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P A P E R S

PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

*On the 7th May 1804,*

RESPECTING THE

S L A V E - T R A D E ;

&c. &c.

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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## SCHEDULE.

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### A.

#### CIRCULARS.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Copy of a Circular Letter from the Duke of Portland to the Governors of the Islands of Jamaica, St. Vincent, Dominica, Barbadoes, Leeward Islands, and Grenada, Dated 6th May 1797.
- N<sup>o</sup> 2. Copy of a Circular Letter from the Duke of Portland to the Governors of His Majesty's Islands and Colonies in the West Indies - - - Dated 23d April 1798.  
(Two Inclosures.)
- N<sup>o</sup> 3. Copy of a Circular Letter from the Duke of Portland to the Governors of the Islands of Barbadoes and St. Vincent's - - - Dated 22d March 1799.
- N<sup>o</sup> 4. Copy of a Circular Letter from the Duke of Portland to the Governors of His Majesty's Colonies in the West Indies - - - Dated 12th July 1799.

### B.

#### BAHAMAS.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Copy of an Act, intituled, "An Act to consolidate and bring into one Act the several Laws relating to Slaves, and for giving them further Protection and Security; for altering the Mode of Trial of Slaves charged with capital Offences; for suspending the several Acts and Clauses of Acts therein mentioned; and for other Purposes," Dated 11th May 1797.
- N<sup>o</sup> 2. Copy of a Letter from Governor Dowdeswell to the Duke of } Dated 9th December.  
Portland, }
- N<sup>o</sup> 3. Return of Slaves, &c. in the Island of New Providence - Dated 2d April 1801.

### C.

#### BARBADOES.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Copy of a Letter from Governor Ricketts to the Duke of } Dated 5th July 1797.  
Portland, }
- N<sup>o</sup> 2. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - Dated 31st May 1798.
- N<sup>o</sup> 3. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - Dated 6th May 1799.
- N<sup>o</sup> 4. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - Dated 28th May 1799.  
(Two Inclosures.)
- N<sup>o</sup> 5. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to Governor Ricketts - Dated 8th August 1799.
- N<sup>o</sup> 6. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from Governor Ricketts to the Duke of Portland - Dated 1st September 1799.
- N<sup>o</sup> 7. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from Lord Seaforth to Lord Hobart - - Dated 18th March 1802.  
(Two Inclosures.)
- N<sup>o</sup> 8. Extract of a Letter from Lord Hobart to Lord Seaforth - Dated 6th September 1802.

SCHEDULE—*continued.*

## D.

## BERMUDA.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Extract of a Letter from Governor Beckwith to the Duke of Portland, } Dated 24th December 1799.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 2. Extract of a D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 22d March 1800.  
 (One Inclosure.)

## E.

## DOMINICA.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Copy of a Letter from President Matfon to the Duke of Portland, Dated 10th July 1797.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 2. Extract from the Minutes of the House of Assembly at Dominica, Dated 19th July 1797.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 3. Copy of a Letter from Governor Johnstone to the Duke of Portland, Dated 5th June 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 4. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to Governor Johnstone, } Dated 18th October 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 5. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to the Governor - - - - - Dated 21st March 1799.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 6. Copy of a Letter from President Matfon to the Duke of Portland, Dated 16th June 1799.  
 (Three Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 7. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 22d June 1799.  
 (Three Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 8. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 20th July 1799.  
 (Four Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 9. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to President Matfon, - Dated 26th August 1799.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 10. Extract from the Minutes of the House of Assembly of Dominica from the 6th September 1799 to the 8th October following.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 11. Extract from the Minutes of His Majesty's Council of Dominica from the 10th September 1799 to the 11th October following.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 12. Copy of a Letter from President Matfon to the Duke of } Dated 3d December 1799.  
 Portland, } (One Inclosure.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 13. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 5th January 1800.  
 (Thirteen Inclosures.)

## F.

## GRENADA.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Extract of a Letter from Governor Green to the Duke of Portland, Dated 13th July 1797.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 2. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 10th Aug 1797.  
 (Three Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 3. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to Governor Green, Dated 13th Sept. 1797.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 4. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 3d October 1797.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 5. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from Governor Green to the Duke of Portland, Dated 20th Feb. 1798.  
 (One Inclosure.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 6. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 10th June 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 7. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to Governor Green, Dated 17th July 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 8.

SCHEDULE—*continued.*

GRENADA—*continued.*

- N<sup>o</sup> 8. Extract of a Letter from the Duke of Portland to Governor Green, Dated 12th Aug. 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 9. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from Governor Green to the Duke of Portland, Dated 3d Sept. 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 10. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 5th Nov. 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 11. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 7th Sept. 1799.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 12. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 6th Oct. 1799.  
 (The Inclosure referred to in this Letter does not appear with the Correspondence.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 13. Extract of a Letter from the Duke of Portland to Governor Green, Dated 22d Nov. 1799.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 14. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from Governor Green, to the Duke of Portland, Dated 21st Jan. 1800.

G.

JAMAICA.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Copy of a Letter from Simon Taylor, Henry Shirley, George Murray, and Lewis Cuthbert, Esqrs. to the Earl of Balcarres, - - - - - Dated 12th Dec. 1797.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 2. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from the Earl of Balcarres to the Duke of Portland, Dated 14th Dec. 1797.  
 (Three Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 3. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to the Earl of Balcarres, Dated 10th May 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 4. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 25th May 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 5. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 10th Aug. 1799.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 6. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from the Earl of Balcarres to the Duke of Portland, Dated 5th Jan. 1800.  
 (Two Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 7. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 22d March 1800.  
 (Nineteen Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 8. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 23d March 1800.  
 (One Inclosure.)

H.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Extract of a Letter from President Thomson to the Duke of }  
 Portland, } Dated 19th July 1797.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 2. Extract of a Letter from President Thomson to the Duke of }  
 Portland, } Dated 14th Oct. 1797.  
 (Three Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 3. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to President Thomson, Dated 1st Jan. 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 4. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from President Thomson to the Duke of Portland, Dated 19th Feb. 1798.  
 (One Inclosure.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 5. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 15th March 1798.  
 (Three Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 6. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 17th April 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 7. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to President Thomson, Dated 2d May 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 8. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland, Dated 4th May 1798.  
 (Three Inclosures.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 9. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - Dated 19th May 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 10. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to President Thomson, Dated 26th May 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 11. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from President Thomson to the Duke of Portland, Dated 22d June 1798.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 12.

SCHEDULE—*continued.*LEEWARD ISLANDS—*continued.*

- N<sup>o</sup> 12. Extract of a Letter from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - Dated 28th June 1798.  
N<sup>o</sup> 13. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - Dated 20th July 1798.  
N<sup>o</sup> 14. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to Mr. President }  
   Thomfon, } Dated 16th Aug. 1798.  
N<sup>o</sup> 15. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from John King, Esq. to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - Dated 7th March 1799.  
N<sup>o</sup> 16. Extract of a Letter from the Duke of Portland to President }  
   Thomfon, } Dated 1st May 1799.  
N<sup>o</sup> 17. Extract of a D<sup>o</sup> from President Thomfon to the Duke of Portland, Dated 26th Oct. 1799.  
N<sup>o</sup> 18. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - Dated 22d March 1800.  
   (Six Inclosures.)  
N<sup>o</sup> 19. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - Dated 26th March 1800.  
   (Twenty Inclosures.)

## I.

## ST. VINCENT.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Copy of a Letter from Governor Seton to the Duke }  
   of Portland, } Dated St. Vincent, 6th July 1797.  
N<sup>o</sup> 2. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - Dated 12th July 1797.  
   (One Inclosure.)  
N<sup>o</sup> 3. Extract from the St. Vincent Legislative Council Minutes - Dated July 1797.  
N<sup>o</sup> 4. Extract of a Letter from the Duke of Portland to Governor Seton, Dated 2d Oct. 1797.  
N<sup>o</sup> 5. Copy of D<sup>o</sup> from Governor Bentinck to the Duke of Portland, Dated 8th June 1798.  
N<sup>o</sup> 6. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to Governor Bentinck, Dated 14th Aug. 1798.  
N<sup>o</sup> 7. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - Dated 22d March 1799.  
N<sup>o</sup> 8. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from President Ottley to the Duke of Portland, Dated 6th June 1799.  
N<sup>o</sup> 9. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to President Ottley, Dated 10th Aug. 1799.  
N<sup>o</sup> 10. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from President Ottley to the Duke of Portland, Dated 20th March 1800.  
N<sup>o</sup> 11. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - - Dated 1st May 1800.  
N<sup>o</sup> 12. Extract of D<sup>o</sup> from the Duke of Portland to President Ottley, Dated 12th July 1800.

1. CIRCULAR LETTERS - - - - - p. 1. &c. A.
2. BAHAMA - - - - - p. 1. &c. B.
3. BARBADOES - - - - - p. 1. &c. C.
4. BERMUDA - - - - - p. 1. &c. D.
5. DOMINICA - - - - - p. 1. &c. E.
6. GRENADA - - - - - p. 1. &c. F.
7. JAMAICA - - - - - p. 1. &c. G.
8. LEEWARD ISLANDS - - - - - p. 1. &c. H.
9. ST. VINCENT - - - - - p. 1. &c. I.





A.

CIRCULAR LETTERS

TO THE

GOVERNORS

OF THE

WEST INDIA ISLANDS.

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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- N<sup>o</sup> 1. Circular Letter from the Duke of Portland to the Governors of the Islands of Jamaica, &c.; dated 6th May 1797 - - - - - p. 3. A.
- N<sup>o</sup> 2. Another - - - - to the Governors of His Majesty's Islands and Colonies in the West Indies; dated 23d April 1798 - - - - - pp. 4, to 8. A.  
(Two Inclosures.)
- N<sup>o</sup> 3. Another - - - - to the Governors of the Islands of Barbadoes and St. Vincent; dated 22d March 1799 - - - - - p. 9. A.
- N<sup>o</sup> 4. Another - - - - to the Governors of His Majesty's Colonies in the West Indies; dated 12th July 1799 - - - - - p. 10. A.

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ADDRESS of the HOUSE OF COMMONS, of the 6th April 1797 - - - p. 11 A.

A.

## C I R C U L A R S.

(Copy.)  
Circular.

No. 1.—Copy of a Circular Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to the Governors of the undermentioned West India Islands; viz.

Jamaica,  
St. Vincent,  
Dominica,  
Barbadoes,  
Leeward Islands,  
Grenada.

Whitehall, 6th May 1797.

My Lord, or Sir,

I HAVE received His Majesty's Commands to transmit to your Lordship the enclosed Resolution\* of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes in His Majesty's Plantations in the West Indies; and to signify to you His Royal pleasure, that you should take the earliest Opportunity of communicating it to the Council and Assembly of the island of \_\_\_\_\_ to whose particular attention and consideration you will recommend the formation of such a system of measures as may appear to them best suited to the attainment of the several important objects which are specified in the Resolution. Your Lordship will not fail to transmit to me, from time to time, accounts of the proceedings of the Legislature of your Island, in consequence of this communication; and I desire you will take care, in your first Dispatches, to inform me whether any measures have been already taken by the Legislature of the Island, which may tend to promote the purposes expressed by the Resolution of the House of Commons; and you will also be attentive, at all times, to avail yourself of every opportunity of cultivating and improving the disposition you observe in the Planters and Inhabitants to promote the humane and benevolent views which the Legislature of this Kingdom has so eminently manifested in the Resolution which is herewith transmitted to you.

I.  
Circular  
Letters.  
\* See p. 11. A.

I am, &c.

Portland.

A. 4

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Circular  
Letters.

(Copy.)

Circular.

Secret.

N<sup>o</sup> 2.—Copy of a Circular Letter from the Duke of  
Portland to the Governors of His Majesty's Islands  
and Colonies in the West Indies.

(Two Inclosures.)

Whitehall, 23d April 1798.

My Lord, *or* Sir,

FROM the manner in which the Legislature of \_\_\_\_\_ received the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th April 1797, relative to the Negroes in His Majesty's Plantations in the West Indies, I have\* the fullest confidence, that both the Council and Assembly will have entered upon and prosecuted the subject with that assiduity and attention which its importance requires. The knowledge and information of the individuals who compose the Legislature peculiarly qualify them to investigate the subject, and to ascertain the best means to be pursued for obtaining the object proposed by the Resolution; an object which embraces the great and permanent Interests of the Island, and the securing them against all possible contingencies. A consideration of such moment will of course direct and lead the wisdom of the Legislature, as a body, to make a minute investigation into the causes which at present retard the population of Negroes in the West Indies, and to the adoption of those means which are most likely to counteract and prevent those effects in future: under this conviction, when I first called the attention of the Legislature to the Resolution in question, I refrained from accompanying it with any suggestions of my own. But, as there are some points which appear to me to have a tendency very materially to promote the ends proposed, I will transmit them herewith for your serious consideration, and in order that you may communicate them to such of the principal Members of both branches of the Legislature as possess your confidence; and who, from their acquaintance with the temper and disposition of their Colleagues, and resident Proprietors of the Island, may be best enabled to advise and co-operate with you in regard to the measures which it may be judged expedient to bring forward, with a view to their being carried into effect. I am willing to believe, that the wisdom and energy of the Legislature may have already led them to the consideration of some of the propositions I have suggested, as well as to others of a superior efficacy; but I notwithstanding hold it to be my duty, in the course of the proceeding, to lay before you whatever appears to me essentially to promote the wise and benevolent intentions which dictated the Resolution of the House of Commons, confiding in your judgment and discretion as to the time and mode of bringing them forward, and to your personal exertions, and those of your friends, in disposing the Assembly to give them a favourable reception; which I am persuaded they cannot fail to meet with, when they come to be duly considered, and are found to have no other source than the making a solid and certain provision for the regular cultivation of the Island.

I am, &amp;c.

*Portland.*

\* The Letters to Jamaica, Barbadoes, and Dominica, commenced as follows: "Although I have not yet received from your Lordship any account of the proceeding of the Legislature of \_\_\_\_\_ in consequence of the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th April 1797, relative to the Negroes in His Majesty's Plantations in the West Indies, I have nevertheless, &c."

## CIRCULAR LETTERS.

5 A.

Circular  
Letters.Inclosure.  
in N<sup>o</sup>. 2.

(1.)—In Circular from the Duke of Portland to the Governors in the West-Indies, 23d April 1798.

Whitehall, 23d April 1798.

1. In order to obtain the fullest information with respect to the present situation of the Negroes, and, at the same time, to decide with propriety and effect on the future measures to be taken, it will be essential to review and report the proceedings of the Legislature of the Island of \_\_\_\_\_ on this subject, during the last ten years; to state the causes which are supposed to have retarded the Increase of the Slaves; the measures that have been taken; and those that, in the opinion of the Council and Assembly respectively, may be taken, with a prospect of success, for the purpose of obviating those causes.

2. What has been, during the last ten years, the annual importation of Negroes into the Island? How many of them have been re-exported (to which list ought to be added the number transported off the Island under judicial sentences, the number executed for crimes, and the number of those who have been stolen, pirated, or kidnapped): what has been, on a comparison of Births and Deaths, the annual difference between them? What proportion of the numbers imported has been wanted for the supply of the Estates actually settled, and what for the annual increase of cultivation, as far as the same can be ascertained?

3. As the dissolute manners of the Negroes have been given in evidence as a principal cause of their deficient population, it would be essential to ascertain whether the Legislature of the Island cannot hold out some encouragement to Marriage, which may tend to counteract that disposition which leads the young Women to prostitution; such as, directing that the first establishment of married Negroes, to a certain extent to be specified, shall be made at the expence of the Master, and bestowing some marks of distinction or favour, such as a difference of dress, or some pecuniary annual rewards on such Parents as shall have reared a Child; those rewards to increase with the number of children: and whether it may not be advantageous to hold out rewards and encouragement to such Individuals as shall have been particularly successful in bringing Children into the world, and in treating and directing the treatment of them for the first fortnight after their birth: Should not pregnant Women be exempted from field labour, during a certain period, — say the last six weeks or two months of their pregnancy, and from all labour except taking care of their Children, for the same time after delivery?

To multiply and rear the human Species, there must be a Marriage, or something to that effect; a contract of this kind is actually necessary: At the time of delivery, the Mother can only take care of the Child, and requires the assistance of the Father to take care of herself.

4. Whether it would not be for the interest of the Planter, as much as for that of the Negroes, that the Mother of five or six Children should be exempted from all labour whatever, excepting that of attending to her family; and whether some Legislative provision could not be made, whereby the assessment of certain taxes now paid might be proportionably increased, where they fall on unmarried Negroes only? such a provision would hold out a still further encouragement to Proprietors of Estates to promote the increase of their Negroes by marriage: and whether such provision may not be still further extended, by exempting all Negroes Children from any taxes they are at present liable to, until they are of age to labour, and, by progressively increasing the amount of such taxes in proportion to the increasing difference between the number of Negroes and the number of Children on any estate?

## A. 6

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Circular  
Letters,  
Inclosure  
in N<sup>o</sup> 2.

5. Whether, in consequence of the Act passed last Session, whereby the laws are repealed which made Negroes chattels for the payment of debts, the Legislature would be disposed to secure the Negroes on a plantation from being liable to be seized for any future debt of their Masters contracted after passing a Law for that purpose, and to substitute, in favour of the Creditor, some other security, equally summary and efficacious; would not such a Law, its effect being merely prospective, be beneficial to the Creditor, the Debtor, and the Negro? and whether also, if the Legislature was by its authority unalienably to attach the plantation Negroes to the soil, thereby putting them as nearly as possible in a state of villenage, or as (*adscripti Glebae*) a species of tenure which still exists in many parts of Europe, so that it might not be lawful to remove them, except by their own consent, such a measure would not tend essentially to the happiness and welfare of the Negro?

6. As the instruction of Negroes is of the utmost consequence, it would be important to know whether the Legislature of the Island has in view any particular modes of effecting this purpose, and what species and degree of encouragement it would be disposed to hold out to such Missionaries as might be found properly qualified for that purpose, and who would undertake that duty, either by enacting that such Missionaries should procure, in favour of the estate where they are employed, certain privileges, immunities, and advantages, or in what other manner their services should be rewarded by the Island? This would lead to the general establishment of the Christian Religion amongst the Negroes, and would establish marriages; it would restrain promiscuous intercourse; and impress their minds in a simple, yet forcible manner, with the great truths of morality.

7. As the instruction of Negroes is a principal measure towards the attainment of the great object proposed in these suggestions, and as the docility of young Negroes will render it much more easy to instruct them than those more advanced in years, would it not be of great advantage to the Island, to lay such a tax on the importation of all Negroes above 20 or 25 years of age, as would not fail to operate as a premium on the importation of those under that age? (such an Act has just been passed in Jamaica) or, if it was thought proper, a premium might be granted on the importation of Negroes under the above-mentioned age, at the same time a tax was laid on the importation of such as exceeded it.

8. Whether it would not be important that the Vestry Courts should be established for the protection of Slaves, by an Act of the Legislature, similar to that which has been passed in the island of Grenada, whereby persons of character and property in the several parishes are appointed as Inspectors or Visitors to superintend and enforce all the regulations enacted in favour of the Negroes?

## CIRCULAR LETTERS.

7 A.

(2) In Letter from the Duke of Portland to the  
Lieutenant Governor of Jamaica, 23d April 1798.

Circular  
Letters.Inclosure  
in N<sup>o</sup> 2.

Whitehall, 23d April. 1798.

1. In order to obtain the fullest Information with respect to the present situation of the Negroes, and, at the same time, to decide with propriety and effect on the future measures to be taken, it will be essential to review and report the proceedings of the Legislature of the island of Jamaica on this subject, during the last ten years; to state the causes which are supposed to have retarded the increase of the Slaves; the measures that have been taken; and those that, in the opinion of the Council and Assembly respectively, may be taken, with a prospect of success, for the purpose of obviating those causes.

2. What has been the annual importation of Negroes into the Island in the course of the last ten Years? How many of them have been re-exported? to which List ought to be added (if it can be done) the number transported off the Island under judicial sentences; the number executed for crimes; and the number of those who have been stolen, pirated, or kidnapped: What has been, on a comparison of Births and Deaths, the annual difference between them? Can it be ascertained what proportion of the numbers imported has been wanted for the supply of the Estates actually settled, and what for the annual increase of cultivation?

3. As the dissolute manners of the Negroes have been given in evidence as a principal cause of their deficient population, it would be essential to ascertain whether the Legislature of Jamaica cannot hold out some encouragement to Marriage, which may tend to counteract that disposition which leads the young Women to prostitution; such as, directing that the first establishment of married Negroes, to a certain extent to be specified, shall be made at the expence of the Master, and bestowing some marks of distinction or favour, such as difference of dress, and some pecuniary annual rewards on such Parents as shall have reared a Child; those rewards to increase with the number of Children: and whether it may not be advantageous to hold out rewards and encouragement to such Midwives as shall have been particularly successful in bringing Children into the world, and in treating and directing the treatment of them for the first fortnight after their birth: Should not pregnant Women be exempted from field labour during a certain period, say the last six weeks or two months of their pregnancy, and from all labour, except taking care of their Children, for the same time after delivery? To multiply and rear the human Species there must be a Marriage, or something to that effect; a contract of this kind is actually necessary. At the time of delivery, the Mother can only take care of the Child, and requires the aid and assistance of the Father to take care of herself.

4. Whether it would not be for the interest of the Planters, as much as for that of the Negroes, that the Mother of five or six Children, in lieu of the modified exemptions mentioned in the 36th clause of the Consolidated Act, shall be specifically exempted from all labour whatever, excepting that of attending to her Family; and whether, by some alteration in the assessment of the poll and deficiency taxes, so as to throw their principal burthen on the unmarried Negroes only, the Proprietors of Estates would not be still further encouraged to promote the increase of their Negroes by Marriage? and whether this, for instance, might not be effected by exempting all Children, till they are of age to labour, from the poll or deficiency tax, and subjecting married Negroes to a less proportion than unmarried, and by progressively increasing the amount of those taxes in proportion to the difference between the number of Negroes and the number of Children on any Estate.

5. As it has been objected that the Vestry Courts appointed as Courts of Protection under the Consolidated Act, are deficient in activity, it would be important to know, whether the Legislature of Jamaica would have any objection to add to that Act a

Clause,



A. 8

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Circular  
Letters.Inclosure  
in N<sup>o</sup>. 2.

Clause, appointing Persons of character and property in the several parishes as Inspectors or Visitors, whose duty it might be to superintend and enforce all the Regulations enacted in favour of the Negroes?

6. As the 6th Article of the Consolidated Act directs, that all Masters, &c. shall, as much as in them lies, pay their attendance to the Instruction of their Slaves, &c. it would be important to know, whether the Legislature of Jamaica, in enacting that Clause, had in view any particular modes of effecting this purpose, and what species or degree of encouragement they would be disposed to hold out to such Missionaries as might be found properly qualified, and would undertake that duty, either by enacting that such Missionaries should save to each Estate on which they should be employed, a certain number of deficiencies or otherwise. This would lead to the general establishment of the Christian Religion amongst the Negroes; it would establish marriages; it would restrain promiscuous intercourse; and impress their minds in a simple, yet forcible manner, with the great truth of morality.

7. What would be the effect with regard to the Negroes, of the repeal of what are called the Credit Laws? If a law were so framed as to give the Creditor a summary remedy for the recovery of his debt by a sequestration under the authority of the Grand Court of Jamaica, would not such a Law, supposing its effect merely prospective, and to apply to debts contracted after the passing thereof, be beneficial to the Debtor, the Creditor, and the Negro? Would the Legislature of Jamaica be disposed to adopt some such Law, now that the obstacles to it arising from British Acts of Parliament are removed, in consequence of the Act passed last Session, whereby the Laws are repealed which made Negroes chattels for the payment of debts; and whether also, if the Legislature was by its authority unalienably to attach the Plantation Negroes to the soil, thereby putting them as nearly as possible in a state of villenage or (*adscripti Glebæ*) a species of tenure still existing in many parts of Europe, so that it might not be lawful to remove them except by their own consent, such a measure would not tend essentially to the happiness and welfare of the Negroes?

## CIRCULAR LETTERS.

9 A

(Copy.)  
Circular.

No. 3.—Copy of a Circular Letter from the Duke of Portland to the Governors of the Islands of Barbadoes and Saint Vincent.

Circular  
Letters.

Whitehall, 22d March 1799.

Sir,

MY former correspondence with you upon the state and condition of the Negroes, will sufficiently enable you to judge of the satisfaction it gave me to lay before the House of Commons the Acts which have been passed by the respective Legislatures of the Leeward Islands and Grenada, to promote the natural encrease of that description of persons, and generally to improve and meliorate their condition in those Islands; also, the measures which have been proposed for the same salutary purposes by the joint committee of the Council and House of Assembly of Tobago, and the provisions of an Act passed in the island of Jamaica, for limiting the importation of Negroes into that Island to such as are of the age of twenty-five years or under, and for securing to them the advantages of moral and religious instructions.

These proceedings must be particularly acceptable to the House of Commons, from their conformity to the Resolution of that House of the 6th of April 1797; and from their having been evidently taken by the several Colonial Legislatures for the express purpose of carrying into effect the humane and benevolent objects pointed out by that Resolution.

The consideration of these proceedings, in addition to the suggestions I transmitted to you in my Letter of the 23d of April last, will, I am persuaded, induce the Legislature of <sup>Barbadoes</sup> ~~St. Vincent's~~ to adopt measures of a similar nature, together with the introduction of such provisions and amendments as may be most likely to accelerate and secure the advantages which must necessarily result from the attainment of the objects which were in the contemplation of the House of Commons, when the Resolution of the 6th of April 1797 was voted; and which Resolution appears to have had so beneficial and salutary an influence on the determination of the Legislatures of those Islands whose conduct I have stated to you.

The Colonial Acts, and other documents referred to in this Letter, you will receive by this conveyance, enclosed under a separate cover.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) *Portland.*

[The Acts referred to are with the Correspondence of the respective Islands.]

A. 10

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

I.

Circular  
Letters.

(Copy.)

Circular.

N<sup>o</sup> 4.—Copy of Circular Letter from the Duke of  
Portland to the Governors of His Majesty's Colonies  
in the West Indies, 12th July 1799.

Whitehall, 12th July 1799.

My Lord, *or* Sir,

ENCLOSED I transmit to you, by the King's command, the Copy of an humble Address of the House of Commons to His Majesty on the 11th instant, requesting that His Majesty would be graciously pleased to give directions to the Governors of His Majesty's Islands and Plantations in the West Indies to transmit an account, specifying, as far as the same can be made up, the total number of Negroes now in such Islands and Plantations respectively, and the total number of Births and Deaths on an average of the last three years; distinguishing what proportion of those that died were born within such Island or Plantation, or had been imported more than three years before, and what number of those that died had been imported within three years of the time of their deaths, together with the documents on which such accounts shall be founded; and I am to signify to your Lordship His Majesty's special commands, that you do, with all possible dispatch, cause to be prepared in and for the Island under your Government, such an account as above specified, in conformity to the terms of the said Address; and that you do transmit the same to me, without loss of time, in order that it may be laid before the House at the opening of the next Session.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

(Signed) *Portland.*

## C I R C U L A R.

II A.

## ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*Jovis, 6<sup>o</sup> die Aprilis 1797.*

## RESOLVED,

“ THAT an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, requesting  
 “ that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give Directions to the Governors  
 “ of His Majesty’s Plantations in the *West Indies*, to recommend to the respec-  
 “ tive Councils and Assemblies of the said Plantations to adopt such Measures  
 “ as shall appear to them best calculated to obviate the Causes which have  
 “ hitherto impeded the natural Increase of the Negroes already in the Islands,  
 “ gradually to diminish the necessity of the Slave Trade, and ultimately to lead  
 “ to its complete termination; and particularly, with a view to the same effect,  
 “ to employ such means as may conduce to the Moral and Religious Improve-  
 “ ment of the Negroes, and secure to them throughout all the British West India  
 “ Islands, the certain, immediate, and active protection of the Law; and, at  
 “ the same time, assuring His Majesty, that this House will concur in such  
 “ Measures as shall appear requisite to be taken by this House for the attainment  
 “ of the same object.”



B.

BAHAMAS.

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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- No. 1. Copy of the Consolidating Act relating to Slaves, and giving them further Protection and Security, &c.; dated 11th May 1797 - - pp. 3 to 15. B.
- No. 2. Copy of a Letter from Governor Dowdeswell to the Duke of Portland; dated 9th December - - - - - p. 16. B.
- No. 3. Return of Slaves, &c. in the Island of New Providence; dated 2d April 1801 - - - - - p. 17. B.

## B.

## BAHAMA ISLANDS.

(Copy.)

An Act to consolidate and bring into one Act, the several Laws relating to Slaves, and for giving them further Protection and Security; for altering the Mode of Trial of Slaves charged with capital Offences; for suspending the several Acts and clauses of Acts therein mentioned; and for other Purposes.

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Laws which have been enacted for the government of Slaves should be consolidated and brought into one Act; that some further provisions should be made for their protection; and that the mode of trying Slaves charged with capital offences should be altered and regulated, as nearly as local circumstances will admit, according to the rules of the common Law; May it therefore please your Majesty, that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by his honour John Forbes, esquire, your Majesty's Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief, the Council and Assembly of your Bahama Islands, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this Act, all and every the hereinafter mentioned Laws and clauses, and parts of Laws, so far forth as the same do relate to Negro or other Slaves, be and the same are hereby suspended for and during the continuance of this Act, any thing in the said Laws and clauses of Laws, or in any other Law to the contrary notwithstanding; that is to say, an Act, passed in the seventh year of your Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for governing of Negroes, Mulattoes, and Indians;" also one other Act, passed in the eighth year of your Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for suspending a clause in an Act, intituled, "An Act for governing of Negroes, Mulattoes, and Indians, and for amending the said Act;" also one other Act, passed in the twentieth year of your Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for suspending parts of certain Clauses and amending other Clauses in an Act, intituled, An Act for governing Negroes, Mulattoes, and Indians;" also one other Act, passed in the year last aforesaid, intituled, "An Act for governing Negroes, Mulattoes, Mustees, and Indians, and for suspending several Acts therein mentioned;" also one other Act, passed in the same year last aforesaid, intituled, "An Act to amend a Clause in an Act passed in the seventh year of His present Majesty's reign, intituled, An Act for governing Negroes, Mulattoes, and Indians."

Preamble.

Certain Laws suspended for and during the continuance of this Act.

2. And whereas it is due to good policy as well as to humanity and justice, that the condition of Slaves should be rendered as comfortable as possible, by supplying them with good, wholesome, and sufficient provisions, with proper cloathing and other necessaries, and it is expedient that the same should be regulated by Law; be it enacted, That the Master, Owner, or Possessor of every plantation, pen, or other lands whatsoever within these Islands, shall provide and give to every Slave above the age of ten years, at and after the rate of one peck of unground Indian or Guinea corn, or twenty-one pints of wheat flour, or seven quarts of rice, fifty-six pounds of potatoes, cocons, or yams per week, over and above a sufficient quantity of land, as and for the proper ground of every such Slave, and one-half of the aforesaid allowance to each child below the aforesaid age of ten years.

Slaves, their provisions regulated and established.



No Master, Owner, or Possessor of any Slave, by reason of their being rendered incapable of labour by sickness, age, or infirmity, &c.

3. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no Master, Owner, or Possessor of any Slave, whether in his or her own right, or as Attorney, Guardian, Trustee, Executor, or otherwise, shall discard or turn away any such Slave by reason of such Slave being rendered incapable of labour by sickness, age, or infirmity, but every Master, Owner, or Possessor, shall be and he is hereby obliged to keep every such sick, infirm, disabled, or superannuated Slave on his estate or premises, and to find and provide such Slave with wholesome necessaries of life, and not to suffer such Slave to be in want thereof, or to wander about and become burthensome to others, under the penalty of ten pounds for every offence, to be recovered in a summary manner before any two Justices of the Peace, who are hereby authorized and required to cause any Master, Owner, or Possessor offending in the premises, or his, her, or their Attorney or Agent, and such other Persons as they shall judge necessary to be summoned before them, to enable them to judge of the justice of any such charge, and to determine whether such Master, Owner, or Possessor ought to incur the aforesaid penalty; and in the mean time and until such trial can be had, the said Justices of the Peace, on their view, or on the information of any white person on oath, are hereby required to take up any such wandering, sick, aged, or infirm Slave, and to lodge him or her in the nearest workhouse or other place of security, there to be clothed and fed, but not compelled to work, at the expence of such Master, Owner, or Possessor, until such trial aforesaid can be had; and if it shall appear to the said Justices upon such trial that the party or parties complained of is or are guilty of the offence alledged, and he, she, or they, shall refuse to pay the said penalty, together with the workhouse fees and charges of conviction, the said Justices are hereby authorized and required to commit such offender or offenders to the next common gaol, there to remain until he, she, or they, shall pay the same.

4. And whereas by reason of deaths or removals of Proprietors of Slaves, of their being manumitted without any suitable provision being made for their maintenance, and from other causes, some unhappy objects, rendered unable to labour by disease, old age, or other means, have become burthensome to the inhabitants; for remedy whereof, be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Vestries of the several parishes and islands once in every year to lay a tax upon the inhabitants in the same manner as the parochial taxes are usually laid, for the purpose of raising such sum as they shall judge necessary for the maintenance, cloathing, medical care, and attendance, of all such Negro, Mulatto, or other Slaves, or other unhappy objects; and any two Justices of the Peace are hereby authorized and required, upon application being made to them, to order all such objects as aforesaid to be removed and conveyed to the workhouse of the parish, where (if a Slave) the former Owner or Owners, Proprietor or Proprietors lived or resided, or (if a person of colour made free) where the person or persons who manumitted or set free such person of colour resided before his or her manumission, there to be lodged and taken care of; and the Justices of the Peace, and Vestries of the several islands and parishes, are hereby authorized and required from time to time to make such humane regulations for the purposes aforesaid, as to them shall seem necessary and expedient.

Every Master or Owner of Slaves shall give them two suits of clothes every year, under penalty of £.50.

5. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every Master or Owner shall provide and give to every Slave in his or her possession, two suits of proper and sufficient cloathing in the course of every year, under the penalty of fifty pounds for each offence.

Every Master or Owner of Negroes shall instruct them in the Christian religion.

6. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all Masters and Owners, or in their absence their Overseers, shall, as much as in them lies, endeavour to instruct their Slaves in the Christian Religion, and shall do their endeavours to fit them for Baptism, and as soon as conveniently may be, shall cause to be baptized all such Slaves as they can make sensible of a Deity and of the Christian faith.

No Slave to be mutilated.

7. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Master, Owner, or other person whatsoever, who shall wilfully mutilate any Slave, or cause, permit, or

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or suffer any Slave to be mutilated with his or her privity or consent, shall be liable to be indicted and prosecuted in the General Court for the same, and upon conviction shall be punished by fine not exceeding one hundred pounds, and imprisonment not exceeding twelve months for every offence, and such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any action that could or might be brought by the Owner or Proprietor for recovery of damages for or on account of the same; and in cases where the Owner of any such Slave shall be guilty of any such offence, it shall and may be lawful for the Court, if it shall seem necessary for the future protection of such Slave, to declare him or her to be free and discharged from all manner of servitude, to all intents and purposes whatever; and in all such cases it shall and may be lawful for the Court to order the fine to be paid to the Vestry of the parish to which such Slave belonged, to the use of the said parish, the Vestry in consideration thereof paying to such Slave so made free an annuity of ten pounds during life; and in case any Slave or Slaves shall suffer such mutilation as aforesaid, any Justice of the Peace is hereby authorized and required, on view of the fact, to send such Slave to the nearest workhouse, there to be kept and carefully attended at the expence of the parish, until such time as there can be a meeting of the Justices and Vestry of such Parish, which Justices and Vestry are hereby created a Council of Protection for such Slaves, and are authorized and required to make full enquiry respecting the mutilation of such Slave; and if to them it shall appear proper shall cause the Owner or Owners of such mutilated Slave to be indicted and prosecuted, the expences of which prosecution shall be paid by the parish where such offence shall be committed; and in case the Owner or Owners of such Slave or Slaves shall be able to pay the costs and charges of such prosecution, the Churchwardens and Vestry are hereby required to commence a suit or suits against such Owner or Owners, in which they shall recover all costs and charges by them laid out and expended in such criminal prosecution and civil action; and the Keeper of the workhouse to which any such Slave has been committed is hereby required, upon due notice of the meeting of such Justices and Vestry, to produce such mutilated Slave or Slaves for their inspection, under the penalty of twenty pounds for every neglect.

8. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall not be lawful for any Court or Justice to pass any sentence whereby any Slave shall be directed to be mutilated or maimed for any offence whatever.

No Court or Justice to pass any sentence whereby any Slave shall be directed to be mutilated.

9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Person shall wilfully and with malice aforethought, kill, or cause to be killed any Negro or other Slave, every such Person shall be adjudged guilty of felony and murder, and shall suffer death without benefit of Clergy; provided always, that no such conviction shall extend to the corruption of blood, or the forfeiture of lands or tenements, goods or chattels; any law, custom, or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Any person killing a Slave, or causing the same to be done, shall be considered murderers.

10th. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person shall wantonly or cruelly whip, maltreat, beat, bruise, wound, imprison, or keep in confinement, without sufficient support, any Slave or Slaves, he, she, or they shall be subject to be indicted for the same in the General Court, and shall suffer such punishment by fine or imprisonment, or both, as the Court shall think proper to inflict; and such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any action that may be brought for recovery of damages, in case such Slave shall not be the property of the offender.

Persons anywise ill-treating Slaves subject to be indicted in the General Court, &c.

11. And in order to restrain arbitrary punishments, be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no Slave shall on any account receive more than twenty lashes at any one time, or for any one offence, unless the Owner or Employer of such Slave or Supervisor of the workhouse or Keeper of the gaol shall be present; and that no such Owner, Employer, or Supervisor, or Goal-keeper, shall on any account punish a Slave with more than 39 lashes at one time, and for one offence, nor inflict or suffer to be inflicted any second punishment on the same day; nor until the delinquent shall

No Slave shall receive more than 20 lashes at any one time, or for any one crime, &c.

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

shall have recovered from the effects of any former punishment, under the penalty of ten pounds for every offence.

Owners of Slaves committing them to gaol, the Provost Marshal authorized to receive them, &c.

12. And whereas it is customary for Owners to commit their Slaves to the common gaol for slight offences, which are not punishable by this Act; be it therefore enacted, That in all cases where any Owner or Possessor of a Slave shall send him or her to gaol for any such trivial offence, the Provost Marshal, or his deputy or gaoler, shall forthwith take and receive such Slave into custody, and him or her safely keep until released by the Owner; and shall receive for his trouble three shillings, together with one shilling for every day such Slave shall have remained in gaol, provided such Slave shall have been maintained by the Provost Marshal.

Affixing iron collars with projecting bars on the necks of Slaves unlawful.

13. And whereas a mischievous practice hath prevailed in some of the Colonies, of punishing ill-disposed Slaves, and such as are apt to abscond from their Owners, by fixing iron collars with projecting bars or hooks round their necks; be it enacted and declared, That such practice is utterly unlawful, and that no person shall on any account whatever punish any Negro or other Slave, whether his own property or otherwise, by fixing or causing to be fixed any iron or other collar round the neck of such Slaves, or by loading the body or limbs of such Slaves with chains, irons, or weights of any kind, other than such as are absolutely necessary for securing the person of such Slave while in confinement, under the penalty of fifty pounds; and any Justice of the Peace is hereby empowered, authorized, and required, on information or view of such offence, to order such collar, chains, irons, or weights, to be immediately taken off, under the penalty of one hundred pounds for every neglect or refusal.

Christmas, holiday allowed to Slaves.

14. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every Slave within these Islands shall be allowed the usual number of Christmas holidays, to wit, Christmas day, and the two following working days.

Overseers absenting themselves from their Plantations on Christmas holidays, without leave of their Employers, to forfeit £. 5. per day.

15. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every Overseer who shall absent himself from the estate under his care or management on any of the aforesaid holidays, without leave of his Employers, shall for every such offence forfeit the sum of five pounds for each day.

An account of the deaths and births of Slaves on each Plantation to be given in upon oath to the Churchwardens annually.

16. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That on the first day of January which will be in the year of our Lord 1798, and on the first day of January in every succeeding year, or within thirty days after the Owner, Manager, or Overseer of every plantation or settlement within these Islands, shall give in upon oath to the Churchwardens and Vestry of the parish, an account of all the births and deaths of the Slaves of such plantation or settlement, under the penalty of fifty pounds, to be recovered from the Owner of such plantation or settlement.

If the not giving in of such account shall be through neglect, to be stopped out of the wages of the Overseer neglecting the same.

17. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the not giving in such account shall be owing to the neglect of any Overseer or Manager, it shall and may be lawful for the Owner, Proprietor, or Possessor of such plantation or settlement, to stop and detain the penalty which he or she shall be compelled to pay, together with his or her costs and charges, out of the wages of such Manager or Overseer.

No Slaves shall leave their Owner's plantation without a ticket from them.

18. And whereas it is absolutely necessary that Slaves should be kept in due obedience to their Owners, and in proper subordination to the White Inhabitants in general, that opportunities of committing rebellious conspiracies should as much as possible be taken away, and that adequate punishments should be appointed for all crimes committed by Slaves, be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no Slave (such only excepted as are going with firewood, grass, fruit, provisions, or small stock, and other goods which they may lawfully sell, to market, and returning therefrom) shall hereafter be suffered to go out of his or her Master's or Owner's plantation or settlement, or to travel from one place to another, unless such Slave shall have a ticket,

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7 B.

ticket from his or her Owner; Master, Employer, or Overseer, expressing particularly the time of such Slaves setting out, and where or to what place he or she is going, and the time limited for his or her return, under a penalty not exceeding forty shillings for every offence, to be recovered from his or her Master, Owner, Employer, or Overseer, unless such Owner, Employer, or Overseer, shall make oath that he or she did give to the said Slave such ticket as aforesaid, or that the said Slave went away without leave.

19. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no Negro or other Slave shall be allowed to hunt any horned cattle, horses, mares, mules, asses, or other animals, with lances, guns, cutlasses, or other arms, unless in the company of his Master, Overseer, or some other white person, or by his permission in writing; and any Negro or other Slave who shall offend contrary to the true intent and meaning of this Act, shall suffer such punishment by whipping as any two Justices of the peace shall think proper to inflict, not exceeding fifty lashes.

No Negro shall hunt cattle with cutlasses, guns, or other arms.

20. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any free Negro, Mulatto, or Indian, in order to conceal any runaway Slave, or to prevent him or her from being apprehended, shall give any fraudulent pass or ticket to any such runaway Slave, he, she, or they shall be deemed guilty of forgery, and shall be liable to be prosecuted and tried for the same in the General Court, and upon conviction, shall suffer the loss of freedom, transportation, or such other punishment as the Court shall think proper to inflict, not extending to life or limb.

Free Negroes giving false passes to or harbouring Slaves, how dealt with.

21. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any such fraudulent pass or ticket shall be given by any white person with intent as aforesaid, such white person shall be deemed guilty of forgery, and shall be liable to be indicted and tried for the same before the General Court, and shall suffer such punishment, by fine and imprisonment, as the Court shall think proper to inflict.

White persons giving fraudulent passes to Slaves liable to be prosecuted.

22. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no ticket shall be granted to any Slave for any time exceeding one calendar month.

No ticket to be granted to a Slave for more than one month.

23. And be it further enacted, That every person from whose service any Slave shall abscond, shall within fourteen days thereafter give notice thereof by public advertisement, wherein shall be inserted the name and description of any such Runaway, by means whereof he or she may be more easily known and apprehended; and in case the Owner shall neglect so to do, he or she shall not be entitled to any satisfaction from the Treasury for any such Slave executed or transported by virtue of this Act, for any crime whatever.

Slaves absconding from the service of any person, notice thereof shall be given within fourteen days of the same.

24. And be it also enacted, That it shall not be lawful either to sell or buy any runaway Slave; and that any person buying or selling any such Slave while absent, shall forfeit the sum of thirty pounds.

Runaway Slaves not to be sold or bought.

25. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all Slaves who shall have been in these Islands for the space of two years, and shall run away, and shall continue absent for a term not exceeding six months, shall, upon conviction before any two Justices of the Peace, suffer such punishment as the said Justices shall think proper to inflict, not extending to life or limb.

Slaves being absent six months, their punishment not to extend to life or limb.

26. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave who shall run away from his Owner or lawful Possessor, and be absent for more than six months, being duly convicted, shall be sentenced to be transported for life, or shall suffer such other punishment, not extending to life or limb, as the Court shall think proper to inflict.

Slaves being absent upwards of six months to be transported for life or otherwise, but not to extend to life or limb.

27. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave who shall knowingly harbour or conceal any runaway Slave, shall be liable to be tried for the same as hereinafter directed, and upon conviction, shall suffer such punishment as the Court shall think proper to inflict, not extending to life or limb; and that any free person

Slaves harbouring Runaways shall be liable to be tried for the

person

same in the  
General  
Court.

person who shall commit such offence may be indicted and prosecuted for the same in the General Court, and being convicted, shall suffer such punishment by fine and imprisonment as the Court shall think proper, according to the magnitude of the offence; and such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any action or suit which may be brought by the party injured for recovery of damages for and on account of the same.

Slaves taking  
up Runaways,  
&c. to be re-  
warded.

28. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every Slave who shall take up any such Runaway, or inform against any person who shall harbour or conceal such runaway Slave, so that such Runaway may be taken and restored to his or her Owner or Owners, shall be entitled to such reward as any two Justices of the Peace shall think reasonable and just, not exceeding three pounds, to be paid by such person or persons as the said Justices shall determine ought to pay the same.

Slaves ab-  
senting ten  
days from  
their Owners  
or Employers  
and found  
eight miles  
distance from  
their Planta-  
tion, deemed  
a Runaway.

29. And whereas it is dangerous to the peace and safety of these Islands to suffer Slaves to continue out as Runaways, and it is absolutely necessary to declare what Slaves shall be deemed Runaways; be it therefore enacted and declared, That every Slave who shall be absent from his or her Owner or Employer without leave, for ten days together, and shall be found at the distance of eight miles from the house plantation, or settlement, to which he or she belongs, without a ticket or permit to pass (except as before excepted, in going to or returning from market) shall be deemed a Runaway.

Free persons  
apprehending  
Runaways  
shall be enti-  
tled to 20s.  
over and  
above mile-  
money.

30. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any free Person who shall apprehend any runaway Slave shall be entitled to receive from the Owner, Employer, Overseer, or Manager of such Slave, the sum of twenty shillings and no more, besides mile money at the rate of two shillings per mile for the first five miles, and one shilling per mile afterwards; provided such Slave or Slaves had absented himself or herself ten days without the privity, knowledge, or consent of the Proprietor, Owner, or other white person residing on the plantation or place to which such Slave shall belong, which time of absence shall be declared on the oath of such Proprietor, Overseer, or other white person as aforesaid, if required by the party taking up such Slave; but it is the true intent and meaning of this Act, that every Person who shall apprehend any Slave that is actually run away shall be entitled to the aforesaid reward, although such Slave shall not be eight miles from home, or although the aforesaid term of ten days shall not have elapsed.

Slaves tak-  
ing or killing  
another in  
actual rebel-  
lion to be re-  
warded.

31. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave who shall take or kill another in actual rebellion, shall receive from the Churchwardens of the parish in which any such Slave shall have been killed the sum of five pounds, and ten pounds if taken alive, also a blue cloth coat with a red cross on the right shoulder, the whole expences whereof shall be reimbursed by the Receiver General for the time being, out of any money in his hands unappropriated.

Persons kil-  
ling Slaves in  
the execution  
of this Act to  
give imme-  
diate infor-  
mation.

32. And be it further enacted, That if any Slave shall be killed by any person or persons in the execution of this Act, or under the authority of the same, the person or persons by whom such Slave may be killed, shall, as speedily as may be, give information thereof to some Justice of the Peace, who is hereby required to take his examination, and also the evidence or information of any other person or persons respecting the same; and any white person or free person of colour killing such Slave, who shall neglect forthwith to give the information hereby required, shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred pounds.

Persons ap-  
prehending  
Slaves to  
convey him,  
her, or them  
to proper  
places,  
agreeable to  
this Act.

33. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any person or persons apprehending any runaway Slave, shall convey him or her to his or her Owner, Employer, or Manager, if resident on the Island in which such Runaway shall have been apprehended, but if not therein resident, or if payment of the reward and other charges hereinbefore mentioned shall not be made, then to the nearest gaol or workhouse, the Keeper whereof is hereby authorized and required to receive such Slave into his custody, and to pay the party delivering such Slave the sum of twenty shillings, and mile money as aforesaid, and no more, under the penalty of five pounds; provided nevertheless, that no Gaoler or Workhousekeeper, shall pay any such sum

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or fums before fuch perfon fhall have taken an oath, which oath the Gaoler or Workhoufekeeper fhall file in his office, and produce, when thereunto required by the Owner or Poffeffor of fuch Slave, under the penalty of five pounds, that the Slave fo apprehended was at the reputed diftance of eight miles from the houfe, plantation, or fettlement, to which fuch Slave belongs (except as is before excepted) and that fuch Slave had no ticket or permit in writing from his or her Owner or Poffeffor, Employer or Overfeer, at the time of being apprehended, and that fuch Slave had been firft carried to his or her Owner, Employer, or Manager (provided fuch Owner or Manager fhall be in the Ifland where fuch Slave fhall be apprehended) and that payment of the reward and charges aforefaid was neglected or refufed to be made.

34. And, to the end that the Owners and Proprietors of Slaves fo apprehended may obtain information of the goal or workhoufe in which they are confined, be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid, That the Keeper of every workhoufe or goal fhall and they are hereby required, once in every month, to advertise in the Bahama Gazette, or other public newspapers, and at the moft public place in the Ifland on which faid Negro fhall be apprehended, the height, names, marks, and fex, and alfo the country (where the fame can be afcertained) of every runaway Slave then in his cuftody, and the time fuch Slave was put into his cuftody, and alfo the name or names of the Owner or Owners thereof, if known, under the penalty of ten pounds for every neglect or omiffion, and for the expence of fuch advertisement, it fhall and may be lawful for the Keeper of every gaol or workhoufe to charge the Owner or Owners of each runaway Slave at and after the rate of twelve fhillings per month, and no more, and to detain any fuch Slave in cuftody until the fame, together with the charges of apprehenfion, and other fees and poundage, after the rate of two fhillings in the pound, fhall be paid, and alfo one fhilling for every twenty-four hours fuch Slave fhall have been in cuftody, for fubfiftence, and fixpence per day for medical care and extraordinary nourifhment where neceffary; and the Gaoler, Workhoufekeeper, or Supervisor, fhall attelt every fuch account upon oath.

The Gaoler to advertise once a month the names of Runaway Slaves in his cuftody.

35. And be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid, That the Keeper of every workhoufe or gaol within thefe Iflands fhall provide and furnifh every Slave confined in fuch workhoufe or gaol, a fufficient quantity of good and wholefome provifions, according to the allowance hereinbefore required to be given upon plantations, under the penalty of ten pounds for every neglect.

Gaolers to provide good and wholefome provifions for Slaves in their cuftody.

36. And be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid, That after any runaway Slave fhall have been in the cuftody of the Provofft Marshal, or of the Keeper of any workhoufe or gaol, and fhall have been duly advertised as aforefaid for the fpace of twelve calendar months, if no perfon fhall claim fuch Slave, and pay the fees and other monies hereinbefore directed, it fhall and may be lawful for the Provofft Marshal, or for the Keeper of fuch gaol or workhoufe, to fell every fuch Slave at public outcry to the higheft bidder, and that the monies arifing from fuch Slave fhall be applied in the firft place towards payment of the expences of taking up, keeping, and advertising fuch Slave, together with all other fees and charges hereinbefore mentioned, and the overplus (if any) fhall be paid into the public Treasury, to be applied towards the contingent expences of this Government; and all receipts and bills of fale made by the Provofft Marshal, or the Keeper of any gaol or workhoufe (as the cafe may be) are hereby declared to convey a good and fufficient title to the Purchafers of any fuch Slave, and to be a bar of the right of the former Owner or Owners; provided always, that every fuch fale be at the ufual place of public auctions in the town of Naffau, between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock in the forenoon, that thirty days notice thereof be given in the Bahama Gazette, or other public newspaper, and that previous to every fuch fale, every fuch Slave be carried before a Magiftrate, who is hereby required to examine whether fuch Slave has been duly advertised, and whether his or her marks and description agree with the advertisement, and to certify the fame if found accurate or fufficient.

Runaway Slaves, after being advertised by the Gaoler 12 months, to be fold at public auction.

- Gaoler not to work or lend any Runaway Slave.** 37. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no Gaoler or Workhousekeeper shall, on any pretence whatever, employ any Slave sent to his custody on any plantation belonging to him or in his possession, nor hire nor lend any such Slave to work for any other person or persons, under the penalty of fifty pounds for every offence.
- Slaves after having been confined, making their escape, and being retaken, to be punished by whipping.** 38. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Negro or other Slave who shall be confined in any workhouse or other place of confinement, and shall escape therefrom before trial, or the expiration of his or her sentence, upon being retaken, and proof being made of his or her identity before any two Justices of the Peace, shall be adjudged to be sent back to confinement, and shall receive punishment by whipping, not exceeding fifty lashes.
- Slaves after being confined, making their escape through neglect, Provost Marshal or other officer neglecting the same to forfeit £.20.** 39. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the Provost Marshal, or any of his deputies, or any Constable, Gaoler, or Workhousekeeper, shall willingly or negligently suffer any Slave to escape, so that such Slave shall not be retaken, such Marshal, Constable, Gaoler, or Workhousekeeper, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding twenty pounds, without prejudice to the owner's action of damages.
- Slaves killed in defence of his country, the Owner to be paid out of the Treasury for the same.** 40. And be it further enacted, That if any Negro or other Slave at any time of invasion, or appearance of an enemy, shall be killed in the service of the country, the Owner shall be paid out of the public Treasury the full value of such Slave, to be ascertained by any two Justices of the Peace.
- Persons suffering an assemblage of Negroes to cause the same to be dispersed.** 41. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Master, Owner, Guardian, or Attorney of any plantation or settlement, shall suffer any strange Slaves exceeding twelve in number, to assemble together, and beat their drums, or blow their horns or shells, in any place under his, her, or their care or management, or shall not endeavour to disperse or prevent their meeting, by giving notice thereof to the next Magistrate or commissioned Officer, that a proper force may be sent for the purpose, every Master, Owner, Guardian, or Attorney, shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of fifty pounds, provided information of such offence be given upon oath within five days after the commission of such offence.
- Officers authorised to enter any place whatsoever to disperse any unlawful assembly of Negroes.** 42. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all Officers, civil and military, shall be and they are hereby empowered and required to enter into any place whatever, in order to disperse any unlawful assembly of Slaves, and to suppress and prevent all riotous unlawful drumming or other noise; any law, custom, or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.
- Slaves found concealing arms, ammunition, &c. to be punished.** 43. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Slaves who shall hereafter be found to have concealed in his or her house, or otherwise in his or her possession, any fire-arms, gunpowder, flugs or ball, shall, on conviction before two Justices, suffer such punishment as the said Justices shall think proper to inflict by whipping.
- Slaves striking or offering any violence to any white person, to suffer death, &c.** 44. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave who shall offer violence by striking or otherwise, to any white person, shall be punished with death, transportation, or such other punishment as the Court shall think proper to inflict, provided such conflict or striking be not by command of the Owner of such Slave, or of his or her Attorney, Overseer, or other person having authority over such Slave, or in the lawful defence of his Owner's person or goods.
- Slaves mixing or preparing poison shall suffer death or transportation.** 45. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Negro or other Slave shall mix or prepare, with intent to give any poison or poisonous drug, or shall actually give or cause to be given any such poison or poisonous drug, although death may not ensue from the taking thereof, such Slave, together with all and every accessory and accessories, as well before as after the fact, (being Slaves) being thereof duly convicted, shall suffer death, transportation for life, or such other punishment as the Court shall think proper.

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46. And whereas horned cattle, sheep, horses, mares, mules, and asses, are frequently stolen and killed by Negro and other Slaves in so secret and private a manner, as to render conviction very difficult; for prevention thereof, be it further enacted, That if any Negro or other Slave or Slaves shall fraudulently have in his, her, or their possession, any fresh beef, mutton, or veal, or the flesh of any horse, mare, mule, or ass, in any quantity exceeding five and not exceeding twenty-eight pounds weight, every such Negro or other Slave shall, upon conviction before any two Justices of the Peace, be whipped in such manner as such Justices shall direct, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes; and if there shall be found fraudulently as aforesaid in his, her, or their custody or possession, a larger or greater quantity than forty-eight pounds weight of such beef or other flesh, that then every such Negro or other Slave shall suffer such punishment as the Justices shall think proper to inflict, not extending to life or limb.
47. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Negro or other Slave shall feloniously steal any horned cattle, sheep, goat, hog, horse, mare, gelding, mule, or ass, or shall kill any such horned cattle, sheep, goat, hog, horse, mare, gelding, mule, or ass, with intent to steal the same, or any part of the flesh thereof, such Negro or other Slave shall suffer death, or such other punishment as the Court shall think proper to inflict.
48. And whereas several Slaves have lately found means to depart from these Islands, to the great damage of their Owners, and to the evil example of other Slaves who may thereby be induced to attempt or conspire to do the same; and whereas there is reason to suspect that Slaves have been aided and assisted in their departure by other persons, and no adequate punishments are provided by law for such offences; for remedy thereof, be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Negro or other Slave, shall run away from his or her Owner or Owners, Employer or Employers, and go off, or conspire and attempt to go off these Islands in any ship, boat, canoe, or other vessel or craft whatsoever, or be aiding, abetting, or assisting to any other Slave or Slaves in deserting and going off these Islands, he, she, or they so running or going off, or conspiring and attempting to go off, or aiding, assisting, or abetting in such going off, being thereof convicted, shall suffer transportation, or such other punishment as the Court shall think proper to inflict, not extending to life or limb.
49. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any free Negro, Indian, or Mulatto, shall be aiding, assisting, and abetting any Slave or Slaves in deserting and going off these Islands, and shall be thereof convicted, he, she, or they shall be subject to be transported from these Islands by the Provost Marshal, or his deputy; and any such Person so convicted, sentenced, and transported, who shall afterwards be found at large within these Islands, shall suffer death without benefit of Clergy.
50. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any white person who shall knowingly be aiding, assisting, or abetting any Slave in deserting and going off these Islands, shall forfeit the sum of £. 100, and shall also suffer imprisonment for any space of time not exceeding twelve months, without bail or mainprize; and such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any suit or action which may be brought or had by the party injured for the recovery of damages for and on account of the same.
51. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to proceed against the person or persons so aiding, assisting, or abetting such Slave or Slaves in going off these Islands, whether the principal or principals be convicted or not; any thing in this or any other Act, or any law, usage, or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.
52. And be it further enacted, That no Negro or other Slave shall, on any pretence, barter or carry about for sale or barter any dry goods of any kind whatever, and it shall and may be lawful for any white Person to take and seize all such goods, and to deliver them to the Provost Marshal, or his deputy, who shall forthwith

Slaves having fraudulently in their possession fresh meat to be punished.

Slaves stealing cattle to be punished.

Slaves going off in vessels or other craft to be transported or otherwise punished.

Slaves abetting any other Slaves in deserting, to be transported; and if found afterwards in these Islands to suffer death.

White persons assisting a Slave to desert to forfeit £. 100.

Persons assisting any Slave in going off, to be proceeded against, whether the principal be convicted or not.

No Slave to carry about for sale any dry goods of any kind.



sell the same at public auction, and pay the net proceeds thereof into the public Treasury.

No Negro or other Slave to retail any spirituous liquors.

53. And be it further enacted, That no Negro or other Slave shall vend or retail any spirituous liquors whatsoever; and if any Slave, without the knowledge of his or her Owner or Employer, shall sell or vend any spirituous liquors whatsoever, such Slave for every such offence shall be publicly whipped by order of any two Justices of the Peace; but if it shall appear to have been done with the knowledge of his or her Owner or Employer, then and in that case such Owner or Employer shall forfeit the sum of forty pounds, to be recovered in manner hereinafter directed.

No Slave shall play at dice, cards, or other gaming.

54. And be it further enacted, That every Slave who shall play at dice or cards, or be guilty of any other kind of gaming, shall be publicly whipped by order of any two Justices of the Peace; and any Keeper of a tavern or punch-house who shall suffer any Slave or Slaves to game, get drunk, or tittle in or about his or her house, shop, or premises, or to remain in or about the same after the hour of eight of the clock at night, or shall at any other time sell rum or any other spirituous liquors to any Slave, to whom he or she shall have been forbidden by the Owner or Employer of such Slave to sell liquor, or shall suffer any such Slave, after having been so forbidden, to loiter or remain in or about his or her house, shop, or premises, shall forfeit the sum of twenty pounds.

Upon complaint being made of any robberies, &c. to any Justice of the Peace to issue his warrant,

55. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That upon complaint being made to any Justice of the Peace of any burglary, robbery, burning of houses, rebellious conspiracies, compassing or imagining the death of any white person or persons, or any other felonious offence whatsoever committed by any Slave or Slaves, and which is hereby declared or made punishable with death or transportation, such Justice shall issue his warrant for apprehending such offender or offenders, and for all persons that can give evidence, to be brought before him or any other Justice of the Peace, and the evidence of Slave against Slave shall in all cases be received; and if upon examination, the charges shall appear to be well founded, the Justice before whom such examination shall be had and taken shall commit the accused to prison, and bind over the witnesses to appear at a certain day, not less than ten or more than thirty days from the day on which the complaint shall have been made, at the place where the Quarter Sessions are usually held, or place of public meetings, and shall certify to any other Justice of the Peace the cause of such commitment, and require him to associate himself with him, which the said Justice is hereby required to do, under the penalty of forty pounds; and the said Justices, so associated, shall issue their warrant to summon seven persons, such as are liable to serve on ordinary Juries (the Slave Owner or Proprietor of the Slave or Slaves so complained of, or the Attorney, Guardian, Overseer, or Manager of such Owner or Proprietor, or the person prosecuting him, or her Attorney, Guardian, Overseer, or Manager already excepted) personally to be and appear before the said Justices, at the day and place appointed for trial, between the hours of eight and twelve of the clock in the forenoon, and when and where the said Justices shall cause the accused to be brought before them; and thereupon five of the persons so summoned shall (the charge or accusation being first reduced to writing, and read) be sworn to try the matter before them, and give a verdict according to evidence, which charge or accusation shall not be questioned for any want of form, but shall be deemed valid if sufficient in substance; and if the said Jurors shall, upon hearing the evidence, unanimously find the said Slave or Slaves guilty of the offence of which he, she, or they stand charged, the said Justices shall give sentence of death, without benefit of Clergy, or transportation for life, according to the nature of the offence, and shall cause such sentence to be carried into execution at such time and place as they shall think proper (women with child only excepted, whose execution shall be respited until a reasonable time after delivery); provided always nevertheless, that the Justices of the Peace, or any two or more of them, resident upon any of the Islands within this Government (one of whom to be always of the Quorum and Custos Rotulorum of the Island) shall and may hereafter hold Slave Courts upon the first Tuesday in April, July, and October in every year, to continue and be holden for

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five days successively (if necessary) and not longer, and shall have full power and authority to enquire into, hear, and determine all and all manner of felonious offences committed by Slaves, and shall open the said Court by proclamation, declaring the same to be a Slave Court for such purpose, and that the said Custos Rotulorum and any other Justice shall thereupon, in like manner in all respect as two Justices associated as hereinbefore mentioned are by this Act authorized and empowered to proceed to try and deliver the workhouse or goal within the Island or Parish of all Slaves who shall be in custody of the Gaoler or Workhousekeeper, charged with any of the felonious offences hereinbefore mentioned, and shall cause a Jury to be called and taken from the pannel returned to the said Court forthwith to be sworn, as they shall appear, to try all and every such Slave as shall be brought before them, charged with any of the aforesaid offences, and to give a true verdict according to evidence as in other cases.

56. Provided always, that it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of any Slave Court, or extraordinary Trial, to respite the execution of any sentence by them given for any term not exceeding thirty days, or until the pleasure of the Commander in Chief shall be known, in case proper cause shall appear to them for so doing, or the Jury shall recommend the prisoner to mercy. Provido.

57. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That not less than two Justices and five Jurors shall constitute a Court for the trial of any Slave or Slaves for any crime or offence that shall subject such Slave or Slaves to suffer death or transportation; and that upon any such trial no peremptory challenge of any Juror, or any exception to the form of indictment, shall be allowed. Not less than two Justices and five Freeholders shall constitute a Court for the trial of Negroes.

58. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in all cases where the punishment of death is to be inflicted, the execution shall be performed in some public place, and with due solemnity, and care shall be taken by the Gaoler, Constable, or Marshal, that the prisoner be free from intoxication at the time of his trial and execution, and the mode of such execution shall be hanging by the neck and no other, and the body shall afterwards be disposed of as the Court shall direct; provided always, that where several Slaves are capitally convicted for the same offence, one only shall suffer death, except in cases of murder or rebellion. In all cases where death is to be inflicted, the execution shall be performed in some place.

59. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave wilfully giving false evidence on any trial to be had under this Act, shall suffer the same punishment as the person or persons on whose trial such false evidence was given, would, if convicted, have been liable to suffer, or such other punishment as the Justices shall award, not extending to life or limb. Slaves giving false evidence shall suffer the same punishment as the person convicted.

60. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when any Slave or Slaves shall be discharged by proclamation, or shall die in custody, the Marshal, Gaoler, or Workhousekeeper, shall be entitled to receive out of the public Treasury all such fees as shall be due for such Slave or Slaves at the time of such discharge or death. In case of death or discharge, the Marshal or Gaoler shall be entitled to receive all fees for such Slave from the Treasury.

61. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That a record shall be entered up of all proceedings upon the trials of Slaves, for any crime that shall be punishable with death or transportation, in a book to be kept for that purpose by the Clerk of the Peace, who is hereby required to attend all such trials, and to record the proceedings within thirty days after such trial, under penalty of twenty pounds for every such neglect, and he shall be entitled, upon producing the certificate of the Justices, to have and receive out of the public Treasury the sum of three pounds for attending each trial, and for entering up the record, and any other business incident thereto, and no more. A record of the trials of Slaves to be kept by the Clerk of the Peace.

62. And be it further enacted, That the Constables of the respective Islands and Districts shall be obliged to attend every such trial or Court under the penalty of twenty pounds for each neglect, and that the Constable executing any sentence shall Constables to attend trials of Slaves, under the Penalty of £.20.

be entitled to receive out of the public Treasury the sum of forty shillings, upon producing the certificate of the Justices as aforesaid.

Persons neglecting or refusing to attend the trials of Slaves, shall forfeit £.6.

63. And be it further enacted, That any person who shall be drawn and duly summoned to serve as a Juror on any trial to be had by virtue of this Act, and who shall neglect to attend, or after appearance shall depart without leave, shall forfeit the sum of six pounds.

No trial shall be had until notice be given to the owners, &c. of Slaves.

64. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no trial of any Slave shall be had, until after reasonable and sufficient notice of such trial shall have been given to the Owner or Proprietor of such Slave, or to his, her, or their Attorney or Attornies, or other Representative or Representatives, where any such can be conveniently found within the Colony; any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Slaves receiving sentence of death, &c. to be valued by the Jury.

65. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in all cases where any Slave shall receive sentence of death or transportation, the Jury shall appraise and value such Slave, and the Justices shall certify such valuation; provided always, that such valuation shall not exceed in any case sixty pounds for any one Slave, and provided also, if it shall appear that the Owner or Possessor of such Slave had treated him or her with inhumanity, and that necessity or hard usage might have driven such Slave to the commission of the offence of which he or she shall have been convicted. that then and in such case no valuation shall be made, nor certificate granted, and the Owner shall not be entitled to receive any allowance whatever for such Slave from the public.

Slaves executed, &c. shall be paid for out of the public treasury.

66. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in all cases where any Slave valued as aforesaid shall be executed or transported, by virtue of this Act, such Slave shall be paid for at the public expence, and the net money arising from the sale of any such Slave sold for transportation shall be accounted for on oath by the Provost Marshal or his deputy, and paid over to the Receiver General for the use of the public.

Slaves returning to these islands, after being transported, to suffer death.

67. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any Negro or other Slave who shall be transported from these islands by virtue of this Act, and shall wilfully return from transportation, shall, upon conviction, suffer death without any benefit of Clergy.

When any Slave cannot be taken by warrant, a copy thereof shall be served on the Owner thereof.

68. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when any warrant shall be granted by any one or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace against any Slave who cannot be taken, the Owner, Attorney, Possessor, Guardian, or Overseer of every such Slave, shall be served with a copy of the said warrant, and if he, she, or they do not send or produce such Slave to the Justice or Justices to be dealt with according to law, and it shall afterwards be proved that such Owner, Attorney, Guardian, Possessor, or Overseer, wilfully detained or concealed such Slave, he, she, or they shall forfeit the sum of one hundred pounds.

All Negroes, &c. that have been Slaves, and been made free, shall for all offences under the degree of felony, be tried in a manner as directed for the trial of Slaves.

69. And be it further enacted, That all such Negroes, Mulattoes, Multees, and Indians, as have been Slaves, and have been or shall be made free, shall, for all misdemeanors and offences under the degree of felony, be tried and adjudged in manner and form hereinbefore directed for the trial of Slaves, and the evidence of a Slave or Slaves shall be admitted on such trials; any law, usage, or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Offences committed by Slaves, below felony shall be heard and determined before two Magistrates.

70. And whereas misdemeanors and offences of inferior degrees are frequently committed by Slaves, which ought to be punished in a summary manner; be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for any two Justices of the Peace, in a summary manner, to hear and determine all crimes and misdemeanors below felony committed by any Slave or Slaves, giving sufficient notice to the Owner or Owners of such Slave or Slaves, or his, her, or their Attorney or Attornies, or the person having the care of such Slave or Slaves, of the time and place

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place of trial; and to order and direct such punishment to be inflicted on any such Slave as the said Justices in their discretion shall think fit, not exceeding fifty lashes; and the Constable attending such trial, and executing any such sentence, shall be entitled to have and receive ten shillings, to be paid by the Master, Owner, or Possessor of such Slave or Slaves, on non-payment whereof it shall and may be lawful for the Justices to issue their warrants for levying the same, together with costs and charges.

71. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no runaway Slave shall on any account be committed to gaol by any Magistrate of a parish where there shall be a workhouse established, but to such workhouse only. Runaway Slaves to be committed to a workhouse, and not to gaol.

72. And be it enacted, That in all cases in which by this present Act, or by any other Act of the General Assembly, any power or authority is vested in the Justices and Vestries, such power and authority shall be executed by the Justices or any two of them in Islands where there are no Vestries, or by the Vestrymen or any six of them in Islands where there are no Justices. In all cases where power is vested in the Justices and Vestry, such power shall be executed by Justices where no Vestry on the out Islands, or by the Vestry if no Justices thereon.

73. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all forfeitures and penalties given by this Act, for which the recovery and application have not been otherwise directed, shall, if not exceeding twenty pounds, be recovered in a summary way before any two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and shall be levied; together with costs, by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, and if exceeding twenty pounds, shall be recovered, together with costs, in the General Court of these Islands, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, wherein no essoin, protection, wager of law, or non vult ulterius prosequi, shall be allowed or entered, one moiety of which penalties shall be to the use of the parish where the offence shall have been committed, and the other moiety to the informer, or to him, her, or them, who shall sue for the same. Forfeitures and penalties not being otherwise directed, if not exceeding £.20, to be recovered in a summary way, before two Magistrates, and if above £.20, in the General Court.

74. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this Act, and every clause, matter, and thing therein contained, shall continue and be in force for and during the term of two years from the passing thereof, and from thence to the end of the then next session of the General Assembly, and no longer. Continuance of this Act.

Passed the House  
of Assembly,  
13th April 1797.

*Thomas Rober, Speaker.*

Assented to, the  
11th May 1797.

*John Forbes.*

Passed the Council,  
5th May 1797.

*R. Hunt.*

Bahama Islands, }  
New Providence. } Secretary's Office.

I do certify, That the above is a true copy from the original  
Act deposited in this Office.

*Adam Chrystie Sec<sup>r</sup>.*

B. 16

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

(Copy.)

Copy of a Letter from Governor Dowdeswell to his Grace  
the Duke of Portland.Government House, Bahamas,  
9th December, 1799.

My Lord,

I HAVE to acknowledge the Letter from your Grace, marked "Circular," and dated the 12th of July, which was received here by way of Norfolk, on the 8th instant.

The special commands of His Majesty therein contained, for the immediate transmission of an Account, specifying the number of Negroes now in each of the Islands and Plantations of the Bahamas, with the other particulars regarding them, as stated in the terms of an Address presented to the King, from the House of Commons, on the 11th of July, shall be made out and sent to your Grace as soon as the necessary information can be procured.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

*W. Dowdeswell.*His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

## B A H A M A S.

17 B.

RETURN of the SLAVES in the ISLAND of NEW PROVIDENCE,  
together with the Births and Deaths, in the last three Years.

Nassau, 2d April 1801.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Births.	Deaths.
Returned by the Constables - - -	1,132	911	1,075	211	86
A number of Persons being off this Island at the time of making this List, and many others refusing to answer as to their number of Slaves, &c. it is from the best information which can be obtained supposed, that one-fifth may fairly be added to the above, which will be - - - - -	226	182	215	42	17
	1,358	1,093	1,290	253	103

(Signed) *Peter Edwards*, I. P.  
*G. Leitch*, I. P.



C.

BARBADOES.

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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- No. 1.—Letter from Governor Ricketts to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Barbadoes, 5th July 1797 - - - - - p. 3.
- No. 2.—Another D<sup>o</sup> - - dated 31st May 1798 - - - - - ibid.
- No. 3.—Another D<sup>o</sup> - - dated 6th May 1799 - - - - - p. 4.
- No. 4.—Another D<sup>o</sup> - - dated 28th May 1799 - - - - -  
 (Two Enclosures.)  
 (1.)—The Governor's Message to the House of Assembly of Barbadoes, 7th May 1799 - - - - -  
 (2.)—Reply of the House of Assembly - - - - - } - - ibid.
- No. 5.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Ricketts; 8th August 1799 - - - - - p. 5.
- No. 6.—Governor Ricketts to the Duke of Portland; 1st September 1799 - - - - - ibid.
- No. 7.—Lord Seaforth to Lord Hobart; dated Barbadoes, 18th March 1802  
 (Two Enclosures.)  
 (1.)—Minutes of Council of the Island of Barbadoes - - - - -  
 (2.)—Proceedings of the General Assembly - - - - - } - pp. 5, 6.
- No. 8.—Lord Hobart to Lord Seaforth; 6th September 1802 - - - - - p. 7.

## C.

## B A R B A D O E S.

No. 1.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Ricketts to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Barbadoes, 5th July 1797.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the Duplicate of your Grace's circular Letter of the 6th of May, the original not having yet come to hand. In obedience to His Majesty's commands, I shall take the earliest opportunity of communicating to the Council and Assembly of this Island the accompanying \* Resolution of the House of Commons, and shall be most happy in suggesting and promoting any measure that may give effect to the benevolent views of the British Legislature, relative to increasing the happiness and maintaining the population of the Slaves. I am not aware of any recent measures adopted here that make an alteration in the former system, but I will avail myself of every opportunity to transmit to your Grace such proceedings of the Legislative Bodies of this Colony, as may result from the communications with which I am now honoured.

\* See p. 11 A.

I beg leave to subscribe myself,  
with great respect, &c.

G. P. Ricketts.

Secret.

No. 2.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Ricketts to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Barbadoes, 31st May 1798.

My Lord,

I AM honoured with your Grace's Letter of the 23d of April, marked Circular, Secret—the Resolution of the British House of Commons alluded to, with an Extract from your Grace's former Letter, and an accompanying Letter from myself, were laid, as soon as possible, before the Council and Assembly of this Island. I received respectful answers, expressive of their wish to adopt any mode that might tend to meliorate the condition of the Negroes, and a Committee of the Assembly was appointed to take the business into consideration, but no subsequent steps have been taken. I will not fail to urge the matter at the next meeting of the Legislature, on the 5th of July, and in the mean time will avail myself of every opportunity to impress on the minds of those Gentlemen, who are best able to influence others, the propriety of giving their earnest and effectual aid to such measures as shall appear best adapted to effect your Grace's benevolent intentions.

