyage ID
- 2.3. Captain last name - standardized
- 2.4. Captain first name - standardized

### **Category 3: Captain-Company Contract Terms and Relationship**

- 3.1. Agreement owners
- 3.2. Charter party
- 3.3. Repeat captain RAC
- 3.4. Confidence in captain
- 3.5. Payment information
- 3.6. Payment amount
- 3.7. Freightage gold
- 3.8. Future recommendation
- 3.9. In case of captain death
- 3.10. Anything omitted

### **Category 4: Destinations in Africa**

- 4.1. Destination 1 in Africa
- 4.2. Destination 1 in Africa – TASTD ID
- 4.3. Destination 1 in Africa – Person 1 to meet
- 4.4. Destination 1 in Africa – Person 2 to meet
- 4.5. Destination 1 in Africa – Person 3 to meet
- 4.6. Destination 1 in Africa – Person 4 to meet

- 4.7. Destination 1 in Africa – Person 5 to meet
- 4.8. Destination 1 in Africa – Person 6 to meet
- 4.9. Destination 1 in Africa – Person 7 to meet
- 4.10. Destination 1 in Africa – Person 8 to meet
- 4.11. Destination 2 in Africa
- 4.12. Destination 2 in Africa – TASTD ID
- 4.13. Destination 2 in Africa – Fallback
- 4.14. Destination 2 in Africa – Person 1 to meet
- 4.15. Destination 2 in Africa – Person 2 to meet
- 4.16. Destination 2 in Africa – Person 3 to meet
- 4.17. Destination 3 in Africa
- 4.18. Destination 3 in Africa – TASTD ID
- 4.19. Destination 3 in Africa – Fallback
- 4.20. Destination 3 in Africa – Person 1 to meet
- 4.21. Destination 3 in Africa – Person 2 to meet
- 4.22. Destination 3 in Africa – Person 3 to meet
- 4.23. Destination 4 in Africa
- 4.24. Destination 4 in Africa – TASTD ID
- 4.25. Destination 4 in Africa – Fallback
- 4.26. Destination 4 in Africa – Person 1 to meet
- 4.27. Double destination
- 4.28. Reverse itinerary

### **Category 5: Private Trade**

- 5.1. Private trade
- 5.2. Private trade amount – pounds
- 5.3. Private trade amount – shillings
- 5.4. Private trade amount – pence
- 5.5. Private trade purpose
- 5.6. Private trade accountability
- 5.7. Joint RAC private trade
- 5.8. Joint RAC private trade amount – pounds
- 5.9. Joint RAC private trade amount – shillings
- 5.10. Joint RAC private trade amount – pence
- 5.11. Joint RAC private trade purpose
- 5.12. Joint RAC private trade accountability
- 5.13. Don't trade near our factories

### **Category 6: Trading Instructions**

- 6.1. Intended number of slaves
- 6.2. Value company goods for slave provisions – pounds
- 6.3. Value company goods for slave provisions – shillings
- 6.4. Value company goods for slave provisions – pence
- 6.5. Maximum price per slave – pounds

- 6.6. Maximum price per slave – shillings
- 6.7. Maximum price per slave – pence
- 6.8. Receive goods from factors
- 6.9. Type of goods received from factors
- 6.10. Purchase provisions
- 6.11. Take or receive provisions
- 6.12. Purchase ivory with surplus
- 6.13. Received goods in Americas (umbrella)
- 6.14. Goods received in Americas
- 6.15. Company goods fallback bundle

### **Category 7: Crew Management**

- 7.1. Report sailor deaths
- 7.2. In case of sailor deserting
- 7.3. Practice religion aboard
- 7.4. Apprentices aboard
- 7.5. Crew payment
- 7.6. No waste be made of stores and provisions
- 7.7. Prevent skilled crew from wastefully spending stores and provisions
- 7.8. Do not let sailors waste wages on alcohol
- 7.9. No returns from coast but factors put aboard

### **Category 8: Slave Management**

- 8.1. Oversee selection of slaves (umbrella)
- 8.2. Oversee selection of slaves - age
- 8.3. Oversee selection of slaves - gender
- 8.4. Oversee selection of slaves – health
- 8.5. Count slaves
- 8.6. Record Quality Slaves When They Come on Board
- 8.7. Muster slaves
- 8.8. Do not refuse slaves
- 8.9. Board guardian slaves
- 8.10. Choose slaves as sailors
- 8.11. Prevent mischief through neglect
- 8.12. Ensure slaves do not want for anything
- 8.13. Give slaves tobacco, beef, and spirits
- 8.14. Prevent abuse slaves
- 8.15. Attend to sick and sullen slaves
- 8.16. Note provisions most suitable for slaves
- 8.17. Play music aboard ship
- 8.18. Wash decks with vinegar
- 8.19. Do not mix salt water with fresh water
- 8.20. Unload sick slaves in Americas

### **Category 9: Voyage Management**

- 9.1. Follow factor orders
- 9.2. If factor is gone or deceased, use skills to purchase slaves
- 9.3. Transport canoes
- 9.4. Preserve ship
- 9.5. Passenger(s)\_aboard
- 9.6. Gunpowder
- 9.7. Comply with navigation acts
- 9.8. Importance speed (umbrella)
- 9.9. Importance speed – time constraint
- 9.10. Importance speed – amount of time specified (number)
- 9.11. Importance speed – amount of time specified (unit)
- 9.12. Importance speed – place of time constraint
- 9.13. Importance speed – multiple time constraints
- 9.14. Importance speed – demurrage
- 9.15. Importance speed – factors

### **Category 10: Voyage Security**

- 10.1. Beware of the French
- 10.2. Seize the French
- 10.3. Instructions concerning being seized
- 10.4. Packet open if seized
- 10.5. If ship is seized outward bound
- 10.6. Ship seized outward bound (pounds)
- 10.7. Ship is seized towards the West Indies
- 10.8. Ship is seized towards the West Indies (pounds)
- 10.9. Ship is seized homeward bound
- 10.10. Ship is seized homeward bound (pounds)
- 10.11. Officer remains with seized ship
- 10.12. Recommend pay to get ship back
- 10.13. Assume defensive posture
- 10.14. Beware of pirates
- 10.15. Beware of privateers
- 10.16. Throw papers overboard
- 10.17. Convoy

### **Category 11: Competitions and Cheating**

- 11.1. Seize interlopers
- 11.2. In case interlopers are too strong
- 11.3. Report interlopers to factors in Americas
- 11.4. Check on factors
- 11.5. Gather info from factors
- 11.6. Gather info about competitors
- 11.7. Gather info about goods



- 11.8. Check if goods are defective
- 11.9. Bring no passengers from the coast
- 11.10. Do not delivery any letters but RAC letters
- 11.11. Write at all opportunities
- 11.12. Do not hinder the Dutch Company

**Category 12: Captain's initiative and accountability**

- 12.1. Ply with ship
- 12.2. Take samples of plants, grains and other curiosities
- 12.3. Curiosities birds and beasts
- 12.4. Keep a barter book
- 12.5. Keep a diary of particulars
- 12.6. Certify dead slaves surgeon
- 12.7. Surgeon head money
- 12.8. Value of surgeon head money
- 12.9. Behave yourself

**Category 13: Factors aboard**

- 13.1 Factor aboard
- 13.2 Factor name
- 13.3 Factor barter book
- 13.4 Factor dead slaves
- 13.5 Factor police private trade
- 13.6 Factor muster

**Category 14: Destination Americas**

- 14.1 First Americas destination
- 14.2 Factor 1 at first Americas destination
- 14.3 Factor 2 at first Americas destination
- 14.4 Factor 3 at first Americas destination
- 14.5 Target sale price as first destination (pounds per head)
- 14.6 Target sale price as first destination (shillings per head)
- 14.7 Target sale price as first destination (pence per head)
- 14.8 Second Americas destination
- 14.9 Factor 1 at second Americas destination
- 14.10 Factor 2 at second Americas destination
- 14.11 Factor 3 at second Americas destination
- 14.12 Second Americas destination fallback
- 14.13 Target sale price as second destination (pounds per head)
- 14.14 Third Americas destination
- 14.15 Factor 1 at third Americas destination
- 14.16 Current coin
- 14.17 Copy ship logs

**Category 15: Messenger boat specific commands**

- 15.1 Messenger – bring passengers to coast
- 15.2 Messenger – return to England
- 15.3 Messenger – receive goods laden aboard
- 15.4 Messenger – goods received laden aboard
- 15.5 Messenger – slaves purchase
- 15.6 Messenger – itinerary ambiguity
- 15.7 Messenger – before seamen paid deliver journals

**Category 16: Signatories**

- 16.1 Signatory 1
- 16.2 Signatory 2
- 16.3 Signatory 3
- 16.4 Signatory 4
- 16.5 Signatory 5
- 16.6 Signatory 6
- 16.7 Signatory 7
- 16.8 Signatory 8
- 16.9 Signatory 9
- 16.10 Signatory 10
- 16.11 Signatory 11
- 16.12 Signatory 12
- 16.13 Signatory 13
- 16.14 Signatory 14
- 16.15 Signatory 15
- 16.16 Signatory 16
- 16.17 Signatory 17
- 16.18 Signatory 18
- 16.19 Signatory 19
- 16.20 Signatory 20
- 16.21 Signatory 21

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## **Category 1: Letter date and type**

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This overarching category contains descriptive elements of the letter, such as its ID, the source, and its classification (the type of letter).

### ***Subcategory 1.1: Letter unique ID***

*Variable name:* Letter\_unique\_ID

*Variable type:* Numeric (discrete)

*Description:* This UID number lists the letters in chronological order and corrects for the existence of postscripts. In cases where there we found postscripts belonging to the main letter, the letters were numbered as follows:

x – main letter, including postscripts

x.1 – main letter only

x.2 – postscript 1

x.3 – postscript 2

### ***Subcategory 1.2: Letter archive reference***

*Variable name:* Letter\_archive\_reference

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable lists the archival reference code for the letter in question.

### ***Subcategory 1.3: Letter type 1 – Fort-slave voyage – all***

*Variable name:* Letter\_type\_slave\_fort

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter belongs to a voyage that is sent to the forts, purchase slaves and sell the slaves in the Americas. The extension “all” means that this variable includes all the data from the corresponding postscripts.

### ***Subcategory 1.4: Letter type 1 – Fort-slave voyage – partial***

*Variable name:* Letter\_type\_slave\_fort

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter belongs to a voyage that is sent to the forts, purchase slaves and sell the slaves in the Americas. The extension “partial” means that this variable does not yet include all the data from the corresponding postscripts. The corresponding UID would end in .1.

***Subcategory 1.5: Letter type 2 - Non-fort-slave voyage – all***

*Variable name:* Letter\_type\_slave\_non\_fort

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter belongs to a voyage that is sent purchase slaves and sell the slaves in the Americas, but that is not set to stop at the forts. The extension “all” means that this variable includes all the data from the corresponding postscripts.

***Subcategory 1.6: Letter type 2 - Non-fort-slave voyage – partial***

*Variable name:* Letter\_type\_slave\_non\_fort

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter belongs to a voyage that is sent to purchase slaves and sell the slaves in the Americas, but that is not set to stop at the forts. The extension “partial” means that this variable does not yet include all the data from the corresponding postscripts. The corresponding UID would end in .1.

***Subcategory 1.7: Letter type 3 - Messenger voyage – all***

*Variable name:* Letter\_type\_messenger

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter belongs to a messenger-ship voyage. The extension “all” means that this variable includes all the data from the corresponding postscripts.

***Subcategory 1.8: Letter type 3 - Messenger voyage – partial***

*Variable name:* Letter\_type\_messenger

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter belongs to a messenger-ship voyage. The extension “partial” means that this variable does not yet include all the data from the corresponding postscripts. The corresponding UID would end in .1.

***Subcategory 1.9: Letter type 4 - Other***

*Variable name:* Letter\_type\_other

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter is different then the 4 main types

***Subcategory 1.10: Letter type 5 - Postscript***

*Variable name:* Letter\_type\_postscript

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter is a postscript to a fort-slave letter, a slave non-fort letter, or a messenger-ship letter.

***Subcategory 1.11: Postscript to letter ID***

*Variable name:* Postscript\_to\_ID

*Variable type:* Numeric (discrete)

*Description:* This variable indicates the UID number of the main letter it is a postscript to

***Subcategory 1.12 Letter date - year***

*Variable name:* Letter\_date\_year

*Variable type:* Numeric (discrete)

*Description:* This variable indicates the year in which the letter was written

***Subcategory 1.13: Letter date - month***

*Variable name:* Letter\_date\_month

*Variable type:* Numeric (discrete)

*Description:* This variable indicates the month in which the letter was written

***Subcategory 1.14: Letter date - day***

*Variable name:* Letter\_date\_day

*Variable type:* Numeric (discrete)

*Description:* This variable indicates the day in which the letter was written

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## **Category 2: Boat and captain information**

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This overarching category contains descriptive elements of vessel and captain associated with the letter.

### ***Subcategory 2.1: Shipname – standardized***

*Variable name:* Shipname\_standardized

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable contains the (by us) standardized version of the shipname

### ***Subcategory 2.2: Corresponding TASTD Voyage ID***

*Variable name:* TASTD\_voyage\_ID

*Variable type:* Numeric

*Description:* This variable contains the corresponding TASTD voyage ID, if the voyage occurred in the TASTD

### ***Subcategory 2.3: Captain last name – standardized***

*Variable name:* Captain\_last\_name\_standardized

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable contains the (by us) standardized version of the captain's last name

### ***Subcategory 2.4: Captain first name – standardized***

*Variable name:* Captain\_first\_name\_standardized

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable contains the (by us) standardized version of the captain's first name

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### Category 3: Captain-company contract terms and relationship

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This overarching category captures two main components of the Company's terms and relationship with the captains. It includes the contractual terms of the company-captain relationship: Whether there is an agreement with the captain's owners, a charterparty and payment terms and it includes information about the company's relationship to the captain in the past and potential relationship to the captain in the future.

#### ***Subcategory 3.1: Agreement owners***

*Variable name:* Agreement\_owners

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether a letter to a captain directly states that the captain is to follow his instructions as they have been agreed to by both the Royal African Company and the owner(s) of his ship. Furthermore, this variable shows alignment between the owner(s) of the ship and the Royal African Company.

*Example:*

"You are with the first opportunity that God shall send of a faire wind sett so saile with your ship the Thomas and Susanna and apply your voyage to Old Collabar in the Bite on the Coast of Africa, where on arrivall dispose of the cargoe wee have laden on board your ship **as agreed between your owners and the Royall African Company of England** who expects that you make use of the comission now delivered you according to the instructions signed by our secretary."

(Source: T70/61 F73, letter UID: 82)

#### ***Subcategory 3.2: Charter party***

*Variable name:* Charter\_party

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the word "charter party" or "charterparty" is used in the instructions to the captain (specifying the use of a charter party in the hire of the captain).

*Example:*

"You are with the first opportunity of wind and weather that God shall send after receipt hereof: to set sail out of the River of Thames with your shipp the Speedwell and make the best of your way to James Island in the River Gambia on the North parts Guyinie **according to Charter party** and on your arrivall there deliver our letters to Agent John Booker or in case of his absence to such person as shall be appointed to Act in his stead in our Affairs whose orders you are diligently to observe during your stay in those parts, you are alsoe to diliver him what provisions & ca we have consigned him according to the bill of lading."

(Source: T70/61 F79v-F80, letter UID: 89)

***Subcategory 3.3: Repeat captain RAC***

*Variable name:* Repeat\_captain\_RAC

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether a letter mentions that the captain has worked for the Royal African Company before. The letter has to explicitly state that the captain has worked for the company before. The variable is not marked if we know the captain has worked with company before, but the letter does not mention it.

*Example:*

"The confidence we have of your ability and **steadiness to the service of the Royal African Company of England** hath encourage us to give you the command of our ship the Fauconbergh, which as we desire may be fitted out as well as a ship of her berth can be"

(*Source:* T70/61 F92v-F94, letter UID: 104)

OR:

*Example:*

"**The experience wee have had of your service aboard our** ship Sommers Frigat & expectation we have of your future integrity & diligence hath induced us to give you the command of that ship in which wee hope you will use all imaginable industry to promote our interest & confirm that good opinion wee have conceived of your ability & honesty, you are therefore to take the care and charge of our said ship, which wee have fitted for a voyage to CCC [Cape Coast Castle] and have laden there on a cargoe of goods to a considerable value, for which you are to sign bills of lading. ""

(*Source:* T70/62, pp.33-36, letter UID: 199)

Note that all items in this category followed one of two formulas (listed in the appendix) except 198 to Josiah Daniel which spoke of his fidelity. We took this to mean fidelity to the company.

***Subcategory 3.4: Confidence in captain***

*Variable name:* Confidence\_in\_captain

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter explicitly states that the Royal African Company has great confidence in the captain.

*Example:*

"**The confidence we have of your ability** and steadiness to the service of the Royal African Company of England hath encourage us to give you the command of our ship the Fauconbergh, which as we desire may be fitted out as well as a ship of her berth can be"



(Source: T70/61 F92v-F94, letter UID: 104)

OR:

*Example:*

"And more especially when your negroes are aboard, for many mischeife have happened through to much neglect, and [maybe: own/our] much security. **Our confidence in your understanding the trade of Guynie** hath encouraged us to consigne to yourselfe the Windward cargoe laden aboard your ship which as by the enclosed invoyve amounts to £2617:14:6d "

(Source: T70/61 F81-F82v, letter UID: 90)

OR:

*Example:*

"**Our confidence in you** hath encouraged us to consigne to your selfe your windward cargoe laden aboard your ship, which as by the inclosed invoice and amounts to £4728, 10s"

(Source: T70/61 F83v-F85, letter UID: 94)

OR:

*Example:*

"**The good opinion we have of your ability** and honesty hath encouraged us to intrust you with the command of our ship the Davers Gally which we have fitted for a voyage to Cabre Corso Castle and from thence to Antegoe and to home."

