A FEW OF HAMILTON'S LETTERS; INCLUDING HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE GREAT WEST INDIAN HURRICANE OF 1772. [NEW YORK-1903]

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A Few of Hamilton's letters; including his description of the great west indian hurricane of 1772. [New York-1903] by Alexander Hamilton & Gertrude Atherton

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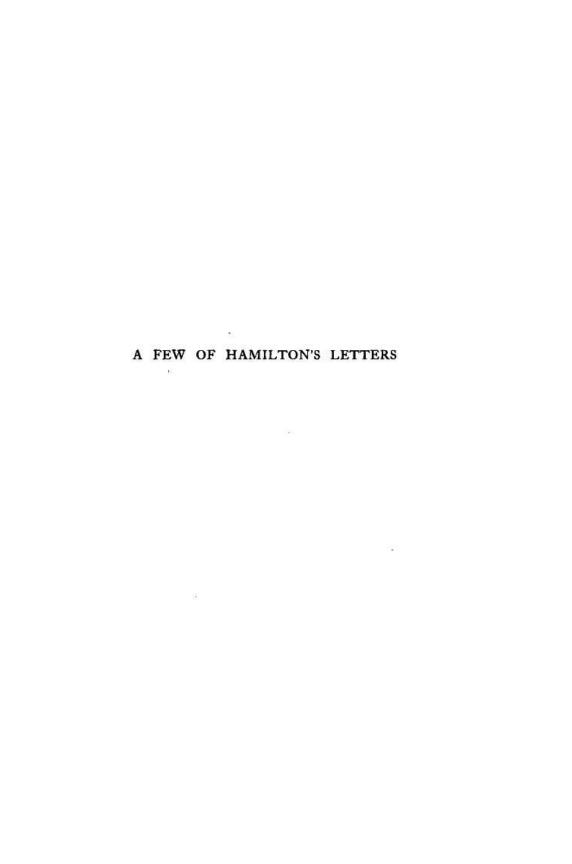
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ALEXANDER HAMILTON & GERTRUDE ATHERTON

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Attamba.

To

CAPTAIN WILLIAM RAMSING

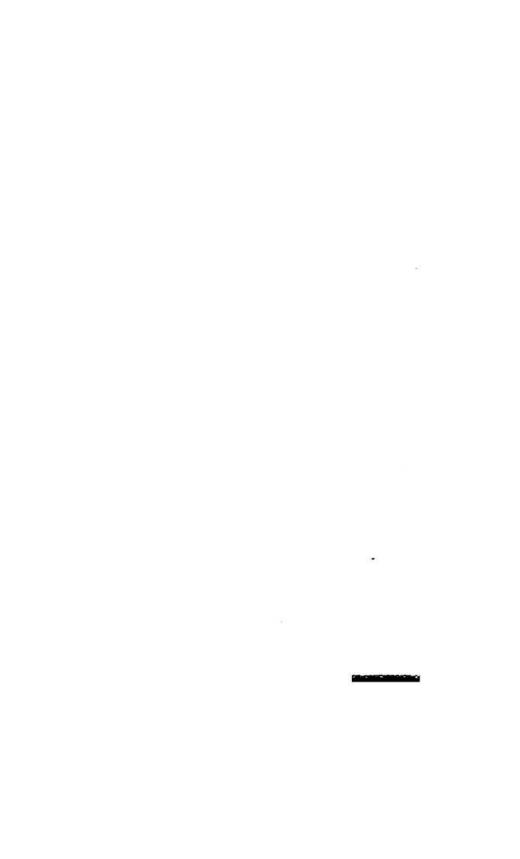
OF DENMARK

and

THE REVEREND W. C. WATSON

OF ST. CROIX, DANISH WEST INDIES

FROM WHOM I HAVE RECEIVED INVALUABLE HELP
IN MY RESEARCHES



INTRODUCTION

Hamilton's entire correspondence, exclusive of his state papers, pamphlets, etc., fills three octavo volumes. Much of it is uninteresting to-day to any but a student of the past, and will never be approached by the general reader. Taken as a whole, the letters form almost a history of the times, but that history has been written more than once in a manner to require less effort on the part of the temperately inquiring mind. This selection has been made with a view to throw as much light as possible on the man. They reveal him in many of his moods, and although they have not, in every case, the high literary quality peculiar to his great reports and pamphlets, a few, the letter to Laurens, describing the capture and death of André, for instance, could hardly be improved upon. letter to Duane is the most remarkable; and even by those to whom at first glance it may appear very long and very dry, it will well repay a careful study, - not only because in it a young man of twentythree first hewed the foundation stones of a great