With the highest respect,  
I have the honour to be, &c.

G. P. Ricketts.

No. 3.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Ricketts to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Barbadoes, 6th May 1799.

My Lord,

I LOSE no time in acknowledging the receipt of your Grace's Letter, dated the 22d March, and of the Colonial Acts and other Documents referred to, and enclosed under a separate cover. These I shall immediately lay before the Legislature of this Island, and flatter myself they will lead to the introduction of such provisions and amendments as will accelerate and secure the Negroes the Advantages which were in the contemplation of the House of Commons, when the Resolution of the 6th April 1797 was voted.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*G. P. Ricketts.*

No. 4.—Extract of a Letter from Governor Ricketts to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Barbadoes, 28th May 1799.

(Two Enclosures.)

IN addition to my Letter of the 6th instant, in answer to your Grace's circular Letter of the 22d March, I have the honour to transmit, by this opportunity, a Copy of my Message to the House of Assembly of this Island, and their Reply; by which it appears, they had previously determined to take into immediate consideration the objects recommended to them in the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April 1797; and, I trust, they will prosecute the subject with that assiduity and attention which its importance requires.

(1.)—In Governor Ricketts', of the 28th May 1799.

The Governor's Message to the House of Assembly of Barbadoes, on the 7th May 1799.

The Governor takes the first opportunity of laying before the House of Assembly an Extract of a Letter he has received from his Grace the Duke of Portland, accompanied with a Correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Governors in the West Indies, in consequence of the Address of the House of Commons of the 6th April 1797, respecting the Negroes in the West Indies; and he hopes the Assembly will take into their early consideration a business of so much importance, and which has already engaged the attention of several of the neighbouring Colonies.

(2.)—In Governor Ricketts', of the 28th May 1799.

Reply of the House of Assembly to his Excellency Governor Ricketts, on the 7th May 1797.

The House of Assembly respectfully inform the Governor, that before his Excellency's Message was laid before the House, a motion was made "to appoint a Committee to take into consideration the present Slave Laws, and to prepare a Bill for the consolidation of the said Laws, and the amelioration of the condition of the Slaves," which motion passed unanimously, and a Committee was accordingly appointed.

House of Assembly,  
May 7th, 1799.

By Order of the House.

*Joshua Gittens,*  
Speaker.

## B A R B A D O E S.

5 C.

No. 5.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Ricketts; dated Whitehall, 8th August 1799.

FROM the manner in which the Assembly has taken up the subject of the Negroes, with a view to ameliorate the condition and promote the increase of this class of Persons, and from the various Documents of which they are in possession, and which cannot fail to assist and accelerate their proceedings, I have no doubt but that I shall receive before or early in the next Session of Parliament, the Legislative measures which have been adopted by the Island, for the attainment of the great and salutary object proposed by the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April 1797.

No. 6.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Ricketts to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Barbadoes, 1st September 1799.

My Lord,

I HAVE received the honour of your Grace's circular Letter of the 12th of July, accompanied by the copy of an Address to the King from the House of Commons, and signifying His Majesty's commands, that I should cause to be prepared such an Account of the Negroes in this Island, as may be conformable to the terms of the said Address. I shall lose no time in using my best endeavours to comply, as far as possible, with His Majesty's directions; but as no Register is kept in any of the parishes of the births and deaths of Negroes, the account I shall have the honour to transmit your Grace will not, I fear, be by any means accurate.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*G. P. Ricketts.*

No. 7.—Extract of a Letter from Lord Seaforth to Lord Hobart; dated Barbadoes, 18th March 1802.

(Two Enclosures.)

YOUR Lordship will observe, in the last day's proceedings of the Assembly, that the majority of the House had taken considerable offence at a Message of mine, recommending an Act to be passed to make the murder of a Slave felony (at present the fine for that crime is only £.15. currency, or £.11. 4s. sterling.)

(1.)—In Lord Seaforth's to Lord Hobart, of the 18th March 1802.

Extract from the Minutes of the Council of the Island of Barbadoes, 28th July 1801.

The Governor's Message,

The Governor wishes to see the Legislature of this Island dignify themselves, by following the example of most, if not all, of the neighbouring Islands, by making the wilful murder of any person, free or slave, felony without benefit of clergy. An Act to this purpose is not only loudly called for to protect the character of the Island, and to remove the astonishment of the Mother Country, that it has not long ago been done, but is self evidently consistent with honour, honesty, and christianity, for none but villains can be benefited by the want of such an Act. He trusts the present Assembly have too much real dignity to wish to continue to shelter a crime, which no honest man can be capable of committing.

There are many other points which will occur to the Assembly in the investigation of this arduous subject; the Governor will be at all times ready to contribute towards it, and he will also, when the Assembly shall desire it, direct the crown lawyers to give every assistance.

The business is arduous and laborious, but the Governor trusts that, if due attention is given to the subject, and if it is followed up with perseverance, a Code may be formed that shall secure the peace and happiness, and reflect honour on the Island, than which nothing would more contribute to the gratification of the Governor's own ambition and happiness.

(2).—In Lord Seaforth's to Lord Hobart, of the 18th March 1802.

Extract from the Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Island of Barbadoes, held the 13th Day of October 1801.

Mr. Treasurer rose, and, after stating that the Message which the Governor had sent to the House at the last Meeting, embraced many very important subjects, which merited something more than a hasty discussion, moved, That an open Committee be appointed to take the several objects of his Excellency's Message into consideration, and that the Council be requested to appoint a Committee of their Board, to join a Committee of this House.

Mr. Attorney General seconded the motion, expressing himself as follows :

“ Mr. Speaker,

“ The Governor's Message contains objects of the greatest moment to this country, particularly where he alludes to the Law which relates to the punishment to be inflicted upon a white man for killing a Slave. There may be a difference of opinion between Gentlemen how far that punishment should be extended, but with respect to the Law, as it now stands, it is impossible that there can be two opinions. No man can seriously think the present punishment sufficient. A Law which empowers a Proprietor to make a slaughter-house in his Plantation, and to butcher in cold blood as many of his Slaves as he may think proper, without suffering any other punishment than paying a sum not equal to what he must pay for killing his neighbour's bull or his ox, must be a disgrace to any community. I believe this is now the only country where the life of a fellow creature is commuted for money. For my own part I do not hesitate to say, that I think the man who wantonly and in cold blood kills a Slave, ought to suffer death. The man who can think the payment of fifteen pounds, a sufficient punishment for the murder of a Slave, must be void of religion, of morality, and common humanity. I entirely agree with the honourable member, that something ought to be done, and I think it highly proper to appoint a Committee of this House, and to ask the Council to appoint a Committee of their Board, to meet together and consult upon such an Act for the consolidation of the Slave Laws, as may appear to them proper to be recommended to the House of Assembly. The House will not be bound by such recommendation, but may afterwards model it as they think proper, I therefore second the motion.”

The motion was opposed by Robert James Haynes, esquire, who, after some introduction, in which, among other points, he maintained the danger of the European Governor's interference between the white inhabitants of the Island and their Slaves, moved for a Committee of the whole House to prepare an answer to the Governor's Message of the 28th of July, an answer moderate and respectful, but calculated to repel insult, and evince that the House understands its interests, and asserts its rights.

Whereupon a debate took place, which ended, the question was put on Mr. Treasurer's motion, and carried in the negative by a majority of three voices ; the Members voting as follows, viz.

For the Motion, 8.—Against it, 11.

## B A R B A D O E S.

7 C.

No. 8.—Extract of a Letter from the Right honourable Lord Hobart, to the Right honorable Lord Seaforth; dated Downing Street, 6th Sept. 1802.

“I cannot reflect upon the proceedings of the Assembly, upon your Message of the 28th of July, without considerable anxiety. Aware that Barbadoes stood amongst the West India Islands almost a solitary instance, where the Law itself placed the Negro in a condition not to be contemplated without the most painful sensations, I could scarcely have conceived, that the Representatives of the people, a liberal and enlightened body, would at this period deliberately have refused to turn their attention to a point, in which not only the substantial interests, but the reputation of the Colony are so deeply concerned.

Whilst the rigorous system laid down for the trial and punishment of Slaves by the earlier Laws of Barbadoes, seems heretofore to have been very generally adopted as a model by the other Islands; these, particularly Jamaica, Dominica, and Grenada, have in later times taken the lead, and set an example truly worthy of imitation, by revising and correcting the harshness of their ancient Codes, and providing more effectually for the protection of their Slaves, and the amelioration of their condition in all its circumstances.

However mild and lenient the administration of the Laws may be in Barbadoes, it certainly is not creditable to the feelings of the Legislature, that, in tracing the liberal spirit of the present time, and observing its effects in the humane disposition which has elsewhere been manifested, to make a serious and effectual reform for the advantage and comfort of the Negroes, we find the most revolting Provisions of the former Acts of Barbadoes remaining in force.

I cannot therefore but highly approve of your intention to submit this matter to the cool and dispassionate consideration of the Assembly, and I trust their views will be extended to all the points which you have so properly adverted to in your dispatch.”



D.

B E R M U D A.

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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- No. 1.—Extract of Letter from Governor Beckwith to the Duke of Portland; dated  
 Bermuda, 24th December 1799 - \* - - - - p. 3.
- No. 2.—Letter from D° - - - to - - - D° - - - 22d March 1800 - - )  
 (One Enclosure.) } pp. 4 & 5.  
 Account of Negro Slaves, &c. - - - - - )

[ 3 ]

D.

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D.  

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B E R M U D A.  
  

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No. 1.—Extract of a Letter from Governor Beckwith to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated the 24th December, 1799. (N° 69.)

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Grace's Duplicate, Circular, of 12th July 1799, respecting Negro Slaves; to which immediate attention has been paid.

D. 4

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

No. 2.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Beckwith to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Bermuda, 22d March 1800.

My Lord,

IN obedience to the King's command, conveyed in your Grace's Dispatch of the 12th of July last, marked Circular, I have the honour to transmit an account of the Negro Slaves and Slaves of Colour in and belonging to this Colony, with the following explanation:

The account is made up by parishes, and has been taken up by the several parish magistrates, but the navigation of the Bermudas being chiefly carried on by black seamen, great numbers are constantly at sea in the West India and North American trade. They are included

(One  
In Governor Beckwith's,

## ACCOUNT of NEGRO SLAVES and SLAVES of COLOUR, of all Ages and

P A R I S H E S.	Total Number in and belonging to each Parish.	NUMBER of BIRTHS.			
		In the Year 1796.	In the Year 1797.	In the Year 1798.	Average of the Three Years.
St. Georges - - - -	594	21	16	21	19
Hamilton - - - -	369	23	21	24	23
Smiths - - - -	262	7	11	6	8
Devonshire - - - -	364	19	19	6	15
Pembroke - - - -	712	25	17	20	21
Paget's - - - -	572	24	12	23	20
Warwick - - - -	490	12	13	12	12
Southampton - - - -	521	23	22	19	21
Sandys - - - -	962	40	30	67	46
Total - - - -	4,846	194	161	198	185

## BERMUDA.

5 D.

cluded in the account of numbers which is made up to Christmas 1799, but the births and deaths could not be carried down lower than the end of 1798.

Notwithstanding the yellow fever made its way into this Colony from the American States in 1796, and carried off several Negroes in one parish, and a very general inoculation took place in others in 1797 and 1798, which must have added to the deaths in those years, yet the births greatly exceed the deaths.

It is necessary to add, that of the adults many, no doubt, fell a sacrifice to the West India climate, or perished at sea in the course of navigation.

The number of free persons of colour and of free negroes is inconsiderable.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*Geo. Beckwith.*

(Enclosure.)

of the 22d March 1800.

Sexes, in and belonging to the Colony of BERMUDA, 24th December 1799.

NUMBER of DEATHS.						
In the Year 1796.	In the Year 1797.	In the Year 1798.	Average of the Three Years.	Of those born in each Parish, during the Three Years.	Of those imported into each Parish upwards of Three Years.	Of those imported into each Parish, within Three Years.
8	3	16	9	27	—	—
7	11	16	12	19	—	—
1	3	4	3	8	—	—
7	16	11	11	24	2	—
29	17	12	19	3	—	1
18	16	12	15	11	2	2
2	9	7	6	—	—	—
7	21	22	17	15	—	—
18	10	12	13	13	—	—
97	106	112	105	120	4	3

(Signed) *Geo. Beckwith.*



E.

DOMINICA.

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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- N<sup>o</sup> 1.—Letter from Mr. President Matson to his Grace the Duke of }  
 Portland; dated Dominica, 10th July 1779 } - p. 3. E.
- N<sup>o</sup> 2.—Extract Minutes of the House of Assembly; - - - 19th July 1797 - ibid.
- N<sup>o</sup> 3. Letter from Governor Johnstone to the Duke of Portland; 5th June 1798 - p. 4. E.
- N<sup>o</sup> 4.—Duke of Portland to Governor Johnstone; - - - 18th Oct. 1798 - ibid.
- N<sup>o</sup> 5.—Another; - - - - - 21st March 1799 - ibid.
- N<sup>o</sup> 6.—President Matson to the Duke of Portland; - - - 16th June 1799 - p. 5. E.  
 (Three Enclosures)  
 (1.) The President to the Assembly - - - - - }  
 (2.) The President and Council to the Commander in Chief - - } pp. 6, 7. E.  
 (3.) The House of Assembly to the Commander in Chief - - }
- N<sup>o</sup> 7.—Another; dated 22d June 1799: With Three Enclosures.  
 (1.) The House of Assembly to the Commander in Chief - - }  
 (2.) Act reviving Act for Encouragement, &c. of Slaves - - } pp. 7—17. E.  
 (3.) Act for Protection, &c. of Slaves - - - - - }
- N<sup>o</sup> 8.—Another; dated 20th July 1799: With Four Enclosures.  
 (1.) The House of Assembly to the Commander in Chief - - }  
 (2.) The President and Council to the Commander in Chief - - } pp. 17—24 E.  
 (3.) Report of the Committee of Council - - - - - }  
 (4.) Report of the Committee of Assembly - - - - - }
- N<sup>o</sup> 9.—Extract Duke of Portland to President Matson; - - 26th Aug. 1799 - p. 24. E.
- N<sup>o</sup> 10.—Extract Minutes of the House of Assembly; - - Sept. to Oct. 1799 - p. 25. E.
- N<sup>o</sup> 11.—Extract Minutes of the Council; - - - - - D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - p. 26. E.
- N<sup>o</sup> 12.—Letter from President Matson to Duke of Portland; - 3d Sept. 1799 - p. 28. E.  
 (One inclosure): Number of Slaves on the Island - - - - - ibid.
- N<sup>o</sup> 13.—Another; dated 5 January 1800: With 13 Enclosures.  
 (1.)—Act for ascertaining the Number of Slaves - - - - - p. 29. E.  
 (2.)—Number of Slaves in the Island of Dominica - - - - - p. 33. E.  
 (3.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. Luke - - - - - p. 34.  
 (4.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. Mark - - - - - p. 36.  
 (5.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. Patrick - - - - - p. 37.  
 (6.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. David - - - - - p. 39.  
 (7.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. Andrew - - - - - p. 40.  
 (8.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. John - - - - - p. 42.  
 (9.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. Peter - - - - - p. 44.  
 (10.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. Joseph - - - - - p. 47.  
 (11.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. Paul - - - - - p. 49.  
 (12.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Parish of St. George - - - - - p. 51.  
 (13.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - - - in the Town of Roseau - - - - - p. 55.

E.

D O M I N I C A.

(Copy.)

N<sup>o</sup> 31.

N<sup>o</sup> 1.—Copy of a Letter from Mr. President Matson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Dominica, 10th July 1797.

My Lord,

BY the packet which arrived yesterday I had the honour to receive your Grace's circular duplicate Letter of the 6th of May, accompanied with a Resolution\* of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes in His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies. I will not fail to avail myself of the earliest opportunity of obeying His Majesty's commands, by communicating the Resolution to the Council and Assembly of this Island, and recommending to their particular attention and consideration the formation of such a system of measures as may appear to them best suited to the attainment of the several important objects which are therein specified.

\*See p. 11. A.

Your Grace may rest assured, that while I remain in this Government, I will not omit to transmit to your Grace, from time to time, accounts of the proceedings of the Legislature of this Island, in consequence of the above communication.

I have the honour to be, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

J. Matson.

(Copy.)

N<sup>o</sup> 2.—Extract from the Minutes of the House of Assembly at Dominica; dated the 19th July, 1797.

A Message from the Commander in Chief.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly.

IN obedience to his Majesty's commands, signified to me in a Letter which I have received from His Grace the Duke of Portland, I send the enclosed Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, recommending to the particular attention and consideration of your Board and House, the formation of such a system of measures as may appear to you best suited to the attainment of the several important objects which are specified in the Resolution.

J. Matson.

Government House, 13th July, 1797.

*“ Jovis, 6<sup>o</sup> die Aprilis 1797.*

“ Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, requesting that  
“ His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions to the Governors of His  
“ Majesty's Plantations in the West Indies, to recommend to the respective Councils  
“ and Assemblies of the said Plantations to adopt such measures as shall appear to them  
“ best calculated to obviate the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase  
“ of the Negroes already in the Islands, gradually to diminish the necessity of the Slave  
Trade,



E. 4

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

*Dominica.* “Trade, and ultimately to lead to its complete termination; and particularly, with a view to the same effect, to employ such means as may conduce to the Moral and Religious Improvements of the Negroes, and secure to them, throughout all the British West India Islands, the certain, immediate, and active protection of the Law, and at the same time assuring His Majesty that this House will concur in such measures as shall appear requisite to be taken by this House for the attainment of the same object.”

Ordered, That the following Message be sent to his Honour the Commander in Chief.

The Speaker and House of Assembly to his Honour the Commander in Chief.

The House have to acknowledge the receipt of your Honour's Messages of the 13th and 19th instant; beg leave to assure you, that they will take the same into their serious consideration, and in the mean time will endeavour to get every necessary information respecting the important matters recommended to the House, so that such measures may be adopted as may be deemed necessary to ensure our internal tranquillity, and, as far as possible, to protect us against the future efforts of the enemy.

*Charles Winston,*  
Speaker.

House of Assembly, 19th July 1797.

(Copy.)

N<sup>o</sup> 3.—Copy of a Letter from Governor And. C. Johnstone, to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Dominica, 5th June 1798.

N<sup>o</sup> 11.

My Lord Duke,

YOUR Grace's Circular Letter of the 23d April, marked Secret, I had the honour of receiving this day; and likewise the Paper enclosed, upon the subject of Negroes.

No steps have as yet been taken by the Legislature of this Colony, in consequence of the Resolution of the House of Commons, dated the 6th of April 1797. It is a subject which I own has much engaged my attention, but, from the jarring interests of this Colony, I have never, since my arrival, found a proper moment for bringing forward the discussion of this subject.

I assure your Grace, that I shall not fail to take the first proper opportunity of recommending to the Legislature the subject matter of the wise and benevolent propositions suggested by your Grace.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*Andrew Cochrane Johnstone.*

His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

N<sup>o</sup> 4.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor the Honourable Andrew Cochrane Johnstone; dated Whitehall, the 18th October 1798.

IT is with infinite regret I observe from your Letter (N<sup>o</sup> 11.) that no steps have been yet taken for improving the condition of the Slaves in Dominica, with a view to increase their population, in pursuance of the Resolutions of the House of Commons on that subject.

(Copy.)

No. 5.—Copy of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to the Governor of Dominica.

No. 15.

Whitehall, 21st March 1799.

Sir,

In obeying His Majesty's commands, to lay before the House of Commons the further correspondence which has passed between me, and the Governors in the West Indies, in consequence of the Address of that House of the 6th of April 1797, respecting

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specting the Negroes in the West Indies, I was seriously concerned to find myself without a single document from the Legislature of Dominica, to shew its disposition to adopt any measures for the attainment of the humane and salutary purposes which are the objects of that Resolution. Dominica.

My regard for the Colonial Legislature would make me wish to abstain from observing on a conduct so derogatory from the character of wisdom and liberality by which, I had flattered myself, that the proceedings of that body would have been distinguished on this occasion; but the duty of my station will not suffer me to be silent, and I feel myself obliged to call upon you to represent, in the strongest terms, to the respective branches of the Legislature, the very singular predicament in which they have placed themselves, and that it behoves them to consider the consequences of their remaining the single instance, among all the British Islands in the West Indies, of a Legislature which has not taken any step towards carrying into effect the measures recommended by the Resolution of the House of Commons, which I was ordered to transmit to you for their information.

I cannot however but believe, that they will proceed, without further delay, to take into their most serious consideration the means which may be best adapted for the speedy attainment of the objects contained in the Resolution of the House of Commons of 1797.

The Acts which have been passed by the Leeward Islands and Grenada, for this purpose, and the provisions made in an Act of the island of Jamaica, for limiting the importation of Negroes into that Island to such as are of the age of 25 years or under, and for securing the advantages of moral and religious instructions to the Negroes, the measures also which have been proposed by the joint Committee of the Council and House of Assembly of Tobago, cannot but be felt by the Legislature of your Island as a practical proof of the soundness of the advice contained in my Letter of 23d April last, and as a powerful incentive to their setting on foot a plan for obtaining and securing the advantages which must inevitably result from promoting the natural increase of the Negroes, and improving their condition and their morals.

I have the honour to be, &c.  
*Portland.*

(Copy.)

N<sup>o</sup> 6.—Copy of a Letter from Mr. President Matson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Dominica, 16th June 1799.

N<sup>o</sup> 3.

(Three Enclosures.)

My Lord,

YOUR Grace's Letter (N<sup>o</sup> 15) of the 21st of March last, to the honourable Governor Cochrane Johnstone, respecting the Negroes in the West Indies (which had been shewn to me by the Governor shortly before his departure, with an intimation made by him at the same time, of his intention to send it to the Council and Assembly) having been left with other papers by the Governor in my hands, I embraced the earliest opportunity of convening the Legislature, and of sending, at their first meeting on the 11th instant, a message on the subject of your Grace's letter, accompanied with a copy of it, and of sundry Colonial Acts and documents to which the letter refers.

I have now the honour to enclose, for the information of your Grace, copies of my message, and of the answers of the Council and Assembly thereto; and I confidently trust, that the two branches of the Legislature will give to the subject of the Letter that serious consideration which its importance demands.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*J. Matson.*

His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Dominica.

(1.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 16th June 1799.

(Copy.)

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker and  
Gentlemen of the Assembly :

It is my duty to take the earliest opportunity of informing you, that his Excellency Governor Cochrane Johnstone embarked for Europe on the 18th of May last, and that the Government of this Island has again devolved upon me. All I have to promise to the Board and House on the occasion is, an assurance of a faithful discharge of the very important trust reposed in me, and an unremitting attention to the general interests of the Colony.

Among the Papers delivered to me by his Excellency, on the eve of his departure, is a letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, dated the 21st of March 1799, respecting the Negroes in the West Indies. The Governor's short continuance here after the arrival of this letter, I conclude, deprived him of an opportunity of consulting you on its contents; but convinced as I am that the letter, and the subject matter to which it relates, will appear to you to demand immediate and serious deliberation, I have thought it incumbent on me to send to your Board and House copies of that letter, with the Colonial Acts and other documents to which the letter refers; and I am sure I need not add a syllable to press on you the importance of the subject, or to prove how anxious I am to be enabled to convey the result of your wisdom and consideration on the occasion to his Grace the Duke of Portland, with all convenient dispatch.

Government House, 11th June 1799.

*J. Matson.*

(2.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 16th June 1799.

(Copy.)

His honour the President and Council to his honour the  
Commander in Chief; dated 16th June 1799.

The Board have to acknowledge the receipt of your Honour's Message to the Board and House of this day, acquainting them of the departure of his Excellency the honourable Governor Andrew Cochrane Johnstone for Europe, on the 18th of May last, whereby the Government of this Colony hath again devolved upon you.

On this occasion the Board beg leave to assure your Honour of their most perfect conviction, that you will discharge the duties of the very important trust attached to the high office you now fill with every attention to the general interests of this Colony, and the honour of His Majesty's Government.

The Board also beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter of the 21st of March last to his Excellency Governor Andrew Cochrane Johnstone, accompanying your message of this day, together with the Colonial Acts and documents which that letter refers to, on the subject of the Negroes in the West Indies. The Board are highly impressed with the very great importance of the matters contained in that letter, and, in addition to a very salutary existing law, passed in this Island in the year 1788, "for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves," will take the subject matter of his Grace's Letter into their most serious consideration, and use their best endeavours to attain as far as possible the ends desired. With this view, a Committee of the Board hath immediately been appointed, to consider the means which may be best adapted for the speedy attainment of the objects contained in the Resolution of the House of Commons of 1797. On this occasion the Board cannot help observing, that the letter alluded to by his Grace, under date the 23d of April 1798, was never communicated to the Board.

Council Chamber, 11th June 1799.

*George Metcalfe,*  
President of the Council.

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(3.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 16th June 1799.

Dominica.

(Copy.)

The Speaker and House of Assembly to his Honour the  
Commander in Chief.

The House have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Honour's Message of this day's date, and beg leave to express their fullest confidence of your faithful discharge of the very important trust which has devolved on you, and your unremitting attention to the general interests of the Colony.

The House must observe on the subject of the letter of his Grace the Duke of Portland, on the 21st March last, a copy of which is enclosed in your above message, that the letter of the Duke's of the 23d of April 1798, referred to in the above letter, was never communicated to this House, and they are now for the first time made acquainted with its contents by finding a copy of it in the printed correspondence which also accompanied your message. This circumstance will explain the necessity the House is under of taking some short time to give to the subject of the above letters the consideration which its importance demands.

*Chas. Winston,*

House of Assembly, 11th June 1799.

Speaker.

(Copy.)

No. 7.—Copy of a Letter from Mr. President Matfon to his  
Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Dominica,  
22d June 1799.N<sup>o</sup> 7.

(Three Enclosures.)

My Lord,

IN my Letter (N<sup>o</sup> 3) of the 16th instant to your Grace, I had the honour to inclose copies of my message to the Council and Assembly, dated the 11th instant, relative to the Negroes in the West Indies, and their several answers thereto. It now becomes my duty to forward to your Grace the Copy of some further Observations made by the House of Assembly on the same subject, presented to me yesterday.

The Act which passed in this Island in the year 1788, for the encouragement, protection, and better Government of Slaves, with an Act, passed in 1793, to revive and make the former perpetual, I have the honour to inclose.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.*J. Matfon.*

(1.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 22d June 1799.

(Copy)

The Speaker and House of Assembly to his Honour  
the Commander in Chief.

It is with the deepest concern the House (by the communication contained in your Honour's Message of the eleventh instant) find themselves so unmeritedly stigmatized by the charge of standing in the predicament of being "the single instance," among all the British Islands in the West Indies, which has not taken any step "towards carrying into effect the measures recommended by the House of Commons," transmitted by his Grace the Duke of Portland, for their information.

The House will ever be ready respectfully to receive, and to take into consideration any measure submitted to them by His Majesty's Ministers or the British Parliament; and would doubtless, with alacrity, have turned their attention to the important object transmitted by his Grace, through the channel of the Governor, had it been laid before them; but as it never was, they hold themselves wholly exculpated from the charge of having acted in any manner derogatory to that spirit of liberality which will, they trust, ever manifest itself in all their deliberations.

We beg leave to remind your Honour, that so long ago as the 19th day of July 1797, the House of Assembly then *existing* received from you (then presiding in the Government of this Island) a Message, containing a Resolution of the House of Commons, concerning "the adoption of measures best calculated to obviate the

**Dominica.** “causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes already in the Islands, gradually to diminish the necessity of the Slave Trade, and ultimately to lead to its complete termination; and particularly, with a view to the same effect, to employ such means as may conduce to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes, and to secure to them, throughout the whole West India Islands, the certain, immediate, and active protection of the Law, &c.” To which, by their reply, they engaged to take such Resolution “into their serious consideration; and in the mean time, to endeavour to get every necessary information respecting the important matters recommended to their deliberations.” But your Honour must well remember the state of alarm into which the Colony was about that time plunged, by the discovery of a dangerous conspiracy, which gave birth to the necessity of putting the Island under martial law, and thereby causing a total suspension of all Legislative business from the 3d day of June to the 19th day of July. The hurricane season then intervening prevented the Members, whose places of residence were at a distance from town, from giving their attendance, and thereby the House from resuming its Legislative functions. Governor Johnstone arrived in the September following, and it is worthy of remark, that neither in his first speech to the Board and House, or in any of his subsequent Messages, were contained any communication whatever on that subject. The House was dissolved on the 26th day of May 1798, and it was not until the 13th of June that the writs were issued, nor until the 17th July that the new elected Members were convened for transacting Legislative business; when it must be in the recollection of your Honour, that the Resolution of the House of Commons formed no part among the matters which his Excellency Governor Johnstone recommended to their consideration, in his speech addressed to them on the occasion. The first communication to the House on the subject was by your Honour’s Message of the 11th instant, in which you state the Letter which had been received by Governor Johnstone from his Grace the Duke of Portland on that subject.

The Act of this Island published the 23d December 1788, and since made perpetual, intituled, “An Act for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves,” contains such provisions for the amelioration of the state of the Slaves, which we trust will convince His Majesty’s Ministers, that the Legislature of this Island has long since entered into the benevolent views shewn by the British House of Commons, as far as their humanity and wisdom could dictate; and the Island has experienced the salutary effects of that Law, by the happy and contented state of the Slaves. The House, however, in order to evince their readiness and desire to add to the comfort and protection of that description of persons, have, in consequence of your communication to them, named a Committee to take that law into their consideration, and to report the result thereof to the House.

The House feel themselves sensibly hurt on finding that the indelicate suppression of the Duke of Portland’s Letter by his Excellency Governor Johnstone, has led his Grace (in their opinion rather precipitately) to attribute to the House the want of wisdom and liberality; nor are they acquainted at the present moment with the existence of any “jarring interests,” or that any such “jarring interests” ever existed, as could have induced them to treat otherwise than with attention and respect, the representations of His Majesty’s Ministers.

*Charles Winston, Speaker.*

House of Assembly, 21st June 1799.

(2.) In Mr. President Matson’s of the 22d June 1799.

(Copy.)

DOMINICA.

An Act to revive and make perpetual an Act of this Island, intituled “An Act for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves.”

Whereas an Act of the Legislature of this Island, intituled, “An Act for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves,” is expired, and having been found highly beneficial to the colony, it is necessary and expedient to revive and to make perpetual the same. We, your Majesty’s dutiful, loyal, and obedient

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dient subjects, the Governor, Council, and Assembly of this your Majesty's Island of Dominica, humbly pray your Most Excellent Majesty, that it may be enacted and ordained :

And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the said Act, intituled, " An Act for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves," be and the same is hereby revived, and made perpetual.

Passed the House of Assembly this fifteenth day of March one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three.

*Simon Frazer,*  
Speaker.

*F. Collins,*  
Clerk of the Assembly.

Passed the Council, in the Council Chamber, this fifteenth day of March one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three.

*Griffin Curtis,*  
Clerk of the Council.

Assented to this fifteenth day of March one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, and in the thirty-third year of His Majesty's reign.

*James Bruce.*

Great  
Seal.

*Dominica.*—Duly published in the town of Roseau, this fifteenth day of March, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three.

*James Laing,*  
Provost Marshal.

(A true copy.)

*G. Salton,*

Acting Sec<sup>y</sup> and Reg<sup>y</sup>.

(3.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 22d June 1799.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

An Act for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves.

Whereas the different Acts of this Island, for the government and protection of Slaves are expired; and whereas it is highly expedient that a system of laws for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves, founded on principles of policy, justice, and humanity, should be enacted: We your Majesty's dutiful, loyal, and obedient subjects, the Governor, Council, and Assembly, of this your Majesty's Island of Dominica, do humbly pray your most Excellent Majesty, that it may be enacted and ordained ;

Preamble.

And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, That every Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of any Slave or Slaves, shall feed or cause to be fed all such Slave or Slaves as shall be under his, her, or their care, with a sufficient quantity of good and wholesome food, and shall give them good and sufficient cloathing, and shall provide dry and comfortable lodging for them; and in case of the sickness of any of the said Slave or Slaves, the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer; shall provide for the said Slave or Slaves proper medical assistance and advice; and the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, shall provide within the boundary of his, her, or their plantation or lot of land, comfortable lodging; wholesome food, and medical assistance for all and every old, infirm, and distempered Slave or Slaves; and if any Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of any Slave or Slaves, shall neglect to feed and clothe his, her, or their Slave or Slaves; or shall neglect,

Clause 1.  
Owners, Renters, Managers, &c. of Slaves, shall wholesomely feed, sufficiently clothe, comfortably lodge, and provide proper medical assistance in case of sickness, within

their Plantations or lots of lands for their said Slaves; neglect, in case of sickness, to provide for the said Slave or Slaves proper medical assistance and advice, and comfortable lodging; or shall neglect to provide comfortable lodging, wholesome food, and medical assistance for all and every old, infirm, and distempered Slave or Slaves, within the Boundary of his, her, or their plantation or lot of land, such Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one hundred pounds, at the discretion of three or more Magistrates, for a neglect of any of the regulations laid down by this clause; which sum shall be levied by warrant under their hands and seals, on the goods and chattels of the offender or offenders, and directed to any Constable or Constables of this Island, and paid into the public Treasury of this Island for the public uses thereof.

under the penalty of £.100. to be levied by distrests, and paid into the public Treasury.

Preamble. And whereas it is expedient, that the Slaves in this Island should be encouraged, as much as possible, in the cultivation of their grounds, for the better subsistence of themselves and families; be it and it is hereby further enacted and

Clause 2. Owners, Renters, &c. of Slaves, shall allot to each of them a portion of land for cultivation of food, and time for cultivating thereof, over and above those days prescribed; ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of such Slave or Slaves, shall have the option of feeding his, her, or their Slaves, by allowing them a sufficient quantity of good and wholesome food, or by allotting to each and every of them a sufficient portion of land for that purpose; and certain times for cultivating it, over and above the Sundays and holidays hereinafter prescribed; provided always, that the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, in case the said Slave or Slaves should not have received proper and sufficient food and nourishment, shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one hundred pounds, to be levied and appropriated in manner and form, as directed by the first clause of this Act.

under a penalty of £.100. to be levied and applied as before directed.

Preamble. And whereas a knowledge of the doctrines, and a due attention to the exercise of the duties of the Christian Religion, would tend to improve the morals, and to advance

Clause 3. Owners, Renters, &c. shall, every Sunday, convene their Slaves for divine worship; and exhort them to baptism, and cause their children to be baptized; further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That all Owners, Renters, Managers, or Overseers, or one of them, shall, on every Sunday, on their several estates and plantations, and at the most convenient time of the day, convene together the Slaves of the said estate or plantation, for the purpose of performing divine worship; and the said Owners, Renters, Managers, or Overseers, shall not fail to exhort all male and female Slaves who may be unbaptized, to receive the holy sacrament of baptism; and all the unbaptized children of Slaves shall, after the publication of this Act, receive the said sacrament of baptism; and on neglect of the performance of these duties, the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, shall be fined in any sum not less than ten pounds, nor more than twenty-five pounds, to be recovered and appropriated in manner and form as directed by the first clause of this Act.

under a penalty not less than £.10. nor more than £.25.

Clause 4. Owners, &c. shall exhort their Slaves, when of maturity, to Christian marriage; under £.5. penalty. And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That all Owners, Renters, Managers, or Overseers of all the Slaves who may be arrived at the years of maturity, and who may be desirous of entering into a connubial state, shall encourage and exhort such Slave or Slaves to receive the ceremony of marriage, as instituted under the forms of the Christian Religion; and in neglect of doing so, the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, shall be subject to a fine of five pounds, to be recovered and appropriated in manner and form as prescribed by the first clause of this Act.

Preamble. And whereas a relaxation from labour on certain days in the year, and an indulgence in innocent recreations and amusements, would tend to improve the health, and

Clause 5. Slaves, (House Servants, Stock Keepers, and Watchmen excepted) shall be add to the contentment of the Slaves; be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the Slaves in this Island, (House Servants, Stock-keepers, and Watchmen excepted) shall not be required to labour for their Masters and Owners on any Sunday throughout

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throughout the year, on Christmas-day, New Year's-day, Good Friday, and the fifteenth day of August; and in case any one of the said holidays should fall out on a Sunday, then the Wednesday following is to be allowed such Slave or Slaves in lieu of such Sunday.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave or Slaves on any Plantation, or in any house in the said Island, are hereby permitted, by and with the consent and approbation of the said Owners, Renters, Managers, or Overseers of the said Slaves on each and every estate and plantation in the said Island, and by and with a written permission of any two Magistrates in any of the towns of the said Island, to use any instrument of music for the purpose of dancing, or in the indulgence of any innocent amusement; provided the said dancing and amusements are not allowed to continue after the setting of the sun, if in the town of Roseau, or after eight o'clock in the evening, if on plantations; and in case of the non-observance of any of the said regulations, the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, of the said Slave or Slaves, or the Constable or Constables in the towns of this Island, shall be fined, (that is to say) all Owners, Renters, Managers, and Overseers, for neglect of any of the regulations contained in this and the foregoing clause, in a sum not exceeding twenty pounds; and every Constable or Constables shall be fined in a sum not under twenty shillings, nor above five pounds, for neglect of the regulations laid down by this clause, and not preventing and putting a stop to such dancing, after having received information thereof; the said fine or fines to be recovered, upon conviction before one or more Justices of the Peace, and appropriated in manner and form as directed by the first clause of this Act.

And, in order to secure, as far as possible, the good treatment of the Slaves, and to ascertain the cause of the decrease of the Slaves, if any such there may be; be it, and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That every Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of any Slave or Slaves, on every estate and plantation in this Island, or some one of them, shall, in the month of January in every year, deliver in on oath, before any Justice of the Peace for this Island, a certificate of the increase or decrease of the Slaves under his, her, or their direction, how many have been born, or how many have died, within twelve months previous thereto, and the cause of the death of such Slave or Slaves, to the best of his, her, or their knowledge and belief; which certificate shall be lodged within ten days after the date thereof in the Secretary's office of this Island, for the filing of which the Secretary shall be allowed the fee of nine pence currency for each certificate; and if any Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, shall fail to deliver in the said certificate on oath at the time appointed by this clause, he, she, or they shall be fined in the sum of fifty pounds current money, to be recovered and appropriated in manner prescribed by the first clause of this Act.

And whereas it is necessary to ascertain and fix a proper distinction in the gradations and local consequences of crimes committed by the Slaves in this Island, with punishments annexed and corresponding thereto; be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That all and every Slave or Slaves, who shall be convicted of the wilful murder, or who shall have been accessory thereto, of any white person, free person of colour, or Slave, or who shall be convicted of robbing any person, of whatever description or colour, on the high and public roads of this Island, or who shall have been accessory thereto, or who shall be convicted of deliberately breaking open any dwelling-house or store, and robbing therefrom, or who shall have been accessory thereto, or who shall be convicted of having set fire to any house, outhouse, store building, or cane-piece, or who shall have been accessory thereto, shall suffer death.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave or Slaves who shall be convicted of having struck a white person, or who shall be convicted of having struck a free person of colour, being his, her, or their Master or Mistress, or who shall be convicted of a theft or robbery to any amount above five pounds, or who shall have been accessory thereto, or who shall be convicted of

exempted from labour on Sunday, Christmas-day, New Year's-day, Good Friday, and August 15th.

Clause 6.  
Slaves may use instruments of music for the purpose of dancing; provided the said amusements be not used after sun-set in Roseau, nor after eight in the evening on plantations, with certain regulations, &c.

Preamble.  
Clause 7.  
Owners, Renters, &c. of Slaves, &c. to make a certificate and produce annually a list of births and deaths of his or their Negroes, to be lodged in the Clerk Register's office; under the penalty of £.50. to be appropriated as aforesaid.

Preamble.  
Clause 8.  
Slaves convicted of murder, robbery, burglary, or setting fire to houses, stores, or cane-pieces, or accessory thereto, shall suffer death.

Clause 9.  
Slaves convicted of striking their Master or Mistress, or of theft, high-



way robbery, or house-breaking, &c shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may seem meet, to the discretion of the Court. any attempt to rob on the high or public roads of this Colony, or who shall be convicted of an attempt to set fire to any house, outhouse, building, or cane piece, or who shall be convicted of breaking open any house, outhouse, or building, with an intention of robbing therefrom, or who shall have been accessory thereto, shall suffer death, or such other punishment by banishment or public whipping on the bare breech, as shall be inflicted upon him, her, or them, at the discretion of the Court instituted by the Act for the trial of such offenders; provided such public whipping do not exceed the number of thirty-nine lashes.

Clause 10.

Slaves assembling for mutinous or dangerous purposes, and refusing to disperse by the order of any white person;

the ringleader to suffer death, and the others such punishment as may seem meet, to the discretion of the Court.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave or Slaves who shall assemble at any time for mutinous and other dangerous purposes, and who shall refuse to disperse and go peaceably home to their different houses and plantations when ordered so to do by any white person whatever, and who shall be convicted thereof, the ringleader or principal offender shall suffer death, and the others, according to the gradation of their crimes, shall suffer death, or such other punishments by banishment or public flogging on the bare breech, provided such flogging do not exceed the number of thirty-nine lashes; all which punishments shall be at the discretion of the Court instituted by this law for the trial of such offenders.

Preamble.

And whereas it frequently happens that Slaves assume the art of witchcraft, or are what is commonly called Obeah or Doctor Men, and, under pretence of a gift of supernatural powers, do influence the minds of weak and credulous Slaves, and frequently stimulate them to acts of mutiny or rebellion against their Masters, Renters, Managers, and Overseers, and administer certain drugs or potions of a secret and generally of a poisonous nature, as well to Slaves as to free people of every description;

Clause 11.

Slaves practising the art of witchcraft, or pretending to supernatural powers, to be committed to the public gaol by their Owners, Renters, &c.

shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may seem meet, to the discretion of the Court.

be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any Owner, Renter, Manager, and Overseer of any Slave or Slaves, or any white person whatever, who shall discover any Slave or Slaves practising any of the above arts, and pretending to any supernatural powers, he the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, shall cause the said Slave or Slaves to be committed to the public gaol of this Island, and then and there to be dealt with agreeable to the twelfth and thirteenth clauses of this Act; and upon conviction of the said Slave or Slaves of the aforesaid crimes, he, she, or they shall suffer death, or such other punishment, at the discretion of the Court, by banishment and flogging on the bare breech, as to the said Court may seem meet; provided the said flogging do not exceed the number of thirty-nine lashes.

Preamble.

And whereas the right of trial by Jury, in all criminal cases, is consonant to the spirit of the British Constitution; be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That within ten days after any Slave or Slaves suspected of having committed any of the crimes mentioned in the eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh clauses of this Act shall have been committed to the public gaol of this Island, by the warrant of any Magistrate, the Provost Marshal, or his lawful Deputy, shall give notice to any five of the Justices of the Peace then in the town of Roseau, or in the neighbourhood of the said town, of the trial of such Slave or Slaves being to come on at any time not exceeding three days from the time of such notice, and shall also cause to be summoned any twelve of the neighbouring Freeholders, Leaseholders, Merchants and Traders, or respectable housekeepers in the town of Roseau, who are hereby required to attend, under the penalty of thirty-three shillings for each default, to be recovered by warrant of the Justices forming the said Court, directed to the Provost Marshal, or his lawful Deputy, who is hereby authorized and required to levy the same on the goods and chattels of the defaulter; and in case of not finding such goods and chattels, to take the body of such defaulter, and to confine him in the public gaol until he shall have paid his fine and costs; provided always, that it shall be in the power of the Court to excuse the payment of such fine or fines on a reasonable

Clause 12.

Within ten days after Slaves are committed for crimes specified in clauses 8, 9, 10, and 11, the Marshal to summon a Court and Jury. Jury to attend on being summoned, under the Penalty of 33s.

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reasonable cause shewn by such defaulter; and the Provost Marshal shall be entitled to a fee of forty-nine shillings and sixpence for giving notice to the Justices, summoning the Jury, and attending the Court with a proper crier.

Marshal's  
fee, 49 s. 6 d.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any three or more Justices being met shall constitute a Court of Record, and shall cause the Clerk of the Crown to attend, who shall make a record of all the proceedings against Slaves, in all cases mentioned in the four foregoing clauses, for attending which Court, and making such record, the Clerk of the Crown shall be entitled to a fee of four dollars; and the said Court so being met, may proceed to such trial; and any six of the above-mentioned Freeholders, Leaseholders, Merchants, and Traders, or respectable Housekeepers, being first duly sworn, shall constitute a jury, whose unanimous verdict shall determine the fact alleged against the Slave or Slaves to be tried, after having first heard the evidence produced for and against such Slave or Slaves, to all which they shall give such credit as they in their consciences think due; and that upon the jury finding such Slave or Slaves guilty of the crime of which he, she, or they stand accused, then shall the said Court pronounce sentence of death for all such crimes as are specified in the eighth clause of this Act, and sentence of death, or such other punishments for crimes as are specified in the ninth, tenth, and eleventh clauses of this Act, as to such Court shall seem meet; provided always, that such Court passing sentence for capital crimes or smaller offences, shall not in any case presume to prescribe modes of execution, or to inflict punishments unknown to the laws of England for similar crimes and offences (except in such cases as are by this law prescribed); and in case of the acquittal of the said Slave or Slaves, the fees shall be paid by the Colony

Clause 13.  
Three Justices shall constitute a Court.

Clerk of the Crown to attend.

The Court may adjudge death for crimes specified by clauses 8, 9, 10, and 11, or other punishments, as such Court shall seem meet.

Nothing contrary to the laws of England to be inflicted thereby.

And whereas a too frequent and troublesome attendance to try the inferior offences committed by the Slaves would be inconvenient to the interest of the Planter, Merchant, and others, and it may be necessary and politic to punish the inferior crimes and misdemeanors of Slaves on a summary conviction; be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That every Slave or Slaves who shall be convicted on evidence delivered before two or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said Island, of having committed thefts or robberies to any amount under five pounds, or who shall be convicted as aforesaid of attempting to strike, or of menacing or of grossly insulting a white person or persons, or of striking or of grossly insulting a free person or persons of colour, or who shall be convicted of having from carelessness and inattention set fire to any building or cane-piece, or who shall be convicted of quarrelling, fighting, rioting, or other offences and misdemeanors against the persons and property of the inhabitants of this Island, such Slave or Slaves shall be punished by public flogging on the bare breech, at the discretion of such Justices of the Peace, provided such flogging do not exceed the number of thirty-nine lashes.

Clause 14.  
Slaves convicted of theft, robbery, gross insults to white or free persons of colour, or setting fire to buildings, &c.

To be punished by public flogging on the breech, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That no Slave or Slaves within this Island, shall carry any fire-arms or any unlawful weapon, without written permission from the Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of such Slave or Slaves, nor shall any Slave or Slaves presume to fire any gun, great or small, on any pretence whatever, without leave of the Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer; and if it should so happen that any Slave or Slaves should be guilty of a breach of this clause, such Slave or Slaves, upon conviction before two or more Justices of the Peace, shall receive a flogging on the bare breech, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes in number.

Clause 15.  
Slaves shall not carry fire-arms or any unlawful weapons without written permission from Owners, &c. nor fire great or small guns without such leave.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That if any Slave or Slaves shall be detected in selling or disposing of any sugar or sugar canes, syrup or sling coffee, cotton, cocoa, rum, or molasses, the same, together with the said Slave or Slaves, shall and may be seized by any person or persons whatever, Freeman or Slave,

Clause 16.  
Slaves detected in selling or disposing of sugar or sugar canes, syrup, or sling coffee, cotton, cocoa, or molasses, the same, with such Slaves, may be seized by any Free-

man or Slave, and carried before a Justice to be committed to gaol.

Magistrates or Constables may seize canes for sale in markets, shops, &c. Sellers, if free persons, to be fined in 30s. recoverable by distress; if Slaves to be punished by public flogging.

Provided nothing shall extend to prevent Slaves, with their Manager's certificate from disposing of their own Stock.

and carried before any Justice of the Peace, who shall commit the said Slave or Slaves to the common gaol of this Island, and shall give notice thereof to the Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of the said Slave or Slaves; and on conviction of the said Slave or Slaves before two or more Justices, the said Slave or Slaves shall be punished, at the discretion of the Justices, with any number of lashes not exceeding thirty-nine; and it shall and may be lawful for any Magistrate or Constable to seize or cause to be seized any canes exposed to sale in the markets or shops, or elsewhere, in this Island; and if the parties do not give a satisfactory account how he, she, or they came by the said canes, if a white or free person or persons, he, she, or they shall be subject to a fine, not exceeding thirty shillings, at the discretion of two Magistrates, to be recovered by warrant of distress; and if a Slave or Slaves, to be publicly whipped, at the discretion of two Magistrates, such whipping not to exceed thirty-nine lashes; provided nevertheless, that nothing contained in this clause shall be understood to prevent the Slave or Slaves of this Island from disposing of the productions of their gardens and stock, under a written permit signed by the Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of the said Slave or Slaves.

Preamble.

Clause 17.  
Slaves refusing to give evidence when called upon by Magistrates, to be punished by public flogging.

And, in order that the intentions of justice in the discovery of truth should not be frustrated by the cunning or obstinacy of Slaves; be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any Slave or Slaves who shall refuse or evade to give evidence when called upon by a Magistrate or Magistrates, either in or out of any Court of Record in this Island for that purpose, such Slave or Slaves, for such contempt, shall suffer a punishment at the discretion of two or more Magistrates, by public flogging on the bare breech, provided such flogging does not exceed the number of thirty-nine lashes.

Preamble.

Clause 18.  
Slaves disobeying orders of their Owners, Renters, &c. or who shall rob or plunder others property, be guilty of drunkenness, quarrelling, fighting, absence from labour, &c. without a pass, &c. punishable at their Owners, Renters, or Managers discretion by flogging on the breech, not exceeding 39 lashes.

Owners inflicting any punishment not prescribed by this Act, are liable to a penalty of £.20.

Quarrels among Slaves to be settled by their Owners, &c. in an amicable manner.

And whereas the welfare and safety of the inhabitants of this Colony depends upon the honesty, obedience, and industry of the Slaves; and whereas the inferior crimes of Slaves incompatible with the interest of the Planter, and the internal management and discipline of a plantation, cannot always be conveniently brought before the cognizance of the Magistrates; be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That every Slave or Slaves who shall disobey the order of his, her, or their Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, or who shall rob or plunder the property of another, or who shall be guilty of drunkenness, quarrelling, fighting, neglect of duty, absence from labour, or absence from his, her, or their plantation, at any time without a written pass signed by the Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of the said Slave or Slaves, specifying the day and days which is or are intended to be given to the said Slave or Slaves, or any other misdemeanor whatever, such Slave or Slaves shall be punished at the discretion of his, her, or their Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, by confinement or flogging on the bare breech, provided the number of lashes does not exceed thirty-nine; and the Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer who shall inflict any punishment not prescribed by this Act, shall be subject to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds current money of this Island, to be recovered by bill, plaint, or information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in this Island; and in case any petty offences, quarrels, and differences, should arise between the Slave or Slaves of different plantations if the Owners, Renters, Managers, or Overseers be not able to settle the same in an amicable manner, then and in such case the Slave or Slaves shall be carried before the nearest Magistrate, who shall settle and adjust the same as to the said Magistrate may appear most agreeable to justice; and in case the same cannot be decided by the authority of the said Magistrate, then the offending Slave or Slaves shall be committed by a Magistrate to the common gaol, to be tried agreeably to the twelfth and thirteenth or fourteenth clause of this Act.

And

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And whereas it is just and proper that the Slaves should be protected in their persons from the violence and inhumanity of such white persons and free persons of colour, who may have no lawful authority over them, or who may exert such authority in an unjustifiable or cruel manner; be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That if any white person or persons, free person or persons of colour whatever, shall be convicted of the wilful murder of any Slave or Slaves, or shall be accessory thereto, such white person or persons, or free person or persons of colour, shall suffer death.

Preamble.

Clause 19.  
White or free persons of colour convicted of the wilful murder of Slaves shall suffer death.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any white person or persons, free person or persons of colour, who shall be convicted of maiming, defacing, or mutilating or cruelly torturing, or causing to maim, deface, mutilate, or cruelly torture any Slave, shall be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three months, or fined in any sum not exceeding one hundred pounds current money of this Island, and to continue in confinement until the said fine shall be paid; which fine shall be appropriated in manner directed by the first clause of this Act.

Clause 20.

Free persons or persons of colour convicted of maiming or cruelly torturing Slaves, shall be imprisoned three months, or fined a sum not exceeding £. 100 currency.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any white person or persons, free person or persons of colour, who shall be guilty of striking or severely beating any Slave or Slaves, the property of another, or of depriving any such Slave or Slaves of any property in his, her, or their possession, he, she, or they, on being convicted of such offence or offences before any three or more Justices of the Peace, shall be fined in any sum not exceeding thirty pounds, besides making full restitution of any property; which fine shall be recovered by warrant under the hands and seals of the said three or more Justices of the Peace, directed to the Provost Marshal or his lawful Deputy, who is hereby authorized and required to levy the same on the goods and chattels of such offender or offenders; and in case of not finding any such goods or chattels, then to take such offender or offenders into custody, and confine him, her, or them in the common gaol, until he, she, or they shall have paid his fine and fees; provided always, that this clause shall not be understood to extend to any person or persons taking goods from a Negro on suspicion or knowledge of such goods being stolen, or the depriving the said Slave or Slaves of any dangerous fire-arms, or torch, or improper weapon.

Clause 21.

White or free persons guilty of striking or severely beating Slaves, the property of others, or depriving such of their property, shall, on conviction, be fined in a sum not exceeding £. 30.

And, in order to protect the domestic and connubial happiness of Slaves be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That any white person or free person of colour whatever, who shall take away and cohabit with the wife or wives of any Slave or Slaves in this Island, shall, on conviction thereof before any three or more Magistrates, be subject to a fine not exceeding the sum of fifty pounds, to be recovered and appropriated in manner and form as is directed by the first clause of this Act.

Provided nothing extends to the depriving them of stolen goods, fire-arms, torches, or improper weapons.

Preamble.

Clause 22.

White or free persons, &c. taking or cohabiting with the wives of Slaves, shall, on conviction, be fined in a sum not exceeding £. 50.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That if any Slave or Slaves shall be convicted and executed by virtue of this Act, the Owner of such Slave or Slaves shall be paid out of the public Treasury of this Island the value of such Slave or Slaves, which value shall be settled by the oaths of two credible white persons, being freeholders or leaseholders, that knew the Slave or Slaves so executed, which oath shall be sworn before some Justice of the Peace of this Island, and such oath and value to be certified by the said Justice of the Peace under his hand and seal; provided the value to be paid does not exceed sixty pounds current money of this Island.

Clause 23.

The value of Slaves convicted and executed by virtue of this Act, to be paid to their Owners out of the public Treasury, on the oaths of two Freeholders or Leaseholders, provided such value does not exceed £. 60 currency.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That in case any Slave or Slaves shall wilfully kill another Slave or

Clause 24.

Slaves convicted of killing other Slaves, the value of

such loss to be paid out of the public Treasury; one moiety thereof to the Owners of the convicts, and the other to the Owners of the Slaves killed.

Value not to exceed £. 60 currency.

or Slaves, and be thereof convicted, the value of the Slave or Slaves so convicted shall be paid out of the public Treasury of this Island, one moiety to the Owner or Owners, Renter or Renters, of the Slave or Slaves convicted, and the other moiety to the Owner or Owners, Renter or Renters of the Slave or Slaves killed, so as the value of any one Slave does not exceed sixty pounds current money; the value to be ascertained by the two Magistrates who shall try such offending Slave or Slaves.

Clause 25.  
White or free persons of colour, convicted of the murder of Slaves, the Owners of such Slaves shall be paid their value from the effects of the murderer.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That if any white person or free person of colour, shall be convicted of the murder of any Slave or Slaves, the Master or Owner of the Slave so murdered shall receive the full value thereof from the effects of the said white person, or free person of colour, which value shall be immediately ascertained on the oath of competent persons, who may have known the Slave or Slaves so murdered, before the said Court, whereupon a judgment shall be entered against the offender on such conviction, for the appraised value of the said Slave or Slaves; and the said Court are to award execution on such judgment, to be levied by the Provost Marshal or his Deputy, in the same manner as executions issued out of the Court of Common Pleas are levied; and in case the goods and chattels, lands and tenements, of the said white person, or person of colour, are not equal to the amount of sixty pounds current money for each Slave so murdered, then and in such case the said Owner or Owners of the said Slave or Slaves so

Deficiency of effects to be made good by the Public Treasury.

murdered shall be entitled to receive from the public Treasury as much as is necessary to make up any deficiency in the said sum of sixty pounds; or if the said white person, or free person of colour, has no effects of any kind whatever, then the Owner or Owners of the said Slave or Slaves shall be entitled to receive from the public Treasury, for each Slave so murdered, a sum not exceeding sixty pounds current money of this Island.

If no effects, the Sum of £. 60 to be allowed out of the public Treasury.

Clause 26.  
The Owners of Slaves sentenced to banishment by virtue of this Act, to receive a recompence from the Treasury.

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That if any Slave or Slaves shall be sentenced to banishment by virtue of this Act, the Owner or Owners of the said Slave or Slaves shall be entitled to receive, as a recompence for the said Slave or Slaves, from the public Treasury of this Island, any sum not exceeding sixty pounds current money for each of the said Slave or Slaves so banished, which sum shall be ascertained by two competent judges, and the sum which may arise from the public sale of the said Slave or Slaves sold by the Provost Marshal, or his lawful Deputy, under sentence of banishment, after deducting his fees, shall be paid into the public Treasury of this Island; and in case the amount of the sale of the said Slave or Slaves may be above sixty pounds current money, then the Provost Marshal shall return the overplus, after deducting all legal fees, to the Owner or Renter of the said Slave or Slaves.

Preamble.

And whereas the Slaves in this Island, on the different days allotted them for holidays, by virtue of this Act, may become riotous and disorderly, from the absence of the Managers or Overseers of the plantations and estates in this Island, and to prevent

Clause 27.

Overseers of Plantations absenting themselves on holidays herein mentioned, (Divine Service or military duty excepted,) without leave of their Employers, to forfeit £5. to be recovered by information on oath, and appropriated as prescribed by clause 1.

the mischiefs arising therefrom; be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That if any Overseer in this Island shall absent himself from the estate under his care and management on any of the particular holidays hereinbefore mentioned, or on any Sunday (except during the time of Divine Service, or his being on military duty) without leave of his Employer, every such Overseer so offending shall for every offence forfeit the sum of five pounds, to be recovered by information upon oath before any Justice of the Peace, in a summary way, in the parish where such offence shall happen, to be recovered and appropriated in manner and form prescribed by the first clause of this Act; any law, custom, or usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Clause 28.

This Act to continue in force for three Years, and thirty days after meeting of

And be it and it is hereby further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That this Act shall continue and be in force for three years from

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from the publication hereof, and from thence till thirty days after the then next meeting of the Council and Assembly of this Island.

the Council  
and Assem-  
bly.

Passed the House of Assembly, third day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

*John Gillon,*  
Speaker, pro temp.

*Thomas Beech, Junior,*  
Clerk of the Assembly.

Passed the Council, in the Council Chamber, this seventeenth day of December, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

*Griffin Curtis,*  
Clerk of the Council.

Assented to this twenty-third day of December one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, and in the twenty-ninth year of His Majesty's reign.

*J. Orde.*

L. S.

*Dominica.*—Duly published in the town of Roseau, this twenty-third day of December one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

*W. Pagan,*  
D. P. M.

(Copy.) N° 8.—Copy of a Letter from Mr. President Matson to his Grace  
the Duke of Portland.  
No. 10. (Four Enclosures.)

Dominica, 20th July 1799.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace, Reports of the respective Committees of the Council and Assembly, relative to the Slaves in this Island, with messages from the Board and House, requesting me to transmit them to your Grace.

I have the honour to be, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

*J. Matson.*

(1.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 20th July 1799.

(Copy.) The Speaker and House of Assembly to his Honour the  
Commander in Chief.

The Committee appointed by this House to take into consideration the Act of this Island, intituled, "An Act for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves," and to examine how far that Law goes to embrace the various objects recommended by the House of Commons, for the amelioration of the state of the Slaves, &c. having made their Report thereon, which report has been confirmed by the House, a copy whereof is now sent to your Honour, together with the said Act intituled as above; and also "An Act to revive and make perpetual an Act of this Island," intituled, "An Act for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves;" and requests that your Honour will be pleased to transmit the same to his Grace the Duke of Portland, for the information of His Majesty's Ministers.

*Thomas Beech,*  
Speaker, pro temp.

House of Assembly,  
18th July 1799.

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Dominica.

(2.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 20th July 1799.

(Copy.)

His Honour the President and Council to his Honour the  
Commander in Chief.

The Committee of this Board appointed to consider of the matters contained in your Honour's Message of the 11th of June last, have made their report to the Board, which, after due consideration, they have approved of. The Board now send a Copy thereof herewith to your Honour, and request you will be pleased to transmit the same to his Grace the Duke of Portland, His Majesty's principal Secretary of State.

Council Chamber,  
19th July 1799.

*Geo. Metcalfe,*  
Presid<sup>t</sup> of the Council.

(3.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 20th July 1799.

(Copy.)

DOMINICA.

Report of the Committee of His Majesty's  
Council.

Your Committee, in obedience to your order, having proceeded to the consideration of his Honour the Commander in Chief's Message to the Board and House of Assembly, of the 11th day of June last, and of the papers and communication which accompanied it, beg leave to premise, that from the peculiar and local situation of this Island in the vicinity of the French islands of Guadaloupe and Marie Galante, and our having still among us many who secretly cherish the baneful notions of universal emancipation, liberty and equality, diffeminated by the French revolutionists, they consider that a general and public discussion of the subject referred to them, would, at this moment, be highly dangerous, and possibly attended with very fatal consequences. In thus expressing their fears, your Committee have in mind the dangers to which the Colony was exposed by the insurrection and rebellion which broke out in it in the beginning of the Year 1790, soon after the situation of the Slaves had become the object of the attention and public discussion of the Legislature, which discussion being grossly mistated and misrepresented by evil and wicked persons, in a very considerable degree contributed to that unfortunate event; at the same time your Committee are happy to have it in their power to mark, that the Legislature of this Island have ever been attentive to the situation of the Slaves, and to provide for their protection and comfort, and that the measures it adopted for that purpose many years ago, in a great degree preclude the necessity of any Legislative regulations with respect to them at present, except as hereinafter noticed. So long ago as the year 1788, an Act passed the Legislature for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves. This Act was at first of a limited duration, but being found, by the experience of its effects, to be a very salutary Law, it was made perpetual by another Act which passed in the year 1793.

By this Act it is ordained, that Slaves shall be provided by their Masters with sufficient good and wholesome food, with cloathing, lodging, and medical aid and attendance when sick. It also provides for their being allowed to attend divine worship on Sundays, for their being exhorted to receive baptism, and for their encouragement to matrimony. It allows them four holidays in the year, besides Sundays, when they are not compellable to do any kind of work. When accused of certain crimes they are allowed a trial by jury of free men, and particular provisions are also made for the protection of their persons, of their property, and of their wives. This Act your Committee think unnecessary to state more particularly; it is on record, and they presume, in possession of His Majesty's Ministers. With regard to the feeding of the Slaves, no Island in the West Indies has superior advantages

advantages, by its affording abundance of lands adapted solely for the cultivation of ground provisions. Not above one-eighth part of the Island is under cultivation, and from its mountainous and broken surface, not more than one-third is fit for the cultivation of exportable produce. Hence it has arisen, that almost every estate contains a considerable portion of land fit only for provision grounds. On some estates a sufficient quantity of this land is allotted to the Slaves; on others, the Slaves may have any quantity they are able to cultivate. On many estates, particularly those of coffee, one day in every week is allowed them for the purpose; on others, one day in every fortnight, and generally in both cases, a proportionable allowance of salt provisions is given them. With this allowance, and the provisions from their grounds, they provide themselves with necessaries of all kinds. Here it may be observed, that the Slaves on all estates prefer one day in every week, besides their Sundays, to cultivate their grounds and provide for themselves, to any allowance of provisions that they can consume.

Slaves thus situated, which is very general in this Island, appear on Sundays and holidays contented, clean, and well clothed. The industrious generally purchase hogs, goats, and fowls, from the produce of their gardens, and there are frequent instances of their purchasing their own freedoms, and of several of them becoming themselves Proprietors of Plantations. These observations apply only to the industrious Slaves. Those who are too young, or of too indolent a disposition to be entrusted with feeding themselves (and unfortunately there are too many of the latter description) it has become necessary to oblige to cultivate provision grounds on the day given to the others, under the inspection of an Overseer and Driver.

These lands allotted for provisions produce abundant quantities of yams, plantains, bananas, cassada or manioc, eddoes, potatoes, ocoracs, Indian corn, cale, pigeon pease, and several species of beans, and pine apples; and the higher grounds produce many kinds of European garden stuff, such as cabbages, carrots, turnips, beet root, lettuce, asparagus, artichoke, radish, cucumber, cellery, and herbs of all sorts, besides tropical fruits. All these articles in their season are brought to the nearest weekly markets by the Slaves, who there supply themselves with whatever they may want during the ensuing week. In fact, your Committee can with truth aver, that in no country can the labouring classes be better fed, clothed, and lodged, than the Slaves of this Island are, if they are at all disposed to be industrious; and where they are otherwise; as much attention is paid to their feeding, cloathing, and lodging, as is consistent with making a due distinction between the industrious and idle servant. The interest of their Masters will always conduce to this line of conduct, were justice and humanity not even attended to, which your Committee think is far from being the case. The Magistrates in the different parishes are the legal and authorized guardians of the people, Slaves as well as free.—They are empowered to hear and determine complaints of a lesser nature; those of a greater degree they have power to examine, and to commit or bind over the offenders to answer for them at the Court of Grand Sessions of the Peace, where parties and witnesses are compellable to attend to prosecute, and give evidence on indictments preferred by the public prosecutor, without expence to the injured party.

Many instances have occurred where the Laws for the protection of Slaves have been transgressed, and where the offenders, as well Owners as strangers, have been prosecuted and punished: At the same time your Committee are of opinion, it would be advisable, whenever a diseased, old, or decrepid Slave, incapable of work, is observed loitering or begging in the streets or roads, and found not to be provided with sufficient food, cloathing, and lodging by the Owner, such Owner shall be obliged, on conviction, to pay into the Treasury such a sum of money as shall be deemed necessary and equivalent to an annuity on the life of such Slave, to be paid him weekly out of the Treasury; that thereafter the Owner shall not have any claim or property in such Slave, who, as to the Owner, shall be taken to be free.

As to the mortality among the Slaves, the Committee are of opinion, that it is not greater in this Island than among the inhabitants of other countries, in proportion to their numbers, except among such as are recently imported from Africa. In this Island the Creoles and the Slaves, who have been a sufficient time on the Island to be accustomed



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accustomed to its climate, are in general very healthy; new imported Negroes suffer on their first arrival from their exposure to the weather after their confinement during a long sea voyage on ship-board; they also suffer from change of climate, food, and especially water, and from the small pox, and this mortality is chiefly prevalent among those who are imported of an age to have imbibed the numerous bad habits, prejudices, and vices of their country.—To remedy this, the Committee are of opinion, that a Law to prohibit the importation of Slaves above the age of 25 years, would be attended with very salutary effects.

A considerable number of Slaves must necessarily be wanted for some years to come, as very few if any of the estates on the Island, have been hitherto fully stocked; many are in a middle state of cultivation, and the greater part are infant settlements, which, from the narrow circumstances and slender means of the Settlers, are stocked but slowly; plantations of the latter descriptions must be abandoned, and the proprietors ruined, without an additional number of Slaves for their improvement and cultivation. This improvement hath hitherto been much retarded, first by the high prices the Proprietors originally paid to Government for the purchase of their lands, and afterwards by the many misfortunes the inhabitants have experienced during the late and present wars. However, your Committee are of opinion, that from the healthiness of this Island, and the many resources it possesses for maintaining the inhabitants, the cultivation of the estates may be carried on, after a certain time, with a small annual supply of Slaves, and perhaps eventually without requiring any importation whatever; and that it is probable the number of Slaves would gradually increase by a regular and assiduous attention to the rearing of infant children.

Your Committee, therefore, with deference submit, that in every respect the law of 1788 is fully adequate to answer all purposes for the encouragement, protection, and comfort of the Slaves on this Island, and that no further law is necessary, except in the instances above alluded to, which they think may with propriety be adopted without much danger from the discussion of them.

(A true copy.)

Council Chamber, 19th July 1799.

*Gilbert Salton,*  
Act. Clk. of the Committee.

(4.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 20th July 1779.

(Copy.) DOMINICA.

Report of the Committee to take into consideration an Act of this Island, intituled, "An Act for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves," and to examine how far that Law goes to embrace the various objects recommended by the House of Commons, for the amelioration of the state of the Slaves.

The Committee have proceeded, with all possible diligence, to take into consideration the Law of this Island; intituled, "An Act for the encouragement, protection, and better Government of Slaves," and to examine how far that Law goes to embrace the various objects recommended by the House of Commons, for the amelioration of the state of the Slaves. They have very carefully entered upon the important task committed to them, as will be seen by the comparative view in which they have placed the measures recommended, with the provisions made by the Law of this Colony.

"In order," says the first article of the inclosure in the Duke of Portland's letter, "to obtain the fullest information with respect to the present situation of the Negroes, The Legislature of the Island of Dominica, so long ago as the year 1788, passed an Act (which was afterwards made perpetual) intituled, "An Act for the encouragement, protection, and better government of Slaves;" and

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“groes, and at the same time to  
 “decide with propriety and effect  
 “on the future measures to be taken,  
 “it will be essential to review and  
 “report the proceedings of the Le-  
 “gislature of Dominica on this sub-  
 “ject during the last ten years; to  
 “state the causes which have retard-  
 “ed the increase of the Slaves; the  
 “measures which have been taken;  
 “and those that, in the opinion of  
 “the Council and Assembly re-  
 “spectively, may be taken with a  
 “prospect of success, for the pur-  
 “pose of obviating those causes.”

With respect to the observation  
 stated in article 2d, “As the dissolute  
 manners of the Negroes have been  
 given in evidence as a principal  
 cause of their deficient population,  
 it would be essential to ascertain,  
 whether the Legislature of the Island  
 cannot hold out some encourage-  
 ment to marriage, which may tend  
 to counteract that disposition which  
 leads the young women to prosti-  
 tution?” &c.

and in the year 1795 they passed an Act, in-  
 titled, “An Act for taking the census of  
 “the inhabitants of the Island and of their  
 “Slaves,” which Act appointed Commis-  
 sioners to ascertain the population of the Co-  
 lony. The first return of these Commissioners  
 has been given into the proper officer; but as  
 no second return has yet been made, the in-  
 crease is not properly ascertained.

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Clause 4th of the Law committed to the  
 consideration of the Committee, ordains,  
 “That all Owners, Renters, Managers, or  
 Overseers, of all the Slaves who shall have  
 arrived at maturity, and who may be desirous  
 to enter into the connubial state, shall encourage,  
 and exhort such Slave or Slaves to receive the  
 ceremony of marriage, as instituted under the  
 forms of the Christian Religion; and in neg-  
 lect of doing so, the said Owner, Renter,  
 Manager, or Overseer, shall be subject to a  
 fine.”

It is however worthy of remark, that from the unrestrained promiscuous inter-  
 course between the sexes, to which the Negroes have been accustomed in their own  
 country, they entertain a rooted repugnance to the ceremony of matrimony, or  
 rather to the restraint which the institution enjoins; and that no inducements (a very  
 few instances excepted) can be held out to them, which can prevail on them to  
 engage therein.

In the latter part of article 3.  
 it is observed, “Whether it may  
 not be advantageous to hold out re-  
 wards and encouragements to such  
 Midwives as shall have been particu-  
 larly successful in bringing children  
 into the world, and in treating them,  
 and directing the treatment of them,  
 for the first fortnight after their birth?  
 Should not pregnant women be ex-  
 empted from field labour during a  
 certain period, say the last six weeks  
 or two months of their pregnancy;  
 and from all labour, except taking  
 care of their children, for the same  
 time after their delivery. At the  
 time of delivery the mother can only  
 take care of the child, and requires  
 the assistance of the father to take  
 care of herself?”

The Committee deem it but justice to the Planters to adduce, as a general practice,  
 that a reasonable time before delivery is allowed; but, from the strong constitution of  
 119. the

**Dominica.** the African and even Creole Black Women, and the climate being so much more favourable for childbirth than that of Europe, the length of time recommended in this article is unnecessary. Most plantations have one or more expert Midwives; and where there are none, they employ those on a neighbouring estate, for which service a sum, seldom less than a guinea, is given; and in difficult births, or dangerous symptoms, a person of the faculty is sent for. Wine, cordials, and proper nourishment is afforded, and this practice is so universal, that the Committee cannot call to their memory, in any of the quarters in which they are resident, a single instance of a Planter who can be charged with inattention or neglect in procuring and affording these comforts to their breeding women. This will set aside the necessity of the father having a period of labour remitted him, to apply himself to attend the lying-in woman. Had she, like the wife of the European labourer, no other dependance than what the *husband* (which appellation they adopt) could afford her, her state would, indeed, be lamentable! The Negroes contemplate in so subordinate a degree the female part of their race, that on them is laid the task of the greatest labour. The husband (except in very few instances) pays little attention to their ease or convenience, and would in general devote the time allowed him to idleness or vicious pursuits.

The following extracts from the Law committed to the consideration of the Committee, will shew how far the Legislature carried their views to the ease and comfort of the Slaves, both in sickness and health:

Clause 1st. "Every Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer shall feed or cause to be fed all such Slave or Slaves as shall be under his, her, or their care, with a sufficient quantity of good and wholesome food; and shall give them good and sufficient cloathing, and shall provide dry and comfortable lodging for them; and in case of the sickness of any of the said Slave or Slaves, the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, shall provide for the said Slave or Slaves proper medical assistance and advice, and the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer shall provide within the boundary of his, her, or their plantation or lot of land, comfortable lodging, wholesome food, and medical assistance for all and every old, infirm, and distempered Slave or Slaves; and if any Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of any Slave or Slaves, shall neglect to feed and clothe his, her, or their Slave or Slaves, or shall neglect in case of sickness, to provide for the said Slave or Slaves proper medical assistance and advice, and comfortable lodging, or shall neglect to provide comfortable lodging, wholesome food, and medical assistance for all and every old, infirm, and distempered Slave or Slaves, within the boundary of his, her, or their plantation or lot of land, such Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one hundred pounds. at the discretion of three or more Magistrates, for neglect of any of the regulations laid down by this clause."

The preamble to clause 2d, declares, "It is expedient that the Slaves of this Island should

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should be encouraged as much as possible in the cultivation of their grounds, for the better subsistence of themselves and families." Dominica.

Wherefore, it is by the 2d Clause ordained, "That the Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer of such Slave or Slaves, shall have the option of feeding his, her, or their Slave or Slaves, by allowing them a sufficient quantity of food, or by allotting to each and every of them a sufficient portion of land for that purpose, and certain times for cultivating it, over and above the Sundays and holidays hereinafter prescribed; provided always, that the said Owner, Renter, Manager, or Overseer, in case the said Slave or Slaves should not have received sufficient food and nourishment, shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one hundred Pounds, &c."