(Source: T70/62, pp.2-6, letter UID: 187)

### ***Subcategory 3.5: Payment information***

*Variable name:* Payment\_information

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the letter states that the captain is being paid for his service to the Royal Company

*Example:*

"What gold shall be consigned to us must sign bills of lading for the same, and for what negroes you buy to windward with what you have at Cabo Corsoe Castle you must there sign bills of lading to deliver them to Cole Edwin Stede Mr. William Harding and Mr. John Forlir in Barbados to

whom you are to deliver all the negroes you shall be able to carry thither alive, and of them **you are to receive for your commission** for what part shall be bought by you four out of 104 and two out of 102 for such whom our factors shall put aboard, as we are as you can in buying lot the greater number be males and have all the care you can in precuring their lives and keeping them in good hart to be fit for a market when God shall send them safe to Barbados"

(Source: 61\_F92v-F94, letter UID: 104)

### ***Subcategory 3.6: Payment amount***

*Variable name:* Payment\_amount

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* This variable indicates if the letter states how much the captain is being paid for his service to the Royal Company

*Example:*

"What gold shall be consigned to us must sign bills of lading for the same, and for what negroes you buy to windward with what you have at Cabo Corsoe Castle you must there sign bills of lading to deliver them to Cole Edwin Stede Mr. William Harding and Mr. John Forlir in Barbados to whom you are to deliver all the negroes you shall be able to carry thither alive, and of them you are to receive for your commission **for what part shall be bought by you four out of 104 and two out of 102 for such whom our factors shall put aboard**, as we are as you can in buying lot the greater number be males and have all the care you can in precuring their lives and keeping them in good hart to be fit for a market when God shall send them safe to Barbados"

(Source: T70/61 F92v-F94, letter UID: 104)

### ***Subcategory 3.7: Freightng gold***

*Variable name:* Freightng\_gold

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if "freightng gold" is directly mentioned in the captain's instructions

*Example:*

"Wee order you at your return to render us an account in writing of every particular taken onboard your ship, and bring no returns from the coast for England, but what our ffactors and persons in our service shall put onboard and consigned to us for their own or the companies account **and for what gold is so consigned on their accounts you must agree for three percent freight**, one percent whereof wee shall allow to you for your care. It is also agreed the nett produce of such particular consignations shall be paid to the order of each proprietor and not stopt upon any pretensions of differences or dependencies with the company"

(Source: T70/61 F148v-F149v, letter UID: 179)

***Subcategory 3.8: Future recommendation***

*Variable name:* Future\_recommendation

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter states that the captain can count on a recommendation from the Royal African Company.

*Example:*

"Wherein anything is omitted in these instructions you must always observe to act what is most for the benefit of the company & cause that all under you do the same, & according as you approve your self in this present trust, **you may depend upon our favour upon any occasion where it may be usefull to you** wee wish you a good voyage & rest etc."

(Source: T70/62 pp. 90-93, UID: 213)

***Subcategory 3.9: In Case of Captain Death***

*Variable name:* In\_case\_of\_captain\_death

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether instructions are given in case the captain perishes during the voyage.

*Example:*

"You are every night to enter what goods that day you sold and for what that your actings may be clear to our satisfaction **in case of your mortality (which God forbid) and for that purpose Wee now Deliver you a book signed by the Deputy Governors**"

(Source: T70/61 F8v\_F9v, letter UID: 7)

***Subcategory 3.10 Anything omitted***

*Variable name:* Anything\_omitted

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether a standard clause that in essence means "by default do what is in the interest in the company" is present.

*Example:*

"And where anything is omitted in these instructions, you must always observe what is most entirely for the benefit of the company and cause that all persons under you do the same. We wish you a good voyage and remain"

(Source: T70/61 F148v-F149v, letter UID: 179)

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## Category 4: Destinations Africa

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This category pertains to instructions about the instructed itinerary on the African coast. It includes information about where to go and in what order, which factors to meet at each destination and whether the destination is a fallback (that is, the captain should only go there if he cannot get enough slaves at a previous destination). We have linked all destinations with their respective codes in the TASTD. For destinations in our database that do not have TASTD codes we have created new numeric codes.

### ***Subcategory 4.1: Destination 1 in Africa***

*Variable name:* Dest\_1\_Af

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable lists the first destination at which the letter instructs the captain to arrive.

#### *Coding notes:*

We coded all of the destinations windward of Cape Coast Castle as Windward, even if the instruction specified that the ship should sail to Cape Mount and then sail along the Grain, Quaqua and Gold Coasts before coming to Cape Coast Castle. We did this because the main purpose of the Windward part of the voyage was for the captain to engage in private trade, or to engage in trade for both himself and the company away from the company's forts. The letters sometimes specified portions of the windward coast and sometimes did not.

#### *Example:*

"According to our agreement with you and your owners as obliged by charterparty to which we require your due regard for what is to be performed on your part. Wee have laden aboard your shipp Dragon a cargoe of goods consigned yourselfe proper for the trade of Africa **windward of Cabo Corsoe [destination 1]** importing £1176:14:3 - wherein your owners are interested. [interested] You are therefore to firme bills of lading for what goods ar [are] for our account or permission laden aboard your shipp and then with the first oppertunity of wind that god shall send sett sail and apply as near to Cape Mount on the said Coast as your shipp can conveniently come where and at all places of trade on the Graine Quaqua and Gold Coast except at our factoryes before you arrive at Cabo Corsoe you are to use your best skills and endeavors to dispose of the said cargoe for gold elephants teeth mallagetta or what else is vendible in Europe and when you have disposed of the said cargoe or such part thereof as you find will sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts then sail to our factory at Cabo Corso castle and render our agent generall and rest of the councill there a true accountt of the disposall of the said cargoe. "

(Source: T70/61 F17\_F17v, UID: 16)

### ***Subcategory 4.2: Destination 1 in Africa – TASTD code***

*Variable name:* Dest\_1\_Af\_TASTD\_code

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable provides the TASTD destination code corresponding to the first destination in Africa.

***Subcategories 4.3-4.10: Destination 1 in Africa – Persons to meet***

*Variable name 4.3:* Dest\_1\_Af\_person1\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.4:* Dest\_1\_Af\_person2\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.5:* Dest\_1\_Af\_person3\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.6:* Dest\_1\_Af\_person4\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.7:* Dest\_1\_Af\_person5\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.8:* Dest\_1\_Af\_person6\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.9:* Dest\_1\_Af\_person7\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.10:* Dest\_1\_Af\_person8\_to\_meet

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* These variables list the names of the people the captain is instructed to meet at the first destination in Africa.

*Example:*

"You are upon receipt hereof to take the first opportunity of wind and weather that god shall send to proceed on your designed voyage with the ship the Ann & Sarah to James Island in the River of Gambia on the north part of Africa and upon your arrival there you are to give notice thereof to agent **Thomas Coreker [person 1]** **Mr Paul Dindar [person 2]** **Mr Thomas Gresham [person 3]** **Thomas Brookes Gunn [person 4]** **Captain John Prowde [person 5]** **Captain Thomas Williams [person 6]** and **Captain Daniel Tilsley [person 7]** or to so many of them as shall be upon our said Island or parts near adjacent to repair on board your ship to receive your orders and instructions directed to them from the Royal African Company of England and the said persons or so many of them as shall be upon the said island coming accordingly on board your ship you are then to deliver the several packets to the persons as they are directed or to such of them as shall be present and take their receipt for the same."

(Source: T70\_61, F160-F162, letter UID: 185)

***Subcategory 4.11: Destination 2 in Africa***

*Variable name:* Dest\_2\_Af

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable lists the second destination at which the letter instructs the captain to arrive.

*Example:*

"According to our agreement with you and your owners as obliged by charterparty to which we require your due regard for what is to be performed on your part. We have laden aboard your ship Dragon a cargo of goods consigned yourselfe proper for the trade of Africa **windward of Cabo**

Corsoe [destination 1] importing £1176:14:3 - wherein your owners are interested. [interested] You are therefore to firme bills of lading for what goods ar [are] for our account or permission laden aboard your shipp and then with the first oppertunity of wind that god shall send sett sail and apply as near to Cape Mount on the said Coast as your shipp can conveniently come where and at all places of trade on the Graine Quaqua and Gold Coast except at our factoryes **before you arrive at Cabo Corsoe [destination 2]** you are to use your best skills and endeavors to dispose of the said cargoe for gold elephants teeth mallagetta or what else is vendible in Europe and when you have disposed of the said cargoe or such part thereof as you find will sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts then sail to our factory at Cabo Corso castle and render our agent generall and rest of the councill there a true accountt of the disposall of the said cargoe. "

(Source: T70/61 F17\_F17v, UID: 17)

***Subcategory 4.12: Destination 2 in Africa – TASTD code***

*Variable name:* Dest\_2\_Af\_TASTD\_code

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable provides the TASTD destination code corresponding to the second destination in Africa.

***Subcategory 4.13: Destination 2 in Africa – Fallback***

*Variable name:* Dest\_2\_Af\_fallback

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether this is a fallback destination for the earlier mentioned destination at which the captain is instructed to arrive.

*Example:*

"on the Gold Coast Wee have laden a Cargoe of Goods such as you approve of proper & fitt consigned yoursef for the purchase of the said number of Two Hundered & Tenn negroes on **the Coast of Arda [fallback option]** which wee require that you husband the best you can for our Advantage And if our Factors on the said Coast can further you dispatch that you doe by them as directly in Charterparty **But in case you have your whole number of negroes from the Gold Coast you must then leave the said Cargoe with our said Agent** & rest of the Councill Having purchased your said Complement of negroes or such part of them as you thinke Convenient for your shipp to carry signe bills of lading for them for our Account **and proceed to Antegua as aforesaid & deliver them to our said Factors**"

(Source: T70/61 F26v\_F28, letter UID: 29)

***Subcategories 4.14-4.16: Destination 3 in Africa – Persons to meet***

*Variable name 4.14:* Dest\_2\_Af\_person1\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.15:* Dest\_2\_Af\_person2\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.16:* Dest\_2\_Af\_person3\_to\_meet

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* These variables list the names of the people the captain is instructed to meet at the second destination in Africa.

*Example:*

"We expect your hastening down to Cabo Corsoe unless our three chief factors on notice to them where you are direct your stay, according to bills of lading you are to deliver the several goods stores and of course to our three chief merchants **Mr. Humfrys [person 1], Wight [person 2], and Elwis [person 3]** and take their receipt for the same also give them the account of your disposal of our windward cargo and if any shall remain deliver the remains of the windward cargo to our said chief merchants and take their receipts for the particular spetiars of goods"

(Source: T70/61 F92v-F94, letter UID: 104)

#### ***Subcategory 4.17: Destination 3 in Africa***

*Variable name:* Dest\_3\_Af

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable lists the third destination at which the letter instructs the captain to arrive.

*Example:*

"To answer our great charge in the coast and fitting out the said ship your care and diligence is absolutely necessary also that you keep an orderly government amongst your men and a watchful eye over the negroes as you take them aboard that they do not want any thing fit for them and be presented and from doing any mischief be as expeditions as is possible in dispatching the business where every you roam. We hope by this time you have all our goods stores and other necessaries aboard and the said ship every way ready for the said voyage therefore on receipt hereof we hereby order you that wind weather permitting you lose no time but set sail and make the best of your way to the south coast of Africa and there apply yourself to trade with the windward cargo by us consigned to you as per [maybe: ton] amounting to pounds for your encouragement we have allowed of your having a private cargo of about pounds\_\_\_\_\_ but we hereby order you not to stay above 2 or 3 days at any one place on the windward coast **[destination 1]** to waits for trade on our account neither must you exceed that time to serve your private adventure our ship is of a great value and too much to hazard by lying on the coast, and the daily charge considerable

We expect your hastening down to Cabo Corsoe **[destination 2]** unless our three chief factors on notice to them where you are direct your stay, according to bills of lading you are to deliver the several goods stores and of course to our three chief merchants Mr. Humfrys, Wight, and Elwis and take their receipt for the same also give them the account of your disposal of our windward cargo and if any shall remain deliver the remains of the windward cargo to our said chief merchants and take their receipts for the particular spetiars of goods"



We have put aboard negro provisions for 600 slaves so you are not confined only to procure 500 but you having at Wydah or on the coast of Arda complete that number [destination 3] we would not have you lie many days for another 100 if you must stay some time for them neither to render your ship with them, but for what number you shall buy Leeward of Cabo Corsoe you must also make bills of lading and consign them to our said factors in Barbados and put one of them sealed up in a letter directed to them as a charge on your successor in case of mortality in this voyage which God forbid"

(Source: T70/61 F92v-F94, letter UID: 104)

***Subcategory 4.18: Destination 3 in Africa – TASTD code***

*Variable name:* Dest\_3\_Af\_TASTD\_code

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable provides the TASTD destination code corresponding to the third destination in Africa.

***Subcategory 4.19: Destination 3 in Africa – Fallback***

*Variable name:* Dest\_3\_Af\_fallback

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether this is a fallback destination for the earlier mentioned destination(s) at which the captain is instructed to arrive.

*Example:*

"We have ordered our cheife merchants at Cabo Corsoe Castle to put aboard you five hundred negroes if they have soe many and then you must deliver them your Widah cargoe and after signeing bills of lading proceed on your voyage to Jamaica but if they have not soe many then that they supply you with what they can for guardians and then you are to proceed to Widah to compleate your complement of six hundred negroes for which guardians you are to deliver them a proporionable part of your Arda cargoe."

(Source: T70/61 F99-F99v, letter UID: 110)

***Subcategory 4.20-4.22: Destination 3 in Africa – Persons to meet***

*Variable name 4.20:* Dest\_3\_Af\_person1\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.21:* Dest\_3\_Af\_person2\_to\_meet

*Variable name 4.22:* Dest\_3\_Af\_person3\_to\_meet

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* These variables list the names of the people the captain is instructed to meet at the third destination in Africa.

*Example:*

"But if our factors at Gambia cannot procure your lading as aforesaid then you are to proceed for Bence Island in the river of Serelion but in your way thither you are to take in as many young cowes (& some bulls for breed) as you can conveniently carry, one half whereof you are to deliver at Serelion together with our letters etc. to Mr William Lewis Mr Joshua Crofley & Mr James Scott our 3 cheifs there & receive from them what teeth wax or other goods they shall have ready to put on board & then with the other half you are proceed to York Island in the river of Sherbrow & deliver them to **Mr George Coates [person 1]** **Mr William Goff [person 2]** & **Mr Alex Richardson [person 3]** our three chief factors there together with our letters etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 44-49, letter UID: 202)

***Subcategory 4.23: Destination 4 in Africa***

*Variable name:* Dest\_4\_Af

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable lists the fourth destination at which the letter instructs the captain to arrive.

*Example:*

"You are on receipt hereof to take the first oppertunity of wind and weather that God shall send to proceed on your designes voyage with your ship the Hannah as yourselfe and owners are obliged to us by Charter party the contents whereof we expect you carefully observe and not that you take it to be only as a formall Draught, your orderly Government aboard your ship must be needfull for the good of your whole voyages. And more especially when your negroes are aboard, for many mischeife have happened through to much neglect, and our much security. Our confidence in your understanding the trade of Guynie hath encouraged us to consigne to yourselfe the Windward **[destination 1]** cargoe laden aboard your ship which as by the enclosed invoyve amounts to £2617:14:6d - - as soone as with your said ship it shall please God you come neare to Cape Mount you must consider the trade of those parts, and in the disposall of our goods to make thereof the most the markt will reach as you meete with trade enter each evening in our Booke herewith given you signed by our sub Governort or deputy Governor.

Every perticular sale made the foregoeing day that noe error in accounts you are to stopp at all places of trade on the Graine Coast Quaqua Coast and Gold Coast to Taccarado, and before you arrive there, wee expect you will have disposed of all the said cargoe for gold elephants teeth, corn and mallagetta, for the latter we would not have you give above two barrs ahundred but expect it much cheaper from Taccardo you are to saile to our factory at Cabo Corsoe Castle **[destination 2]** and there render to our 2 cheife merchnats a true account of the disposall of the said cargoe, alsoe open their receipt deliver them the produce, thereof where God sending you in safety, you are to deliver the stores, goods, provitions and medicines, laden aboard your said ship. Consigned to our and cheife merchants according to Bills of lading by you signed, and take a receipt or receipts alsoe for the same under all their hands.

...

Upon your making the Coast of Arda you are to touch to Windward of Papa [destination 3] where Capt. Wyborne hath settled a factory and there take in soe many negroes as they shall have ready in part of your cargoe and soe many dayes which you spend about Papa the said Wyborne is to allowe off as part of the number you are to stay as Whidah.

...

Wee have ordered them to give you all possible dispatch and **that you may proceed to Whidah [destination 4]** for the slaves you are to take aboard, where according to Bills of lading you are to deliver the other cargoe we have laden aboard your said ship to our factor Capt Petley Wyborne for the purchasing 430 negroes for our Campanies Accountt - the said cargoe you are to deliver by such portions only as he shall putt aboard in slaves after the rate of 3 [symbol] per head, according as the goods are valued in the invoice, a copie whereof you have herewith delivered you for your Government your men and Boat's must be assisting in unloading the goods and taken aboard the negroes, as hath been accustomed, but if the said Petley Wyborne should by death or other wayes be removed from Whidah (which God forbid) then you must use your utmost endeavours to purchase the said Complement of negroe slaves with the said cargoe of goods laden for that purpose, you must have a spetiall care that you take not aboard any slaves but such as shall be sound and"

(Source: T70/61 F81-F82v, letter UID: 90)

#### ***Subcategory 4.24: Destination 4 in Africa – TASTD code***

*Variable name:* Dest\_4\_Af\_TASTD\_code

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable provides the TASTD destination code corresponding to the fourth destination in Africa.

#### ***Subcategory 4.25: Destination 4 in Africa – Fallback***

*Variable name:* Dest\_4\_Af\_fallback

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether this is a fallback destination for the earlier mentioned destination(s) at which the captain is instructed to arrive.

*Example:*

"o prevent the damage which may accrue to your owner by your long stay on the coast if negroes should be scarce, and cannot fit in time, and at reasonable rates be procured on the Gold Coast. We have laden a cargo of goods such as you approved of proper and fit consigned yourself for the purchase of the said number of 530 negroes on the coast of Arda, which we expect and require that you husband the best you can for our advantage, and if our factors on the said coast can further

your dispatch that you do by them as we directed in charterparty; **but in case you have your whole number of negroes from the Gold Coast**, you must leave the said cargo with the said agent and rest of the council or such part thereof in proportion to the number of negroes you receive from thence, or the windward pars"

(Source: T70/61 F14\_F15, letter UID: 14)

***Subcategory 4.26: Destination 4 in Africa – Person 1 to meet***

*Variable name:* Dest\_4\_Af\_person1\_to\_meet

*Variable type:*

*Description:* This variable list the name of the person the captain is instructed to meet at the fourth destination in Africa.

*Example:*

"Wee have ordered them to give you all possible dispatch and that you may proceed to Whidah for the slaves you are to take aboard, where according to Bills of lading **you are to deliver the other cargoe we have laden aboard your said ship to our factor Capt Petley Wyborne** for the purchasing 430 negroes for our Campanies Accountt - the said cargoe you are to deliver by such portions only as he shall putt aboard in slaves after the rate of 3 pounds per head, according as the goods are valued in the invoice, a copie whereof you have herewith delivered you for your Government your men and Boat's must be assisting in unloading the goods and taken aboard the negroes, as hath been accustomed, but if the said Petley Wyborne should by death or other wayes be removed from Whidah (which God forbid) then you must use your utmost endeavours to purchase the said Complement of negroe slaves with the said cargoe of goods laden for that purpose, you must have a spetiall care that you take not aboard any slaves but such as shall be sound and"

(Source: T70/61 F81-F82v, letter UID: 90)

***Subcategory 4.27: Double destination***

*Variable name:* Double\_destination

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter tells the captain to return to Africa after delivering slaves in the Americas for a second slave-purchasing voyage.

*Example:*

"**After the delivery of your Negroes (in this your first intended Voyage) at Barbados** as afforsaid you are to Receive Such a quantity of Rumm and Negro provisions as they shall laid or put aboard you that you Can Convenintly take in without shaking Your Water Casks and after you have signed Bills of Lading for the Same You Shall (Wind and weather) permitting forthwith **proceed back to Cabo Corso Castle** and deliver the Same to our Said Genll. [Generall] and in his Absence to the Companys three Chief factors there, and take their Rect. [Receipt] for the Same and Shall also Observe and performe all such orders and directions as you shall receive from our said Genll.

[Generall] and in his Absence from our three Chief factors at Cabo Corso Castle and Shall also take in such Gold Elephants Teeth and Negroes as they shall think fitt to lade or Cause to be laden aboard Your Ship not Exceeding the Number of Negroes agreed on by Charterparty and signe bills of Lading for the same to be delivered at Barbados to Charles Thomas Esqr. [Esquire] and Mr. James Aynsworth aforsaid to whome you are likewise to deliver your remaining Negro provisions and take their Rects. [Receipts] for the same as aforsaid and from whome you are likewise to Receive one half of your freight in the Currant Coine of that Island as aforsaid and your Commisison Negroes of 4 in 104 for all Such as you shall deliver alive ass an Encouragt. [Encouragement] and in Considration of your performing the orders and Instructions afore and hereafter mencioned"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 266-267, letter UID: 262)

***Subcategory 4.28: Double destination***

*Variable name:* Double\_destination

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the ship captain was instructed to return to Africa after delivering slaves in the Americas for a second voyage where he will purchase slaves and then sail back to the Americas.

*Example:*

"After the delivery of your Negroes (in this your first intended Voyage) at Barbados as afforsaid you are to Receive Such a quantity of Rumm and Negro provisions as they shall laid or put aboard you that you Can Convenintly take in without shaking Your Water Casks and after you have signed Bills of Lading for the Same You Shall (Wind and weather) permitting forthwith **proceed back to Cabo Corso Castle and deliver the Same to our Said Genll. [Generall] and in his Absence to the Companys three Chief factors there, and take their Rect. [Receipt] for the Same and Shall also Observe and performe all such orders and directions as you shall receive from our said Genll. [Generall] and in his Absence from our three Chief factors at Cabo Corso Castle and Shall also take in such Gold Elephants Teeth and Negroes as they shall think fitt to lade or Cause to be laden aboard Your Ship not Exceeding the Number of Negroes agreed on by Charterparty and signe bills of Lading for the same to be delivered at Barbados to Charles Thomas Esqr. [Esquire] and Mr. James Aynsworth aforsaid to whome you are likewise to deliver your remaining Negro provisions and take their Rects. [Receipts] for the same as aforsaid and from whome you are likewise to Receive one half of your freight in the Currant Coine of that Island as aforsaid and your Commisison Negroes of 4 in 104 for all Such as you shall deliver alive ass an Encouragt. [Encouragement] and in Considration of your performing the orders and Instructions afore and hereafter mencioned"**

(Source: T70/62 pp. 266-267, letter UID: 306)

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## Category 5: Private trade

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This category includes variables with instructions about how and in what form the captain can conduct private trade.

### ***Subcategory 5.1: Private Trade***

*Variable name:* Private\_trade

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the company has authorized the captain to engage in private trade for himself and his owners

*Example:*

"According to our agreement with and your owners, as obliged by charterparty to which we required your one regard for what is to be performed on your part we have laden aboard your ship the East India Merchant some corn and other goods to be delivered at James Island in the River of Gambia together with such factory and passengers as are ordered to go on your ship for that island and also a cargo of goods consigned yourself proper for the trade of Africa. - Windward of Cabo Corsoe importing 2101: 00: 0 pounds of goods. - Wherever your owners are interested you are therefore to firm bills of lading for that, and for what other goods are for our accompt or provision laden aboard your ship. And then with the first good opportunity what God shall send, set sail and apply into James Island in the River of Gamboa and make a right discharge of what goods are consigned our factories there and from thence receive what goods he hath to laden for Cabo Corsoe castle; And from thence apply as near to Cape Mont on the said coast as your ship can conveniently carry, - where and at all other places of trade and export at our factorys as at the grain, Quaqua, and Gold Coast, before you arrive at Cabo Corsoe you are to us your best skill and endeavors to dispose of the said cargo for gold elephant teeth and mallagetta, and what others vendible Europe, and when you have disposed of the said cargo on such part thereof as you find will sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts, then sail to our factory at Cabo Corsoe castle and render our agent general and council there attend of your disposal of the said cargo you are also to deliver them our letters with such goods as are consigned them by your ship according to bill of lading from whom you are to take aboard for our account five hundred and 30 negroes if they have or can procure them within the time that you shall agree to stay on that coast for them"

(Source: 61, T70/61 F14\_F15, letter ID: 14)

### ***Subcategory 5.2-4: Private Trade Amount***

*Variable name 5.2:* Private\_trade\_amount\_pounds

*Variable name 5.3:* Private\_trade\_amount\_shillings

*Variable name 5.4:* Private\_trade\_amount\_pence

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* These variables indicates the value of the goods the captain has for private trade.

*Example:*

"According to our agreement with and your owners, as obliged by charterparty to which we required your one regard for what is to be performed on your part we have laden aboard your ship the East India Merchant some corn and other goods to be delivered at James Island in the River of Gambia together with such factory and passengers as are ordered to go on your ship for that island and also a cargo of goods consigned yourself proper for the trade of Africa. - Windward of Cabo Corsoe **importing 2101: 00: 0 pounds of goods**. – Wherever your owners are interested you are therefore to firm bills of lading for that, and for what other goods are for our account or provision laden aboard your ship. And then with the first good opportunity what God shall send, set sail and apply into James Island in the River of Gamboa and make a right discharge of what goods are consigned our factories there and from thence receive what goods he hath to laden for Cabo Corsoe castle; And from thence apply as near to Cape Mont on the said coast as your ship can conveniently carry, - where and at all other places of trade and export at our factories as at the grain, Quaqua, and Gold Coast, before you arrive at Cabo Corsoe you are to use your best skill and endeavors to dispose of the said cargo for gold elephant teeth and mallagetta, and what others vendible Europe, and when you have disposed of the said cargo on such part thereof as you find will sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts, then sail to our factory at Cabo Corsoe castle and render our agent general and council there attend of your disposal of the said cargo you are also to deliver them our letters with such goods as are consigned them by your ship according to bill of lading from whom you are to take aboard for our account five hundred and 30 negroes if they have or can procure them within the time that you shall agree to stay on that coast for them"

(Source: 61, T70/61 F14\_F15, letter ID: 14)

***Subcategory 5.5: Private Trade Purpose***

*Variable name:* Private\_trade\_purpose

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the items the captain is allowed to purchase for private trade.

*Example:*

"According to our agreement with and your owners, as obliged by charterparty to which we required your one regard for what is to be performed on your part we have laden aboard your ship the East India Merchant some corn and other goods to be delivered at James Island in the River of Gambia together with such factory and passengers as are ordered to go on your ship for that island and also a cargo of goods consigned yourself proper for the trade of Africa. - Windward of Cabo Corsoe **importing 2101: 00: 0 pounds of goods**. – Wherever your owners are interested you are therefore to firm bills of lading for that, and for what other goods are for our account or provision laden aboard your ship. And then with the first good opportunity what God shall send, set sail and apply into James Island in the River of Gamboa and make a right discharge of what goods are consigned our factories there and from thence receive what goods he hath to laden for Cabo Corsoe castle; And from thence apply as near to Cape Mont on the said coast as your ship can conveniently carry, - where and at all other places of trade and export at our factories as at the grain, Quaqua, and Gold Coast, before you arrive at Cabo Corsoe you are to use your best skill and endeavors to dispose

of the said cargo for **gold elephant teeth and mallagetta**, and what others vendible Europe, and when you have disposed of the said cargo on such part thereof as you find will sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts, then sail to our factory at Cabo Corsoe castle and render our agent general and council there attend of your disposal of the said cargo you are also to deliver them our letters with such goods as are consigned them by your ship according to bill of lading from whom you are to take aboard for our account five hundred and 30 negroes if they have or can procure them within the time that you shall agree to stay on that coast for them"

(Source: 61, T70/61 F14\_F15, letter UID: 14)

***Subcategory 5.6: Private Trade Accountability***

*Variable name:* Private\_trade\_accountability

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain is obligated to present records of his private trade at the company forts.

*Example:*

"According to our Agreement with you and your Owners as Obliged by Charterparty to which we require your due regard for what is to be Performed on your part Wee have laden aboard your ship Maynard a Cargoe of Goods consigned yourselfe proper for the trade of Africa Windward of Cabo Corso Importing £1826-13s-2d wherein your Owners are Interested you are therefore to firme bills of Lading for what are for our accounts or Permission laden aboard your ship & then with the First opportunity of wind that God shall Send sett saile and Apply as neare to Cape Mount on the said coast as your ship can conveniently come when and att all places of Trade on the Graine Quaqua & Gold Coast except att our Factoryes before you arrive at Cabo Corsoe you are to use your best Skills & Endeavors to dispose of the said Cargoe or such part thereof as you shall finde will Sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts then Saile to our Factory att Cabo Corsoe Castle & render our three Chiefe Merchants there a true Account of the Disposal of the said Cargoe **You are allsoe to deliver them the Severall Goods wee have consigned them by your ship according to Bills of Lading from whome you are to take a receipt or Receipts for the Same under all their hands** & likewise you are to take from them aboard your Shipp for our Account 406 negroes if they have or can procure them within the time that you shall agree to Stay on that Coastfor them without charging the Company Demorage & when laden steere away for Barbados & deliver the negroes to Coll Cdwyn Stede & Mr Benjamin Skutt out Factors there"

(Source: 61, T70/61 F31-F33v, letter UID: 36)

***Subcategory 5.7: Joint RAC Private Trade***

*Variable name:* Joint\_RAC\_private\_trade

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the RAC authorizes the captain to engage in what we are calling “joint RAC-Private trade” – essentially allowing the captain to engage in private trade away from the company’s forts and asking him to trade for the company in these locations as well



*Example:*

"before you arrive at Capo trees Pontees you are to use **you best skill & endeavours to dispose of the Cargoe of Goods here Laden for our & your Owners** Accompts consigned & yourselfe proper for the trade of those parts Importing £ [blank] as by Invoyce and bill of Lading delivered you) for Gold Ellephants tooth Mallagetta or what else is vendible in Europe, and twenty negroes for your Guards to the other Negroes and when you have disposed of the said Cargoe or such part thereof as you shall find will sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts"

(Source: T70\_61, F40-F41v, letter UID: 44)

***Subcategory 5.8-10: Joint RAC Private Trade Amount – Pounds***

*Variable name 5.8:* Joint\_RAC\_private\_trade\_amount\_pounds

*Variable name 5.9:* Joint\_RAC\_private\_trade\_amount\_shillings

*Variable name 5.10:* Joint\_RAC\_private\_trade\_amount\_pence

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* These variables indicate the value of the goods for Joint-RAC-Private trade

*Example:*

"For performance of our Agrement as obliged by Charterparty with you & your Owners to which Charterparty wee require your due regard for what is to be performed on your part wee have Laden on your ship the Sherbron several Cargoes of Goods which you are to deliver and dispose of as hereafter directed Therefore with the first Opportunity of wind that Godd shall send sett sail and apply as near to Cape Mount on the Coast of Africa as your shipp can Conveniently Come where and at all places Trade on the Graine Quaqua & Gould Cost except at our Factoryes before you arrive at Cape Trees pontoos you are to use your best skill and endeavour to dispose of the Cargoe of Goods here Laden for our and your owners Accounts Consigned your selfe proper to the Trade of those parts Importing **£950:5:2d**"

(Source: 61, F49v-F50v, letter ID: 54)

***Subcategory 5.11: Joint RAC Private Trade Purpose***

*Variable name:* Joint\_RAC\_private\_trade\_purpose

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the goods to be purchases with Joint-RAC-Private trade

*Example:*

"As by Invoyce & bills of lading delivered you for **Gold Elephants Tooth Mallagetta** & what else is vandable in Europe and twenty negroes for your Guards to the other negroes and when you have disposed of yhour Cargoe or such part thereof as you shall find will sell in the time agreed for your

stay in those parts then sail to our Factory at Cabo Corsoe Castle and render our three Cheife Merchants there a true Account of the Disposall of the said Cargoe and deliver them what Goods you have remaineing of the said Windward Cargoe together with the said **Gold Elephants tooth** Ca And you are to deliver them the severall Goods wee have consign'd them by your ship according to the Bill of Ladeing from whom you are to take a receipt or receipts for the same under their Hands, and if they have not purchased the full number of Twenty Negroes they will make up that number, for which and for the negroes provisions you must give them Bills of Ladeing"

(Source: 61, F49v-F50v, letter ID: 54)

### ***Subcategory 5.12: Joint RAC Private Trade Accountability***

*Variable name:* Joint\_RAC\_private\_trade\_accountability

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if there are instructions in the letter for the captain to be accountable for items that he purchases for the Royal African Company.

*Example:*

"As by Invoyce & bills of lading delivered you for Gold Elephants Tooth Mallagetta & what else is vandable in Europe and twenty negroes for your Guards to the other negroes and when you have disposed of yhour Cargoe or such part thereof as you shall find will sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts then sail to our Factory at Cabo Corsoe Castle and render our three Cheife Merchants there a true Account of the Disposall of the said Cargoe and deliver them what Goods you have remaineing of the said Windward Cargoe together with the said Gold Elephants tooth Ca And you are to deliver them the severall Goods wee have consign'd them by your ship **according to the Bill of Ladeing from whom you are to take a receipt or receipts for the same under their Hands**, and if they have not purchased the full number of Twenty Negroes they will make up that number, for which and for the negroes provisions you must give them Bills of Ladeing"

(Source: 61, F49v-F50v, letter ID: 54)

### ***Subcategory 5.13: Don't Trade Too Near our Factories***

*Variable name:* Do\_not\_trade\_too\_near\_our\_factories

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates the presence of an instruction not to conduct private trade near the RAC's factories in Africa.

*Example:*

"You must use your endeavour to purchase from 20 to 30 tuns of mallegetta, but all the elephants teeth and gold you can get; **do not prejudice the marketts near our factories** but when you come near

them saile directly to Cabo Corso Castle, and there deliver all the goods that shall be remaining on board as before directed, you are to make use of the Crocus for Baggs for the mallagetta."

*(Source: T70/62, pp.2-6, letter UID: 187)*

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## Category 6: Trading instructions

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This category includes all variables with instructions about the “main” trade that is to be done on the African coast (the non-private trade)

### *Subcategory 6.1: Intended number of slaves*

*Variable name:* Intended\_number\_slaves

*Variable type:* Numeric (discrete)

*Description:* This variable lists the intended number of slaves that had to be purchased in Africa

*Example:*

"You are with the first Opportunity of wind and weather that God shall send after receipt hereof to sett sail with your ship the Ann from the River of Thames and make the best of your way to the Coast of Angola in Africa and on Arrival there use your utmost endeavours to dispose of the Cargoe of Goods wee have Leaden aboard your Shipp amounting to £2255:2:11d for the purchase of Six Hundred Lusty and Sound negroes and Provisions for them according to Charterparty to which we expect you duely conforme and with the surpluse of the said cargo buy what Elephants teeth you can for our account. Having finished your business on the Coast of Angola you are to direct your Course to Jamaica whear God sending you safe to arrive deliver the negroes to Coll. Hender Molesworth, Mr Charles Penhallow and Mr Walter Ruding our Factors there who will pay you two thirds of your freight out of them and give you Certificate for the Remainder. We expect that you bring or send home a certificate under your Mates and Chirugions hands to testifie the Death of all negroes that shall happen to dye in the Voyage Specifying the time of their Death for wee will not allow of any for dead but what are soe testified."

(Source: T70/61 F12\_F13, letter UID: 12)

### *Subcategory 6.2-4: Value Company Goods for Slaves and Provisions*

*Variable name 6.2:* Value\_company\_goods\_for\_slaves\_provisions\_pounds

*Variable name 6.3:* Value\_company\_goods\_for\_slaves\_provisions\_shillings

*Variable name 6.4:* Value\_company\_goods\_for\_slaves\_provisions\_pence

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* These variables note the value of goods placed on the ship for the purchasing slaves (in pence). Usually, the letter indicates the exact monetary value of these goods.