The Committee here deem it incumbent on them to remark, that in the article of provisions, the Negroes of this Colony have a very considerable advantage, by the means which the country affords to the industrious of them, of procuring in abundance all manner of ground provisions. The inequality of the surface almost always furnishing towards the extremities of the plantations, particularly those parts extending towards the interior of the country, large portions of ground, which, although broken and detached, are admirably calculated for and are generally allotted to Negro grounds or gardens, and which they are allowed to cultivate in quantities fully adequate to their utmost wants, and the greatest exertions of their industry; most estates affording a much larger quantity of land of this description than the Slaves can possibly cultivate. These spots not only produce the roots, plants, and fruits immediately requisite for the support of the Slave and his family, as the yam tannier, potatoe, corn, pulse, the plantain tree, cassava, from which is manufactured what is in the Colonies called farine, which is used as a substitute for bread, as well by the Whites as the coloured people and Blacks, and which is an article so saleable, as to form one of our principal staple productions, with the several kinds of tropical fruits, but the various productions of the European kitchen garden, from the sale of which in the market on Sundays, the industrious Slave may and frequently does derive a source of wealth, at least of comfort, ease, and convenience. This some employ in dress, feasting, and hilarity, and display in ostentatious abundance on their holidays and festivals; whilst others, more prudent, lay it out in increasing their live stock, and some even thence derive their freedom; become in course of time (and there are several instances of some who have attained thereto in a very short period) themselves Proprietors of land and Slaves, and acquire extensive fortunes. It were to be wished, for the sake of humanity, that people of this description entertained a more benevolent feeling for the class from whence they so recently emerged: but experience proves the reverse; they in general manifesting towards their own colour a disposition the most relentless and severe.

By the 12th clause of the Act, they have the privilege of trial by Jury for capital crimes; and punishment for lesser offences, when inflicted at the discretion of the Owner, is by the 18th Clause of the same Act, restricted to thirty-nine lashes; any infringement of which number, or the infliction of any other punishment than what is prescribed by the Law, is punishable on the offender by a severe fine.

By the 19th Clause it is enacted, "That any white person, or free person of colour, who shall be

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be convicted of the wilful murder of a Slave, shall suffer death.

By the 20th clause is inflicted a punishment of three months imprisonment, and a fine of one hundred pounds on any white person, or free person of colour, who shall be convicted of maiming or cruelly treating a Slave.—And,

By Clause 21st, any white person, or free person of colour, guilty of striking or severely beating Slaves the property of others, or of depriving them of their property, on conviction, are liable to a fine of thirty pounds.

The Committee are therefore of opinion, That every object recommended has been, as far as the circumstances of the Colony render them practicable, fully answered, and are further persuaded that they should be deficient in the duty they owe to the House, which has committed to them the present important enquiry, as well as in what they owe to their constituents, were they to quit it without suggesting the danger which might result from the discussion of the subject. The peculiar situation of this Colony with respect to Guadaloupe, so immediately in its vicinity; the machinations of mischievous emissaries, to which it is so singularly liable, and from which the most awful consequences have more than once nearly resulted; and (the circumstance must be recent in the memory of many Members of the House) from the misconception or perverted interpretation to which the proceedings of the Legislature may be liable in the course of such a discussion, and to which they actually were perverted during the time they were occupied in framing and deliberating upon the present Law, on which was grounded a plea for an alarming insurrection, headed by the rebel Paulinaire, who held out to his adherents that the Legislature of this Colony wished to withhold from them encouragement recommended by government, and whose party was at one time so formidable as to excite the most alarming apprehension of the total destruction of the Colony. These circumstances, added to the present orderly, happy, and contented situation of the Slaves, and the salutary effects of which the Law for that purpose provided has been productive, render, in the opinion of the Committee, any other regulations, alterations, or further provisions unnecessary, and induce them to declare, that the Legislature of this Island has anticipated the benevolent views of the British Parliament, for the amelioration of the state of the Slaves, by the Act which the House has submitted to their consideration.

I do certify the foregoing to be a true Copy of the Report made by the Committee, and confirmed by the House.

House of Assembly,  
18th July 1799.

(Signed) *Tho' Beech,*  
Speaker.

A true copy taken from the Minutes this 23d July 1799.

(Signed) *V. Collins.*  
Clerk of the Assembly.

(No. 9.)—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Mr. President Matson; dated Whitehall, the 26th of August 1799.

FROM what is stated in your Letters (N<sup>o</sup> 3, and 7) and their enclosures, relative to the steps taken by the Council and Assembly, in consequence of the Resolution of the House of Commons, of April 1797, and the communications which I thought it my duty to make in furtherance of the important object proposed by that Resolution, I trust that such further provisions will be made by the Colonial Legislature, as may most speedily and effectually lead to the attainment of that object by increas-  
ing

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ing the population of the Negroes, and thereby gradually diminishing, and ultimately rendering the further importation of them unnecessary; and that I shall be enabled to lay such provisions before Parliament at the commencement or very early in the ensuing Session. The Act "for the Encouragement, Protection, and better Government of Slaves," revived and made perpetual in 1793, contains several salutary provisions for promoting the religion and welfare of the Negroes, which I hope will be followed up by such others as the suggestions and documents I have transmitted, and the consideration given to them, and to the subject at large, by the Committee which has been appointed, shall point out as most proper and effectual.

I sincerely lament (whatever may have been the cause) that so much time should have been lost in attending to this important question; but after perusing the observations of the Assembly, it is impossible for me to admit that that Body has been called upon prematurely, or that it has been precipitately urged to give its attention to a matter of such serious import, considering the very great delay which has taken place in its proceedings in this respect. It is evident from the statement contained in the answer of the Assembly, which is now before me, that this subject was fully and completely before the Legislature so long ago as the 17th of July 1797; and that it came recommended to their most early attention not only by its own importance, but by the very respectable authority with which it originated. Besides, referring you therefore to my circular letter of the 6th of May 1797, transmitting and recommending, by His Majesty's directions, the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April 1797, to the particular attention and consideration of the Legislature, I must call to your recollection your answer to it of the 10th July of the same year; in which you mention, "that the said Resolution had been communicated to the Council and Assembly;" and add "that you will not fail to transmit to me, from time to time, accounts of the proceedings of the Legislature of Dominica, in consequence of the above communication:" It is evident, on referring to the same statement, that from the 17th of July 1797, much time elapsed without any steps being taken on this question, although the matter itself was regularly in the possession of the Assembly, and was therefore capable of being proceeded upon by the appointment of a Committee, or in any other way most likely to accomplish the object in view.

(N<sup>o</sup> 10.)—Extracts from the Minutes of the House of Assembly of Dominica, from the 6th of September 1799 to the 8th of October following.

His Honour the Speaker laid before the House the following Letter from the Commander in Chief; with an Address from the House of Commons to His Majesty; viz. 8th Oct. 1799.

Sir,

HIS Grace the Duke of Portland having transmitted to me, by the King's command, the copy of an Address of the House of Commons to His Majesty, with a view to ascertain the number of Negroes in the West India islands, and having signified to me His Majesty's special commands, that I do, with all possible dispatch, cause to be prepared in and for this Island such an account as is specified, in conformity to the terms of the said Address, and that I do transmit the same to his Grace without loss of time, in order that it may be laid before the House at the opening of the next Session; I lose no time in sending to you a copy of the Address, earnestly requesting that you will immediately lay it before the House of Assembly, and that you will recommend such measures to be taken as may produce the necessary information from this Island, which I shall be happy to be enabled to transmit to His Majesty's Secretary of State with all convenient dispatch.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. Matson.

The Honourable *Thomas Beech*,  
Speaker of the House of Assembly, Dominica.

Dominica.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*“ Jovis, Undecimo die Julii 1799.*

“ Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, requesting  
 “ that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions to the Governors  
 “ of His Majesty’s Islands and Plantations in the West Indies, to transmit an Account,  
 “ specifying, as far as the same can be made up, the total number of Negroes now  
 “ in each of such Islands and Plantations respectively, and the total number of births  
 “ and deaths (on an average of the last three years); distinguishing what proportion  
 “ of those that died were born within such Island or Plantation, or had been im-  
 “ ported more than three years before; and what number of those that died had  
 “ been imported within three years of the time of their death; together with docu-  
 “ ments on which such accounts shall be founded, in order that the same may be  
 “ laid before this House early in the next Session of Parliament.”

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Majesty by such Members of this House as are of His Majesty’s most honourable Privy Council.

Mr. Wilbraham moved, seconded by Mr. Lowndes, for leave to bring in a Bill to ascertain the total number of Slaves in this Island, and the number of births and deaths for the last three years, &c.—Agreed to: Leave accordingly.

Mr. Wilbraham having prepared the same, he read it in his place, and delivered it in at the table.

Mr. Wilbraham moved, seconded by Mr. Lowndes, for the first reading.—Agreed to, and read.

Mr. Wilbraham moved, seconded by Mr. Lowndes, for the second reading.—Agreed to, and read.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take the same into consideration:—Mr. Brown in the chair.

The Speaker resumed the chair: The Chairman reported the Bill gone through, and agreed to.—Ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Wilbraham moved, seconded by Mr. Lowndes, that the same be read the third time.—Agreed to, and passed.

Ordered, That the following Message be sent to the Board of Council with the Bill:

The Speaker and House of Assembly to his Honour the President and Council.

This House has three times read, and passed, a Bill, intituled, “ An Act for ascertaining the number of Slaves in this Island, &c.” and sends the same herewith to your honourable Board for your concurrence.

*Tho: Beech,*

House of Assembly, 8th Oct. 1799.

Speaker pro temp.

No. 11.—Extracts from the Minutes of His Majesty’s Council of the Island of Dominica, from the 10th September 1799, to the 11th of October following.

His Honour the President laid before the Board a Letter, which he had received from his Honour the Commander in Chief, dated the 11th instant; and the same having been read, was, with the Address therein referred to, ordered to be entered in the Minutes; and is as follows:

Sir,

Government House, 11th September, 1799.

HIS Grace the Duke of Portland having transmitted to me, by the King’s command, the copy of an Address of the House of Commons to His Majesty, with a view to ascertain the number of Negroes in the West India Islands, and having signified to me His Majesty’s special commands, that I do, with all possible dispatch, cause to be prepared in and for this Island, such an Account as is specified, in conformity to the terms of the said Address; and that I do transmit the same to his Grace without

17th Sept  
1799.

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without loss of time in order that it may be laid before the House at the opening of the next session: I lose no time in sending to you a copy of the Address, earnestly requesting that you will immediately lay it before the Board of Council, and that you will recommend such measures to be taken as may produce the necessary information from this Island, which I shall be happy to be enabled to transmit to His Majesty's Secretary of State with all convenient dispatch.

The honourable *George Metcalf*,  
President of his Majesty's Council, Dominica.

I have the honour to be, &c.  
*J. Matson.*

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*Jovis Undecimo, die Julij 1799.*

“Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, requesting that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions to the Governors of His Majesty's Islands and Plantations in the West Indies, to transmit an Account, specifying, as far as the same can be made up, the total number of Negroes in each of such Islands and Plantations respectively, and the total number of births and deaths (on an average of the last three years); distinguishing what proportion of those that died were born within such Island or Plantation, or had been imported more than three years before, and what number of those that died had been imported within three years of the time of their death; together with the documents on which such accounts shall be founded, in order that the same may be laid before this House in the next session of Parliament.”

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Majesty by such Members of this House as are of His Majesty's most honourable Privy Council.

11th October  
1799.

His Honour the President reported to the Board, That he had received in the Council Chamber from the Clerk of the House of Assembly (the House of Assembly not being now sitting) a Bill, with a Message from the House, which he now lays before the Board, and which Message is as follows:

The Speaker of the House of Assembly to his Honour the President and Council.

This House, has three times read, and passed, a Bill, intituled “An Act for ascertaining the number of Slaves in this Island, &c.” and sends the same herewith to your Honourable Board for your concurrence.

*Tho' Beech*, Speaker, pro temp.

House of Assembly, 8th Oct. 1799.

On motion made, and seconded, ordered, That the said Bill intituled, “An Act for ascertaining the number of Slaves in this Island, &c.” be read, which was done.

On motion made, and seconded, it was unanimously resolved That the 8th Rule of the Board be dispensed with, and that the said Bill be read a second time; which was done accordingly.

On motion made, and seconded, ordered, That the said Bill be read a third time; and the same having been done, the question was then put; Whether the said Bill should pass or not, which was carried in the affirmative; and his Honour the President was requested to lay the same before his Honour the Commander in Chief, for his assent thereto.

Ordered, That the following Message be sent to the House of Assembly:

His Honour the President in Council to Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly.

The Board inform your House, That they have three times read, and passed, a Bill intituled, “An Act for ascertaining the number of Slaves in this Island, &c.” and his Honour the President will lay the same before his Honour the Commander in Chief, for his assent thereto.

By command,  
*G. Salton*,  
Act<sup>s</sup> Clerk of the Council.

Council Chamber, 11th October 1799.



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## SLAVE TRADE.—WEST INDIES.

Dominica.

(Copy.)

No. 20.

No. 12.—Copy of a Letter from Mr. President Matson, to his Grace the Duke of Portland.

(One Enclosure.)

Dominica, 3d December 1799.

The letter herein referred to does not appear with the correspondence, but a copy of the Act is with the letter of 5th January, 1800.

My Lord,

WITH my Letter (No. 16,) of the 11th of October last, I had the honour to transmit to your Grace an Act of the Legislature of this Island, intituled, "An Act for ascertaining the number of Slaves," &c. and I have now the honour to forward to your Grace the account or enumeration of the total number of Slaves in every Parish in this Island; made by the Commissioners appointed by that Act.

The Treasurer of the Island has availed himself of the earliest opportunity of making the Return to me; but as the packet is on the eve of its departure from hence, I am unable to examine or make any observations on the Returns at present.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

*J. Matson.*His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

(1.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 3d December 1799.

(Copy.)

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Island of DOMINICA, taken in conformity to the Act of the Legislature for ascertaining the Number thereof.

November 1799.

NAMES of PARISHES, &c.	Number of Proprietors.	Total MALE Slaves.	Total FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such imported Slaves who have died.	Number of Births from such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.
Town of Roseau	440	1,182	1,456	158	183	75	4	3	276	230
Saint George -	118	1,168	1,581	236	165	78	7	4	351	334
Saint Paul - -	59	964	828	145	92	26	3	2	87	115
Saint Joseph -	71	977	950	81	59	9	4	1	164	136
Saint Peter - -	107	899	939	42	49	3	1	1	195	114
Saint John - -	62	903	908	56	49	1	2	-	123	107
Saint Andrew -	55	836	877	56	60	6	2	1	151	89
Saint David -	7	424	394	15	14	-	-	-	83	73
Saint Patrick -	66	1,180	1,138	49	60	15	2	1	170	159
Saint Mark - -	38	488	524	21	38	4	1	-	74	66
Saint Luke - -	46	553	493	37	39	9	4	2	106	73
Total - -	1,069	9,574	10,458	896	808	226	30	15	1,780	1,496

Treasury Office, December 3d 1799.

*Alex. MacLachlan,*  
Treasurer.

## DOMINICA.

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(Copy.)

No. 13.—Copy of a Letter from Mr. President Matson  
to his Grace the Duke of Portland.

No. 22.

(Thirteen Enclosures.)

Dominica, 5th January 1800.

My Lord,

WITH my Letter (No. 20) of 3d December, I had the honour to transmit to your Grace the Account or enumeration of the total number of Slaves in every Parish in this Island, made pursuant to an Act lately passed for that purpose; some errors have since been discovered in the Commissioners Returns, which have been rectified, and I am now enabled to forward to your Grace the Commissioners returns, with a general Abstract, and correct Statement of the whole, signed by the Treasurer of the Island.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

*J. Matson.*His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Copy.)

An Act of the Legislature of the Island of Dominica, intituled, “ An Act for ascertaining the number of  
“ Slaves in this Island, and of such as may have been  
“ imported from Africa, within three Years last  
“ past; and of the Deaths of and Births from such  
“ imported Slaves; and also the Deaths and Births of  
“ all other Slaves in the Island, during that period.”

## DOMINICA.

Whereas it hath been represented by his Honour the Commander in Chief, that an humble Address hath been presented to His Majesty, by the House of Commons of Great Britain, requesting, that His Majesty would be graciously pleased to give directions to the Governors of His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, to transmit an Account, specifying, as far as the same can be ascertained, the number of the Slaves in those Islands, and also the number of Slaves imported from Africa within three years last past; and of the deaths of and births from such imported Slaves; and also the deaths and births of all other Slaves in the said Islands, during that period. We, therefore, your Majesty's loyal and obedient subjects, the Commander in Chief, and the Council and the Assembly of this Island, do enact and ordain:

And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the following persons shall be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners in the town of Roseau, and in the several parishes of this Island, for performing the duties hereinafter directed and laid upon them; that is to say, for the town of Roseau, Robert Reid, John Wardrobe, Henry Constable, John Lundin, James Dodd, esquires; for the parish of Saint George, Thomas Court, Anthony Bacon Richardson, Croquet Le Grand, and Andrew Jolly, esquires; for the parish of Saint Paul, John Lowndes, John Corlet, and Raymond St. Arromant, esquires; for the parish of Saint Joseph, Alexander Henderson, and Thomas Henderson, esquires; for the parish of Saint Peter, Thomas Beech, Joseph Grano, and Bruno Marceau, esquires; for the parish of Saint John and town of Portsmouth, John Trotter, William Wilbraham, and Robert Bell, esquires; for the parish of Saint Andrew in the West division, Hugh Gould, and Patrick Moore, esquires, and for the East division of the said parish, Joseph Burton, and Thomas Simpson, esquires; for the parish of Saint David, James Bruce, and Dorigny, esquires; for the parish of Saint Patrick in the East division, Anthony Bertrand, and Pierre Dubocque, esquires, and for the West division of the said Parish, Douglas, and Hill, esquires; for the parish of Saint Mark, Joseph Dufaulay, and Alexander Mac Bean, esquires; for the parish of Saint Luke, Christopher Robert, and John Baptiste Serrant, esquires.

E.

30

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Clause 2.

And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners, or some of them, shall within twenty Days after the publication of this Act, issue their warrant in their respective districts, in the following form; viz.

## DOMINICA.

By

Commissioners appointed for ascertaining the number of Slaves in this Island, &c.

To

Constables of the parish of

You are hereby required and commanded, immediately on the receipt hereof, to summon all and every the Proprietors, Renters, or Possessors of Slaves, in the parish of \_\_\_\_\_ to appear before us at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ then and there to deliver in upon oath, a full and correct account or enumeration of his, her, or their Slaves, both young and old, distinguishing the males from the females; and also distinguishing the number of Slaves imported from Africa, and bought by him, her, or them, within three years last past; and the deaths of, and births from such imported Slaves, within the said time; and also the deaths and births of all others his, her, or their Slaves during that period, agreeably to an Act of this Island, for ascertaining the number of Slaves in this Island, &c. leaving at the house of each person so summoned a copy of this warrant in French and English.

Given under our hands and seals this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

Clause 3.

And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That if any Proprietor, Renter, or Possessor of Slave or Slaves, his, her, or their Manager or Attorney, shall neglect or refuse, after having been duly summoned as aforesaid, and proof thereof made upon oath by the Constable, to appear before the said Commissioners, or some or one of them, at the place and time by them appointed, and then and there to deliver in upon oath (which oath the said Commissioners, or either of them, are or is hereby authorized to administer) a full and correct account or enumeration of all his, her, or their Slaves, in the manner and form particularly directed by the said summons, such Proprietor, Renter, or Possessor of Slave or Slaves, shall be fined in the sum of fifty pounds, to be immediately levied by warrant or warrants, under the hands and seals of the said Commissioners, or some or one of them, directed to the Provost Marshal, in the nature of an execution out of the Court of Common Pleas, which warrant or warrants the said Provost Marshal shall and he is hereby directed and required to execute in due manner, and to pay the said fine into the public Treasury for the public uses of the colony.

Clause 4.

And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners, in taking the said account or enumeration, and in making their Return, shall make use of the following form:

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of \_\_\_\_\_ taken in  
conformity to the Act for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c.

Number of Proprietors.	Total MALE Slaves.	Total FEMALES.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALES imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births from such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves, during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves, during that Period.

And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That one hundred and twenty copies of the above form shall be printed with all speed, and distributed among the Commissioners before named by the Clerk of the Assembly; and that the said Commissioners shall, and they are hereby required and directed, within twenty days from the time of issuing their said warrant, to complete the said list or enumeration of Slaves, and return the same, together with a duplicate thereof duly certified under their hands, into the Treasurer's Office of this Island; and the Treasurer is hereby required, as soon as such Returns are completed, to deliver the same, or the duplicates thereof, to the Commander in Chief, to be by him transmitted to His Majesty's Ministers. Clause 3.

And

E. 32

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Clause 6. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the Constables, for the duties enjoined them by this Act, shall be paid in the same manner as Constables are directed to be paid for summoning the Inhabitants under the Way-warden Act of this Island.

Clause 7. And be it and it hereby enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, That this Act, together with the form of the Returns prescribed, and the Commissioners warrants, shall be printed at the public expence of the Colony, and the Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay for the same.

*Thomas Beech,*  
Speaker, pro temp.

Passed the House of Assembly this eighth day of October, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

*F. Collins,*  
Clerk of the Assembly.

Passed the Council this eleventh day of October, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

*G. Salton,*  
Acting Clerk of the Council.

Assented to this eleventh day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and nine-nine.

*J. Matson,*  
President and Commander in Chief.

*Dominica:*

Duly published in the town of Roseau, this eleventh day of October, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

*John Lucas, A. P. M.*

(A true copy.)

*G. Salton, A. S. & R*

## DOMINICA.

33 E.

(2.) In Mr. President Mufson's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Island of Dominica; taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

TOWNS and PARISHES.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Town of Roseau - - -	1,182	1,456	158	183	75	4	3	230	276
Saint George - - - -	1,868	1,881	235	165	78	7	4	351	334
Saint Paul - - - - -	960	889	142	90	25	3	2	113	87
Saint Peter - - - - -	899	939	42	49	3	1	1	114	195
Saint Joseph - - - - -	978	959	81	60	9	4	1	137	162
S <sup>t</sup> John and Portsmouth	903	908	56	49	1	2	-	107	123
Saint Andrew - - - - -	836	877	60	60	6	2	1	89	151
Saint David - - - - -	424	394	15	14	-	-	-	75	83
Saint Patrick - - - - -	1,239	1,138	49	60	15	2	1	167	159
Saint Mark - - - - -	484	526	21	33	4	1	-	67	74
Saint Luke - - - - -	553	493	37	39	9	4	2	73	106
N <sup>o</sup> of Proprietors - 1,067	10,326	10,460	896	807	225	30	15	1,523	1,750

Total Amount of Slaves, by the above Returns - - - - - 20,786

Total Amount of African Slaves imported in the last Three Years - 1,703

Total Amount of African Slaves who have died in Three Years - 240 } Decrease 210  
 Total Amount of Births from African Slaves in the last Three Years - 30 }

Total Amount of Deaths of other Slaves in the last Three Years - 1,523 } Increase 227  
 Total Amount of Births of other Slaves in the last Three Years - 1,750 }

Treasury Office, December 1799.

Alex<sup>r</sup> MacLachlan,  
Treasurer.

(3.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of St. Luke, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
John B <sup>te</sup> and Pierre Serrant	100	53	9	8	2	-	-	4	9
Eft <sup>e</sup> of Adnet P. Laronde	27	34	-	-	-	-	-	4	7
Francois Lallemand -	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Estate of Henry Grove -	52	53	-	-	-	-	-	8	22
Jaques Mercier - - -	2	3	2	3	2	1	1	2	-
John B <sup>te</sup> Long - - -	4	6	2	2	-	-	-	5	-
Veive Fontaine - - -	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Joseph Bourdain - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gabriel Sncock - - -	6	9	2	-	-	-	-	2	-
Williams Renault - - -	17	17	-	1	1	-	1	6	2
Eft <sup>e</sup> of Norbert Renault -	28	23	-	-	-	-	-	2	6
Madame Renault - - -	4	10	1	1	-	2	-	2	-
Victoire Manaire - - -	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Benjamin de la Mar - - -	25	21	1	4	-	1	-	-	3
Cavigny de la Mar - - -	45	49	-	1	-	-	-	2	13
Jean Molinie - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Louis Peltier - - -	10	8	2	2	-	-	-	4	2
Jean Lyonis - - -	24	13	4	1	-	-	-	7	2
Arthur Myler - - -	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Pierre Gruaud & Mad. Grano	21	17	6	2	1	-	-	3	1
Betty Le Brun - - -	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Margarite Tourtin - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Etienne Bourra - - -	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Louis Darroux - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Louis G <sup>te</sup> Le Brun - - -	6	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	1
Nannette Jeannot - - -	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
Marthe Rolle - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Estate William Corlett -	34	23	-	-	-	-	-	4	6
Angelique - - -	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over - -	456	398	32	28	7	4	2	62	84

## DOMINICA.

35 E.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - -	456	398	32	28	7	4	2	62	84
Jean Jaques Le Brun - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Christopher Robert - -	57	48	2	3	—	—	—	6	15
Madame Le Roche - - -	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Madame Cenecouer - -	16	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Elizabeth Cenecouer - -	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Marie Louis Cenecouer -	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Catherine Cenecouer - -	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Solitude - - - - -	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jn° B <sup>e</sup> Bermingham - -	5	6	1	3	2	—	—	1	1
Estate of Destouches - -	7	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Caliste Serrant - - - -	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rosette Lyonis - - - -	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jean Laurent Lyonis - -	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marie Louise - - - - -	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pierre Clarole - - - -	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madame Peltier - - - -	2	5	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Madelonette Lapironee -	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	553	493	37	39	9	4	2	73	106

Dominica, 9th November 1799.

We, the Commissioners for the Parish of St. Luke, in the Island of Dominica, do hereby certify the within to be a true and full Return, to the best of our knowledge and Belief.

*Christopher Robert,*  
Serrant.



## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

(Copy.)

(4.) In Mr. President Matfon's, of the 5th January 1800.

DOMINICA. NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of SAINT MARK, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Governor Johnstone - - -	9	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bourdica and Challet - - -	114	119	-	-	-	-	-	18	16
Maine De Raveriere - - -	48	51	-	-	-	-	-	2	10
Madame Bellot - - -	39	57	5	-	-	-	-	7	7
Sorbaindo Duffaufay - - -	16	16	3	1	2	-	-	2	7
Joseph Luke - - -	11	12	2	2	-	-	-	4	3
Pompon Desmoulin - - -	11	14	2	-	-	-	-	1	2
Alexander M <sup>re</sup> Bean - - -	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Madame Pacquet - - -	6	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Louis Bellot - - -	35	36	1	16	2	1	-	7	3
Alexis Gafchet - - -	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Thomas Ketel - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
George Titrefil - - -	48	64	-	19	-	-	-	6	7
Madame Fleury - - -	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jean B <sup>re</sup> Bermingham - - -	27	29	8	-	-	-	-	12	4
George Titre - - -	35	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Pierre Titre - - -	9	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Robert Davis - - -	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pierre Carbon - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cicile Petit - - -	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Mont Louis Titre - - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guil <sup>le</sup> Titre - - -	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charles Melon - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rose Simond - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Theotiste Desfabaye - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Francoise Titre - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marie Louise Titre - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madame Laurent Titre - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jn <sup>re</sup> B <sup>re</sup> Brevetou - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jean Arfeme - - -	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bruno Mercier - - -	33	25	-	-	-	-	-	1	6E
Jean Jaques Ozon - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	E
Paulin Maffieux - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	E
Joseph Pacquet - - -	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maxime Durand - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jof. Plessineaux Fila - - -	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jean Marie Duray - - -	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Bouliche - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	484	526	21	38	4	1	-	67	74

Soufriere, 14th November 1799.

Certified,

Alex<sup>re</sup> M<sup>re</sup> Bean.  
Sorbaindo Duraufay.

## D O M I N I C A .

37 E

(5.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 5th January 1800.

## DOMINICA.

(Copy.)

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of Saint PATRICK, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Bedminster Estate	49	54	-	11	-	-	-	8	11
James Hill	2	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	1
Tavernier Lafond	50	37	6	5	1	-	-	-	8
Ellie Lafond	4	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Frefus Lafond	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Beauclair	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elizabeth Lafond	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Nicholas Solange	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barbe Justin	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. Deifol	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mr. Dahfonsey	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cafamire Baron	6	11	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Fraffe	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	3	-
Patrice	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
John Montgomery	21	25	2	1	-	-	-	7	7
Raviniere	11	12	5	3	3	-	-	1	1
Compay Goshard	7	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Choliet and Bourdieu	65	54	8	15	-	2	1	23	6
Nathaniel Blake	4	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
John B. Grggoa	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pierre Gally	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pierre Pagefy	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	7	1
Neifon's Rest Estate	41	28	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Stowe Estate	64	62	-	-	-	-	-	8	9
John P. Tefnefs	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monimia Philip	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mitcham Estate	100	109	-	-	-	-	-	18	19
Alex' Coldstream	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Louis Dubuc	6	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Frederick Dubuc	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adrian Dubuc	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Margatha Dubuc	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
John Watson	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Brunie	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over	482	481	26	43	5	2	1	83	82

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves. imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over	482	481	26	43	5	2	1	83	82
Gatton Estate	77	81	-	-	-	-	-	23	11
Simon Fraser	53	44	-	-	-	-	-	10	6
John B. Chopin	12	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Fabre and Brunie	9	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
William Pagan	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
William Falside	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
William Oliver	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
William Milne	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hugh M <sup>c</sup> Pherson and C <sup>o</sup>	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hugh M <sup>c</sup> Pherson	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John F. Bermingham	65	54	2	2	-	-	-	18	10
Mary Noel	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Roseanna	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eliz. Noyce	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lefie	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Francois Bogard	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bagatelle Estate	34	30	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Eneas	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthony Bertrand	50	57	3	-	-	-	-	7	11
Peter Dubocq	80	71	1	6	1	-	-	9	14
Louis M. Sorhaindo, sen.	142	97	7	5	4	-	-	5	16
Louis Jos. Sorhaindo, jun.	6	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Estate of Mrs. Herriart	34	31	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Andre Botro	8	9	-	4	4	-	-	-	-
Jean Daroux, freeman	5	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raymond Mercier	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Minors Larond	20	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Peter Gally	51	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pierre Gruaud, jun. and C <sup>o</sup>	12	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
George and Louis Botro	28	24	4	-	-	-	-	1	-
J <sup>no</sup> B <sup>te</sup> Lefebre and Children	16	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minors Cannonville	18	16	3	-	-	-	-	2	-
J. Jaques Lavenaire, F.M.	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
	1,239	1,138	49	60	15	2	1	167	159

Number of Slaves in the East Division of the Parish of St. Patrick, taken in conformity to an Act passed the 11th day of October, for ascertaining the number of Slaves in this Island, and such Slaves as may have been imported from Africa within Three Years last past, &c. &c. &c. And we the Commissioners appointed for this Division make the present Return at Point Mulatre, the 14th November 1799.

*Pierre Dubocq, Comm<sup>r</sup>.*  
*Anthony Bertrand, Comm<sup>r</sup>.*

We do certify this to be a correct Account of Slaves. Sworn to before us, agreeable to the Summons,  
*James Hill*  
*James Douglas.*

## DOMINICA.

39 E

(6.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 5th January 1800.

## DOMINICA.

(Copy.) NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of Saint DAVID, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Castle Bruce Estate - -	138	133	7	4	- -	- -	- -	26	34
Richmond Estate - -	78	76	6	7	- -	- -	- -	23	13
Laing and Derigny - -	4	7	2	3	- -	- -	- -	2	3
Rosalie Estate - - -	118	113	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	18	19
Charles Bertrand - - -	68	53	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	4	9
Mrs. Danglebern - -	4	4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2
Bertie Enturle - - -	14	8	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	3
	424	394	15	14	- - -	- - -	- - -	75	83

We do certify the above to be a just Return given in to us for the Parish of St. David,  
November 16th, 1779.

*Louis D'Origny.*  
*James Bruce.*

(7.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of Saint ANDREW, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Mrs. Nibbs - - -	32	31	-	5	-	-	-	3	10
Hatton Garden - - -	81	103	10	13	-	-	-	10	13
Joseph Burton - - -	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Sally, a free Woman - - -	1	3	1	2	-	-	-	1	1
Madame Marifnal - - -	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Melvill Hall - - -	95	90	8	2	-	-	-	19	16
Vauxhall Estate - - -	17	14	4	3	-	1	-	-	4
Londonderry Estate - - -	113	100	3	7	1	-	-	12	12
John Gay Morfon - - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eliza Morfon - - -	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Margaret Morfon - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mons' Luginan Goulain - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harry Tillot - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Baptiste Messie, Freeman - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Powell - - -	35	70	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Robert Aberdeen - - -	32	31	-	-	-	-	-	2	5
Gilbert M'Pherson - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Charles, a Freeman - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
James Morfon - - -	23	30	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Blenheim Estate - - -	40	39	12	13	2	-	-	2	8
Pat. B. Moore - - -	34	25	-	-	-	-	-	2	7
Abraham Whiteaker - - -	18	19	-	1	-	-	-	1	3
Hampstead Estate - - -	42	48	-	-	-	-	-	3	5
Nicole Bontiff - - -	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Lawrence Bontiff - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bernard Balle - - -	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Charles Fr. Berlet - - -	12	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
John Fournet - - -	4	4	3	1	1	1	1	-	1
Michelle Marie - - -	4	5	1	1	1	-	-	-	1
Louis Bontiff - - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poport Marie - - -	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Joseph Fournet - - -	5	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Carried over - - -	617	659	48	48	5	2	1	62	104

## DOMINICA.

41 E.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	617	659	48	48	5	2	1	62	104
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>te</sup> De Bois - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Estate of Claud Royer - -	10	9	2	2	1	-	-	1	3
Tom Charles Royer - - -	6	6	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
George Bruman - - -	14	10	-	1	-	-	-	2	1
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>te</sup> Royer - - -	33	20	2	2	-	-	-	-	3
Michael Royer - - -	12	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Eft <sup>e</sup> Letaing Bruman - -	18	20	-	-	-	-	-	5	4
Polite Fournet - - -	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Joseph Augustine - - -	13	18	1	-	-	-	-	2	5
Madame Le Roux - - -	5	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Pierre Letang - - -	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nancy Melvill - - -	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mary Byron - - -	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Francois M. Mourillon - -	36	26	-	-	-	-	-	6	7
Etienne Laville - - -	19	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Madame Le Blanc - - -	24	35	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
Francois Byron - - -	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Jean Rhine - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maria Sufannah - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Thomas Vidall - - -	19	18	2	2	-	-	-	2	3
Charles Letang - - -	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Pierre Loyer - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
J. B. Manet De Bois - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	836	877	60	60	6	2	1	89	151

Dominica, November 7th 1799.

We hereby declare, That the above Return comprizes all the Slaves in the Parish of Saint Andrew, and that the same was taken by us under Oath of the respective Proprietors or their Representatives.

*Joseph Barton,*  
*Thomas Simpson,*  
*Hugh Gould,*  
*Pat. B. Moore,*  
Commissioners.

(8.) In Mr. Prefident Matfon's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of Saint JOHN, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Robert Seaman - - -	41	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
John Wilbraham - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bruno Marceau - - -	29	23	10	1	-	-	-	6	3
Edward Kendric - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Frances Hodnet - - -	29	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Thomas Hunt - - -	82	110	-	-	-	-	-	13	20
John Trotter - - -	16	24	-	2	-	-	-	2	3
Elizabeth Wallace - - -	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nancy Simpson - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Joseph Bruffault - - -	13	8	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Marie Mad <sup>le</sup> Houtche - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jacque Etienne Michencau - - -	5	2	-	1	-	-	-	2	1
Jean B <sup>te</sup> Girault - - -	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Jean Tigar - - -	10	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Jos. Malagamba - - -	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Eastmond Gillittle - - -	10	19	9	10	-	-	-	2	2
Mary White - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Joseph Trocard - - -	22	23	-	-	-	-	-	3	1
Guil <sup>me</sup> Rabais - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
W <sup>m</sup> Thornton Astell - - -	57	60	-	-	-	-	-	3	1
Estate of Castang - - -	23	18	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Estate of Eustache Trocard - - -	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Robert Bell - - -	27	18	2	4	1	1	-	7	4
Guil <sup>me</sup> Bonet - - -	3	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>te</sup> Bruman - - -	18	14	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Guil <sup>me</sup> Dupuis - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Maximine Babin - - -	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Joseph Ducray - - -	7	9	1	2	-	-	-	-	1
Estate of George Horne - - -	40	33	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Hermitage Estate - - -	42	40	-	-	-	-	-	2	5
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>te</sup> Belhumer - - -	1	2	1	1	-	1	-	1	1
Mount Morfon - - -	28	25	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Carried over - - -	529	556	25	24	1	2	-	51	62

## DOMINICA.

43 E.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	529	556	25	24	1	2	- -	51	62
Sugar Loaf Estate - -	112	97	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	31	32
Henry Frost - - - -	8	1	7	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Germain Ducray - - -	3	1	3	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Francis Lorial - - - -	4	5	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2
James Smith - - - -	2	5	2	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
William Wilbraham - -	23	26	- -	1	- -	- -	- -	1	1
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>o</sup> Le Corritre - -	7	14	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	5
Garnier Le Corritre - -	6	4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2
Teile Le Corritre - - -	1	3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
George Metcalf - - - -	64	50	11	11	- -	- -	- -	8	4
Mount Alleyn - - - -	45	37	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	3
William Lee - - - -	68	63	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3	5
Louis P. Chille - - - -	3	1	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Pierre Smith - - - -	1	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -
Town of Portsmouth.									
Margaret Brett - - - -	- -	4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -
Urfule Le Trange - - -	4	10	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	3
Hannah Barry - - - -	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3	1
Robert Bates - - - -	4	6	3	2	- -	- -	- -	1	2
Francis Gourde - - - -	5	6	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Jenny Morson - - - -	- -	2	- -	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Leonard Ducray - - - -	2	3	1	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1
Priscella Simpson - - -	- -	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Coulson Moore - - - -	1	1	1	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Lucy Kenric - - - -	2	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	- -
George Kiffack - - - -	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -
William M <sup>c</sup> Tigue - - - -	1	1	1	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Jenny Dorset - - - -	- -	1	- -	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
William Car - - - -	- -	3	- -	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Jean Louis Le Sieur - -	6	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	- -
Cloe Younger - - - -	- -	1	- -	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
	903	908	56	49	1	2	- -	107	123

We, whose Names are hereunto subscribed, being the Commissioners named in the before-mentioned Act, for taking the List of Slaves in the Parish of Saint JOHN, do hereby certify, That the foregoing is a correct List of the Slaves in the said Parish, delivered in to us upon Oath by the respective Proprietors, or where absent, their Attornies or Managers.

Given under our hands the sixteenth day of November One thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, and in the fortieth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

John Trotter.

W<sup>m</sup> Wilbraham.

Robert Bell.



## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

(9.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.) DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of Saint PETER, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Bouche, Widow - - -	13	6	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
Main Nicola, Widow - -	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Beech, Thomas - - -	23	24	1	5	-	-	-	3	3
Pepe - - -	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Morelle, Widow - - -	2	10	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Byrne, John, his Estate	30	35	4	9	1	1	1	3	3
Margaret - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Roques, Jean - - -	39	35	-	-	-	-	-	1	13
Boutour, Gilbert - - -	11	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Boutour's Estate - - -	25	31	-	-	-	-	-	9	6
Regnault, Nicola - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bellair, Motard - - -	37	35	5	-	-	-	-	12	8
Marceau, Bruno - - -	39	32	8	4	-	-	-	8	7
Voizelle, Elizabeth - -	14	15	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Delanny, Jaques - - -	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
L'Angley, J. Br <sup>e</sup> - - -	22	29	-	2	-	-	-	7	8
Souqual, Louis - - -	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blanchet, Min <sup>r</sup> - - -	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marcelot, Joseph - - -	7	10	1	4	-	-	-	1	1
Schmit, Jean - - -	27	19	3	-	-	-	-	2	2
Taillendier, L. the younger	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Foy, Widow - - -	33	24	10	1	1	-	-	1	4
Weth, Martial - - -	39	36	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Raby, Joseph - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Ville, Gilbert - - -	19	13	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Berfagee, Widow - - -	17	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	8
Briolland, Renault - - -	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Vergee, Joseph - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motard, Pierre - - -	6	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pezeron, Widow - - -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Micheneau, J. Jaques	13	14	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Houelche Modeste, dec <sup>d</sup>	7	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Milard, Leger - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tallandier, Pierre - - -	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fanconier, Frs. jun. - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over - - -	453	455	33	27	2	1	1	63	95

## D O M I N I C A .

45 E.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Peri- od.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	453	455	33	27	2	1	1	63	96
Brulicau, Widow - -	17	17	-	-	-	-	-	4	8
Bioche, John B <sup>ce</sup> - -	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
De Vallons, Beautour, Est <sup>e</sup>	22	24	2	-	1	-	-	9	2
Dupare, Coupee - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Taillardier, Louis - -	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Serafine, free Negrefs	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norman, Mad <sup>e</sup> Est <sup>e</sup> - -	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Grare, Jacob - - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pichaud, Widow - - -	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Garnier, Widow - - -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chavaroché, Louis - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fauconier, Charles - -	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Bourgeois, Marie Agnes	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rachel, a free Negrefs	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rozey, Pierre - - - -	16	28	-	1	-	-	-	6	2
Blondel, Ann - - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blondel, Zabet - - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vachee, Hillaire - - -	5	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Grano, Joseph - - - -	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Toureau, Bernardine - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Vachee, Louis - - - -	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grare, Pierre - - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Casett, Stephen - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Carell, George - - - -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vachee, Marie - - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gresse, Jaques - - - -	8	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Dourneau, Joseph - - -	8	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 E
Blanchet, Francois - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Chaporie - - - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Romaine, Romaine - - -	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Verge, Regadone - - - -	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Melfe, Uriule - - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blondel, Marie Ann - - -	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pachquel, Mrs. - - - -	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Milliad, Widow - - - -	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Euphrazine - - - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delome and Menain, Widows	12	13	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Main, Mrs. and Dan. Pacquet	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blondel, Mary Joseph - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marceau, Mary Joseph - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Foy, Mad <sup>lle</sup> - - - - -	7	21	-	14	-	-	-	6	4
Elizabeth, a free Woman	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 E
Antoine, a free Negroe -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over - - - -	634	673	36	42	3	1	1	94	138

E. 46 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - -	634	673	36	42	3	1	1	94	138
Corpel, Gardee - - -	32	45	-	-	-	-	-	4	16
Long, Mrs. - - - -	11	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Parfonage, Widow - - -	12	11	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perrier, Emelie - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lambert, Judie - - -	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Perrier, Mons <sup>r</sup> - - -	16	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	6
Rosalie - - - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Blanchet, John B <sup>te</sup> - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pezeron, Md. Nicola - - -	2	6	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Marie, Louise - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	2 E
Delanny, Widow - - -	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Catois, Monville - - -	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Melville, John - - -	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2 E
Dournaux, J. J. - - -	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Robin, J. B <sup>te</sup> , Estate of -	17	13	1	1	-	-	-	2	-
Fermin, a free Negro - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blondel, Sufan - - -	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jean Boidore, a free Negro	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Robin, Moudifir - - -	16	22	1	-	-	-	-	1	7
Dubuc, J. B. Maurice - -	33	27	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blondel, Bazil - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Vachee, Polone - - -	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vachee, Theoliste - - -	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parillon, Jean - - -	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bourgois, Widow - - -	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Rainy, Thomas - - -	76	57	-	-	-	-	-	3	4
Labadie, Benoit - - -	10	12	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Celeste, Vachee - - -	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Millard, Marie Urfule - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	899	939	42	49	3	1	1	114	195

We do hereby certify, That the foregoing List or Enumeration of Slaves was made in conformity to the Act for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c.

Witness our hands this twelfth Day of November 1799.

Thomas Beech,  
Joseph Grano.

## DOMINICA.

47 E.

(10.) In Mr. President Matson's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of Saint JOSEPH, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
John Mair - - -	79	70	5	6	-	-	-	17	9
James Hudson - - -	11	14	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>te</sup> Motard - - -	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Roger Belair - - -	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Brades and Henderson - - -	20	23	3	2	-	-	-	1	4
Joseph Escabasse - - -	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Pierre Lamothe - - -	22	20	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
Danglade Defonrose - - -	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Pero - - -	22	24	-	-	-	-	-	4	7
Antoine Vidal - - -	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Francois Vidal - - -	17	19	3	-	-	-	-	6	3
Joseph Marlotte - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mons' Lefangles - - -	8	4	2	3	2	-	-	-	-
Mons' Rodet - - -	19	22	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
M. Marechal - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mons' Riverre - - -	25	17	4	2	-	-	-	2	4
Douvoure Belgents - - -	28	7	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Mons' Pineau - - -	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mons' Letrotte - - -	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Robert Reid - - -	43	30	3	1	1	-	-	4	3
John Spencer - - -	5	4	2	1	-	-	-	1	1
Daniel Kirbey - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Arthur - - -	10	5	7	5	1	-	-	-	-
Clark, Townson and Laing	66	87	9	13	5	-	-	22	7
Robinson and Mercalf - - -	23	33	-	-	-	-	-	7	9
Greffant and Motard - - -	16	21	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
J. G. Blanc - - -	33	34	-	-	-	-	-	1	7
Peter Wall - - -	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Francois Valley - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Joseph Burton, jun <sup>r</sup> - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Madame Roger - - -	19	22	3	3	-	-	-	2	3
Madame Moura - - -	52	58	-	-	-	-	-	12	25
Madame La Roque - - -	14	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Mary Powell - - -	63	67	-	-	-	-	-	9	17
Madame M. Robin - - -	19	20	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Carried over - - -	659	658	45	40	9	-	-	99	126

E. 48

## SLAVE TRADE - WEST INDIES.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and brought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and brought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have i d.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	659	658	45	40	9	-	-	99	126
Madame Vidal - -	40	41	-	-	-	-	-	4	5
Mad. Rodet, Jun <sup>r</sup> - -	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mad. Donel - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mrs. Greg - -	74	59	-	-	-	-	-	15	2
York Valley Estate - -	58	58	-	-	-	-	-	6	9
Heirs of Miller - -	36	39	-	-	-	-	-	7	6
Pierre Payard - -	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John H. Henderson - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elizabeth Henderson - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Estate of Farquharson - -	16	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Antoine Gibbon - -	14	5	10	1	-	-	-	-	2
Lewis Gibbon - -	14	5	7	-	-	-	-	2	1
Baptiste Le Grand - -	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jack Walsh - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Luke - -	9	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Jn <sup>o</sup> Ch <sup>r</sup> Godah - -	5	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Toutfaint - -	1	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	1
Hilaire Dupuney - -	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>o</sup> Pierrier - -	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pierre Pierrier - -	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Charles Gardie - -	7	5	5	4	-	3	1	-	1
Charles Christian - -	4	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	1
Roufe - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Laurent - -	6	9	2	-	-	-	-	1	1
Robertine - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Therese Perrong - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Agatha - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nancy Pineau - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Elizabeth - -	2	3	2	3	-	-	-	-	1
Genevieve - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Gertrude - -	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Marianne Meltz - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Therese - -	4	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mary Dunavon - -	-	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	1
Grace - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Franco Bruce - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	978	959	81	60	9	4	1	137	162

We do certify the foregoing to be a true Return of the Slaves in the Parish of Saint Joseph, agreeably to the Act to ascertain the same.

Alexander Henderson, }  
Thomas Henderson, } Commissioners.

November 7th 1799.

## DOMINICA.

49 E.

(11.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of Saint PAUL, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

NAMES of POPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Mrs. Lewthwaite's Estate	63	53	-	-	-	-	-	13	7
Doctor Culpeper - - -	12	19	4	5	-	-	-	2	3
Pierre Bougaud - - -	12	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Toufant Jolly - - -	26	20	8	1	1	-	-	-	2
Pierre Payard - - -	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Veive Rolle - - -	41	44	-	1	-	-	-	5	-
Charles Peters - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stewart Hall and Hope Estates	109	95	23	10	7	-	-	13	3
Belfast Estate - - -	44	45	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Messrs. Charrurier - - -	69	58	16	9	-	-	-	-	-
Thomas Darriell - - -	72	68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Henry Curry - - -	52	49	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canefield Estate - - -	104	110	7	8	1	-	-	27	16
Marie Clare - - -	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Mad <sup>e</sup> Bernard - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anth. Gallibert - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goffe St. Felix - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Lafouche Daubifon - - -	6	6	4	6	2	1	-	-	-
Edw <sup>d</sup> Secker - - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hyacinth - - -	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1
John Myler - - -	4	9	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Mons <sup>r</sup> Quinquies - - -	1	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Charles Guichard - - -	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Felicite Charle - - -	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charles Esprit - - -	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jeremie - - -	13	13	7	4	1	-	-	1	-
Remmy Rolle - - -	35	34	12	22	-	2	2	3	-
Mad. Joe - - -	2	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	1
J. P. Jolly - - -	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Louis Gregorie - - -	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pierre Dounoufe - - -	9	4	3	1	-	-	-	1	2
Registe Duhamel - - -	3	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Martin Fils - - -	9	8	1	2	-	-	-	-	2
Carried over - - -	714	658	105	75	15	3	2	74	48

E. 50

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - -	714	668	105	75	15	3	2	74	48
Jeanne Michelle - - -	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Madame Beauclerc - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Rofette - - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Bayley - - - -	36	38	4	2	1	-	-	8	12
John Lowndes - - - -	3	1	2	1	1	-	-	1	-
Bal Blanc - - - - -	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pierre Doudouet - - -	4	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	3
Charles Giroux - - - -	3	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
Gafpar Blanc - - - - -	7	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C. Larrioux - - - - -	7	5	4	4	3	-	-	3	-
J. Dupigney - - - - -	6	6	2	1	3	-	-	1	4
Thomas Jemmet - - - -	43	33	4	-	-	-	-	10	5
Desire Duhamel - - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elenore - - - - -	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Et. Baillie - - - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jof. Duvergne - - - - -	17	18	4	-	-	-	-	1	2
J. B. Carrel - - - - -	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Portugais - - - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Corlet - - - - -	9	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Alexis Bennée - - - - -	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
James Jordan - - - - -	17	20	4	3	-	-	-	4	2
Robert Reid - - - - -	22	26	6	3	2	-	-	6	6
Mefs <sup>r</sup> S <sup>t</sup> Arromant - - -	29	14	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Madame Parfaite - - - -	9	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	960	889	142	90	25	3	2	113	87

We do certify the within to be a true Return of the Slaves in the Parish of Saint Paul, agreeably to the Act to ascertain the same.

*John Lowndes,*

*John Corlet,*

Commissioners.

St. Paul, December 1799.

## DOMINICA.

51 E.

(12.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Parish of Saint GEORGE, taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Crocket Le Grand - -	24	36	2	-	-	-	-	5	4
Crocquet Beaubois - -	74	53	21	3	1	-	-	6	4
John Burnet - - - -	49	57	4	-	2	-	-	12	16
Sorhaindo Giraudel - -	36	37	4	4	3	-	-	12	7
Pierre Jolly - - - -	49	43	15	1	4	4	2	10	3
Jn° B <sup>e</sup> Petit - - - -	77	40	9	2	3	-	-	3	3
Jacques Letang - - -	48	45	4	2	2	-	-	5	10
Jn° Louis Laronde - -	7	4	2	4	4	1	1	-	-
Eft. Eufibe Sorhaindo -	16	20	4	2	1	-	-	-	4
Mad <sup>le</sup> Marriat Fornieu -	2	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Jn° B <sup>e</sup> Dupont - - - -	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
S <sup>t</sup> Luce Sorhaindo - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Joseph Desgallery - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Pliffoneau Cadet - - -	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brun Beaupin - - - -	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	E.
Mad <sup>le</sup> Duet - - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Betsy Williams - - - -	3	12	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Joseph Bridges - - - -	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. F. Laffibat - - - -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. Louise Chopin - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Justine David - - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
M. Jeanne Erme - - - -	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Belle Hill Metcalfs - -	27	23	9	6	11	-	-	-	4
M. Cavalier - - - - -	5	13	2	1	1	-	-	6	3
Jof. Bridges (Cavaliers) -	9	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andre Jolly - - - - -	37	25	17	5	2	1	1	-	3
Pliffeneau - - - - -	11	9	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Madame Enard - - - -	12	14	1	3	1	-	-	1	1
John Culpeper - - - -	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Eliz. Fairchild - - - -	6	8	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over - - - -	509	491	99	38	36	6	4	61	73



## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - - -	509	491	99	38	36	6	4	61	73
Louis Fleurant - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Joseph Berrard - - - -	25	26	3	4	-	-	-	14	2
Guilain Bigot - - - -	8	4	1	2	-	-	-	3	-
Adelaide Dubois - - - -	2	5	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
Francois Le Guay - - - -	12	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jn° B <sup>e</sup> Gautier - - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	7
Charles Winston - - - -	45	63	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
William Bertrand - - - -	9	15	-	-	-	-	-	9	2
A. J. Petit Secheffer - - - -	6	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. Charlotte Le Baron - - - -	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	21	6
Joseph Le Baron - - - -	24	23	2	3	-	-	-	-	-
Nicholas Fontaine - - - -	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Ameranthe - - - -	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	1
Henry D. Watt - - - -	2	5	1	-	-	-	-	18	11
John Gillon - - - -	93	81	8	8	1	-	-	-	-
John Fra. Le Sueur - - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	6
Benj <sup>n</sup> Lucas - - - -	42	45	9	17	5	-	-	11	4
Marie Le Guay - - - -	18	23	10	4	5	1	-	10	15
John Louis Fournier - - - -	52	61	2	3	-	-	-	2	1
Fr <sup>s</sup> J <sup>r</sup> Defravier - - - -	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mad. Vieve Desseve - - - -	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chene Long Latouche - - - -	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	4	1
A. Fournier Defravier - - - -	5	3	-	2	2	-	-	3	1
Elise Bayac - - - -	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Vieve Courtois - - - -	9	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Mariette Defravier - - - -	3	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mineurs Desseve - - - -	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Francois Laurent - - - -	29	18	1	3	-	-	-	4	13
Vieve Chopin - - - -	81	82	10	2	2	-	-	9	3
Vieve Urbin - - - -	13	15	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Joseph B. Chopin - - - -	27	32	-	-	-	-	-	6	4
Veive Duportalle - - - -	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	4	1
John Roche - - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Maurice Chopin - - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Scholastic Gay - - - -	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Picaudeau Desnoulin - - - -	4	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victoire Chopin - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Simon - - - -	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over - - - -	1,068	1,039	147	90	53	7	4	208	171

## DOMINICA.

53 E.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during the Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - -	1,068	1,089	147	90	53	7	4	208	171
James Woodbridge - - -	107	131	6	6	1	-	-	29	28
Ant <sup>r</sup> B. Richardson - - -	36	33	-	2	-	-	-	3	7
Thomas Court - - -	69	75	-	-	-	-	-	10	15
Charles Winston - - -	87	69	9	8	-	-	-	19	16
Thomas Tarleton - - -	52	49	4	3	-	-	-	3	8
W <sup>m</sup> Urban Bruce - - -	21	27	2	3	-	-	-	4	6
Mess <sup>rs</sup> Saint Arromants - - -	50	45	2	1	-	-	-	14	13
John Louis Le Corn - - -	47	36	8	3	1	-	-	1	11
Alex <sup>r</sup> Labarlie - - -	20	17	5	2	2	-	-	1	9
Mrs. D. Belgents - - -	16	25	1	2	-	-	-	2	3
Dauchamp Belgents - - -	12	14	2	-	-	-	-	3	3
Mrs The. Belgents - - -	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Francis Le Villoux - - -	7	11	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Mrs. Polain Chamfleury - - -	5	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Mrs. Lions - - -	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Richard Jones - - -	9	8	3	8	2	-	-	-	-
Raymond Le Guerre - - -	5	5	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
Blaise Aubrey - - -	16	10	5	1	-	-	-	3	3
Mess <sup>rs</sup> Billerys - - -	44	58	-	-	-	-	-	12	15 E
Mrs. Despon - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
J F Des avenier - - -	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
William Mackay - - -	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
James M <sup>r</sup> Allister - - -	9	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Geochin Genovise - - -	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Joseph Desmoulin - - -	8	7	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
Elix Grandmaison - - -	-	8	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Bruno Lagarite - - -	50	36	14	13	6	-	-	10	2
Paulin Lagarite - - -	22	31	2	-	1	-	-	5	2
Sylvestre Le Corn - - -	4	3	3	2	3	-	-	3	-
Either Le Corn - - -	9	3	2	-	1	-	-	2	-
Romain Le Corn - - -	4	3	4	2	2	-	-	-	-
Fascal Laucler - - -	12	9	5	5	4	-	-	11	4
Scipio's Estate - - -	20	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mary Helene - - -	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Widow Joseph - - -	6	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Joseph Augustin - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charles Bruce - - -	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Colombie - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over - - -	1,843	1,856	230	161	76	7	4	351	330

E. 54

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	1,848	1,856	230	161	76	7	4	35 <sup>1</sup>	33 <sup>0</sup>
Marriet La Roux - - -	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ferminé Draïcon - - -	3	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Étienne Louis - - -	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Widow Morille - - -	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andrew L'Aventure - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jacques Jolly - - -	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cath. M <sup>e</sup> Allister - - -	2	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cæsar Winston's Estate -	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Rose Pierre - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Francis Sylvester - - -	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Luke Tartanfan - - -	2	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
George Hodson - - -	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	1,868	1,881	235	165	78	7	4	35 <sup>1</sup>	334

We certify the within to be a true Return of the Slaves in the Parish of Saint George.

St George, Dec<sup>r</sup> 1799.

T. Court,  
A. B. Richardson,  
Crocquet Legrand,  
Andrew Jolly, } Commissioners.

## DOMINICA.

55 E.

(13.) In Mr. President Matfon's of the 5th January 1800.

(Copy.)

## DOMINICA.

NUMBER of SLAVES in the Town of ROSEAU; taken in conformity to the Act of this Island, passed the 11th Day of October 1799, for ascertaining the Number of Slaves, &c. &c. &c.

NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
John Lundin - - -	13	10	1	-	-	-	-	1	3
Thomas Shillingford - - -	6	5	2	1	-	-	-	3	1
Francis Collins - - -	3	7	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Alexander Maclachlan - - -	4	6	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Chales Winston - - -	4	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Hugh Tran - - -	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Robert Reide - - -	6	7	1	-	-	-	-	6	5
Robinson and Dodds - - -	9	2	1	-	-	-	-	3	-
Robert Weare - - -	4	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
Ethier Dunbar - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Griell - - -	6	2	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
Mary Maclachlan - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Betsy Daley - - -	1	13	-	2	1	-	-	4	5
Abraham Chollet - - -	7	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Francis Refington - - -	1	3	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
Jacob Rosier - - -	1	2	-	5	3	-	-	-	-
Mad <sup>le</sup> Leyeat - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Clock - - -	5	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Marriett Mionthaud - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Culpeper - - -	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Eliza Fairchild - - -	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
John Gordon - - -	7	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dejean and Wilkinfon - - -	17	2	7	-	-	-	-	5	-
Zach. Baker - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Green - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mrs. Browne - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthony Gordon - - -	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Thomas Cubbin - - -	14	9	3	2	-	-	-	-	-
John Cubbin - - -	1	3	1	3	1	-	-	3	2
Ann Carrol - - -	9	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ann M <sup>c</sup> Clellan - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Johnfon Henderson - - -	7	2	4	3	1	-	-	-	-
Carried over - - -	141	129	31	25	9	-	-	26	23

(ROSEAU.)									
NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	TOTAL of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Inhabitants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - -	141	129	31	25	9	-	-	26	23
Neilson and Heathcote - - -	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Henry Southern - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Shipley - - -	4	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
Linny Brayshay - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Miss Ochterlonys - - -	4	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Pierre Capdeville - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Joseph Keishall - - -	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Fanny Tran - - -	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
James Ryrie - - -	15	13	1	-	-	-	-	2	2
Priscilla Hobson - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Catherine Gillon - - -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
George Blizard - - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marie Francoise Garcon - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alexander Ryrie - - -	7	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Houfman & Postlethwaite - - -	15	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
Samuel Wallace - - -	2	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
John Greenway - - -	5	6	3	1	-	-	-	1	2
Michael Bingel - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mary Ann Hill - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
William Nufum - - -	1	8	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Mary White - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Bowen - - -	7	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Antoine Fontaine - - -	1	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Jennet Pierre - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Sufannah Conyard - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Hall - - -	10	6	5	-	1	-	-	3	-
Alexander Hall - - -	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bartholomew Marigny - - -	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Hilarie Roche - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elizabeth Hodge - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Ann Pinard - - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Marshal - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Pierre Sonomo - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
John Wardrobe - - -	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polly Lee - - -	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	3	5
Francois Long - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sufannah Holford - - -	2	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
William Rofington - - -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Dinah Cubbin - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Rachael Hardy - - -	1	5	-	1	-	2	-	1	- E
Vieve Christian - - -	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
Belve Leefon - - -	1	3	-	4	2	-	-	1	1
Hon <sup>ble</sup> John Marlon - - -	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Carried over - - -	268	269	49	38	15	2	-	50	50

## DOMINICA.

57 E.

(ROSEAU.) NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over	268	269	49	38	15	2	-	50	50
John Matson, jun'	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1
Archibald Taylor	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vieve Giraud	27	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Robert Wance	9	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
James Clark	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Alexander Stewart	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Francis Bertrand	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sufannah Williams	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Ann Rose Langudoc	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Lucretia Seaburn	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Jean Bessé	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Toma Depining	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1 E
James Bostick	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Antoine La Masque	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Le Roy	5	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-
James Wilson	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Louis Renaud	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matrose Rock	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Simon Mattie	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Joseph Christine	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
James Dauchamp	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Samuel Gray	4	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Vieve Scipio's Son	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Grace Bruce	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elizabeth Gonzel	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Antoine Moreau	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Jean Serjeanton	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pierre Maffieur	7	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 E
Joseph Casavana	14	14	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
Francois Burch	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Casamire Sexiflino	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Jeane Touzy	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adelaide Combe	-	5	-	3	-	-	-	1	-
Rofette Judah	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Celette Belhody	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Paulin Boleau	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Dumas	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Dumas's Sister	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pierre Cricket	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1 E
Dorothie Dufausay	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rose Giroux	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Charles Mogier	4	3	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
Jn° Louis Le Grand	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over	397	411	57	51	17	2	-	63	74

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

(ROSEAU.)									
NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	397	411	57	51	17	2	- -	63	74
John Lucas - - - -	4	5	1	1	1	- -	- -	- -	1
Louis Michelle - - -	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bertrand Lettic - - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
John B <sup>e</sup> Plumago - - -	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Cerele Jolly - - - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gessey Bressley - - -	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	2 E
Catherine Charles - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eutatia Petit - - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Peggy Monfrey - - - -	5	2	-	1	1	-	-	2	4
Thomas Crawford - - -	7	7	1	-	1	-	-	3	1
Cerele Clark - - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>e</sup> Goudineau - - -	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Peter Cuthbert - - - -	4	5	2	1	1	-	-	2	3
Rachael Stewart - - -	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Jacque Jolly - - - -	2	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Tazie Chollet - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mary Fillan - - - -	3	5	2	1	-	-	-	-	1
William Judah - - - -	7	4	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
William Brimmer - - -	4	-	7	-	4	-	-	-	-
Andrew Fillan - - - -	6	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
James Johnstone - - -	3	1	2	3	1	-	-	1	-
George Noyce - - - -	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
James Laing - - - -	25	26	2	3	-	-	-	4	5
Jn <sup>o</sup> Gordon & John Lucas	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jof. Cullimore - - - -	5	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Cullimore & Boxwell -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Louis D'Anglemont - -	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	- E
Clare Vings - - - -	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	2 E
Marie Anne Antoinnete -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2 E
Romeo Howison - - - -	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Marie Angeron - - - -	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Christine Morret - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Vieve Ann Caramel - - -	3	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Priscilla M <sup>e</sup> Bean - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
William Milne - - - -	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Betsy Burns - - - -	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Fanny Nugent - - - -	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Harriet Kelly - - - -	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Roffette - - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	- E
Nancy Stewart - - - -	1	9	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Mariet Le Brosse - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Kemp - - - -	3	7	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
John Fr' Talbot - - - -	9	7	1	-	-	-	-	2	4 E
Carried over - - - -	524	568	84	69	29	3	- -	87	107

DOMINICA.

59 E.

(ROSEAU.)									
NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	524	568	84	69	29	3	-	87	107
Vieve Talbot - - - -	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Bridget Paris - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Pepe Felix - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maria Pritchard - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Penda Robinson - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lucy Eyre - - - -	2	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mariat Goffe - - - -	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Eliza Minshell - - - -	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
John Walsh - - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Major Hawley, 45th Reg <sup>t</sup>	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Doctor Carrol, D <sup>o</sup> - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rachael Bolton - - - -	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Edward H. Beech - - -	5	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	1
Isaac Polidore - - - -	3	9	-	-	-	-	-	2	1 E
Jn <sup>o</sup> Pierre Roux - - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
John Houfton - - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Eliza Buardfall - - - -	5	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mrs. Carter - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vieve Lemoine - - - -	3	4	-	1	-	-	-	2	1 E
Vieve Loriell - - - -	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Marie Pantier - - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Mary Ann Anglois - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Bill Fond Barbot - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1 E
Madame Chambers - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amie Lafie - - - -	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Marie Reine Lafie - - -	7	13	5	-	3	-	-	-	1
Elizabeth Moore - - - -	4	7	-	1	1	-	-	1	1
Margaret Blanchet - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leonard Lafont - - - -	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marriane R. Lafont - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marie Rose Fontaine - -	6	8	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Christian Racine - - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	- E
Lucretia Richards - - -	1	5	-	3	1	-	-	-	1
Pierre Jarland - - - -	4	5	1	2	1	-	-	-	- E
Thomas Brie - - - -	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	- E
Etienne La Caze - - - -	1	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	- E
Cyprian Bocquet & Wife	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Louifa Bocquet - - - -	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Philip Longvilliers - -	4	8	2	-	-	-	-	6	-
Amable Nicholas - - - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
John Young - - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Belinda Jacques La Mar	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Marriane Cuinier - - -	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over - -	609	729	94	82	36	3	-	108	123



E. 60

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

(ROSEAU.)									
NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	609	729	94	82	36	3	- -	108	123
Michael Confidine - -	8	3	2	1	2	-	-	1	1
Zabet Raymond - - -	1	5	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Thomas Rainy - - -	15	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Moise Chevalier - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Jean Louis Delor - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Genevieve Dekin - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Catherine Pascal - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1 E
Thomas Prior - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jn° L. Chas. Guichard - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Maria Victoire Chevalier	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Jn° B° Serrett - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jo° Franchon - - -	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vieve Christopher Duguet	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Eliza Carigny - - -	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Harriet Richardson - - -	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Luke Kearne - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Victoire Thomas - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Simon S° Leger - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Jn° B° Jolly - - -	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Betty Brice - - -	2	5	1	1	1	-	-	-	2
Mano Moore - - -	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Francois Village - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mrs. Glanville - - -	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vieve Geo. Petit - - -	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
George Thomas - - -	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Thomas Tafon - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Francois Romaine - - -	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pierre Cha° Davidat - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Didian Jackeen - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
John Mariel - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Occasion Cudare - - -	-	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	1
Jenny Moody - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jean Plate - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mrs. Warner - - -	3	10	-	1	-	-	-	3	2
Fragel Le Brune - - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Jones Edwards - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
William Arnold - - -	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Thomas Warner - - -	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jennet Lefeu - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mary Ann Ruffell - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rebecca Grahame - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Elizabeth Winton - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Louis Rolle - - -	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Carried over - -	674	837	100	96	40	3	- -	118	142

## DOMINICA.

61

(ROSEAU.) NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - -	674	837	100	96	40	3	-	118	142
James Fin - - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Zabet D'Anglemont - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eloi Petit - - - -	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Puffile de Sablons - - -	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 E
James Nicolls - - - -	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Jean Rose Macleod - - -	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Penny Winton - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Leger Maffey - - - -	1	4	1	1	-	-	-	5	-
Alexis Chafot - - - -	7	13	1	-	1	-	-	6	3
Paulen Vanibergen - - -	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Rose Vanibergen Petit - -	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	2 E
Francois Bourdet - - -	10	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mary Raymond - - - -	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Catherine Dubois - - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
Christian Ann Barry - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Veronique Bardonell - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benoit Germaine - - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rosalie Lacoudre - - - -	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Etienne Maffey - - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Etienne Gilbert - - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Margaret Jumet - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alexander Petit - - - -	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Eliza Newberry - - - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rosette Serrant - - - -	9	9	3	4	2	-	2	2	3
Tobias Pamilio - - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marianne Galvan - - - -	3	4	1	1	-	-	1	1	-
John S <sup>t</sup> Martin - - - -	3	4	4	4	2	-	-	-	- E
Maniel Maricule - - - -	2	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	1 E
Madame Douillard - - - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Madame Chefat Davide - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Elizabeth Tiltton - - - -	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Mrs Myler - - - -	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Martha Younger - - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	3	3
Anfelme Dafminiel - - -	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	2 E
Cicile Itar - - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	- E
Marianne Cordan - - - -	16	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
John Frazer - - - -	3	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Frazer, Urquhart, and C <sup>o</sup>	19	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jennet Lefrize - - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quaylie Wattleworth - - -	8	2	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
Joseph M. Petit - - - -	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	2	1 E
J. B. Dumouchel - - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	- E
Christian Forbes - - - -	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Carried over - - -	809	978	117	114	50	3	3	154	179

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

(ROSEAU.)									
NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - -	809	978	117	114	50	3	3	154	179
Polly Brade - - -	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ned Howison - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charles Defravine - - -	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Robertine Defravine - - -	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Madame De Chateau - - -	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Elizabeth De Chateau - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Celeste De Chateau - - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Josephine Daen - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Harriet Lamet - - -	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1 E
Madame Reid - - -	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Vieve Valleau - - -	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
J. B. Despond - - -	12	15	-	-	-	-	-	4	4 E
Jn° B° Barbateau - - -	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Mary Atwood - - -	-	7	1	1	-	-	-	1	1
Cloude Gaume - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Mary Williams - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Francois La Croix - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marie Anne Leger - - -	2	3	4	1	3	-	-	5	-
David Constance - - -	2	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Marriane Joseph - - -	2	7	5	-	-	1	-	4	4
Roffette L'Amie - - -	2	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Roffette Bardouille - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mary Clark - - -	1	6	-	3	-	-	-	5	2
Mrs. Dowdy - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Alexandrine Petit - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mad. M. C. Fontaine - - -	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Lucy Weby - - -	6	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Jonah Winton - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sandafeen Morlier - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Judy André - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Harriet Davis - - -	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Anne Mary Scipio - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thomas Cubbin - - -	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Bartholomew Barchi's - - -	8	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 E
Flora Pigza - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Judy Poifon - - -	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1 E
Rachel Nibbs - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Cuffy Balian - - -	2	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Louita Vings Brade - - -	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Cuffy Jack Frere - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Henrietta Kendrick - - -	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Mary Gould - - -	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
Celeste Demondy - - -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carried over - - -	889	1,113	129	135	57	4	3	179	202

## DOMINICA.

63 E.

(ROSEAU.)									
NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - -	839	1,113	129	135	57	4	3	179	202
Michell Du Portail - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Henry Labord - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E
Louis Marcelle - -	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Peggy M <sup>c</sup> Ginnis - -	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Penny Fitzmorris - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nancy Casey - -	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Laurie M <sup>c</sup> Ginnis - -	1	1	2	-	2	-	1	-	-
Ratafie Fletcher - -	2	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Amanda Tucker - -	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Madame Valley - -	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
Joannah Clapham - -	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Marie Antoine - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ann Fafton - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marriat Gillon - -	4	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mart Guay - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Est <sup>e</sup> Therese Roderay - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amoranthe Page - -	6	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Thomas Simpton - -	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Crawford - -	6	4	2	-	-	-	-	2	1
Miss Ruffels - -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Jean Louis - -	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marriet Laugier - -	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	E
Thomas Bignel - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Betsy Jones - -	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	E
Vieve André - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
James Monbuchar - -	5	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Joseph Duverney - -	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jane Delegal - -	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Elizabeth Gardner - -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nancy Daniel - -	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	E
Jennet Soifie - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Valentine Quin - -	9	10	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
William Weal - -	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mary Crooke - -	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jof. Cannonville - -	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vieve Coufier - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	2
Nancy Campbell - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Henry Constable - -	28	23	4	2	1	-	-	4	4
William Constable - -	1	1	1	2	2	-	-	2	E
Pierre Pajafcy - -	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Maria Gall - -	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Alexander M <sup>c</sup> Ginnis - -	3	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
William Anderson - -	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Carried over - -	1,003	1,261	142	150	65	4	3	199	239

(ROSEAU.)									
NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over	1,003	1,261	142	150	65	4	3	199	239
William James	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Richard Addison	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	1	1
Elizabeth Barry	6	9	—	1	—	—	—	5	3
Ann Barry	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
F <sup>n</sup> Green	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Francis Harper	6	9	2	3	3	—	—	5	5
Anthony Dufrayer	5	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mons <sup>r</sup> Bouglaud	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mary Stewart	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
John Stewart	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Mad. Rolle	3	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. Abeg	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
John Cha <sup>r</sup> Constable	20	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Mrs. Morgue	6	12	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Mrs. R. Morfon	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Kitty Ann Cowes	—	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
Edward Laurent	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Joseph Desmoulin	7	8	—	2	—	—	—	2	2
Nancy Cooper	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Christopher Robert	3	4	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
Benj <sup>n</sup> Chateau	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Mary Corlet	18	11	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>te</sup> Gilbert	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Robert Garraway	10	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Frances Corlet	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Matrose Martial	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Justine Fidell	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nan Lagarite	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
John P <sup>re</sup> Bartholomew	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Geo. Metcalf	21	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
Mary Savage	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mad. Dufae Valtour	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
John B <sup>te</sup> Pinnet	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
William Wilbraham	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
John B <sup>te</sup> Petit	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lucy Neilson	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Sally Webley	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Alexis Vocfens	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Vieve Reviere	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Vieve Bayeaux	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marie Cele. Jean	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marie Louisa Cardow	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Rose Vincent	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carried over	1,149	1,396	151	171	74	4	3	227	269

## D O M I N I C A.

65 E.

(ROSEAU.)  NAMES of PROPRIETORS.	Total of MALE Slaves.	Total of FEMALE Slaves.	Number of MALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of FEMALE Slaves imported from Africa, and bought within Three Years.	Number of such Slaves who have died.	Number of Births of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of Infants of such imported Slaves.	Number of Deaths of all other Slaves during that Period.	Number of Births of all other Slaves during that Period.
Brought over - - -	1,149	1,396	151	171	74	4	3	227	269
Saint Victoire - - -	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Kitfey Warburton - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frances Somerville - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
W <sup>m</sup> Daniel and Ja <sup>s</sup> Brade	12	7	3	2	-	-	-	1	1
Madame La May - - -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Polly Audain - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mrs. Caverley - - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sebina Brade - - -	1	10	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Joseph Mather - - -	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
William Stewart - - -	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
William Henderfon - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madame Morliere - - -	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ann Lithcote - - -	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Mrs. Stewart - - -	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madame Dufaufay - - -	2	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Madame Sicard - - -	3	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Marriat Sicard - - -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madelonette Sicard - - -	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mary Fillan - - -	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Silvia Webley - - -	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Henry M <sup>c</sup> Corrie - - -	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1,182	1,456	158	183	75	4	3	230	276

We the Commissioners appointed to ascertain the Number of Slaves in the Town of ROSEAU, &c. do hereby certify the foregoing to be a just and true Return.

Roseau, 10th November 1799.

John Lundin,  
Robert Reid,  
James Dodds, } Commissioners.



F.

G R E N A D A .