*Example:*

"You are with the first Opportunity of wind and weather that God shall send after receipt hereof to sett sail with your ship the Ann from the River of Thames and make the best of your way to the

Coast of Angola in Africa and on Arrival there use your utmost endeavours to dispose of the Cargoe of Goods wee have Leaden aboard your Shipp amounting to £2255:2:11d for the purchase of Six Hundred Lusty and Sound negroes and Provisions for them according to Charterparty to which we expect you duely conforme and with the surplus of the said cargo buy what Elephants teeth you can for our account. Having finished your business on the Coast of Angola you are to direct your Course to Jamaica whear God sending you safe to arrive deliver the negroes to Coll. Hender Molesworth, Mr Charles Penhallow and Mr Walter Ruding our Factors there who will pay you two thirds of your freight out of them and give you Certificate for the Remainder. We expect that you bring or send home a certificate under your Mates and Chirugions hands to testifie the Death of all negroes that shall happen to dye in the Voyage Specifying the time of their Death for wee will not allow of any for dead but what are soe testified."

(Source: T70/61 F12\_F13, letter UID: 12)

### ***Subcategory 6.5-7: Maximum price per slave***

*Variable name 6.5:* Max\_price\_per\_slave\_pounds

*Variable name 6.6:* Max\_price\_per\_slave\_shillings

*Variable name 6.7:* Max\_price\_per\_slave\_pence

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* These variables note the maximum amount to spend per slave.

*Example:*

"endeavors to Dispose of the cargoes of goods here laden for our owne & your owners accounts consigned your selfe proper for the trade of those parts Importing £ of per invoice & bill of Lading delivered you for gold Elephants Teeth Mallagetta and what elce is vendible in Europe we alsoe Laden another cargoe to the value of £ as of per invoice which yo are to dispose of noe otherwise in your windward trade then for the purchase of negroes for whih by agreement you are not to exceet £3 per head & when you have disposed of your cargoes or such part thereof as you find will sell in the time agreed for your stay in those parts then saile to our Factory att Cabo Corsoe Castle and render our Three Cheife Merchants there a true account of the Disposall of the said Cargoes & "

(Source: T70/61 F67-F68, letter UID: 71)

### ***Subcategory 6.8: Receive goods from factors***

*Variable name:* Receive\_goods\_from\_factors

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain is instructed to receive goods from factors on the African Coast.

*Example:*

"You are likewise to receive from our Cheife Merchats at Cape Corsoe Castle what Gold Elephants Teeth Mallagetta and – other goods they shall think fitt to put aboard your Ship and sign Bills of Lading for it to be delivered to our factors Mr. William Harding and Mr. Nicholas Prideaux at Barbados"

(Source: T70/61 F104v-F105v, letter UID: 117)

### ***Subcategory 6.9: Goods received from factors***

*Variable name:* Type\_Goods\_received\_from\_factors

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable notes the types of goods the captain is to receive from the factors.

*Example:*

"You are likewise to receive from our Cheife Merchats at Cape Corsoe Castle what Gold Elephants Teeth Mallagetta and – other goods they shall think fitt to put aboard your Ship and sign Bills of Lading for it to be delivered to our factors Mr. William Harding and Mr. Nicholas Prideaux at Barbados"

(Source: T70/61 F104v-F105v, letter UID: 117)

### ***Subcategory 6.10: Purchase provisions***

*Variable name:* Purchase\_provisions

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain is instructed to also purchase provisions with the goods placed on his ship for the slave purchase. Such provisions were often intended for the upkeep of slaves during the voyage to the Americas.

*Example:*

"You are with the first opportunity of wind and weather that God shall send after receipt hereof to set sail with your ship the Robert, and from the River Thames and make the best of your way to new or old Callabar in the bite, on the coast of Africa; and on arrival there, be the use your utmost endeavors to dispose of the Cargo of goods we have laden aboard the your ship amounting to 630: 19: 3 pounds – for the purchasing of 200 lusty and sound negroes and provisions for them as you shall contrive necessary - to be provided more then are here laden aboard you according to charterparty to which we expect you only conform and with the surplus of the said cargo buy what elephants teeth you can for our accounts we have likewise – laden another cargo of goods importing 162: 01: 05 pounds – for the buying elephants teeth wherein you and the owners are concerned as agreed in charterparty. "

(Source: T70/61 F10v\_F11, letter UID: 9)

***Subcategory 6.11: Take or Receive Provisions***

*Variable name:* Take\_or\_receive\_provisions

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain is to receive/take provisions or corn from factors.

*Example:*

"As soone as with yor said shipp it shall please God to come nere to Cape Mount you must consider the trade of those parts and in the disposall of our Gods to make there of the most the market will reach as you meet with the trade enter each evening in our booke herewith given you. Signed by our governors or deputy governors every perticuler saile made the foregoing day that noe error happen in accots you are to stop at a ll places of trade on the grane quaqua or gould coast to Taccarada. **and before you arrive there wee expect you will have disposed of all the said cargoe for gould elephants teeth. Corne or Mallagetta for the latter wee would not have you give above two barrs a hundred**, but expect it much cheaper if you meet with stout negroes you may buy to the number of sixty for yor gaurdians out of said cargoe as allowed in charter party "

(Source: T70/61 F61-F62, letter UID: 65)

***Subcategory 6.12: Purchase Ivory with Surplus***

*Variable name:* Purchase\_ivory\_with\_surplus

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter instructs the captain to buy ivory with any money that left-over from the slave purchase.

*Example:*

"Then make the best of your way to Angola, and on arrival use your utmost endeavours to dispose of the Cargoe of Goods wee have laden aboard your said shipp for the purchasing of four hundre and fifty lusty and sound negroes and provisions for them, according to the charterparty , **and with your surplus of the said cargoe (if any) buy what elephants tooth you can procure** on your shipp embarques Mr Benjamin Turner whome wee have appointed to goe our factor this voyage"

(Source: T70\_61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

***Subcategory 6.13: Received goods in Americas (umbrella)***

*Variable name:* Received\_goods\_in\_Americas\_umbrella

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates the types of goods the captain is supposed to take onboard from at his stops in Africa.

*Example:*

"Africa the delivery of your negroes in this your first entended voyage at Barbados as aforesaid you are to receive such a quantity of rumm and negro provitions shall lade or putt aboard you that you can conveniently take in without shakeing your water caske, and after you have signed bills of ladeing for the same you shall (wind and weather permitting) for with proceed back to Cabo Corso Castle and deliver the same to our said general and three chief factors there and take their receipt for the same and shall also observe and performe all such orders and directions as you shall receive from our said generall and three chief factor at Cape Coast Castle, and shall also take in such Gold, elephants teeth, and negroes as they shall think fit to lade as cause to be laden aboard your ship not exceeding the number of negroes agreed on by Charterparty and sign bills of lading for the same to be delivered at Barbadoes to Mr. Charles Thomas and M. James Ainsworth aforesaid to whome you are likewise to deliver your remaining negro provisions takeing their receipt as aforesaid, and from whom you are likewise to receive on half of your freight in the currant coyne of that island as afore recited and your commission negroes of foure in a hundred and four for all such as you shall deliver alive as an encouragement you performing the conditions afore recited."

(Source: T70\_62 pp.205-208, letter UID: 248)

#### ***Subcategory 6.14: Goods received in Americas***

*Variable name:* Goods\_received\_in\_Americas

*Variable type:* Categorical

*Description:* This variable indicates the type of goods that were placed on the ship when it landed in the West Indies.

*Example:*

"Africa the delivery of your negroes in this your first entended voyage at Barbados as aforesaid you are to receive such a quantity of rum and negro provisions shall lade or putt aboard you that you can conveniently take in without shakeing your water caske, and after you have signed bills of ladeing for the same you shall (wind and weather permitting) for with proceed back to Cabo Corso Castle and deliver the same to our said general and three chief factors there and take their receipt for the same and shall also observe and performe all such orders and directions as you shall receive from our said generall and three chief factor at Cape Coast Castle, and shall also take in such Gold, elephants teeth, and negroes as they shall think fit to lade as cause to be laden aboard your ship not exceeding the number of negroes agreed on by Charterparty and sign bills of lading for the same to be delivered at Barbadoes to Mr. Charles Thomas and M. James Ainsworth aforesaid to whome you are likewise to deliver your remaining negro provisions takeing their receipt as aforesaid, and from whom you are likewise to receive on half of your freight in the currant coyne of that island as



afore recited and your commission negroes of foure in a hundred and four for all such as you shall deliver alive as an encouragement you performing the conditions afore recited."

(Source: T70\_62 pp.205-208, letter UID: 248)

### ***Subcategory 6.15: Company Goods Fallback Bundle***

*Variable name:* Company\_goods\_fallback\_bundle

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are instructions for the captain in the letter to go to a secondary location to purchase slaves/goods in case there are not enough at the primary location.

*Example:*

“if negroes should be scarce and cannot in fitt time and at reasonable tearmes be procured on the Gold Coast **wee have laden a cargoe of goods such as you approve of proper and fitt (consigned yourselfe, for the purchase of the said number of three hundred and sixty negroes on the Coast of Arda [fallback destination]** which wee expect and require that you husband the best you can for advantage and if our factors on the said coast can further your dispatch that you doe by them as directed in charterparty. **But in case you have your whole number of negroes from the Gold Coast you must then leave the said cargoe with our said agent** and rest of the Councill or such part thereof in proportion to the number of negroes you receive from thence or the windward parts having purchased your said complement of negroes or such part of them as you thinke convenient for your shipp to carry. Signe bills of lading for them for our accountt and proceed to Barbados as aforesaid and diliver them to our said factors from whome you are receive two thirds parts of your freights in the said negroes by lott and a certificate to us for the remainder.

(Source: T70/61 F16\_f17, letter UID: 16)

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## Category 7: Crew management

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The variables in this category capture instructions on how to manage the crew during the voyage.

### ***Subcategory 7.1: Report Sailor Deaths***

*Variable name:* Report\_sailor\_deaths

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are instructions for the captain to record and report the death of crew members, including details about the time of death.

*Example:*

"Give the Company a full Account of all proceedings by every Conveyance Likewise **send lists of your seamen and if any of them shall happen to Dye mention the time of their Death** & send an account under out Factor & your hands of what is due to them. "

(Source: T70/61 21\_21v, letter UID: 24)

### ***Subcategory 7.2: In Case of Sailor deserting***

*Variable name:* In\_case\_of\_sailor\_deserting

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the instructions note to give sailors' wages to the poor in case of desertion.

*Example:*

"**If any person belonging to the ship shall during the voyage absent himself from on board the same and from the companys service** you on your chief officers are hereby required to keep a stricte account hereof which account you are to deliver to the committee of shipping at your return that deduction may be made out of the wages of the defaulter and the money arising there by to be (employed for the use of the poor.)"

(Source: T70/62 pp.101-106, letter UID: 216)

### ***Subcategory 7.3: Practice Religion Aboard***

*Variable name:* Practice\_religion\_ aboard

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are any instructions pertaining to the practice of religion on board the ship during the voyage.

*Example:*

"Wee recomend to you in the first place to keep an orderly government aboard your ship and in order thereto wee hope you will be carefull to be an example of sobriety and vertue to your officers & others and that God may bless you with a successfull voyage, **wee desire & order that he worship of God be religiously observed on board your ship and that the prayers of the Church of England & the form of Prayers no delivered you be constantly made use of**"

(Source: T70/62 pp.57-60, letter UID: 206)

#### ***Subcategory 7.4: Apprentice(s) aboard***

*Variable name:* Apprentice(s)\_aboard

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are appentices aboard.

*Example:*

"The boards Mr Haw and having occasion to goe down to Gravesend I am commander to write to you that the company do expect your particular care **of these apprentices that you have aboard**, they required you to let them want for nothing that is fit for them noe that you suffer any of the seamen to abuse or discourage them on pain or being punished of this you are to take due notice I am Gent[illegible] J. P. S"

(Source: T70/62 pp.154, letter UID: 226.4)

#### ***Subcategory 7.5: Crew payment***

*Variable name:* Crew\_payment

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are any instructions in letter pertaining to the payment of the crew.

*Example:*

"Wee have with much difficulty obtained a protection for yourself and men which we hope came to your hands by last post and by the help thereof you have procured your ships complement of seamen to supply such as have been pressed from you. As alsoe we must continue to desire you to gett as many and as good men as you can, to goe into our service for 3 yeares in Guynie, and you

are to take their hands to such agreement as you shall make with them and send us up the same with a perfect list of your men aboard, and of all Passengers, you are to prefer handicrafts [maybe] men before others and agree with each as his capacity may deserve, getting as good an account of each as you can for your Government and herein you will doe as great [maybe] service with we shall not forgett God sending you well home we are very sorry that you had the hard fortune to be forced into Plymouth by contrary winds God send you safe to your designed Port, their Present Majesty having proclaimed Wars with France have given us alsoe their comission to impower our servants to act in hostile manner against all the subjects of France, and that you may not want the needfull power to offend the French as you have oppertunity within the limitts of our Charter we herewith send you a comission in pursuance to their Majesties Authoritie given us to act in a hostile manner against all the subjects of France reserving to their Majesties [maybe] One tenth part of what you shall seize for his right as Admirall and then all charges being deducted you and Ships Company are to have a third part of the remaine-ing nett proceed of what ever you shall seize by vertue of the said Comission - **if you shall have occasion to advance money to encourage servants to come into our service you may advance to each 2 months salary with we give them to provide them with necessaryes and to supply your occation to comply therewith you must drawe the same on our treasury [maybe treasure] given we advise thereof and your bills shall duely paid by us.**"

(Source: T70/61 F80v-F81, letter UID: 89.2)

#### ***Subcategory 7.6: No Waste be Made of Stores and Provisions***

*Variable name:* No\_waste\_be\_made\_of\_stores\_and\_provisions

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the letter has generic instructions that no waste is to be made of the Company's "stores" and "provisions".

*Example:*

"To answer our great charge in fitting out our said ship your care and dilligence will be absolutely necessary, and that you keep an orderly government among the men and that god may bless you with a sucessful voyage wee recomend it is the especial care that the worship of god be religiously observed aboard the ship, and to that end wee recomend to you that the prayers of the church of England and also the form of prayer now delivered to you be constantly made use of; **take due care that no waste be made of stores or provisions, for wee expect in every perticular all manner of good husbandry from you.**"

(Source: T70/61 F162v-F164, letter UID: 186)

#### ***Subcategory 7.7: Prevent skilled crew from wastefully spending stores and provisions***

*Variable name:* Prevent\_skilled\_crew\_from\_wastefully\_spending\_stores\_and\_provisions

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are instructions about the captain being responsible for the prevention of skilled crewmembers from wasting provisions.

*Example:*

"We do expect and order that you do monthly take account of your boastwain carpenter gunner cooper and cooke of your expences of stores belonging to them and a weekly account from the steward of the expenses of provisions & etc. **and be carefull to examine and see that they do not wastfully or unnecessarily spend them.** True account whereof we do expect that you do render to the committee of shipping at your return into England fairly entered in a book for that purpose signed your officers at every time you take their account in such manner that you may waste to give you oath to it (if required)"

(Source: T70/62 pp.29-33, letter UID: 198)

OR:

*Example:*

"You are to require an account every fourteen days from **your several officers that you instruct with the stores and provisions of the ship how they are issued out and examine the truth thereof** and at your return give us an account taken of in writing that wee amy judge who have behaved themselves be for in our service"

(Source: T70/62 pp.193-198, letter UID: 244)

### ***Subcategory 7.8: Don't Let Sailors Waste Their Wages on Alcohol***

*Variable name:* Do\_not\_let\_sailors\_waste\_wages\_on\_alcohol

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable whether the letter instructs the captain to prevent crew members from spending (i.e 'wasting') their money on alcohol (usually brandy).

*Example:*

"You are to **take care that the seamen do not waste their wages by buying brandys or other liquors of your or any other the shipps company;** if any of them are not well and want some refuse him in order to recover their healths you must gett them supplied out of the companys stores at their factoryes at moderate prices, and deliver it to them as their necesitye require if for wee shall for future stopp none of their wages neither in England nor West Indies upon any other account then for dead mens clothes & effects and what shall be due to the company for what they take up at the factorys on the Coast during the voyage."

(Source: T70/62 pp.133-137, letter UID: 245)

***Subcategory 7.9 No Returns from Coast but Factors Put Aboard***

*Variable name:* No\_returns\_from\_coast\_but\_factors\_put\_aboard

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter instructs the captain not to take anything back from the coast, other than what the factors have put on their ship. In other words, don't ship other people's things for free.

*Example:*

"Wee order you at your return to render us an account in writing of every particular taken on board your ship, **and bring no returns from the coast but what our factors and persons in our service shall putt onboard**, and consigned to us for their own or the companies account and for what gold is so consigned on their accounts you must agree for three percent freight, one percent whereof wee shall allow to you for your care. It is also agreed the nett produce of such particular consignations, shall be paid to the order of each proprietor, and not stopt, upon any pretentions of differences or dependencies with the company"

(*Source:* T70/61 F147v-F148v, letter UID: 178)

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## Category 8: Slave management

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The variables in this category capture instructions on how to manage the slaves during the voyage.

### *Subcategory 8.1: Count Slaves*

*Variable name:* Count\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are instructions to count and number the slaves when or before boarding the ship.

*Example:*

"Wee hereby order you to take notice of all negroes as they shall be brought aboard the ship, that you as master with your mates Boatswain & Carpenter (or so many of them as shall be aboard) do number them and enter such number with their quality each day into the book herewith delivered you, and that the said officers do sign such Entries in the said Book as often as any negroes come aboard, and that the negroes be mustered once every 14 days all the voyage untill their arrivall and that every muster be entered in the said Book by the said Officers, & what mortality shall happen among the negroes int he voyage we require for our satisfaction that you send or bring home a Certificate thereof under your mates or surgeons hands testifying the time of the death of such as shall happen to dye for we shall not allow of any more that shall be missing but what are aforesaid certified to be dead"

(Source: T70/61 F142v-F143, letter UID: 173)

### *Subcategory 8.2: Oversee Selection of Slaves (Umbrella)*

*Variable name:* Oversee\_selection\_of\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are any instructions for the captain in selecting slaves when purchasing them. This variable is the ‘umbrella category’ of subcategories 8.3-8.5, which have more specific details on what the captain should pay attention to in the selection process. That is, if any of the variables 8.3-8.5 has a value of 1, this category will also have a value of 1.

*Example:*

"As soon as you shall arrive at Jamaica you are to deliver to our said factors all your negroes, and out of them you are to receive for your commission for what part shall be bought by you four out of one hundred and four and two out of every hundred and two for such as our factors shall put aboard, be careful you buy no – negroes but such as are young and healthy and endeavor to get as

many males as you can. You are likewise to attend them from time to time about the sale of the negroes and give us an account of your observations thereon, your remaining negro provisions deliver to our said factors and take their record for the same."

(Source: T70/61 F138-F139, letter UID: 163)

### ***Subcategory 8.3: Oversee Selection of Slaves - Age***

*Variable name:* Oversee\_selection\_of\_slaves\_age

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This is a variable under the umbrella category "oversee selection of slaves" that indicates whether there are specific instructions noting selection criteria for the age of slaves that the captain should pay attention to when purchasing them.

*Example:*

"The perusal of your charterparty will be a good direction to you in observing what we expect from you. It must be your care that you buy no negroes but such as are young and healthy as near as you can, and endeavour all you can to have your number of males exceed the females"

(Source: T70/61 F90v-F91, letter UID: 101)

### ***Subcategory 8.4: Oversee Selection of Slaves - Gender***

*Variable name:* Oversee\_selection\_of\_slaves\_gender

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This is a variable under the umbrella category "oversee selection of slaves" that indicates whether there are specific instructions noting selection criteria for the gender of slaves that the captain should pay attention to when purchasing them.

*Example:*

"The perusal of your charterparty will be a good direction to you in observing what we expect from you. It must be your care that you buy no negroes but such as are young and healthy as near as you can, and endeavour all you can to have your number of males exceed the females"

(Source: T70/61 F90v-F91, letter UID: 101)

### ***Subcategory 8.5: Oversee Selection of Slaves - Health***

*Variable name:* Oversee\_selection\_of\_slaves\_gender



*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This is a variable under the umbrella category “oversee selection of slaves” that indicates whether there are specific instructions noting selection criteria for the health of slaves that the captain should pay attention to when purchasing them.

*Example:*

"The perusal of your charterparty will be a good direction to you in observing what we expect from you. **It must be your care that you buy no negroes but such as are young and healthy** as near as you can, and endeavour all you can to have your number of males exceed the females"

(Source: T70/61 F90v-F91, letter UID: 101)

### ***Subcategory 8.6: Record Quality Slaves When They Come on Board***

*Variable name:* Record\_quality\_slaves\_when\_they\_come\_on\_board

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain should record the quality of slaves in addition to numbering them as they come aboard

*Example:*

"Wee hereby order you to take notice of all negroes as they shall be brought aboard the ship, that you as master with your mates boatswain and carpenter or so many of you as shall be aboard do number them & **enter such number with their quality each day into the book** herewith delivered you, and that the said officers do sign such entries in the book as often as any negroes come aboard".

(Source: T70/62 pp.16-18, letter UID: 192)

### ***Subcategory 8.7: Muster Slaves***

*Variable name:* Muster\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are any instructions for a roll-call (census) of slaves on a regular basis (usually fourteen days).

*Example:*

"You must order your mate on who shall be chief officer onboard when you are ashore to keep an exact account of all negroes, as they come aboard and let your musters be frequent in the voyage,

especially make one upon your leaving the coast, **and so often as you do make musters** cause your mates boatswain surgeon and carpenter with yourself to sign the book now delivered to you, what numbers of each see are then aboard, distinguishing men and women from boys and girls, and for what mortality shall happen note the number at the close of each muster at sea, to balance the first muster made upon your coming off the coast"

(Source: T70/61 F128-F129, letter UID: 147)

*Example:*

"Wee hereby order you to take notice of all negroes as they shall be brought aboard the ship, that you as master with your mates Boatswain & Carpenter (or so many of them as shall be aboard) do number them and enter such number with their quality each day into the book herewith delivered you, and that the said officers do sign such Entries in the said Book as often as any negroes come aboard, and **that the negroes be mustered once every 14 days all the voyage untill their arrivall** and that every muster be entered in the said Book by the said Officers, & what mortality shall happen among the negroes int he voyage we require for our satisfaction that you send or bring home a Certificate thereof under your mates or surgeons hands testifying the time of the death of such as shall happen to dye for we shall not allow of any more that shall be missing but what are aforesaid certified to be dead"

(Source: T70/61 F142v-F143, letter UID: 173)

***Subcategory 8.8: Don't Refuse Slaves***

*Variable name:* Do\_not\_refuse\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are instructions telling the captain not to refuse factors wanting to put more slaves aboard.

*Example:*

"Being dispatched our castle you are to proceed to take in your corn and canoe, thence to the coast of Wida or Arda and there use your utmost endeavour for procureing your complement of three hundred and fifty negroes as by charterparty which wee do expect you do with all the good husbandry you can for our advantage **and if our factors in the said coast can further your dispatch that you negotiate with them not refusing any such negroes** or assistance as they may tender and deliver them goods accordingly"

(Source: T70/61 F148v-F149v, letter UID: 179)

***Subcategory 8.9: Guardian Slaves***

*Variable name:* Guardian\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain is instructed to purchase slaves from one part of the coast to oversee another part of the coast.

*Example:*

"Wee have Ordered our said three cheife Merchants at Cabo Corsoe Castle to put aboard you your complement of 650 negroes if they have soe many and then you must deliver them your Widah Cargoe and after signing bills of lading proceed on your Voyage to Jamaica **but if they have not soe many then that they Supply you with what they can for Guardians** and then you are to proceed to Whidah or Arda to compleat your complement of six hundred and fifty negroes for wich Guardians you are to deliver thim a proportionable part of your Arda Cargoe."

(Source: T70/61 F107-F108, letter UID: 120)

### ***Subcategory 8.10: Slaves as Sailors***

*Variable name:* Slaves\_as\_sailors

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain is instructed to bring back slaves that could be employed as sailors.

*Example:*

"You are to **bring home 4 or 5 negroes whom you are to choose out of your cargoe and such as you judge most likely to prove good sailors**, and you are to instruct them in that act and mark them with an S on the right breast."

(Source: T70/62 pp.146-150, letter UID: 228)

### ***Subcategory 8.11: Prevent mischief***

*Variable name:* Prevent\_mischief

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are instructions forewarning that the captain should be careful not to neglect slave management for fear of "mischief" or unrest aboard.

*Example:*

"You are on receipt hereof to take the first opportunity of wind and weather that God shall send to proceed on your designes voyage with your ship the Hannah as yourselfe and owners are obliged to us by Charter party the contents whereof we expect you carefully observe and not that you take

it to be only as a formall Draught, your orderly Government aboard your ship must be needfull for the good of your whole voyages. **And more especially when your negroes are aboard, for many mischeife have happened through to much neglect,** over much security."

(Source: T70/61 F81-F82v, letter UID: 90)

OR:

*Example:*

"The good assurance wee have of your ability and Stediness to the Service of the Royall African Company of England hath encouraged us to entrust you with our Ship the Coaster whith wee have well fitted out and doe expect in every particular all manner of good husbandry from you taking due care noe waste be made either of Stores or Provisions and that you keepe an Orderly Government amongst your men and a watchfull eye over your negroes as they come aboard that they neither want any thing fit for them nor be abused by the Seamen, or others, and be carefully prevented **from bringing or doing any Mischeife** and be as expeditious as possible in dispatch of your business where every you come."

(Source: T70/61 F114-F114v, letter UID: 128)

### ***Subcategory 8.12: Slaves Don't Want for Anything***

*Variable name:* Slaves\_do\_not\_want\_for\_anything

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the instructions explicitly note that slaves are to be given all that is deemed necessary and appropriate for their upkeep

*Example:*

"To answer our great charge in the coast and fitting out the said ship your care and diligence is absolutely necessary also that you keep an orderly government amongst your men and **a watchful eye over the negroes as you take them aboard that they do not want anything fit for them** and be presented and from doing any mischief be as expeditious as is possible in dispatching the business where every you roam. "

(Source: T70/61 F92v-F94, letter UID: 104)

### ***Subcategory 8.13: Give Slaves Tobacco, Beef, and Spirits***

*Variable name:* Give\_slaves\_tobacco\_beef\_spirits

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable that indicates whether the letter has specific instructions for tobacco, beef, and spirits to be given to the slaves for their upkeep (and not for the crewmembers).

*Example:*

"By all means **take care that the tobacco beef and spirits laid in for the negroes be expended amongst them and not wasted by your men** when neglect hath some time occasioned a great mortality amongst the negroes to the utter ruine of the voyage, so pray be carefull that your negroes have their due allowance of everything"

(Source: T70/62 pp.97-100, letter UID: 215)

### ***Subcategory 8.14: Prevent Abuse Slaves***

*Variable name:* Prevent\_abuse\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are specific instructions for the prevention of slave abuse at the hands of crewmembers or other parties when they are taken aboard.

*Example:*

"Also that you keep an orderly governor amongst your men and **a watchfull eye over the negroes as you take them aboard** that they doe not want anything fit for them **nor be abused by the seamen or others** and be prevented from rising or doing any mischeife. Be as expeditious as is possible in dispatching your businesses wherever you come."

(Source: T70/61 F109v-F110, letter UID: 124)

### ***Subcategory 8.15: Attend to Sick or Sullen Slaves***

*Variable name:* Attend\_to\_sick\_or\_sullen\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable tracks whether there are instructions to take care of sick or sullen slaves.

*Example:*

"**Take special care of the negroes that are at any time sick or sullen** & see that they eat [missing] victually & be brought up to air every day. "

(Source: T70/62 pp.2-6, letter UID: 187)

### ***Subcategory 8.16: Provisions Most Suitable for Slaves***

*Variable name:* Provisions\_most\_suitable\_for\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are specific instructions for giving slaves portions that are deemed “most suitable.”

*Example:*

"To prevent the mortality of your negroes you must observe frequently to wash your decks with vinegar & divert them as much as you can with some sorts of musick & play. You must also take especiall care that in making ready the negroe provisions no salt water be mixed with the fresh, wee have suffered very much by carelessness in that respect, which occasions great mortality; **also make strictest observations what provisions are most suitable for the negroes**, and may conduce most to their preservation."

(Source: T70/61 pp.117-121, letter UID: 242)

### ***Subcategory 8.17: Play Music Aboard Ship***

*Variable name:* Play\_music\_ aboard\_ship

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter gives explicit instructions to play music during the voyage as part of slave management

*Example:*

"**To prevent the mortality of the negroes** you must observe frequently to wash the decks with vinegar and **divert them as much as you can with some sorts of musick and play.**"

(Source: T70/61 F162v-F164, letter UID: 186)

### ***Subcategory 8.18: Wash decks with Vinegar***

*Variable name:* Wash\_decks\_with\_vinegar

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are specific instructions to wash the decks with vinegar.

*Example:*

"**To prevent the mortality of the negroes** you must observe frequently to wash the decks with **vinegar** and divert them as much as you can with some sorts of musick and play."

(Source: T70/61 F162v-F164, letter UID: 186)

***Subcategory 8.19: Don't Mix Salt Water with Fresh Water***

*Variable name:* Do\_not\_mix\_salt\_water\_with\_fresh\_water

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are specific instructions to avoid mixing salt and fresh water

*Example:*

"In making ready the negroes provisions you must take espectral care that no salt water be mixed with the fresh wee have suffered very much by that carelessness which occasions a very great mortality."

(Source: T70/62 pp.57-60, letter UID: 206)

***Subcategory 8.20: Unload sick slaves***

*Variable name:* Unload\_Sick\_Slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to off load certain slaves due to health reasons.

*Example:*

"Att your Arrival at Antigua, you are to Deliver the Unhealthfullest of your Negros In Order that thereby that may be Recovered of their Indispositions, And that the great Loss may be prevented which Wee too often Sustaine by the Mortality of them after their Arrivall in Port And if Mr. Edward Chester at Antigua."

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

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## Category 9: Voyage management

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The variables in this category capture instructions on how to manage the voyage.

### *Subcategory 9.1: Follow Factor Orders*

*Variable name:* Follow\_factor\_orders

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain is directed in the letter to follow the orders of the company's factor(s) in Africa.

*Example:*

"You are with the first oppertunity of wind and weather that god shall send after receipt hereof to sett sail out of the River of Thames with your shipp the Sherbrow and make the best of your way to James Island in the River of Gambia according to the charterparty and on arrival deliver our letter to Agent Alexander Cleeve or in case of his absence to such persons as shall be appointed to act in his stead in our affaires **whose orders you are dilligently to observe during your stay in those parts**. Wee have ordered our said Agent to put aboard your shipp two hundred negroes and as many more as he shall gett ready and your shipp conveniently carry with provitions [provisions] necessary for them besides what are laden here you being obliged by charterparty"

(Source: T70/61 F18-F19, letter UID: 19)

OR:

*Example:*

"Upon your arrivall at James Island aforesaid you are to deliver our letters together with our goods to Mr. Henry Bradshaw and Mr. Edward Hughes or to such as shall be our chief factors at your arrivall at that place according to Bills of lading landing our goods there or **where our said factors shall direct you** taking a received upon one of the bills of lading for our satisfaction"

(Source: T70/62, pp.162-166, letter UID: 236)

### *Subcategory 9.2: If Factor Is Gone or Deceased Use Skill to Purchase Slaves*

*Variable name:* If\_factor\_gone\_or\_deceased\_use\_skill\_to\_purchase\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy



*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are instructions in the letter what to do in case the company's factor in Africa is either gone or deceased. In such cases, the letter would tell the captain to use his skill to purchase the slaves himself.

*Example:*

"according as the goods are valued in the invoice, a copie whereof you have herewith delivered you for your Government your men and Boat's must be assisting in unloading the goods and taken aboard the negroes, as hath been accustomed, **but if the said Petley Wyborne should by death or other wayes be removed from Whidah (which God forbid) then you must use your utmost endeavours to purchase the said Complement of negroe slaves with the said cargoe of goods laden for that purpose,** you must have a spetiall care that you take not aboard any slaves but such as shall be sound and "

(Source: T70/61 F81-F82v, letter UID: 90)

*Notes:* This category also includes a provision for the captain to use his own initiative in purchasing slaves in the Bight of Benin in case Petley Wybourne, the RAC agent there, does not seem to be able to deliver slaves in a set amount of time.

### ***Subcategory 9.3: Transport Canoes***

*Variable name:* Transport\_canoes

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the captain is given instructions pertaining to his canoes.

*Example:*

"**Being dispatched our Castle you are to proceed to take in your Corn & Canoes,** thence to the Coast of Widah or Arda and there use your utmost endeavour for procuring your complement of four hundre negroes as by Charterparty, which we do expect yo do with all the good husbandry you can for our advantage, and if our factors on the said Coast can further your dispatch that you negotiate with them, as directed in your Charterparty and bill Loading, not refusing any such good negroes, or assistance as they may render and deliver them Goods accordingly."

(Source: T70/61 F141v-F142, letter UID: 171)

### ***Subcategory 9.4: Preserve ship***

*Variable name:* Preserve\_ship

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the letter specifically states that the captain needs to be diligent “to preserve her (the ship).” This variable also tracks the importance of cleanliness on the ship in order to protect the ship and the company’s profit.

*Example:*

"Be carefull to keep your vessell clean the better to preserve her, carefully keep a journall of all perticulars & if any of your men should happen to dye, mention the time of their death and what is due to them. "

(Source: T70/62 pp.2-6, letter UID: 187)

### ***Subcategory 9.5: Passengers aboard***

*Variable name:* Passengers\_ aboard

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if there were passengers aboard the ship at some point during the voyage.

*Example:*

"At the clearing from Gravesend and you are to send us up a perfect list of all passengers then aboard, and at the arrival in the Downes send ashore to Mr. Morgan Lodge for what other orders or letters he may have for you, we wish you a good voyage and rest."

(Source: T70/61 F6-F6v, letter UID: 4)

### ***Subcategory 9.6: Gunpowder***

*Variable name:* Gunpowder

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the letter directs the captain to be careful of how he stores gunpowder on his ship. The variable also highlights the concern that the company has with gunpowder on its ships

*Example:*

"Wee strictly require you to take especiall care to stow the gunpowder securely and that your gunner be a sober and careful person to prevent such great misfortune both to ship and men at hath happened to the Warington which was blown up by her powder taking fire"

(Source: T70/61 F158-F159v, letter UID: 184)

### ***Subcategory 9.7: Comply with Navigation Acts***

*Variable name:* Comply\_with\_navigation\_acts

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the letter instructs the captain to follow or comply with the Acts of Navigation.

*Example:*

"Take especial care that your ship be sailed according to the act of navigation, that you have at least three fourths of your men English, that you be duly cleared at the Customs House in all respects relating to the Queen, and according to the act to settle the trade to Africa, that you be registered as the plantation act directs and have a Mediterranean pass."

(Source: T70/62 pp.117-121, letter UID: 222)

### ***Subcategory 9.8: Importance Speed (Umbrella)***

*Variable name:* Importance\_speed\_umbrella

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the letter emphasizes the importance of or the role of speed in the captain's voyage. This variable is the 'umbrella category' of subcategories 9.9-9.17, which have more specific details on the importance of speed. That is, if any of the variables 9.9-9.17 has a value of 1, this category will also have a value of 1.