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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- No. 1.—Extract of Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated  
13th July 1797 - - - - - P. 3.
- No. 2.—Another - - - dated 10th August 1797 - - - - - }  
 (Three Enclosures.) }  
 (1.) The Governor to the Council - - - - - } PP. 3, 4, 5.  
 (2.) The Assembly to the Governor - - - - - }  
 (3.) Extract Minutes of the Assembly; 25th July 1797 - - - - - }
- No. 3.—Extract Letter from the Duke of Portland to Governor Green; 13th September  
1797 - - - - - P. 5.
- No. 4.—Another; for D<sup>o</sup> to D<sup>o</sup> - - - 3d October 1797 - - - - - ibid.
- No. 5.—Extract of Letter from Governor Green to the Duke of Portland,  
20th February 1798 - - - - - } p. 6. to  
 (One Enclosure.) } 15.  
 Act for the Protection, &c. of Slaves - - - - - }
- No. 6.—Governor Green to the Duke of Portland; - - - 10th June 1798 - - p. 15.
- No. 7.—The Duke of Portland to Governor Green; - - 17th July 1798 - - }  
 No. 8.—Another - - - - - 12th August 1798 - - }  
 No. 9.—Extract, Governor Green to the Duke of Portland - 3d September 1798 - } p. 16.  
 No. 10.—Another - - - - - 5th November 1798 - }  
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## F.

## GRENADA.

No. 1.—Extract of a Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada, 13th July 1797.

I AM also to acknowledge the honour of your Grace's Letter of the 6th May last, marked Duplicate and Circular, accompanied by a \*Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th April last, respecting the Negroes on His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, and I shall not fail, in obedience to His Majesty's commands, to take the earliest opportunity of communicating the said Resolution to the Council and Assembly of this Colony, and at the same time of recommending to their particular attention and consideration, the formation of such a system of measures, as may appear to them best suited to the attainment of the several important objects therein specified. \* See p.

I shall take care, in conformity to your Grace's instructions, to transmit from time to time to your Grace, accounts of the proceedings of the Legislature of this Island in consequence of that communication; and I beg leave to assure your Grace, that I shall be attentive to avail myself of every opportunity of cultivating and improving such disposition, as I may observe in the Planters and Inhabitants to promote the humane and beneficent views, which the Legislature of Great Britain has so eminently manifested in the Resolution which has been transmitted to me.

An Act of the Legislature of this Island, commonly called "The Guardian Act," which contained many provisions tending to promote the purposes expressed in the Resolution of the House of Commons, was in force for four years, and expired in the Year 1792: in the beginning of the following year it was renewed, but the disturbance which soon after happened put an end to its operation. Some months ago, a Bill was brought into the House of Assembly, the object of which was, the better protection of the Slaves, &c. this Bill was ordered to be committed; but I presume some difficulties have hitherto retarded its progress, however, I make no doubt that on the first meeting of the Legislature, which is to take place in a few days, this subject will be taken into immediate and serious consideration.

No. 2. — Extract of a Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada, 10th August 1797.

(Three Enclosures.)

IN obedience to His Majesty's commands, conveyed to me in your Grace's Dispatch, of the 6th of May last, I have laid before the Council and Assembly, the Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes on His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, and I have now the honour to transmit to your Grace, copies of my Message on the subject to the different branches of the Legislature, and their joint Resolutions thereupon.

I have

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES:

I have the further satisfaction to acquaint your Grace, that a Bill is now under the consideration of the House of Assembly, the provisions of which are made with a view to the attainment of the important objects expressed in the Resolutions of the House of Commons before mentioned, and I trust that it will soon be in that state of forwardness, to enable me to transmit it home, to receive His Majesty's approbation or disallowance.

(1.)—In Governor Green's, of the 10th August 1797.

The Governor to the Honourable the President and Members of His Majesty's Council.

The Governor has received a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, dated 6th May last; transmitting to him by the King's commands, a Resolution of the Honourable the House of Commons, respecting the Negroes on His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies; which Resolution, the Governor being directed to take the earliest opportunity of communicating to the Council and Assembly of Grenada, he thinks he cannot do it more properly than by laying before them, together with the said Resolutions, a Copy of the Secretary of State's Letter on that subject.

The near interest which His Majesty and the House of Commons of Great Britain appear to have taken in the welfare of the Colonies in the West Indies, is so clearly manifested by their proceedings on this occasion, and the importance of the matters thereby recommended to the consideration of the Legislature, is, at the same time, so evident, that it becomes entirely unnecessary for the Governor to add any thing further from himself, other than to assure the Council, that his most hearty and zealous concurrence and co-operation shall not be wanting to any measures the Legislature may think proper to adopt, for the attainment of the essential objects now submitted to their deliberations.

(Signed)

*Chas. Green.*

July 24th 1797.

A true Copy.

*Fred<sup>t</sup> Newcome, Secretary.*

Similar Message, Copy of the Secretary of State's Letter, and Resolutions of the House of Commons, were sent at the same time to the Assembly.

(2.)—In Governor Green's, of the 10th August 1797.

The Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly, to his Excellency the Governor.

This House having taken into their consideration your Excellency's Message, of the 24th instant, communicating his Grace the Duke of Portland's letter, of 6th May last, enclosing the Resolution of the House of Commons respecting the Negroes on His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, have come to several Resolutions thereon, in which the honourable Board of Council have concurred, and herewith transmit the said joint Resolution for the information of your Excellency.

(Signed)

*James Hay, Speaker.*

House of Assembly,  
20th June 1779.

A true Copy.

*Fred<sup>t</sup> Newcome, Sec<sup>y</sup>.*

## GRENADA.

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(3.)—In Governor Green's, of the 10th August 1797.

Extract from the Minutes of the Assembly, 25th July 1797.

Resolved, That a Message be sent to his Excellency the Governor, thanking him for his communication of his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter, of the 6th of May last, enclosing the Resolution of the House of Commons respecting the Negroes on His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, recommending the adoption of such measures as shall appear to the Legislature best calculated to obviate the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes in the Islands, and to employ such means as may conduce to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes, and secure to them throughout all the British West India Islands, the certain, immediate, and active protection of the law.

Resolved, That the Legislature of these Islands have not hitherto been remiss in their endeavours to accomplish the above desirable ends. In the year 1788, an Act was passed for the better protection, and for promoting the increase and population of Slaves, and other purposes, commonly called "The Guardian Act," in which the corporal punishment of Slaves by their Masters was restricted, their hour of labour defined, a sufficiency of food and clothing provided, and the clergymen of the different parishes enjoined frequently to visit the plantations, and instruct the Slaves in the Christian Religion, to baptize and marry them without fee or reward, and to administer the Sacrament to such as they might deem fit to receive it. The person of the Slave was thoroughly protected from any wanton or undue exercise of power, and secured in every benefit of the laws. That this or similar Acts continued in force till the year 1793.

That, previous to the breaking out of the insurrection, there was a Guardian Bill again before the Legislature, which that very disastrous event prevented being immediately passed into a law. That after order and peace had again been established in the Colony, a new Bill for the same purposes, was brought into the House of Assembly on the 24th of November last, and is now before the House; that his Excellency may be assured this House will, as speedily as possible, adopt whatever measures shall appear to them necessary for fulfilling the wishes of the Honourable the House of Commons, as expressed in their Resolution of 6th April last.

A true Extract.

(Signed)

*Tho. Lynch,*  
Clerk of the Assembly.

A true Copy.

*Fred<sup>d</sup> Newcome,* Secretary.

No. 3.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Green; dated Whitehall, 13th September 1797.

I AM truly sensible of your attention to the subject matter of my Letter to you, of the 6th of May last, accompanying a Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April preceding.

No. 4.— Whitehall, 3d October 1797.

Sir,

I HAVE laid before the King, your Letter of the 10th of August last.

I have much satisfaction in observing the readiness you have shewn, in attending to the important objects pointed out to you by the Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes on His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies.

I am, &amp;c.

*Portland.*

To Governor Green,  
&c. &c. &c.

## F. 6 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES:

No. 5.—Extract of a Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada, 20th February 1798.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace by this opportunity, under a separate cover, a certified Copy of an Act of the Legislature of this Colony, which has been lately passed; viz.

“ An Act for the better protection, and for promoting the natural increase and population of Slaves within the Island of Grenada, and such of the Grenadines as are annexed to the Government thereof, &c. &c.”

This Act has been passed, with a view to the attainment of the important objects specified in the Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April last, transmitted to me by your Grace on the 6th of May; the regulations it contains, are not so full as might be wished; but, in the present situation of the Colony, it has not been thought expedient to adopt a system of a more extensive nature.

## GRENADA.

(Copy)

By his Excellency Charles Green, esquire, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Island of Grenada, and such of the Islands commonly called The Grenadines, to the Southward of the Island of Carriacow, including that Island, and lying between the same and Grenada in America, Chancellor, Ordinary, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

KNOW ye, That on the day of the date hereof, George Henry Horsley, esquire, Deputy Secretary of the said island of Grenada and its Dependencies, personally came and appeared before me, and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that the Copy of the Act hereunto annexed, intituled, “ An Act for the better protection, and for promoting the natural increase and population of Slaves within the island of Grenada, and such of the Grenadines as are annexed to the Government thereof; for compelling an adequate provision for the care of them, as well in sickness and in old age, as in health, and for constituting and appointing Guardians to effectuate and carry into execution the regulations and purposes of this Act,” is a true Copy from the original Act remaining in the Secretary’s Office of this Island, and was by him the said Deponent diligently compared and carefully examined with the said original.

In faith and testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and have caused His Majesty’s great seal, appointed for the said island of Grenada and its Dependencies, to be hereunto put and affixed.

Given at the town of Saint George, in the said island of Grenada, this 3d day of May, in the year of our Lord 1798, and in the 38th year of His Majesty’s reign.

(Signed)

*Charles Green.*

By his Excellency’s Command,

(Signed)

*George Chalmers.*

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“ An ACT for the better protection, and for promoting  
 “ the natural increase and population of Slaves within  
 “ the Island of Grenada, and such of the Grenadines  
 “ as are annexed to the Government thereof; for com-  
 “ pelling an adequate provision for, and care of them,  
 “ as well in sickness and old age, as in health, and for  
 “ constituting and appointing Guardians to effectuate  
 “ and carry into execution the regulations and purposes  
 “ of this Act.”

WHEREAS the Laws heretofore made for the protection of Slaves, and for Preamble.  
 divers other of the benevolent purposes intended by this present Act, having been  
 temporary, are expired, and humanity and the interest of the Colony require that  
 the same, or other equally salutary and sufficient regulations and provisions,  
 should be adopted and ordained, for rendering the servitude and labour of Slaves  
 as limited and easy as possible, and for promoting the natural increase of their  
 population, as the most likely means of removing, in a course of time, the necessity  
 of further importations of Slaves from Africa: And whereas these desirable ends  
 cannot be more effectually attained, than by compelling the Owners and Masters  
 of Slaves sufficiently and properly to lodge, feed, clothe, and maintain them,  
 as well during health and their capacity to labour, as in time of sickness, old age,  
 and infirmities, by prescribing reasonable bounds to the power of Masters and  
 others having the charge of Slaves, by introducing them to the knowledge of the  
 Christian Religion, and affording them opportunity of improving in Morality; and  
 by constituting a proper tribunal of Guardianship, for the hearing, examination,  
 and redress of their grievances, and security of their rights and immunities hereby  
 granted and established: May it therefore please the King's most Excellent Majesty,  
 that it may be enacted and ordained;

And be it and it is hereby enacted by his Excellency Charles Green, esquire, Clause 1.  
 Captain General and Governor in Chief of the island of Grenada, and the Gren-  
 adines annexed to the Government thereof, the honourable the Members of the  
 Council, and the Representatives of the people of the said Islands, in General  
 Assembly convened, and by the authority of the same, That immediately, and from  
 time to time and at all times, from and after the publication of this Act, every  
 Proprietor, Owner, or Possessor of any plantation or estate, shall provide for and  
 allow to at least every head of a family of Slaves thereunto attached, one good and  
 comfortable house, with one or more cabanes or beds to sleep upon, raised at  
 least one foot from the ground; and shall also allot and appoint for every Slave  
 (domestics excepted) above the age of 14 years, as and for his or her proper  
 ground, such a quantity or portion of the land of the said plantation or estate, to  
 which such Slave may be attached, or of such other contiguous lands as shall be  
 approved by the Guardians of Slaves, appointed in manner hereinafter mentioned,  
 as sufficiently near and convenient for such provision ground, as in the estimation  
 of such Guardians for that parish wherein such plantation or estate shall be situate,  
 or the majority of them, shall be deemed sufficient, when under proper cultivation,  
 to produce such a quantity of ground provisions, as, with the ordinary allowance  
 of salt provisions, of the quantity whereof such Guardians are to judge, will be com-  
 pletely adequate to the maintenance and support of such Slave, and shall allow every  
 such Slave from noon in some one day of every week, or one whole day in  
 every fortnight, besides Sunday (except in time of crop) for the purpose of working  
 and cultivating his or her grounds; which said grounds, when once allotted, shall not be  
 exchanged or taken away from any such Slaves without his or her consent, by him or  
 her expressed to the Guardians of such districts or parish, whilst such Slave shall remain  
 on the estate to which such land so allotted to him or her belongs (except in manner  
 and upon the terms next hereinafter mentioned); that is to say, provided always, that  
 if the persons having the charge of any plantation or estate, shall find it necessary  
 or expedient to change the provision grounds allotted to the Slaves of such plan-  
 tation

F. 8 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES:

tation or estate, and such consent of the Slaves shall not be expressed as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for any such person to allot other sufficient grounds for that purpose, and to call on the Guardians of the district or parish to examine and approve of the quantity, quality, and situation of such proposed new provision grounds; and if the said Guardians, or a majority of them, shall approve of such new provision grounds, then and in every such case, from and after the expiration of twelve calendar months after such new allotment and approbation as aforesaid, or such longer period, according to the season of the year, as the Guardians shall judge necessary to enable the Slaves to put such newly allotted grounds into proper cultivation, but not sooner, or otherwise it shall and may be lawful for any such person to take in and put into cultivation, the grounds so first allotted for the use of the Slaves.

Clause 2. And whereas there may be some estates which, from the nature of the soil and particular situation, are not so proper for the cultivation of provisions, and were the Proprietors or Possessors compelled to allot portions thereof to every Slave, for the purpose of cultivating provisions completely adequate to his or her maintenance, as hereinbefore directed, it might be attended with ruinous consequences to such estates, without answering the purposes thereby intended; Be it and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every Proprietor, Owner, or Possessor of any plantation or estate, which, in the judgment of the Guardians, shall be so circumstanced in point of soil or situation, shall have it in his or her option or choice, with the approbation of the Guardians, either to make such allotments of lands as aforesaid as provision grounds, for the maintenance of the Slaves attached thereto, or to give them a weekly allowance of provisions, completely adequate to their maintenance: Provided always, that there shall be at least one-fortieth part of an acre allotted to each Slave, contiguous to the Negro houses, for the purpose of cultivating a garden for their sole use and benefit.

Clause 3. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every such Proprietor, Owner, or Possessor as aforesaid, shall annually allow and give to every Slave whom he or she shall own, rent, or possess, decent and sufficient clothing, according to the respective sex and age of such Slave, to be approved of and directed by the Guardians of the district wherein the plantation or estate to which such Slave may be attached shall be; and if any Proprietor, Owner, or Possessor of any plantation or estate, do or shall neglect or refuse to comply with or obey any of the provisions of this clause, he, she, or they, shall for every such neglect or refusal, forfeit and pay the sum of five pounds for every Slave who shall not be so clothed as herein is directed, to be recovered, paid, and applied in manner hereinafter prescribed.

Clause 4. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in all cases when Slaves are not attached to or resident on any plantation or estate, the Proprietors or Possessors of all and every of such Slaves, shall provide for and furnish such Slaves with comfortable lodging, and ample provisions of wholesome food, and with decent clothing in every year, to be approved and directed by the Guardians of the district where such Proprietor, or, in his or her absence, his or her acting Attorney, shall be resident, under the penalty last mentioned.

Clause 5. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, in order to restrain arbitrary punishments, That from and after the publication of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any Proprietor of a Slave or Slaves, or for the Attorney of such Proprietor, or, in his or her absence, nor for the Manager, Overseer, or other free person, having the management or direction of such Slave or Slaves in the absence of the Proprietor, and where there is no Attorney resident, to inflict, or cause or knowingly suffer to be inflicted on any Slave, any corporal punishment other than imprisonment, in a proper and wholesome place of confinement, and whipping, not exceed 39 lashes at one time, and for any one offence or fault which by him or her may be committed; and that in all cases when either the Proprietor is resident on the estate, or, if absent, has an Attorney resident thereon, it shall not be lawful for any Manager, Overseer, or free person employed under such Proprietor or Attorney,

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to inflict, or cause or knowingly suffer to be inflicted, on any such Slave, any corporal punishment other than confinement in a proper place, and whipping, not to exceed 12 lashes at one time, and for any one offence or fault by him or her committed; nor shall any such Proprietor, Attorney, Manager, or Overseer, or other free person as aforesaid, inflict or suffer to be inflicted such punishment, nor any other number of lashes in the same day, nor until the delinquent has recovered from the effects of any former punishment, under the penalty of £. 20. for every such excess or repetition of punishment, to be recovered against the person directing or permitting the same: Provided always, that in all cases where the Proprietor or other person having charge of any such Slave, shall conceive the fault committed, although by law not cognizable by Justices of the Peace, to be of such enormity as to deserve more exemplary punishment than is hereinbefore allowed to be inflicted, it shall and may be lawful for him to cause such offending Slave to be carried before any two Justices of the Peace, and such Justices are hereby authorized to hear and examine into every such complaint, and to direct such corporal punishment, not extending to life or limb, as the offence shall in their discretion merit; after which punishment, inflicted by order of the Justices as aforesaid, no further or other punishment whatever shall be inflicted on such Slave for that offence, by any person or persons whomsoever, under the similar penalty last hereinbefore mentioned of £. 20.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Proprietor, Attorney, Manager, Overseer, or other free person employed as aforesaid, do and shall, upon any pretence whatsoever, take upon himself or herself to inflict or cause to be inflicted on such Slave or Slaves as aforesaid, any heavier, greater, or other kind of corporal punishment than those which are hereinbefore in that respect limited and prescribed; every such Proprietor, Attorney, Manager, Overseer, or other person employed as aforesaid, shall and may for every such offence be proceeded against by presentment, information, or indictment, in the same manner as if the offence was committed against a free person, and, if found guilty, shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the Court wherein such offender shall have been tried and convicted; and in every atrocious case, when such offence shall appear to have been accompanied with any aggravating circumstance of singular inhumanity or maihem, and the person so convicted shall be Proprietor or Owner of such Slave or Slaves, it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the said Court, and they are hereby required to order and adjudge such Slave or Slaves to be delivered to, and taken possession of by the Guardians of the parish or district in which the plantation or estate to which such Slave or Slaves is or are attached, or where such Proprietor resides, to be by them forthwith sold and disposed of to some person of humane repute, for such price as the said Guardians shall deem fair and adequate, and can be procured for the same; and such Guardians are hereby authorized and required to sell the same, and the money arising therefrom to be forthwith paid to the Proprietor of such Slave or Slaves so sold as aforesaid; and such sale shall be deemed competent and sufficient in law, to vest the absolute property of such Slave or Slaves in the purchaser or purchasers thereof. Clause 6.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall not be lawful to or for the Proprietor, Owner, or Possessor of any plantation or estate, or any person or persons employed by or under such Proprietor, Owner, or Possessor, except in the art of manufacturing such species of produce as necessarily requires night or extra labour, to compel or oblige any Slave attached to or upon such plantation or estate, to leave his or her house in order to work in the field at his trade until day-break, or to work during the times of breakfasting and dining; for the first of which such Slave shall be allowed one half hour in the morning, and for the latter two hours (to wit) from twelve o'clock at noon to two in the afternoon; nor to compel any such Slaves to work after sunset, except in the carrying a bundle of grass or stock meat from the field to the stable, or other place where the same is to be consumed, under the penalty of ten pounds for every offence. Clause 7.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no Master, Owner, or Possessor of any Slave or Slaves, whether in his or her own right, or as Attorney, Guardian, Clause 8.



## F. 10 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES:

Guardian, Trustee, or otherwise howsoever, shall, under any pretence whatsoever, discard or turn away any such Slave or Slaves, being rendered incapable of labour or service by reason of sickness or disorder, age or infirmity; but every such Master, Owner, or Possessor, shall keep such Slave or Slaves upon his, her, or their respective properties, and feed and provide them with wholesome food, and decent, comfortable lodging and clothing, and other necessaries, and not suffer them for want thereof to wander about at large, and become a nuisance and burthensome to others for subsistence; and it shall and may be lawful for any white or free-coloured person to take up all such diseased or infirm Slave or Slaves, who may be found going about at large as above mentioned, and carry him, her, or them, before any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, or any of the Guardians for the town or parish where taken up, which Justice of the Peace or Guardian shall and he is hereby directed to make immediate enquiry into the conduct of such Owner, Possessor, Attorney, or Trustee; and if it shall appear to the said Justice or Guardian, that the Slaves going about at large be owing to neglect or mal-treatment from the Owner, Possessor, Attorney, or Trustee, he, she, or they so offending, shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of £. 10. current money, to be levied on their goods and chattels, by warrant under the hand and seal of the Justice or Guardian before whom convicted; one moiety to be paid to the person taking up the Slave as aforesaid, and the other moiety to be paid into the hands of the Treasurer, for the public uses of this government; and the Owner, Possessor, Attorney, or Trustee, shall forthwith enter into recognizance in the sum of fifty pounds, with two sufficient sureties in the sum of twenty-five pounds each, that the Slave shall in future be well treated, lodged, fed, and clothed; but in case of neglect or refusal to enter into recognizance as aforesaid, then it shall and may be lawful for the Justice or Guardian to commit the Slave to the charge of the cage-keeper of the nearest town where taken up, to be by him lodged and fed, for which he shall be entitled to receive from the Owner, Possessor, Attorney, or Trustee, at the rate of half a dollar per day, recoverable on his goods weekly, by warrant under the hand and seal of the Justice or Guardian committing, until he shall have entered into recognizance as aforesaid.

Clause 9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all Masters and Mistresses, Owners, or, in their absence, Managers and Overseers of Slaves, shall, as much as in them lies, endeavour the instruction of their Slaves in the principles of the Christian Religion, whereby to facilitate their conversion, and shall do their utmost endeavours to fit them for baptism, and, as soon as conveniently can be, cause to be baptized all such as they can make sensible of a duty to God and the Christian Faith, which ceremony the clergymen of the respective parishes are to perform gratis, and also to attend them in sickness when their spiritual aid may be required.

Clause 10. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That upon every plantation or estate in these Islands, there shall, within four months from and after the publication of this Act, be erected and built a good and sufficient hospital, in proportion to the number of Slaves on such plantation or estate, in a proper and healthy situation, for the infirm and sick Slaves, with proper attendants, into which all the Slaves, who shall be absent from their work under any pretence of sickness, shall be ordered and put by the Manager or Person having the charge of such plantation and Slaves, who is hereby further required and directed to keep a hospital book, with the names of the Slaves so admitted, the dates of their admission, and also of their dismissal or death, and in which shall be inserted by the surgeon or other medical attendant of the said plantation, the nature of their complaints or diseases.

Clause 11. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That at the time limited and appointed, or to be limited and appointed, in any and every Tax Bill for giving in a list of taxable objects in every year, the Owner, Overseer, or Manager of every plantation or estate, shall give in on oath a particular account of all the births and deaths of the Slaves of such plantation or estate for the preceding year, under the penalty of twenty pounds for every omission, to be recovered from the Owner of such plantation or estate; and if the not giving in upon oath such accounts shall be

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be owing to the neglect of the Manager or Overseer of such plantation or estate, it shall and may be lawful for the Owner or Possessor of such plantation or estate, to stop and detain the penalty he or she shall suffer by this law, out of the wages of such Manager or Overseer.

And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That such account shall also contain the causes of the deaths of such Slaves as shall have died during the preceding year, to be certified by the surgeon or principal medical attendant of such plantation or estate, to the best of his knowledge, judgment, and belief. Clause 12.

And, in order that encouragement may be given to the increase and protection of Negro infants, Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every female Slave who shall have six children living, shall be exempted from hard labour, and the Owner or Possessor of such female Slave shall be exempted from all taxes for such female Slave, and a deduction shall be made for all such female Slaves from the taxes of such Owner or Possessor, by certificate of the person or persons to be appointed by any Tax Bill to be hereafter passed for taking the lists of taxable objects, directed to the Treasurer of this Island for the time being, for which purpose proof shall be given on oath, to the satisfaction of such person or persons, not only that the requisite number of children, together with the mother, are living, but also that the mother is exempted from all manner of hard labour, and is provided with the means of an easy and comfortable maintenance. Clause 13.

And, in order to prevent any person from mutilating or dismembering any Slave or Slaves, Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Master, Mistress, Owner, or Possessor, or other person whatsoever, shall, at his, her, or their own will and pleasure, or his or their direction, or with his, her, or their knowledge, sufferance, privity, or consent, mutilate or dismember, or cause to be mutilated or dismembered, any Slave or Slaves, he, she, or they, shall be liable to be prosecuted by information or indictment for every such offence in the Court of King's Bench and Grand Sessions, or any other Court of similar Jurisdiction in these Islands, and, upon conviction, shall be punished by fine not less than £. 100. nor exceeding £. 500., and imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, for each and every Slave so mutilated or dismembered, and such punishment is declared to be without prejudice to any action that can or may be brought at common law, for recovery of damages for or on account of the same; and in every atrocious case, where the Owner of such Slave or Slaves shall be convicted of such offence, the Justices of the Court before whom such offender shall have been tried and convicted, are hereby empowered, in case they shall think it necessary for the future protection of such Slave or Slaves, to declare and adjudge him, her, or them, free and discharged of and from all manner of servitude to such Owners, to all intents and purposes whatsoever; and in all such cases, the Justices of such Court are hereby authorized and empowered, if to them it shall appear necessary, to order and direct the fine adjudged by them, to be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of those Islands to the use of the public; the Treasurer for the time being, in consideration thereof, paying to such of the said Slaves so freed and discharged from servitude as aforesaid, the sum of £. 10. per annum, towards his, her, or their maintenance and support during life; and in case of any such mutilation or dismembering of any Slave being committed as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Guardians, or any one or more of them, upon complaint and application to him or them made by such Slave or Slaves so mutilated, and they are hereby required, upon view and certainty of the fact, to send such Slave or Slaves so mutilated forthwith to the nearest cage where such offence shall have been committed; or if such complaint and information that any Slave or Slaves is or are so mutilated, shall arise from the probable intelligence of any other Slaves or otherwise, to issue their or his warrant to any constable, ordering him immediately to proceed to the place where such Slave or Slaves so mutilated may be, and to bring him, her, or them, and if under confinement to release and bring him, her, or them, before such guardian or guardians, who, on view and certainty of the fact as aforesaid, shall send such Slave or Slaves so mutilated, to the nearest cage as aforesaid, which Slave or Slaves shall be there safely kept by Clause 14.  
the

the cage-keeper, but not worked at the public expence until the determination of the prosecution, which the said Guardians are hereby directed and required to pursue and carry into effect against the perpetrators of the said mutilations, in manner aforesaid; and the keeper of such cage is hereby required to receive such Slave or Slaves into his custody, and during such time as such Slave or Slaves shall be detained in the cage, to provide and allow a sufficient quantity of proper food daily for his or her or their subsistence and support, at the expence of the person offending as aforesaid, and under the direction and approbation of the said Guardians, who are hereby authorized to issue their warrant for payment of the same, to be levied on the goods and chattels of the offender.

Clause 15. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That at the first meeting of the Council and Assembly after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord 1798, and at the first meeting thereof after the first day of January in each and every subsequent year, during the continuance of this Act, the House of Assembly shall proceed to nominate and appoint, with the approbation and concurrence of the Council, three fit persons for each parish, and for the Island of Curiaow and the other Grenadines, who shall serve as Guardians of and to the Slaves belonging to the respective parishes, and the Islands for which such Guardians shall be so nominated and appointed; and also three persons being freeholders, resident in the town of Saint George, as Guardians of and to the Slaves within the said town; and the clerk of the assembly shall publish in the first gazette or public newspaper, to be printed after such nomination and appointment, the names of the several Guardians so appointed.

Clause 16. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Guardians of Slaves hereinafter named and appointed, within ten days after the publication hereof, and all Guardians of Slaves, within ten days after such notice of their appointment being given as aforesaid, and before they proceed on the execution of their office, shall apply themselves to some Justice of the Peace, and before him take the following oath. I, A. B. do swear, that I will diligently, truly, faithfully, and impartially, perform the office of a Guardian of Slaves of the parish of \_\_\_\_\_ or the town of Saint George, for which I am appointed this present year, and will not, for favour or affection, on any consideration whatsoever, excuse any person or persons offending against or neglecting his, her, or their duty, as enjoined by an Act, intituled, an Act for the better protection, and promoting the natural increase and population of Slaves within the island of Grenada, and such of the Grenadines as are annexed to the Government thereof; for compelling an adequate provision for and care of them, as well in sickness and old age as in health, and for constituting and appointing Guardians to effectuate and carry into execution the regulations and purposes of this Act; nor will I, for hatred, malice, ill-will or partiality, prosecute, present, or punish any one, but in all things will comply with and conform to the directions, orders, and duties enjoined me by the said Act, according to the best of my understanding, skill, power, and judgment. So help me God. Which said oath every Justice of the Peace, on application to him for that purpose made by the Guardian, is hereby authorized and required to administer, and transmit, within ten days afterwards, a certificate thereof, to be filed in the Secretary's office; and if any Guardian so nominated, and having such notice of his nomination as aforesaid, shall refuse to act in his said office, or shall neglect or refuse to be sworn as aforesaid, and who, being sworn and acting, shall neglect his duty or abuse the powers by this Act vested in him, he shall for every such offence forfeit £. 50 current money, to be recovered in the Court of King's Bench and Grand Session, by indictment or information, to be paid into the public treasury for the public uses of the colony; and any person having served the office of guardian for one year, shall not be compelled or compellable to serve the same office again until the expiration of two years thereafter, and in the mean time until such appointment of guardians can be made as aforesaid.

Clause 17. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That for the town of Saint George, the honourable Alexander Cockburn, John Orr, and William Arnold, esquires; for the parish of Saint George the honourable Alexander Scott, John Ross, and Wilson P. Richardson,

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P. Richardson, esquires; for the Parish of Saint David, the honourable Samuel Mitchell, James Hay, and Henry Palmer, esquires; for the Parish of Saint Andrew, Thomas Robertson, Isaac Horsford, and James Campbell junior, esquires; for the Parish of Saint Patrick, John Hervey, Nicholas Herbert, and Alexander Frazer, esquires; for the parish of Saint Mark, Alexander Campbell, Gordon Turnbull, and William Sandback, esquires; for the Parish of Saint John, John Hay, James Mays, and Alexander Branders, esquire; for the Island of Carriacow, and the other Grenadines, William Arbuthnot, Andrew Whiteman, and John Bell, esquires, shall be and are hereby appointed Guardians of and to the Slaves within their respective districts, and shall take the same oath of office, and act and discharge the duty of Guardians in the same manner, and under the same penalty, to be recovered and applied in the same manner as if they were Guardians nominated and appointed in manner prescribed by this Act.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Guardians, or any two of them, in their respective districts, and they are hereby authorized and required once in every six months (except the Guardians hereinbefore named and appointed, who are hereby authorized and required within the first three months, and at all other times when any complaint or information shall appear to render their presence necessary) to visit the several estates and plantations within their respective districts, and to hear and enquire into the complaints, and enquire into and inspect the grounds, clothing, lodging, maintenance, and treatment of the Slaves within their respective districts, and into the state and condition of furniture and conveniences of the hospital; and for a more effectual discovery of the truth with respect of the clothing, lodging, feeding, and maintenance of the Slaves, as well in sickness as in health, shall examine the Manager and principal Overseer, and the Surgeon or medical attendant on such estate or plantation, and all other persons likely to be able to give testimony, if from any suspicious circumstances or circumstance it shall appear necessary to a majority of the said Guardians touching the same, after having first administered to such Manager, principal Overseer, or other free person, an oath of the following tenor: I, A. B. will true answer make to all such questions as shall be put to me touching the number, ages, clothing, lodging, feeding, maintenance, and treatment of the Slaves, upon and belonging to the estate of or within the town of Saint George. So help me God. And if any Manager, principal Overseer, or other white or free person, shall refuse to be sworn, or when sworn to answer such questions as shall be put to him relative to the several matters mentioned in the said oath, he shall forfeit £. 50., to be recovered in the manner hereinafter mentioned, and to be paid into the treasury for the public uses of the Colony; and in case of the wilful and corrupt perjury of any such white or free person, he shall and may be prosecuted by presentment, indictment, or information, and be punished as in cases of wilful and corrupt perjury at common law; and if on enquiry into the complaint or complaints made by any of the Slaves of any estate, plantation, or town, or on view or from the examination of the Manager, principal Overseer, or such other white or free persons, or otherwise, it shall appear to the said Guardians in the respective districts, or any two of them, that any offence hath been committed against this Act, then and in every such case they are hereby authorized and strictly required, without delay, by all or some of the ways and means hereby in that respect provided, to sue and prosecute the offender and offenders for the recovery of such penalties or penalty, or to such punishment or punishments as is or are by this Act annexed to the offence or offences by him or them committed; and all suits and prosecutions carried on by or in the names of the said guardians, any one or more of them, with the approbation of two of them at least, shall be maintained by the public, and the expences attending the same defrayed out of the public treasury.

And whereas the manumitting and setting free Slaves, diseased, blind, aged, or otherwise disabled from working, without making provision for their sustenance and comfort, ought to be prevented, as it obliges them to ramble about and beg for subsistence, which frequently compels them to the necessity of robbing and steal-

ing, and leads them to other bad practices to support themselves: And whereas it is also necessary to discourage the too frequent and indiscriminate manumission of Slaves, without a sufficient provision being made for their support; Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the publication of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any person or persons to manumit or set free any Slave or Slaves belonging to him, her, or them, without first paying unto the Treasurer of these Islands for the time being, the sum of £. 100. current money for each and every Slave so manumitted; and the Treasurer is hereby directed and required to certify on the back of the manumission, that such sum has been to him paid; and no manumission executed after the publication of this Act, without such certificate, shall be of any force or validity whatsoever.

Clause 20. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That each and every person so manumitted, shall be entitled to receive an annuity of £. 10. current money, to be paid by the Treasurer, one moiety every six months, who is hereby authorized and required to pay the same for and during the natural life of such person or persons so manumitted and set free as aforesaid.

Clause 21. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in case any person or persons so manumitted as aforesaid, shall be absent from this government, he, she, or they, shall be entitled to receive such annuity as aforesaid, upon transmitting or producing to the Treasurer of these Islands, a certificate from the Rector of the parish where such person or persons may actually reside, or from any of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in such parish, island, or place, of him, her, or their being then alive, and conducting and behaving him, her, or themselves, as peaceable and good subjects; and such certificate shall be a sufficient warrant to the Treasurer for the time being, to pay the annuity or arrears of annuity as aforesaid.

Clause 22. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in cases of any heinous crime, misdemeanor, or other disorderly conduct of any such person or persons so manumitted and set free, on conviction thereof on the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses before any three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, such person or persons so offending shall forfeit to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, the whole of such annuity, or so much thereof as the said Justices in their judgment may think proper, in proportion to the heinousness of the offence committed; such forfeiture to be applied to the public uses of this government.

Clause 23. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons, whose usual residence has been in this government, shall, at any time after the publication of this Act, be manumitted or set free by any deed of manumission, executed in any other place than within this government, such manumission shall be and is hereby declared to be null and void in this government, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, any law, custom, or usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding, until the sum of £. 100. be by each and every such person so manumitted, paid into the hands of the Treasurer as aforesaid, which shall entitle the person paying the same to receive the annual sum of £. 10. as hereinbefore mentioned.

Clause 24. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all penalties and forfeitures in this Act mentioned, the recovery and application whereof have not already been declared, shall be recovered in the said Court of Common Pleas, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, and paid into the hands of the public Treasurer, for the public uses of the Colony.

Clause 25. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Guardian of Slaves shall be sued or molested for any thing done by virtue of this Act, he shall and may plead the general issue, and give this Act and the special matters in evidence; and if the Plaintiff be nonsuited or discontinue his action, or a verdict be found against him, he shall pay treble costs of suit; and this Act shall be deemed a public Act, and all Judges, Justices, and Juries, are to take notice thereof accordingly, without specially pleading the same.

And

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And be enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this Act shall be and remain *Clause 26;*  
in force from the publication thereof, for and during the term of two years thereafter,  
and until some further or other provision shall be made by the Legislature for the  
purposes of this Act.

Passed the Assembly,  
17th November 1797.  
(Signed)  
*J<sup>n</sup> Lynch,*  
Clerk of the Assembly.

Dated at Saint George's, 9th December, in the year of  
our Lord 1797, and in the 38th year of the reign of  
our Sovereign Lord George the Third, of Great Britain,  
France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and  
so forth.

(Signed)

*James Hay, Speaker.*

Passed the Council this 24th November, in the year of our Lord 1797.

(Signed)

*G. H. Horsley.*

Deputy Clerk of the Council.

(Signed)

*Charles Green.*

Assented to by his Excellency the Captain-General and Commander in  
Chief, this 9th December 1797.

(Signed)

*G. H. Horsley.*

Deputy Clerk of the Council.

## GRENADA.

Duly proclaimed at Saint George's, in the Island of Gre-  
nada, the 11th of December 1797.

(Signed)

*J. Davis.*

Dep. Prov. Marshal.

Copy.

No. 6. — Copy of a Letter from Governor Green to  
his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada,  
10th June 1798.

Secret.

My Lord Duke,

I acknowledge the honour of your Grace's Letter, of the 23d of April last  
(marked Circular and Secret) with its Enclosures, and I request your Grace may be  
assured, that I shall take into my most serious and immediate consideration, the  
different points which are therein recommended to my attention, and that I shall  
use my earnest endeavours to impress upon the minds of the leading Members of  
the Legislature, the importance of this subject to the welfare and prosperity of the  
Colony.

On the 20th February last, I had the honour to transmit to your Grace a  
certified copy of a Bill which had passed here, embracing some of the objects  
specified in the observations your Grace has had the goodness to honour me with  
on this head; and in May last I transmitted a second copy of the same Act, having  
reason to believe that the first had miscarried.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

*Cha<sup>s</sup> Green.*

His Grace the  
Duke of Portland.

No. 7. — Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Green; dated Whitehall, 17th July 1798 — N° 10.

WITH respect to the Act of the Island of Grenada, transmitted to me by you “for the better protection, and for promoting the natural increase and population of the Slaves within the Island of Grenada, and such of the Grenadines as are annexed to the Government thereof, &c.” although it does not by any means go to the extent that the case may be found to require, yet I have no doubt but the Legislature will continue to take every opportunity of making such further local provision and regulations, as will tend to the attainment of the important objects proposed by the Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th April 1794.

No. 8.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Green; dated Whitehall, 12th August 1798.—(No. 11.)

IN my Letter to you of the 17th ultimo, I have taken notice of the Act you refer to, which embraces some of the objects of the benevolent intentions which dictated the Resolutions of the House of Commons, of the 6th April 1797; I have no doubt but the Assembly will continue to use their best endeavours for the attainment of the end proposed by those Resolutions.

No. 9.—Extract of a Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada, September 3d, 1798.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Grace’s Letter of the 17th July, conveying to me your Grace’s approbation of the regulations, as far as they extend, made in the Act for the better protection of Slaves, &c. which I had the honour to transmit to your Grace.

No. 10.—Extract of a Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada, November 5th 1798.

I SHALL not fail to take every opportunity of bringing to the recollection of the Council and Assembly, the Resolutions of the House of Commons, of the 6th April 1797, relating to the Negroes in the British West India Islands, and I shall endeavour to impress upon them the urgent necessity of adopting the most effectual measures for attaining the important objects of that Resolution.

(Copy.)

No. 11.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada, September 7th 1799.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE been honoured with your Grace’s circular Letter, of the 12th July last, accompanied by the copy of a Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 11th July, and I shall not fail to pay due attention to His Majesty’s gracious commands therein signified to me, by transmitting to your Grace, with as little delay as possible, “An account, specifying, as far as the same can be made up, the total number of Negroes now in this Colony, and the total number of births and deaths (on an average

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“ average of the last three years) distinguishing what proportion of those that died  
 “ were born within the same, or had been imported more than three years before,  
 “ and what number of those that died had been imported within three years of the  
 “ time of their death, together with the Documents in which such accounts shall be  
 “ founded, in order that the same may be laid before the House early in the next  
 “ Session of Parliament.”

But it is necessary for me to observe to your Grace, that a portion of the period of time specified in the above instructions (three years) within which the averaged number of births and deaths is to be stated, followed so immediately after the insurrection, in which so large a proportion of the Slaves were engaged, that I fear it will be difficult to procure an accurate account on this head, nor can it, even if furnished, be considered as a Document whereon to found any calculation respecting the averaged increase or decrease of the number of Slaves in this Colony at any other given period, when free from a calamity of the like nature.

A very considerable proportion of the Slaves who had been out in the woods, perished in consequence of diseases contracted during their absence from the plantations, and very few births in proportion took place until some time after good order was re-established.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*Charles Green.*

Copy.

Triplicate.

No. 12. — Copy of a Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada, 6th October 1799.

My Lord Duke,

IN obedience to His Majesty's commands, signified to me in your Grace's Dispatch of the 12th July last, I now do myself the honour to transmit a return, specifying, as far as the same could be made up, the total number of Negroes now in this Government, and the total number of births and deaths (on an average for the last three years) distinguishing what proportion of those that died were born within this Government, or had been imported more than three years before; and what number of those that died have been imported within three years of the time of their death, together with the Documents on which such return is founded.

The Enclosure referred to does not appear with the correspondence.

Having subjoined to the Report some remarks from myself on the subject of it, I apprehend it is unnecessary to trouble your Grace with a repetition of them.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*Chas Green.*

His Grace the  
 Duke of Portland, K. G.  
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 13.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Green; dated Whitehall, 22d November 1799.

THE observation contained in your Letter of the 7th September, relative to the period mentioned in the Resolution of the House of Commons, which was transmitted in my circular Letter of the 12th of July last, is highly deserving attention, and therefore, although it will be proper to comply with the Resolution of the House of Commons in the terms stated, as far as it can be done; yet I desire you will furnish me also with a further account, similar to that thereby required, for the three years immediately preceding the insurrection in Grenada.



F. 18.

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

No. 14.—Extract of a Letter from Governor Green to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Grenada, 21st January 1800.

HAVING some time ago transmitted a return of the Slaves, agreeable to the Resolutions of the House of Commons, I have now only to observe, in reply to your Grace's directions, respecting my sending a further account of the same nature for the three years preceding the insurrection, that I am apprehensive such an account, drawn up with any degree of accuracy, cannot be procured, the Documents necessary for the purpose having been almost entirely destroyed during the disturbances in this Island; I shall not fail, however, to make immediate enquiry on the subject, and inform your Grace further thereupon.

G.

J A M A I C A .

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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- N<sup>o</sup> 1.—Letter subscribed *Simon Taylor, Henry Shirley, George Murray, and Lewis Cuthbert*, dated Spanish Town, 12th December 1797; addressed to the Earl of Balcarres - - - - - } - p.3.G.
- N<sup>o</sup> 2.—Earl of Balcarres to the Duke of Portland; dated Jamaica, 24th December 1797 }  
 (Three Enclosures.) }  
 (1.) Address, to His Majesty, of the Assembly of Jamaica - - - - - } pp. 4—9. G.  
 (2.) Address, to His Majesty, of the Council of Jamaica - - - - - }  
 (3.) Act for laying a Duty on all Negro Slaves imported into Jamaica - - - - - }
- N<sup>o</sup> 3.—Extract of a Letter from the Duke of Portland to the Earl of Balcarres; 10th May 1798. } - p.13.G.
- N<sup>o</sup> 4.—Another; - - - - - 25th May 1799 - ibid.
- N<sup>o</sup> 5.—Another; - - - - - 10th August 1799 - p.11.G.
- N<sup>o</sup> 6.—Earl of Balcarres to the Duke of Portland; dated Jamaica, 5th Jan. 1800 }  
 (Two Enclosures.) }  
 (1.) Address, to his Majesty, of the Council and Assembly of Jamaica - - - - - } pp.11—16.G.  
 (2.) Extract Report of a Committee of the House of Assembly on the General State of the Colony - - - - - }
- N<sup>o</sup> 7.—Earl of Balcarres to the Duke of Portland; dated Jamaica, 22d March 1800 } - p.16.G.  
 (Nineteen Enclosures.) }  
 (1.)—Circular Letter from the Secretary's Office, Jamaica, 10th October 1799 } - ibid.  
 (2.)—Order in Council, 12th February 1800 - - - - - } - ibid.  
 (3.)—Communication from the Lieutenant Governor to the Council, 21st March 1800 } - p.17.G.  
 (4.)—Number of Slaves in the Parish of St. Andrew - - - - - } - ibid.  
 (5.)—Return from Clarendon Parish - - - - - } - ibid.  
 (6.)—D<sup>o</sup> from the Custos of Kingston Town - - - - - } - ibid.  
 (7.)—Number of Slaves, &c. in St. Thomas and St. David - - - - - } - p.18.G.  
 (8.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - in St. John's - - - - - } - p.19.G.  
 (9.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - in the Parish of Hanover - - - - - } - p.23.G.  
 (10.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - in the Parish of St. James - - - - - } - p.26.G.  
 (11.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - in the Parish of St. Elizabeth - - - - - } - p.28.G.  
 (12.)—D<sup>o</sup> - - - in the Parish of Westmorland - - - - - } - p.36.G.  
 (13.)—Naval Officer's Return of imported and exported Negroes - - - - - } - p.39.G.  
 (14.)—Number of Negroes taxed in the Parish of St. Catherine - - - - - } - ibid.  
 (15.)—Number of Negroes in the Parish of St. Dorothy - - - - - } - p.40.G.  
 (16.)—Number of Slaves in the Parish of Trelawney - - - - - } - p.43.G.  
 (17.)—Number of Negroes in the Parish of St. Thomas in the Vale - - - - - } - p.47.G.  
 (18.)—Number of Negroes in the Parish and Island of St. Mary - - - - - } - p.51.G.  
 (19.)—Another Return from the same Parish - - - - - } - ibid.
- N<sup>o</sup> 8.—Earl of Balcarres to the Duke of Portland; dated 23d March 1800 - - - - - } - p.52.G.  
 (One Enclosure.) }  
 Communication of the Committee of Council to his Honour the Governor, relative to the Increase, &c. of Negroes - - - - - } - ibid.

## G.

## J A M A I C A.

(Copy.)

No. 1.—Copy of a Letter from Simon Taylor, Henry Shirley, George Murray, and Lewis Cuthbert, Esquires, to the Earl of Balcarres; dated 12th December 1797; and transmitted in his Lordship's Letter to the Duke of Portland, of December 1797.

Spanish Town, 12th December 1797.

My Lord,

WE beg leave to thank your Lordship for the confidential communication, to us, of his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter of the 12th of September, and for your anxious desire to accord the expectations expressed by that Minister with the sentiments and interests of the People of this Island.

We assure your Lordship that we entertain unshaken loyalty to the KING's Person and Government, and a most affectionate attachment to Great Britain; both founded in principle; and we trust we may appeal to your Lordship's justice, whether we have not on all occasions given steady support to your Administration, in the course of which circumstances occurred that rendered it necessary to raise enormous taxes on the people; which must have been still heavier, had not your Lordship's activity and exertions for the safety and protection of this Country been so happily distinguished.

We are fully convinced of the critical and dangerous situation in which Great Britain and her Colonies are placed from the Enemy we have to contend with, formidable by its power, but still more by unremitting attempts against all order, good government, and virtue, eminently destructive to Countries circumstanced as this is. We are most anxious to join our efforts in common with those of our fellow Citizens to the exertions of the Mother Country, to repel a Foe from whom we have so much to apprehend. While we make this solemn declaration of our sentiments to your Lordship, permit us to express how much the Inhabitants of the Island at large feel themselves injured and oppressed by the support, given by some of His Majesty's confidential servants, to measures calculated in the first instance not only to check but effectually to destroy improvements which are now rapidly carrying on in all parts of this valuable Colony, promising the greatest advantages to the stability of the Island by increasing its population, and affording those means from which alone revenue can flow, in a degree far beyond all former experience. Ministers well know that taxes cannot be borne but in proportion to the prosperity of the Country in which they are laid, and that such prosperity must be the effect of improvements. There are at this time many hundred thousand acres of land in this Island well calculated to increase our Staples, that only want Labourers (which can be supplied no where but from Africa) to be made productive of immense revenue as well as inestimable advantages to the commerce and navigation of the Parent State.

Should we be deprived of the only means of prosperity arising from the importation of Negroes, which we are entitled to under the sanction and encouragement of many Acts of the British Parliament, and should our Staples continue to be taxed with heavy duties, payable on their arrival at the market to which they must exclusively

## G. 4 SLAVE TRADE.—WEST INDIES.

Jamaica. exclusively be sent in the first instance, whereby a great advantage is given to the produce of foreign Colonies over ours at other markets, it is too evident that this Country must be rapidly impoverished; its inhabitants, their families, and their creditors ruined; and its Legislature rendered totally unable to provide for the heavy contingent expences of its Government.

So much has already been urged on the subject of an Abolition of the Slave Trade, that we shall at present only express our surprize that the promoters of that measure should not be impressed with an idea that Negroes must have a much better chance of being made comfortable and happy under Christian Masters, possessed of liberal principles, whose authority is limited by law, than Slaves in Africa under savage tyrants possessing the power of life and death over their dependants. Your Lordship, who has been in many parts of the Island, and has had opportunities of knowing the treatment and condition of what may be properly called its Peasantry, can, and we trust will, bear testimony for us in this respect, that they are treated with mildness and humanity.

As individuals affectionately attached to the Parent State, we have laid before your Lordship our sentiments on objects which, in our opinion, deserve the serious consideration of His Majesty's Ministers, as connected with the prosperity of the Empire at large, and most especially interesting to this Colony. We have the fullest confidence that your Lordship will, in any communication you shall be pleased to make of these our sentiments, do justice to the purity of our motives.

We have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) *Simon Taylor,  
Henry Shirley,  
George Murray,  
Lewis Cutbbert.*

(Copy.)

No. 2.—Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Balcarres to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Jamaica, 24th December 1797.

(Three Enclosures.)

Jamaica, 24th December 1797.

My Lord,

IN obedience to the commands of His Majesty, and in conformity to your Grace's letter of the 6th of May 1797, inclosing the Resolutions of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, I have now the honour to transmit to your Grace an Address from the Council, and also one from the Assembly, to His Most Excellent Majesty.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*Balcarres.*

To his Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

(1.) In the Earl of Balcarres's of the 24th December 1797.

JAMAICA. *fs.*

Copy of an Address of the Assembly of Jamaica.

To The King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Assembly of Jamaica.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Assembly of Jamaica, beg leave to return Your Majesty our thanks for having graciously been pleased to give directions to the Governor of this Your Majesty's island, to recommend to the Council and Assembly to adopt such measures as shall appear to them best calculated to obviate the causes that have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes, and most conducive to their moral and religious improvement; and to assure Your Majesty,

Majesty,

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Majesty, that we are anxious to proceed with effect, but at the same time, with <sup>Jamaica.</sup> prudence, in enacting the most salutary laws for the government of the Negroes.

We have this Session passed two Bills; the one to promote the humane and beneficent views of the British Legislature, in removing the evils attending the Middle Passage, and to obviate one of the causes that have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes; and the other as highly conducive to their moral and religious improvement: the first of these Bills grants to Your Majesty a heavy duty, which will operate as a prohibition on all imported Negroes above twenty-five years of age, and gives a power to the Magistrates of every parish where Negroes may be imported and sold, to appoint proper officers to inspect them before they can be landed, and to report to the Receiver General such as they may find of that description on board: oaths are required, and severe penalties are inflicted to enforce these regulations.

We know from long experience, that young Negroes are most easily reformed and corrected of the vicious habits they imbibe in Africa, and are more successfully instructed in the principles of morality and religion, and brought to a life of industry, than when grown up to manhood; because, in their own country they are accustomed, except at particular times, to a life of idleness. The second of these Bills places the Clergy of this Island on the most respectable footing; it raises their stipends to £.270. sterling per annum, besides their glebe (which in some parishes is very considerable) their surplice fees, and other emoluments, which from time to time have been granted them; and it provides an ample fund for the support of their Widows and Orphan Children. In consideration of these great advantages, the Clergy are by this Bill enjoined to instruct in the doctrines of the Christian Religion such Negroes as may be willing to be baptized on every Sunday, and at a time to be appointed by the Rectors.

We have to lay at the foot of Your Majesty's throne a Law passed in 1748, granting ecclesiastical jurisdiction to the Bishop of London, but to represent that this jurisdiction has never been exercised, and that we are anxious to see the same placed in the hands of Your Majesty's Representative in this Island; and we pray, that a power be vested in him to censure, suspend, or remove any Clergyman who may be complained against, in such a manner, and according to such regulations as shall hereafter be provided for by the Legislature of Jamaica; with a right of appeal, in case of removal, to any Court in Great Britain Your Majesty may be pleased to approve.

We can with truth assure Your Majesty, that no opportunity, no circumstance, which may enable the Assembly of Jamaica to make further provisions to secure to every person in this Island the certain, immediate, and active protection of the Law, in proportion to their improvement in morality and religion, shall be neglected; but we must at the same time declare, that we are actuated by motives of humanity only, and not with any view to the termination of the Slave Trade.

The right of obtaining labourers from Africa is secured to Your Majesty's faithful Subjects in this Colony by several British Acts of Parliament, and by several Proclamations of Your Majesty's Royal Ancestors:—they or their predecessors have emigrated and settled in Jamaica, under the most solemn promises of this (absolutely necessary) assistance, and they can never give up, or do any act that may render doubtful this essential right.

We have the utmost reliance on Your Majesty's paternal goodness, that this right shall remain inviolate, as long as they shall remain faithful to Your Majesty, and true to the allegiance they owe to the Imperial Crown of Great Britain.

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Jamaica.

(2.) In the Earl of Balcarres's of the 24th December 1797.

Copy.)

Copy of an Address of the Council of Jamaica.

JAMAICA. *fs.*

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Council of Jamaica.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Council of Jamaica, beg leave to approach Your Majesty's throne, humbly to offer our thanks for your having been graciously pleased to give directions to the Governor of this Your Majesty's Island, to recommend to the Council and Assembly the adoption of such measures as may appear to them best calculated to obviate the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes, and most conducive to their moral and religious improvement. Ever solicitous to effectuate, as much as lies in our power, the welfare and salutary government of the Negroes, we have this Session given our most cheerful concurrence to two Bills, which appear to us well calculated for that purpose: the one, further to remove the evils attending their passage to this Country, by imposing a prohibitory duty on all Negroes imported into this Island above the age of 25 Years, and causing Inspectors to be appointed at every place where Negroes may be imported and sold, to report to Your Majesty's Receiver General all such as they may discover of that description on board of any vessel; with strict oaths and severe penalties to enforce and secure the Regulations of the Act.

Negroes imported above a certain age, are too deeply rooted in the savage prejudices, and the vicious and lazy habits prevalent in Africa, ever to be civilized or to become industrious and faithful labourers; and long and invariable experience has taught us, that such Negroes are generally among the first to excite and commence acts of disobedience and rebellion. On the other hand, the minds of the young Negroes of Africa are frequently docile and ingenious, and not difficult to be trained up to industry, mildness, and due subordination; and are capable of receiving useful instructions in the principles of morality and religion.

With regard to the second Bill, its chief object is to raise the stipends of the Clergy of this Island, and to render the pecuniary situation of themselves, and their families after their death, easy and respectable; in return for which munificence, the Rectors of the several Parishes are enjoined by this Bill to allot a portion of time, either before or after the performance of Divine Service every Sabbath Day, for the instruction of such Negroes as may be desirous of becoming Christians.

We shall on all occasions be happy to demonstrate our allegiance and attachment to Your Majesty's Person and Government, in bestowing every dutiful attention upon whatever objects Your Majesty may be pleased to recommend to our consideration.

Passed the Council,  
the 23d day of December 1797.

(3.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 24th December 1797.

(Copy.)

JAMAICA. *fs.*

An Act for laying a Duty on all Negroe Slaves that shall be imported into this Island from the Coast of Africa, who shall be above a certain Age; and for regulating the manner of ascertaining such Age.

Preamble.

Whereas many inconveniences have arisen and may arise, and much mischief may be done to the inhabitants of this Island, by the importation of old Negro Slaves from the Coast of Africa for sale in this Island, it having been found by experience, that old Negroes are in general the people who have hitherto promoted rebellions and rebellious

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rebellious conspiracies among the other Slaves; and it being very difficult to civilize and season new Negroes who are above a certain age, whereby the preventing, as far as may be, importation into the said Island, of Slaves of that description, will be for the general benefit and advantage of the inhabitants thereof; therefore, we Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Assembly of this Your Majesty's Island of Jamaica, humbly beseech Your Majesty, that it may be enacted: Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, and Council and Assembly of this Your Majesty's said Island, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, That from and after the thirty-first day of December, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, there shall be raised, levied, and paid unto Your Majesty, Your Heirs, and Successors, a duty of ten pounds upon every Slave above the age of twenty-five years, that shall be imported or brought into any harbours, bays, ports, creeks, roads, havens, or quays, in or belonging to this Island, or at or near Port Royal quays, from the Coast of Africa, whether direct or otherwise, and whether such Slaves shall be for sale or not, to be paid by the Masters, Owners, or Importers of every such Slave, and which said duty shall be over and above, and in addition to any other duty or duties made or to be made chargeable and payable on the Slaves imported as aforesaid, by any law or laws of this Island, and shall be payable in the manner directed by such laws respectively for the payment of other duty or duties on the importation of Slaves

A duty of ten pounds upon every Slave above 25 years of age that shall be imported.

And, for the ascertaining the ages of such Slaves; be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That on or before the said thirty-first day of December, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, the Custos Rotulorum or Senior Magistrate, together with the Justices of the Peace, or any five of them, for the respective parishes and precincts of Kingston, St. Catherine, Port Royal, St. Thomas in the East, St. David, Saint Mary, St. George, Portland, St. Ann, Trelawney, St. James, Hanover, Westmoreland, St. Elizabeth, Vere, and St. Dorothy shall, by warrant under their hands and seals, appoint persons of integrity and capacity, to act as Inspectors at the different ports, or harbours or landing places, in or belonging to their respective parishes or precincts; and that the number of Inspectors to be appointed in each respective parish or precinct, shall be as follows; for Kingston five, for St. Catherine three, for Port Royal three, for St. Thomas in the East three, for St. David three, for St. Mary three, for St. George three, for Portland three, for St. Ann three, for Trelawney three, for St. James three, for Hanover three, for Westmoreland three, for St. Elizabeth three, for Vere three, and for St. Dorothy three; which said Inspectors so appointed, or any two of them, shall within twenty-four hours after the arrival of any ship, snow, brig, sloop, or other vessel, having on board any Slaves from the Coast of Africa, whether direct or otherwise, at any port or bay in or belonging to any parish wherein such Inspectors shall be appointed, repair on board such ship, snow, brig, sloop, or other vessel, and inspect and examine such Slaves, and make a due return thereof within twenty-four hours after such inspection, upon oath; or, if a Quaker, upon affirmation, into the Office of the Receiver General, or to his lawful Deputy; which oath or affirmation shall be as follows:

Inspectors to be appointed.

"Jamaica, *vs.*—Personally appeared before me, A. B. and C. D. Inspectors appointed by virtue and under authority of an Act of the Lieutenant Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Island, intituled, 'An Act for laying a duty on all Negro Slaves that shall be imported into this Island from the Coast of Africa, who shall be above a certain age; and for regulating the manner of ascertaining such age;' and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, That they have inspected and examined a cargo of new Negro Slaves now on board a certain ship or vessel, called the \_\_\_\_\_ whereof \_\_\_\_\_ is Master or Commander, arrived from \_\_\_\_\_ and that there were shewn to them by the said \_\_\_\_\_ or by \_\_\_\_\_ acting in his behalf,

Oath to be taken.

Negro or other Slaves; and these Deponents further say, that according to the best of their judgment, knowledge, and belief of the said Slaves are above the age of twenty-five years; and they further say, that they have not nor hath either of them, nor hath any person for them or either of them,



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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

**Jamaica.** them, directly or indirectly received any fee or reward for making this return; or are promised, or will receive from any person, or by any means whatsoever, any fee or reward for making the same, except the allowance to which they are entitled under the said Act:” Which oath shall be duly administered and attested by any Magistrate of the parish where such inspection shall be made.

Upon Inspectors making return they are to have 1s. 3d. per head from the Consignee or Seller of such Slaves.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Inspectors making such return as above directed, shall have and receive the sum of one shilling and three pence per head for every Slave on board such vessel they shall so inspect, which said sum of one shilling and three pence per head shall be paid to the said Inspectors by the Consignee or Seller of such Negro or other Slaves; and in case of refusal, or of non-payment thereof, any Justice of the Peace for the parish shall and is hereby empowered and required to enforce payment thereof, and of all charges reasonably incident, by warrant of distress and sale under his hand and seal, to be levied on the goods and chattels of the person or persons refusing to pay, or not paying as aforesaid.

Penalties on Masters and Owners of vessels for refusing to produce the cargo or cargoes of Slaves of inspection.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Master, Owner, or Consignee of any ship, sloop, or other vessel, shall refuse to permit such Inspectors to come on board his said ship, sloop, or other vessel; or shall refuse to produce the cargo of Negro or other Slaves before such Inspectors for inspection, within the time before limited; or shall land, sell, or dispose of any of the Slaves so imported before such inspection hath been made and reported, according to the true intent and meaning of this Act, every such Master, Owner, or Consignee shall for every offence respectively forfeit the sum of one thousand pounds.

Penalty on Inspectors having accepted of the said Appointment, and refusing or neglecting to do their duty.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons, being appointed an Inspector or Inspectors, and having accepted of the said appointment under the authority of this Act, shall neglect or refuse to do his or their duty as therein required of him, every such person so offending shall forfeit the sum of five hundred pounds for each offence, and be for ever after rendered incapable of acting as such Inspector: Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, that if any Slaves imported, and for whom the aforesaid duty shall have been paid, shall be actually exported off this Island within two months after such importation, for any other Island, dominion, or territory, there shall be repaid by the Receiver General to the Exporter or Exporters of such Slaves, at and after the rate of ten pounds per head for each Slave reported above the age of twenty-five years, provided that the said sum of ten pounds per head on new Negroes to be exported shall not be paid by the said Receiver General until the Exporter or Exporters shall have given to the Receiver General, or his lawful Deputy, satisfactory proof upon oath that the said new Negro Slaves so intended to be exported, are *bonâ fide* part of the Slaves on which the additional duty of ten pounds imposed by the Act hath been paid, and shall with good and sufficient security enter into bond, to be lodged in the Receiver General's office, conditioned that he or they, nor any person or persons for him or them, will not reland or cause to be relanded in any port, bay, haven, or creek, in or belonging to this Island, any of the Slaves so exported, without giving notice of such relanding to the Receiver General, or his lawful Deputy, within forty-eight hours after any such Slaves shall have been relanded; and the sum of money which shall be mentioned and expressed in the said bond, shall be for double the amount of the sum paid by the Receiver General to the Exporter or Exporters for the whole of the cargo of Slaves so exported; and in case of non-compliance with the condition of the said bond, the same shall become forfeited to the use and benefit of the person prosecuting for the same in the Supreme Court, or either of the Courts of Assize in this Island.

Age of Slaves imported to be ascertained on Oath.

And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the ages of Slaves to be exported shall be ascertained and reported on oath, as in the case of imported Slaves above the age of twenty-five years, by the aforesaid Inspectors, or any two of them; and for their trouble therein, such Inspectors shall be entitled to have and demand a fee at and after the rate of two shillings and sixpence for each Slave inspected and examined.

If Slaves above 25 years of age exported be brought

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Slaves so exported, who are above the age of twenty-five years, shall at any time subsequent to such exportation be brought into any harbour, port, bay, haven, creek, or quay in or belonging

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belonging to this Island, they shall be subject and liable to the duty hereinbefore imposed on Slaves coming from the coast of Africa; and the ship or vessel in which the same shall be so returned, and the Master or Commander thereof, and all persons interested, shall be liable to the same rules and regulations as is hereinbefore enacted and provided in respect to ships or vessels bringing new Negro Slaves from the coast of Africa or elsewhere.

again to this Island shall be liable to duty.

And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the Owner, Master, Commander, or Supercargo of any ship or vessel in which new Negro Slaves shall be imported into this Island, shall, within the period of fourteen days immediately preceding the arrival of such ship or vessel, have shaved or cut the hair from the head, or oiled the body or bodies of any Slave or Slaves on board such ship or vessel, or made use of any other means or artifice in order to conceal or prevent the ascertaining the respective ages of such Slaves, he shall for every offence forfeit the sum of two hundred pounds, on proof being had before any Justice of the Peace by the oath of one or more competent witnesses or witnesses.

Penalty on Masters, &c. of vessels using any art to conceal the age of Slaves.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Monies to be levied, raised, and collected by virtue of this Act, shall be by the Receiver General applied in aid of the monies to arise for or in respect of any duty or duties imposed by any law or laws of this Island, on the importation of Slaves from the coast of Africa, or to and for such purposes as shall be at any time directed by any Act of the Legislature of this Island: And be it enacted, That the said Receiver General for the time being shall, for doing his duty herein, retain and keep out of the monies so to be collected at and after the rate of five pounds per cent. and no more.

How monies collected by this Act are to be applied.

And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Receiver General for the time being shall, before he officiates pursuant to this Act, with good and sufficient security, such as a Board of the Commissioners of Public Accounts shall approve, enter into bond in the Secretary's Office of this Island to our Sovereign Lord the King, his Heirs and Successors, in the sum of five thousand pounds current money of Jamaica, conditioned that he, his heirs, executors, or administrators, shall render and give to any Assembly when sitting, or to the Commissioners appointed or to be appointed for stating and settling the public accounts, a just and true account of all monies by him received in pursuance of this Act when thereunto required; and that he, his heirs, executors, or administrators, shall pay over all such sums of money as he shall so receive to such person or persons as shall be lawfully authorized to receive the same.

Receiver General to enter into bond.

And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all penalties in this Act mentioned, and not declared in what manner, they shall be recovered in the Supreme Court of Judicature of this Island by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, wherein no essoin, protection, wager of law, imparlance or injunction, shall be granted or allowed, or non vult ulterius prosequi be entered; one moiety whereof shall be to the use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for and towards the support of the Government of this Island, and the contingent charges thereof, and the other moiety to the informer, or him, her, or them who shall sue for the same.

How penalties are recoverable and applied.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this Act, and every clause, matter, and thing therein contained, shall continue and be in force from the thirty-first day of December, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, until the thirty-first day of December one thousand eight hundred and one, and no longer.

Duration of this Act.

Passed the Council  
this 20th day of  
Dec. 1797.

*M. Atkinson, Afs' C' C'.*

I consent this 23d  
day of Dec. 1797.

*Balcarres.*

Passed the Assembly  
this 18th day of  
Dec. 1797.

*Don. Campbell, Speaker.*

Vera Copia Ext.

*G. Atkinson, Sec'.*

Jamaica.

No. 3.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to the Earl of Balcarres; dated Whitehall, 10th May 1798.

IN observing upon the other subjects contained in the letters from your Lordship, which I have now before me, it is with great pleasure I execute His Majesty's commands in signifying to you the satisfaction which His Majesty has expressed at the legislative measures that have been taken for promoting the moral and religious information; the welfare and salutary government of the Negroes, as set forth in the Addresses to His Majesty from the Council and Assembly; and His Majesty is confident that no exertions will be spared by the Legislature of Jamaica, which can lead to the attainment of objects of such high importance, and of so beneficial a tendency, in every respect, as those expressed in the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April 1797.—I am to add, that His Majesty highly approves of the further provision which has been so judiciously and liberally made for the Clergy of the Island. In consequence of the request contained in the Address from the Assembly, that the Ecclesiastical Authority, which is by the Act of the Island of the 21st George II. chap 6, vested in the Bishop of London over the Clergy of Jamaica, may be delegated in such a manner as to be exercised within the Island in cases which may be found to require it; I have, by His Majesty's direction, communicated with that Prelate upon the subject, who looks with great pleasure to the happy effects of the measure proposed, and is anxious to give every facility in his power to its accomplishment. He therefore will do every thing on his part that is to be performed; and I will also take the opinion of His Majesty's Law Servants as to the manner and form in which it will be most adviseable to transfer and delegate the Authority applied for, so as to answer the objects stated in the Address from the Assembly.

(Copy.)

No. 4.—Copy of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to the Earl of Balcarres; dated Whitehall, 25 May 1799.

My Lord,

I HAD great satisfaction in laying before the House of Commons, the measures which have been taken by the Legislature of the Island of Jamaica to promote the great and salutary objects pointed out by the Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April 1797. The measures to which I allude, are those which prohibit the importation of Negroes into that Island who exceed the age of 25 years, and which secure to this description of persons in general, throughout the Island, the advantages of moral and religious instruction.

I am desirous of considering these provisions as a pledge of the readiness of the Legislature to make such others as shall tend most speedily and effectually to improve the condition, and consequently to promote the population of the Negroes in Jamaica.

In consulting the principal Planters and leading Men of the Island upon the most practicable means of carrying into effect the suggestions I have submitted to your Lordship, in my letter of the 23d of April 1798, you will omit no opportunity of availing yourself of their authority and influence, and will not hesitate to adopt any alteration and amendment which may occur or be proposed to you, which can facilitate the success of the measures in question, the object of which, it is evident, must be, by meliorating the condition of the Negroes, to give an additional strength and security to the interest of the Planter.

I am, &c.  
Portland.

To the Earl of Balcarres,  
&c. &c. &c.

## J A M A I C A.

II G.

No. 5.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of  
Portland, to the Earl of Balcarres; dated Whitehall,  
10th August 1799. Jamaica.

IN the Letter I had the honour of writing to your Lordship on the 25th of May last, I called your attention to the further measures to be taken by the Legislature of Jamaica, with a view to the speedy and effectual improvement of the condition, and consequently to the increase of the population of the Negroes in that Island. At the same time, I particularly urged you on the subject of the suggestions transmitted in my Letter to you of the 23d of April 1798.

Your Lordship I hope, therefore, will not fail to furnish me with the result of your enquiries and further proceedings on this subject, before the commencement or as early in the course of the next Session of Parliament as possible.

(Copy.)

No. 6.—Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Balcarres to  
the Duke of Portland; dated Jamaica, 5th Jan. 1800.

(Two Enclosures.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Grace, an humble Address from the Council and Assembly of Jamaica, to His Most Excellent Majesty.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Grace's most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

*Balcarres.*

To his Grace the Duke of Portland, &amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

(1.) In the Earl of Balcarres's of the 5th January 1800.

JAMAICA. *js.*

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Council and Assembly of Jamaica.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council and Assembly of Jamaica, most humbly beg leave to submit to your Majesty's consideration the very great apprehensions entertained by the inhabitants of Jamaica, arising from the dangers that may follow even a discussion of their rights to the properties which they hold in this Colony under Patents from your Majesty and your Royal Ancestors; from a threatened abolition of the Slave Trade, either partial or total; from an alteration of the measures which have been uniformly pursued by the Legislature of this Island to ensure its safety, by encouraging settlements in the interior parts of the country; from the perilous situation in which they are placed by the evacuation of the Mole Saint Nicholas, and the district of Jeremie; and by the subsequent intercourse which has taken place between the Government of this Island and that of Saint Domingo.

We beg leave to represent to your Majesty, that the regular force stationed in this Island, is undoubtedly inadequate to the protection of this Colony at the present critical period, in consequence of which, your Majesty's faithful subjects have been compelled, as the only expedient in their power, to put the Island under Martial Law.

We do most solemnly assure your Majesty, that we are anxious to render the situation of our Slaves as comfortable as can be done, consistently with their condition and our own safety.

We place the fullest confidence in your Majesty's paternal solicitude for the welfare of your people, and that our representations will be graciously considered by your Majesty, and be productive of that redress and protection which are earnestly implored by your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects of this Island.

Passed the Council this

22d day of Dec' 1799.

(Signed)

*M. Atkinson,*  
C<sup>ik</sup> Council.

Passed the Assembly this

22d day of Dec' 1799.

(Signed)

*Kean Osborn,*  
Speaker.

Jamaica.

(2.) Transmitted in the Earl of Balcarres's of the 5th of January 1800.

Extract of a Report made and agreed to by the House of Assembly at Jamaica, on 20th Dec. 1799, by a Committee appointed to take into Consideration the general State of the Colony, &c.

That it appears to the Committee, by authentic information received from Great Britain, that it is the intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, by the authority of the British Parliament, to prevent the extension of the cultivation of this Colony by new Settlements; and, indeed, this seems to be the chief feature of the notice he gave in the House of Commons, for effecting the gradual and complete abolition of the Slave Trade, by rendering the further importation of African Negroes into the Colonies of less necessity: In his calculation, however, on this subject, he has totally overlooked the important consideration with respect to Plantations already settled not having a sufficient number of labourers now on them, to make them productive in any proportion to their capability; which is a fact too notorious to be controverted; and his declaration, in the notice given of the measure he meant to introduce into Parliament the following Session, that the further increase of Negro population in this Colony would prove highly dangerous to the white inhabitants, from the inequality of the numbers, is, in the opinion of the Committee, erroneous in the extreme: nothing can so greatly contribute to the increase of white population, and that too of the description likely to be most useful for our security, as the encouragement of small settlers in the interior: the observation on this subject, contained in the very able Report made to the House the 23d of November 1792, cannot be too often repeated, and the increase of small settlements made, almost exclusively, by persons who have been Overseers, Tradesmen, and Book-keepers since that period, clearly shews how far the encouragement to such settlers has tended to the population of the country.

That should the prospects which have hitherto been held out to people of this description, of acquiring property in Land and Negroes, be taken away, or in any considerable degree checked, no persons will adventure to this Country in which any confidence can be placed, to be employed on Plantations as Overseers, Tradesmen, and Book-keepers, without which it is impossible to carry on Plantations to any extent. The Island would then be reduced to the necessity of employing low and worthless persons in these situations, from whose conduct no good could be expected, but the very contrary would be the case; in a very few years we should be reduced in the most useful white population required for agricultural purposes, in a very alarming degree, such would be the effect, should the erroneous ideas of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with respect to preventing new settlements, and the abolition of the Slave Trade, be realized. The Committee beg leave to state on this subject, that the island of Jamaica is very differently circumstanced to almost all other British West India Islands, which, being circumscribed in land, cannot admit of further extension in Settlements, and have long since been possessed of a sufficient number of labourers for carrying on their Plantations.

That it appears from the books of the Commissioners of Public Accounts, that there are in this Island, 2,176,030 acres assessed to pay the land tax and quit rents; of which quantity, a proportion of not less than one half may be estimated not to be in actual culture, but affording an ample field, not only for the improvement and extension of Settlements in the interior already begun, but also for numerous new settlements. To prove this in a clear manner, the Committee beg leave in this place to shew, from the statement of coffee settlements in the Appendix, the great disproportion in the whole quantity of land composing them, with the quantity in actual cultivation, which, taken in an aggregate point, is as follows:—Number of plantations 348; total quantities of lands, 128,346; land in actual cultivation in coffee, 15,343½; and land in provisions, which last the Committee estimate at one half of the quantity in coffee. Another material observation here to be made, is the very small proportion

portion of the Proprietors of these interior settlements, that are absentees, which by the statement before referred to, is shewn to be, out of the whole number of settlements, that only 33 are absent. The advantages that would unavoidably flow from the extension and culture of such settlements, both to the population and the productive property of the country, as well as to the navigation, commerce, and manufactures of Great Britain, are too evident to require any argument in favour of the encouragement that ought to be held out by the Legislature for their support: should the British Government proceed in their threatened measures, it must appear to the whole world, that the Inhabitants and Proprietors of this Country will be made the objects of the most pointed political oppression, on their parts not only totally unmerited, but on the contrary, they have, at least equally with any other description of His Majesty's subjects, on all occasions evinced their loyalty to the Sovereign, and their attachment to the Mother Country.