*Example:*

"our disposal of the said cargo you are also to deliver them our letters with such goods as are consigned them by your ship according to bill of lading from whom you are to take aboard for our account five hundred and 30 negroes if they have or can procure them **within the time that you shall agree to stay on that coast for them** (without charging the - company demorage) and when laden steer away for Jamaica – and deliver the negroes to Colonel Hender Molesworth Mr. Charles Penhallow and Mr. Walter Ruding – our factors there "

(Source: T70/61 F14-F15, letter UID: 14)

### ***Subcategory 9.9: Importance Speed – Time constraint***

*Variable name:* Time\_constraint

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is directed to spend a limited amount of time at a specific location while on the coast of Africa

*Example:*

"But the gold elephants teeth and mallagetta bring along with you when dispatched from thence after your att **Cabo Corsoe you are to attend our our three cheife merchants 30 days and follow their orders as is agreed** and if they shall detayn you any longer time take itt under their hands with reason for their soe detaining of you for our satisfaction having done your business upon the coast take aboard you such gold and other goods as our three cheife merchants shall order aboard and having their dispatches make the best of your way you can back to the River of Thames whether god send you well to returne we rest."

(Source: T70/61 F52v-F53, letter UID: 57)

***Subcategory 9.10: Importance Speed – Amount of time specified (number)***

*Variable name:* Amount\_of\_time\_specified\_number

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* This variable indicates the number of days that the captain is limited by the RAC to spend at a certain location off the coast of Africa.

"But the gold elephants teeth and mallagetta bring along with you when dispatched from thence after your att **Cabo Corsoe you are to attend our our three cheife merchants 30 days and follow their orders as is agreed** and if they shall detayn you any longer time take itt under their hands with reason for their soe detaining of you for our satisfaction having done your business upon the coast take aboard you such gold and other goods as our three cheife merchants shall order aboard and having their dispatches make the best of your way you can back to the River of Thames whether god send you well to returne we rest."

(Source: T70/61 F52v-F53, letter UID: 57)

***Subcategory 9.11: Importance Speed – Amount of time specified (unit)***

*Variable name:* Amount\_of\_time\_specified\_unit

*Variable type:* Categorical

*Description:* This variable indicates the specific unit of time that a captain is given to spend at a specific location off the coast of Africa.

"But the gold elephants teeth and mallagetta bring along with you when dispatched from thence after your att **Cabo Corsoe you are to attend our our three cheife merchants 30 days and follow their orders as is agreed** and if they shall detayn you any longer time take itt under their hands with reason for their soe detaining of you for our satisfaction having done your business upon the coast take aboard you such gold and other goods as our three cheife merchants shall order aboard and

having their dispatches make the best of your way you can back to the River of Thames whether god send you well to returne we rest."

(Source: T70/61 F52v-F53, letter UID: 57)

### ***Subcategory 9.12: Importance Speed – Place of Time Constraint***

*Variable name:* Place\_of\_time\_constraint

*Variable type:* Categorical

*Description:* This variable indicates the location that the captain is allowed to wait off the coast of Africa at for a certain period of time.

"But the gold elephants teeth and mallagetta bring along with you when dispatched from thence after your att **Cabo Corsoe you are to attend our our three cheife merchants 30 days and follow their orders as is agreed** and if they shall detain you any longer time take itt under their hands with reason for their soe detaining of you for our satisfaction having done your business upon the coast take aboard you such gold and other goods as our three cheife merchants shall order aboard and having their dispatches make the best of your way you can back to the River of Thames whether god send you well to returne we rest."

(Source: T70/61 F52v-F53, letter UID: 57)

### ***Subcategory 9.13: Importance Speed – Multiple time constraints***

*Variable name:* Multiple\_time\_constraints

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if there are multiple time constraints that the captain must comply with during his voyage.

*Example:*

"Their proceed to the grain and Quaqua Coast, where we hope by your experience you will be able to purchase, besides gold and elephants teeth, a good quantity of mallagetta; do not lie **on that coast longer than the trade will encourage you which you will find in fourteen days**, then proceed to Dickies Cove, Commenda, and **Cabo Corsoe, in all which places your demorage need not exceed twenty one days**; from thence proceed to **Winnebah and Devils hill which may take you up fourteen days more** then sail to Widah and Arda, thence to return direct to England."

(Source: T70/61 F136-F136v, letter UID: 159)

### ***Subcategory 9.14: Importance Speed - Demorage***

*Variable name:* Importance\_speed\_demorage

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a letter addresses the role of demurrage in a letter. This is a variable under the umbrella category “Importance speed”.

*Example:*

"our disposal of the said cargo you are also to deliver them our letters with such goods as are consigned them by your ship according to bill of lading from whom you are to take aboard for our account five hundred and 30 negroes if they have or can procure them **within the time that you shall agree to stay on that coast for them (without charging the - company demorage)** and when laden steer away for Jamaica – and deliver the negroes to Colonel Hender Molesworth Mr. Charles Penhallow and Mr. Walter Ruding – our factors there "

(Source: T70/61 F14-F15, letter UID: 14)

### ***Subcategory 9.15: Importance Speed - Factors***

*Variable name:* Importance\_speed\_factors

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a letter addresses the importance of factors quickly placing cargo onboard the ship. This is a variable under the umbrella category “Importance speed.”

*Example:*

"Wee have ordered our said Agent **to use all Possible means to lade your shipp that she may be dispatched by or before the time agreed for your stay there is expired"**

(Source: T70/61 F20v-F21, letter UID: 22)

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## Category 10: Voyage security

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The variables in this category capture instructions relating to the security of the voyage.

### *Subcategory 10.1: Beware of the French*

*Variable name:* Beware\_of\_French

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if there are explicit instructions for the captain to beware of French ships (including privateers).

*Example:*

"Wee order you on receipt hereof that wind and weather permitting you loose no time but set saile and make the best of your way for James Island in the River Gambia and in your passage avoid the speaking with any shipe you shalle meet at sea and when you reach Cape d' Verde **to avoyd our enemies the french** (who frequently have ships there abouts) stand off to sea till you get as far as the mouth of the said river and then make directly into it but before you goe far up the river indeavour to informe your self well of the state of our people and concerns on James Island"

(Source: T70/61 F109v-F110, letter UID: 133)

OR:

"Wee have much reason to believe **that the French have destroyed our Fort in Gambia**, and are pceeded thence for the Gold Coast, **which advice we give that you may be cautions how you pceed** and as soon as you arrive at Cape Mount get the best intelligence you can of them"

(Source: T70/61 F123v-F124, letter UID: 139)

OR:

"Wee do hear that some pirates are cruising upon the coast of Africa, wee order you therefore to be very circumspect and not to leave your ship nor speak with any other without absolute necessity but always keep a sufficient guard both at sea & in port to prevent any surprise whatsoever, and because **wee are at present under some apprehension that a war may happen with France & Spaine, upon that account you are also to be the more carefull** & advise all our ships & factories where you come to do the like."

(Source: T70/62, pp.67-68, letter UID: 209)

OR:

" At your Returne to England, Touch at Fiall to Refresh your Men, And Clean your Ships Bottom, The better to Enable you to **Avoid the French Privateers** who Swarme in the Soundings."

(Source: T70/63, pp.97-100, letter UID: 290)

### ***Subcategory 10.2: Seize the French***

*Variable name:* Seize\_French

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are explicit instructions for the captain to seize French vessels.

*Example:*

"We herewith deliver you a commission to be your authority **to fight and seize all persons of the French nation**, we being empowered by the Kings and Queens commission to grant such commission to all in our service and we require you in case of your seizing any French vessel, that without embezzlement all you shall seize may be duly mentioned and condemned at our Court of Admiralty at Cabo Corso Castle or at their majesties court where you shall bring your prize we being obliged to answer for their majesties part and the due condemnation of what seized"

(Source: T70/61 F92v-F94, letter UID: 104)

### ***Subcategory 10.3: Instructions concerning being seized***

*Variable name:* Instructions\_concerning\_being\_seized

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed on how to act if the vessel is seized the during the voyage.

*Example:*

"Whereas you are now bound on a voyage in the service of the Royal African Company to lade wood etc at Sherbrow on the coast of Africa and in regard of the war with France and Spaine **if it should be your misfortune to be taken in your homeward bound voyage**, you are to endeavour to ransom the ship and cargoe which the company suppose may be done under three thousand french crowns to be paid according to exchange provided they do not plunder the ship of any considerable part of the cargoe, if they do tis to be considered in the summe you agree for ransome, the prudent management of this affair will be greatly redound to your reputation and in ase this disaster should happen it would be much to the companies and owners satisfaction if you can excuse your self from going hostage for the summe agreed on, but if you must go as a pledge, send the mate home with the ship and draw the money agreed on upon the Royal African Company and your bills will find due honour, give the mate a letter with an account attested what hath been taken out of the ship by the capter"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 172-173, letter UID: 238)



#### ***Subcategory 10.4: Packet open if ship is seized***

*Variable name:* Packet\_open\_if\_ship\_seized

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to open a packet if the ship is seized during his voyage.

*Example:*

"To Capt. [crossed out: Phineas] Geo Thomas Comander of the Whidah Or who els shall be Capt. **Of the said ship not to be opened unless the Ship notwithstanding all Endeavours to the contrary doe fall into the Enemyes** hands but to be returned as now sealed up to the R. A. C. of Engl. at their house in London."

(Source: T70/62 pp.222, UID: 252.2)

#### ***Subcategory 10.5: If ship is seized outbound***

*Variable name:* If\_ship\_is\_seized\_outbound

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that there instructions in the letter on what to do in case the vessel is seized on its way to the Africa.

*Example:*

"If during this voyage it should be our and your misfortune that notwithstanding all that you can doe to prevent it our ship under your comand shall happen to be taken by the enemy wee hereby impower you to treat with the captor and redeeme your ship and cargoe on the best terms you possibly can not exceeding 2000 pounds sterling **if taken outward** and 3000 pounds if taken in your voyage bound to the West Indias or from theme to England with this proviso in your contract that if it be in your outward bound voyage the money must be payable on condicon she arrives safe in the port to which you were consigned in Guinea but if taken betwiet Guinea and the West Indias the proviso must be her safe arrivall at the port discharge in the isleand to which you are consigned and if taken homeward after your dispatch from the West Indias your proviso must be on condicon she arrives safe in any port in England and for better satisfaction to the captor one of your officers may remaine with him and goe to France and wee shall take care to discharge him accordingly and in case you the psent captain happen to dye before such accident befall the ship wee impower the captain for the teime being to act for us as before directed we remain your loving friends etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 212-213, letter UID: 240.2)

#### ***Subcategory 10.6: Ship seized outward bound (pounds)***

*Variable name: Ship\_seized\_outward\_bound\_pounds*  
*Variable type: Numeric (continuous)*

*Description:* This variable indicates the value of ransom that the captain is allowed to pay if it is seized on its way to Africa.

*Example:*

"If during this voyage it should be our and your misfortune that notwithstanding all that you can doe to prevent it our ship under your comand shall happen to be taken by the enemy wee hereby impower you to treat with the captor and redeeme your ship and cargoe on the best terms you possibly can not exceeding 2000 pounds sterling if taken outward and 3000 pounds if taken in your voyage bound to the West Indies or from theme to England with this proviso in your contract that if it be in your outward bound voyage the money must be payable on condicon she arrives safe in the port to which you were consigned in Guinea but if taken betwiet Guinea and the West Indias the proviso must be her safe arrivall at the port discharge in the isleand to which you are consigned and if taken homeward after your dispatch from the West Indias your proviso must be on condicon she arrives safe in any port in England and for better satisfaction to the captor one of your officers may remaine with him and goe to France and wee shall take care to discharge him accordingly and in case you the psent captain happen to dye before such accident befall the ship wee impower the captain for the teime being to act for us as before directed we remain your loving friends etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 212-213, letter UID: 240.2)

### ***Subcategory 10.7: Ship is seized towards the West Indies***

*Variable name: Ship\_is\_seized\_towards\_West\_Indies*  
*Variable type: Numeric (continuous)*

*Description:* This variable indicates that there instructions in the letter on what to do in case the vessel is seized on its way to the West Indies.

*Example:*

"If during this voyage it should be our and your misfortune that notwithstanding all that you can doe to prevent it our ship under your comand shall happen to be taken by the enemy wee hereby impower you to treat with the captor and redeeme your ship and cargoe on the best terms you possibly can not exceeding 2000 pounds sterling if taken outward and 3000 pounds if taken in your voyage bound to the West Indies or from theme to England with this proviso in your contract that if it be in your outward bound voyage the money must be payable on condicon she arrives safe in the port to which you were consigned in Guinea but if taken betwiet Guinea and the West Indias the proviso must be her safe arrivall at the port discharge in the isleand to which you are consigned and if taken homeward after your dispatch from the West Indias your proviso must be on condicon she arrives safe in any port in England and for better satisfaction to the captor one of your officers may remaine with him and goe to France and wee shall take care to discharge him accordingly and in case you the psent captain happen to dye before such accident befall the ship wee impower the captain for the teime being to act for us as before directed we remain your loving friends etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 212-213, letter UID: 240.2)

***Subcategory 10.8: Ship is seized towards the West Indies (pounds)***

*Variable name: Ship\_is\_seized\_towards\_West\_Indies\_pounds*

*Variable type: Numeric (continuous)*

*Description:* This variable indicates the value of ransom that the captain is allowed to pay if it is seized on its way to the West Indies.

*Example:*

"If during this voyage it should be our and your misfortune that notwithstanding all that you can doe to prevent it our ship under your comand shall happen to be taken by the enemy wee hereby impower you to treat with the captor and redeeme your ship and cargoe on the best terms you possibly can not exceeding 2000 pounds sterling if taken outward and **3000 pounds if taken in your voyage bound to the West Indies** or from theme to England with this proviso in your contract that if it be in your outward bound voyage the money must be payable on condicon she arrives safe in the port to which you were consigned in Guinea but if taken betwiet Guinea and the West Indias the proviso must be her safe arrivall at the port discharge in the isleand to which you are consigned and if taken homeward after your dispatch from the West Indias your proviso must be on condicon she arrives safe in any port in England and for better satisfaction to the captor one of your officers may remaine with him and goe to France and wee shall take care to discharge him accordingly and in case you the psent captain happen to dye before such accident befall the ship wee impower the captain for the teime being to act for us as before directed we remain your loving friends etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 212-213, letter UID: 240.2)

***Subcategory 10.9: If Ship is seized homeward bound***

*Variable name: If\_ship\_is\_seized\_towards\_West\_Indies*

*Variable type: Dummy*

*Description:* This variable indicates that there instructions in the letter on what to do in case the vessel is seized on its homeward voyage.

*Example:*

"If during this voyage it should be our and your misfortune that notwithstanding all that you can doe to prevent it our ship under your comand shall happen to be taken by the enemy wee hereby impower you to treat with the captor and redeeme your ship and cargoe on the best terms you possibly can not exceeding 2000 pounds sterling if taken outward and 3000 pounds **if taken in your voyage bound to the West Indies or from there to England** with this proviso in your contract that if it be in your outward bound voyage the money must be payable on condicon she arrives safe in the port to which you were consigned in Guinea but if taken betwiet Guinea and the West Indias the proviso must be her safe arrivall at the port discharge in the isleand to which you are consigned and if taken homeward after your dispatch from the West Indias your proviso must be on condicon she

arrives safe in any port in England and for better satisfaction to the captor one of your officers may remaine with him and goe to France and wee shall take care to discharge him accordingly and in case you the present captain happen to dye before such accident befall the ship wee impower the captain for the teime being to act for us as before directed we remain your loving friends etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 212-213, letter UID: 240.2)

***Subcategory 10.10: Ship seized homeward bound (pounds)***

*Variable name:* Ship\_is\_seized\_homeward\_bound\_pounds

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* This variable indicates the value of ransom that the captain is allowed to pay if it is seized on its homeward voyage.

*Example:*

"If during this voyage it should be our and your misfortune that notwithstanding all that you can doe to prevent it our ship under your comand shall happen to be taken by the enemy wee hereby impower you to treat with the captor and redeeme your ship and cargoe on the best terms you possibly can not exceeding 2000 pounds sterling if taken outward and **3000 pounds if taken in your voyage bound to the West Indies or from there to England** with this proviso in your contract that if it be in your outward bound voyage the money must be payable on condicon she arrives safe in the port to which you were consigned in Guinea but if taken betwiewt Guinea and the West Indias the proviso must be her safe arrivall at the port discharge in the isleand to which you are consigned and if taken homeward after your dispatch from the West Indias your proviso must be on condicon she arrives safe in any port in England and for better satisfaction to the captor one of your officers may remaine with him and goe to France and wee shall take care to discharge him accordingly and in case you the present captain happen to dye before such accident befall the ship wee impower the captain for the teime being to act for us as before directed we remain your loving friends etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 212-213, letter UID: 240.2)

***Subcategory 10.11: Officer remains with seized ship***

*Variable name:* Officer\_remains\_with\_seized\_ship

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if an officer is instructed to remain with the ship if it is seized.

*Example:*

"If during this voyage it should be our and your misfortune that notwithstanding all that you can doe to prevent it our ship under your comand shall happen to be taken by the enemy wee hereby impower you to treat with the captor and redeeme your ship and cargoe on the best terms you possibly can not exceeding 2000 pounds sterling if taken outward and 3000 pounds if taken in your

voyage bound to the West Indias or from theme to England with this proviso in your contract that if it be in your outward bound voyage the money must be payable on condicon she arrives safe in the port to which you were consigned in Guinea but if taken betwiet Guinea and the West Indias the proviso must be her safe arrivall at the port discharge in the isleand to which you are consigned and if taken homeward after your dispatch from the West Indias your proviso must be on condicon she arrives safe in any port in England and for better satisfaction to the **captor one of your officers may remaine with him and goe to France** and wee shall take care to discharge him accordingly and in case you the psent captain happen to dye before such accident befall the ship wee empower the captain for the teime being to act for us as before directed we remain your loving friends etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 212-213, letter UID: 240.2)

### ***Subcategory 10.12: Recommend pay to get ship back***

*Variable name:* Recommend\_pay\_to\_get\_ship\_back

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to pay to get his ship back from the enemy.