That the Committee beg leave to observe, that the strong measure adopted in the sessions of 1797, and carried into effect in the last session, of paying and subsisting two thousand men for the defence of the Island, at its sole expence, is intended to increase the internal population by settling these men, and granting them small portions of land, after the expiration of the term of their military engagements: this forms one of the most advantageous features of a measure sanctioned by Royal approbation, and that of the King's Ministers; how it is to be effected, should the policy of the British Government, with respect to preventing further extension of settlements in the interior be pursued, the Committee leave to the House to judge.

That the Committee now proceed to state to the House their observations and opinions, with respect to the steps that have been taken in the British Parliament, since the Report made in the Sessions in 1792, either to abolish the Slave Trade, or to limit the same; and how far such measures may contribute to the internal safety of the Colony: here they deem it necessary to insert, briefly, the measures introduced into Parliament on that subject; viz.

26th February 1793.—Mr. Wilberforce moved, That the House should, on Thursday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider the circumstances of the African Trade; which was opposed by Sir William Young, who moved an Amendment, "that this day six months" be inserted in the place of "Thursday next," which was carried, 61 to 53.

24th May 1793.—Mr. Wilberforce submitted two Motions to the House of Commons; one for abolishing the Trade for supplying foreign territories with Slaves, which he carried by a majority of 7: the other, for limiting and regulating the importation of Slaves into the British Colonies, for a time to be limited, he lost by a majority of 10.

8th February 1794.—Mr. Wilberforce moved for leave to bring in a Bill, for preventing the supply of foreign territories with Slaves from the coast of Africa in British vessels, which was carried by a majority of 23.

5th May 1794.—Lord Grenville moved the House of Lords to postpone the second reading of the Bill to prevent the supplying Foreigners with Slaves, to the 1st of September, which was carried.

28th February 1795.—Mr. Wilberforce moved for leave to bring in a Bill, for an abolition of the African Slave Trade, at a time to be limited; which was put off for six months, by a majority of 17.

3d. March 1796.—A Bill for abolishing the Slave Trade was read a second time; majority 64 to 31.

5th May 1796.—This Bill was rejected.

6th April 1797.—Mr. Charles Ellis made a Motion respecting the Slave Trade, and the Negroes in the West India Colonies; which was taken into consideration by the House of Assembly on the 21st of December in that year.

15th May 1797.—Mr. Wilberforce moved for leave to bring in a Bill to abolish the Slave Trade, which was negatived: Noes 82 to 74.

2d April 1798.—Mr. Wilberforce made a Motion for abolishing the Slave Trade, at a time to be limited, which was negatived: Noes 87 against 82.

Jamaica. 8th June 1798.—Slave carrying Bill is passed in the same form it was in the preceding year.

1st March 1799.—Mr. Wilberforce moved the Commons for abolishing the Slave Trade, at a time to be limited, which was negatived: Ayes 54; Noes 84.

June 1799.—A Bill passed the Commons for prohibiting the Slave Trade on the Coast of Africa, within certain limits.—(Mr. Thornton's Bill.)

5th July 1799.—The House of Lords reject Mr. Thornton's Bill: Ayes 32; Noes 25; Proxies on each side 36.

10th July 1799.—House of Lords make an Order, on motion of Lord Grenville, for the production of log-books of vessels carrying on the Slave Trade to the coast of Africa.

11th July 1799.—Mr. Pitt gave notice in the House of Commons, of his intention to bring forward some propositions relative to the Slave Trade, which he considered to be essentially necessary to the safety of the British West India Colonies.

That no measure that has engaged the attention of the British Parliament, at any time, has had a more full investigation than this of the Slave Trade. The Legislature of this Country has, at various times, fully considered the subject in every point of view. There stands upon the Minutes of the House, a very able Report thereon, presented the 16th October 1783. On the 12th November 1789, another Report was made; in which was recommended a free conference with the Council on the subject, which took place on the 3d of December of the same year. At that conference twelve resolutions were entered into, which were reported to both Branches of the Legislature, and approved; and a Remonstrance, grafted thereon, in temperate yet spirited language, to both Houses of Parliament, declaratory of the rights of the West India Colonies, protesting against any innovation of those rights, and claiming that protection to which they are entitled by the most sacred engagements on the part of the Parent Country, was framed at the same time; the whole of which the Speaker was directed to transmit to the Speaker of the House of Commons. Many other discussions on the Slave Trade have occurred since the date of the Report last mentioned; and the Committee have particularly to notice the Address of the House, of the 22d December 1797, to His Majesty, in which they have solemnly declared their right, under several Acts of Parliament, and by several Proclamations of his Royal Ancestors, to the full benefit of obtaining labourers from Africa; and that they never can give up, nor do any act that may render this essential right doubtful.

That there remains not a doubt, in the opinion of the Committee, that the advocates for an abolition of the Slave Trade, in both Houses of Parliament, finding that the public clamours throughout Great Britain with respect to it (which were encouraged and fomented by the most artful and injurious misrepresentations) have in a great measure subsided, and after due reflection on the subject, that the public mind has been undeceived, now intend to effect their favourite measure of abolition in an indirect manner, by plans, which however plausible as to the manner in which they are offered, are not the less insidious, and which, if not resisted, will in their consequences involve the gradual decay of the prosperity of this valuable Colony, and ultimately effect its destruction.

That the Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, for regulating the Slave carrying Trade, is undoubtedly calculated to lessen the number of Negroes to be brought from Africa to the British Colonies, by laying a direct restraint on the profits of the British Trader, and thereby causing a very great rise in the price of Slaves in the Colonial markets: in this Act are contained many new clauses, enacting new restraints and severe penalties, all tending to clog the Trade with every disadvantage and difficulty; to elucidate which, the Committee beg leave to refer to the Act itself.

That the limitation Bill, for abolishing the Trade on one-third of the Slave Coast of Africa, which was lost in the House of Lords, was certainly intended, by its supporters in both Houses, to be the first stage of their plans for abolishing the Trade entirely.

That the Committee think themselves in duty called upon to state to the House, how much this Colony in particular is indebted to his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence,

Clarence, for his indefatigable exertions, and very able and spirited arguments in our support, in the debate in the House of Lords on this Bill, which, in a very great measure, contributed to its rejection. Jamaica.

That it is more than probable that a similar Bill may be brought forward in the present Session of Parliament, in addition to the propositions of Mr. Pitt on the subject of the Slave Trade, the outlines of which he announced as before stated.

That from the several proceedings in the British Legislature on this subject, the Committee entertain the most serious apprehensions, as they all tend directly to assail and to destroy the capitals vested in the West India Settlements, at the invitation, by the encouragement, and on the plighted faith of the Crown and of Parliament. It is too true to admit of a doubt, that the very existence of the British West India Colonists and their families, as well as the security of their Creditors, depend wholly on the success of those investments. The period is now arrived which requires, in self defence, that they should make the strongest protestations, calculated to avert the imminent evils with which they are threatened by the continuance of the policy pursued by some of His Majesty's Ministers against their most sacred rights: a policy which the Committee does not hesitate to give as their opinion, is equally unwise as it is unjust and cruel.

That whatever our enemies in Great Britain may presume to assert to the contrary, it is certain that the Legislature of Jamaica has done every thing possible to be done, to render the condition of the Slaves therein as favourable as is consistent with their reasonable services, and the safety of the white Inhabitants. To prove this they refer to their Statutes on that subject; and within these ten years, it is particularly to be remarked, that it has been the constant endeavour of the Planters of this Island, unitedly as well as individually, to promote and secure the comforts of their Slaves: That the same conduct will be continued there is every reason to expect, more especially as the most essential interests of Proprietors are so strongly connected with the welfare and prosperity of their Labourers. The Legislature of the Island is alone competent to determine on such future measures as may be expedient further to contribute to this very salutary object, founded on principles of humanity and justice, as well as good policy. There can be no doubt, that the state and condition of the Slaves have of late been greatly meliorated, and from the attention and care of the Legislature in enacting such further regulations as may be necessary, in aid of the humane dispositions of the Inhabitants, that the condition of their Labourers will be further greatly improved, and population by Negroes born and reared in the Country increased: but measures best calculated to forward these two important objects must be adopted gradually, in order to facilitate and effect the purposes intended. In pursuing this line of conduct, the Legislature, as well as the Inhabitants, will do all that can be reasonably expected by the British Parliament, and which certainly ought to protect them against the violations of Rights, which a sacred regard to national justice and good faith ought to secure to them inviolably. The being supplied with Labourers from Africa for supporting, improving, and extending Settlements already made, and also for making new settlements in lands within the Island, the property of individuals, is a right most sacredly pledged to us; and any attempt to take away or restrict that right, so as to abridge the supply necessary not only to maintain the present stock and the present cultivation, but also to enable the Proprietors of lands granted by the Crown for the express purpose of being settled, must unavoidably defeat the lawful intentions of the Inhabitants by their labour and exertions to improve their own fortunes, and thereby essentially to contribute to the riches and prosperity of the Empire at large.

That this House is therefore called upon, in a peculiar manner, at this momentous crisis, by the duty they owe to themselves and their constituents, to resort to every constitutional measure to resist the evils with which they are threatened.

That the Committee, upon considering the state of the culture of this Island, have endeavoured to shew how much its security against internal or external danger will be rendered more effectual and permanent from the settling numerous plantations in the interior.

That should the Country be deprived of the right to procure Slaves from the Coast



Jamaica.

Coast of Africa, to improve and extend the numerous settlements already made therein, a very great proportion thereof must be undoubtedly abandoned, and the Slaves now thereon sold by the Owners to more opulent Proprietors. The same cause will operate to prevent any new settlements being made, and of course put an entire stop to the internal roads of communication, on which the safety of the Island so greatly depends. It will also operate most forcibly to discourage persons, best calculated by morals and education to promote colonization, from migrating to a Country in which they can have no prospects of acquiring property. From these effects, which must unavoidably follow an Abolition of the Slave Trade, it is so evident that the internal safety of the Island, instead of being promoted by such Abolition, as asserted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, will be very highly endangered, that the Committee think it unnecessary to enlarge on the subject.

That they have also to state, that beneficial effects have flowed from an Act passed in the Sessions of 1797, "for laying a Duty on all Negro Slaves which shall be imported into this Island from the Coast of Africa, that shall be above a certain age, and for regulating the manner of ascertaining such age;" (the purposes of which commenced on the 1st of January of the present year). Such a proportion of young Slaves have formed the cargoes imported, as never was experienced at any time before the operation of that Act.

No. 7.—Extract of a Letter from the Earl of Balcarres to the Duke of Portland; dated Jamaica, the 22d of March 1800.

(Nineteen Inclosures.)

HAVING laid before His Majesty's Council your Grace's Letter of the 12th of June, and its Enclosure, (being a Copy of an Address from the House of Commons to His Majesty, dated the 11th of June 1799) I have now the honour to enclose as full a Report as I could obtain; and I conceive the reply of Mr Taylor, dated February the 19th, and addressed to the Clerk of the Council, will sufficiently state the reasons of the Returns being defective.

(Copy.)

(1.) In Earl of Balcarres's, 22d of March 1800.

Circular.

Secretary's Office, October 10th 1799.

Sir,

I am commanded by his Honour the Lieutenant Governor, to enclose you Copies of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, and a Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 11th of the same month.

His Lordship requests that you will use the utmost dispatch in causing to be prepared, an Account, within your District, in exact conformity to the said Letter and Resolution; and that you will transmit such Account to his Lordship on or before the 1st day of December next, in order to enable him to comply with His Majesty's special commands.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Honourable  
Custos.

(Signed) *W. Bullock.*

(2.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

(Copy.)

In Council.

Wednesday, 12th February 1800.

Ordered, That the Clerk of the Council do write a letter to the several Custodes who have omitted making Returns, in consequence of the Resolutions of Council, bearing date the 5th of October last, requesting them to make such returns with all possible dispatch, or to assign the reasons which form an obstacle thereto.

*M. Atkinson,*  
Cl. Conc.

## J A M A I C A.

17 G.

Jamaica.

(3.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

(Copy.)

In Council.

21st March 1800.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor laid before the Board several Returns made by the Custodes of the different parishes, in obedience to his Honour's commands, signified to them on the 5th October last, and desired the opinion and advice of the Council as to the disposal of them.

The Board, having taken the same into consideration, were of opinion that they were in general defective, and by no means in conformity to the Resolution of the House of Commons; but as there appeared no prospect of accounts being procured with a greater degree of accuracy, the Board recommend his Honour to transmit them in their present state to his Grace the Duke of Portland.

*M. Atkinson,*  
Cl. Conc.

(4.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

(Copy.)

Parish of Saint Ann.

The number of Slaves in this parish about 16,000. This is taken from the Vestry or Parish Books.

The total number of Births and Deaths cannot with accuracy be ascertained; however, they are nearly equal. One-third of the Deaths may be said to be of Negroes imported more than three years before, and one-third imported within three years. This partly from the Vestry Books, my own knowledge, and from what information I could collect.

(Signed) *Alexander Fullarton,*  
Custos of Saint Ann.

Saint Ann, 19th Nov. 1799.

(5.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

(Copy.)

Clarendon, 4th December 1799.

Dear Sir,

In obedience to the Lieutenant Governor's request, I have used my best endeavours to procure an account of the increase and decrease of Slaves in this parish, for the last three years; but I am sorry to say that the Clerk of the Vestry has not as yet been able to furnish me with more than three names who have complied with my public advertisement. I have reason to apprehend that no satisfactory account can be obtained until a more particular mode of giving in Slaves at vestries be established by Law. You will be so good as to report this to his Lordship, and believe me with respect, &c.

*Geo. Mackenzie.*

William Bullock, Esquire.

(6.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

(Copy.)

Kingston, 20th February 1800.

Sir,

I beg leave to inform you, for his Lordship's information, that in compliance of your former Letter, dated the 10th October last, I caused to be inserted in the Royal Gazette an advertisement, desiring all persons in this town and parish to give in to

G. 18

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Jamaica. the Clerk of the Vestry the several Accounts required, in conformity to his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter of the 12th of July last, which has not been complied with; and I beg leave to offer my opinion to his Lordship, as the reason for the inhabitants of this large and populous town's non-compliance, that it is impossible such Accounts can be made out in this district, with the least degree of accuracy, as we have no registers of Births and Deaths of Slaves, nor any documents whatever to go by.

I have the honour to be,  
*John Jaques, Custos.*

*William Bullock, Esq.*

(7.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

(Copy.)

Kingston, 19th February 1800.

Sir,

I received your Letter of the 12th instant, reminding me of a Letter I had the honour to receive from the Right honourable the Earl of Balcarres, dated the 10th of October, requiring me, as Custos of the parishes and precincts of St. Thomas in the East and St. David, to furnish him with an Account of the total number of Negroes then in that District, and the number of Births and Deaths on an average of the last three years, distinguishing what proportion of those that died were born in this Island, or had been imported more than three years; and what number of those that died had been imported within three years of the time of their deaths; together with the documents on which such Accounts should be founded, in conformity to the Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 11th of July last. I beg you to inform his Lordship, that the total number of Negroes, as given into the Vestry for the quarter ending the 28th day of June 1799, for St. Thomas in the East, was 25,753; and at the giving in for St. David at the same time, the number was 4,643; but which of them were Negroes born in the Island, or Africans imported, I cannot say, as I know of no distinction ever made at those times. I will beg you further to acquaint his Lordship, that it is totally out of my power to furnish him with any public documents of the number of Births and Deaths on an average of the last three years, distinguishing what proportion of them that died were born in this Island, or had been imported more than three years before; and what number of those that died, had been imported within three years of their death; as I never knew or heard of any such Accounts having been given in at any Vestries, or had been required by any law to have been so given in. It is true, that almost every person keeps an Account for him or herself, of what Slaves they possess, as well as of the increase of them by purchases, inheritance, or births; and also of the decrease by deaths, sales, or otherwise: but these Lists they consider as their private property, and are not obliged by any law to divulge; for my own part, whenever I have had the misfortune to lose any Slaves on my properties, I never thought it requisite to make any remarks, whether they had been three years in the Island or not.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*Simon Taylor,*

Custos of the parishes and precincts of  
 St. Thomas in the East and St. David's.





## JAMAICA.

2t G.

ST. JOHN'S.	NAME of the PLANTATION or PROPRIETOR.	Number of Slaves thereon, 28th March 1799.	Number of Slaves born,				Number of Slaves who died,			Of which number dead, were,		
			From Sept. 28th 1796, to Sept. 28th 1797.	From Sept. 28th 1797, to Sept. 28th 1798.	From Sept. 28th 1798, to Sept. 28th 1799.	From Sept. 28th 1796, to Sept. 28th 1797.	From Sept. 28th 1797, to Sept. 28th 1798.	From Sept. 28th 1798, to Sept. 28th 1799.	Born in the Island.	Imported more than Three Years before Death.	Imported within Three Years before Death.	
	Garel . . . . .	118										
	Sanguinetti, J. . . . .	—										
	Hackett, Alex <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	24										
	Jennings, Eliz <sup>h</sup> . . . . .	—										
	Marshall, E. - H <sup>'</sup> of . . . . .	—										
	Ogborn, Jos. . . . .	—										
	Parker, William . . . . .	7										
	Pearson, William . . . . .	56										
	Pennington, Dan <sup>l</sup> . . . . .	16										
	Taylor, Geo. Elliott . . . . .	8										
	Hall, William . . . . .	10										
	Lyon, Ed. P. . . . .	—										
	Long, Sam <sup>l</sup> - H <sup>'</sup> of . . . . .	—										
	Roden, Tho <sup>'</sup> . . . . .	13										
	Smith, Cath. . . . .	8										
	Bayly, Rob. S. . . . .	30										
	Lewett, Thomas . . . . .	—										
	Smith, James P. . . . .	24										
	Haylett, Robert . . . . .	—										
	Taylor, James . . . . .	—										

(Copy.)

(Signed) .

Balcarres.

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

(8.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.—*continued.*

## JAMAICA.—ST. JOHN'S.

ST. JOHN'S.  NAME of the PLANTATION or PROPRIETOR.	Number of the Slaves thereon, the 28th March 1799.	Number of Slaves born,			Number of Slaves who died,			Of which number dead, were		
		From Sept. 28th 1796, to Sept. 28th 1797.	From Sept. 28th 1797, to Sept. 28th 1798.	From Sept. 28th 1798, to Sept. 28th 1799.	From Sept. 28th 1796, to Sept. 28th 1797.	From Sept. 28th 1797, to Sept. 28th 1798.	From Sept. 28th 1798, to Sept. 28th 1799.	Born in this Island.	Imported more than Three Years before Death.	Imported within Three Years before Death.
White, John - - - -										
Tingley, John - - - -	8									
Browne, Ann - - - -	10									
Rofs, Robert - - - -	30									
Fleming, Francis - - -	7									
Deleon, Abr. Rod. - - -										
M <sup>r</sup> Le Vant - - - -	10			1				2		
Armstrong, W <sup>m</sup> - - - -	4									
Anderfon, W <sup>m</sup> - - - -	23				2	1	2		5	
Bonny, Eliz <sup>b</sup> - - - -	20									
Browne, Edward - - - -										
De Campos, Aaron - - -										

JAMAICA, *Is.* }  
ST. JOHN'S.*To Thomas King, Constable of the Parish aforesaid.*

“ You are hereby directed and required forthwith to tender the Scheme  
“ before written to the several Proprietors of Slaves, or Persons  
“ having the charge or management of Plantations in the Parish  
“ aforesaid, and to request them to fill up the Blanks therein, opposite  
“ to the Names of the several Plantations or Proprietors, or other-  
“ wise to transmit an Account to the same purport to the Clerk of  
“ the Vestry of the said Parish, on or before the 16th Day of Nov<sup>r</sup>  
“ next, in order that the Circular Letter of the 10th of Oct<sup>r</sup> Inst<sup>ant</sup>,  
“ written by order of his Honour the Lieutenant Governor, and  
“ hereunto annexed, may be complied with. Herein fail not to  
“ make a Return of your proceedings to me, not later than the  
“ 16th Day of Nov<sup>r</sup> aforesaid; and for your so doing this shall be  
“ your authority. Given under my hand and seal this 23d Day of  
“ Oct<sup>r</sup> 1799.

“ J. Quier.”

(9.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

(Copy.)

## HANOVER.

An ACCOUNT of the Number of SLAVES in the Parish of HANOVER, with a Return of the Increase and Decrease of the said Slaves, for the last Three Years; as given in upon Oath to a Vestry holden for receiving such givings-in, the 23d November 1799.

	NAMES of PERSONS and PLANTATIONS.	Number of Slaves now in possession.	Increase by Births.	Decrease for Three Years.			Number of Deaths within the last Three Years.
				Natives or Creoles.	Africans Three Years or under imported.	Africans more than Three Years imported.	
1	Anglin, W <sup>m</sup> , deceased	136	12	1	-	3	4
2	Allan, Jane, et al.	272	18	13	-	7	20
3	Atkinson, George	29	2	-	-	2	2
4	Briffet, Rich <sup>d</sup> , deceased	447	19	11	-	14	25
5	D <sup>o</sup>	333	36	19	-	36	55
6	-	204	23	13	-	6	19
7	-	143	7	8	-	3	11
8	-	34	5	-	-	5	5
9	Briffet, Joseph	197	10	6	-	13	19
10	Briffet, George	187	15	2	-	8	10
11	D <sup>o</sup>	189	10	7	-	9	16
12	Brown, W <sup>m</sup> , sen.	279	12	11	12	-	23
13	Bremner, Pat <sup>k</sup>	45	7	-	4	-	4
14	Briffet, John, deceased	81	11	1	-	2	3
15	Campbell, Peter	282	29	22	-	14	36
16	Campbell, Duncan	287	24	19	-	21	40
17	Carr, John	205	25	8	-	5	13
18	Clarke, John	51	3	-	-	2	2
19	Chambers, Jacob	22	2	-	-	-	-
20	Crooks, Jn <sup>o</sup> and Rich <sup>d</sup>	156	12	6	-	2	8
21	Clerke, George	38	3	5	-	1	6
22	Cunningham, M. and Son	61	8	5	-	1	6
23	Crofts, R.	16	-	-	-	-	-
24	Campbell, Ja <sup>s</sup>	142	5	4	-	5	9
25	Clerk, W <sup>m</sup> Virgo	26	4	-	-	-	-
26	Campbell, Rob <sup>t</sup>	120	6	2	4	-	6
27	Clarke, Lady Ann	235	21	9	-	4	13
28	D <sup>o</sup>	131	11	-	-	7	7
29	Chambers, John	50	5	1	-	2	3
30	Campbell, Jn <sup>o</sup> and Peter	50	7	1	-	-	1
31	Campbell, John	274	18	3	-	5	18
32	Clarke, W <sup>m</sup> and Ch <sup>a</sup> Ja <sup>s</sup>	308	29	16	-	22	38
33	Clarke, Sir Simon Houghton	217	13	5	-	8	13
34	Cochrane, Rob <sup>t</sup>	24	1	-	1	-	1
35	Campbell, Duncan (M)	59	10	5	1	-	6
36	Chisholm, Rob <sup>t</sup>	29	1	-	-	2	2



## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

NAMES of PERSONS and PLANTATIONS.		Number of Slaves now in possession.	Increase by Births.	Decrease for Three Years.			Number of Deaths within the last Three Years.	
				Natives or Creoles.	Africans Three Years or under imported.	Africans more than Three Years imported.		
37	Blagrove, John	Magotty's	364	37	28	-	13	41
38	Binns, Edward	-	96	9	1	-	7	8
39	Burt and Heron	Alexandria	131	16	5	16	-	21
40	Buchanan, Geo.	Spittle	48	5	1	-	6	7
41	Dehany, Philip	Point	367	32	19	-	1	20
42	D°	Barbican	221	23	12	-	4	16
43	Dawes, Ja' W <sup>n</sup>	Rockspring	253	17	5	-	22	27
44	Douglas, Ja'	Grange	260	11	12	13	-	25
45	Dickson, Rich <sup>d</sup>	-	27	1	-	-	-	-
46	Ellis, Ch' Rose	Shettlewood, P.	119	9	1	-	5	6
47	Evans, John, Est. of	Vermont	52	3	2	-	-	2
48	Fleming, James	Hopeshall	16	-	1	1	-	2
49	Finucane, Edm <sup>d</sup>	Hillsborough	29	3	2	-	2	4
50	Fenton, Tho'	-	27	4	-	-	1	1
51	Gordon, John	Campton	257	16	10	-	4	14
52	Gray, Patrick	Friendship	210	18	6	-	9	15
53	Gray, George	Gibraltar	33	8	-	-	-	-
54	Hudson, W <sup>n</sup> , Silver Grove	Ramble and F.	303	22	17	-	22	39
55	Hudson and M <sup>c</sup> Kenzie	Golden Grove	147	5	3	-	9	12
56	Hay, James	Williamsfield	151	6	3	-	12	15
57	Hilton, John	C. Castle	217	46	19	-	10	29
58	Hall, Will <sup>m</sup>	Round Hill	261	14	6	9	2	17
59	Hopkins, Ja'	-	15	6	1	-	1	2
60	Jackson, John	Sod Hall	171	8	7	-	4	11
61	Jackson, John, Heirs of	M <sup>c</sup> Infant	212	7	8	-	13	21
62	Innis, David	Mr. Grace	80	4	1	-	6	7
63	James Jn <sup>o</sup> Haughton	H. Hall	245	6	11	-	1	12
64	Jobling, Jos. Est. of	-	52	5	-	-	7	7
65	Knowles, Elizabeth	Hopewell	165	8	5	-	5	10
66	Kerr, Ja' Est. of	Dundee	184	21	7	-	17	24
67	Kerr, Rob <sup>t</sup> Est. of	Welcome	162	12	-	-	28	28
68	D°	Haddington	186	23	-	-	26	26
69	Kerr, Mrs.	-	15	-	-	-	-	-
70	Miles, W <sup>n</sup>	B. Hall	195	12	18	-	6	24
71	D°	Richmond	227	10	6	-	3	9
72	D°	Prosper	-	-	-	-	-	-
73	D°	R <sup>d</sup> Penn	38	-	1	-	3	4
74	Mure, Hutchison, Est. of	Saxham	248	14	9	-	15	24
75	D°	Caldwell	212	17	9	-	14	23
76	Mure, Samuel	Flint River	226	21	-	-	25	25
77	Morris, Sam <sup>l</sup> , Est. of	Rome	47	8	5	-	-	5
78	M <sup>c</sup> Craw, Mary	-	22	2	1	-	-	1
79	Morrison and M <sup>c</sup> Farlane	Caledonia	49	8	1	-	1	2
80	Malcolm, Neil	R <sup>d</sup> Penn	44	5	1	-	1	2
81	D°	New Paradise	151	9	2	-	16	18
82	D°	Pell River	253	12	6	-	11	17
83	D°	Blenheim	191	10	7	-	11	18
84	D°	Retrieve Ore	193	12	7	-	9	16
85	D°	New Works	174	18	8	-	7	15
86	D°	Knockalva, P.	162	21	8	-	3	11
87	D°	Hylaby	36	6	1	-	-	1
88	Malcolm, Donald	M <sup>c</sup> Pelier	155	9	2	-	7	9
89	M <sup>c</sup> Clymont, James	-	45	2	-	2	-	2
90	Maxwell, Pat. and Jn <sup>o</sup>	-	40	5	-	3	-	3

## J A M A I C A.

25 G.

NAMES of PERSONS and PLANTATIONS.		Number of Slaves now in possession.	Increase by Births.	Decrease for Three Years.			Number of Deaths within the last Three Years.
				Natives or Creoles.	Africans Three Years or under imported.	Africans more than Three Years imported.	
91	Minto, Thomas - - - -	52	9	2	-	5	7
92	M <sup>c</sup> Nabb, James - - - -	22	1	-	-	-	-
93	Malcolm, Donald Smith P. - - - -	17	-	-	-	-	-
94	Malcolm, George - - - - Argyle - - -	212	20	5	-	14	19
95	Neumans and Hardings - - - - Bhole - - -	161	15	7	-	4	11
96	Odell and Gilpin - - - - Cascade & Spring <sup>d</sup>	178	18	8	8	8	18
97	Paterfon and Walter - - - - Baulk - - -	157	10	7	-	3	10
98	Parry Henry - - - - - - - - -	8	-	-	-	-	-
99	Perry, John - - - - - Abingdon - - -	194	8	1	-	17	18
100	Roebuck and C <sup>o</sup> - - - - Hopewell - - -	131	10	3	-	1	4
101	Reid, Tho <sup>s</sup> deceased - - - - Belvidere - - -	426	40	14	-	8	22
102	Reid, R. H. et al. - - - - Esher - - -	230	29	7	-	7	14
103	Reid, R <sup>d</sup> Haughton - - - - O <sup>c</sup> Cove - - -	175	11	4	-	-	4
104	Robertfon, John Hine - - - - - - - - -	26	3	-	-	2	2
105	Randall, Henry - - - - - Colebrooke - - -	21	3	1	-	1	2
106	Ryley, Samuel - - - - - Ripleys - - -	109	9	8	-	8	16
107	Scarlett, Rob <sup>t</sup> , Heirs of - - - - Succes and F. - - -	137	10	4	-	7	11
108	Samuell, Ch <sup>s</sup> and Est. of - - - - N. Samuells - - -	53	4	1	-	1	2
109	Samuells, W <sup>m</sup> Ed. - - - - - C. Cove - - -	145	17	9	-	4	13
110	Samueils, Ja <sup>s</sup> Davis - - - - - - - - -	39	2	1	1	1	3
111	Spring Annuitants - - - - - Spring - - -	134	6	1	-	5	6
112	Scott, Cha <sup>s</sup> - - - - - Tweedside - - -	67	9	5	-	2	7
113	Taylor, Sir Jn <sup>o</sup> B <sup>t</sup> , deceased - - - - H. Court - - -	376	25	12	-	4	16
114	D <sup>o</sup> - - - - - H. Grove, P. - - -	79	12	3	-	-	3
115	Vassall, John - - - - - N. F. River - - -	201	19	15	-	4	19
116	Vassall, W <sup>m</sup> - - - - - G. River - - -	308	23	10	-	15	25
117	Willey, John - - - - - Shepherds, H. - - -	57	5	4	-	3	7
118	D <sup>o</sup> - - - - - Willand - - -	30	3	2	5	-	7
119	Wife, Thomas - - - - - Clearmount - - -	117	16	4	-	6	10
120	Walker, Robert - - - - - - - - -	27	3	-	-	-	-
121	Wallace, John - - - - - Cefsnock - - -	157	8	7	-	11	18
122	Wedderburn, John - - - - - Ms <sup>s</sup> - - -	173	8	2	-	9	11
123	D <sup>o</sup> - - - - - Profsept - - -	177	16	6	-	5	11
124	D <sup>o</sup> - - - - - Hopewell - - -	186	14	7	-	6	13
125	Websters, Ja <sup>s</sup> and D. Heirs of - - - - R. Vale - - -	201	16	6	-	7	13
		17,936	1,432	664	74	746	1,478

Hanover, } We do certify, That the above is an exact Account of the Number of Slaves in  
 Jamaica, } this Parish, as given in to a Vestry held at Lucea on Saturday the 23d Instant for  
 } that purpose; with a Return of the Increase and Decrease for the last Three  
 } Years. Given under our Hands and Seals this 26th day of November 1799.

Benj. Tenison,

Cl. Vestry.

Edm<sup>d</sup> Finucane,

L. S.

Geo. Spence,

L. S.

(Copy.)

Balcarres.

(10.) In the Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

(Copy.)

## JAMAICA.—ST. JAMES.

RETURN of Increase and Decrease of SLAVES in the Parish of  
SAINT JAMES.

NAMES of the PROPRIETORS.	NAMES of the PLANTATIONS.	Increase by Births in the last Three Years.	N <sup>o</sup> of Native Slaves died in the last Three Years.	AFRICANS.		N <sup>o</sup> died: Total Decrease.	Number of Slaves now in Possession.
				N <sup>o</sup> died in the last Three Years, imported within Three Years previous.	N <sup>o</sup> died in the last Three Years, imported more than Three Years.		
Anderfon, Duncan, Heirs of	Leche - - - -	5	6	4	5	15	224
Ditto - - - -	Flowerhill - - - -	22	8	-	-	8	241
Atkinson, Richard, Heirs of	Bogue - - - -	7	9	13	-	22	215
Atherton, William	Sping Vale - - - -	18	-	-	-	10	174
Bowen, Robert	Retreat - - - -	-	1	-	10	11	150
Birch, Joseph	Legane - - - -	22	16	-	9	25	190
Barret, George Goodin	Sping - - - -	30	7	-	15	22	352
Barret, S. Wisdom	Spot Valley - - - -	13	7	-	21	28	243
Borland, Robert	Equity - - - -	8	7	-	12	19	85
Bernard, Daniel	Content - - - -	7	3	2	3	8	-
Bernard, Charles and David	Eden - - - -	27	13	3	11	27	257
Bernard, David	Bona Vista - - - -	10	4	-	5	9	107
Bernard, W. R. Bernard	Childermas - - - -	9	4	-	3	7	191
Barret, Edward	Cinnamon & Conol	27	-	-	-	15	573
Cunningham, John	Beifield - - - -	4	13	-	5	18	228
Delap, Robert, Heirs of	Orange - - - -	10	20	-	14	34	172
Dawes, Nicholas	Albion - - - -	7	4	-	8	12	56
Ellis, Charles Rose	M <sup>r</sup> Pelier, O. W.	41	21	1	28	50	384
Ditto - - - -	D <sup>o</sup> - N. W.	16	10	14	19	43	531
Erskine, John, Heirs of	Lima - - - -	37	15	-	27	42	352
Franklyn, Peter	Chatworth - - - -	4	1	-	-	1	30
Fowle, William, Heirs of	Wiltshire - - - -	20	8	-	11	19	163
Gibbes, Francis B. Heirs of	Millenium - - - -	6	-	-	-	4	164
Gordon, William	Paisley - - - -	21	4	-	8	12	281
Gray, John	Industry - - - -	17	10	-	4	14	183
Gray, Charles Gordon	Virgin Valley - - - -	12	9	-	13	22	234
Gordon, John, jun <sup>r</sup>	Glasgow - - - -	13	8	-	12	20	268
Gordon, John	Moor Park - - - -	18	9	-	15	24	240
Gordon, William	Windfor Lodge - - - -	35	4	10	-	14	337
Graham, Jacob	Fustie Grove - - - -	8	-	-	2	2	116
Gray, Thomas Joseph	Easthams - - - -	13	6	-	4	10	96
Gibbes, Henry Thornhill	Crawle - - - -	5	4	-	-	4	165
Hylton, John	Comfort Hall - - - -	-	-	4	-	4	30

## J A M A I C A.

27 G.

NAMES of the PROPRIETORS.	NAMES of the PLANTATIONS.	Increase by Births in the last Three Years.	N° of Native Slaves died in the last Three Years.	AFRICANS.		N° died: Total Decrease.	Number of Slaves now in Possession.
				N° died in the last Three Years, imported within Three Years previous.	N° died in the last Three Years, imported more than Three Years.		
Hall, Thomas Kirkpatrick	Irwin and Penn	43	27	-	24	51	365
D° - - - - -	Kirkpatrick	9	12	-	6	18	190
D° - - - - -	Tryall	25	9	-	2	11	289
Hamilton, G. R. Heirs of	Succefs	9	3	-	9	12	120
Hall, William - - - -	Worcefter	12	2	-	10	12	298
Hall, Thomas - - - -	Williamsfield	24	4	-	7	11	277
Jackfon, John - - - -	Amity Hall	6	5	-	8	13	159
Jackfon, Robert - - - -	Hampton	9	3	-	2	5	185
Innes, David - - - -	Sommerton	10	7	8	8	15	142
Innes, Robert - - - -	- - - -	3	4	-	1	5	159
Johnfon, Milbro - - - -	- - - -	6	-	3	-	3	22
Irwin, John and Jacob - - - -	- - - -	28	8	-	45	53	481
Kerr, David - - - -	Spring Garden	11	3	-	5	8	178
Kerr, Rob <sup>t</sup> , Eft. of - - - -	Leyden	20	15	-	19	34	283
Linton, Thomas, Heirs of	Springfield	9	-	-	-	5	90
Leslie, James - - - -	St. James' Park	6	-	-	1	1	23
Laurence, Geo. W. Heirs of	Running Gutt	6	-	-	-	6	122
Little, Walter - - - -	Smallfield	9	-	-	-	6	61
Mowat, John - - - -	Dumfries	9	-	-	-	5	200
M <sup>c</sup> Intosh, William - - - -	May Hall	1	-	-	1	1	42
Peterkin, James - - - -	Chatham & Bull Penn	10	-	-	-	8	163
Palmer, John, Heirs of - - - -	Rose Hall & Palmira	24	-	-	-	26	380
Plummer, William - - - -	Richmond Hill	-	-	-	-	4	50
Pery, John - - - -	- - - -	9	2	-	2	4	12
Rufca, Estate of James - - - -	John's Hall	8	-	-	-	6	188
Ritchie, John - - - -	- - - -	7	2	-	2	4	-
Reynolds, Edmund - - - -	Catherine Mount	10	3	-	2	5	149
Scott, Adam, Eft. of - - - -	- - - -	2	2	-	-	2	49
Sill, John - - - -	Providence	7	9	-	15	24	249
Scarlett, John - - - -	Scarlet Hall	10	2	-	2	4	117
Trought, Nich <sup>s</sup> , Heirs of - - - -	Catadupa	4	-	-	-	-	70
Tharp, John - - - -	Green Pond	9	13	-	14	27	84
Tharp, William Haughton - - - -	Reading	9	6	-	4	10	87
Vernon Thomas - - - -	- - - -	1	-	-	1	1	15
Waste, Raynes Barrett - - - -	Blue Hole & Moreland	16	2	-	5	7	283
Warburton, George - - - -	- - - -	1	-	-	-	2	9
Williams, Martin, Heirs of - - - -	Anchor Bottom	22	8	-	22	30	241
Ricketts, G. W. - - - -	Canaan	33	13	-	7	20	250

N. B. A Number of Proprietors of Slaves (by whose Returns there appears to have been neither Increase or Decrease within the last Three Years) are not included in the above List.

Charles Evans,  
Clerk Veftry.

(11.)—In Earl of Balcarres's, of 22d March 1800.

JAMAICA, }  
St. Elizabeth, }<sup>s.</sup>

A RETURN of the Parish of St. ELIZABETH, for the Number of Negroes now on each Plantation in the Parish aforesaid, and the Total Number of Births and Deaths (on an Average of the last Three Years); distinguishing what Proportion of those that died were born in the said Parish, or had been imported more than Three Years before; and what Number of those that died had been imported within Three Years of the time of their Death.

PROPRIETORS NAMES.	NAMES of the PROPERTIES.	Number of Slaves now on the Property.	Births in the Years 1796, 1797, and 1798.	DEATHS in the Years 1796, 1797, and 1798.			Total Number of Deaths.
				Creoles born in the Island.	Africans that had been in the Island upwards of Three Years.	Africans that died within Three Years after they had been imported.	
Hon <sup>ble</sup> Jof. Jas. Swaby	- Montpellier and New River	250	20	16 in 1798	of an epidemic		16
Elizabeth Bowen Murray	- Chiviot Hill - - -	42	3	- -	4	ditto.	4
William Seaton	- Mount Prospect - - -	71	4	2	1	- -	3
William Pitter - - -	- Cragie - - - - -	44	10	7	8	- -	15
William Robinfon - -	- Friendship - - - -	155	15	4	2	- -	6
Abraham Myers - - -	- Farm - - - - -	32	5	- -	1	- -	1
William and John Foster	- Bogue - - - - -	383	30	34	- -	- -	34
Thomas Foster - - -	- Elim - - - - -	384	46	26	- -	- -	26
The Heirs of John McMillan	- George's Valley - - -	45	2	3	2	- -	5
John Foster - - -	- Two Mile Wood - - -	204	21	26	- -	- -	26
John Coley - - -	- John's Hall - - - -	23	2	2	- -	- -	2
The Heirs of John Morfe	- Y. S. - - - - -	438	16	27	- -	- -	27
D° - - - D° - - -	- Ipswich - - - - -	161	12	9	- -	- -	9
Heirs of S. W Foster	- Lancaster - - - - -	158	12	19	- -	- -	19
William Harriot - - -	- St. Cruz Park - - -	146	14	10	- -	- -	10
Bryan Connor - - -	- Palmyra - - - - -	39	4	- -	- -	- -	-
Mrs. Smalling - - -	- Emmaus - - - - -	72	4	9	- -	- -	9
Barham Joseph Foster	- Island Estate - - -	208	15	29	- -	- -	29
William Harriot - - -	- Mexico - - - - -	152	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Anderfon, Ruth - - -	- Newhall - - - - -	13	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Alexander, Samuel - -	- Alexandria - - - -	27	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Anderfon, Ann - - -	- - - - -	14	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Allen, George - - -	- Norwhich - - - - -	11	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Austin, Robert - - -	- Palmyra - - - - -	92	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Anderfon, John - - -	- Newforest - - - -	178	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Ab. James Rowe, dec.	- Aberdeen - - - - -	49	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Angel, Benjamin - - -	- Lookout - - - - -	71	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Burton, Elizabeth - -	- Content - - - - -	47	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Bryden, James - - -	- Mountain Valley - -	15	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Dickenson, Vicars, Heirs of	- Barton - - - - -	238	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
	Carried forward - -	3,762	235	223	18	- -	241

## J A M A I C A.

29 G.

PROPRIETORS NAMES.	NAMES of PROPERTIES.	Nº of Slaves on the Property.	Births in the Years 1796, 7, 8.	Deaths of Creoles born in 1796, 7, 8.	Africans that had been in the Island more than 3 Years.
Amount brought forward	- - -	3,762	235	223	18
Bradford, Sufanna - - -	- - -	17	—	—	—
Wallace, Hugh - - -	Biscany - - -	196	—	—	—
James Row, Heirs of - - -	Bagdale - - -	123	—	—	—
Brooks, Priscilla - - -	- - -	15	—	—	—
Brooks, Joseph - - -	- - -	6	—	—	—
Brooks, Ruth - - -	- - -	5	—	—	—
Brooks, Martha - - -	- - -	11	—	—	—
Brooks, Richard - - -	- - -	6	—	—	—
Brooks, Grace Ann - - -	- - -	8	—	—	—
Brooks, John - - -	Burnt Ground - - -	94	—	—	—
Brooks, Amelia - - -	- - -	10	—	—	—
Brooks, John - - -	- - -	8	—	—	—
Bennet, Joseph - - -	Spring Garden - - -	57	—	—	—
	Barton Isles - - -	130	—	—	—
Bernard and William Dickensons - - -	Pepper - - -	170	—	—	—
	Watchwell - - -	27	—	—	—
	Appleton - - -	211	—	—	—
Brown, Martha Wilson - - -	- - -	12	—	—	—
Blake, William, deceased - - -	The Folly - - -	25	—	—	—
Burton, Zachariah - - -	- - -	11	—	—	—
Banton, Timothy - - -	The Lodge - - -	22	—	—	—
Burton, Judith - - -	Prospect - - -	46	—	—	—
Bent, John - - -	Top Hill - - -	19	—	—	—
Boucher, Richard - - -	Wilton - - -	70	—	—	—
Barret, Thomas Hercy - - -	Mile Gully - - -	86	—	—	—
Walker, James - - -	Bumpton - - -	91	—	—	—
Burton, John - - -	Spanish Quarters - - -	8	—	—	—
Blake, John - - -	Hopewell - - -	30	—	—	—
Allen, Isaac - - -	Breadnut Valley - - -	78	—	—	—
Burton, John Francis - - -	- - -	12	—	—	—
Burton, Benjamin - - -	- - -	12	—	—	—
Burton, Jonathan - - -	- - -	21	—	—	—
Johnston, Wm. Ricketts - - -	Belle Vue - - -	40	—	—	—
Badnege, Mrs. deceased - - -	- - -	21	—	—	—
Brown, Sarah - - -	- - -	26	—	—	—
Campbell, Colin - - -	Mountain Spring - - -	70	—	—	—
Salmon, John - - -	Clifton - - -	124	—	—	—
Delaroche, John - - -	Carisbrook - - -	78	—	—	—
Wallin, John Lewis - - -	Carmel - - -	24	—	—	—
Chambers, John - - -	Cabbage Valley, &c. - - -	230	—	—	—
Dunkley, Thomas - - -	Cathew - - -	120	—	—	—
Ricketts, George William - - -	Crawfurds - - -	46	—	—	—
Wright, James Cooper - - -	Cornwall - - -	71	—	—	—
Carried forward - - -	- - -	6,255	235	223	18

## G. 30 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

P R O P R I E T O R S N A M E S.	N A M E S of P R O P E R T I E S.	Number of Slaves on the Property.
Amount brought forward -	- - - -	6,255
Coles, Abraham Sable - - -	Cramers - - -	42
Thwaites and Wheelwrights - - -	Chesterfield - - -	170
Clarke, Josias - - -	Norfolk - - -	31
- - - -	Catherine Hall - - -	32
Cerf, Henry - - -	Berlin - - -	50
Carnegy, Stewart - - -	- - - -	20
Frazer, William - - -	Dunbarton - - -	18
Davies, Ann - - -	Woolwich - - -	26
Davy, John and James - - -	Weare - - -	55
John M'Duff - - -	Duff House - - -	63
Tomlinson, Jas. Robert - - -	Dalintoba - - -	137
Dear, Thomas - - -	- - - -	15
Owen, Humphrey - - -	Donegall - - -	45
Dennis, Edward - - -	- - - -	18
Dennis, W <sup>m</sup> Pight - - -	Belle Vere - - -	14
Dennis, Roger Taylor - - -	- - - -	15
Do nie, James - - -	Green Vale - - -	46
D.ckenon, Mary - - -	- - - -	13
Dennis, Mrs. - - -	- - - -	40
Duncan, Elizabeth - - -	- - - -	20
Day, Benjamin - - -	Greenfield - - -	18
Eaton, Marg <sup>t</sup> and Sufanna - - -	Nightingale Grove - - -	37
Fowler, Mrs. E. - - -	Elderstea - - -	83
Ewbanks, John - - -	- - - -	12
Ewbanks, John, jun. - - -	- - - -	12
Ewbanks, William - - -	- - - -	11
Eaton, George - - -	Chefter - - -	11
Forbes, Alex <sup>r</sup> , fen <sup>r</sup> - - -	Ruthven - - -	63
Fearon, Rowland, W <sup>ms</sup> - - -	- - - -	59
Skinner, James - - -	Peterfield - - -	50
Atwood, Robert - - -	Pond Pen - - -	60
Finlason, William - - -	- - - -	65
Fenton, John - - -	- - - -	47
Forbes, Charles - - -	Fullerwood Park, &c. - - -	239
Fishers, John, Heirs of - - -	Golden Grove, &c. - - -	435
Forbes, Mungo - - -	Thatchfield, &c. - - -	69
Rowe, James, Heirs of - - -	Fullerwood - - -	79
Ruffel, Samuel - - -	Fairfield - - -	29
Fritch, Thomas - - -	Paradise - - -	14
Fleming, William - - -	New Grove - - -	55
Graham, John - - -	Dunce and Pond Side - - -	58
Smith, Francis George - - -	Goshen and Long Hill - - -	318
Carried forward - - -	- - - -	8,957

## J A M A I C A.

31 G.

PROPRIETORS NAMES.	NAMES of PROPERTIES.	Number of Slaves on the Property.
Amount brought forward	-	8,957
Crawford, Mathew	Gilnock Hall	54
Delaroche, William	Giddy Hall	91
Griffith, John	Oldbury	40
Whittaker, John, Heirs of	Ginger Hill	90
Gordon, John	-	15
Baker, John Proculus, deceased	Grove Place	192
Witter, Mrs.	Grolmond	41
Hutchison, John	Mount Sample	39
Hewit, William Kellert	Fellowship	60
Hennegan, Charles	Success	55
Hanson, Philemon	Catho	17
Howard, William	Denbigh Castle	14
Shakespeare, David	Hodges	124
Harriot, George	Retrieve	23
Smith, James	Hazle Grove	44
Brooks, Mrs. Deborah	Hounslow	47
Smyth, Thomas	Haughton and Vauxhall	278
Hart, James	Hampstead	153
Smith, Thomas	Highgate and Font Hill	491
Campbell, Peter Holland	-	241
Right, Thomas	Hope River	24
Henderfon, Thomas	-	16
Hyman, Lazarus	Industry Park	58
Hook, Mary	-	20
James, Ann	Cedar Grove	14
James, John, sen.	Newell, &c. &c.	91
James, Montague	-	21
James, Joseph	-	17
Johnston, William	-	27
King, William	Kingsland	34
Keene, Thomas	Orange Grove	21
Kilburn, Grace	Burton	27
Keene, Richard	Pleasant Hill	13
Keene, Jane	-	32
Keen, John	-	14
Dickenson, Caleb	Knockpatrick	200
Cowan, Nicholas	Eglinton	30
The Rev. Tho' Warren	Lacovia	48
Royal, John	Lower Works	32
	Carried forward	11,787



## G. 32 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

PROPRIETORS NAMES.	NAMES of PROPERTIES.	Number of Slaves on the Property.
Amount brought forward	-	11,787
La Cruz, Sarah	-	13
Longlands, John	Rofeberry	63
Lewis, John	-	16
Lee, Catherine	-	14
Brook, Rich <sup>d</sup> and Brothers	Longwood	72
Smith, Robert, Heirs of	Mount Charles	78
Dickenson, Caleb	Majetty	71
Balcarres, Earl of	Martin's Hill	52
Mois, James	Hermitage	21
Montagu, Mathew	Chelsea	22
Muschett, Robert	Byebrook	96
Smith, Mathew, sen.	Mount Lebanon	49
Goudie, David, dec <sup>d</sup>	Maybole	65
Mamley, Samuel	Malvern Hill	43
Miller, Jasper, dec <sup>d</sup>	-	15
Cohen, Hyem	Mount Pleasant	150
McLeod, William	-	8
Mullings, Edward	-	16
Malcolm, Peter	-	26
Mills, Rebecca	Barbary Hall	13
Mullings, John	-	26
Mullings, William	-	22
M'Catty, John	Springfield	53
Martin, William	-	13
Murray, Andrew	-	12
M'Creddie, John	-	15
Malcolm, Jean	-	15
Mullings, Margaret	-	16
-	Newhall	19
Frederic, John	Niagara	61
Nief, Edward	-	22
Newman, Richard	-	30
White, Andrew	Oxford	197
Heath, William	Peru	75
M'Intosh, James	Phantillands	75
Cooks, Mrs.	Paynestown	107
Vanheelen, Mrs. Heirs of	Pond Pen	56
Laird, Henry	Prospect	96
Powell, Benjamin, jun.	Spanish Q <sup>y</sup>	13
Carried forward	-	13,618

## J A M A I C A.

33 G.

PROPRIETORS NAMES.	NAMES of PROPERTIES.	Number of Slaves on the Property.
Amount brought forward	-	13,618
Powell, James, dec <sup>d</sup>	-	13
Right, Lewis Jones, dec <sup>d</sup>	-	21
Powell, Sarah	-	17
Price, Judith	-	25
Powell, Benjamin, fen.	Pleasant Hill	36
	Pifgah	17
		30
Penny, Cook Charles		40
Pight, Charles		15
Pcart, John	Newark	20
Barnes, John, Heirs of	Rofely Hill	44
Ranhin, Alex <sup>t</sup>	Thornton	150
Robertson, Duncan	Friendship	102
Robb, John	Brownberry	92
Robertson, John	Bellmount	22
Wilson, John	Reading and Sally Hall	62
Rowe, Charles	Middlefex	111
Rudduch, Henry		17
Robertson, James		13
Reynold, John Raby		22
Shaw, William	Newton	20
Lynch, Heirs of	Stonefield	35
Swaby, John	Pleasant Prospect	140
Slater, John	Friendship Hill	26
Scutchy, Simon	Euiton Hill	12
Robinson and Peart	Spice Grove	107
Smith, Robert	Mountblow	14
Gale, Heirs of	Saltspring	312
Salked, John	Rose Castle	15
Smith, Alex <sup>t</sup>	Bellanure	45
Levy, Benjamin	Stoney Hill	16
Shermer, Ann		10
Branfield, Andrew	Southfield	80
Farquharson, Ch <sup>t</sup> Heirs of	Spring Vale	73
Vernon, James Baillie	Shootershill	51
Sandilands, John		25
	Shrewsbury	55
Rowe, William	Torrington Castle	23
Thomas, Sarah	Happy Grove	27
Taylor, George	Iflington	25
Carried forward	-	15,668

## G. 34 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

PROPRIETORS NAMES.	NAMES of PROPERTIES.	Number of Slaves on the Property.
Amount brought forward	- - -	15,668
Thompson, Thomas	Perplexity	33
Tavares, Abraham, sen.	-	21
Taylor, Thomas Weare	-	11
Forrest, Arthur, Heirs of	Vineyard	24
Vaffall, Robert	Tophill	100
Vaffall, Mary	-	33
Adam, William	Warminster	148
Williams, Thomas John	-	28
Wright, Andrew	Mitcham	77
Webb, Messrs.	Keynham	59
Robert, Williams	Williamsfield	10
Watson, Robert, Heirs of	Harmony Hall	32
White, James Greenhill	-	85
Witter, Diana and James	-	59
Wright, John	Southampton	125
Wilson, John	Ayre	20
Atkinson, George, possession of	Windfor	199
White, Patrick	Derry	50
Wight, William	Whitehill and Barracks	92
White, John	Roslin Castle	15
White, John	White Hall	90
Mure, Samuel	Williamsfield and Fullers	109
William, Rachael	Luana	76
William, Raby	Exeter	36
	Total	17,183

of Negroes in the Parish of St. Elizabeth, this 17th December 1799.

*William Pitter,*

Clerk of the Vestry.

## J A M A I C A.

35 G.

## DEATHS in the Years 1796, 1797, and 1798; of which,

Number of Slaves now on the different Properties in the Parish of St. Elizabeth.	Births in the Years 1796, 7, & 8.	Creoles born in the Island.	Africans that had been in the Island above Three Years.	Africans that died within Three Years after they had been imported.	TOTAL Number of Deaths.
17,183	235	223	18	- - -	241
17,183	235	223	18	- - -	241

(Copy.)

(Signed) *Balcarres.**W<sup>m</sup> Pitter,*  
Clerk Vestry.

(12.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

{Copy.)

## JAMAICA.—WESTMORELAND.

Parish of Westmoreland, }  
Jamaica. }<sup>s.</sup>

An ACCOUNT of NEGROES on the following Plantations and other Settlements in the said Parish; the Number of Births and Deaths (on an Average of the last Three Years) distinguishing what Proportion of those that died were born within said Island, or have been imported more than Three Years before, and what Number of those that died had been imported within Three Years of the time of their Death, composed from the Documents given in at a Vestry convened for that purpose the 15th Day of November 1799, and on subsequent Days.

NAMES of the PLANTATIONS, or the PROPRIETORS of SLAVES.	Total Number of Slaves.	Increase on an Average in the Years 1796-7-8.	Total Number of Deaths within the Years 1796-7-8.	Of which were born in the said Island,	Of which had been imported more than Three Years,	Of which died within Three Years they had been Imported,
Shrewsbury - - - - -	210	8	14	9	5	—
Strathmore - - - - -	53	1	8	2	6	—
Darliston - - - - -	88	2	5	1	4	—
Carawinna - - - - -	246	44	20	20	—	—
Nonpariel - - - - -	167	11	22	22	—	—
Orange Hill - - - - -	89	8	3	—	3	—
Blacknefs - - - - -	293	18	22	7	15	—
Lincoln - - - - -	106	5	26	10	16	—
Old Hope - - - - -	200	3	12	6	6	—
Fort William - - - - -	175	18	19	13	3	—
Mount Turch - - - - -	201	9	21	5	16	—
Williamsfield - - - - -	164	10	6	2	4	—
William Dunbar - - - - -	38	2	3	1	2	—
Frome - - - - -	155	12	10	7	3	—
Springfield - - - - -	333	24	15	8	7	—
William Wilfon - - - - -	13	2	—	—	—	—
Glasgow - - - - -	180	8	17	—	—	—
Petherton - - - - -	106	12	9	4	5	—
Sweet River - - - - -	75	11	11	11	—	—
Patrick Miller - - - - -	76	12	1	—	1	—
Cornwall - - - - -	309	13	49	23	22	4
Friendship and Greenwich - - - - -	342	50	33	19	11	3
Delve - - - - -	246	13	9	9	—	—

## J A M A I C A.

37 G:

NAMES of the PLANTATIONS, or the PROPRIETORS of SLAVES.	Total Number of Slaves.	Increase on an Average in the Years 1796-7-8.	Total Number of Deaths within the Years 1796-7-8.	Of which were born in the said Island.	Of which have been Imported more than Three Years.	Of which died within Three Years they had been Imported.
Dean's Valley Water Work -	214	10	16	16	—	—
Dean's Valley Dry Works -	208	12	25	15	10	—
Petersfield - - - - -	235	14	23	23	—	—
Homer Blair - - - - -	45	5	3	3	—	—
John Cunningham - - - -	90	12	8	7	—	1
Ridgland - - - - -	142	17	23	23	—	—
Geneva - - - - -	110	4	16	1	15	—
John Falconer - - - - -	80	3	6	2	4	—
William Galbraith - - - -	24	1	1	—	—	1
Mesopotamia - - - - -	370	30	34	14	20	—
Maremure - - - - -	182	4	12	2	7	3
King's Valley - - - - -	284	28	42	23	19	—
Shapton - - - - -	114	10	4	1	3	—
Roaring River - - - - -	180	6	14	14	—	—
Achendown - - - - -	130	16	13	13	—	—
Bog - - - - -	226	20	19	19	—	—
Retrieve - - - - -	144	12	4	4	—	—
Orange Grove - - - - -	131	9	10	10	—	—
Maylersfield - - - - -	442	45	21	12	9	—
Old Shapton - - - - -	94	12	7	3	4	—
Cherry Hill - - - - -	45	4	4	1	3	—
Sherburne - - - - -	46	8	6	5	1	—
Farm - - - - -	53	2	6	2	4	—
Canaan - - - - -	153	—	12	5	7	—
Argyle Pen - - - - -	16	—	2	—	2	—
George's Plain - - - - -	250	12	14	4	10	—
Mair Hall - - - - -	31	1	1	—	1	—
Hon <sup>ble</sup> George Murray - - -	26	4	1	—	1	—
James Browne - - - - -	13	2	1	—	1	—
Cambleton - - - - -	79	9	11	8	3	—
Haddo - - - - -	251	32	29	11	18	—
Alex' Rose - - - - -	38	4	8	—	8	—
James Brodie Rose - - - -	28	1	3	—	—	3
Belle Isle - - - - -	263	25	29	8	14	7
Peter's Villa - - - - -	125	77	7	3	4	—
Grand Vale - - - - -	211	13	21	15	6	—
Paradise - - - - -	164	5	20	2	15	3
Mint - - - - -	360	32	56	36	20	—
Spring Garden - - - - -	558	21	36	19	8	9
Retreat - - - - -	309	24	19	12	7	—
Mount Edgecumbe - - - - -	203	6	26	6	20	—
Jerusalem - - - - -	273	30	50	29	21	—
Mount Eagle - - - - -	177	10	22	10	12	—

G. 38

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

NAMES of the PLANTATIONS, or the PROPRIETORS of SLAVES.	Total Number of Slaves.	Increase on an Average in the Years 1796-7-8.	Total Number of Deaths within the Years 1796-7-8.	Of which were born in the said Island,	Of which have been Imported more than Three Years,	Of which died within Three Years they had been imported,
Three Mile River - - - -	277	14	14	4	5	5
Glen Ilay - - - - -	208	20	21	4	17	—
Grange - - - - -	189	14	28	14	8	6
William's Moreland - - - -	167	12	16	9	4	3
Jones's Moreland - - - - -	171	8	23	6	17	—
Forrest Estate - - - - -	217	23	29	20	9	—
Black Heath - - - - -	144	10	12	4	5	3
Providence - - - - -	141	12	13	2	7	4
Blue Castle - - - - -	317	29	27	6	21	—
Lenox and Hopetown - - - -	301	23	28	14	12	2
Drummond Lodge - - - - -	89	4	8	2	6	—
Newhope - - - - -	247	21	30	30	—	—
Albany - - - - -	76	4	12	12	—	—

*Thomas Barker,*

Clerk to the Vestry Parish of Westmoreland in Jamaica,  
26th November 1799.

The Documents from which the above is composed are ready to be produced, if required.

## J A M A I C A.

39 G.

(13.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

## JAMAICA.

Naval Officer's Return.

An ACCOUNT of NEGROES imported and exported, from the 1st Day of January 1789 to the 31st Day of December 1798; viz.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Surplus.
1789	10,129	2,193	7,936
90	13,466	2,163	11,303
91	14,397	2,559	11,838
92	14,761	2,663	12,098
93	23,018	1,915	21,103
94	14,590	3,041	11,549
95	12,291	4,649	7,642
96	7,970	2,727	5,243
97	10,827	2,813	8,014
98	10,488	710	9,778
	131,937	25,433	106,504

Naval Office, Kingston, Jamaica,  
14th November 1799.

David Innes,  
Naval Officer.

(14.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

## JAMAICA.—ST. CATHERINE.

An ACCOUNT of the Number of NEGROES taxed in the Parish of ST. CATHERINE, for the Years 1796, 1797, 1798, and to 2d May 1799, as taken from the respective Poll Tax Rolls.

Year.	Number taxed.	Decrease.	Increase.
1796	7,113	—	—
1797	6,500	613	—
1798	6,756	- -	256
1799	6,880	- -	124

(A true Copy.)

R. Huggins,  
Clerk of the Vestry of S<sup>t</sup> Catherine.



## G. 40 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

(15.) In Earl of Balcarres's, of 22d March 1800.

## JAMAICA.—SAINT DOROTHY.

JAMAICA, }  
SAINT DOROTHY. }<sup>s.</sup> A RETURN of all the NEGROES in this Parish; the Number of Births and Deaths; distinguishing what Proportion of those that died were born in the said Parish, or had been imported more than Three Years; and what Number of those that died had been imported within Three Years of the time of their Deaths: agreeable to a Resolution of the House of Commons of Great Britain.

NAMES of OWNERS of SLAVES.	Total N <sup>o</sup> of Slaves on an Average of the last Three Years.	Total Number of Deaths.	Deaths, of which N <sup>o</sup> were born within Three Years.	Deaths, of which N <sup>o</sup> were imported within Three Years.
Altamont, Earl of - - - - -	203	15	15	—
Alexander, William - - - - -	38	—	—	—
Bravo, Moses - - - - -	2	—	—	—
Bevan, Richard - - - - -	11	—	—	—
Bayley, Robert Souper - - - - -	143	—	—	—
Beckford, William - - - - -	170	2	1	1
Bernel, Jacob Israel - - - - -	204	3	2	1
Brown, George Hatton - - - - -	128	—	—	—
Barton, James Collins - - - - -	93	—	—	—
Barton, Jeremiah Bonner - - - - -	23	—	—	—
Brown, Mary - - - - -	7	—	—	—
Brailsford, William - - - - -	264	5	2	3
Bonner, Charlotte - - - - -	7	—	—	—
Brown, Thomas - - - - -	10	—	—	—
Butler, Robert - - - - -	7	—	—	—
Clarke, George - - - - -	78	2	1	1
Craddock, Ballard - - - - -	10	—	—	—
Craddock, Jane - - - - -	3	—	—	—
Cummings, William - - - - -	20	2	—	2
Deffell, John - - - - -	24	3	1	2
Davies, Ann - - - - -	16	—	—	—

## J A M A I C A.

41 G.

NAMES of OWNERS of SLAVES.	Total N <sup>o</sup> of Slaves on an Average of the last Three Years.	Total Number of Deaths.	Deaths of which N <sup>o</sup> were born within Three Years.	Deaths of which N <sup>o</sup> were imported within Three Years.
Dennie, Elizabeth - - - - -	84	3	3	—
Foulks, Theodore - - - - -	350	3	1	2
Fuller, Henry Augustus - - - - -	106	2	1	1
Gardner, Doctor David - - - - -	10	—	—	—
Gray, Rachel - - - - -	10	—	—	—
Halfed, Mathew - - - - -	55	2	2	—
Hepburn, William - - - - -	94	2	1	1
Hay, Charles - - - - -	20	—	—	—
Holcombe, Francis - - - - -	8	—	—	—
Hiflop, Margaret - - - - -	10	—	—	—
Hyhams, Charles - - - - -	27	—	—	—
Henriquez, David - - - - -	3	—	—	—
Jackson, William, jun. - - - - -	28	—	—	—
Knowles, George - - - - -	34	—	—	—
Kenaird, Mary - - - - -	13	—	—	—
King, James - - - - -	65	2	2	—
Keith, John - - - - -	38	—	—	—
Leslie, John - - - - -	7	—	—	—
Lumsden, James - - - - -	120	1	—	1
Lascells, Lord Harewood - - - - -	53	16	5	3
Long, Robert Edward - - - - -	71	—	—	—
Muldrup, Christian - - - - -	36	—	—	—
Milward, Thomas - - - - -	212	2	1	1
M <sup>c</sup> Leod, John - - - - -	324	—	—	—
Jackson, William, sen. - - - - -	222	—	—	—
Myten, Thomas John - - - - -	83	—	—	—
M <sup>c</sup> Donald, Duncan - - - - -	11	—	—	—
Machifon, Roderick - - - - -	24	—	—	—
Mitchell, William - - - - -	577	10	4	6
Newell, George - - - - -	14	—	—	—
Newell, Joseph - - - - -	14	—	—	—
Newell, Humphry - - - - -	14	—	—	—
Newland, John - - - - -	26	4	1	3
Ogborn, J. W. - - - - -	83	—	—	—
Ogilvy, Robert - - - - -	16	1	2	—
O'Meally, John - - - - -	33	—	—	—
Price, John - - - - -	77	—	—	—
Pearson, William - - - - -	18	—	—	—
Quest, John - - - - -	5	—	—	1
Richards, George - - - - -	40	2	1	—
Rogers, Anna Maria - - - - -	12	—	—	—
Smith, Noel Thomas - - - - -	20	—	—	—

*continued.*

## 42 G. SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

NAMES of OWNERS of SLAVES.	Total N <sup>o</sup> of Slaves on an Average of the last Three Years.	Total Number of Deaths.	Deaths of which N <sup>o</sup> were born within Three Years.	Deaths of which N <sup>o</sup> were imported more than Three Years.
Shaw, John - - - - -	53	—	—	—
Tulloch, Samuel - - - - -	50	—	—	—
Tulloch, John - - - - -	9	—	—	—
Thompson, William - - - - -	82	2	1	1
Vaughan, Thomas - - - - -	7	—	—	—
Vaughan, Josiah - - - - -	10	—	—	—
Williams, Rachell - - - - -	2	—	—	—
Young, Jane - - - - -	4	—	—	—
Conry, Thomas - - - - -	20	—	—	—
Sanders, Michael Dicker - - - - -	25	—	—	—
	4,850	87	48	30

(Signed)

*J. Quest,*

Clerk of Vestry.

## J A M A I C A.

43 G.

(16.) In Earl of Balcarres's, of 22d March 1800.

An ACCOUNT of the Number of SLAVES on the following Plantations in the Parish of Trelawney on the 1st Day of October 1799, together with an Account of the Births that have happened on the said Plantations since the 1st Day October 1796; distinguishing amongst the Deaths those that were born in the Island, or have been imported.

PROPRIETORS' NAMES.	Births from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Creoles' Deaths from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Imported Negroes Deaths from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Number of Slaves on the Property the 1st Oct. 1799.
Atherton, W <sup>m</sup> - - - - Green Park	69	21	12	539
Arthur, Peter - - - - -	-	-	-	11
Brady, James - - - - Florence Hall	12	1	3	164
Brgrave, John - - - - Pembroke	25	10	7	328
Brown, David - - - - Brown's Mount	2	2	2	19
Biffitt, George - - - - Bushline	16	7	13	202
Same Same - - - - Hampshire	36	25	29	407
Same Same - - - - Mahogany Hall	22	8	6	256
Bell, Robert - - - - Woodstock	7	3	-	76
Barnet, Hugh - - - - Beddiford	21	10	10	311
Same Same - - - - Hopewell	23	3	9	267
Brown, Jonathan - - - - -	1	1	-	13
Ballantine and Shaw - - - - Lottery	10	1	4	146
Barnett, William - - - - Acadia	11	10	6	343
Bacchus, John - - - - James	1	-	1	14
Blake, James - - - - -	1	1	1	20
Barrett, Edward - - - - Oxford	26	5	13	333
Same Same - - - - Cambridge	39	9	14	391
Clarke, Edward - - - - Hyde	22	8	16	327
Christie, John, and C <sup>o</sup> - - - - -	1	1	-	44
Cunningham, John - - - - Roslin Castle	27	3	7	180
Cunliffe, Henry - - - - Marywood	18	12	12	240
Clarke, Andrew - - - - -	4	2	-	35
Campbell, John - - - - Spotfield	13	10	8	150
Clarke, Simon - - - - Long Pond	17	12	6	215
Clarke, George - - - - Hyde	24	24	26	257
Craig, David F. - - - - Craig Hall	3	-	3	47
Edenhead, Robert - - - - -	2	1	-	19
Dunn and Kennion - - - - Chester	27	7	8	243
Edwards, Bryan - - - - B. Castle	17	5	5	165
Same Same - - - - B. Bryan	21	9	5	300
Edga, Alex' - - - - -	5	1	4	114

*continued.*

PROPRIETORS' NAMES.	Births from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Creoles' Deaths from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Imported Negroes' Deaths from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Number of Slaves on the Property the 1st Oct. 1799.
Fleming, Edward - - - Shaw Hill	4	-	3	31
Fowler, James - - - - - Grange	8	6	7	123
Same Same - - - - - Friendship	9	7	7	147
Fofs, Matthew - - - - - Mark Cave	21	7	10	246
Furgusson, James - - - Liberty Hall	5	4	13	99
Franklyn, Peter - - - Weston Favel	47	24	12	343
Foreshaw, James - - - Nantucker	-	-	1	24
Gale, E. G. M. - - - - - York	48	42	-	447
Same Same - - - - - Gates Valley	12	2	5	200
Gordon, Charles - - - - - Georgia	28	13	11	260
Gallimore, Olive - - - - - Piedmont	8	7	4	97
Giles and Eggleston - - - - -	4	-	2	23
Gordon, Charles - - - - - Biaco	28	19	25	373
Gallimore, Jarvis - - - - - Greenfield	13	3	11	166
Gayner, John - - - - - Ramble	1	-	-	31
Gallimore, John - - - Orange Grove	7	-	7	109
Gardner, Andrew - - - - - Duan Vale	13	2	15	293
Gillespie, Urquhart - - - Greenfield	11	5	5	81
Gardner, James - - - - -	2	-	4	28
Galloway, James - - - - -	1	-	-	9
Hine, W <sup>m</sup> - - - - - Prospect	5	1	3	70
Holmes, Robert - - - - -	1	-	-	32
Hanslow, Robert - - - - -	2	1	1	14
Hodges, John and R. - - - Maxfield	16	7	8	227
Hunter, Robert and William - - -	-	1	1	14
Ingram, Robert - - - - - Harmony Hall	4	1	4	130
James, William - - - - - R. Southfield	2	3	6	176
Jarret, John - - - - - Golden Grove	27	7	16	359
Same Same - - - - - Silver Grove	20	8	11	180
Same Same - - - - - Kent	8	5	1	180
Jarrett, Herbert N. - - - - -	55	24	6	525
Knowles, Edward - - - - - Spring	12	5	9	156
Kelly, James K. - - - - -	3	1	-	6
Lyon, James - - - - - Barnstaple	20	7	9	259
Muffenden, W <sup>m</sup> A. - - - - -	3	2	1	32
Morris, Samuel - - - - - Good Intent	2	-	-	28
Morris, Philip - - - - - Cottage	1	-	-	21
Marlow, Benjamin - - - - -	4	-	1	25
Minto, Robert - - - - - Dry Valley	15	5	8	153
Same Same - - - - - Water Valley	30	7	17	305
Mitchell, W <sup>m</sup> - - - - - George's Valley	18	4	6	272
M <sup>c</sup> Ghie, Robert - - - - - Greenfide	25	15	-	202

*continued.*

## J A M A I C A.

45 G.

PROPRIETORS' NAMES.	Births from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Creoles' Deaths from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Imported Negroes' Deaths from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Number of Slaves on the Property 1st Oct. 1799.
McClelland, James - - - - -	-	-	1	12
McGhie, Robert, James, and Jonathan	61	18	-	833
Mitchell, John - - - - -	8	-	6	79
Mitchell and Murray - - - Unity	11	5	9	213
McLachlan - - - Lachlan Reserve	18	6	15	259
Mayler, Richard - - Black Garden	8	5	16	159
McGuire, Peter H. - - - - -	1	1	7	29
Patterfon, Thomas - - Down Castle	4	-	-	43
Palmer, John and James - - - - -	8	3	6	85
Patterfon, Archibald - - - - -	5	1	3	39
Rose, John - - - - -	4	1	3	44
Reid, George - - - - Friendship	6	7	3	189
Same Same - - - - B. Hall	17	3	4	196
Reid, John - - - - Wakefield	14	12	7	184
Reid, Adrian - - - - -	12	2	3	107
Robertson, Robert - - - - -	1	-	2	9
Stoney, Thomas - - - Stonehenge	12	10	14	214
Simpson, John - - - Bounty Hall	32	18	18	393
Same Same - - - - Tiltton	23	12	11	217
Scarlet, James - - - Green Vale	6	5	13	29
Same Same - - - - Peru	34	7	21	262
Stogdon, John - - - - Clifton	13	10	12	148
Shirley, Henry, Hon <sup>ble</sup> - Hyde Hall	34	10	19	397
Same Same - - - - Ellingdon	25	5	14	282
Same Same - - - Cedar Spring	8	1	3	145
Stewart, James, Hon <sup>ble</sup> - - - - -	24	8	7	302
Stoher, James - - - - Dundee	15	7	5	222
Smith, Benoni - - - - Claremont	8	6	7	111
Shawe, Edward, and Co. - - - - -	15	5	12	278
Simms, John - - - - Holland	16	9	11	164
Steel, Thomas - - - - Steelfield	9	-	5	162
Thompson, Thomas - - M <sup>a</sup> Bueno	10	3	11	774
Same Same - - - - V. Royal	34	9	22	293
Same Same - - - - Lancafter	10	2	17	196
Tharpe, John - - - - G. Hope	37	13	6	455
Same Same - - - - Potofi	24	9	9	295
Same Same - - - - Covey	42	17	-	415
Same Same - - - - Languinet	29	14	15	387
Same Same - - - - Wales	20	15	-	354
Same Same - - - - P. Pant	43	20	11	365
Same Same - - - - W. Pen	13	2	11	190
Same Same - - - - Top Hill	9	6	-	68
Tate, William - - - Williamsfield	5	2	2	69

*continued.*

G. 46

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

PROPRIETORS' NAMES.	Births from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Creoles' Deaths from 1st Oct. 1796 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Imported Negroes' Deaths from 1st Oct. 1696 to 1st Oct. 1799.	Number of Slaves on the Property the 1st Oct. 1799.
Teafdale, W <sup>m</sup> - - - - -	4	4	4	60
Taylor, John - - - - -	2	-	1	16
White, Elizabeth - - - - -	20	3	11	183
Wedderburn, James, Heirs of - - - - -	8	1	22	151
Virgo, Rebecca - - - - -	11	4	11	212
Wood, William - - - - -	3	-	3	19
Wilton, William - - - - -	12	4	6	115
Watson, John and A. - - - - -	1	-	3	58
Wall, John L. - - - - -	6	3	5	73
	1,861	765	907	23,290

A true Copy from the Givings-in.

*James Blair,*  
Clerk Vestry, Trelawney.

Amount of Negroes given in on 28th March 1799, } 26,976  
as per the enclosed List - - - - -

Amount given in as by the above Account - - 22,790

4,186

So that the Proprietors of 4,186 Negroes have neglected to give in.

## JAMAICA.

47 G.

(17.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

JAMAICA.—St. Thomas's in the Vale, *fs.*

NUMBER of NEGROES in the aforesaid Parish, with the Births and Deaths for the last Three Years, agreeable to the Address of the House of Commons of Great-Britain, presented to His Majesty the 11th of July last, taken at an extraordinary Vestry, November 2d 1799.

PERSONS NAMES.	SETTLEMENTS.	Number of Negroes.	Births for Three Years.	Deaths during the last Three Years.		
				Natives.	Imported.	Imported within Three Years of their Death.
Aikenhead, Heirs of	Stirling Castle	86	—	—	—	—
Avis, James	Newcastle	18	—	—	—	—
Bennet, W <sup>m</sup> Powell	Kentcomb	95	—	—	—	—
D <sup>o</sup>		26	—	—	—	—
Brammer, George	Murmuring Brook	54	5	4	—	—
Brooks, William		376	—	—	—	—
Blackburn, John	Wallens	154	—	—	—	—
Blair, Charles	Prospect	59	—	—	—	—
Bolt, Sarah, dec <sup>d</sup>		25	—	—	—	—
Bicknell, James	Mount Mathews	26	—	—	—	—
Bagnold, Thomas	Hartford	34	—	—	—	—
Benwell, John		15	—	—	—	—
Brown, Robert	Buzey Ridge	72	—	—	—	—
Bennett, Robert	Chaplain	42	—	—	—	—
Byfield, Mary		25	—	—	—	—
Ballantine, Dick & Co.	Balgare	64	—	—	—	—
Caldwell, W <sup>m</sup>	M <sup>t</sup> Pleasant	90	—	—	—	—
Curtis, Johanna	Morris Hall	11	—	—	—	—
Curtis, Elizabeth		14	—	—	—	—
Clarke, George		23	—	—	—	—
Chorley, John	Burtons	55	—	—	—	—
Chandler & Davidson	Tulloch	331	29	18	13	—
Cullum, Thomas		32	—	—	—	—
Clark, William		10	—	—	—	—
Carrington, Lord		30	—	—	—	—
Clark, George Booth	Gibraltar	28	1	2	—	—
Crouch, William	Craigy Mount	6	—	—	—	—
Dawkins, Henry	Tredways	132	12	6	6	—
Davis, Ann		29	—	—	—	—
Ellis, Robert Nedham	Retirement	96	—	—	—	—
Edwards, Z. Baly	Dove Hall	270	38	24	—	—

*continued.*



PERSONS NAMES.	SETTLEMENTS.	Number of Negroes.	Births in Three Years.	Deaths in Three Years.		
				Natives.	Imported.	Imported within Three Years of their Deaths.
Eccles, Mrs. - - - - -	- - - - -	20	—	—	—	—
Edwards, Doctor - - - - -	Top Hill - - - - -	45	3	4	—	—
Fuller, John - - - - -	Knollis - - - - -	178	18	10	—	—
Fletcher, Widow - - - - -	- - - - -	15	—	—	—	—
Frafer, James - - - - -	- - - - -	21	—	—	—	—
Falconer & M <sup>c</sup> Leod - - - - -	Sky Mount - - - - -	135	—	—	—	—
Gordon, John - - - - -	- - - - -	24	—	—	—	—
Garrigues, Jane - - - - -	- - - - -	28	—	—	—	—
Grant, Sir Alexander - - - - -	Berwick - - - - -	150	—	—	—	—
D <sup>o</sup> - - - - -	Rio Magno - - - - -	163	—	—	—	—
D <sup>o</sup> - - - - -	Charlemount - - - - -	56	—	—	—	—
Guy, John Hudson - - - - -	- - - - -	34	—	—	—	—
Gutteris, Judith & Co - - - - -	Palm - - - - -	269	—	—	—	—
Gaul, Sufanna, Heirs of - - - - -	- - - - -	27	—	—	—	—
Gibbs, Simon - - - - -	- - - - -	40	—	—	—	—
Harewood, Lord - - - - -	Williamsfield - - - - -	274	44	14	13	1
Harvie, Elizabeth - - - - -	Enfield - - - - -	156	9	10	—	—
Hunter, Laurence - - - - -	Lunna - - - - -	110	—	—	—	—
Henderson, John - - - - -	Banbury - - - - -	145	—	—	—	—
Hunt, Richard, Rep of - - - - -	Mount Induftry - - - - -	73	—	—	—	—
Henriquez, David, Heirs of - - - - -	Dover Castle - - - - -	199	—	—	—	—
James, Robert - - - - -	- - - - -	10	—	—	—	—
Jones, Charles - - - - -	Pear Tree Grove - - - - -	116	16	9	11	—
Junor, Henry J. - - - - -	Abbott's Hall - - - - -	6	—	—	—	—
Englis, Frances Estate - - - - -	Chariton - - - - -	148	—	—	—	—
Innes, Hugh - - - - -	Kendal - - - - -	75	—	—	—	—
Innes, Mrs. - - - - -	- - - - -	15	—	—	—	—
Keater, Thomas - - - - -	- - - - -	22	—	—	—	—
Lee, Richard - - - - -	Rose Hall - - - - -	227	—	—	—	—
Lord, Henry, Heirs of - - - - -	Ivy - - - - -	254	—	—	—	—
D <sup>o</sup> - - - - -	River Head - - - - -	153	11	11	—	—
Lyons, Frances - - - - -	- - - - -	10	—	—	—	—
Lobban, Joseph - - - - -	The Cottage - - - - -	40	—	—	—	—
Leath, Head Thomas - - - - -	- - - - -	6	—	—	—	—
Loggan, Thomas - - - - -	- - - - -	27	—	—	—	—
Lindo, Jacob - - - - -	Williams Penn - - - - -	31	—	—	—	—
Morant, Mary - - - - -	Crawle - - - - -	110	—	—	—	—
Martin, Richard - - - - -	- - - - -	8	—	—	—	—
Murphy, James, dec <sup>d</sup> - - - - -	- - - - -	14	—	—	—	—
Mitchell, W <sup>m</sup> - - - - -	New Hall - - - - -	207	12	5	5	—
M <sup>c</sup> Bean - - - - -	Wakefield - - - - -	70	—	—	—	—
Marshall, John, Heirs of - - - - -	- - - - -	52	—	—	—	—
Marshall, Henry - - - - -	Byndlofs - - - - -	80	—	—	—	—

continued.

J A M A I C A.

49 G.

PERSONS NAMES.	SETTLEMENTS.	Number of Negroes.	Births in Three Years.	Deaths in Three Years.		
				Natives.	Imported.	Imported within Three Years of their Deaths.
M <sup>c</sup> Kay, Hector	- - - - -	70	—	—	—	—
D <sup>o</sup>	Hampshire	161	—	—	—	—
Martin, Richard Palmer	- - - - -	30	—	—	—	—
Marshall, George	- - - - -	21	—	—	—	—
M <sup>c</sup> Donald, Archibald	- - - - -	30	—	—	—	—
Muir, and M <sup>c</sup> Arthur	Cool Shade	22	—	—	—	—
M <sup>c</sup> Leod, Alexander	Raza Mount	163	6	24	—	—
Montignac, Col.	Ginger Hall	77	—	—	—	—
Marshall, George	Golden Grove	64	—	—	—	—
Montgomerie, John	Cragie	23	—	—	—	—
Naylor, John	Shenton	169	9	12	10	—
Nedham, William	Mount Olive	247	15	30	—	—
Omeally, John	Newport	73	—	—	—	—
Parker, William	- - - - -	14	—	—	—	—
Palmer, Henry	- - - - -	60	—	—	—	—
Price, John	Mickleton	34	—	—	—	—
Powell, Elizabeth	- - - - -	10	—	—	—	—
Page, Robert Salop	- - - - -	30	—	—	—	—
Redwood, Philip	Palmeto Valley & Phillipsburg	303	5	3	—	—
D <sup>o</sup>	Seven Mile Walk	30	—	—	—	—
Reid, George Ashley	Pleasant Farm	30	—	—	—	—
Reid, Adrian	- - - - -	30	—	—	—	—
Rutherton, John	Sue River	124	4	7	—	2
Roach, Thomas Simon	Meufe	41	—	—	—	—
Roberts, John, dec <sup>d</sup>	- - - - -	9	—	—	—	—
Reynals, John Vesy	Glengoff	55	—	—	—	—
Rofs, George	White Plains	82	—	—	—	—
Rofs, Francis	Buckfield	24	—	—	—	—
Rofs, Robert	Bybrook	290	—	—	—	—
Rose, Robert, Rep <sup>ts</sup> of	- - - - -	31	—	—	—	—
Smith, Alexander	Mount Recovery	23	—	—	—	—
Smith, William	Fair Prospect	19	4	2	By Acc. dents.	—
Smith, Samuel	Sandy Gult	170	15	22	None imported	—
Smith, Robinson, Heirs of	Content	10	—	—	—	—
Smith, John, dene	Bunker's Hill	73	—	—	—	—
Stanbury, John Harpurs, Heirs of	Jericho	77	1	1	1	—
Stanbury, M <sup>rs</sup>	- - - - -	17	1	1	—	—
Speight, John	Rock Hall	35	—	—	—	—
Speight, Mary	- - - - -	15	—	—	—	—
Sommers, John	Gloster Hall	30	—	—	—	—
Stevens, James Flutter	Hacker's Hall	148	—	—	—	—
Thomas, George Alprefs	- - - - -	28	—	—	—	—
Townfend, John	Llangibby	34	—	—	—	—

continued

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## J A M A I C A.

PERSONS NAMES:	SETTLEMENTS.	Number of Negroes.	Births in Three Years.	Deaths in Three Years.		
				Natives.	Imported.	Imported within Three Years of their Death.
Vidal, John James - - -	Berkshire Hall - - - -	173	15	19	—	—
Welch, Richard, Heirs of -	Hyde - - - - -	168	8	20	—	—
Welch, Richard - - - -	Hill Side - - - - -	103	7	1	11	—
Vaugh, Gavin - - - - -	Golden River - - - - -	34	—	—	—	—
Wilkinson, Jacob - - - -	Hog Hole - - - - -	195	13	14	7	—
White, John Crawley - - -	- - - - -	9	—	—	—	—
		9,879	391	263	77	3

The foregoing is an Account of the Slaves in the Parish of Saint Thomas in the Vale, with the Increase and Decrease for the last Three Years, as far as can be procured; many People having declined to give in the Account of the Increase and Decrease of their Slaves.

*W<sup>m</sup> Smith, C. V. of*  
St. Thomas in the Vale.

*Geo. Brammer,*  
S. M.  
For St. Thomas in the Vale.

Nov' 14th, 1799,

## J A M A I C A.

51 G.

(18.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

JAMAICA. } ff.  
ST. MARY.

RETURN of NEGROES belonging to Sundries in the Parish and Island aforesaid, with the Total Number of Births and Deaths (on an Average of the last Three Years); distinguishing what Proportion of those that died were born in said Island, or had been imported upwards of Three Years, and the Number of them who died that had been imported within Three Years of their Death.

ST. MARY'S	Total Number.	Births.	Average.	Deaths.	Average.	Number of those who were born in the Island and died.	Number of Deaths imported upwards of Three Years.	Number of Deaths imported within Three Years.
For the Years 1796, 1797, & 1798	24,448	1,886	628 $\frac{2}{3}$	1,944	648	918	908	118

(19.) In Earl of Balcarres's of 22d March 1800.

JAMAICA. } ff.  
ST. MARY.

RETURN of NEGROES belonging to Sundries in the Parish and Island aforesaid, with the Total Number of Births (on an Average of the last Three Years); distinguishing what Proportion of those that died were born in the said Island, or had been imported upwards of Three Years, and the Number of them who died that had been imported within Three Years of their Death.

ST. MARY'S	Total Number.	Births.	Average.	Deaths.	Average.	Number of those who were born in the Island and died.	Number of Deaths imported upwards of Three Years.	Number of Deaths imported within Three Years.
For the Years 1796, 1797, & 1798	12,224	943	314 $\frac{1}{3}$	972	324	459	454	59

Jamaica.

No. 8.—Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Balcarres to his Grace the Duke of Portland, dated 23d March 1800.

(One Enclosure.)

(Copy.)

Jamaica, 23d March 1800.

My Lord,

IN obedience to your Grace's commands, I laid the suggestion, dated 21st April, and inclosed in your secret letter of the 23d April the same Year, at a very early moment after its receipt before several of the principal Proprietors in this Island, who then undertook to answer them.

Nearly twelve months having been elapsed without my procuring the promised reply, I thought it expedient to lay those suggestions before the Legislature of this Colony; but I am sorry to report that the House of Assembly positively declined giving any answer.

In this situation it only remained for me to call on the Council, in their capacity as Counsellors, to draw up a reply to those suggestions, which I have now the honor to inclose.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(signed) *Balcarres.*

To the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

In Lord Balcarres's of the 23d May, 1800.

#### COUNCIL.

23d March 1800.

THE Committee of the Council to whom your Honour referred certain queries and suggestions, transmitted by his Grace the Duke of Portland, dated Whitehall, April 21st 1798, relative to the increase of Negroes in this Island, and the improvement of their state, have taken the same into their consideration, and are of opinion:

That the Legislature of this Island have for many years past uniformly manifested the most sincere and earnest intentions to improve the condition of the Slaves, to the utmost degree that their estate is capable of, and that is consistent with the safety and welfare of the White Inhabitants. With this view was passed the consolidated Slave Act in the year 1791, wherein many essential concessions and provisions are made in their favour, and for their benefit, far beyond what the policy of former laws had deemed expedient, which will clearly appear from a reference to the said Act, and a comparison thereof with the earlier Acts of this Island, regulating the management of the Slaves.

From this disposition so well evidenced, the Committee entertain the fullest confidence, that if the Legislature in their wisdom, may hereafter perceive it possible still to improve their condition, that they will cheerfully adopt all measures for that purpose that can be reconciled to the principles of safety and sound policy.

With regard to the causes which are supposed to have retarded the increase of Slaves, the Committee are inclined to think they are to be found principally in the ignorance of, and want of skill in the midwives, and to the prejudices and immorality of the Negro mothers in common. But as much more particular care and attention are paid of late years, by the several Proprietors to the Negro women in childbed, than was the custom formerly, they think the evil may reasonably be expected to be growing less.

In answer to the second Query, the Committee find by an official return made to the Council by the Naval Officer of this Island, that there have been one hundred thirty

thirty-one thousand nine hundred and thirty-seven Negroes imported in the course of the last ten years, and that twenty-five thousand four hundred and thirty-three Slaves have been re-exported during that period; and it appears also to the Committee, from the returns which have been already made by the Clerks of the Peace, that for fourteen parishes, the number transported off the Island under judicial sentences, during the last ten years, is, taking them collectively, one hundred and eighty-five, and the number executed for crimes taken in the same manner, and for the same term, is ninety-six. But as to the number of those pirated or kidnapped, your Committee have not been able to obtain any information, but they have reason to think the number must be very inconsiderable.

Jamaica.

With respect to the number executed and transported, the Committee think it proper to observe, that of those before mentioned, seventy-five were executed, and sixty one transported, for being parties concerned in the late rebellion of the Tre-lawney Maroons.

The Committee is not possessed of documents, nor are they attainable by them, whereby to ascertain what has been on a comparison of births and deaths, the annual difference between them; nor can they ascertain what proportion of the numbers imported has been wanted for the supply of the estates actually settled, and what for the annual increase of cultivation.

In regard to the third Query and suggestion, the Committee cannot advance any opinion as to what might be the sentiments of the Legislature of this Island, the Assembly not being sitting; but they are fully impressed with a conviction that they will be ever ready to promote any measure in their power which may be conducive to the improvement of the Slaves, and of their condition, as they have already intimated in their answer to the first query.

The Committee however cannot avoid observing, that they believe it to be a general, if not universal custom, to exempt pregnant women from field or any other hard labour, during a period of more than six weeks, or even two months of their pregnancy; and from all labour except the care of their children, for the same time after their delivery. At the time of their delivery, and during the consequent confinement, not only the mother, but the new-born child as well as all other young children she may have, receive the aid and assistance of the Proprietors, or those acting for them.

In respect to the fourth and fifth Suggestions, the Committee observe, that they are prevented from advancing any opinion on the important subjects therein contained, for the same reasons which restrained them in the case of the third suggestions, as they are matters referable to the Legislature at large. But the Committee cannot help observing, as to the appointments of Inspectors or Visitors to superintend and enforce all regulations enacted in favour of the Negroes, instead of the present Courts of protection, that such measure is not expedient, and may be productive of great confusion and inconvenience.

On the sixth Query, the Committee have to state, that by a law of this Island, passed in the year of our Lord, 1797, intituled, "An Act for the better establishment of the Clergy of this Island, to oblige the Justices and Vestries to build a Church and a Parsonage-house in their respective parishes; and for establishing a fund or provision for the support and maintenance of the Widows and Orphan children of deceased Clergymen." An addition is made to the stipend of all the beneficed Clergy in this Island, who are by the said law directed and required to allot a portion of time, either before or after the performance of divine service, every Sunday in their respective Churches to christen such Negroes or other Slaves as shall desire it, as well as to instruct all Slaves who shall attend for that purpose, in the precepts of the Christian Religion.

This law evinces the desire of the Legislature effectually to establish the Christian Religion amongst the Negroes, and by impressing their minds with its principles and

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

Jamaica, precepts, essentially to improve all their habits and manners, thereby removing and wearing out their barbarous and heathenish persuasions, many of which tend to the prejudice of natural population, and are alike pernicious to themselves and their Owners. This is an event interesting and doubtless greatly to be wished for, but which cannot probably be otherwise well produced than by slow degrees, and without any striking appearances of innovation.

In answer to the seventh Query and suggestions, your Committee beg leave to observe, that the same difficulty which occurred in advancing any opinion as to what might be the sentiments of the Legislature on the subject matter of the third, fourth, and fifth queries, applies in a more peculiar manner to the present, from the novelty and importance of the matter therein contained; the Committee however, have no hesitation in expressing it as their opinion, that the measure of attaching plantation Negroes to the soil, in the nature of *adscripti gleba*, would tend essentially to their happiness and welfare; but with respect to the remedy by sequestration, they entertain great doubts how far such a measure would from the nature of West India property, be beneficial to the Debtor and Creditor.

(True Extract.)

*M. Atkinson,*  
Clerk Council.

H.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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## L I S T:

- No. 1.—Extract of Letter from Presid<sup>t</sup> Thomson to the Duke of Portland; 19th July 1797 - - p. 3.
- No. 2.—Extract of Another; 14<sup>th</sup> October 1797: With - - - - - }  
 (Three Enclosures) - - - - - } p. 3.  
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## H.

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

No. 1.—Extract of a Letter from President Thomson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, July 19th 1797.

**T**HE Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April, enclosed in your Grace's Circular Letter, I have this day laid before the Council and Assembly of this Island, and recommending the objects contained in that Resolution to their most serious consideration, and the adoption of such measures as from their local knowledge they may deem most conducive to promote the humane and beneficent views of the Legislature of our Parent State. I shall also, without delay, transmit copies of the said Resolution, with the like recommendation, to be submitted to the Councils and Assemblies of the respective Islands within this Government, which I hope will not fail to have the desired effect; and I beg leave to assure your Grace, that I shall not fail to avail myself of every favourable inclination or disposition which I may perceive in the Planters and other Inhabitants of these Islands, to effectuate the purposes of the Resolutions, and inform your Grace from time to time of all their proceedings relative thereto.

St.  
Christopher's

I shall also, as soon as I can collect the necessary information from the different Islands, acquaint your Grace, whether any measures have been already taken by their respective Legislatures, tending to promote the purposes expressed by the Resolution of the House of Commons.

No. 2.—Extract of a Letter from President Thomson, to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, October 14th 1797.

I BEG leave to inform your Grace, that I have lately received some Resolutions entered into by the Council and Assembly of the island of Antigua, in consequence of the Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April last, and an Extract of your Grace's Letter of the 6th of May, which I had laid before them, requesting me to convene a General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Islands, to take into consideration the Resolution of the House of Commons; which Resolution they wish me to transmit to your Grace, and which you will be pleased to receive enclosed, No. 1.

No. 1. The Council and Assembly of this Island were also proceeding on the same business, and their Committee had entered into several Resolutions, of which I send your Grace a copy, which will shew the progress they had made when this application from the Council and Assembly of Antigua arrived, in which they have concurred, as your Grace will be pleased to observe by their Resolutions, which I also enclose.

No. 2. Hitherto the utmost readiness has appeared in every Island of this Government, to set about the adoption of such measures as seemed to them best calculated to carry into effect the Resolution of the House of Commons; and they now readily unite in the application made by the Council and Assembly of Antigua, of forming a General Council

Council

St. Christopher's Council and Assembly, to take the collective sense of the whole Body, on matters so highly important in their nature.

The calling together a General Council and Assembly for this purpose, will be the means of rendering all their measures uniform and consistent, and will probably make them more wise and efficacious, than if they had been separately formed by the respective Legislature of each Island.

I shall therefore acquiesce in the general wish, and convoke a Meeting of the General Council and Assembly, with all the expedition which the forms necessary to be gone through for that purpose will admit of; which measure, I hope, will meet with your Grace's approbation.

(L.)—In President Thomson's of the 14th Oct. 1797.

Extract from the Council Minutes of the Island of Antigua.

Copy.

ANTIGUA. At a Meeting of his Honour the President, and the following Members of the Council, by Adjournment, at the Court House in the Town of St. John, on Thursday the 3d Day of August 1797.

Present

The Honourable Edward Byam, President,

Thomas Jarvis.

Thomas N. Kerby,

James Nibbs,

Samuel Athill,

Rowland Burton, and

Samuel Watkins, Esqrs.

HIS Honour the President informed the Board, That he had received a Letter from his Honour the Commander in Chief, accompanied by an extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to his Honour, enclosing a copy of a Resolution of the House of Commons on the 6th of April last, all of which he begged to communicate to the two Houses, in pursuance of his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions, with a view of availing himself of their assistance to give his Honour the information he requested; and the same having been read at the Board, they were sent down to the Gentlemen of the Assembly, with a message from his Honour the President.

Circular.

St. Christopher's, 20th July 1797.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose you an Extract of his Grace the Duke of Portland's circular Letter of the 6th May last, and likewise a Copy of a Resolution of the House of Commons, entered into on the 6th of last April, which you will please to lay before the two Houses of Legislature of Antigua, and which I beg leave to recommend to their most serious consideration, and the adoption of such measures, as, from their local knowledge and experience, may be most conducive to the interest and welfare of that Colony, and carrying the purposes of the said Resolution into effect, which are the great objects his Majesty's Ministers have in contemplation; and I beg you will assure them, that in this salutary and beneficial design, they may rely on my steady and constant co-operation.

You will please to inform me, whether any measures have been already taken by the Legislature of Antigua, which may tend to promote the purposes expressed by the Resolution of the House of Commons, that I may transmit such information to his Grace, agreeable to his desire.

I have the honour to be, &c.

His Honour  
Edward Byam, Esq.

Rob<sup>t</sup> Thomson.

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

5 H.

His Honour the President in Council, to the Gentlemen of  
the Assembly.

St.  
Christopher's

Gentlemen,

IN pursuance of the directions of his Honour the Commander in Chief, I now send, for the information of your House, a Letter received from him, accompanied by an extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to his Honour, enclosing a copy of a Resolution of the House of Commons on the 6th of April last, all which have been communicated to His Majesty's Council, with the view of availing myself of the assistance of the two Houses, to give his Honour the information he requested.

By command.

Council Chamber,  
August 3d 1797.

(Signed) *W. Mathews,*  
Dep<sup>y</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup>.

ANTIGUA. At a Meeting of his Honour the President, and the following Members of the Council, by Adjournment, at the Court House in the Town of St. John, on Thursday the 24th Day of August 1797.

Present

The Honourable Edward Byam, President,  
Thomas Jarvis,  
Thomas N. Kerby,  
James Nibbs,  
Samuel Athill,  
Rowland Burton, and  
Samuel Watkins, Esqrs.

The Gentlemen of the Assembly to his Honour the President in Council.

THIS House, having taken into consideration the circular Letter of the 6th of April last, from his Grace the Duke of Portland, thinks, that the matters contained in that Letter are of such great importance to the welfare, if not the existence, of the West India Sugar Colonies, that it will be proper to take, as far as may be possible, the sense of the different Islands within this Government upon the subject, by a General Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands; and if your Board agrees with us in opinion, we desire your concurrence, that his Honour the President should be requested to apply to his Honour the Commander in Chief, to convene a General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, according to the laws already made for that purpose.

(Signed) *John Burke, Speaker, pro tempore.*

His Honour the President and Council to the Gentlemen of the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

THIS Board concurs in Opinion with your House, that the circular Letter of the 6th of April last, from his Grace the Duke of Portland, is upon a subject of such great importance to the welfare, if not the existence, of the West India Sugar Colonies, that it will be proper to take, as far as may be possible, the sense of the different Islands within this Government upon it, by a General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands; and his Honour the President will take the earliest opportunity to request his Honour the Commander in Chief to convene a General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, according to the laws of the Leeward Islands made for that Purpose, and now in force.

And this Board is also of opinion, if your Honour concurs therein, that a Copy of our joint Resolutions, as contained in the Messages which have passed this day, should be transmitted by the President to his Honour the Commander in Chief, signifying at the same time the wishes of the two Houses, that his Honour would be pleased to forward

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's

forward the same to his Grace the Duke of Portland, in order to manifest the intentions of this Island, to give the subject of his Letter the fullest consideration as soon as possible.

Council Chamber,  
August 24th 1797.

By command.

(Signed) *W<sup>m</sup> Mathews,*  
Dep<sup>y</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup>.

The Gentlemen of the Assembly to his Honour the President and Council.

This House readily concurs in opinion with your Board, that a Copy of our joint Resolutions, upon the subject of his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter, should be transmitted by the President to his Honour the Commander in Chief, signifying at the same time the wishes of the two Houses, that his Honour would be pleased to forward the same to his Grace the Duke of Portland, in order to manifest the intentions of this Island, to give the subject the fullest consideration as soon as possible.

*John Burke,*  
Speaker, *pro tempore.*

Antigua, August 25th 1797.

True Copies from the Council Minutes.

(Signed) *W<sup>m</sup> Mathews,*  
Dep<sup>y</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup>

Copy.

(2.)—In President Thomson's of the 14th Oct. 1797.

Report of the Committee appointed to examine all the Laws respecting the Government of Slaves by their Owners, and to examine into the Proceedings of the Courts of Justice where Persons have been tried, and punished, for Offences committed against Slaves.

THE Committee, in examining the Acts of the Island relating to the better government of Slaves, find, that though the necessity of the case made it essential at the first settlement of the Colony to pass several severe laws in order to preserve subordination and good order, yet few, if any instances, have happened, where the rigour of those Acts have been enforced. On this subject your Committee are of opinion, that such Acts should be as soon as possible revised, corrected, and consolidated, as may appear expedient.

Your Committee has observed, that wherever the Legislature found any grievances existing, contrary to the rights of humanity, they have always adopted remedies against their continuance.

In the former exercise of the rights of Ownership, three or four instances only having occurred of Masters having maimed or mutilated their Slaves, the Legislature passed an Act (A.), inflicting the heaviest penalties on persons guilty of such offences, which has been found effectually to have remedied the evil.

The Legislature have likewise shewn a marked attention to the rights of the Negroes, by passing an Act for preventing white or free persons from beating or ill-treating them, or taking away from them any of their property. It was the practice of some of the lower class of white persons to beat and ill treat the Negroes, and frequently to take from them any articles which they carried to town for sale, upon the presumption that, as the Slave could not produce sufficient testimony, it was impossible that he could obtain any remedy. The Legislature, therefore, have authorized the Owner of the Slave, who has received any injury from any person whatsoever, to apply to a Magistrate, who is authorized fully to examine the person accused, on oath, and to give ample remedy to the party injured, in case of conviction. (B.)

It does not appear to Your Committee, that any other laws are necessary for the purpose of giving protection to Slaves, against any persons who shall commit acts of violence.

violence or injustice towards them, as they find, on examination of the Court of Records, that the Criminal Courts of Justice have always taken cognizance of barbarous treatment of Slaves, in the same manner as crimes of a similar nature committed against white and free persons. St. Christopher's

Your Committee therefore observe, with great satisfaction, that the laws of the Island have afforded ample protection to Slaves; and, after a thorough investigation of the general treatment of Slaves in this Island, we are of opinion that it is humane.

Your Committee, in the course of their enquiries, found it necessary, for the complete purpose of giving comfort to the Slaves (without encroaching at the same time on the rights and power of their Masters) to examine into their present situation, in order to discover if any measures were proper to be adopted for their amelioration. From this examination they are clearly of opinion, that some considerations, which call very much for the interposition of the Legislature, ought particularly to engage their attention.

Observing, with regret, that the severity of our laws, which make a Slave not only liable for his Master's debt, and immediately subject to a cruel imprisonment, but which drags him from his little settlement, his house, his land, his family, and relations, convicted of no crime whatever, but liable to suffer all these misfortunes because his Master happens to be indebted: Your Committee thinks some provisions should be made against Negroes being liable to be so sold for their Master's debts, and that they should become attached to the soil, and consider themselves as enjoying a sort of fee-simple right therein.

Your Committee is further of opinion, that it would tend very much to the interest of their Masters, if the Legislature would ascertain the quantity of food and raiment that the Masters should be compelled to give their Slaves, as there are reasons to believe some Masters do not afford them a proportionate quantity of either for their necessary subsistence.

Your Committee cannot help observing on the impolicy of the measure usually adopted by Masters of Slaves, who generally calculate only on the expences they incur by feeding and clothing them, without adverting to the additional advantages that must accrue by adding as much as possible to their comfort, and rendering their minds easy, happy, and contented.

A Slave well fed and well clothed, will be able to perform double the service of one indifferently fed or clothed; added to this, that when a Negro feels satisfied and contented, it is reasonable to suppose that by working more cheerfully, he will perform a greater task than a Slave who goes repiningly and discontentedly to his work, hungry and naked, and who, while performing his task, has his mind constantly engaged on the means of providing food as soon as his labour is finished.

Your Committee think, therefore, that if a small portion of land was yearly given to the Slaves to plant fruit and vegetables, that it would add very much to their comfort, besides the advantage that would be derived by the inhabitants, in having a plentiful supply of articles which are now found so scarce and dear.

Your Committee are of opinion, that it would be advisable for the Legislature to adopt proper means for securing, to any persons who shall sell any quantity of food and raiment, as limited for the sustenance of any Slaves in this Island, a prior lien on any plantation or freehold to the amount of their demands, as the apprehension of losing their debts, by a preference of former liens, may prevent merchants from affording supplies essentially necessary to the maintenance and comfort of the Negroes, and, consequently, may also diminish the value of that very property, which would be rendered more competent to the discharge of all incumbrances by those supplies.

Your Committee (while the Islands are charged with improper conduct to their Slaves) cannot avoid representing to the House, that, considering the great calamities they now labour under, those persons are ungenerous and illiberal who constantly accuse us of inhumanity, while, at the same time, they deprive us of the means of affording greater comfort to our Negroes, by continuing to burthen us

with

St. Christopher's with additional taxes, to increase those already imposed, and to involve us in those difficulties which ought not to be so severely felt even in better times.

A. Act No. 261, page 162, New Ed. }  
B. Act No. 287, F. 6. p. 199, Do. }

*Willm Woodley*, Chairman of  
Committee of Council.  
*John Tybn*, Chairman of  
Committee of the Assembly.

Truly extracted from Council Minutes  
of St. Christopher's, 9 Oct. 1797.  
(Signed) *E. Moore*,  
Clerk of Council.

Copy.

(3.)—In Mr. President Thomson's of the 14th Oct. 1797.

Extract from the Council Minutes of the Island of St. Christopher.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S. At a Meeting of the Council and Assembly at the Court House in the Town of Basseterre, on Thursday the 5th Day of October 1797.

IT was by both Houses Resolved, That they concur in the Resolutions entered into by the Council and Assembly of the island of Antigua, as mentioned in Mr. President Byam's Letter, dated the 12th of September last, to the Commander in Chief; and therefore further Resolved, That his Honour be requested to convene a General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Islands, agreeably to the General Laws of the said Islands made for that purpose.

A true Extract from the Council Minutes.

(Signed)

*E. Moore*,

Clerk of Council.

No 3.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Mr. President Thomson; dated Whitehall, 1st January 1798.

THE Measures you have taken for convening a General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Islands, to take into consideration the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, seem to be highly proper, with a view to their proceedings being conducted with uniformity and effect.

No. 4.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Thomson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, 19th February 1798.

IN my Dispatch to your Grace of the 14th October (No. 9) I enclosed a Resolution of the Council and Assembly of the island of Antigua, containing a request that I would convene a General Council and Assembly of the Leeward islands, to obtain the collective sense of the whole, on the measures necessary to be taken for carrying into execution the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, which was most readily concurred in by the Legislatures of all the other Islands. I delayed, for some time, issuing the writs for the election of members to compose the General Assembly, in hopes that the negotiations at Lisle would have been productive of peace, and their deliberations thereby rendered less liable to interruption; but when I found that the inordinate ambition of the present Government of France had put an end to that blissful prospect, I then sent the writs to all the Islands; the elections were

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

9 H.

were in consequence taken on the 10th instant, and the Meeting is to take place on the 1st of next month in this Island, which I have selected for that purpose as the most central and convenient of the whole.

St.  
Christopher's

Your Grace will be pleased to receive an Act, which has been passed in the island of Antigua, intituled, "Act to repeal the fortieth and forty-first Clauses of an Act of this Island," intituled, "An Act for attainting several Slaves now runaway from their Master's service, and for the better government of Slaves; dated the ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twenty-three; and to make persons charged with, and found guilty of the murder of Slaves, liable and subject to the same pains and penalties as are inflicted for the murder of free persons."

In President Thomson's, of the 19th February 1798.

ANTIGUA. An Act to repeal the fortieth and forty-first Clauses of an Act of this Island, intituled "An Act for attainting several Slaves now run away from their Master's service, and for the better government of Slaves;" dated the ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twenty-three; and to make persons charged with, and found guilty of the murder of Slaves, liable and subject to the same pains and penalties as are inflicted for the murder of free persons.

WHEREAS by an Act of this Island, intituled "An Act for attainting several Slaves now run away from their Master's service, and for the better government of Slaves," dated the ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twenty-three, it is by the fortieth and forty-first Clauses thereof enacted and ordained as follows; that is to say, "And whereas several cruel persons, to gratify their own humours, against the laws of God and Humanity, frequently kill, destroy, or dismember their own and other persons Slaves, and have hitherto gone unpunished, because it is inconsistent with the constitution and government of this Island, and would be too great a countenance and encouragement to Slaves to resist white persons, to set Slaves so far upon an equality with the free inhabitants, as to try those that kill them for their lives; nor is it known or practised in any of the Charibbee Islands, that any free person killing a Slave is triable for his life, but particular laws (of which we are not provided) are made in several of them, for punishing the aforesaid crimes, and are found very effectual in deterring persons from such crimes; Be it therefore enacted and ordained, That if any free person or persons whatsoever, shall wilfully kill or cause to be killed any Slave whatsoever, either belonging to himself or another, in any such manner as is not excusable by the laws of Great Britain, or allowed by the laws of this Island, whether the same be by excessive punishment or otherwise, or shall geld or dismember any such Slave, that then such person or persons shall and may be prosecuted by presentment, indictment, or information, before Justices of the Peace in their Sessions, or Justices of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery, and upon conviction of any such killing, the offender or offenders shall be fined each in any sum not under one hundred pounds nor exceeding three hundred pounds, lawful money of this Island, and be imprisoned till said fine be paid, and all due fees, and find sureties for their good behaviour for one year; and in case of gelding or dismembering, and conviction thereof, the offender or offenders shall be fined each any sum not under twenty pounds or above one hundred pounds, lawful money of this Island, and be imprisoned in the common gaol till the same be paid, and find sureties for their good behaviour for a year, so as the prosecution be commenced in one year after the offence of killing, gelding, or maiming, committed, and not after, and shall likewise pay double damages and costs to the party grieved, to be recovered by action of trespass in any Court of Record in this Island, the

119.

" moiety



St. Christopher's " moiety of which fines for killing, gelding, or dismembering a Slave, shall be to the use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to be paid into the public treasury of this Island; to be employed towards repairing the forts and fortifications of this Island, and the other half to the informer prosecuting therefore."

And whereas, from the alteration of times and circumstances since the passing of the above recited Act, it is become necessary that the said two Clauses thereof should be repealed, we therefore, Your Majesty's most dutiful, loyal, and obedient subjects, the Commander in Chief of Your Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands, and the Council and Assembly of this Your Majesty's Island Antigua, humbly pray your Most Excellent Majesty, that it may be enacted and ordained, and be it, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That the said fortieth and forty-first Clauses of the above recited Act, shall be and are hereby declared to be repealed and made null and void, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, as fully and effectually as if the same never had been made.

And whereas, in obedience to the Divine Law, and from principles of justice, humanity, and policy, it is right that whosoever is guilty of the wilful murder, or of wilful maiming or wounding a fellow creature, whether a free person or a Slave, in any such manner as is not excusable by the common or statute law of England, should suffer the pains and penalties of death, or such other punishment as by the said laws such Persons are made liable to suffer for the said crimes; Be it therefore enacted and ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the publication of this Law, every white or other free person, who shall be charged with the murder, or with the maiming or wounding a Slave, whether belonging to himself or to herself, or to any other person or persons whatever, and whether the same be by excessive punishment or otherwise, every such person so charged, shall be proceeded against and tried in the same manner as he or she would have been proceeded against and tried for the murder, or for the maiming or wounding a free person, and upon being convicted thereof shall suffer death, or such other punishment by the laws of England such persons would be sentenced to suffer for the murder, or for the maiming and wounding a free person: Provided always, that such conviction shall not extend to the corrupting the blood, or the forfeiture of lands or tenements, goods or chattels; any law, custom, or usage to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Dated at Saint Christopher's the 28th day of Dec. in the year of our Lord 1797, and of His Majesty's reign the thirty-eighth.

(Signed)

*John Burke, Speaker, pro tempore.*

Passed the Council the 28th day of Nov. 1797.

By Command

(Signed)

*W<sup>m</sup> Mathews.*

Dep<sup>y</sup> Sec<sup>y</sup>.

Passed the Assembly this 28th day of Nov. 1797.

(Signed)

*John Hill,*

Clerk of the Assembly.

Published this 10th day of Jan. 1798.

(Signed)

*John Roberts,*

Dep<sup>y</sup> Provost Marshall.

No. 5.—Extract of a Letter from President Thomson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, March 15th 1798.

AGREEABLE to the Return of the Writs issued for convening the General Council and Assembly, they met in this Island on the first day of this month, when I delivered to them the Speech, of which there is a Copy enclosed, and also Copies of their Addresses, by way of answer to it.

I flatter

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

11 H.

I flatter myself your Grace will be pleased, when you observe by these Addreffes how much they are disposed to enter upon the arduous and important business which I have laid before them, and earnestly recommended to their most serious consideration; and your Grace may be assured, that I shall not fail to watch over and promote, by every means in my power, the advancement of a work which has humanity and benevolence for its objects. I hope they will continue their Sittings from day to day, till the whole business be completed.

St.  
Christopher's

(1.) In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland,  
of the 15th March 1798.

Extract from the Speech of President Thomson to the  
President and General Council, and to the Speaker and  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly of the Leeward  
Islands.

IN compliance with the wishes and solicitations of the several Legislatures within this Government, I have called you together to take into your consideration, and to concert the best means for carrying into effect the objects contained in the Resolution of the House of Commons, entered into on 6th day of April last, which I have directed to be laid before you.

You will find in that Resolution, Gentlemen, objects of the first importance to the British Sugar Colonies, which, by the wisdom of Parliament and His Majesty's most gracious condescension, are now submitted to a body of men, whose local knowledge and experience are best adapted to form such wise and salutary measures, as, I have no doubt, will produce the happiest effects.

The increase of our Negroes by propagation rather than by importation, is an object to be wished for by us all, who know the superior value of Creole Negroes to those imported from Africa; and surely, to every humane mind, it must prove a subject of the most pleasing contemplation, to behold his gang thriving and increasing under his fostering hand; I am therefore persuaded, you will devote your attention to the removal of every kind of impediment that may appear to you to stand in the way of accomplishing so desirable an object.

The moral and religious improvement of our Negroes, by introducing more order, and regularity in our gangs, you must be sensible will, among other good and advantageous purposes, contribute to the increase of the species; for it must be observable by all, that a failure in this respect is not so much owing to oppressive labour, as to the licentious manners and habits of the Slaves.

If the Legislature of the Parent State have wisely abandoned the idea of a forced and abrupt abolition of the Slave Trade, and wish to see whether it can be gradually accomplished by natural means, let us, on our part, do every thing that is in our power to try the experiment fairly.

It is with the greatest pleasure and satisfaction that I have observed, during forty years residence in this country, a gradual improvement and melioration in the condition of the Slaves, and several laws passed in the different Islands, to protect them from cruelty and oppression; I am fully persuaded, it will be your inclination to extend these blessings to that race of people, as far as you shall deem them consistent with that subordination which has of late, more than ever, been evinced to be so essential to the preservation of peace and good order in society.

I am sure I shall meet your wishes, Gentlemen, in recommending to you a revision of all the laws which have been passed, and are now in force in the different Islands of this Government, relating to Slaves, adopting all the wholesome regulations, and rejecting those which, on certain exigencies, might have been deemed proper, but from a change of times and circumstances are no longer necessary, and may appear to you to be harsh and oppressive, and form an entire new code, answerable to all the beneficial purposes of our system of Slavery, in which, no doubt, among other things, the food and clothing of the Negroes will appear to you to be objects highly worthy of attention.

(2.) In

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(2.) In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
dated 15th March 1798.

Extract from the Address of the General Council of the  
Leeward Islands to President Thomson, &c. &c. &c.;  
dated 2d March 1798.

WE are highly sensible of the goodness that induced your Honour, in compliance with the wishes and solicitations of the several Legislatures within this Government, to call us together, to deliberate on the best means for carrying into effect the objects contained in the Resolution of the House of Commons, entered into on the 6th day of April last, which you have been pleased to direct to be laid before us.

We beg leave to assure you, that we will cheerfully enter upon the duties of our present station, and give that serious attention to the important objects you have submitted to our consideration, which they demand.

We hope your Honour will believe, that, in spite of the various calumnies which have been for many years past heaped on His Majesty's faithful subjects in the West Indies, we view with the same pleasure and satisfaction which you have been pleased to express, the gradual improvement and melioration in the condition of the Slaves in the different Islands of this Government, and the protection afforded to them by laws at once just and humane; and we look forward with the most pleasing sensations, to the opportunity we now have of establishing a system, which, by further improving their condition, by introducing more order and regularity among them, and by promoting their improvement in morality and religion, as far as it may be possible, may tend to increase their propagation, and enable us to diminish the number of Africans to be hereafter imported. But we conceive that the West India Islands never could have been, nor ever can be cultivated to effect, without the right, of which we trust no power will endeavour to deprive us, of obtaining labourers from Africa; a right under which our ancestors were induced to settle in these Colonies, which hath been sanctioned by repeated Acts of the British Parliament, and the violation of which must be considered as an act of the greatest oppression.

(3.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland,  
of the 15th March 1798.

Extract from the Address of the Members of the General  
Assembly of the Leeward Islands to President Thom-  
son; dated 2d March 1798.

WE, the Members of the General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, beg leave to express the grateful sense we entertain of your attention to the different parts of your Government. The objects contained in the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, naturally impressed the different Legislatures with the necessity of mature and speedy deliberation, and your ready compliance with their wishes has afforded the most satisfactory reflection.

Whatever materially relates to so important a part of the Empire as the Sugar Colonies, must become an urgent subject of consideration, and demands the greatest energy and exertions on our part. It is with pride, Sir, we observe, that in no instance has His Majesty's parental care been more emphatically manifested, than in having confided to those, whose local knowledge and experience render them most competent, the enquiry and establishment proposed.

The natural increase of our Negroes by propagation, is an object to be ardently desired, and the West India character of humanity, with a very few exceptions, we trust, evinces the propriety of your Honour's observation, that it is a subject of the most pleasing contemplation to the Proprietor to behold his Slaves thriving and increasing under his fostering hand. We shall, however, direct our attention to those obstacles that may appear to impede this end.

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We shall also attend to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes, and we cannot but be sensible that undisciplined nature is too prone to those licentious manners and evil habits which your Honour has forcibly described.

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We trust and hope, Sir, that the Legislature of the Parent State will wisely abandon the abolition of a trade sanctioned and encouraged by several Acts of Parliament, and which is closely interwoven and connected with the commercial interest of the empire at large.

It is a pleasing reflection, Sir, that your Honour's residence of forty years in this country, bears an unerring and ample testimony of a gradual improvement and melioration in the condition of the Slaves. As it is our inclination, so shall it be our endeavour, to extend every blessing to a race of people peculiarly under our care and protection, as far as is consistent with the subordination which is essential to the preservation of peace and good order, and to the actual safety of His Majesty's West India Colonies.

We are sensible, Sir, that a revision of the laws relating to the Slaves, is indispensable; by paying a proper regard to them, we shall be able to confirm and enlarge such as may be deemed expedient, and reject those which appear oppressive and no longer necessary.

No. 6.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Thomson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, 17 April, 1798.

THE General Council and Assembly have proceeded a considerable length in their business, and I hope it may be completed in the course of a fortnight more.

No. 7.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Mr. President Thomson; dated Whitehall, 2d May 1798.

THE harmony and good understanding which happily prevail between you and the Legislature of the respective Islands under your authority, cannot fail to promote the public service in general, and the particular interest of each. On the subject of the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th April 1797, I refer you to my Letter (secret) of the 23d ultimo, and its Inclosure; and must observe, that the Act passed by the island of Antigua, "making Persons charged with, and found guilty of the murder of Slaves, liable and subject to the same pains and penalties as are inflicted for the murder of free persons," is such as highly becomes the wisdom and humanity of the Legislature.

No. 8.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Thomson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, May 4th 1798.

YOU will now be pleased to receive a Bill, which has been passed by the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, intituled "An Act more effectually to provide for the Support, and to extend certain Regulations for the Protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their Increase, and generally to meliorate their Condition," and to which I have given my assent.

It was deemed necessary, on account of some Clauses in the Bill whereby debts contracted for the feeding and clothing of the Negroes were made liens upon estates, and to take place of all others, to introduce a suspending Clause, to prevent the Bill from being in force here till His Majesty should signify his pleasure thereon.

The distress which these Islands have suffered from a series of bad crops, and the consequent low state of credit to which estates in some of the Islands are reduced, I

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understand gave rise to this measure, in order to facilitate the procuring of those articles, of which the Bill has directed an increased quantity to be given; and your Grace will be pleased to observe, that these liens are not allowed to run on from year to year, so as to accumulate and grow into a large sum, but the amount of the necessary supplies of food and clothing must be extinguished within the year, otherwise all such contracts lose their priority. Under these restrictions, I should conceive those Clauses in the Bill would rather operate in favour of creditors, who are mortgagees of estates, than to their prejudice, as they tend to keep up the mortgaged premises, which will be a means of strengthening their security, or at least preventing it from being impaired.

The Bill, in other respects, embraces several of the objects pointed out by the Resolution of the House of Commons, which your Grace did me the honour to transmit, and upon the whole, though not so full and complete as I wished it to have been, I hope it will meet with His Majesty's approbation.

I beg leave to send your Grace copy of the speech which I delivered to them at the close of the session.

(1.) In Mr. President Thomson's, of the 4th May, 1798.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the General Council,  
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the General Assembly,

THE zeal and unremitting attention with which you have devoted your time to the arduous and important business you have had before you, do great credit to yourselves, and merit the warmest acknowledgments of the Islands over which your labours will extend their happy influence. The Bill you have passed, to which I have just given my assent, is calculated to promote the cause of humanity, and having that for its object, it cannot fail to be highly acceptable to every well-disposed mind; and though the current expences of estates may be thereby somewhat enhanced, yet if that augmentation, together with the other salutary provisions of the Bill, will produce more comfort and happiness to the Slaves, and be a means of increasing their numbers so as to render the importation of African Negroes unnecessary, I trust they will prove a full and ample compensation.

I cannot close this session of the General Council and General Assembly, without returning you my most hearty thanks for the readiness you have shewn to adopt every measure which, at the beginning of it, appeared to me necessary to submit to your consideration, all of which, I have no doubt, would have been carried into full effect, had not the urgency of your private affairs, at this period, called you from hence.

I am, however, persuaded, that whatever remains unfinished of this great work, you will, during the recess, take into your consideration, and come prepared, when the session again commences, to give it a final completion.

It now only remains for me to recommend to you, Gentlemen, when you return to your homes, to give your aid, by your countenance and example, to the operation of the Bill you have already passed in your respective Islands, and by narrowly watching and observing its effects, you will be able to discover whether it will require any alterations and amendments, and which you will have in your power to make at your next Meeting.

St. Christopher's,  
April 23, 1798.

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(2.)—In Mr. President Thomson's, of the 4th May 1798.

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An Act more effectually to provide for the Support, and to extend certain Regulations for the Protection of Slaves; to promote and encourage their Increase, and generally to meliorate their Condition.

YOUR Majesty's loyal and obedient subjects, the Commander in Chief of Your Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands in America, and the General Council and General Assembly of the said Islands, duly convened and assembled at the town of Basseterre, in the island of St. Christopher, having taken into their most serious consideration the Resolution of the Honourable the House of Commons of Great Britain, of the 6th day of April, in the 37th year of Your Majesty's reign, recommended to their attention by Your Majesty's said Commander in Chief of your Leeward Charibbee Islands, in obedience to Your Majesty's orders, communicated by his Grace the Duke of Portland, one of Your Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and having maturely deliberated upon the measures which appear to them best calculated to obviate the causes which hitherto may have impeded the natural increase of Negroes already in these Islands, gradually, as they hope, to diminish the necessity of the Slave Trade, and ultimately to lead to its final termination, and desiring to grant unto the Slaves in these Your Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands every indulgence and encouragement which may tend to their moral and religious improvement, and to secure to them the certain, immediate, and active protection of the law, as far as the same can possibly be extended to them, consistently with that good order, discipline, and obedience, which it is absolutely necessary to preserve and maintain in all places, where, from inevitable local circumstances, Slavery must, with some restrictions, be tolerated; and desiring also to prevent, as much as possible, any instances of cruelty or oppression, and to compel all persons to treat their Slaves with that humanity which is generally prevalent in these Islands; Do humbly pray Your Most Excellent Majesty that it may be enacted and ordained;

1st. And be it, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Director of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, shall weekly and every week, under the penalty of ten shillings per head for each and every Slave under his or her direction, for every omission, purchase or provide, at the rate of the following quantities of provisions; that is to say, for every Slave at the rate of nine pints of corn or beans, or eight pints of pease or wheat, or rye flour, or Indian corn meal, or nine pints of oatmeal, or seven pints of rice, or eight pints of cassava flour or farina, or eight pounds of biscuit, or twenty pounds of yams or potatoes, or sixteen pounds of eddoes, falias or tyres, or thirty pounds of plantains or bananas, and also one pound and one quarter of herrings, shads, mackarel, or other salted provisions, or double the quantity of fresh fish or other fresh provisions; all which said provisions to be of good and wholesome quality: Provided nevertheless, that every such Owner or Director shall have the absolute and uncontrollable right of distributing and dividing all and every such quantities of provisions so to be provided as aforesaid, unto and among all and every his Slave or Slaves, in such proportions, shares, and allowances, as he shall think proper, according to the different labour, size, age, and strength, or otherwise, of all and every such Slave and Slaves, and as the same shall appear to him in his discretion eligible or right; but notwithstanding such discretionary power, such Owner or Director shall actually distribute weekly and every week among all his Slaves, the whole quantity of provisions hereinbefore directed to be purchased or provided, under the penalty aforesaid for every omission: Provided also, that every aged, sickly, or infirm Slave, and every Slave afflicted with any loathsome or contagious disorder, or every Slave being incapable of labour, shall receive weekly and every week, at least one full rate or ratio of allowance aforesaid, notwithstanding the general and discretionary power of dividing the same, hereinbefore permitted to  
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the Owner, and notwithstanding any other power which he may have; and if any Owner or Director of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, shall omit or neglect, under any pretext whatever, especially under pretext of absence from the said plantation, or that the said Slave is wandering about the towns or other parts of the Island, or that he cannot be found, to distribute and share weekly and every week to any of his aged, infirm, or sickly Slaves, or to any of his Slaves afflicted with any loathsome or contagious disorder, or incapable of labour, such full rate or ratio of provisions as aforesaid, he shall forfeit for every such neglect or omission the sum of twenty shillings, unless such Slave shall be provided for in the Hospital or Sick House.

2d. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for every Owner or Director of any Slaves employed on any plantation in the Leeward Islands, to reduce and diminish, when he shall be actually making Sugar or cutting Canes on such plantations, for the whole week in which he makes such reduction, the quantity of provisions hereinbefore directed to be distributed among his Slaves, in the proportion which one-fifth part of the said provisions bears to the whole thereof, but on no account in a larger proportion: Provided nevertheless, that inasmuch as it is necessary for insuring the subsistence, which is the principal object of this Act, that in some of the Leeward Charibbee Islands the provisions given to the Slaves in crop-time should be increased, and may, without derogating from such subsistence, be out of crop diminished; that no Owner or Director of any Slave within the Virgin Islands, shall be permitted to make the aforesaid reduction in any week in which he shall be, or have been, actually employed in the manufacturing Sugar or grinding Canes; but every Owner or Director of every Slave worked on any plantation within the said Virgin Islands, shall be permitted, out of crop, to make a reduction of one-fifth part of the dry provisions hereinbefore directed to be given to his or her Slaves, whenever he or she shall give and allow to each and every of his or her Slaves as much land and time as shall, with his or their labour on such land for such time, be likely to produce the value of such dry provisions: And provided also, that if the value of such dry provisions shall not be produced by such land, every such Owner or Director shall make good to every Slave whose land shall be less productive, the difference between its produce and the value of the dry provisions to which such Slave under this Act would otherwise be entitled.

3d. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That money shall on no account be given to Slaves in lieu of the provisions hereinbefore directed to be purchased or distributed, unless in case of absolute and unequivocal necessity; and that if any Owner or Director of any Slave or Slaves, within the Leeward Islands, shall offend against this Clause, he shall forfeit the sum of fifty pounds.

4th. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever and as often as any Owner or Director of any Slave or Slaves, within the Leeward Islands, shall commute or exchange for money, the provisions hereinbefore directed to be purchased or provided for such Slaves, or any part of the same, he shall give and pay to and among his Slaves at the rate of four shillings per week for each and every Slave with whom he shall make such commutation, and also give and allow two half days in each week to such Slave, to resort to the best market for laying out, to the best advantage, such commutation money: Provided nevertheless, that it shall and may be lawful for every Owner or Director to divide, distribute, and share such commutation money, among all and every his Slaves with whom he makes such commutation and exchange, in the same manner, and with the same discretionary power, as is hereinbefore vested in him with respect to the provisions he is hereinbefore directed to purchase, procure, and distribute.

5th. And whereas, from the situation and local circumstances of many estates in the Leeward Islands, the Owners or Directors of such estates are enabled to allot portions of land to their Slaves more than sufficient for their support and maintenance, and from which such Slaves grow rich; and it would therefore not only be unnecessary, but even unjust and ruinous, to such Planters, to compel them to give the same allowance with others who have not the benefit of such provision grounds; Be it

it therefore Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever the quantity of provision land under cultivation with the Owner's time, upon any estate in the Leeward Islands, shall be in the proportion of one acre of land for every ten Slaves worked and employed upon such estate, and the produce of such land shall be in proportion to one half of the quantity of provisions, or in any larger proportion by this Act directed to be purchased or procured for all the Slaves so worked or employed, that then it shall and may be lawful for the Owner or Director of such Plantation to diminish by one half, or in any other proportion, the quantity of dry provisions, according to the quantity of provisions produced from such land directed by this Act to be purchased or procured for and distributed among such Slaves; provided the whole produce of the land so under cultivation, or the proportion hereby prescribed, is appropriated to the use of the Slaves so employed; and provided also, that the Owner or Director distribute or causes to be distributed among them, their full allowance or rates of salt or fresh provisions aforesaid: And provided further, that such Owner or Director shall attend the Council Board in the Island where such Plantation shall be situate, once in every twelve months, and then and there take the following oath; viz.—“ I do swear, That there are now                      Slaves upon  
 “ or belonging to the Plantation under my direction, in the parish or division of  
 “                      and that there is under the cultivation of provisions upon the said  
 “ Plantation, at least in the proportion of one acre of land for every ten Slaves  
 “ thereon, and that the produce of the said land has been for twelve months last  
 “ past, or for so much of the said twelve months last past as I have been Owner or  
 “ Director thereof, together with the quantity of provisions appropriated or distributed among the said Slaves, fully adequate to the ratio of provisions directed  
 “ by this Act to be purchased or procured, distributed or shared among them, and  
 “ every other Slave for the time aforesaid; and that the said produce has been appropriated, and the said provisions have been shared and distributed agreeable  
 “ to the directions of this Act, to the best of my knowledge and belief. So help  
 “ me God.”

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6th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Director of any Plantation within the Leeward Islands, shall allot and give to every Slave of which he is Owner or Director, and who is capable of working the same, a piece or spot of good well-laying land of forty feet square at least, immediately round or close to his house, if the same can be done, without pulling down or injuring any other Negro house; and if it cannot be so done, then every such Owner or Director shall allot and give to each and every such Slave the same quantity of land, in some part of the said Plantation on which such Negro resides, and commodious for his working the same, under the penalty of five pounds for every offence against this Clause; provided there is so much land as is hereby required to be allotted as aforesaid on the Plantations of which he is such Owner or Director, not usually planted in canes, and if there is not, he shall give and allow to every such Slave as aforesaid, in lieu of the same, an annual compensation, which shall be equal to the annual value of the land usually allotted as aforesaid, under the like penalty of five pounds for every instance in which he shall omit or neglect to make such compensation.

7th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Director of any Slaves within the Leeward Islands, shall, twice in every year, that is to say, on the first day of January and the first day of August, provide for and give to each and every of his male Slaves, one jacket made of good sound woollen cloth, and one pair of trowsers made of good sound osenbrigs; and to each and every of his female Slaves, one wrapper of such woollen cloth, and one petticoat of such osenbrigs: Provided always, that in case any such Owner or Director shall think proper to furnish such Slave with a good and sufficient blanket, and a hat or cap, with the consent of such Slave, the same shall be in lieu of one suit of such cloaths as aforesaid.

8th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That once in every twelve months each and every Owner or Director of Slaves shall, under the penalty of one hundred pounds, appear before the Court of King's Bench or Common Pleas of the



St. Christopher's the Island where such Owner or Director shall reside, and shall then and there take the following oath, viz. "I, A. B. do swear upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that I have truly and fairly distributed, or caused to be distributed or appropriated, for the last twelve months past (or for so long as the said Owner or Director has had the direction of such Slaves) between and among the Slaves under my direction, the full ratio of provisions and clothing, as directed by an Act, intituled, "An Act more effectually to provide for the Support, and to extend certain Regulations for the Protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their Increase, and generally to meliorate their Condition," to the best of my knowledge, judgment, and belief, and without any fraud or intent to evade the said act. So help me God."

9th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Director of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, shall give and allow to every such Slave who shall be employed in any field work, or any plantation, or in the carrying, digging, removing, or making up manure, or in the picking grafts, or in any plantation labour, in the performance of which breakfast and noon-time is now usually allowed, at least one complete half hour for every such Slave to eat his breakfast, and at that time to rest and refresh himself, but no Slave shall at such time be permitted to quit the field or place in which he is at work, without the particular leave of such Owner or Director, or of the Overseer or Driver acting under him; and every such Owner or Director shall also give and allow to every such Slave two full and complete hours at noon or dinner-time, to rest or refresh himself, or to procure, dress, or eat his dinner, during which two hours no such Slave shall be employed in any work, labour, business, or manner whatever; and any person offending against this Clause, shall for every such offence forfeit a sum not less than twenty shillings nor more than five pounds.

10th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Owner or Director of Slaves belonging to any plantation within the Leeward Islands, shall call or turn out to his work any such Slave before the hour of five in the morning, nor shall any such Owner or Director continue any such Slave at work after the hour of seven o'clock in the evening, except in crop time, or from some evident necessity, under the penalty of five pounds.

11th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That whereas many Slaves, who have no Owners or Directors who can be discovered and compelled to provide for them, become incapable, from contagious disorders, old age, sickness, or other infirmities, of labouring to procure a subsistence for themselves, that in all such cases it shall and may be lawful for the Vestry of any Parish within the Leeward Islands, or the President of the Council, or Speaker of the Assembly, or any Justice of the Peace where there is no Vestry, to provide in a suitable manner for the support and maintenance of such Slave or Slaves, and to prefer the accounts for the same against the public of the Island in which such Slave shall be found or discovered; and the said public is hereby charged with and made liable for the payment of such accounts out of its treasury, or such other funds as it may choose to apply in payment of the same.

12th. Whereas to avoid the inconveniences that do sometime arise from persons manumitting and setting free their Slaves, when they are rendered incapable of service by age, infirmity, accident, or calamity, to avoid the expence of providing a proper subsistence for such Slave, Be it and it is hereby further Enacted, That if any Proprietor of a Slave shall manumit or set free any Slave in his or her possession, who shall be rendered incapable of service from any of the causes aforesaid, that such Proprietor shall be obliged to pay into the hands of the Treasurer of the Island where such Slave shall be so manumitted and set free, the sum of three hundred pounds currency, from which sum such Slave shall be entitled to draw half-yearly an interest arising upon such sum, according to the rate of interest in each respective Island, for his or her subsistence during the life of such Slave; and that upon the death of such Slave so manumitted and set free, the said sum of three hundred pounds currency shall be appropriated to the use of the public.

13th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Director of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, shall keep and produce, whenever

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whenever legally required, a full, true, plain, and weekly account of all the provisions purchased for or distributed or shared out among all or any of his Slaves, and also of all commutation money paid in lieu of the same, also a full, true, and weekly account of the number of his Slaves, under the penalty of five pounds for each and every week in which he shall neglect or omit to keep such account, and also an account of all clothing given to his Slaves, with the times of his giving the same, and the number of Slaves of which he is the Owner or Director at such times, under the penalty of twenty-five pounds; and if he shall refuse to produce such account or accounts whenever he shall be thereunto legally required, he shall forfeit the sum of twenty-five pounds.

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14th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any white or free coloured person, who is not the Owner or Director of any Slave ill treated as hereinafter mentioned, shall beat or ill treat any Slave, or shall take away or cause to be taken away from any Slave any article or thing whatsoever, for which such Slave shall produce a ticket or note from his or her Owner or Director, authorizing him or her to sell or possess such article or thing; or shall take away or cause to be taken away from any Slave any stock, vegetables, provisions, grass tops, vowra, or any article or thing which such Slave shall be authorized by any present or future existing laws, usages, or customs of the Island wherein he resides, to sell or possess; or shall, after purchasing from any such Slave any of the articles or things aforesaid, refuse or omit to pay him or her the price agreed upon for the same, or shall knock off from the head of, or pull away from any Slave into the dirt or street, or trample on the ground, or scatter about on it any such article or things whatever aforesaid, or cause the same to be done, in any such cases, on complaint made by the Owner or Director of the said Slaves, though it may be without oath, to any Justice of the Peace in or near the parish where the offence is committed, such Justice shall and is hereby authorized and directed, by an order in writing under his hand, stating the complaint made by such Owner or Director, to command such person or persons against whom such complaint was made, to appear at a time and place to be specified in such order before him and any other Justice who may be then and there present, that such complaint may be examined into; and such Justices are hereby authorized to take the examination of such person complained of, upon his or her own oath with respect to the said complaint, who shall be compelled to answer on oath such questions as the said Justices may put to him or her; and if such person shall not fully answer such questions, or, having been duly summoned, shall refuse to appear as aforesaid, he or she shall be considered as convicted of the said complaint; or if such person, having fully answered such questions, shall not fully exculpate him or herself, or shall be otherwise convicted before the said Justices, he or she shall be fined by the said Justices in any sum not exceeding ten pounds current money, to be recovered by warrant under the hands and seals of the said Justices, directed to any constable, commanding him forthwith to levy on the goods and chattels of such offender sufficient to pay such fine, with all costs and charges attending all the proceedings aforesaid; and for want of such goods and chattels, to commit such offender to the common jail for any time not exceeding one month, and such constable shall execute such warrant under the penalty of twenty pounds current money aforesaid; and the said Justices shall and may, if they think proper, dispose of the fine to the Slave so ill treated, as a compensation for the injuries he or she may have sustained.

15th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in order to remove any doubt which may arise as to the legality or propriety of punishing the Owners or Directors of any Slave for any cruel conduct towards such Slave, it is hereby expressly declared and enacted, that if any person shall cruelly whip, maltreat, beat, or imprison, or keep in confinement, without sufficient support, any Slave under his or her direction or care, such person shall be indicted for the same in the Superior Court of Criminal Jurisdiction for the Island wherein such offence shall be committed, and upon being legally convicted thereof shall suffer such punishment, by fine or imprisonment, or both, as the Judges or Justices of said Court shall think proper to inflict; and the said Judges or Justices are hereby authorized, if they shall deem it necessary, for the further protection of the said Slave, to order the Marshal or his Deputy to

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sell and dispose of such Slave to any person (except the Owner) at public outcry, and at the best price that can be procured for such Slave, and the monies arising from such sale, after the payment of the fees, shall be paid to the person having the first lien thereon, and in case of no such prior lien, then to the Owner of the said Slave.

16th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person shall beat or maltreat any Slave not belonging to himself or herself, such offender shall not only be indicted and punished for the same in like manner, but any punishment inflicted by the Court of Criminal Jurisdiction for such offence shall not be considered as a bar to any action or suit at law which may be commenced by the Owners of such Slave, or be considered in mitigation of any damages which may otherwise be given or recovered for such trespass or injury.

17th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any Justice of the Peace shall receive any complaint or intelligence, which he, in his own discretion, shall think probable, that any Slave hath been mutilated, cruelly punished, or otherwise maltreated, or confined without a sufficient support, it shall be lawful for such Justice of the Peace to call to his assistance some other Justice, and then such two Justices shall be and are hereby authorized to order any constable to bring such Slave before them, or if the case shall require it, they are hereby authorized to go to such place where such Slave shall be, and direct such Slave to be produced and shewn to them, that such enquiry and other proceedings may be made and had as shall be necessary for the further prosecution of the offence; and that if such Justices shall think proper or necessary, they shall be and are hereby authorized to send such Slave to some public place of security, or to the workhouse, if any is provided in the Island where such Slave shall live, to be there kept and detained, and supported at the expence of the Owner or Director of such Slave, until further enquiry shall be made into the fact according to law.

18th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Owner or Director of any Slave within the Leeward Islands, shall fix round the neck of any Slave any iron collar with projecting bars, hooks, or any collar with a chain or weight thereto, or shall put or fix upon any Slave any chain or any piece or ring of iron, either round the leg or any other part of the body of such Slave, other than such as are absolutely necessary for securing the person of such Slave, it shall and may be lawful for any Justice of the Peace, on information or view of the same, to order such collar, chain, weight, hooks, bars, and rings, other than such as are necessary as aforesaid, to be taken off such Slave at the expence of such Owner; and it shall also be lawful for such Justice to issue his warrant to bring such Owner before him, and if he is of opinion that such Owner or Director has acted wantonly and cruelly in putting on or fixing as aforesaid any such collar, chain, weight, hooks, bars, or rings, or that he was not influenced solely by the motive of preventing the future desertion of such Slave, such Justice shall and may bind over every such Owner or Director, to appear at the next Court of King's Bench, to be held for the Island where such offence shall be committed, then and there to answer for the same, and upon conviction thereof to be fined, at the discretion of such Court, in any sum not exceeding one hundred pounds current money.

19th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That any Owner or Director of any Slave within the Leeward Islands, who may, from sickness or any other cause, stand in need of medical assistance, shall, without loss of time, procure such assistance for such Slave, and also shall provide for and furnish such Slave with all such food, wine, nourishment, and with all and every such other necessary and necessaries of every kind as the medical person, whose assistance he may call in, shall order or direct, under the penalty of fifty pounds for every omission.

20th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever any Slave, not under the age of six years, nor from natural decay, who shall die suddenly, without having been visited at least forty-eight hours before his or her decease by some medical person duly qualified to practise physic, it shall and may be lawful for the Coroner, or where there is no Coroner, for some Justice of the Peace, and he is hereby authorized and commanded to hold an inquest, not consisting of less than three persons, on the body of such Slave, to enquire into and return the  
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cause of his or her death; and if any Owner or Director of any Slave within the Leeward Islands, shall omit to give notice to the Coroner or Justice aforesaid, of the decease of any such Slave under the circumstances aforesaid, within six hours after such decease, or shall bury any Slave so dying before he shall have given such notice, or within eighteen hours after the same, he shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of one hundred pounds; provided that the person taking such inquest, shall in no case receive for the same more than the sum of three pounds six shillings, to be paid by the public of said Island.

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21st. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every white or free person charged with the murder or maiming of any Slave, whether such Slave belong to such person or not, shall be tried and punished for such murder or maiming, in the same manner, without any sort of distinction or privilege, as if he or she were charged with the murder or maiming of any white or free person whatever: Provided nevertheless, that if he or she shall be convicted, such conviction shall not extend to or occasion any corruption of blood, or forfeiture of lands or tenements, goods or chattels.

22d. And whereas the marriage of Slaves cannot give any particular right, either to the contracting parties or to their children, and it being unnecessary and even improper to enforce the celebration of any religious rites among the Slaves, in order to sanctify contracts, the faithful performance of which can be looked for only by a regular improvement in religion, morality, and civilization, and should not be immediately enforced by any compulsory methods, lest the violation of sacred vows be too often added to the crime of infidelity: And whereas it seems more eligible to encourage than compel such improvement in religion, morality, and civilization among such Slaves for the purposes aforesaid, and for other good purposes, Be it therefore further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner and Director of any Slave on any estate within the Leeward Islands, shall, within two months after the publication of this Act, and also on the first day of January every year, convene and assemble together the Slaves under his direction, and enquire which of them have a husband or wife, or more than one; and if an acknowledgment be made, in consequence of such enquiry, of more than one husband or wife, then such Owner or Director shall compel such Slave making such acknowledgment, to elect some one Slave only as his or her husband or wife, and when such election is made, such Owner or Director shall enter the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and make the same as public as possible, by convening once in every twelve months all the Slaves upon such Plantation, and reading to them the same in a distinct and audible voice, at the same time extolling the good behaviour of those who have been faithful to their engagements, and reprobating the misconduct of those who have acted to the contrary, doing his utmost to keep together in harmony the parties who have made such election, and to encourage all the other Slaves of which he is Manager, Master, or Director, as they shall arrive at the age of maturity, to make such election as aforesaid, and adhere as strictly as possible to the same. And every Owner or Director of any female Slave, who shall have a child while she preserves her fidelity to such engagement as aforesaid, or is reputed so to do, shall, in six weeks after the birth of such child, if the same be then living, pay and give to the mother of such child four dollars, and the same sum, with one dollar more for every other child she shall bear and have under the same circumstances; and if any Owner or Director shall omit in any respect to comply with and fulfil the directions of this Clause, he shall forfeit the sum of fifty pounds for every such omission.

23d. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Director shall give to every male and female Slave, who shall live together faithfully and peaceably as aforesaid, as man and wife, one dollar each for every year that they shall so live together.

24th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That as soon as any female Slave shall have six children living, and who have been born during such cohabitation as aforesaid, the youngest of which shall be seven years of age, the

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St. Christopher's Owner or Director of such female Slave, shall not oblige such female Slave to do any other than light work, under the penalty of twenty pounds.

25th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Owner or Director of any Slave, nor any Overseer, nor any other description of white men on any Plantation, shall weaken the effect of the exhortations and enquiries enjoined by this law, by his own irregular conduct, in cohabiting or having criminal commerce with any female Slave, who shall have elected her husband as aforesaid, every such person for every such offence, being thereof convicted by legal testimony, before any two or more Justices of the Peace, shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred pounds.

26th. And whereas it appears to be impracticable and ineffectual to endeavour to compel any Slaves to adopt and conform themselves to any religious establishment, although they may be brought gradually to a considerable degree of religious knowledge, by attention on the part of their Owners or Directors, and the Clergy, Be it therefore further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any Owner or Director shall in any manner whatsoever restrain or prohibit, or cause to be restrained or prohibited, any Slave (excepting such whose services are necessary on a Sunday) under his or her direction, from receiving religious instruction by attending on Sundays at any church or chapel, or any other place of worship held by the regularly established clergy of any religious christian sect tolerated in the Leeward Islands, or by receiving baptism according to the rites of the regularly established church, or other tolerated christian church, such Owner or Director for every such offence; shall forfeit the sum of five pounds, and in case any regular clergyman, who has any living in any of the Leeward Islands, shall refuse or neglect, when thereto reasonably required, to baptize any Slave without fee or reward, on any Sunday immediately after Divine Service, such clergyman shall forfeit and pay for every such refusal and neglect the sum of thirty shillings, provided that such clergyman shall not be compelled so to do, in case of the ignorance or ill character of such Slave so requiring to be baptized; but that in all such cases such clergyman shall endeavour, by exhortation and instruction, to qualify such Slave as he may so reject, to be thereafter baptized and received into the faith of Christ's church.

27th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That when any Slave shall be sick, or unable, from any accident or cause whatsoever, to perform his usual duty or labour, his or her Owner or Director shall cause such Slave to be visited by some person duly qualified to practise physic and surgery, according to the laws of the respective Island where such Slave shall live, and shall cause such medicines, food, and other necessaries, as such qualified practitioner shall from time to time reasonably order or direct, to be duly administered to such Slave, under the penalty of five pounds.

28th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every medical man so qualified as aforesaid, or a proper white assistant, shall attend each estate to the care of which he shall be appointed, at least two days in every week, whether thereto especially called or not, unless he has notice in writing from the Proprietor or Director of such estate, that his presence is not required; and such medical man or white assistant as aforesaid, shall further attend at all times when especially called upon so to do, by the Proprietor or Director of the Slave respectively; and if any medical man shall offend against this Clause, he shall forfeit the sum of five pounds.

29th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said practitioner or his assistant shall attend, within eight hours after the call has come to his or their knowledge, under the penalty of ten pounds.

30th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Director of Slaves shall have, under the penalty of one hundred pounds, on the estate or place where the Slaves usually reside, a commodious hospital or sick house, furnished with proper conveniences for the sick, and a sufficient number of attendants, and shall, under the penalty of twenty shillings, either in his own person or by some white person under his direction, attend as often as may be requisite at the hospital or sick house, to see that the sick are furnished with the medicines that may  
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be ordered for them by the said practitioner or his assistant, in the manner so ordered, and also with such diet as the said practitioner or his assistant shall reasonably direct to be given. St. Christopher's

31st. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That a book or register shall be provided and kept on every such estate by the Owner or Director, under the penalty of forty shillings, in which the practitioner or assistant shall, also under the penalty of forty shillings, write in English language, opposite to the name of each Slave so being sick, his directions as to the time or times of administering the medicines he intends to prescribe, stating the form in which they are to be sent, whether in pills, powder, or mixture, or in whatsoever other form, and also as to the diet to be provided for the Slave; and at the end of the same directions, he shall write his prescriptions in the form usually followed by medical practitioners.

32d. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever any Owner or Director of any Slaves shall have occasion to send a special call to the practitioner, who shall have the care of the Slaves under his direction, he shall send the same in writing in the said book or register, stating the time of the day or night when he sends for the same, to the best of his knowledge, and the name, age, sex, and bodily appearance of the Slave or Slaves on whose account such call is made, together with the most material or urgent symptoms which such Slave exhibits, and any other circumstances that he may think will assist the said practitioner in forming a judgment of the case, and may enable him to carry with him such medicine as he may from such statement judge to be proper, if he can go immediately to visit the said Slave, or to send such medicines or directions as may be of use until he can visit him, or cause him or her to be visited by his assistant or some other practitioner, if he has such other urgent medical business to attend as to prevent his visiting the said Slave immediately; and that the said practitioner, his assistant, or some other free person, who may be kept to make up and dispense medicines for him, shall insert in the same book or register, immediately after the statement hereinbefore directed to be made by the Owner or Director of the Slave, the time, as nearly as he can, when the said call shall arrive at the dwelling or other house of the said practitioner as aforesaid, under the penalty of forty shillings.