*Example:*

"If during this voyage it should be our and your misfortune that notwithstanding all that you can doe to prevent it our ship under your comand shall happen to be taken by the enemy wee hereby **impower you to treat with the captor and redeeme your ship and cargoe on the best terms you possibly can** not exceeding 2000 pounds sterling if taken outward and 3000 pounds if taken in your voyage bound to the West Indias or from theme to England with this proviso in your contract that if it be in your outward bound voyage the money must be payable on condicon she arrives safe in the port to which you were consigned in Guinea but if taken betwiet Guinea and the West Indias the proviso must be her safe arrivall at the port discharge in the isleand to which you are consigned and if taken homeward after your dispatch from the West Indias your proviso must be on condicon she arrives safe in any port in England and for better satisfaction to the captor one of your officers may remaine with him and goe to Ffrance and wee shall take care to discharge him accordingly and in case you the psent captain happen to dye before such accident befall the ship wee empower the captain for the teime being to act for us as before directed we remain your loving friends etc"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 212-213, letter UID: 240.2)

### ***Subcategory 10.13: Assume Defensive Posture***

*Variable name:* Assume\_defensive\_posture

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if there are explicit instructions for the ship to adopt defensive measures on its voyage.

*Example:*

"Upon Receipt hereof you are to take the first oppertunity of wind and weather that God shall send and sail with your ship the Don Carlos according to Charter partye from the River of Thames and after your being cleared at Gravesend **putt your ship in a defensive posture** ordering your Men their respective Posts that you may be upon your guard it atacqued per any in your passage to the Downes or afterwards"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 234-238, letter UID: 256)

#### ***Subcategory 10.14: Beware of Pirates***

*Variable name:* Beware\_of\_pirates

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to cautious and aware of pirates on the coast of Africa.

*Example:*

"Wee do hear that some pirates are cruising upon the coast of Africa, therefore wee order you to be **very circumspect, and not to leave your ship nor speak with any other, without absolute necessity**, but alwayes keep a sufficient guard both at sea and in port to prevent any surprise whatsoever"

(Source: T70/61 F148v-F149v, letter UID: 179)

#### ***Subcategory 10.15: Beware of Privateers***

*Variable name:* Beware\_of\_privateers

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to be cautious about privateers on the coast of Africa.

*Example:*

"Wee recommend to you as an additionall security to your ships force that as neare as you can you keepe company with our ship the Fauconbergh whih goes for the south parts of Africa and the Pibille Merchant which goes the same voyage as wee have agreed for with you, the comanderr Capt Buttram and Capt Stafford have veed the african coast and the latter hath beene several times at Gambia soe well knows how to make that river, wee shall recommend also to the said commanders their endeavouring to keepe company with you and wee doe not doubt but to ther commanders will also to have your company as far as lyes in their way **and thereby your passage will be safe from privateers** and wee hope from squadron, but as near as you can avoid speaking with ships at sea, the welfare of your voyage being your businesse whilst you are on our coast and can have any opportunity let us frequently heare from you"

(Source: T70/61 F148v-F149v, letter UID: 179)

***Subcategory 10.16: Throw Papers Overboard***

*Variable name:* Throw\_papers\_overboard

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a captain is instructed to throw papers overboard if his ship is at risk of being captured

*Example:*

"And because Piratts and privateers doe frequently infest the Coast of Africa we order you to be very circumspect and not Leave your ship nor speak with any other without absolute necessity but allwayes keep a good Guard both at Sea and in port to prevent Surprize. In the terme of your Voyage, In case you are in such dainger of being taken by the Enemy that you sea no possibility of Escaping, **then you are to throug over board All your Letters and pacquetts** that the Enemy may by not them come to any knowledge of the Companys Castle factoryes or affairs, and leave Remaning only that Pacquet which you are directed to open in Case you happen to be taken by the Enemy"

(Source: T70/62 pp. 234-238, letter UID: 256)

***Subcategory 10.17: Convoy – Voyage security***

*Variable name:* Convoy

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* this variable indicates if a captain and his ship are part of a convoy heading down to Africa.

*Example:*

"Wee order you with the first good wind and weather **to sett saile with the John sloop and endeavour to keep company with our ship the Davers Gally** Captain Richard Willis commander from whome you are to receive your orders until you arrive att CCC where you are to observe and follow the orders of our chiefs resideing in that place, and endeavour to perform the best service you can in those parts or where else they shall think fitt to imploy you."

(Source: T70/62 pp.15-16, letter UID: 191)

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## Category 11: Competition and cheating

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The variables in this category capture instructions relating to competition and cheating.

### *Subcategory 11.1: Seize Interlopers*

*Variable name:* Seize\_interlopers

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a captain is directed to seize interlopers on his voyage for the Royal African Company

*Example:*

"The law having asserted his majesties right to grant charters and to punish any subjects that shall presume contemptuously to violate his prerogative that **we have by virtue of his majesties charter given you a commission to seize interlopers** and do expect and require in conformity to the charterparty that you put the same effectually in execution against all vessels and persons you shall meet with, and find trading on the coast contrary to his majesties said grant according to the instructions signed by our secretary."

(Source: T70/61 F10v-F11, letter UID: 9)

### *Subcategory 11.2: In Case Interlopers Too Strong*

*Variable name:* In\_case\_interlopers\_too\_strong

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed what to do when the interlopers are too strong for him to be able to seize

*Example:*

"And we have order our factors in the plantations to secure you against any trouble that may happen for executing the said commission. **If you meet any of these interlopers – that are to strong for you, so that you cannot take them, yet you must enquire as much as you can who is the master and from whence the ship was set out, and what is her lading, and who are the owners and – employers and what is the name of the ship and what other particulars you can learn, that may help us to a further discovery at their return** – and that nothing be forgot or lost of the discovery you make, let all be plainly and fairly written in your journal we wish you a good voyage and rest. "

(Source: T70/61 F10v-F11, letter UID: 9)



### ***Subcategory 11.3: Report Interlopers to America Factors***

*Variable name:* Report\_interlopers\_to\_America\_factors

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a captain is instructed to report the role of interlopers to the company's factor(s) in America

*Example:*

"You are with the first oppertunity that God shall send of wind and weather to sett sail with your shipp the Pine Apple & apply your voyage directly for the Bite on the Coast of Africa where on [f23v] arrivall dispose of the cargoes wee have laden on your shipp as agreed between your owners and the Royal African Company of England who expects that you make use of the comission now diliver you according to the instructions therewith under our secretarys **hand if you meet any person trading on the coast without our lycence and having done your business in the Bite make the best of your way you can to the West Indies as by your articles and when arrived give our agents there advise thereof** the like you are to send us by the first oppertunity who are "

(Source: T70/61 F23-F23v, letter UID: 26)

### ***Subcategory 11.4: Check on Factors***

*Variable name:* Check\_on\_factors

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a captain is instructed by the Royal African Company to check on the company's factor(s) in Africa on its voyage.

*Example:*

"**You are hereby ordered to make the strictest observation you can concerning the company's factors and servants upon the coast and according as you are informed or do finde them negligent or acting anything contrary to the companies intrest especially if they do protect or in the least assist or trade with interlopers of any nation whatsoever**, as to if they trade with or lade any goods or gold upon English ships or others that are not in our service you must enter a perticular account thereof in writing and deliver the same to us at your return, be very exact therein, that upon occasion you may attest the same upon oath. At the island also where your negroes are disposed of, endeavour to inform yourself of their just value, and wherein you apprehend the company is wronged or imposed on always give a true relation thereof. "

(Source: T70/62 pp.2-6, letter UID: 187)

### ***Subcategory 11.5: Gather Information from Factors***

*Variable name:* Gather\_info\_from\_factors

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to gather information from the company's factors in Africa.

*Example:*

"Upon your arrivall on the Coast and dureing your stay there you must not fail to **declare to all the company's factors & servants that the Committee order all of them to write by you, & to give them the fullest & best account they can of the companies affairs & of their treatment from their superiors, & what things are wanting to supply the company's forts and factories for improvement of trade, preservation of health & security of their persons,** which letters you are hereby ordered & commanded upon the obligation of your oath, forfeiture of your bond and the uttmost displeasure of the company to keep and secure from being intercepted or viewed by any person whatsoever. "

(Source: T70/62 pp.33-36, letter UID: 198)

### ***Subcategory 11.6: Gather Information about Competitors***

*Variable name:* Gather\_info\_about\_competitors

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a captain is required to report any information about a competitor vessel to the Royal African Company

*Example:*

"You are to **advise us per all oppertunities what ships you meet with or hear of trading on the coast.** Wherein advise the masters name and what goods he brought the ships burthen and as near as you can their cargoe and what goods & slaves they carry off the coast."

(Source: T70/62 82-87, letter UID: 211)

### ***Subcategory 11.7: Gather Information about Goods***

*Variable name:* Gather\_info\_about\_goods

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to gather information about what goods are most in demand at various places on the coast.

*Example:*

"**Make your observation what goods are most vendable in all parts where you trade** what provisions or medicines are most proper for the preservation of the livers of our servants and also of the

negroes in our garrisons which they are kept there, or on ship board the particulars whereof send us an account, and also give your best advises in every affair to our chiefs and factors."

(Source: T70/62 pp. 101-106, letter UID: 216)

***Subcategory 11.8: Check if Goods are Defective***

*Variable name:* Check\_goods\_defective

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a captain is instructed to check the goods that he is taking on his ship to make sure they are not defective

*Example:*

"You are to take care that no waste be made either in our stores or provision in the expence of which we direct you at the first opening thereof strictly to examine if they prove as to quantity & quality according to invoice & upon defect of either that sufficient attestation be send to the company by the next ship, the like care you must also take with relation to the goods you dispose of. If any defect happen therein you are to attest the same in writing under your hand & the hands of yours officers, to be confirmed by yours and their oaths (if required) and this you are to deliver to our Committee of Goods at your return. "

(Source: T70\_612\_pp.60-63, letter UID: 205)

***Subcategory 11.9: Bring No Passengers from the Coast***

*Variable name:* Bring\_no\_passengers\_from\_the\_coast

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is directed to not take passengers onboard his ship from Africa

*Example:*

"and you are to bring no passengers from the coast of Guiney (except our own servants) and not any of them without leave from our chiefe or chiefs."

(Source: T70/62 pp.117-121, letter UID: 222)

***Subcategory 11.10: Don't Deliver Letters but RAC Letters***

*Variable name:* Do\_not\_deliver\_letters\_but\_RAC\_letters

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a letter instructs a captain to only deliver Royal African Company letters.

*Example:*

"You are not to deliver any paper letter or concern whatsoever sent for England, but by order in writing from us nor send up any lres per post, but such as are directed to us, and the rest you must deliver to to us, at the African house at your coming up"

(Source: T70/61 F150v-F151v, letter UID: 181)

### ***Subcategory 11.11: Write at All Opportunities***

*Variable name:* Write\_at\_all\_opportunities

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a captain is instructed to make contact with the Royal African Company when on his voyage

*Example:*

"Lett us hear from you from all ports you put into before you get to Guiney and afterwards by all ships you meet whether bound to the West Indies Holland or any other parts from whence there may be opertunity to send them to us. And therein advise us as fully as you can of all affairs but especially what related to us."

(Source: T70/61 F116-F117, letter UID: 133)

### ***Subcategory 11.12: Don't Hinder Dutch Company***

*Variable name:* Do\_not\_hinder\_Dutch\_company

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a letter instructs a captain not to hinder the Dutch Company.

*Example:*

"You are not to hinder the ships belonging to the Dutch Guiney company to follow attack or seize the ships and effects belonging to the interlopers of that nation."

(Source: T70/61 F10v-F11, letter UID: 9)

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## Category 12: Captain's initiative and accountability

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The variables in this category capture instructions that require the captain to take initiative beyond his standard duties, and measures that the company took to ensure the captain's accountability.

### *Subcategory 12.1: Ply with Ship*

*Variable name:* Ply\_with\_ship

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates of a letter specifically tells the captain to ply with his ship.

*Example:*

"Wee have ordered our chiefs at Serelion and Sherbro to use their joint endeavors to dispatch you in 2/m time with 120 to 130 negroes with provisions for them to Jamaica but **you must also give them the best assistance in procuring of them and such other goods as the ship can conveniently carry by plying with your ship in such places as shall be judged most convenient and likely to purchase the same**, which wee hope may in that time be effected. When you are to give our said chiefs bills of lading for what negroes shall be on board your ship consigning them to Jamacia to which place you are then to proceed and there deliver our negroes to our factors"

(Source: T70\_61 F162v-F164, letter UID: 186)

### *Subcategory 12.2: Take Samples of Plants, Grains, or Other Curiosities*

*Variable name:* Samples\_plants\_graines\_or\_other\_curiosities

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if a letter instructs the captain to bring back plants, grains, or other curiosities that are discovered on the coast of Africa while engaged in trade for the Royal African Company. The Company's intention here is to see what can be grown on the coast.

*Example:*

"We have reason to believe great improvement in trade may be made upon the Coast of Africa, and do therefore order you to make the best observation you can, and **bring us samples of any such to plant grains or other curiosities as you may meet with** in order to such further use and discovery as may be thought proper. We rest."

(Source: T70/61 F131-F132, letter UID: 153)

### ***Subcategory 12.3: Curiosities of Birds and Beasts***

*Variable name:* Curiosities\_birds\_beasts

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed **to collect and note the curiosities of birds and beasts while engaged in trade for the Royal African Company**. This is part of a larger pattern of Europeans collecting ‘exotic’ items, and in that sense different from 12.3 in its purpose.

*Example:*

"Any curiosities of birds or beasts etc. that you meet with take care to preserve for our disposall."

(Source: T70/61 F153v-F155, letter UID: 182)

### ***Subcategory 12.4: Keep a Barter Book***

*Variable name:* Keep\_a\_barter\_book

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the letter instructs captain to keep a barter book of his trades.

*Example:*

"Our confidence in you hath encouraged us to impower you to dispose of a cargoe of goods laden aboard your ship amounting as per invoice to 2068.15.7.2 pounds consigned to yourself, wee therefore order you to fall in as near as possible with Cape Mount, and so along the windward coast, where wee expect you to use your best endeavour to make the most of our goods that the marketts will afford hoping that you will be able to purchase good quantities of Gold Elephants teeth malagetta and negroes; but we would not have you stay longer there than the – trade will encourage you, **as you meet with trade enter each evening in a book herewith delivered you**, signed by our sub governor or deputy governor every particular sale made the foregoing day that no error happen in the accounts"

(Source: T70/61 F144v-F145v, letter UID: 175)

### ***Subcategory 12.5: Keep a ‘Diary of Particulars’***

*Variable name:* Keep\_a\_diary\_of\_particulars

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to keep a “diary of particulars”.

*Example:*

"Give us an account of your proceedings by all opportunities, **and carefully keep a journal of all particulars**, and an exact accord with every officer and seaman under your command, and send constantly a list of them, and if any of them shall happen to die mention the time of their death, and send an account under our factors hands of what is due to them."

(Source: T70/61 F125-F125v, letter UID: 143)

### ***Subcategory 12.6: Certify Dead Slaves – Surgeon***

*Variable name:* Certify\_dead\_slaves\_surgeon

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter instructs there to be a process of certifying slave deaths onboard the ship during the voyage. This variable is the ‘umbrella category’ of subcategory 13.5, which indicates whether the captain should also certify dead slaves. That is, if the variable 13.5 has a value of 1, this category will also have a value of 1.

*Example:*

"No dead negroes must be thrown overboard but with the knowledge of your surgeon, who at Barbados, must give a certificate of the number that dye each day, and make oath thereon, for without such certificate our factors cannot **pay him the hand money wee allow for the living which is twelve pence each**"

(Source: T70/61 F10v-F11, letter UID: 9)

Note that one of the letters (UID 240) said “bring home a certificate thereof upon oath, under your mates hands testifying the time of the death of such as shall happen to dye” instead of referencing the surgeon directly.

### ***Subcategory 12.7: Surgeon Head Money***

*Variable name:* Surgeon\_head\_money

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether the letter mentions payment information for the surgeon on board. This variable is the ‘umbrella category’ of subcategory 13.7, which indicates whether the captain should also certify dead slaves. That is, if the variable 13.7 has a value of 1, this category will also have a value of 1.

*Example:*

"No dead negroes must be thrown overboard but with the knowledge of your surgeon, who at Barbados, must give a certificate of the number that dye each day, and make oath thereon, for

without such certificate our factors cannot **pay him the hand money wee allow for the living which is twelve pence each**"

(Source: T70/61 F10v-F11, letter UID: 9)

### ***Subcategory 12.8: Value Surgeon Head Money***

*Variable name:* Value\_surgeon\_head\_money

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* This variable indicates the amount of money (in pence) paid to the surgeon for each living slave on arrival in the Americas. This is a variable under the umbrella category "Surgeon Head Money".

*Example:*

"No dead negroes must be thrown overboard but with the knowledge of your surgeon, who at Barbados, must give a certificate of the number that dye each day, and make oath thereon, for without such certificate our factors cannot pay him the hand money wee allow for the living which is **twelve pence each**"

(Source: T70/61 F10v-F11, letter UID: 9)

### ***Subcategory 12.9: Behave Yourself***

*Variable name:* Behave\_yourself

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates whether there are instructions in the letter that explicitly tell the captain to behave himself (i.e. stay sober, act honestly and civilly etc.).

*Example:*

"P.S. Great complaints have been made from St. Thoma of the irregular behavior of several of our Captains at that place, Wee must require **you to behave your Self civilly and honestly** that you give us no occasion to reflect thereon at your return.--"

(Source: T70/61 F122v-F123v, letter UID: 138)



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## Category 13: Factors aboard

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The variables in this category capture instructions that pertain to the captain's accountability towards the Company.

### *Subcategory 13.1: Factor aboard*

*Variable name:* Factor\_ aboard

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if there is a factor for the RAC onboard the ship at any point during the voyage.

*Example:*

"and with your surplus of the said cargoe (if any) buy what elephants tooth you can procure on your shipp embarques **Mr Benjamin Turner whome wee have appointed to goe our factor this voyage; to be assisting you in all things relating to out affairs**, give him good accommodation aboard as you have covenanted to doe you and he entering every night in bookes a part (now delivered you and him for that purpose signed by our sub governor) what comodityes wee sold the preceding day, and what received [maybe} for them, you and he signing the same for our satisfaction."

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

### *Subcategory 13.2: Factor name*

*Variable name:* Factor\_name

*Variable type:* Qualitative

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the factor that is aboard the ship.