33d. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every practitioner shall keep, under the penalty of five pounds, on every estate under his respective care, a small quantity of such medicines as may with safety be left in the hands of a person unskilled in the science of medicine, to be at hand in case of sudden emergency, with such directions as to their use as he may judge sufficient for the information of the Owner or Director of the Slaves, which directions ought to be inserted in the first page of every new book or register so to be provided and kept as aforesaid, under the penalty of forty shillings.

34th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Proprietor of an estate shall employ some medical gentleman, properly qualified, by the year, provided the Proprietor of the said estate is not a medical man himself, and provided such medical assistance can be procured upon reasonable terms, under the penalty of ten shillings for every Slave upon such estate.

35th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That, upon the first day of January in every year, or at the first meeting of the Council and Assembly of the Island wherein the estate hereafter mentioned may be situated, the Owner or Director of every Plantation within the Leeward Islands, shall, under the penalty of one hundred pounds, return upon oath before the Council and Assembly of the said Islands, a just and true account of all births and deaths of the Slaves on such Plantation, and also of the manner in which, to the best of his opinion and judgment, the said Slaves have been attended and provided for when sick for the preceding year, or during such time as he hath had the possession or management of such Plantation; and if any Proprietor, Manager, or Director, shall quit a Plantation where he has resided any time, between the first of January in one year, and the first of January in the ensuing year, such Proprietor, Manager, or Director shall, within ten days after he has so quitted such Plantation, make out such return, as before directed, up to the time when he does so remove, under the penalty last aforesaid.

36th. And

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36th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the doct<sup>r</sup> or surgeon of every Plantation shall, on the first day of January in every year, or at the first meeting of the Council and Assembly of the Island wherein such estates shall be situated, return as aforesaid, upon oath, an account of the Slaves who have died upon such Plantation in the preceding year, or during such time as he hath had the care of such Slaves, with the real causes of such deaths, to the best of his knowledge, judgment, and belief, and also of the manner in which, to the best of his knowledge and belief, the invalid and sick Slaves have been treated and attended to, under the penalty of one hundred pounds for every such offence against this Clause.

37th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Director of any female Slave within the Leeward Islands, who shall be five months gone with child, shall keep and detain such female Slave upon the estate to which she belongs, at all times when the other Slaves are at work, but not employ her otherwise than in taking care of the children on the estate, or other light work; and such Owner or Director shall upon no account suffer such female Slave to quit the said estate at the times the other Slaves are at work and employed thereon; nor shall any such female Slave be punished in any other manner than by confinement; and if any Owner or Director as aforesaid, shall offend against this Clause in any respect, he shall forfeit for the same the sum of five pounds.

38th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever a Negro woman Slave shall be pregnant with her first child, every Owner or Director of every such Negro woman Slave, shall erect and build for her a roomy and commodious Negro house of two rooms; provided she has no such house, and such Proprietor shall not chuse to compel her to lay in in the ward or hospital for lying-in women hereafter mentioned, under the penalty of twenty pounds.

39th. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid. That where the number of female Slaves in any of the Leeward Islands, in which a cargo of Slaves shall be imported, shall not exceed the number of males, the sum of ten shillings shall be paid for every male so imported; and also that the sum of fifty pounds shall be paid for every aged and infirm Negro Slave imported into any of the Leeward Islands in any cargo, after the expiration of two years from the publication of this Act.

40th. And it is hereby further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every penalty and forfeiture imposed by this Act, not otherwise recoverable, shall be recovered by warrant under the hands and seals of any two or more Justices of the Peace, directed to the Provost Marshall or his lawful Deputy, who is hereby authorized to levy the same on the goods and chattels of every person or persons offending against this Act, and who shall be convicted thereof before such Justices, and shall bring the same to sale within ten days after such levy; and for the want of such goods and chattels, such offender shall be committed to the common gaol of the Island where such offence shall be committed, for any time not exceeding six months nor less than five days, at the discretion of such Justices; and all such penalties and forfeitures shall go and belong to persons informing against such offender: Provided nevertheless, that every person so convicted may appeal to the next Superior Court of Criminal Jurisdiction, if he conceives himself aggrieved.

41st. And whereas many persons have often been prevented from supplying their Slaves with sufficient food and clothing, by the encumbered state of their property, their Plantations and Slaves being some time charged with mortgages or other incumbrances to so great an amount, as upon a levy and sale thereof to leave no surplus or fund for the satisfaction of debts due for provisions or clothing furnished for the necessary subsistence of their Slaves, and merchants have therefore been discouraged from selling provisions or clothing to persons in doubtful or embarrassed circumstances, to the very great distress and danger of the Slaves, and also to the manifest prejudice of mortgagees or other creditors whose securities may either wholly, or in a very great measure, depend upon the lives or good condition of such Slaves; Be it therefore also enacted and ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That all debts which, from and after the publication of this Act, shall be contracted by  
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the Proprietor or Possessor of any piece or parcel of land cultivated and carried on as a sugar, cotton, or coffee Plantation, by any Proprietor or Possessor of Slaves, not less than twenty in number generally employed as a task gang, or by the lawful attorney or agent of such Proprietor or Possessor, for any species of provisions or clothing hereinbefore mentioned and directed to be provided for Slaves, shall be deemed and considered as specific or prior liens, or incumbrances, upon all and every Slave and Slaves belonging to such Plantation or task gang, as far as the estate or interest of the Proprietor or Possessor of such Slave doth or can extend, to pay and satisfy the same; and that all and every such debt or debts shall be paid and satisfied in preference to any other debt or incumbrance whatsoever, although existing before the passing of this Act, except debts now due or hereafter to become due to His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors; provided such provisions or clothing shall have been actually sold and delivered within the space or term of twelve calendar months next before the commencement of any action or suit for recovering or enforcing payment for the same, and that such action or suit be commenced, proceeded upon, tried, and determined, in the manner and form hereinafter mentioned.

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42d. And, in order to prevent persons in distressed and embarrassed circumstances, from fraudulently disposing of or otherwise misapplying any Negro provisions or clothing, which they have procured in consequence of this Act, to the prejudice of their former or other creditors, and that such frauds may the more easily be detected and punished; Be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever any Negro provisions or clothing shall be sold, and the person or persons selling the same is or are desirous that the Slaves of the person or persons, to whom or for whose use such provisions or clothing are sold and delivered, should be specifically bound for the payment of the Monies due or owing for the same, a memorandum in writing of such sale and delivery shall, upon the same day, be made and entered in a book to be kept for that particular purpose, and such memorandum or entry shall be signed by the person or persons to whom or for whose use the said provisions or clothing were sold and delivered, or by his, her, or their lawful attorney or attorneys, or known agent or white servant; and if the person or persons to whom or for whose use such provision or clothing have been so sold and delivered, or his, her, or their attorney, or known agent or servant, shall sell, give away, or exchange the said provisions or clothing, or any part or or parcel thereof, then and in such case the person or persons so offending, shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred pounds; and if such fine shall not be paid during the Sitting or Session of the Court before whom the said offence shall be prosecuted, such offender or offenders shall suffer one year's imprisonment, without bail or mainprize, in lieu of the said fine.

43d. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever any complaint or information, in writing, of or concerning the selling, giving away, or exchanging any Negro provisions or clothing, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this Act, shall be made or exhibited to any Justice of the Peace, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Justice, and he is hereby required to order and direct any person or persons having in his, her, or their custody, possession, or power, any book or books wherein any memorandum or acknowledgment, in writing, of the sale and delivery of any Negro provisions or clothing shall be made or entered in pursuance of this Act, to produce before him such book or books, and also to examine upon oath such person or persons, or any other person or persons whom he in his discretion shall think proper, touching the said book or books, or the entries made or contained therein, so far as the same shall appear to be necessary or material for the proof or support of the said complaint or information, and also to require and take from the person or persons having in his, her, or their custody, possession, or power, such book or books, a recognizance in and for the sum of five hundred pounds current gold or silver money, conditioned for the appearance of such person or persons at the Court wherein such complaint or information is intended to be further prosecuted, and for his, her, or their producing before the Grand Jury and Petit Jury of the said Court, such book or books, or writings, as in the said recognizance shall be particularly



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particularly mentioned and specified, and for his, her, or their duly attending to give evidence or testimony at or upon the trial of any indictment or information which shall be preferred or prosecuted for the selling, giving away, or exchanging any Negro provisions or clothing, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this Act, or to the like purport or effect; and if such person or persons shall refuse to produce such book or books, or to be examined touching the same as aforesaid, or to enter into a recognizance to the purport or effect aforesaid, he, she, or they shall, by warrant under the hand and seal of such Justice, be committed to the common gaol, there to remain, without bail or mainprize, until he, she, or they shall submit to produce such book or books, and be examined touching the same, and to enter into such recognizance as aforesaid.

44th. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That if upon the trial of any indictment or information which may be prosecuted for the said offence, it shall appear to the Court and Jury before whom such indictment or information shall be tried, that, within the space of three calendar months next before the commission of the fact charged in such indictment or information, any Negro provisions or clothing have been sold and delivered in pursuance of this Act, for the use of the Slaves belonging to the Plantation or task gang in the possession, or under the care or direction of the defendant or defendants to such indictment or information, and that a memorandum or entry of such sale and delivery in manner and form hereinbefore mentioned, hath been duly made, and the said defendant or defendants shall not be able to prove that the Negro provisions and clothing, for the sale, gift, or exchange whereof the said indictment or information is prosecuted, were not purchased and delivered in pursuance of this Act, but upon the credit of the person or persons to whom and for whose use the same were sold and delivered, such omission or want of proof by or on the part of such defendant or defendants, shall be deemed and taken as sufficient evidence or proof to the Grand Jury and Petit Jury that such Negro provisions or clothing have been sold, given away, or exchanged, contrary to the intention of this Act.

45th. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That when any action or suit shall be commenced and prosecuted for the payment or recovery of any monies due or owing for Negro provisions or clothing, and it is intended that such action or suit shall operate or take effect as a prior charge or lien upon the Slaves of the defendant or defendants to such action or suit, or of his, her, or their testator or testatrix, or intestate, under or by virtue of this Act, the declaration or counts in such action or suit shall not mention or contain any article, consideration, or cause of action whatsoever, other than the sale and delivery of such provisions or clothing; nor shall the Jury, upon the trial of such action or suit, find or assess any other or greater damages by way of interest or otherwise, than the amount or value of the provisions or clothing actually sold and delivered to such defendant or defendants, or his, her, or their testator, testatrix, or intestate, within the said term of twelve calendar months next before the commencement of such action or suit; nor shall any damages whatsoever be found or assessed in such action or suit, unless a particular account of the several quantities of the said provisions or clothing, and the price or prices at or for which the same were actually sold and delivered, be produced and proved in open Court; and it be also proved, that a memorandum or acknowledgment, in writing, of the sale and delivery of such provisions or clothing was duly made and entered in the manner and form hereinbefore mentioned and required; nor shall any other admission, acknowledgment, or confession of the defendant or defendants in such action or suit, or of any other person or persons on his, her, or their part or behalf, be received or admitted as proof of the sale or delivery of such provisions or clothing, or any part thereof; any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

46th. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That immediately after the verdict of the Jury shall be given in such action or suit, the secretary or clerk of the Court shall add to the entry of such verdict the following words, viz. "according to the form and effect of the Act of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands," and the same words shall also be mentioned in

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In the entry of any judgment which shall be obtained upon such verdict, and in any writ of execution issued upon such judgment, and also in the entry or notice of such execution, in the books of the Provost Marshal, Deputy Provost Marshal, or other person to whom the said writ of execution shall be delivered.

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47th. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That all Slaves belonging to the person or persons to whom or for whose use such provisions or clothing were sold and delivered, shall be bound and be liable for the payment or satisfaction of any writ of execution which shall be issued upon any judgment obtained in such action or suit, in the manner and form hereinbefore mentioned, provided such judgment shall be obtained within the space or term of nine calendar months next after the commencement of such action or suit; and that when any writ or writs of execution have been already issued against the defendant or defendants in such action or suit, or his or their ancestor, testator, or intestate, the plaintiff or plaintiffs in such action or suit, or some other person or persons on his, her, or their behalf, shall make oath before any Judge or Justice of the Court wherein such action or suit shall be commenced, of the monies which, according to the best of his, her, or their knowledge and belief, are really and bona fide due or owing unto such plaintiff or plaintiffs, and deliver a true copy of such affidavit or deposition, after the same hath been filed in the proper office, unto the Provost Marshal, or other officer whose duty it may be to levy the said writ or writs of execution, together with a notice in writing, signed by such plaintiff or plaintiffs, or his, her, or their counsel or attorney, requiring the said Provost Marshal, Deputy Provost Marshal, or other officer, if any monies should be received by him under or by virtue of the said writ or writs of execution, to keep and retain so much of the said monies as will be sufficient to satisfy any judgment which may thereafter be obtained in such action or suit.

48th. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That all judgments recovered against any executors or administrators for monies due or owing for Negro provisions and clothing, sold and delivered to their testator or intestate, in pursuance of this Act, shall be paid and satisfied in preference to any other judgment, incumbrance, or debt whatsoever, other than debts due to His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors; provided that an action or suit for the recovery of the said monies so due and owing for Negro provisions and clothing, be commenced within one calendar month next after the will of the person to whom or for whose use the said provisions or clothing were sold and delivered, hath been proved and recorded, or letters of administration of the goods and chattels, rights and credits, of the person to whom or for whose use such provisions or clothing were sold and delivered, hath been obtained, and that such suit be prosecuted to judgment with effect, and without any improper or unnecessary delay whatsoever.

49th. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That if any doubt or difficulty shall arise upon the construction of any section, clause, or sentence, contained in this Act, such section, clause, or sentence, shall always be favourably construed, in such manner and form as will best tend to promote and secure the protection and comfort of Slaves, according to the true intent and meaning of this Act.

50th. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That if any action, suit, or prosecution, shall be commenced or prosecuted against any Justice or Justices, or any other person or persons, for any matter or thing done or performed under or by virtue of this Act, it shall and may be lawful to and for the defendant or defendants in such action, suit, or prosecution, to plead the general issue, and to give this Act and the special matter in evidence; and if the plaintiff or plaintiffs, prosecutor or prosecutors in such action, suit, or prosecution, shall be nonsuited, or discontinued such action, suit, or prosecution, or judgment shall be given against such plaintiff or plaintiffs, or prosecutor or prosecutors, upon verdict, demurrer, or otherwise, such plaintiff or plaintiffs, or prosecutor or prosecutors, shall pay to such defendant or defendants treble costs of suit, for which such defendant or defendants shall have the like remedy as any other defendant or defendants have or may have in other actions or suits.

51st. And

St. Christopher's 51st. And be it also Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That nothing hereinbefore contained shall extend or be construed to extend to prevent or hinder the Legislature of any Island or Islands within the government of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, from making and passing any law or laws which may be thought necessary or proper for the better subsistence or protection of the Slaves in such Island, or for explaining or amending any of the clauses or sentences in this Act hereinbefore mentioned and contained; so as such law or laws do not contain any clause, matter, or thing, which shall in any degree lessen or restrain any protection, privilege, or indulgence, provided or granted to Slaves by this Act, according to the true intent and meaning thereof.

52d. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Penalties hereby imposed, and not hereinbefore provided for, shall be recoverable by indictment or information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, within any of the said Islands where such penalties may be incurred; and that such penalties, when so recovered, shall be paid into the public treasury of the said Island, to be appropriated for the public uses thereof: Provided always, and it is hereby expressly declared, that this Act shall not be in force, or have any effect or operation whatsoever, until approved and confirmed by His Majesty, and such approbation and confirmation shall have been duly signified and published.

Dated in St. Christopher, this 21st day of April, in the 38th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith and so forth, and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight.

Read and passed the General Assembly,  
this 16th day of April 1798.

(Signed) *Ja<sup>s</sup> Ward,*  
Clerk of Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly.

(Signed) *O. Y. Ash,*  
Speaker.

Read and passed the General Council,  
this 20th day of April, 1798.

(Signed) *E. Moore,*  
Clerk of the General Council.

(3.)—In President Thomson's of 4th May 1798.

Proceedings of the General Council, St. Christopher's, March and April 1798.

JOURNAL of the GENERAL COUNCIL, Thursday  
March 1, 1798.

SAINT CHRISTOPHER.

At a Meeting of the General Council of the Leeward Islands, held at the Council Chamber, in the town of Basseterre, in the said Island, on Thursday the 1st day of March 1798.

Present

The Honourable Robert Thomson, Esquire, Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Richard Iles, Esq. President.

Andrew Hamilton,

Thomas J. Cottle,

William Woodley,

Sir Patrick Blake, Bart.

James Athill,

John Taylor,

Edward B. Wyke, esquires.

HIS Honour the Commander in Chief having appointed Eumenes Moore, esquire, the Deputy Secretary of Saint Christopher, the Clerk of the General Council,

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

29 H.

Council, and Thomas Berkeley, esquire, the acting Marshal thereof, they respectively took the usual oaths of Government and subscribed the test.

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Christopher's

The several mandamusses for the islands of Nevis, St. Christopher, Antigua, and Montserrat, under the hand and seal of his Honour the Commander in Chief, appointing the above Gentlemen members of the General Council, were then read by the Clerk, and by the direction of his Honour, they severally took the usual oaths of Government, subscribed the test, and took their seats at the Board accordingly.

The honourable Richard Iles, being by writ of mandamus under the royal signature the senior Councillor, was thereupon, by his Honour the Commander in Chief's direction, called to the Chair, and took his seat as President of the Board accordingly.

The several Writs of election were then read, with the respective Returns thereon made, whereby it appeared that the following Gentlemen were duly elected to serve as Representatives in the General Assembly of the Leeward Islands:

William Higgins, George Webbe, Sen. Sholto Archbald, James Huggins, William Laurence, esquires; for the island of *Nevis*.

William A. Mardenbrough, Milward Croke, John Whitehall, Richard Julius, Clement Caines, esquires; for *Saint Christopher*.

John Burke, Henry B. Lightfoot, Isaac Field Thibou, Thomas Scotland, Daniel Hill, jun. esquires; for *Antigua*.

John Hugh Allen, Oliver Yeamans Ash, William Daniell, William Furlonge, jun. Michael Furlonge, esquires; for *Montserrat*.

His Honour the Commander in Chief then directed the Marshal to desire the attendance of the foregoing Gentlemen of the General Assembly in the Council Chamber to be sworn; and the Gentlemen attending accordingly, they took the usual oaths of Government and subscribed the test.

His Honour thereupon desired them to withdraw and make choice of a Speaker; and they withdrew accordingly.—The Gentlemen of the General Assembly again repaired to the Council Board, and presented John Burke, esquire, to his Honour the Commander in Chief, whom they declared to have unanimously chosen as their Speaker, and his Honour was pleased to declare his approbation thereof. Mr. Speaker thereupon took the usual oaths of Government, subscribed the test, and made the usual demand of freedom of debate and privileges in the name and on the behalf of himself and the General Assembly, as is exercised by the Commons of Great Britain; and then, together with the Gentlemen of that House, withdrew.

James Ward, esquire, as Clerk of the General Assembly, and David Kelly, esquire, as Serjeant at Arms, attended the Board, and, by direction of his Honour the Commander in Chief, took the usual oaths and subscribed the test.

His Honour the Commander in Chief again directed the Marshal to desire the attendance of Mr. Speaker, and the Gentlemen of the General Assembly in the Council Chamber, who attending accordingly, his Honour was thereupon pleased to make the following Speech to both Houses:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the General Council,  
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the General Assembly,

IN compliance with the wishes and solicitations of the several Legislatures within this Government, I have called you together to take into your consideration, and to concert the best means for carrying into effect, the objects contained in the Resolution of the House of Commons, entered into on the 6th day of April last, which I have directed to be laid before you.

You will find in that Resolution, Gentlemen, objects of the first importance to the British Sugar Colonies, which, by the wisdom of Parliament, and His Majesty's most gracious condescension, are now submitted to a body of men, whose local knowledge and experience are best adapted to form such wise and salutary measures, as, I have no doubt, will produce the happiest effects.

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The increase of our Negroes by propagation, rather than by importation, is an object to be wished for by us all, who know the superior value of Creole Negroes to those imported from Africa; and surely to every humane mind it must prove a subject of the most pleasing contemplation, to behold his Gang thriving and increasing under his fostering hand. I am therefore persuaded, you will devote your attention to the removal of every kind of impediment, that may appear to you to stand in the way of accomplishing so desirable an object.

The moral and religious improvement of our Negroes, by introducing more order and regularity into our Gangs, you must be sensible will, among other good and advantageous purposes, contribute to the increase of the species; for it must be observable by all, that a failure in this respect is not so much owing to oppressive labour, as to the licentious manners and habits of the Slaves.

If the Legislature of the Parent State have wisely abandoned the idea of a forced and abrupt abolition of the Slave Trade, and wish to see whether it can be gradually accomplished by natural means, let us, on our part, do every thing in our power to try the experiment fairly.

It is with the greatest pleasure and satisfaction that I have observed, during forty years residence in this country, a gradual improvement and melioration in the condition of the Slaves, and several laws passed in the different Islands to protect them from cruelty and oppression. I am fully persuaded, it will be your inclination to extend these blessings to that race of people, as far as you shall deem them consistent with that subordination which has of late, more than ever, been evinced to be so essential to the preservation of peace and good order in society.

I am sure I shall meet your wishes, Gentlemen, in recommending to you a revision of all the laws which have been passed, and are now in force, in the different islands of this Government, relative to the Slaves; adopting all the wholesome regulations, and rejecting those which on certain exigencies might have been deemed proper, but from a change of times and circumstances are no longer necessary, and may appear to you harsh and oppressive; and form an entire new code, answerable to all the beneficial purposes of our system of Slavery, in which, no doubt, among other things, the food and clothing of the Negroes will appear to you to be objects highly worthy of attention.

Among other matters of public concern to these Islands, the state of the coinage is one that requires your serious consideration. The depreciation of the gold coin, in particular, has got to that excess, as threatens to be very destructive to commerce, and calls aloud for regulation.

The alarming progress which the most loathsome of all diseases, the leprosy, has made in these Islands, demands your interference; and I submit to you, Gentlemen, whether a separation of that miserable and unhappy class of people, from the sound and healthy part of the community, and sending them to some proper place, where they may be supported at the joint and proportionate expence of all the Islands within this Government, will not prove the most effectual check to that increasing evil?

I will only now add, that the subjects which I have laid before you are of deep and difficult consideration, and therefore merit all that calmness and temper in your deliberations and discussions which are so necessary to the elucidation of truth, and carrying conviction to the mind; and besides these, I shall most heartily and cheerfully co-operate with you in every thing else, tending to promote the general utility and welfare of the Leeward Islands.

In all your proceedings, Gentlemen, I hope to see unanimity prevail, and wisdom mark your progress.

A Copy whereof having been delivered to Mr. President of the General Council, with a Copy of the Resolution of the House of Commons mentioned in his Honour's Speech, and Copies thereof unto Mr. Speaker of the General Assembly, the latter then withdrew.

His Honour the Commander in Chief here retired from the Board.

Ordered, Upon motion made and seconded, That his Honour's speech be now read at the Board, and the same having been read accordingly, the honourable Mr. Athill,

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Ahill, the honourable Sir Patrick Blake, and the honourable Mr. Wyke, were, upon motion made and seconded, named by Mr. President as a Committee of this Board, to draw up an Address, in answer to the Speech delivered this day by his Honour to both Houses. St. Christopher's

Ordered, Upon motion made and seconded, That the honourable Mr. Woodley, the honourable Mr. Hamilton, and the honourable Mr. Cottle, be a Committee to draw up Rules and Orders to be adopted by the General Council for the regulation of its proceedings.

Ordered, Upon motion made and seconded, That this Board do enter into the following Resolution:

Resolved, That a Message be sent to the House of General Assembly, to request that House will appoint a Committee to join a Committee of this Board, to settle the mode of adjournment to be adopted; and the following Message was sent accordingly:

His Honour the President and General Council, to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly,

Gentlemen,

THIS Board request your House will appoint a Committee to join the one named by the Board, to settle the mode of adjournment to be adopted; and the Board has nominated the honourable Mr. Athill and the honourable Mr. Taylor as its Committee for that purpose.

Signed, by command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

(Council Chamber, 1st March 1798.

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

THIS House concur with your Board in the appointment of a Committee, to settle the mode of adjournment to be adopted; and has appointed Mr. Julius, Mr. Crooke, Mr. Ash, Mr. William Furlonge, and Mr. Huggins, as a Committee of this House, to join the Members nominated by your Board.

Assembly Room, 1st March 1798.

*John Burke, Speaker.*

The Gentlemen from both Houses, appointed as a Committee to settle the mode of adjournment to be adopted, then repaired to the Committee Chamber; and after some time spent therein, the Committee of the Board returned, and reported that the joint Committee had agreed to the following Report, which was then laid before the Board and read:

“ The Committee appointed by the Honourable Board of General Council and the Honourable House of General Assembly, beg leave to submit the following Report:

“ That it is expedient for the perfect accomplishment of the business for which the General Council and Assembly are convened, to preserve the two Houses, as much as possible, from the interruption of each other.

“ That a mutual adjournment will be attended with an interference which cannot answer even a formal end; but might compel the attendance of both Houses, when there exists a necessity for one only.

“ That each House shall have a power of adjournment independently from day to day; but in case of an adjournment for any further time, then the same shall be submitted to the discretion of his Honour the Commander in Chief.

“ That the meeting each day shall be at twelve of the clock; but it is the opinion of the Committee, that Saturday shall be a day of recess.

*James Athill,  
John Taylor,  
Rd. Julius,  
Miltward Crooke,  
O. Y. Ash,  
James Huggins,  
Wm. Furlonge.*

1st March 1798.

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's

Ordered, Upon motion made and seconded, That this Board do approve of the Report of its Committee, and that a Message be sent to the General Assembly, desiring the concurrence of that House thereto—the following Message was sent accordingly :

His Honour the President and General Council, to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

THE Report herewith sent, has been laid before this Board by its Committee, and approved ; and if your House concur therein, his Honour the President will send a Copy thereof to his Honour the Commander in Chief, for his approbation.

Signed, by command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 1st March 1798.

The Committee of this Board, appointed to draw up Rules and Orders as to the mode of its Proceedings, laid before the Board the following Report, which, after having been read, was, upon motion made and seconded, approved, and ordered to be entered upon the Minutes.

The Committee, appointed to draw up Rules and Orders to be adopted for the Regulation of the Proceedings of the General Council, submit the following Rules and Orders to the consideration of the Board of General Council :

1. That the hour of meeting of the Board shall be at twelve o'clock at noon.
2. That the Board will continue to sit till five o'clock in the afternoon, unless previously adjourned.
3. That a Member shall not quit the Board without permission from the Commander in Chief or President.
4. That Members shall carry down Messages to the House of Assembly in rotation.
5. That every Member shall rise from his seat, on a Message being announced from the Assembly.
6. That every Member shall rise from his seat when he delivers his sentiments to the Board.
7. That no Member shall interrupt another Member whilst he is speaking, or by any means interrupt the business of the Board.
8. That if two Members rise at the same instant to speak, the President shall determine which shall be heard first.
9. That a Member shall not be permitted to speak twice upon the same subject, unless for the purpose of explaining what he may have previously said, except in a Committee of the whole Board.
10. That a Member shall not be permitted to start any subject foreign to the point in debate.
11. That no subject touching the prerogative of the Commander in Chief, or the privileges of this Board, shall be agitated in his presence.
12. That no subject touching the application of money, or with which the power of the Commander in Chief is the least connected, shall be agitated in his presence.
13. That every motion made by the Members of this Board shall be put in writing.

Adjourned till to-morrow at twelve o'clock, then to meet the General Assembly.

By command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 1st March 1798.

St.

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

33 H.

ST. CHRISTOPHER. At a Meeting of the General Council of the Leeward Islands, held at the Council Chamber in the Town of Basseterre, in the said Island, on Friday the 2d Day of March 1798. St. Christopher's

Present,

The honourable Robert Thomson, esquire, Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.  
Honourable Richard Iles, esquire, President.

Andrew Hamilton,  
Thomas J. Cottle,  
William Woodley,  
Sir Patrick Blake, bart.  
James Athill,  
John Taylor,  
Edward B. Wyke, esquires.

THE honourable Mr. President directed the Minutes of the last Meeting of the General Council to be read; and the same were read by the Clerk accordingly.

The honourable Mr. Athill, from the Committee appointed to prepare an Address, in answer to his Honour the Commander in Chief's Speech, delivered by him at the last Meeting of the Board, reported that the same was prepared, and laid it before the Board.

Ordered, That the Address be read, and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, Upon motion made and seconded, That this Board do approve of the Address; and that the Marshal do wait upon his Honour the Commander in Chief, to desire to know his pleasure when and where his Honour would be pleased to receive the same.

The Marshal returned and informed the Board, that his Honour the Commander in Chief had directed him to acquaint the Board, that he should immediately repair to the Board of General Council, and be then ready to receive its Address. His Honour the Commander in Chief having taken his seat at the Board, the honourable Mr. President then addressed his Honour in the following words:

To the honourable Robert Thomson, esquire, Commander in Chief for the time being, in and over all His Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands in America, Chancellor, Vice-Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

The Address of the General Council of the Leeward Islands.

May it please your Honour,

WE his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the President and Members of the General Council of the Leeward Islands, beg leave to return our sincere and hearty thanks for your Speech delivered to both Houses of Legislature, now sitting in General Assembly.

We are highly sensible of the goodness that induced your Honour, in compliance with the wishes and solicitations of the several Legislatures within this Government, to call us together, to deliberate on the best means for carrying into effect the objects contained in the Resolution of the House of Commons, entered into on the sixth day of April last, which you have been pleased to direct to be laid before us.

We beg leave to assure you, that we will cheerfully enter upon the duties of our present station, and give that serious attention to the important objects you have submitted to our consideration, which they demand.

We hope your Honour will believe, that, in spite of the various calumnies which have been for many years past heaped on His Majesty's faithful subjects in the West Indies, we view with the same pleasure and satisfaction, which you have been pleased to express, the gradual improvement and melioration in the condition of the Slaves in the different Islands of this Government, and the protection afforded to them by



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Christopher's

laws at once just and humane; and we look forward with the most pleasing sensations to the opportunity we now have of establishing a system, which, by farther improving their condition, by introducing more order and regularity among them, and by promoting their improvement in morality and religion, as far as may be possible, may tend to increase their propagation, and enable us to diminish the number of Africans to be hereafter imported: But we conceive that the West India islands never could have been, nor ever can be, cultivated to effect, without the right, of which we trust no power will endeavour to deprive us, of obtaining labourers from Africa; a right under which our ancestors were induced to settle in these Colonies, which hath been sanctioned by repeated acts of the British Parliament, and the violation of which must be considered as an act of the greatest oppression.

The depreciation of the gold coin in these Islands must fill the inhabitants with the most serious apprehensions for its immediate consequences, and we humbly thank your Honour for directing our attention to that as well as to the other objects you have been pleased to mention; and we assure you, that we will pay every attention to them, and to every other subject that may tend to promote the general utility and welfare of these Colonies.

We desire your Honour will accept our particular thanks for the hearty and cheerful co-operation you have been so obliging as to offer, in promoting the great and important objects of the Session of General Assembly; and we assure you, Sir, that we will most readily devote ourselves to the attainment of those objects, by all the means of which we are in possession.

*Richard Hles, President.*

*T. J. Cottle,*

*Andrew Hamilton,*

*Patrick Blake,*

*E. B. Wyke,*

*James Athill,*

*William Woodley,*

*John Taylor.*

A verbal Message came from the Gentlemen of the General Assembly to his Honour the Commander in Chief in General Council, desiring to know if it was his Honour's pleasure then and there to receive the Address of that House in answer to his Speech; and his Honour signifying that he was ready to receive the same, Mr. Speaker and the Gentlemen of the General Assembly attended in the Council Chamber, and Mr. Speaker thereupon addressed his Honour the Commander in Chief in the following words:

To the Honourable Robert Thompson, Esquire, Commander in Chief for the time being, in and over all His Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands in America, Chancellor, Vice-Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c.

May it please your Honour,

WE the Members of the General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, beg leave to express the grateful sense we entertain of your attention to the different parts of your Government. The objects contained in the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, naturally impressed the different Legislatures with the necessity of mature and speedy deliberation, and your ready compliance with their wishes has afforded the most satisfactory reflection.

Whatever materially relates to so important a part of the Empire as the Sugar Colonies, must become an urgent subject of consideration, and demands the greatest energy and exertions on our part. It is with pride, Sir, we observe, that in no instance has His Majesty's parental care had been more emphatically manifested, than in having confided to those, whose local knowledge and experience render them most competent, the enquiry and establishments proposed.

The

The natural increase of our Negroes by propagation is an object to be ardently desired; and the West India character of humanity, with a very few exceptions, we trust, evinces the propriety of your Honour's observation, that it is a subject of the most pleasing contemplation to the Proprietor to behold his Slaves thriving and increasing under his fostering hand. We shall, however, direct our attention to those obstacles that may appear to impede this end.

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We shall also attend, Sir, to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes; and we cannot but be sensible, that undisciplined nature is too prone to those licentious manners and evil habits which your Honour has forcibly described.

We trust and hope, Sir, that the Legislature of the Parent State will wisely abandon the abolition of a trade sanctioned and encouraged by several Acts of Parliament, and which is closely interwoven and connected with the commercial interest of the Empire at large.

It is a pleasing reflection, Sir, that your Honour's residence of forty years in this country, bears an unerring and ample testimony of a gradual improvement and melioration in the condition of the Slaves. As it is our inclination, so it shall be our endeavour, to extend every blessing to a race of people peculiarly under our care and protection, as far as is consistent with the subordination which is essential to the preservation of peace and good order, and to the actual safety of His Majesty's West India Colonies.

We are sensible, Sir, that a revision of the laws relating to the Slaves is indispensable; by paying a proper regard to them, we shall be able to confirm and enlarge such as may be deemed expedient, and to reject those which appear oppressive and are no longer necessary.

The fluctuating and unsettled state of the coin, we consider a serious public concern, and we shall pursue such measures as may prevent the depreciation thereof in future.

The alarming progress, Sir, which the horrid disease of the Leprosy has made, calls upon us for our most serious attention, and we shall endeavour to devise effectual means for the removal of it, and to prevent the further increase of so great an evil.

We shall proceed, Sir, with unremitting exertions to the discharge of the important duties committed to us, and we return your Honour our sincere thanks for your assurance of co-operating with us in every thing tending to promote the general utility and welfare of the Leeward Islands.—

The Speaker, with the Gentlemen of the General Assembly, then returned back to their House.

His Honour the Commander in Chief here withdrew.

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That an application be made by the honourable Mr. President to his Honour the Commander in Chief, requesting he would be pleased to lay before the General Council a copy of his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter, which accompanied the Resolution of the honourable the House of Commons, referred to by his Honour's speech, and any other Papers that can tend to assist the General Council in their enquiries on the subject matters contained in his Honour's speech.

The honourable Mr. President informed the Board, that he had made an application to his Honour the Commander in Chief for copy of his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter and other Papers, and that his Honour had given the necessary directions to the proper officer to furnish the Board of General Council with that and whatever Papers they might require.

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That a Committee be appointed to inspect the Laws respecting the Slaves in the different Islands of this Government, and to report the same as speedily as possible to this Board; and the honourable Mr. Wyke, the honourable Mr. Athill, the honourable Mr. Woodley, and the honourable Mr. Cottle, were named as a Committee for that purpose.

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JOURNAL of the GENERAL COUNCIL, Monday  
March 5, 1798.

Ordered, That the Resolution of the House of Commons, mentioned in his Honour the Commander in Chief's Speech, with the circular Letter accompanying it, be now read; and the same were read accordingly in the following words:

Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland;  
dated May 6th, 1797.

(Circular.)

(Duplicate.)

Sir,

I HAVE received His Majesty's commands, to transmit to you the enclosed Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes in His Majesty's Plantations in the West Indies, and to signify to you His Royal Pleasure, that you should take the earliest opportunity of communicating it to the Councils and Assemblies of the Leeward Islands, to whose particular attention and consideration you will recommend the formation of such a system of measures, as may appear to them best suited to the attainment of the several important objects which are specified in the Resolution. You will not fail to transmit to me from time to time, accounts of the proceedings of the Legislatures of your Islands, in consequence of this communication: And I desire you will take care, in your first dispatches, to inform me whether any measures have been already taken by the Legislatures of the Islands, which may tend to promote the purposes expressed by the Resolution of the House of Commons.

Jovis, 6<sup>o</sup> die Aprilis, 1797.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, requesting that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions to the Governors of His Majesty's Plantations in the West Indies, to recommend to the respective Councils and Assemblies of the said Plantations, to adopt such measures as shall appear to them best calculated to obviate the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes already in the Islands, gradually to diminish the necessity of the Slave Trade, and ultimately to lead to its complete termination; and particularly with a view to the same effect, to employ such means as may conduce to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes, and secure to them, throughout all the British West India Islands, the certain, immediate, and active protection of the law; and at the same time assuring His Majesty, that this House will concur in such measures as shall appear requisite to be taken by this House, for the attainment of the same object.

Ordered, That on Monday the 5th instant, this Board do form itself into a Committee of the whole Board, for the purpose of taking into consideration the different Laws of the several Leeward Islands, and all Documents and Papers relating to the condition and management of Negroes and other Slaves.

A verbal Message from the Gentlemen of the General Assembly to his Honour the Commander in Chief, desiring that his Honour would give directions to that House to adjourn themselves to Monday the 5th instant; to which Message his Honour answered, by signifying to the members who brought up the same, that Mr. Speaker had his assent to adjourn accordingly.

The honourable Mr. President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's assent to adjourn the General Council, in like manner as had been signified to the House of Assembly.

The Board was thereupon adjourned 'till Monday the 5th instant accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 2d March 1798.

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

37 H.

ST. CHRISTOPHER. At a Meeting of the General Council of the Leeward Islands, held at the Council Chamber in the Town of Basseterre, in the said Island, on Monday the 5th Day of March 1798.

St.  
Christopher's  
Proceedings  
of the  
General  
Council.

Present,  
Honourable Richard Isles, esq. President.  
Andrew Hamilton,  
Thomas J. Cottle,  
William Woodley,  
Sir Patrick Blake, bart.  
James Athill,  
John Taylor,  
Edward B. Wyke, esquires.

HIS Honour the President directed the Minutes of the last meeting of the General Council to be read; and the same were read by the Clerk accordingly.

His Honour the President laid before the Board, a Letter from his Honour the Commander in Chief, which, after having been read, was ordered to be entered upon the Minutes.

Stapleton's, March 5, 1798.

Sir,

I HAVE received, and considered the Resolutions entered into by the joint Committee of the General Council and General Assembly, appointed to settle the mode of adjournment to be adopted; and as they are of opinion, that your having leave to adjourn the General Council from day to day, will facilitate the progress of the important work they are about to enter upon, I shall not hesitate to grant such leave; and when they are desirous of being adjourned for any longer period of time, I shall very readily permit it, upon your application to me for that purpose.

I have the honour to be,  
with very great consideration,

Sir,

Your most obedient,  
humble Servant,

*Robt. Thompson.*

The Hon. Richard Isles, esq.  
President of the General Council.

The honourable Mr. Athill, from the Committee appointed to inspect the laws respecting the Slaves, &c. laid before the Board the following report, which, after having been read, was, upon motion made and seconded, approved.

Your Committee, appointed to revise and report the state of the laws in the different Islands of this Government relating to the Slaves, apprehending that much time must elapse before they could obtain an accurate statement of the laws of the respective Islands, and having seen a complete Report of the Lords of the Privy Council of Great Britain, printed by authority, to be laid before the British Parliament, which is now in the possession of the honourable William Woodley, one of your Committee, and finding that Report to contain a complete statement of all the existing laws of the different Islands which relate to the Slaves, pray leave to offer the Report itself as a part of their Report, and submit it to the Board, whether it will not be proper to order the same to lie on its table for the information of its Members.

Your Committee farther pray leave to report, That there may be some laws which have been passed in the different Islands since the forming the Report now presented to the Board; and particularly, that a law hath lately passed in Antigua, making it felony, without the benefit of clergy, to murder a Slave. Your Committee therefore humbly pray, that they may have leave to sit again, in order to obtain  
such

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such information as may enable them to report more fully the regulations that may have been introduced since the Report of the Privy Council was printed.

*T. J. Cottle,  
William Woodley,  
E. B. Wyke,  
James Atbill.*

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That the votes and proceedings of this Board be published from time to time, by any printer that shall be duly authorized by his Honour the President of this Board; and that twelve copies be furnished to his Honour the Commander in Chief and each Member of the Board.

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That his Honour the Commander in Chief be requested to give this Board the necessary information, whether or not his Honour has received a circular Letter to the different Governments of these Islands, containing observations from Sir W. Young, on the proceedings in the House of Commons on the Slave Trade; as well as the Report of a Committee of Planters and Merchants, upon these very important subjects now for our consideration; and if he has received it, to request he will order a copy of the same to be laid before this Board; and also if he has not received such Letter, to request he will immediately apply to Mr. President Byam, of Antigua, for a Copy of the letter received from Sir W. Young, as well as a copy of the Report of the Committee of Planters and Merchants respecting the Slave Trade.

Ordered upon motion made and seconded, That it is the opinion of this Board, that the President has an indisputable right to give his vote whenever a question is agitated.

The honourable Mr. Woodley proposed certain Resolutions for the consideration of the Board; when after reading the same, a motion was made and seconded, That the same do lie on the table, and be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The honourable Mr. Taylor moved the following amendment, and was seconded by Sir Patrick Blake, That the Resolutions do lie on the table, and be taken into consideration on Wednesday next; and upon the question being put on the amendment, it was carried in the affirmative.

For the amendment—The honourable Mr. Taylor, the honourable Sir Patrick Blake, the honourable Mr. Wyke, the honourable Mr. Hamilton, his honour the President.

Against it, and for the original question—The honourable Mr. Athill, the honourable Mr. Cottle, the honourable Mr. Woodley.

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That the Duke of Portland's Letter of the 6th of May 1797, to his Honour the Commander in Chief, and the Resolution of the House of Commons, be read, and the same were read accordingly, pro forma.

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That the above Papers, with all the other Documents relative to the Slaves in these Islands, now on the table, be laid before the Committee of the whole Board, for considering the state and condition of the Slaves in the Leeward Islands.

Ordered, That the order of the day for going into a Committee of the whole Board, on the state and condition of the Slaves in the Leeward Islands be discharged, and that the Committee be ordered to sit to-morrow.

Ordered upon motion made and seconded, That this Board do adjourn themselves till to-morrow the 6th instant, at 12 o'clock. And Mr. President declared that the Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

By Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 5th March 1798.

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ST. CHRISTOPHER. At a Meeting of the General Council of the Leeward Islands, held at the Council Chamber in the Town of Basseterre, in the said Island, on Tuesday the 6th Day of March 1798,

St. Christopher's  
Proceedings  
of the  
General  
Council.

Present,

The honourable Richard Iles, esquire, President.  
Honourable Andrew Hamilton,  
Thomas J. Cottle,  
William Woodley,  
Sir Patrick Blake, bart.  
James Athill,  
John Taylor,  
Edward B. Wyke, esquires.

HIS Honour the President directed the Minutes of the last meeting of the General Council to be read, and the same were read by the Clerk accordingly.

His Honour the President laid before the Board a Letter from his Honour the Commander in Chief which after having been read, was ordered to be entered upon the Journals.

Sir,

I have this moment had the honour to receive your letter of this day's date, enclosing a Resolution of the General Council, requesting that I should give them information, whether or not I had received a circular Letter, containing observations from Sir William Young, on the proceedings in the House of Commons on the Slave Trade, as well as the Report of a Committee of Planters and Merchants, upon these very important subjects now under the consideration of the General Council.

I beg you will inform them, that no such Papers have ever come to my hands, otherwise I would immediately lay them before them; but I shall, agreeably to their desire, apply to Mr. Byam for them by the first opportunity that offers for Antigua, and as soon as I receive them they shall be submitted, without delay, to the Board of Council.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient,  
humble Servant,

Stapleton's, March 5, 1798.

The honourable Richard Iles, esq.  
President of the General Council.

*Robt Thomson.*

The honourable Sir Patrick Blake proposed certain Resolutions for the consideration of the Board, when, after the same had been read, Sir Patrick Blake moved, and was seconded by the honourable Mr. Wyke, that the same do lie on the table.

The honourable Mr. Athill moved the following amendment, and was seconded by Mr. Woodley, that the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 11th and 12th Resolutions, produced by the honourable Sir Patrick Blake, do lie on the table of this Board for further consideration; and that the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th, and the Resolutions respecting the quantity of provisions and valuation of lands, be submitted to the Committee of the whole Board for taking into consideration the state and condition of the Slaves; and upon the question being put on the amendment, it was carried in the affirmative.

For the Amendment—The honourable Mr. Athill, the honourable Mr. Woodley, the honourable Mr. Hamilton, the honourable Mr. Cottle, his Honour the President.

Against it—The honourable Sir Patrick Blake, the honourable Mr. Wyke, the honourable Mr. Taylor.

Upon motion made and seconded, the order of the day was called for and read, and the Board thereupon resolved itself into a Committee of the whole Board.

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Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That the honourable Mr. Cottle do take the Chair; whereupon his Honour the President quitted the same, and the honourable Mr. Cottle took his seat as Chairman of the Committee of the whole Board accordingly; and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed his seat at the Board; when Mr. Chairman reported to the Board, that some progress had been made in the measures submitted to the consideration of the Committee of the whole Board, and begged leave to sit again, which, upon motion made and seconded, was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That this Board do adjourn till tomorrow the 7th instant, at 12 o'clock; and the President declared that the Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

By Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

**SAINT CHRISTOPHER.** At a Meeting of the General Council of the Leeward Islands, held at the Council Chamber in the Town of Basseterre, in the said Island, on Wednesday the 7th Day of March 1798.

Present,  
The honourable Richard Hles, esqr. President.  
Honourable Andrew Hamilton,  
Thomas J. Cottle,  
William Woodley,  
Sir Patrick Blake, bart.  
James Athill,  
John Taylor,  
Edward B. Wyke, esqrs.

HIS Honour the President directed the Minutes of the last meeting of the General Council to be read; and the same were read by the Clerk accordingly.

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That the order of the day for taking into consideration certain Resolutions laid before the Board by the honourable Mr. Woodley on Monday the 5th instant, be now read; and the same were read accordingly.

Resolved 1st, That the condition of the Slaves within this Government, has been gradually meliorating from the first establishment of the Sugar Colonies.

Resolved 2d, That this melioration has not been effected by laws alone, but by the increase of confidence between the Master and Slave, and by the sound and liberal policy of the British Planters, who have availed themselves of every measure which humanity and experience have pointed out for so beneficial a purpose.

Resolved 3d, That any measure which may tend to lessen this confidence, or weaken the ties by which the interest of the Master and his Slave are connected, is impolitic and dangerous.

Resolved 4th, That it is of the utmost importance, that all changes made in the sentiments and habits of a people should be gradually and cautiously effected; because a considerable revolution in the sentiments and habits of a people, is generally followed by a revolution in the state.

Resolved 5th, That the intemperate zeal with which the condition of our Slaves has been agitated in England, and the pernicious system introduced into the French Colonies in the West Indies, have already produced a considerable revolution in the sentiments and habits of our Slaves, manifested by the great licentiousness of their manners.

Resolved 6th, That an abolition of the Slave Trade (supposing it to be practicable), a trade sanctioned, as it has been, by repeated Statutes and Royal Proclamations, and forming, as we affirm it does, the very basis of our colonial system, would be oppressive to the British Trader, a breach of compact with the British Planter,

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Planter, destructive to the Sugar Colonies, and consequently to the British Revenue; and of no benefit to the Africans themselves.

Resolved 7th, That the Colonial Legislatures, and more especially the General Assemblies of the Leeward Islands, are alone competent to form laws for the internal regulation of their Slaves; and that from local knowledge and experience, they alone are capable of doing so with effect.

Resolved 8th, That this Board will proceed with unremitting attention to co-operate with the Commons House of General Assembly now sitting, in promoting His Majesty's most gracious intentions, contained in the Letter of his Grace the Duke of Portland to his Honour the Commander in Chief, dated 6th May 1797, by framing laws for enlarging the comforts of the Slaves in these Islands, and for their religious and moral improvement; with the pleasing hope, that, among other happy consequences, their numbers may increase, and the necessity of the Slave Trade cease to exist.

Resolved 9th, That, upon the whole, whatever measures we are induced to take for the melioration of the condition of Slaves, proceed chiefly from motives of humanity, and a disposition to promote His Majesty's benevolent views in their favour, and not from any prospect of an immediate termination of the Slave Trade, which at present is essentially necessary to the existence of these Colonies.

The foregoing Resolutions having been taken into consideration, and maturely weighed by the Board, it was, upon motion made and seconded,

Resolved unanimously, That the said several nine Resolutions be agreed to and adopted by this Board.

The following Message was received from the General Assembly, and read :

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour  
the President and General Council.

This House has Resolved, That the Serjeant at Arms, attending this House, do provide a proper person to attend in the lobby of the House, to receive and deliver notes and messages to the several Members of the General Council and General Assembly, during the time of their sitting, and that such person be paid for such services; to which they desire the concurrence of your Board.

*John Burke, Speaker.*

Assembly Room, 7th March 1798.

Ordered, upon motion made and seconded, That the Board do concur in, and the following Answer be sent to the above Message :

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board concurs in the Resolution of your House, That the Serjeant at Arms, attending the General Assembly, do provide a proper person to attend in the lobby of that House, to receive and deliver notes and messages to the several Members of the General Council and General Assembly, during the time of their sitting, and that such person be paid for such service.

Council Chamber, 7th March 1798.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

The following Message from the General Assembly was received, and read :

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour  
the President and General Council.

This House has Resolved, That all Slaves ought to be provided with sufficient food for their daily subsistence, without being under the necessity of employing the time allowed to them for sleep or refreshment, in seeking the means of procuring additional



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additional or proper support, either by extra labour in the cultivation of land which may be allotted to them for that purpose, or by the exertion of their industry or abilities.—It being the opinion of this Committee, that, as the Proprietor of Slaves is entitled to every benefit which may arise from their usual labour, he is bound in justice to furnish them with a certain subsistence; and that any benefits which Slaves may derive from their extra labour or industry, ought to be considered as their own peculiar property.

That a Select Committee of this House be appointed to consider of the weekly rations or allowances of vegetable food and salted provision, which shall appear to them fully sufficient for the subsistence of Slaves employed upon sugar, coffee, or cotton plantations, according to their different ages and occupations;—and the several sums of money which ought to be paid in lieu of such weekly rations or allowances, if the same cannot be duly procured; distinguishing the sums which ought to be paid for each weekly ration or allowance of vegetable food and salted provisions respectively; and the several sums of money which ought to be paid for the weekly subsistence of Slaves not employed upon sugar, coffee, or cotton plantations, according to their respective ages and occupations;—and also the quantity and quality of such clothing as shall appear to them necessary or proper for Slaves, according to their respective ages, and the time or times when such clothing ought to be delivered; and also whether any and what quantity of land ought to be allowed to each Slave, to be cultivated for his or her peculiar benefit.

Resolved, 3. That the weekly rations or allowances of provisions, or the several sums of money to be paid in lieu thereof, shall always be furnished or paid in advance, either for the ensuing week or seven days, or for the ensuing three or four days, at the discretion of the Proprietor or Director of the Slaves;—provided that no provisions, or monies in lieu thereof, be delivered or paid on a Sunday, that Slaves may not be prevented from attending religious worship or instruction, from the necessity of waiting for, or otherwise providing for their daily food.

Resolved, 4. That whenever any Slave shall be sick, or unable, from any accident or cause whatsoever, to perform their usual duty or labour, they ought to be visited by some person duly qualified to practise physic and surgery, according to the laws of the respective Island where such Slaves shall live; and such medicines, food, and other necessaries, as such qualified practitioner shall from time to time reasonably order or direct, ought to be duly administered to such Slaves.

Resolved, 5. That whenever any Slave shall die suddenly, or shall die from any cause whatsoever, without having been visited by some qualified practitioner at least forty-eight hours before his or her decease, that the death of such Slave ought to be enquired of by the Coroner of the Island wherein such Slave shall die; and such inquest taken, and such proceedings thereon had, as ought by law to be had or taken in case of the sudden death of any white person; and that the corpse of such Slave ought not to be removed or buried, until after it hath been inspected by the Coroner.

Resolved, 6. That every field Slave employed upon any plantation, shall be allowed, according to custom, half an hour for breakfast, and two hours for dinner; and that no Slaves shall be compelled to any manner of field work upon a plantation, before the hour of five in the morning, or after the hour of seven at night, except during the time of crop.

Resolved, 7. That every white or other free person who shall be charged with the murder, or with the maiming or wounding of any Slave, whether belonging to himself or herself, or to any other person or persons, and whether the same be by excessive punishment or otherwise, ought to be proceeded against and tried in the same manner as if the crime or offence had been committed against any white or free person; and upon conviction of the offence, ought to suffer death, or such other punishment as by the laws of England such person would be sentenced to suffer for the murder, or for the maiming or wounding of a white or free person; but that such conviction ought not to extend to the corruption of blood, or the forfeiture of lands or tenements, goods or chattels.

And we now send the said Resolution to your Board for your consideration.

Assembly Room, 7th March 1798.

John Burke, Speaker.

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The honourable Mr. Athill moved, and was seconded, That the Board do resolve itself into a Committee of the whole Board; and it was ordered accordingly.

His Honour the President quitted his seat, and the honourable Mr. Cottle took the chair; and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed his seat at the Board; when Mr. Chairman reported to the Board, progress, and begged leave to sit again, which, upon motion made and seconded, was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

Council Chamber, 7th March 1798.

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

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Council.

Thursday, March 8, 1798.

THE Board having resolved itself into a Committee of the whole Board, the honourable the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair; and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the chair; when the hon. Thomas J. Cottle, as Chairman of the Committee of the whole Board, reported, that the Committee had unanimously agreed to the first Resolution contained in the Message from the General Assembly; and that the said Committee had come to a Resolution on the second contained in the General Assembly's Message, which Mr. Chairman laid before the Board, and asked leave to sit again; and it was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do approve of the Report from the Committee of the whole Board, and unanimously adopt the first Resolution contained in the Message of yesterday from the General Assembly.

Ordered, That this Board do approve of the Report from the said Committee, on the second Resolution contained in the said Message. That the Board do adopt the same Report, and enter into the following Resolution, to be sent to the General Assembly in a Message from this Board, which was done accordingly.

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board concurs unanimously with your House, in the first Resolution contained in your Message of yesterday: and in a Committee of the whole Board have come to the following Resolution upon the subject of your second Resolution, which has been approved and adopted by this Board, and is now sent down for your concurrence.

Resolved, That a Select Committee of this Board be appointed for the purposes mentioned in the second Resolution, sent up to this Board from the General Assembly. And that the Committee be desired to report whether any and what quantity of land and time may be given to Slaves, in lieu of vegetable and salted provisions, with a proviso, that in case the land so given should by any act of God be rendered unproductive, the Proprietor shall be bound to give the same rations as if no such land had been given. And that a Message be sent from the General Assembly, desiring their concurrence that the Committee of both Houses should act as a joint Committee, and make a joint Report; and also desiring their concurrence in the above additional instruction.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 8th March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President  
and General Council.

This House agrees, that the Committee appointed for the purposes mentioned in  
the

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the second Resolution of this House, should act jointly with the Committee of this House appointed for the same purposes, and that they shall make a joint report.  
Assembly Room, 8th March, 1798.—  
*John Burke, Speaker.*

Ordered, By the Honourable the President, upon motion made and seconded for the purpose, that the hon. James Athill, the hon. Andrew Hamilton, the hon. Edward Byam Wyke, and the hon. Sir Patrick Blake, be the Select Committee of this Board to join the Select Committee appointed by the General Assembly.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn themselves till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and the hon. the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 8th March 1798.

Friday, March 9, 1798.

ORDERED, That the Resolutions passed at this Board on the 7th instant, be sent down to the General Assembly, with a Message requesting their consideration of, and concurrence in the same; which was done accordingly.

His Honour the President and General Council, to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

The following Resolutions have been unanimously entered into by this Board, and are now sent down for the consideration and concurrence of your House.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 9th March 1798.

A copy of the Resolutions alluded to in the above Message, and entered into by the Board on the 7th instant, accompanied it.

The following Message was received from the General Assembly, and read:

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House has resolved, That in order to remove any doubts which may arise as to the legality or propriety of punishing the Owners or Directors of Slaves for any cruel or improper conduct, it ought to be expressly declared and enacted, That if any person shall cruelly whip, maltreat, beat, or imprison, or keep in confinement, without sufficient support, any Slave under his or her direction or care, he or she shall be subject to be indicted for the same in the Superior Court of Criminal Jurisdiction for the Island wherein the offence shall be committed, and upon being legally convicted, shall suffer such punishment by fine or imprisonment, or both, as the Judges or Justices of such Court shall think proper to inflict. And that if any person shall beat or maltreat a Slave not belonging to himself or herself, the offender ought not only to be indicted and punished for the same, in like manner, but that any punishment inflicted by the Court of Criminal Jurisdiction, ought not to be considered as a bar to any action or suit at law, which may be commenced by the Owner of the Slave, or be considered in mitigation of any damages which ought otherwise to have been given, or recovered for the trespass or injury.

That in case any Justice of the Peace shall receive any complaint or intelligence, which he in his own discretion shall think probable, that any Slave hath been mutilated, cruelly punished, or otherwise maltreated, or confined without sufficient support, it ought to be lawful for such Justice of the Peace, to call to his assistance some other Justice, and that such Justices ought to be authorized to order any constable to bring such Slave before them, or if the case shall require, to go to such place where such Slave shall be, and direct such Slave to be produced and shewn to them, that such inquiry and other proceedings may be made and had, as shall be necessary

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necessary for the further prosecution of the offence. And that if such Justices shall think it proper or necessary, they ought also to be authorized to send such Slave to the common gaol, or to the workhouse, if any is provided in the Island where such Slave shall live, to be there kept and detained, until further inquiry shall be made into the fact according to law. And we now send the said Resolution for your consideration.

Assembly Room, 9th March 1798.

*John Burke*, Speaker.

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Council.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolutions be taken into consideration by a Committee of the whole Board.

Ordered, That the Board do resolve itself into a Committee of the whole Board; whereupon the honourable the President quitted his seat, and the honourable Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported to the Board, that the Committee had agreed to the 4th, 6th, and 7th, and had made several amendments to the 3d and 5th Resolutions contained in the Message received from the General Assembly the 7th instant, and asked leave to sit again, and it was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do approve of the Report of the Committee of the whole Board, and unanimously adopt the 4th, 6th, and 7th Resolutions contained in the General Assembly's Message of the 7th instant. And that the Board do approve of the amendments made by the Committee in the 3d and 5th Resolutions contained in the said Message.

Ordered, That the Board do send the above proceedings to the General Assembly in a Message, which was done accordingly.

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board concurs unanimously with your House in the fourth, sixth, and seventh Resolutions, contained in your Message of the 7th instant.

And the Board also concurs in the third and fifth Resolutions contained in such Message, with the following amendments:

In the third Resolution leave out all the words at the end of that Resolution, beginning with the word "provided."

In the fifth Resolution, after the word "decease," insert the following words, "except when a child shall die within one month after its birth," and after the words "Slave shall die," insert the following words, "provided the said practitioner shall not account in writing to the Coroner for the death of such Slave, by some malady incident to the human frame," and to add the following words to the end of the said fifth Resolution, "provided that such Inquest shall consist of not less than three persons." To which amendments we request your assent.

Council Chamber, 9th March, 1798.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore*,  
Clerk of General Council.

His Honour the President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions to adjourn 'till Monday the 12th instant; and thereupon declared that this Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

Council Chamber, 9th March, 1798.

By Command,

*E. Moore*,  
Clerk of General Council.

Monday, March 12, 1798.

UPON motion made and seconded, the order of the day was called for, and the Board resolved itself into a Committee; and after some time spent therein, the Chairman reported that they unanimously agreed to the first Resolution sent up on the 9th instant, and had agreed to the second, with the following amendment, and prayed leave to sit again:

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Ordered, That the Committee have leave to sit again, and that the Report of the Chairman be received, and the Resolutions, with the amendments, be adopted by this Board.

Ordered, That the following Message be sent to the General Assembly:

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board unanimously concurs with your House in the first Resolution contained in your Message of the 9th instant, and also concurs unanimously in the second Resolution contained in the same Message, with the following amendments, which are now submitted to your consideration: After the words, "authorized to send such Slaves," omit from the words, "the common gaol" to the word "Island," and insert "some public place of security;" and after the words, "kept and detained," insert the words, "and supported at the expence of the Owner or Director of such Slave."

By Command,

Council Chamber, 12th March, 1798.

*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn themselves 'till to-morrow, 12 o'clock, and the honourable the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

Council Chamber, 12th March, 1798.

*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Tuesday, March 13, 1798.

THE Order of the day was called for, and upon motion made and seconded;

Ordered, That the same be discharged, and that Mr. Chairman have leave to sit again to-morrow.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and the honourable the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

Council Chamber, 13th March 1798.

*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Wednesday, March 14, 1798.

THE order of the day for the Board going into a Committee of the whole Board, was discharged, and,

Ordered, That the Chairman have leave to sit again to-morrow.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and the honourable the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

Council Chamber, 14th March, 1798.

*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Thursday, March 15, 1798.

HIS Honour the Commander in Chief laid before the Board the writ of mandamus for the Virgin Islands, which was by his Honour's directions read, whereby it appeared that the honourable Richard Hetherington, and the honourable Richard Augustus Fahie, esquires, were the Members called to the Board for the Virgin Islands; and the honourable Richard Hetherington attending the Board, did, by his Honour's directions, take the usual oaths of government, subscribed the test, and took his seat at the Board accordingly.

The writ of election, under the hand and seal of his Honour the Commander in Chief, for the Virgin Islands, was then read, with the return thereon made, whereby it appeared that the following Gentlemen were duly elected to serve as Representatives in the General Assembly of the Leeward Islands:

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James Robertson, Maurice Lisle, John Shannan, Charles Frederick Bartlett, George Hannah, esquires; for the *Virgin Islands*.

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His Honour the Commander in Chief then directed the Marshal to desire the attendance of such of the foregoing Gentlemen who had arrived from Tortola, in the Council Chamber, to be sworn; and James Robertson, Maurice Lisle, and John Shannan, esquires, attending accordingly, they took the usual oaths of government, and subscribed the test.

A verbal Message from the Gentlemen of the General Assembly to his Honour the Commander in Chief, requesting he would send down to that House the writ of election for the Virgin Islands, when the same was delivered and carried down accordingly.

His Honour the Commander in Chief here retired from the Board.

Ordered, That the honourable Richard Hetherington be named as one of the Select Committee of this Board, to join the Select Committee appointed by the General Assembly for the purposes mentioned in the second Resolution of the General Assembly's Message, sent up to this Board on the 7th instant.

The following Message was received from the Gentlemen of the General Assembly, which was, by order, read in the following words:

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House has entered into the following resolutions, and are now sent for the consideration of your Board:

Resolved 11, That as an improper practice hath some time prevailed of punishing ill disposed Slaves, and such as are apt to abscond from their Owners, by affixing round the necks of such Slaves an iron collar, with projecting bars or hooks, or an iron collar, with a chain and weight thereto annexed, in order to prevent the future desertion of such Slaves, or by way of additional punishment. That such practice ought to be declared unlawful; and that any Justice of the Peace ought to be authorized and required, on information or view of such offence, to order any collar, irons, or weight, other than such as are absolutely necessary for securing the person of the Slaves, to be immediately taken off from the Slave wearing or bearing the same.

Resolved 12, That for the better care of Slaves during sickness, the following regulations ought to be enforced:

Every medical man, so qualified as stated in the fourth resolution, or a proper assistant, ought to attend each estate to the care of which he shall be appointed, at least two days in every week, whether thereto specially called or not, unless he has notice in writing from the Proprietor or Director of any estate that his presence is not required, and ought further to attend at all times when specially called upon so to do, in writing, by the Proprietor or Director of the Slaves on each estate respectively.

That to avoid unnecessary delay in complying with such special call, the said practitioner or his assistant ought to be compelled to attend within eight hours after the call has come to his usual place of residence, or the place where he usually keeps his medicines.

That every Proprietor or Director of Slaves ought to have, at the estate or place where the Slaves usually reside, a commodious hospital or sick-house, provided with proper conveniences for the sick, with a sufficient number of attendants, and ought, either in his own person, or by some white person under his direction, to attend as often as may be requisite at the hospital or sick-house, to see that the sick are furnished with the medicines that may be ordered for them by the said practitioner or his assistant in the manner so ordered, and also with such diet as the said practitioner or assistant shall reasonably direct to be given, and with no other.

That in order to prevent any mistakes in the administration of medicines ordered for different sick Slaves, and also to prevent any dispute when the sick may have been neglected, as to the person guilty of such neglect, a book or register ought to be provided and kept on each estate, in which the practitioner or assistant ought to

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write in the English language, opposite to the name of each Slave so being sick, his directions, as to the time or times of administering the medicines he intends to prescribe, stating the form in which they are to be sent, whether in pills, powder, mixture, or in whatever form, and also as to the diet to be provided for the Slave; and at the end of the said directions he ought to write his prescriptions in the form usually followed by medical practitioners.

That whenever any Proprietor, or other person having the immediate direction of Slaves, shall have occasion to send a special call to the practitioner who shall have the care of the Slaves under his direction, he ought to send the same in writing in the said book or register, stating the time of the day or night when he sends the same to the best of his knowledge, and the name, age, or sex, and bodily appearance of the Slave or Slaves on whose account such call is sent; together with the most material or urgent symptoms of which such Slave complains, and any other circumstances that he may think will assist the said practitioner in forming such a judgment of the case, as may enable him to carry with him such medicines as he may from such statement judge to be proper, if he can go immediately to visit the said Slave, or to send such medicines or directions as may be of use until he can visit him, or cause him to be visited by his assistant, or some other practitioner, if he has such other urgent medical business to attend as to prevent his visiting the said Slave immediately. And that the said practitioner, his assistant, or some other free person, who may be kept to make up and dispense medicines for him, ought to insert in the said book or register, immediately after the statements hereinbefore directed to be made by the Proprietor or immediate Director of the Slave, the time, as nearly as he can, when the said call shall arrive at the dwelling or other house of the said practitioner as aforesaid.

And that all practitioners ought to keep on each estate under their care, a small quantity of such medicines as may with safety be left in the hands of a person unskilled in the science of medicines, to be at hand in cases of sudden emergency, with such directions as to their use as he may judge sufficient for the information of the Proprietor or Director of Slaves, which directions ought to be inserted in the first page of every new book or register, so to be provided and kept as aforesaid.

Resolved 13, That every Proprietor of an estate ought to be obliged to employ some medical Gentleman, properly qualified, by the year, provided the Proprietor of the said estate is not a medical man himself, and provided such medical man can be procured upon reasonable terms.

Resolved 14, That upon the first day of January in every year, or within ten days after, the Proprietor or Manager of every Plantation ought to return upon oath, into the Secretary's office of the Island where he resides, a just and full account of all the births and deaths of the Slaves of such Plantation, and also of the manner in which, to the best of his opinion or judgment, the said Slaves have been attended and provided for when sick, for the preceding year, or during such time as he hath had the possession or management of such Plantation.

Resolved 15, That the doctor or surgeon of every Plantation ought, on the first day of January in every year, or within ten days afterwards, to return upon oath into the Secretary's office of the Island where he resides, an account of the Slaves who have died upon such Plantation in the preceding year, or during such time as he hath had the care of such Slaves, with the real causes of such deaths, to the best of his knowledge, judgment, and belief, and also of the manner in which, to the best of his knowledge and belief, the said Slaves have been treated or managed.

Resolved 16, That every qualified practitioner employed for the care of any Plantation, ought at least to be paid the annual sum of ten shillings for each and every slave upon such Plantation, as an equivalent for every species of medicine, of every medical and surgical assistance, except midwifery and inoculation.

Assembly Room, 15th March 1798.

John Burke, Speaker.

Ordered,

Ordered, That the several Resolutions contained in the foregoing Message, be referred to the Committee of the whole Board.

The following Message was received from the General Assembly, and by order read in the following words:

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House concur with your Board in the first, third, and fourth Resolutions, contained in your Message sent to this House on the 9th instant, and the House propose the following amendment to the second Resolution, viz. that the word "between," be erased, and insert "on the part of;" after the word "and;" in the same line insert "of fidelity and attachment on the part of;" after the word "themselves," insert "and are availing themselves."—And to the fifth Resolution propose the following amendments: after the words "West Indies," "might have produced a dangerous revolution in the sentiments and habits of our Slaves, had they not been firmly attached to their Masters," and to strike out the remainder of the said resolution.

Assembly Room, 15th March 1798.

*John Burke*, Speaker.

Ordered, That the said Message and amendments therein, do lie on the table for the further consideration of this Board.

Ordered, That the order of the day for the Board's going into a Committee of the whole Board be discharged, and that the Chairman have leave to sit again to-morrow.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn 'till to morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore*,

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 15th March 1798.

Friday, March 16, 1798.

THE order of the day was called for, and upon motion made and seconded, the Board resolved itself into a Committee of the whole Board, the hon. Thomas J. Cottle taking the chair, and after some time spent therein, he quitted the same, and his Honour the President resumed his seat at the Board, when the chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again, which was ordered accordingly.

His Honour the President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions to adjourn till Monday the 19th instant, then to meet in the Secretary's Office at twelve o'clock at noon; and thereupon declared that this Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore*,

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 16th March, 1798.

Monday, March 19, 1798.

THE order of the day was called for, and upon motion made and seconded—

Ordered, That the Board do resolve itself into a Committee of the whole Board, whereupon his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. John Taylor took the chair; and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported to the Board, that the Committee had unanimously agreed to the Resolution numbered 13, and had made several amendments in the Resolutions numbered 11, 12, 14, and 15, but had rejected the last Resolution numbered 16, contained in the Message from the General Assembly of the 15th instant, and asked leave to sit again; which was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do approve of the Report of the Committee of the whole Board, and unanimously adopt the Resolution numbered 13, contained in the Message from the General Assembly of the 15th instant, and that the Board do



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also approve of the several amendments made in those numbered 11, 12, 14, and 15, and adopt the rejection of the last Resolution numbered 16, contained in said Message.

Ordered, That this Board do send the above proceedings to the General Assembly in a Message, which was done accordingly.

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board concurs unanimously with your House in the numbered 13 of the Resolutions contained in your Message of the 15th instant; and the Board also concurs in numbered 11, 12, 14, and 15, of your Resolutions contained in such Message, with the following amendments.

In numbered 11, after the word "annexed," in the fifth line, insert the following words, "or by affixing pieces of iron round the legs when out of confinement or at work."

In numbered 12, after the word "proper," insert the word "white."

In numbered 14, at the end thereof, add the following words, "and if any Proprietor or Manager shall quit a Plantation where he has resided at any time between the first of January in one year, and the first of January in the ensuing year, he ought, within ten days after he shall so quit the Plantation, to make the return as before directed up to the time when he does so remove."

In numbered 15, after the word "belief," in the last line but one, omit the rest of the Resolution, and insert the following words, "the invalid and sick Slaves have been treated and attended to."

But this Board is sorry they cannot concur with your House in the last Resolution, contained in your Message of the 15th instant, numbered 16, as they consider it as more proper for the discussion of the Legislatures of each distinct Island.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 19th March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn 'till to-morrow, twelve o'clock, and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 19th March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

Tuesday, March 20, 1798.

A VERBAL Message from the General Assembly to his Honour the Commander in Chief, informing his Honour, that George Webbe, sen. esq. one of the Representatives returned by the island of Nevis to serve in the General Assembly, attended to be sworn, whereupon his Honour directed the writ of election and return thereon made to be read, which was done accordingly, and then the usual oaths of government were administered to, and the test subscribed by the said George Webbe, sen. esq. who, together with the two other Gentlemen of the General Assembly, returned to their House.

His Honour the Commander in Chief withdrew from the Board.

His Honour the President directed the Minutes of the last meeting to be read, and the same were read accordingly.

The following Message from the General Assembly was received, and read as follows:

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House has entered into several Resolutions, and are now sent for the consideration of your Board.

Resolved 17, That the Justices of the Court of King's Bench and Grand Sessions of

of the Peace, or other Criminal Court, held next after the first day of January in every year, ought to be authorized to order the sum of eight dollars to be paid to the Manager of every plantation, by the Proprietor or Director thereof, for every Negro Slave born upon such plantation during the preceding year, and residence of such Manager, and which shall be then living after deducting the decrease, and that the Proprietor of such plantation ought to have a deduction of the monies so paid from the first of his or her public taxes that shall afterwards be due or payable.

Resolved 18, That if the Proprietor of any Slave shall be convicted of any of the offences mentioned in the foregoing ninth resolution of this Committee, the Court before whom the offender shall have been convicted, ought to be empowered, if they shall think it necessary for the future protection of the Slave, to take the Slave from the power of the Master who has ill-treated him, and the property in such Slave ought to be transferred, by the order of the Justices convicting such Master, and for a price which they shall establish, to some other Owner; but the price obtained for such Slave, ought to be paid to the Master in return for the loss of his property.

Resolved 19, That no Proprietor, Possessor, or Director of any Slave, ought to be permitted to turn away or dismiss from his or her protection and support, such Slave, on account or by reason of such Slave being incapable of labour or service from sickness, age, or infirmity, or to suffer such Slave to wander about and become troublesome to others for sustenance, but ought to be obliged to keep such Slave in his former or usual place of abode, or in some other proper place, and to provide for such Slave sufficient food and clothing.

Resolved 20, That as it may sometimes happen, either from the decease or removal of residence of Proprietors, or from the manumission of Slaves without a suitable provision for their maintenance, many unhappy objects afflicted with contagious distempers, or incapable of labour by sickness, old age, or otherwise, having no Owner who can be compelled to provide for them, may become a public burthen or nuisance, the vestries of the several parishes in each Island ought to be empowered and required to provide for the subsistence of such unhappy objects, and that the expences attending such provision ought to be defrayed out of the public treasury of each Island.

Assembly Room, March 20, 1798.

*John Burke*, Speaker.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolutions be taken into consideration by the Committee of the whole Board.

Ordered, That the honourable the Chairman of the Select Committee, appointed for the purposes mentioned in the second Resolution of the General Assembly, sent up to this Board on the 7th instant, do bring up his Report; when the hon. Andrew Hamilton, the Chairman, brought up the same, which was read in the following words:

REPORT of the Committee of both Houses of General Assembly, appointed to consider and report the Quantities of Provisions, Clothing, and Land, to be allowed to Slaves.

The Committee of both Houses appointed under the second Resolution submitted to the General Council and General Assembly, beg leave to submit the following as their Report.

That every Owner, Renter, or Possessor of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, ought weekly and every week, under the penalty of for every omission, to purchase or provide at the rate of the following quantities of provision for every Slave, of whom he is the Owner, Renter, or Possessor. That is to say, at the rate of 9 pints of good sound corn or beans, 8 pints of like pease, 8 pints of like wheat flour, 8 pints of like rye flour, 8 pints of like Indian cornmeal, 8 pints of like oatmeal, 7 pints of like rice, 8 pints of like cassada flour, or farine, 10 pounds of like biscuit, 20 pounds of like yams or potatoes, 16 pounds of like

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like eddaes, tannias, or tyres, 30 pounds of like plantanes or bananas, and also 1 pound and 1 quarter of like herrings, shads, mackarel, or other like salted provision, or double the quantity of fresh fish or other fresh provisions. Provided nevertheless, that every such Owner, Renter, or Possessor, ought to have the absolute and uncontrollable right of distributing and dividing, but then it ought to be done weekly and every week, all and every such quantities of provision so to be provided as aforesaid, unto and among all and every his Slave or Slaves, in such proportions, shares, and allowances, as he shall think proper, according to the different labour, size, age, and strength, or otherwise, of all and every such Slave and Slaves, and as the same shall appear to him in his discretion to be eligible or right; but then he ought actually to distribute every week among his Slaves the whole quantity of provisions hereinbefore directed to be purchased or provided, under the penalty of \_\_\_\_\_ for every omission.