*Example:*

"and with your surplus of the said cargoe (if any) buy what elephants tooth you can procure on your shipp embarques **Mr Benjamin Turner whome wee have appointed to goe our factor this voyage; to be assisting you in all things relating to out affairs**, give him good accommodation aboard as you have covenanted to doe you and he entering every night in bookes a part (now delivered you and him for that purpose signed by our sub governor) what comodityes wee sold the preceding day, and what received [maybe} for them, you and he signing the same for our satisfaction."

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

### *Subcategory 13.3: Factor barter book*

*Variable name:* Factor\_barter\_book

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the factor for the RAC is keeping a barter book while he is on the ship.

*Example:*

"and with your surplus of the said cargoe (if any) buy what elephants tooth you can procure on your shipp imbarques Mr Benjamin Turner whome wee have appointed to goe our factor this voyage; to be assisting you in all things relating to out affairs, give him good accommodation aboard as you have covenanted to doe you and **he entering every night in bookes a part (now delivered you and him for that purpose signed by our sub governor) what comodities wee sold the preceding day, and what received** [maybe] for them, you and he signing the same for our satisfaction."

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

#### ***Subcategory 13.4: Factor dead slaves***

*Variable name:* Factor\_dead\_slaves

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that the factor is made aware of any slaves that happen to die on the voyage.

*Example:*

"**If any negroes happen to dye in the voyage you must acquaint our factor therewith for wee will allow of none dead but such as he sees thrown overboard.** And wee also order that you give hime knowledge of all provisions which shall be distributed among the negroes, that he may keep a particular account thereof. And if any bee remaining after negroes bee onshore lett them be delivered as he shall direct if he advise you that he knows or suspects any private trade to be aboard you or that the marriners doe clandestinely trade with the natives or others you must use your utmost endeavors to make a full discovery thereof, and also [illegible] him to take musters of the negroes in the passage between Guiney and Barbados as often as shall think fitt."

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

#### ***Subcategory 13.5: Factor police private trade***

*Variable name:* Factor\_police\_private\_trade

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that the factor for the RAC are policing/monitoring the private trade that the captain is carrying out on behalf of the company.

*Example:*

"If any negroes happen to dye in the voyage you must acquaint our factor therewith for wee will allow of none dead but such as he sees thrown overboard. And wee also order that you give hime knowledge of all provisions which shall be distributed among the negroes, that he may keep a particular account thereof. And if any bee remaining after negroes bee onshore lett them be delivered as he shall direct if [maybe] **he advise you that he knows or suspects any private trade to be aboard you or that the marriners doe clandestinely trade with the natives or others you must use your utmost endeavors to make a full discovery thereof,** and also [illegible] him to take musters of the negroes in the passage between Guiney and Barbados as often as shall think fitt."

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

***Subcategory 13.6: Factor muster***

*Variable name:* Factor\_muster

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that the factor is responsible for taking muster of the slaves on the voyage.

*Example:*

"If any negroes happen to dye in the voyage you must acquaint our factor therewith for wee will allow of none dead but such as he sees thrown overboard. And wee also order that you give hime knowledge of all provisions which shall be distributed among the negroes, that he may keep a particular account thereof. And if any bee remaining after negroes bee onshore lett them be delivered as he shall direct if [maybe] he advise you that he knows or suspects any private trade to be aboard you or that the marriners doe clandestinely trade with the natives or others you must use your utmost endeavors to make a full discovery thereof, and also [illegible] him to **take musters of the negroes in the passage between Guiney and Barbados as often as shall think fitt.**"

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

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## Category 14: Destinations Americas

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The variables in this category capture instructions that pertain to the captain's destination in the Americas

### *Subcategory 14.1: First Americas Destination*

*Variable name:* First\_Americas\_Destination

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the location of the captain's first destination when he is in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having purchased your complement of negroes sign bills of lading consigned them for the Royal African Company's account to **Jamacia** where god sending you in safety you are to deliver our negroes to Mr Josiah Heathcote & Charles Chaplin or to such person or persons as at your arrival shall produce our orders for receipt and disposall of our effects there."

(Source: T70/62 pp.11-14, letter UID: 190)

### *Subcategory 14.2: Factor at first Americas Destination*

*Variable name:* Factor\_at\_First\_Americas\_Dest

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the first factor that the captain is going to meet at his first destination in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having purchased your complement of negroes sign bills of lading consigned them for the Royal African Company's account to **Jamacia** where god sending you in safety you are to deliver our negroes to Mr **Josiah Heathcote** & Charles Chaplin or to such person or persons as at your arrival shall produce our orders for receipt and disposall of our effects there."

(Source: T70/62 pp.11-14, letter UID: 190)

### *Subcategory 14.3: Factor 2 at First Americas Destination*

*Variable name:* Factor\_2\_at\_Frist\_Americas\_Dest

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the second factor that the captain is going to meet at his first destination in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having purchased your complement of negroes sign bills of lading consigned them for the Royal African Company's account to Jamacia where god sending you in safety you are to deliver our negroes to Mr Josiah Heathcote & **Charles Chaplin** or to such person or persons as at your arrival shall produce our orders for receipt and disposall of our effects there."

(Source: T70/62 pp.11-14, letter UID: 190)

#### ***Subcategory 14.4: Factor 3 at first Americas Destination***

*Variable name:* Factor\_3\_at\_First Americas\_Dest

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the third factor that the captain is going to meet at his first destination in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having finished the business at new or old Callabar in the bite aforesaid, you are to direct the course to Jamaica where God sending you safe to arrive deliver the negroes to Collo: Hender Molesworth Mr. Charles Penhallor and **Mr. Walton Ruding** our factors there who will pay you two thirds of the freight out of them."

(Source: T70/61 F10v-F11, letter UID: 9)

#### ***Subcategory 14.5-7: Target sale price at Destination 1***

*Variable name 14.5:* Target\_Sale\_Price\_at\_Dest1\_(£/head)

*Variable name 14.6:* Target\_Sale\_Price\_at\_Dest1\_(s/head)

*Variable name 14.7:* Target\_Sale\_Price\_at\_Dest1\_(d/head)

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* These variables note the maximum amount for the captain to sell the company's slaves for at destination one in the Americas.

*Example:*

"And to whomsoever it be you are to receive from them 2 thirds of your freight in negroes as they will arise by **Lott at 18.10[.0] pounds** per head, taking a Certificate of the number of Slaves you deliver, wick done sell the remainder of the negro pvisions for the most you can get, and pay its pduce to our Said factors taking a record for so much paid them for our account."

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

***Subcategory 14.8: Second Americas Destination***

*Variable name:* Second\_Americas\_Destination

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the second destination that the captain is instructed to sail to when in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having purchased your said Complement of Negroes, Sign Bills of Lading consigning them for the African Companys Account to for William Beeston Samuel Barnard Esquire and Mr. Charles Whittle our – Factors in **Jamaica** where God Sending you in safety you are to deliver them the Negroes and take from them Two thirds of your freight in Negroes as they rise by Lott at 18 pounds per head, and take from them a certificate of the number of Slaves you deliver."

(Source: T70/61 F101\_F103, letter UID: 115)

***Subcategory 14.9: Second Americas Destination Fallback***

*Variable name:* Second\_Americas\_Destination\_FB

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that the captain's second destination in the Americas is a fallback destination.

*Example:*

"Having done your business in the Bite make the best of your way to **Virginia or any of the Islands in the West Indies as by your** Articles, and when arrived give our agents there advice thereof the like you are to send us by the first opportunity. Wee wish you a good voyage and."

(Source: T70/61 F89, letter UID: 98)

***Subcategory 14.10: Factor at second Americas Destination***

*Variable name:* Factor\_at\_Second\_Americas\_Destion

*Variable type:* Qualitative

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the first factor that the captain is going to meet at his second destination in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having purchased your said Complement of Negroes, Sign Bills of Lading consigning them for the African Companys Account to for **William Beeston** Samuel Barnard Esquire and Mr. Charles Whittle our – Factors in Jamaica where God Sending you in safety you are to deliver them the Negroes and take from them Two thirds of your freight in Negroes as they rise by Lott at 18 pounds per head, and take from them a certificate of the number of Slaves you deliver."

(Source: T70/61 F101v\_F103, letter UID: 115)

#### ***Subcategory 14.11: Factor 2 at second Americans Destination***

*Variable name:* Factor\_2\_at\_Second Dest

*Variable type:* Qualitative

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the second factor that the captain is going to meet at his second destination in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having purchased your said Complement of Negroes, Sign Bills of Lading consigning them for the African Companys Account to for William Beeston **Samuel Barnard Esquire** and Mr. Charles Whittle our – Factors in Jamaica where God Sending you in safety you are to deliver them the Negroes and take from them Two thirds of your freight in Negroes as they rise by Lott at 18 pounds per head, and take from them a certificate of the number of Slaves you deliver."

(Source: T70/61 F101v\_F103, letter UID: 115)

#### ***Subcategory 14.12: Factor 3 at second Americas Destination***

*Variable name:* Factor\_3\_at\_Second\_Dest\_in\_Americas

*Variable type:* Qualitative

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the third factor that the captain is going to meet at his second destination in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having purchased your said Complement of Negroes, Sign Bills of Lading consigning them for the African Companys Account to for William Beeston Samuel Barnard Esquire and **Mr. Charles Whittle** our – Factors in Jamaica where God Sending you in safety you are to deliver them the Negroes and take from them Two thirds of your freight in Negroes as they rise by Lott at 18 pounds per head, and take from them a certificate of the number of Slaves you deliver."

(Source: T70/61 F101v\_F103, letter UID: 115)

***Subcategory 14.13: Target sale price at Destination 2 (£/head)***

*Variable name:* Target\_Sale\_Price\_at\_Dest2\_(£/head)

*Variable type:* Numeric (continuous)

*Description:* These variables note the maximum amount for the captain to sell the company's slaves for at destination one in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Having purchased your said Complement of Negroes, Sign Bills of Lading consigning them for the African Companys Account to for William Beeston Samuel Barnard Esquire and Mr. Charles Whittle our – Factors in Jamaica where God Sending you in safety you are to deliver them the Negroes and take from them Two thirds of your freight in Negroes as they **rise by Lott at 18 pounds per head**, and take from them a certificate of the number of Slaves you deliver."

(Source: T70/61 F10v1\_F103, letter UID: 115)

***Subcategory 14.14: Third Americas Destination***

*Variable name:* Third\_Americas\_Destination

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the third destination that the captain is instructed to sail to when in the Americas.

*Example:*

"Signe four bills of lading for the same to be delivered at Antegua to Mr. Edward Chester, at Mountserratt to Mr. William Fry, and at **Nevis** to Mr. Phillip Broome the Company's agents and factors at the said places, or to such other factors or persons as shall produce our orders for the receipt and disposall of our effects at any of the said places."

(Source: T70/63 pp.1-6, letter UID: 263)

***Subcategory 14.15: Factor at third Americas Destination***

*Variable name:* Facot\_at\_Third\_Americas\_Destination

*Variable type:* Categorical (nominal)

*Description:* This variable indicates the name of the factor that the captain is going to meet at his third destination in the Americas.

*Example:*



"Signe four bills of lading for the same to be delivered at Antegua to Mr. Edward Chester, at Mountserratt to Mr. William Fry, and at Nevis to **Mr. Phillip Broome** the Company's agents and factors at the said places, or to such other factors or persons as shall produce our orders for the receipt and disposall of our effects at any of the said places."

(Source: T70/63 pp.1-6, letter UID: 263)

#### ***Subcategory 14.16: Current coin***

*Variable name:* Current\_Coin

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if current coin is mentioned in the captain's instructions from the RAC.

*Example:*

"You are to receive from them to whom you deliver our negroes at any of the said islands or places aforementioned one halfe of your freight in the currant coyne of the country and take from them a certificate of the number of slaves you deliver."

(Source: T70/63 pp.1-6, letter UID: 263)

#### ***Subcategory 14.17: Copy ship logs***

*Variable name:* Copy\_Ship\_Logs

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is instructed to make a copy of his logs for the company.

*Example:*

"Interest there you will have an exact account of our Concerns both at Benee York Island where is our Generall warehouse for the Trade of these parts. **You must demand Duplicates of your dispatches both at Gambia and Sherbrow and send them us by several Conveyances from Barbadoes.**"

(Source: T70/61 F118-F119, letter UID: 132)

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## Category 15: Messenger boat specific instructions

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The variables in this category capture instructions that pertain to the messenger specific voyages.

### *Subcategory 15.1: Messenger bring passengers to coast*

*Variable name:* Mess\_Bring\_Passengers\_To\_Coast

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that the captain was directed by the RAC to bring a passenger to the coast of Africa.

*Example:*

"Wee have appointed Mr John Case our Chiefe Factor in the Command of our Consernes in the River of Serelion on the North parts of Guynie to take His Passage on your shipp the Unity to whome wee expect that you give the best accommodation the shipp will afford. As also to Mr Charles Archebald and Mr Nicholas Buckeridge and such other Passengers which wee shall order aboard you And after receipt of these order you are to proceed with your shipp to Bence Island in the River of Serelion."

(Source: T70/61 F19-F19v, letter UID: 20)

### *Subcategory 15.2: Messenger return to England*

*Variable name:* Mess\_Return\_To\_England

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that the captain is directed to return back to England in the letter.

*Example:*

"You must firme Bills of Lading Which having done; and received our Factors dispatches shape your Course to this Port of London where wee pray God send you safe to arrive. "

(Source: T70/61 F19-F19v, letter UID: 20)

### *Subcategory 15.3: Messenger receive goods laden aboard*

*Variable name:* Mess\_Receive\_Goods\_Laden\_Aboard

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that goods were placed on the ship while it was off the coast of Africa.

*Example:*

"Charterparty God sending you well to arrive upon the coast you must use your utmost dilligence to take all oppertunity where any trade presents before you come to Taccaratho to sell and dispose of the said cargoe for **gold elephants teeth mallagetta corne negroes** or what else you meete with that will turne to account and is vendible in England."

(Source: T70/61 F52v-F53, letter UID: 57)

### ***Subcategory 15.5: Messenger goods received ladened aboard***

*Variable name:* Mess\_Goods\_Received\_Ladened\_Aboard

*Variable type:* Qualitative

*Description:* This variable indicates the names of the goods that were placed on the ship while it was off the coast of Africa.

*Example:*

"Charterparty God sending you well to arrive upon the coast you must use your utmost dilligence to take all oppertunity where any trade presents before you come to Taccaratho to sell and dispose of the said cargoe for **gold elephants teeth mallagetta corne negroes** or what else you meete with that will turne to account and is vendible in England."

(Source: T70/61 F52v-F53, letter UID: 57)

### ***Subcategory 15.5: Messenger slave purchase***

*Variable name:* Mess\_Slaves\_Purchase

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the captain is directed to purchase slaves when the ship is off the coast of Africa.

*Example:*

"Charterparty God sending you well to arrive upon the coast you must use your utmost dilligence to take all oppertunity where any trade presents before you come to Taccaratho to sell and dispose of the said cargoe for **gold elephants teeth mallagetta corne negroes** or what else you meete with that will turne to account and is vendible in England."

(Source: T70/61 F52v-F53, letter UID: 57)

***Subcategory 15.6: Messenger ship itinerary ambiguity***

*Variable name:* Mess\_Ship\_Itinerary\_Ambiguity

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates if the instructions in the letter are unclear at certain points on where the captain is supposed to go when he is off the coast of Africa.

*Example:*

"You are with the first opportunity of wind & weather that god shall send to depart from Gravesend with you shipp the Guynie Friggot & make the best of you way for **Sestoes** and parts adjacent on the Coast of Africa where wee hop you may purchase some considerable quantity of mallagetta but if you should not come there in the properest season of the yeare to purchase itt procure what you cann and informe your self what is the best time of the yeare to procure a quantity of said mallagetta and the places that affords the most of that comodity & what are the goods most esteemed in those places which you are carefully to advise us by the first oppertunity & noate in the booke now delivered you all the information you can gett exactly that we ay att or before your arrivall the better understand how that trade for mallagetta is to be managed for the most advantage of the company which we intend to prosecute."

(Source: T70/61 F4v\_F5, letter UID: 3)

***Subcategory 15.7: Messenger before seamen paid deliver journals***

*Variable name:* Mess\_Before\_Seamen\_Paid\_Deliver\_Journals

*Variable type:* Dummy

*Description:* This variable indicates that before the seamen can get paid the captain must deliver his journals back to the company.

*Example:*

"Wee order at your return (before your seamen be paid) that you and your mates **deliver your jornalls to be perused by the committee of shipping.** "

(Source: T70/62 pp.44-49, letter UID: 202)

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## Category 16: Signatories

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### *Subcategory 16.1: Signatories*

*Variable name 16.1: Signatory 1*  
*Variable name 16.2: Signatory 2*  
*Variable name 16.3: Signatory 3*  
*Variable name 16.4: Signatory 4*  
*Variable name 16.5: Signatory 5*  
*Variable name 16.6: Signatory 6*  
*Variable name 16.7: Signatory 7*  
*Variable name 16.8: Signatory 8*  
*Variable name 16.9: Signatory 9*  
*Variable name 16.10: Signatory 10*  
*Variable name 16.11: Signatory 11*  
*Variable name 16.12: Signatory 12*  
*Variable name 16.13: Signatory 13*  
*Variable name 16.14: Signatory 14*  
*Variable name 16.15: Signatory 15*  
*Variable name 16.16: Signatory 16*  
*Variable name 16.17: Signatory 17*  
*Variable name 16.18: Signatory 18*  
*Variable name 16.19: Signatory 19*  
*Variable name 16.20: Signatory 20*  
*Variable name 16.21: Signatory 21*  
*Variable type: Dummy*

*Description:* This variable indicates the signatories on the captain's instructions from the RAC.

*Example:*

“Your loving friends etc

Geo Boun Sub Governor	Samll Stanier Deputy Governor
Peter Paravicini	John Hanger
John Pery	John Cater
John Morgan	John Smith
Rich Cradock	John Fellowe
Urban Hall	Wm Ffazakerley
Cha Balle	Wm Juat
Nath Mounteny	B Wilshaw”

(Source: T70/61 F119v, letter UID: 130)