Provided nevertheless, That every aged, infirm, or sickly Slave, even though incapable of work, ought to receive weekly and every week, at least one full rate or ratio of allowance as aforesaid, notwithstanding the general and discretionary power of dividing of the same hereinbefore permitted to the Owner. And if any Owner, Renter, or Possessor of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, shall omit or neglect to distribute and share to any of his aged, infirm, or sickly Slaves, weekly and every week, such full rate or ratio of provisions as aforesaid, he ought to forfeit for every such neglect or omission, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ unless he or she shall be otherwise provided for in the hospital or sick-house.

That it ought to be lawful for every Owner, Renter, and Possessor of any Slaves, employed on any plantation in the Leeward Islands, to reduce and diminish, when he shall be actually making Sugar or cutting Canes on such plantation, the quantity of provisions hereinbefore directed to be distributed among his Slaves, in the proportion which one-fifth part of the said provision bears to the whole thereof, but on no account in a larger proportion.

That money ought, on no account, to be given to Slaves in lieu of the provision hereinbefore directed to be purchased or distributed, unless in case of absolute and unequivocal necessity; and that if any Owner, Renter, or Possessor of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, shall offend against this Clause, he ought to forfeit the sum of \_\_\_\_\_

And in order to determine and ascertain the circumstance under which such necessity shall be deemed to exist, it ought to be declared, that whenever there shall be for sale in any Merchant's store in the Island, where a necessity of commuting provisions for money is pretended or alledged, 20 barrels of flour, or the same quantity of any other provisions, no Planter ought to be allowed to pretend or alledge that he cannot procure provisions, nor shall he be allowed to commute for money, any part of the quantity of provisions directed to be given to any Slave by this Act, under the penalty of \_\_\_\_\_ for every time he shall in any respect offend against this Clause.

That whenever and as often as any Owner, Renter, or Possessor of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, shall commute, or exchange for money the provisions hereinbefore directed to be purchased or provided for such Slaves, or any part of the same, he ought to give and pay to and among his Slaves at the rate of four shillings per week, for each and every Slave of which he is the Owner, Renter, or Possessor, and with whom he makes such commutations or exchange, and ought further to allow to every Slave with whom he shall make such commutation, two half days in each week to resort to the best market for laying out to the best advantage such commutation money. Provided nevertheless, that it ought to be lawful for every such Owner, Renter, and Possessor, to divide, distribute, and share such commutation money among all and every of his Slaves with whom he makes such commutation and exchange, in the same manner, and with the same discretionary power, as is hereinbefore vested in him with respect to the provisions he is hereinbefore directed to purchase or procure and distribute.

That whenever the quantity of provision land under cultivation, with the Owner's time, upon any estate in the Leeward Islands, shall be in the proportion of one acre

acre of land for every ten Slaves worked and employed upon such estate, and the produce of such land shall be in proportion to one half of the quantity of provisions by this Act directed to be purchased or procured for all the Slaves so worked or employed. That then it ought to be lawful for the Owner of such plantation to diminish, by one half, the quantity of dry provisions directed by this Act to be purchased for, and distributed among such Slaves; provided the whole produce of the land so under cultivation is appropriated to the use of the Slaves so employed, and provided the Master also distributes among them their full allowances or rates of salt provisions; and provided also, that such Owner shall attend the Council Board in the Island where such plantation shall be situate, once in every three months, and then and there take the following oath:

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I do swear, that I have had for three months past Slaves employed on my plantation, or under my direction, in the parish of \_\_\_\_\_ and that there is under the cultivation of \_\_\_\_\_ provisions upon the said plantation, at least one acre of land for every ten Slaves employed thereon, and that the produce of the said land has been for three months last past, together with the quantities of provisions directed by this Act to be purchased or procured, distributed and shared among them, and that the said produce has been appropriated, and the said provisions have been shared and distributed, agreeably to the directions of this Act.

So help me God.

That every Owner, Renter, and Possessor of any plantation within the Leeward Islands, ought to allot and give to every Slave of which he is Owner, Renter, or Possessor, and who is capable of working the same, a piece or spot of good well laying land of 40 feet square at least, immediately round or close to his house, if this can be done without pulling down or injuring any other Negro house, and if it cannot be so done, then every such Owner, Renter, or Possessor, ought to allot and give to each and every such Slave the same quantity of land in some part of the plantation on which such Negro resides, and commodious for his working of the same, provided such Owner, Renter, or Possessor, has so much land as is hereby required to be allotted as aforesaid, not usually planted in Canes; and if he has not, he ought to give and allot to every such Negro as aforesaid, in lieu of the same, an annual compensation, which shall be equal to the annual value of the land usually allotted as aforesaid.

That every Owner, Renter, or Possessor of any Slave or Slaves within the Leeward Islands, ought to keep and produce, whenever legally required, a full, true, plain, and weekly account of all provisions purchased for, or distributed or shared out among all or any of his Slaves, and also of all commutation money paid in lieu of the same, under the penalty of \_\_\_\_\_ and every week in which he shall neglect or omit to keep such account, and if he shall refuse to produce such account, whenever he shall be thereunto legally required, he shall forfeit the sum of \_\_\_\_\_

That every Owner, Renter, and Possessor of any Slave within the Leeward Islands, ought twice in every year, that is to say, on the first day of January and the first day of August, to provide for and give to each and every of his male Slaves, one jacket made of good sound woollen cloth, and one pair of trowsers of good sound osnabrigs; and to each and every of his female Slaves, one wrapper of such woollen cloth, and one petticoat of such osnabrigs.

Resolved, That this Report shall be signed by the honourable Andrew Hamilton, Chairman of this Committee.

*Andrew Hamilton*, Chairman.

Ordered, That the said Report do stand for the consideration of this Board to-morrow.

The Order of the Day being read, and upon motion made and seconded;—

Ordered, That the same be discharged, and that the Chairman of the Committee of the whole Board have leave to sit again to-morrow.

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Ordered, That this Board do adjourn 'till to-morrow, 12 o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

Council Chamber, 20th March 1798.

By Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Wednesday, March 21, 1798.

HIS Honour the President laid before the Board, a Letter to him from his Honour the Commander in Chief, enclosing extract of a Letter to his Honour, from his Grace the Duke of Portland, which were read, and directed to be entered upon the Minutes of this Board.

Sir,

I beg leave to enclose you an extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, which you will be pleased to lay before the Board of General Council.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient and  
most humble Servant,

*Robert Thomson.*

To the honourable Richard Iles, Esq.

Extract from his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter; dated  
Whitehall, 1st January 1798.

“ The measures which you have taken for convening a General Council and  
“ Assembly of the Leeward Islands, to take into consideration the Resolution of the  
“ House of Commons of the 6th of April last, seem highly proper, with a view to  
“ their proceedings being conducted with uniformity and effect.”

The following Message was received from the General Assembly, and read as follows:

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the  
President and General Council.

The House has entered into the following Resolutions, and are now sent for the consideration of your Board.

Resolved 21, That it ought to be enacted, That in one month after the passing the Act, the Proprietor of every estate within these Islands, and Owners of Slaves not attached to an estate, or in his, her, or their absence, the Attorney, Manager, or other person, under whose care and direction such estate or Slaves may happen to be, should assemble together the Slaves under his, her, or their direction, management, or care, and should enquire which of them have a husband or wife; and if it should so happen that an acknowledgment is made of more than one husband or wife, such Proprietor, Attorney, Manager, or other person aforesaid, shall compel and cause the Slave so acknowledging, to make his or her election and declaration, which Slave he or she will consent to confine him or herself to as his or her wife or husband; and when such acknowledgment or election is made, to enter the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and make the same as public as possible; and from thenceforth the said Proprietor, Attorney, Manager, or other person as aforesaid, shall do his utmost endeavour to keep together in harmony and tranquillity, the parties so electing to live together, and discourage and discountenance, during the life of the parties, any connexion inconsistent with the acknowledgment or election so made. And the said Proprietor, Attorney, Manager, or other person as aforesaid, shall promote and encourage, confine and restrict, the union of one man to one woman, as they shall come under his or her care, or to years of maturity, and from time to time register and make notorious as aforesaid. And the better to preserve and encourage the constant attachment and cohabitation aforesaid, every Proprietor, Attorney, Manager, or other person having the charge of the female Slave, for every child, the fruit of such intercourse, living six weeks after the birth, shall re-  
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ward the parties in the following manner; for the first child four dollars, for the second one dollar, and in the like proportion of advance for every other child. And every Proprietor, Attorney, Manager, or other person omitting or neglecting to do and perform what is hereinbefore directed, should forfeit and pay the sum of twenty pounds.

And whereas example is much more effectual than precept, therefore all Proprietors, Managers, and Overseers, and every other description of white men, upon estates, ought to be restrained, by the severest penalties, from weakening, by his own irregular conduct, the effect of the exhortations and enquiries which are enjoined by this Act.

Resolved 22, To avoid the inconveniences that do sometimes arise from persons manumitting and setting free their Slaves, when they have been rendered incapable of service by age, infirmity, accident, or calamity, to avoid the expence of providing a proper subsistence for such Slave, it ought to be resolved, that if any Proprietor of a Slave shall manumit or set free any Slave in his or her possession, who shall be rendered incapable of service from any of the causes aforesaid, that such Proprietor shall be obliged to pay into the hands of the Treasurer of the Island where such Slave shall be so manumitted and set free, the sum of three hundred pounds currency, from which sum such Slave shall be entitled to draw half-yearly, an interest arising upon such sum, according to the rate of interest in each respective Island, for his or her subsistence during the life of such Slave; and that upon the death of such Slave so manumitted and set free, the said sum of three hundred pounds currency, shall be appropriated to the use of the public.

*John Burke, Speaker.*

Assembly Room, 21st March 1798.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolutions be referred to the Committee of the whole Board.

The order of the day for taking into consideration the Report of the Select Committee, appointed for the purposes mentioned in the second Resolution of the General Assembly, sent up to this Board the 7th instant, was called for, and the Report read.

The hon. William Woodley moved the following amendment, and was seconded, that the words and figure "9 pints of corn or beans," in the 7th line of the said Report be erased, and in lieu thereof insert "8 pints of corn or beans," which amendment, upon the question being put, was negatived:—

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The hon. James Athill moved, and was seconded, that the said Report be now received and approved by this Board, and upon the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative:—

Contents 8—Not Content 1.

The order of the day for the Board's resolving itself into a Committee of the whole Board, was called for, and upon motion made and seconded, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same: When the Chairman reported to the Board, that the Committee had taken into consideration the Resolutions contained in the Message from the General Assembly, sent to the Board on the 20th instant. That the Committee had unanimously agreed to the Resolutions numbered 17 and 19, and had made the following amendments in the two other Resolutions contained in the said Message:

In numbered 18, at the end thereof, add the following words, "or to any person having the prior lien on the said Slave."

In numbered 20, after the words, "in each Island," insert the following words, "or the President of the Council or Speaker of the Assembly when there are no Vestries;" and asked leave to sit again, which was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do approve of the Report of the Committee of the whole Board, and unanimously adopt the Resolutions numbered 17 and 19, and  
that

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's  
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that the Board do also approve of the amendments made in those numbered 18 and 20, contained in the said Message.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

Council Chamber, 21st March 1798.

By Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Thursday, March 22, 1798.

Ordered, That the following Message be sent to the General Assembly :

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

THIS Board has taken into its consideration, the joint Report of the Select Committee, appointed for the purposes mentioned in the second Resolution of the General Assembly, sent up to this Board the 7th instant, and approved the same.

Signed, by Command,  
*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 22d March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

Ordered, That the following Message be sent to the General Assembly :

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board concurs unanimously with your House, in the numbered 17 and 19 of the Resolutions contained in your Message of the 20th instant; and also concurs in the numbered 18 and 20 of the Resolutions contained in the same Message, with the following amendments, which are now submitted to your consideration.

In numbered 18, add the following words at the end thereof—"or to any person having the prior lien on the said Slave."

In numbered 20, after the words, "in each Island," insert the following words, "or the President of the Council or Speaker of the Assembly, when there are no Vestries."

Signed, by Command,  
*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 22d March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

The Order of the day for the Board's resolving itself into a Committee of the whole Board, was called for, and upon motion made and seconded, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after a short time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported to the Board, that the Committee had taken into consideration the Resolutions contained in the Message from the General Assembly, sent to this Board on the 21st instant, and that the Committee had agreed to the same; and asked leave to sit again, which was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do adopt the said two Resolutions, and that the following Message be sent to the General Assembly :

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board concurs with your House, in the two Resolutions contained in your Message of the 21st instant.

Signed, by Command,  
*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 22d March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

The

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

57 H.

The following Message from the General Assembly was received, and read :

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour  
the President and General Council.

St.  
Christopher's  
Proceedings  
of the  
General  
Council.

This House has entered into the following Resolution, and is now sent for the consideration of your Board.

Resolved 23, That in case any white or free coloured person should beat or ill-treat any Negro or other Slave not belonging to him or her, or to take away from any such Slave by force, or without his or her consent, any article or articles whatsoever, for which such Slave shall produce a ticket from his or her Owner or Director, authorizing him or her to sell or possess, or any article or articles which the said Slave is authorized by the laws, usages, or customs of the said Island wherein he or she resides, to sell or possess, or should pull away from any Slave, knock down, or scatter any grats, vegetables, or other articles or things as aforesaid, or otherwise interrupt, intermeddle with, or annoy such Slave in the peaceable exercise of any legal right or privileges limited to him or her by his or her Owner or Director, that then and in such case, upon complaint made by such Owner or Director, without oath, to any Justice of the Peace in or near the parish where the offence may be committed, such Justice should be authorized to order such person to appear before him and another Justice, to answer to such complaint; and in case the two Justices upon such examination should find it necessary, from the want of evidence, they ought to be authorized to examine such person or persons upon his, her, or their own oaths, as to such complaint; and upon conviction of any of such offences aforesaid, the said two Justices ought to be authorized to inflict any penalty not exceeding £. 20 current money, to be recovered by a summary mode of proceeding; and in case such person or persons should refuse to obey the order of such Justice of the Peace, and make default, or should refuse to make oath as to such complaint against him, her, or them, when required by the said two Justices, or to answer such questions upon oath, as the said two Justices should think proper to ask him, her, or them, such person or persons so making default, or refusing to make oath, or answer such questions as aforesaid, should stand convicted of the offence as charged against him, and such Justices should be authorized to inflict such penalty not exceeding £. 20 as aforesaid, as they in their discretion should think proper, and such Justices should be authorized to commit such person or persons refusing or neglecting to pay such penalty, to the common gaol of such Island, for any time not exceeding three months; and such Justices should be authorized to deliver and pay into the hands of such Slave or Slaves the penalty so imposed, as a compensation for the injury received.

Assembly Room, 22d March 1798:

*John Burke*, Speaker.

Ordered, That the above Resolution be referred to the Committee of the whole Board.

The following Message from the General Assembly was received and read :

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour  
the President and General Council.

This House, in answer to your Message of the 19th of March, have agreed to the several amendments proposed therein by your Board.

Assembly Room, March 22, 1798.

*John Burke*, Speaker.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

Council Chamber, 22d March 1798.

By Command,  
*E. Moore*,  
Clerk of General Council.



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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's  
No. 8.  
Inclosure  
(3.)

Friday, March 23, 1798.

HIS Honour the President laid before the Board the following Letter from his Honour the Commander in Chief, enclosing a copy of Sir William Young's Letter to his Honour the President of Antigua, with the Report accompanying the same, which, after having been read, were ordered to be entered upon the Minutes.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose you an authentic copy of Sir William Young's Letter, and the Resolutions entered into by the Society of West India Proprietors in Parliament, which I have procured from Mr. President Byam, agreeable to the Resolution of the General Council on that subject; which you will be pleased to lay before the Board of General Council.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient, and  
most humble Servant,

*Robert Thomson.*

Stapleton's, March 23, 1798.

To the Honourable Richard Hles, Esq.

59, Harley Street, London, June 7th 1797.

Sir,

AS a Proprietor and Planter in Antigua, and deeply interested in the prosperity of that Island, and of the West India Colonies in general, I feel it incumbent on me, in duty and regard, to transmit the grounds on which myself and others, at the same time having estates in the West Indies, and being Members of the British House of Commons, proceeded in supporting Mr. Charles Ellis's motion on the Slave Trade, and especially the situation of the Negroes in our Islands. I think I cannot better state the grounds of conduct, than by transmitting a Report of the Committee of a Society which we have thought it necessary at this crisis to institute, consisting of Members in either House of Parliament, being landholders in the West India Islands.

We thus have been enabled to act in concert, and hitherto have, in consequence, acted with uniform success.

I have likewise taken the liberty to transmit pamphlets, containing the substance of debates on that interesting question, and which have been collected with some care.

Having had a personal knowledge in the years 1791-2, of the general kind attention of Masters to their Slaves, and feeling the highest respect for the great abilities and integrity of the gentlemen I presume to address, through the honour of your communications, I have little to add to the Documents which accompany this Letter.

But I cannot omit the declaration, that, on every ground of past experience in Parliament, from the first agitation of the question I advert to, and from all speculation on the future that my mind can reach, it appears to me indispensably necessary to take some steps in our Colonies by Legislative provisions, touching the situation of Negroes in respect to society, and to promote a natural increase of their population, and thus not only stop for the present, but gradually supercede the very pretensions, at a future period, to a measure of direct abolition of the Slave Trade by the Mother Country, a measure which would blast the root of all our settlements of property—change the foundations of every bequest, loan and security—turn every mortgage into an annuity on the lives of Negroes—institute a general system of foreclosure, and depreciating our estates, preclude all immediate resources, and ruin every interest.

I hope this fatal and sure alternative will be precluded. I hope 'ere next Winter Sessions of the British Parliament, to be favoured with a copy of such Act, as the willom of your Colonial Legislature shall suggest, in concurrence with the Address of the House of Commons, and His Majesty's directions in consequence.

Feeling

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

59 H.

Feeling the strongest interest in the prosperity of the colony of Antigua, I beg you to consider this Letter as the effusion of zealous attachment, and so in kindness represent it. With due respect and regard, I have the honour to be,

Sir, your faithful humble servant,

(Signed)

*W. Young.*

St.  
Christopher's  
Proceedings  
of the  
General  
Council.

The President of the Council of Antigua.

Your Committee having been appointed to take into consideration, whether any and what steps should be taken respecting the Slave Trade, are unanimously of opinion, that some measures ought to be taken in Parliament by the West India Proprietors on that subject, and they are led to this opinion by the following considerations:

1st. That the repeated discussion of the abolition of the Slave Trade in Parliament, may produce consequences of the utmost danger to the Colonies, and that if an Act for this purpose should ever pass the British Parliament, it will be fatal to them.

2d. That the question of abolition will continue to be agitated year after year, and as often as the forms of the House permit, and that neither the House of Commons nor the Country in general will suffer it to rest, 'till some steps have been taken which may afford them reason to believe, that every regulation has been adopted which is consistent with the safety of the Colonies.

3d. That many persons of great weight and character, though conscious of the danger to be apprehended from the measures proposed by Mr. Wilberforce, have supported, and will continue to support them, because no mode of conduct at all compatible with their ideas of humanity has been proposed as an alternative.

4th. That, on the other hand, many persons who have hitherto opposed the measures of Mr. Wilberforce, will feel themselves under the necessity of submitting to them, unless some plan of regulation shall be brought forward.

5th. That there is reason to believe, that besides Mr. Wilberforce's Bill, there will be proposed some more specious plan of moderate reform and gradual abolition, which will meet with very general support, and that it is of the utmost importance that such a plan should be anticipated, because the West India Proprietors, from their local knowledge, are the only persons to whom the formation of it can be safely entrusted.

6th. That, consequently, for the joint purposes of opposing the plan of Mr. Wilberforce, and establishing the character of the West India body, it is essential that they should manifest their willingness to promote actively the cause of humanity, by such steps as shall be consistent with safety to the property of individuals and the general interests of the Colonies.

Convinced, however, that the Colonial Legislatures are alone qualified to judge of, competent to enact, and able to enforce, any internal regulations, your Committee, with a view of reconciling these considerations with the necessity of some proceeding in Parliament, submit to you, that a motion to the following effect should be made as your general opinion:

“ That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, requesting that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions, that it be recommended to the Governors of His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, to adopt such measures, in concurrence with the Councils and Assemblies of each Colony, as shall tend to regulate and controul the importation of Slaves from Africa; and by obviating the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of Negroes already in the Islands, shall render that trade less necessary, and ultimately lead to its termination; and further, with a view to the same effect, the adoption of every measure which may conduce to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes, and promote their happiness by securing to them the certain, immediate, and active protection of the Law, and at the same time assuring His Majesty, that this House will concur in whatever measures may be conducive to the attainment of these objects.”

At

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher'sNo. 8.  
Inclosure  
(3.)At a Meeting held on Wednesday December 14th, 1796.  
Present.

Sir Richard Gamon,  
Mr. Nesbitt,  
Sir Charles Bunbury,  
Mr. Charles Ellis,  
Mr. Barham,  
Sir William Young,  
Mr. Manning,  
Mr. Praed,  
Mr. Lewis,  
Mr. Colhoun,  
Mr. Petrie,

Mr. G. W. Thomas,  
Mr. B. Edwards.  
Mr. Lushington,  
Mr. Mitchell,  
Lord Lavington,  
Mr. Macdonall,  
Mr. G. Ellis,  
Sir G. Webster Vassal,  
Mr. Tudway,  
Sir George Thomas.

The Report of the Committee, appointed to consider whether any and what steps should be taken respecting the Slave Trade was read.

Resolved 1st, That the said Report is highly approved of.

2d, That Mr. Charles Ellis be requested to make the motion approved of, and that he give notice that, on an early day after the recess, he will make a motion on the subject of the Slave Trade, and the situation of the Negroes in the Islands.

3d, That Mr. Ellis and Sir William Young do wait on Mr. Dundas, and submit the motion to his consideration.

4th, That the Committee have leave to sit again, and report on such measures as may be deemed further advisable, and that they be authorized to communicate with Ministers on the subject.

Mr. Petrie then moved, That out of respect to the Legislatures of the Islands, the Committee be requested to communicate to the Agents of the different Islands the intended motion, with a view that they may transmit the same to the different Committees of Correspondence.—Ordered.

Ordered, That the foregoing Letter and Report be referred to the Committee of the whole Board.

The Order of the day being called for, and upon motion made and seconded, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the honourable Thomas J. Cuttle took the chair, and after a short time spent therein, his Honor the President resumed the same; when the chairman reported to the Board, that the Committee had taken into consideration the Resolution contained in the Message from the General Assembly, sent to the Board on the 22d instant, and that the Committee had unanimously agreed to the same, and asked leave to sit again, which was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do unanimously adopt the said Resolution, numbered 23, and that the following Message be sent to the General Assembly:

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly,

Gentlemen,

This Board unanimously concurs with your House in the Resolution numbered 23, contained in your Message of the 22d instant.

Signed, by Command,  
*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 23d March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

The honourable Richard Hetherington informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's leave of absence for a short time, and that as his intention was to return by the earliest opportunity, should the General Council continue to sit, he hoped it met with the approbation of the Board. When, upon motion made and seconded, it was

Ordered, That this Board do approve of the indulgence of leave of absence for a short time, granted by his Honour the Commander in Chief to the honourable Richard Hetherington.

His

## L E E W A R D I S L A N D S.

61 H.

His Honour the President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions to adjourn 'till Monday the 26th instant, at twelve o'clock; and declared that this Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 23d March 1798.

St.  
Christopher's  
—  
Proceedings  
of the  
General  
Council.

Monday, March 26, 1798.

THE Order of the day was called for, and discharged; and ordered that the Chairman have leave to sit again.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn 'till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 26th March 1798.

Tuesday, March 27, 1798.

The following Message from the General Assembly was received, and read:

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council,

THIS House has entered into several Resolutions, and are now sent for the consideration of your Board.

That it appears to this House, that the following causes principally tend to impede the natural increase of population among the Slaves, viz.

- 1st. The greater number of males than females imported from Africa.
- 2d. The number of abortions arising from different causes.
- 3d. The number of deaths within the first month after birth.
- 4th. The unnecessarily protracted time-usually bestowed by mothers to the nursing of their infants.

That, in order to obviate the above causes—

Resolved, That so heavy a tax ought to be laid on the importation of aged and infirm male and female Slaves, as to amount, in fact, to a prohibition.

Resolved, That abortions stem to arise principally from the pregnant women being allowed to absent themselves from all work, and from the eye of the Proprietor or Manager, the moment they declare their pregnancy, because they then ramble about getting into broils, and carry too heavy burdens for themselves and others to market; and, in some instances, from being kept to improper work, or being improperly punished: That, therefore, every female Slave when pregnant, ought to be constantly on the estate, either in the field (where she ought not to do any other work than weeding, or any other light work, or taking care of the young children whose mothers are at work) or about the house of the Proprietor or Manager, and that no pregnant woman ought to be punished in any other manner than by confinement.

Resolved, That every Proprietor or Manager ought to have on the plantation under his care, a commodious and distinct ward in the hospital or elsewhere, which shall be appropriated solely for the use of lying-in-women, furnished with proper conveniences for their accommodation; and that the Proprietor or Manager ought to take care that the women are furnished with proper food, clothing for the infant, and such other things as are usually provided in lying-in-hospitals for women under similar circumstances.

Resolved, That with respect to the time of weaning children, this House is of opinion, that nothing effectual can be done by law; but that when the cause is pointed out, there is reason to hope, that the Proprietor or Manager will take every means in their power to obviate it.

Assembly Room, 27th March 1798.

*John Burke,* Speaker.

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolutions be referred to the Committee of the whole Board.

No. 8.  
Inclosure  
(3.)

The Order of the day being called for, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the honourable Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after a short time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported some progress, and asked leave to sit again; which was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, 12 o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 27th March 1798.

Wednesday, March 28, 1798.

THE Order of the day being called for, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the honourable Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the causes assigned, and the Resolutions contained in the Message from the General Assembly, sent to this Board on the 27th instant, and had agreed to the same with several amendments, which the Chairman submitted to the Board, and asked leave to sit again; and it was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do unanimously adopt the amendments reported to have been agreed to by the Committee of the whole Board, to the Message from the General Assembly sent to this Board the 27th instant; and that the same be sent to the General Assembly in the following Message:

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board concurs with your House in the causes assigned as principally tending to impede the natural increase of population among the Slaves, and the several Resolutions contained in your Message of the 27th instant, with the following amendments, unanimously adopted by the Board; and which are now submitted to your consideration.

After the words, "from Africa," insert "No. 2. The vague, premature, and unrestrained connection of the sexes among young Slaves." And alter the Numbers "2, 3, and 4," into "3, 4, and 5."

After the word, "That," omit the words, "so heavy a tax ought to be laid upon the importation of," and insert the words, "a tax ought to be laid upon all male Slaves imported in any of the islands of this Government, where the number of female Slaves does not exceed the number of males, and to be so heavy upon."

After the word, "prohibition," insert the following words:

"Resolved, That every Proprietor ought to be compelled to give every male and female Slave, who live together peaceably as man and wife, one dollar each, once in every year that they shall so live together, and also as soon as any female Slave shall have six children living, born during the existence of such connection, provided the man shall not die before, or by any other similar connection with a Slave if one man shall die, the youngest of which shall be seven years of age; the Master ought not to oblige such female to do any other than light work."

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber 28th March, 1798.

A verbal Message from the General Assembly, acquainting the Board, That that House had read three times and passed a Bill, intituled, "An Act for making some provision for the Secretary or Clerk, and other Officers of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, now assembled in the Island of Saint Christopher, during their sitting, and for printing the Journals of the

" said

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

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“said General Council and General Assembly,” and desired the concurrence of the General Council thereto.

Ordered, That the said Bill do lie on the Table.

St.  
Christopher's  
Proceedings  
of the  
General  
Council.

The following Message from the General Assembly was received, and read :

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House agree to the amendments proposed by your Board, to the Resolutions sent from this House yesterday.

Assembly Room, 28th March 1798.

*John Burke, Speaker.*

The following Message from the General Assembly was received, and read :

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House have entered into several Resolutions, which are now sent for your consideration.

Assembly Room, March 28th 1798.

*John Burke, Speaker.*

1st. That it is the opinion of this Committee, it is impracticable, if it were even prudent, to endeavour to compel the Slaves in these Islands to adopt and conform themselves to any religious establishment; but that they may be brought gradually to a considerable degree of religious knowledge by attention on the part of their Masters and the Clergy, evidently appears from the great success that has attended the pious exertions of the Moravian and other Missionaries in the several Islands of this Government, whose mode of instruction and discipline, seem to be particularly adapted to the minds and capacities of their hearers, and who take great pains to inculcate upon them as a principle of religion, the necessity of conjugal fidelity; severely and publicly reprimanding such as are guilty of infidelity, and sometimes excluding them from their chapels until they have amended their conduct: but that no Proprietor ought to be allowed to restrain in any manner the Slaves under his direction from receiving religious instruction, or the rite of baptism, from any qualified person who may voluntarily or otherwise engage himself in such an undertaking: and that the regular Clergy in each Island, ought to be enjoined to baptize all such Slaves who may offer themselves for that purpose, in the Church, after the performance of divine service, without any fee or reward, unless they shall have reason to refuse so doing on account of the ignorance or ill character of the person so requiring to be baptized; and that in all such cases the Clergy ought to endeavour, by exhortation and instruction, to qualify such persons as they may so reject, to be thereafter received into the faith of Christ's church.

2d. That as the marriage of Slaves cannot give any particular right either to the contracting parties or to their children, it doth not appear to this Committee to be necessary or even proper, to prescribe the celebration of any religious rite in order to sanctify a contract, the faithful performance of which must or is rather to be wished than expected, lest the violation of sacred vows be too often added to the crime of infidelity.

3d. That in any Bill which may be framed for carrying into effect such of the Resolutions of this Committee as have been, or hereafter may be approved by the House, it will be proper and necessary to insert a clause or clauses for the appointment of proper persons, whose particular duty shall be to attend to the due execution of the law:—And that the persons so appointed ought to be invested with such powers and authorities, as may be necessary to enable them effectually to perform their said office.

4th. That in order to establish a sure and sufficient credit for the subsistence of Slaves upon estates, where the Owner, Renter, or Possessor shall be in bad or doubtful circumstances, and without either money or produce to make immediate payments, it ought to be provided, That all supplies furnished for the food and raiment

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's  
No. 8.  
Enclosure  
(3.)

ment of Slaves upon estates and plantations, and for medical assistance, within twelve months antecedent to their being taken out of the power or possession of the person purchasing or contracting for such supplies, shall be fixed, and considered as the first lien on such estates for such period of time and no longer.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolutions, No. 1, 2, 3, and 4, be referred to the Committee of the whole Board.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn 'till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 28th March, 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

Thursday, March 29, 1798

ORDERED, That the Bill, intituled, "An Act for making some provision for the Secretary or Clerk and other Officers of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, now assembled in the Island of Saint Christopher, during their sitting, and for printing the Journals of the said General Council and General Assembly," be now read for the first time, and the same was read the first time accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

The Order of the day being called for, and, upon motion made and seconded, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the honourable Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same: When the Chairman reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the several Resolutions sent to the Board by the General Assembly on the 28th instant, and had agreed to the three first of such Resolutions, and ordered the last to lie on the Table for further consideration, and asked leave to sit again; which was ordered accordingly.

Ordered, That this Board do approve of the Report from the Committee of the whole Board, and that the following Message be sent to the General Assembly, and the same was sent accordingly.

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board concurs in the three first Resolutions contained in the Message received from your House yesterday, and although we entirely approve the principle of the last Resolution, we are of opinion that it will be more proper to be introduced into a distinct Bill, together with a provision for preventing Slaves from being liable to be separated from the estates to which they are attached, or from their families and connections: because we conceive that a Law which would so materially alter the nature of all securities which creditors now have on West India property, could not properly be passed without a suspending clause, which, if added to the Bill, to be formed in consequence of the Resolutions that have been adopted by the two Houses, would too long delay the operation of the many salutary provisions contained therein: in consequence of which, a Member of this Board has already given notice of his intention to bring forward a Bill to comprize the objects above stated; which Bill is now in a great state of forwardness, and will be taken into consideration by this Board without delay.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 29th March, 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

Ordered. That the two following Resolutions No. 6 and 10, being two of the Resolutions directed to be submitted to the Committee of the whole Board for taking into consideration the state and condition of the Slaves, at the Meeting of this Board on the 6th instant, be now read; and the same were read accordingly.

No. 6.

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

65 H.

No. 6. Resolved, That it would contribute much to the comfort and happiness of Slaves, were they to be attached to the soil by enjoying an uninterrupted right therein.

No. 10. Resolved, That it is highly necessary to adopt proper means for securing to any persons who shall sell any quantity of food and raiment for the proper support of any Slaves, a prior lien on any plantation or freehold, or on such Slaves, to the amount of their demands, as the apprehension of losing their debts by a preference of former liens, may prevent Merchants and others from affording the supplies essentially necessary to the maintenance of the Slaves.

The honourable James Athill, in consequence of notice previously given, moved for leave to bring in a Bill upon the ground of the foregoing Resolutions, which was seconded, and leave given accordingly: and ordered that the honourable Thomas J. Cottle, the honourable Sir Patrick Blake, and the honourable Edward Byam Wyke, be appointed to assist in bringing in the said Bill.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn 'till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 29th March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

St.  
Christopher's  
Proceedings  
of the  
General  
Council.

Friday, March 30, 1798.

THE Order of the day being called for, and upon motion made and seconded:

Ordered, That the Bill for making some Provision for the Officers of the General Council and General Assembly, &c. be now read a second time; and the said Bill was read a second time accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do stand for commitment on Tuesday next.

The following Message from the General Assembly was received, and read:

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House are sorry that your Board has not concurred in our last Resolution of yesterday, and we beg leave to observe that we are still of opinion, that it will be better to comprize the spirit of the said Resolution in the Bill now preparing by a Committee of this House, as we conceive the said Resolution very materially contributes to the principal object of the Bill.

Assembly Room, 30th March 1798.

*John Burke,* Speaker.

Ordered, That the following Message be sent to the General Assembly:

His Honour the President and General Council, to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

As the Message received this day from your House does not contain any answer to the principal part of our Message of yesterday, and particularly as nothing therein contained, tends to do away the reason on which our opinion was founded, we are sorry that we cannot alter that opinion, more especially as we conceive the two objects mentioned in our former Message ought not to be separated, since both equally, in our opinion, contribute to enlarge the comforts of the Slaves.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 30th March 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

The Order of the day for the Board's resolving itself into a Committee of the whole House, was discharged; and ordered, that the Chairman have leave to sit again.

His Honour the President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Com-  
mander



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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

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mander in Chief's directions to adjourn till Tuesday the 3d of April next, at twelve o'clock; and declared that this Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

By Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 30th March 1798.

Tuesday, April 3, 1798.

THE Order of the day being read, for the commitment of the Bill, intituled, "An Act for making some Provision for the Officers of the General Council and General Assembly, &c." And upon motion made and seconded, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and the said Bill being gone through, clause by clause, his Honour the President resumed his seat at the Board; when the Chairman reported several amendments to the said Bill, which were read and approved of by the Board.

Ordered, That the said Bill, with the amendments, be read a third time to-morrow.

The Order of the day for the Boards's resolving itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into consideration the state and condition of Slavery in the Leeward Islands, was discharged; and ordered, that the Chairman have leave to sit again.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn 'till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 3d April 1798.

Wednesday, April 4, 1798.

THE Order of the day being read, the Bill, intituled, "An Act for making some Provision for the Officers of the General Council and General Assembly, &c." with the amendments, was read the third time.

Ordered, That the said Bill, with the amendments, be now passed this Board, and sent down to the General Assembly in the following Message; which was done accordingly.

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board has read and passed the Bill sent up from your House, intituled, "An Act for making some Provision for the Secretary or Clerk, and other Officers of the General Council and General Assembly, &c." and has made therein several amendments therewith sent, to which the Board desires the concurrence of your House.

Signed, by Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 4th April, 1798.

In the first section, instead of the words "six pounds twelve shillings," insert the words "five pounds," and instead of the words "sixty-six shillings," insert the words "fifty shillings."

Leave out the whole of the recital, and the enacting part of the second clause, and insert the following words:—

"And whereas it has been ordered, that the votes and proceedings of both the said Houses of Legislature should be printed from time to time, Be it, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any person or persons fully authorized to print or cause to be printed, the votes and proceedings of the said General Council or General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, as they shall from time to time be given to him or them by the said Secretary or Clerk of the said General Council and Clerk of the said General Assembly, properly attested by them, shall be paid for such service, the sums agreed upon between him

" or

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“ or them, and the persons authorized by the General Council and the General Assembly to make such agreements.” And in the last section instead of the word “tenth,” insert the word “twelfth” and instead of “one,” in the last line of the second folio, insert “two” and instead of “the remaining tenth-part,” in the second line of the third folio, insert the words, “two twelfth-parts,” and in the last line but two, of the second folio, after the word printer,” insert “or printers.”

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of the  
General  
Council.

The Order of the day for the Board's resolving itself into a Committee of the whole Board, to take into consideration the state and condition of the Slaves in the Leeward Islands, was discharged; and ordered that the Chairman have leave to sit again.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn 'till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 4th April 1798.

Thursday, April 5, 1798.

ORDERED, That the Order of the day be discharged, and that the Chairman have leave to sit again.

His Honour the President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions to adjourn, till Monday the 9th Instant, at 12 o'Clock; and declared that this Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 5th April 1798.

Monday, April 9, 1798.

ORDERED, That the Order of the day be discharged, and that the Chairman have leave to sit again.

His Honour the President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions to adjourn till Wednesday the 11th instant, at twelve o'clock; and declared that this Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 9th April 1798.

Wednesday, April 11, 1798.

ORDERED, upon motion made and seconded, That the honourable Edward Byam Wyke have leave to bring in a Bill, intituled “An Act to prevent the Importation of Base Coin, and to fix the weight of Gold Coin to pass current within the Islands of this Government;” and the said Bill having been brought in accordingly, it was, upon motion made and seconded,

Ordered, That the said Bill be now read for the first time, and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do stand for a second reading to-morrow.

Ordered, That the Order of the day for the Board's resolving itself into a Committee, be discharged.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 11th April 1798.

Thursday,

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Thursday, April 12, 1798.

THE Order of the day being called for, and read, it was upon motion made and seconded,

Ordered, That the Bill, intituled, "An Act to prevent the Importation of Base Coin, &c." be now read for the second time; and the said Bill was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do stand for commitment on Monday next, the 16th instant.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, 12 o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 12th April 1798.

Friday, April 13, 1798.

HIS Honour the President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions to adjourn till Monday the 16th instant; and declared that this Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 13th April 1798.

Monday, April 16, 1798.

A VERBAL Message from the General Assembly, attended by their whole House, to his Honour the Commander in Chief, informing him, that, in consequence of their late Speaker, the honourable John Burke, having, by permission, resigned his seat, and returned to Antigua, they had proceeded to make choice of another Speaker, and begged leave to present the honourable Oliver Yeamans Ash, Esquire, whom they declared to have unanimously chosen as Speaker; and his Honour having signified his approbation thereof, the usual oaths of government were administered to, and the test subscribed by the Speaker, who then made the usual demand of freedom of debate and privileges, in the name and on the part of the Speaker and the General Assembly, as is exercised by the Commons of Great Britain.

The Speaker and the Gentlemen of the General Assembly then returned to their own House.

Here his Honour the Commander in Chief was pleased to retire from the Board.

The Order of the Day being read, it was upon motion made and seconded, ordered that the Board do resolve itself into a Committee, when his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the honourable Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported that the Committee had gone through, clause by clause, the Bill, intituled, "An Act to prevent the Importation of Base Coin, &c." with the several amendments submitted by him to the Board.

Ordered, That the said Bill be now read, with the amendments, and the same was read accordingly, and approved of by the Board.

Ordered, That the said Bill be ingrossed, and read a third time to-morrow.

A verbal Message from the General Assembly to the General Council, acquainting the Board, that their House had read three times and passed the four following Bills, desiring the concurrence of this Board thereto, viz.

A Bill, intituled, "An Act for making some Provision for the Secretary or Clerk and other Officers of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, now assembled in the Island of St. Christopher, during their fitting, and for printing the Journals of the said General Council and General Assembly:"

A Bill, intituled, "An Act more effectually to provide for the Support, and to extend certain Regulations for the Protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their Increase, and generally to meliorate their Condition."

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A Bill, intituled, "An Act to admit, upon conditions, white persons professing the Roman Catholic religion in the Leeward Islands, to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by Protestant subjects within the same." And,

A Bill, intituled, "An Act to restrict the collection of the  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. duty, granted to His Majesty on the exportation of the produce of the Leeward Charibbee Islands."

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Ordered, That the "Act for making some Provision for the Secretary or Clerk and other Officers of the General Council and General Assembly," be read the first time; and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill be now rejected by this Board, and that a Message to the General Assembly, informing that House thereof, be sent to-morrow.

Ordered, That the "Act more effectually to provide for the Support of Slaves, &c." be now read for the first time; and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

Ordered, That the "Act to admit, upon conditions, white persons professing the Roman Catholic religion, to the rights of Protestant subjects, &c." be now read for the first time; and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

Ordered, That the "Act to restrict the collection of the four and half per cent. duty, &c." be now read for the first time, and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 16th April 1798.

Tuesday, April 17, 1798.

THE first Order of the day being called for, it was, upon motion, ordered, That the following Message be sent to the General Assembly, and the same was sent accordingly.

His Honour the President and General Council, to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board has read and rejected the Bill, intituled, "An Act for making some Provision for the Secretary or Clerk and other Officers of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, now assembled in the Island of Saint Christopher, during their sitting, and for printing the Journals of the said General Council and General Assembly."

Signed by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 17th April 1798.

The next Order of the day being read, the hon. James Athill moved, and was seconded, that the Bill, intituled, "An Act to prevent the Importation of Base Coin, &c." do now pass this Board, and that the same be sent with a verbal Message to the General Assembly, desiring the concurrence of that House thereto; and upon the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative.

The said Bill was thereupon passed, and sent to the General Assembly accordingly.

The next Order of the day being read, it was ordered, that the "Act to restrict the collection of the four and half per cent. duty, &c." be now read a second time; and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do stand for commitment to-morrow.

Ordered, That the other two Orders of the day, for a second reading of the "Act more effectually to provide for the Support of Slaves, &c." and the "Act to admit, upon conditions, white persons professing the Roman Catholic religion to

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"the rights of Protestant subjects," be discharged, and that the said two Acts be read a second time to-morrow.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, ten o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 17th April 1798.

Wednesday, April 18, 1798.

THE first Order of the day being read, it was, upon motion made and seconded, ordered, That the Board do resolve itself into a Committee, when his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some short time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported, that the Committee had gone through, clause by clause, the Bill, intituled, "An Act to restrict the collection of the four and half per cent. duty, &c." without amendment.

Ordered, That the said Bill do stand for a third reading on Friday next.

The next Order of the day for reading a second time, the "Act to admit, upon conditions, white persons professing the Roman Catholic religion, to the rights of Protestant subjects, &c." being called for, the said Bill was read a second time accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do stand for commitment to-morrow.

The Order of the day being called for reading a second time the "Act more effectually to provide for the Support of Slaves, &c." the hon. William Woodley moved, and was seconded by the hon. Edward Byam Wyke, that the said Bill do lie on the table, and be taken into the consideration of this Board at the next Sessions of the General Assembly; and upon the question being put, it was negatived; and the said Bill was thereupon ordered, and read a second time accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill be now committed to the Committee of the whole Board, when his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again; which was ordered accordingly.

His Honour the President here informed the Board, that private Business of importance had (though very reluctantly) compelled him to apply to his Honour the Commander in Chief, for leave of absence, which his Honour had been pleased to grant, whereupon the Board signified its approbation thereof.

Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, twelve o'clock; and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,  
*E. Moore,*  
Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 18th April 1798.

Thursday, April 19, 1798.

HIS Honour the late President having left the Island, in consequence of the leave of absence granted; and the honourable Andrew Hamilton, being by writ of mandamus under the royal signature, the senior Councillor, was, by his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions, called to the chair; and having taken the usual oaths of government, and subscribed the test, his Honour thereupon took his seat as President of the Board accordingly. Here his Honour the Commander in Chief withdrew.

The first Order of the day for the Board's resolving itself into a Committee, on the "Act to admit, upon conditions, white persons professing the Roman Catholic religion, to the rights of Protestant subjects," being read, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some short time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported

reported that the Committee had gone through the said Bill, clause by clause, without amendment.

Ordered, That the said Bill do stand for a third reading to-morrow.

The next Order of the day being read, for the Board's resolving itself into a Committee on the "Act more effectually to provide for the Support of Slaves, &c." his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after some time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported, that the Committee had gone through the said Bill, clause by clause, and adopted the following amendments, viz.

1st. In the first clause, in lieu of the words "seven pints of rice," read "six pints of rice."

2d. In the seventh clause, after the word "woollen," insert the words "or ofsnabrigs," and after the word "ofsnabrigs," insert "or woollen."

3d. In the twenty-sixth clause omit the word "compel" in the 7th line, and insert the words "earnestly recommended to."

And upon the said three several amendments being read at the Board, the hon. James Athill moved, and was seconded by the hon. John Taylor, That the said amendments be rejected by the Board; and upon the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative.

Contents: The hon. James Athill,  
The hon. John Taylor,  
The hon. Thomas J. Cottle,  
The hon. Andrew Hamilton.

Not Contents: The hon. Sir Patrick Blake,  
The hon. William Woodley,  
The hon. Edward Byam Wyke.

The hon. James Athill then moved, and was seconded by the hon. Edward Byam Wyke, that the proviso, suspending the operation of the Bill, intituled, "An Act more effectually to provide for the Support of Slaves, &c." until His Majesty's pleasure is known, be rejected; and upon the question being put it was negatived.

Contents: The hon. James Athill,  
The hon. Edward Byam Wyke.

Not Contents: The hon. Thomas J. Cottle,  
The hon. Sir Patrick Blake,  
The hon. William Woodley,  
The hon. John Taylor.

It was thereupon moved, by the hon. James Athill, and seconded by the hon. John Taylor, That the said Bill be read a third time to-morrow; and upon the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative.

Contents: The hon. James Athill,  
The hon. John Taylor,  
The hon. Thomas J. Cottle,  
The hon. Sir Patrick Blake.

Not Contents: The hon. William Woodley,  
The hon. Edward Byam Wyke.

A verbal Message from the General Assembly, acquainting the Board, That that House had read and passed "An Act for making some Provision for the Secretary or Clerk and other Officers of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, now assembled in the Island of St. Christopher, during their sitting, and for printing the Journals of the said General Council and General Assembly," and desired the concurrence of the Board thereto.

Ordered, That the said Bill be now read a first time; and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time; and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do stand for commitment to-morrow.

Ordered,

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Ordered, That this Board do adjourn till to-morrow, 12 o'clock, and his Honour the President adjourned the Board accordingly.

By Command,  
E. Moore,  
Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 19th April 1798.

Friday, April 20, 1798.

THE first Order of the day for reading a third time the Bill, intituled "An Act to admit, upon conditions, white persons professing the Roman Catholic religion in the Leeward Islands, to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by Protestant subjects within the same," was called for, and

Ordered, That the said Bill be now read a third time; and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do pass this Board; and the same was passed accordingly.

The next Order of the day for reading a third time the Bill, intituled "An Act more effectually to provide for the Support, and to extend certain Regulations for the Protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their Increase, and generally to meliorate their Condition," was called for and read; when the hon. James Athill moved, and was seconded by the hon. John Taylor, That the said Bill be now read a third time; and upon the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative; and the Bill was read accordingly.

The hon. James Athill then moved, and was seconded, That the said Bill do now pass this Board; and upon the question being put, it was *nemine contradicente* ordered; and passed accordingly.

The next Order of the day for reading a third time the Bill, intituled "An Act to restrict the collection of the four and half per cent. duty granted to His Majesty, on the exportation of the produce of the Leeward Charibbee Islands," was called for; and upon motion made and seconded,

Ordered, That the said Bill be now read a third time; and the same was read accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do pass this Board; and the same was passed accordingly.

The Order of the day for commitment of the Bill, intituled, "An Act for making some Provision for the Secretary or Clerk and other Officers of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Charibbee Islands, now assembled in the Island of St. Christopher, during their sitting, and for printing the Journals of the said General Council and General Assembly," was called for, and upon motion made and seconded, his Honour the President quitted his seat, and the hon. Thomas J. Cottle took the chair, and after a short time spent therein, his Honour the President resumed the same; when the Chairman reported, that the said Bill had been gone through, clause by clause, in the Committee, without amendment.

Ordered, That the said Bill be now read; and the same was read for the third time accordingly.

Ordered, That the said Bill do pass this Board, and be returned with a verbal Message to the General Assembly; and the said Bill was passed, and sent down to that House accordingly.

Ordered, That the following Message be sent to the General Assembly, and the same was sent accordingly:

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board has read and passed, without any amendment, the following Bills, sent up from your House, which will be, by his Honour the President, laid before his Honour the Commander in Chief, for his assent.

A Bill, intituled "An Act more effectually to provide for the Support, and to extend certain Regulations for the Protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their Increase, and generally to meliorate their Condition."

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A Bill, intituled "An Act to admit, upon conditions, white persons professing the Roman Catholic religion in the Leeward Islands, to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by Protestant subjects within the same."

And a Bill, intituled "An Act to restrict the collection of the four and half per cent. duty, granted to His Majesty on the exportation of the produce of the Leeward Charibbee Islands."

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General  
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Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 20th April 1798.

A motion was made by the hon. Sir Patrick Blake, and seconded by the hon. Thomas J. Cottle, that the following Message, with the Resolution therein contained, be sent to the General Assembly, which was, upon the question being put, ordered and sent accordingly.

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board has entered into the following Resolution, to which they desire the concurrence of your House.

Resolved, That the Bill, intituled, "An Act more effectually to provide for the support, and to extend certain regulations for the protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their increase, and generally to meliorate their condition," be printed as soon as it receives the assent of his Honour the Commander in Chief, and that his Honour and each Member of the General Council and General Assembly, be furnished with a copy of the same.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 20th April 1798.

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the  
President and General Council.

This House concur with your Board, that the Bill intituled, "An Act more effectually to provide for the support, and to extend certain regulations for the protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their increase, and generally to meliorate their condition," be printed as soon as his Honour the Commander in Chief has given his assent thereto, and each Member of the General Council and General Assembly be furnished with a copy of the same.

*Oliver T. Asb,* Speaker.

Assembly Room, 20th April 1798.

The following Resolution was, upon motion made and seconded, sent to the General Assembly in the following Message :

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board has entered into the following Resolution, to which they desire the concurrence of your House :

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address to his Honour the Commander in Chief, to state to his Honour, that a Bill has passed the two Houses of General Assembly, to restrict the collection of the four and half per cent. duty, humbly to represent to his Honour, that this House derive a confident hope, that he will be pleased to give his consent to the said Bill, from a conviction, arising from his past conduct, that he has sincerely at heart the interests of the Islands at present under his government, to state to his Honour, that the four and half per cent. duty, operating partially upon the inhabitants of these Islands, which are peculiarly liable to the dreadful effects of dry weather, and burthened with intolerable debts, is felt as the greatest oppression; that his Honour's giving his consent to the Bill, will not give it the immediate effect of a law, nor have any effect on the

revenue



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revenue of His Majesty, unless His Majesty should be graciously pleased to confirm it; that therefore, we are not sensible of any possible injury that can arise from his giving such consent; that, on the other hand, if his Honour should so far disregard the interests of these Islands, and the humble entreaties of this General Assembly, as to refuse his consent, the Bill never can have the effect of a law, even though His Majesty should be disposed to take our oppressed condition into his royal consideration, and to have given his consent to the Bill; and that a General Assembly may never meet again, so that we may for ever be debarred of an opportunity of laying our grievances at the foot of the throne, with any prospect of having them redressed. That there are so many ways less partial and oppressive, in which the sum derived from the said duty may be reimbursed, so that His Majesty's revenue may not be in the least diminished; that we humbly conceive, as there is no reason whatever for his Honour to withhold his consent, he will not hesitate to do a thing which may be productive of the highest advantages to these Islands. And that the House of Assembly may be requested to join this Board in the said Address.

And if your House agree to the foregoing Resolution, the Board has named the honourable James Athill, the honourable Thomas J. Cottle, the honourable Sir Patrick Blake, and the honourable Edward Byam Wyke, as its Committee, to join such Committee as may be appointed by your House for the above purpose.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Council Chamber, 20th April 1798.

Clerk of General Council.

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House concur with your Board, in the appointment of the Committee to draw up an Address to his Honour the Commander in Chief, agreeable to your Message; and the House has appointed Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Daniell, Mr. Mardenbrough, Mr. Caines, Mr. Whitehall, and Mr. W. Furlonge, jun. as its Committee to join the Members of your Board for such purpose.

*Oliver T. Ash,* Speaker.

Assembly Room, 20th April 1798.

The following Resolution was, upon motion made and seconded, agreed to, and ordered to be entered upon the Minutes.

Resolved, That his Honour the President be requested to inform his Honour the Commander in Chief, that the General Council and General Assembly wish to present an Address to his Honour on Monday next, on the subject of a Bill which has passed both Houses, for restricting the collection of the four and a half per cent. duty; and desire his Honour to state, whether it will be convenient to him to be in town on Monday, to receive the Address, or where and at what time he will receive it.

The following Resolution was, upon motion made and seconded, sent to the General Assembly in the following Message:

His Honour the President and General Council, to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board has entered into the following Resolutions, to which they desire the concurrence of your House:

Resolved unanimously, That a Committee be appointed to prepare an humble Address to the King, to thank His Majesty for having been graciously pleased to give directions to the Commander in Chief of the Leeward Islands, to recommend to the Councils and Assemblies of the different Islands under his Government, to adopt such measures as should appear to them best calculated to obviate the causes that have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes in these Islands, to lead to their moral and religious improvement, and to secure to them the certain, immediate, and active protection of the law; to assure His Majesty, that his dutiful and loyal subjects, the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, have been impressed with the most sincere anxiety to proceed with effect, but at the same time with necessary caution, to enact the most salutary provisions to promote His Majesty's

Majesty's gracious and beneficent intentions. To assure His Majesty that the conduct of the Planters in general which respect their Slaves, has been such, as to leave them no ground to apprehend any ill effects from the minutest scrutiny, but that, sensible of the deficiency of the laws in the different Islands of this Government, to afford certain protection against evil minded persons, the General Council and General Assembly have cheerfully proceeded to pass a law, such as we trust will convince His Majesty, that we are zealously disposed to promote all the purposes which His Majesty has been pleased to recommend to us, and to assure His Majesty, that we will be ready at all times to make such farther regulations as we may find to be necessary.

Humbly to state to His Majesty, that the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, feeling ourselves most grievously oppressed by the collection of the duty, commonly known by the name of the Four and Half per Cent. Duty, collected in all the Islands of this Government, upon the exportation of our staple commodities, could not omit the present opportunity, when we are collected together, to lay at His Majesty's feet the partial and oppressive nature of that duty, operating, almost exclusively, upon the inhabitants of these Islands, which are, from a variety of circumstances, the least productive of any of His Majesty's sugar colonies, and producing a neat revenue in no degree equal to the burthens imposed by that duty on us, while a much larger revenue might be derived from West India articles imported into Great Britain, which, operating over the whole West India body, would be but little felt by any, and so His Majesty's loyal subjects of these Islands would be relieved from a grievous, partial, and oppressive burthen, without any injury whatever to His Majesty's revenue. That on these considerations, we have proceeded to pass a Bill to restrict the collection of the said duty, with a clause therein, declaring, that the said Bill shall not have the effect of a Law until His Majesty's gracious approbation thereof hath been signified; that we have humbly solicited his Honour the Commander in Chief for the time being, to give his assent to the said Bill, and that we trust and hope that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give his assent, if the Bill should be forwarded for such assent. And that if the Commander in Chief should decline to pass the said Bill, humbly to request His Majesty to be graciously pleased to instruct the Governor or other Commander in Chief of these Islands, to give his assent to such Bill or Bills at some future time, as may be passed either by a General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, or by the separate Legislatures of each Island, for the purpose of restricting or finally abolishing the collection of the said duty.

Humbly to represent to His Majesty the great difficulty which the inhabitants of these Islands labour under, in procuring the necessary provisions for the support of their Slaves, from the restrictions laid upon the American trade by the laws of Great Britain; and earnestly to entreat His Majesty to instruct the Governor or other Commander in Chief of these Islands, to permit us to export Sugars in such foreign vessels as are or may be from time to time allowed to enter our ports with provisions, in part payment of the said provisions, as the scarcity of money in these Islands is so great, that, without such permission, we may be reduced to the utmost distress for the necessaries of life. And this Board has appointed for such purpose, the same Committee as named to prepare the Address to his Honour the Commander in Chief.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 20th April 1798.

The Gentlemen of the General Assembly, to his Honour  
the President and General Council.

This House concur with your Board, in the appointment of a Committee to prepare an humble Address to His Majesty on the subject of the Resolutions of your Board: And have appointed the same Committee as named to prepare the Address to his Honour the Commander in Chief, for that purpose.

*Oliver T. Afb,* Speaker.

Assembly Room, 20th April 1798.

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His Honour the President informed the Board, that he had his Honour the Commander in Chief's directions to adjourn 'till Monday next the 23d of April, at twelve o'clock; and declared that this Board do stand adjourned accordingly.

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 20th April 1798.

Monday, April 23, 1798.

THE honourable the Chairman of the Committee, appointed to prepare an Address to his Honour the Commander in Chief, reported to the Board, that the same was prepared, which being read, was, upon motion made and seconded, ordered, That the said Address be approved, and sent down to the General Assembly in a Message from the Board.

To the honourable Robert Thomson, esquire, Commander in Chief for the Time being, in and over all His Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands in America, Chancellor, Vice Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

The Address of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands.

May it please your Honour,

We His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, duly convened at the town of Basseterre, in the Island of St. Christopher, beg leave to address your Honour on a subject of the greatest importance to the welfare of these Islands.

Full of confidence in your Honour's attachment to the interest of your Government, and disposition to co-operate with the other branches of the Legislature, actively to promote them, a confidence derived from your long residence in this Island, and your past conduct in the administration of the Government, we humbly hope, that a Bill, passed after the most mature deliberation, by the General Council and General Assembly, to restrict the collection of the four and half per cent. duty in these Islands, will meet with your Honour's hearty concurrence and approbation, and that your Honour will do whatever may be in your power to recommend the same to His Majesty's royal favour.

With the greatest deference to your Honour's superior judgment, we humbly conceive the following reasons will be a sufficient justification for your complying with the ardent wishes of the General Representation of all the Islands forming this Government. The duty now intended to be restricted, hath been collected for considerably more than a century past, almost exclusively in these Islands, and we have experienced, for a long series of years, that the prosperity of the Islands hath been gradually diminishing, justly imputable, we conceive, among other calamities, to the payment of this partial and oppressive tax, while other more flourishing sister Colonies have been fortunately exempted from the same. At the same time your Honour need not be told, that of all the Sugar Colonies these Islands are, from a variety of circumstances, least able to bear any exclusive burthen. Far less is it necessary for us to impress upon your Honour's mind, that this Bill, should it be finally passed into a law, will not affect His Majesty's revenue, which we would on no account, especially at this time, propose. We need not, however, point out the various modes whereby a sum might be levied upon all West India commodities imported into Great Britain, equal to the neat revenue arising from the four and half per cent. duty, which, operating upon all the Colonies equally, would relieve these Islands from the grievance so long complained of, without being much felt by any other of His Majesty's subjects.

We desire your Honour to be assured, that we have been induced to avail ourselves of the present opportunity, so propitiously offered to us, to frame this law, as the most certain and effectual, perhaps the only mode of obtaining His Majesty's royal favour; we cannot but hope that your Honour will not, by withholding your

consent

consent to the Bill, deprive us in one moment of every prospect of removing so intolerable a burthen. For should your Honour so far disregard the interests of these Islands, and the entreaties of the General Council and General Assembly, as to reject the Bill, it never can be passed into a Law, even though His Majesty should be graciously pleased to think favourably of the desires of his faithful subjects in this Government; whereas if your Honour should so far comply with the wishes of the people over whom you preside, as to give your consent, the Bill will not have the effect of a Law, for it can only be from His Majesty's gracious assent, that we are to expect the attainment of this object.

As therefore there does not appear to us that there is or can be any just ground for your Honour to deny your assent to the Bill in question, and as on the other hand there are so many and such prevailing reasons to induce you to pass it, as far as depends on your Honour, we cannot permit ourselves to doubt but that your Honour will feel a cordial satisfaction in gratifying the desires of His Majesty's loyal subjects of these Islands, and concurring heartily with the General Council and General Assembly in so essentially promoting their interests.

*Andrew Hamilton,*

President of the General Council.

*Oliver Y. Ash,*

Speaker of the General Assembly.

The Chairman of the same Committee then reported and laid before the Board the Address to His Majesty, which being read was, upon motion made and seconded, sent down to the General Assembly, together with the Address to his Honour the Commander in Chief, in a Message from the Board.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the General Council and General Assembly of Your Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands in America, beg leave to offer our sincerest thanks to Your Majesty, for having been graciously pleased to direct the Commander in Chief of the Leeward Islands to recommend to the respective Legislatures under this Government, to adopt such measures as should appear to them best calculated to obviate the causes that have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes in these Islands, to lead to their moral and religious improvement, and to secure to them the certain, immediate, and active protection of the law.

We humbly assure Your Majesty, that the several Islands within this Government, readily complied with the invitation of the Commander in Chief in forming the General Council and General Assembly, which have been convened, and have been impressed with the utmost anxiety to proceed with effect, but at the same time with the greatest caution, to enact the most salutary provisions to promote Your Majesty's most gracious and beneficent purposes.

We can with confidence assure Your Majesty, that the conduct of the West India Planters in general, with respect to their Slaves, has been such as to leave them no ground to apprehend any ill effects from the minutest scrutiny; but, sensible of the deficiency of the Laws in the Islands of this Government to afford certain protection against evil minded persons, we have cheerfully proceeded to pass a Law, such as, we trust, will convince Your Majesty that we are zealously disposed to promote the humane objects Your Majesty has been pleased to recommend to us.

We can with truth assure Your Majesty, that no opportunity, no circumstances (which may at any time enable us to make further provisions to secure to every person in this Government the certain and immediate protection of the Law, in proportion to their improvement in religion and morality) shall be neglected; but we must at the same time declare, that we have been and are actuated by motives of

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humanity alone, and not with any view to the immediate termination of the Slave Trade.

With the greatest humility we presume to state to Your Majesty, that the right of procuring labourers from Africa has been secured to Your Majesty's faithful subjects in the West Indies, by repeated Acts of the British Parliament and Royal Proclamations, and that our ancestors have been induced to settle in these Colonies under the most solemn promises of this (absolutely necessary) assistance: We therefore never can abandon, or do any thing that may render doubtful, this essential right; at the same time we have the firmest reliance on Your Majesty's parental affection, that this right will remain inviolate, so long as we shall continue to be faithful to Your Majesty, and true to the allegiance we owe to the Crown of Great Britain.

We beg leave further humbly to state to Your Majesty, that (feeling ourselves most grievously oppressed by the collection of the four and half per cent. duty, in the Islands within this Government, upon the exportation of our staple commodities) we cannot omit the present opportunity to lay at Your Majesty's feet the partial and oppressive nature of that duty, operating almost exclusively upon the inhabitants of these Islands, which are, from various calamities, the least productive of any of Your Majesty's Sugar Colonies, and producing a neat revenue in no degree equal to the burthen imposed by that duty, while an adequate revenue might be derived from all West India articles imported into Great Britain, which, operating on the whole West India body, would be but little felt by any, whereby Your Majesty's loyal subjects of these Islands would be relieved from a grievous, partial, and oppressive tax, without any injury whatever to Your Majesty's revenue.

Under these considerations, we have proceeded to pass a Bill to restrict the collection of the said duty, with a clause therein, declaring that the said Bill shall not have the effect of a Law, until Your Majesty's most gracious approbation thereof shall be signified, to which we humbly solicit Your Majesty's royal assent, if the Commander in Chief of these Your Majesty's Leeward Islands should pass the same; and we have further to entreat Your Majesty, in case he should refuse to pass the said Bill; that Your Majesty, taking into your royal consideration the distressed state of your loyal subjects in this Government, will be graciously pleased to give directions to the Chief Governor or other Commander in Chief of these Islands, to pass any Bill or Bills of a like tendency, that may hereafter be passed, either by a General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, or by the respective Legislatures of the different Islands comprized in this Government.

We also beg leave most humbly to represent to Your Majesty, the great difficulty which the inhabitants of these Islands labour under in procuring the necessary provisions for the support of their Slaves, from the restrictions laid on the American trade by the Laws of Great Britain, and earnestly to entreat Your Majesty to instruct Your Governor or Commander in Chief of the Leeward Islands, to permit the exportation of sugars in such foreign vessels as are or may be from time to time allowed to enter our ports with provisions, in part payment for the said provisions, as the scarcity of money in these Islands is so great, that without such permission our Slaves may be reduced to the utmost distress for the want of the necessaries of life.

The following Resolution was sent to the General Assembly in the following Message:

His Honour the President and General Council, to the  
Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

This Board has entered into the following Resolution, to which they desire the concurrence of your House.

Resolved, That the Address to his Honour the Commander in Chief, be signed by the President, and sent down to the Assembly, to be signed by the Speaker of that House, if they approve the same. And that the humble Address to His Majesty be approved, and sent down to the Assembly for their approbation; and that it be afterwards engrossed and signed by the President and Speaker, if approved by the Assembly;

bly; and that the President and Speaker be requested to forward it with a Letter to the honourable Richard Hawkshaw Lofack, esquire, Lieutenant General of the Leeward Islands praying, him to present the same to His Majesty.

Signed, by Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 23d April 1798.

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The following Answer was received from the General Assembly :

The Gentleman of the General Assembly, to his Honour the President and General Council.

This House concur with your Board, in approving of the Address to his Honour the Commander in Chief, and also in the humble Address to His Majesty; and that the said Address be engrossed and signed by the President and Speaker; and that the President and Speaker be requested to forward it with a Letter to the honourable Richard Hawkshaw Lofack, esquire, Lieutenant General of the Leeward Islands, praying him to present the same to His Majesty.

*Oliver Y. Ash,*  
Speaker.

Assembly Room, 23d April 1798.

His Honour the Commander in Chief having repaired to the Board of Council, agreeable to his Honour's verbal answer by the Marshal to the Board, in consequence of their Resolution conveyed to his Honour on the 20th instant; and his Honour having sent a verbal message to the General Assembly, desiring their attendance in the Council Chamber, and to signify to that House, that he was then ready to receive the joint Address of both Houses. The honourable the Speaker, accompanied by the Gentlemen of the General Assembly, attending accordingly, his Honour the President thereupon made the foregoing Address in the name of both Houses, to his Honour the Commander in Chief, and having presented a copy thereof, his Honour delivered the following Answer thereto:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the General Council,  
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the General Assembly,

The sentiments contained in the Address you have just now presented to me, which are expressive of the favourable opinion you entertain of my attachment to, and disposition to promote, the interests of these Colonies, and of your approbation of my past conduct in the administration of this Government, flowing from so respectable a body as the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, cannot fail to be highly flattering and gratifying to me; and I shall ever retain the most lively and grateful sense of them.

I hope you will do me the justice to believe, Gentlemen, that nothing but my feeling it to be altogether incompatible with my duty, could possibly prevent my ready compliance with your wishes, by giving my assent to the Bill to restrict the collection of the four and half per cent. duty.

By a reference to the 20th and 21st Clauses of the Royal Instructions, which are in these words, "And you are particularly required not to pass any law, or do any act by grant, deed, conveyance, or otherwise, whereby our revenue may be lessened or impaired, without our special leave or command therein."—

The 21st, "Whereas great mischiefs do arise by the frequent passing of Bills of an unusual and extraordinary nature and importance in the Plantations, which Bills remain in full force there from the time of enacting, until our pleasure be signified to the contrary: We do hereby will and require you not to pass or give your assent to any Bill or Bills in any of the Assemblies of the said Islands under your Government, of an unusual and extraordinary nature and importance, whereby our prerogative, or the property of our subjects, may be prejudiced, nor to any Bill or Bills whereby the trade or shipping of this kingdom shall be any way affected, until you shall have first transmitted unto us, by one of our principal Secretaries of State, and to our Commissioners for Trade and Plantations for their information, the  
" draft

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“ draft of such Bill or Bills, and shall have received our royal pleasure there-  
upon, unless you take care in the passing any such Bills, as aforementioned, that  
there be a clause inserted therein, suspending and deferring the execution thereof,  
until our pleasure shall be known concerning the same.”—You will find by the  
latter instruction, that although a discretionary power be vested in me to pass Bills  
of the nature therein described, provided they contain a clause to suspend their opera-  
tion until they receive His Majesty's sanction, yet that by the former no such lati-  
tude is given; on the contrary, I am particularly required not to assent to any Bill,  
which has for its object a diminution of the royal revenue, whether it has or has not  
a suspending clause, or however it may be modified, without His Majesty's special  
leave for that purpose.

I shall, however, Gentlemen, meet your wishes as far as it is in my power, by em-  
bracing the earliest opportunity to transmit copies of the Bill and of this Address, and  
recommending the measure, upon the terms you have proposed, to his Grace the  
Duke of Portland; and should I, fortunately for these Islands, obtain His Majesty's  
gracious leave for the introduction of a Bill of that kind, at your next Session, it shall  
then, with the utmost readiness and cheerfulness on my part, meet with my approbation  
and assent.

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His Honour the Commander in Chief was then pleased to make the further following  
Speech to both Houses :

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the General Council,  
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

The zeal and unremitting attention, with which you have devoted your time to  
the arduous and important business you have had before you, do great credit to your-  
selves, and merit the warmest acknowledgments of the Islands over which your  
labours will extend their happy influence. The Bill you have passed, to which I have  
just given my assent, is calculated to promote the cause of humanity; and, having  
that for its object, it cannot fail to be highly acceptable to every well disposed mind.  
—And though the current expences of estates may be thereby somewhat enhanced,  
yet, if that augmentation, together with the other salutary provisions of the Bill, will  
produce more comfort and happiness to the Slaves, and be a means of increasing their  
numbers, so as to render the importation of African Negroes unnecessary, I trust  
they will prove a full and ample compensation.

I cannot close this Session of the General Council and General Assembly, without  
returning you my most hearty thanks, for the readiness you have shewn to adopt  
every measure, which, at the beginning of it, appeared to me necessary to submit to  
your consideration; all of which, I have no doubt, would have been carried into full  
effect, had not the urgency of your private affairs, at this period, called you from  
hence.

I am, however, persuaded, that whatever remains unfinished of this great work,  
you will, during the recess, take into your consideration, and come prepared, when  
the Session again commences, to give it a final completion.

It now only remains for me to recommend to you, Gentlemen, when you return to  
your homes, to give your aid, by your countenance and example, to the operation of  
the Bill you have already passed in your respective Islands, and by narrowly watching  
and observing its effects, you will be able to discover whether it will require any altera-  
tions and amendments, and which you will have in your power to make at your  
next Meeting.

St. Christopher's, April 23, 1798.

The honorable the Speaker and the Gentlemen of the General Assembly hereupon  
withdrew; his Honour the Commander in Chief then delivered the following Pro-  
clamation to the Marshal, directing him to publish the same forthwith; and declared  
the General Council and General Assembly prorogued accordingly.

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## PROCLAMATION.

## SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S.

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(L. S.) By the Honourable Robert Thomson, Esquire, Commander in Chief, for the time being, in and over all His Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands in America, Chancellor, Vice Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

WHEREAS the General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Islands, met in the Island of St. Christopher on the first day of March last, to consider of and prepare such Laws as might be conducive to the general interests and welfare of the whole, and for the dispatch of business, did continue to sit from day to day (Saturdays excepted) until this present day of April: And Whereas a further continuation of their sittings might, at this season of the year, be highly injurious to the private affairs of the several Members composing the said General Council and Assembly, I do therefore, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, declare, That the said General Council and Assembly be prorogued to Thursday the first day of November next, to be then holden at such place as shall be appointed and notified by a further Proclamation: And this General Council and Assembly is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the first Day of November next.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms, this 23d Day of April, 1798, and in the 38th year of His Majesty's reign.

By his Honour's Command,

*Robert Thomson.*

*William Thomson, Secretary.*

By Command,

*E. Moore,*

Clerk of General Council.

Council Chamber, 23d April 1798.

No. 9.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Thomson, to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Saint Christopher's, 19th May 1798.

I HAVE the honour to send your Grace duplicates of my Letters by His Majesty's ship Alfred, Captain Totty, and likewise duplicate of the Bill passed by the General Council and Assembly, intituled "An Act more effectually to provide for the Support, and to extend certain Regulations for the Protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their Increase, and generally to meliorate their Condition."

No. 10.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, to Mr. President Thomson; dated Whitehall, 26th May 1798.

I HAVE laid before the King your Letter, No. 13, enclosing your Speech to the two Houses of General Council and General Assembly, with their respective Addresses to you in consequence thereof, with respect to the important objects proposed for their consideration; namely, the most effectual means of increasing the population of the Negroes in our West India Islands, promoting their welfare and happiness, and improving their sense of moral and religious duties; I observe with the greatest satisfaction, every measure which leads to the attainment of objects of such high importance, and of so beneficial a tendency in every respect, both as they regard the Negroes themselves, and the general and permanent interests of the Islands.



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No. 11.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Thomson, to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Saint Christopher's, 22d June 1798.

I HAD the honour to receive your circular and private Letter of the 23d of April, with the suggestions therein enclosed, which I shall not fail to communicate as your Grace has desired.

I regret very much that they did not reach me during the Session of the General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Islands, as my being possessed of your Grace's sentiments upon the important business which gave rise to their Meeting, would have enabled me to lay the subject more fully and completely before them, than I had it in my power to do merely from my apprehensions of the scope and tendency of the Resolution of the House of Commons.

I however trust your Grace will be of opinion, that I called their attention to the principal points of that Resolution, and that the Bill they passed for the melioration of the condition of the Slaves, which I had the honour to send your Grace, embraced many of the objects which were contained in the said Resolution.

Beside the various matters which I had recommended to their consideration, there were two of the propositions which your Grace has suggested that I had agitated in the General Assembly; namely, the attaching the Plantation Negroes to the soil, so as to prevent their being severed from it, and sold for the Master's debts; and the appointment of Guardians in the different parishes, to take cognizance of, and by consequence to prevent all harsh and cruel treatment of the Slaves.

The first was thrown out, because it seemed to involve in it matters too extensive for the time they thought they could devote to the consideration of it, rather than from any dislike they seemed to have to its principle; and as that appeared to be the case, I am still in hopes of getting the Islands separately to pass Acts for the adoption of that measure, or to carry it through at the next Meeting of the General Council and Assembly. I will try to get this Island to take the lead; and if I succeed here in getting them to pass an Act for that purpose, I trust the other Islands in the Government will be inclined to follow the example.

In respect to the appointment of Guardians, your Grace will be pleased to observe, that by the Law they have vested that power in the Magistrates, though not in so full and ample a manner as I could have wished it to have been. I believe they were a little apprehensive of loosening the bond between the Master and Slave, and thereby introducing insubordination in the latter. However, I trust there will be little occasion for the interference of a Magistrate in such cases; for as the general voice is decidedly in favour of humane treatment, few will dare to incur the public odium by a contrary conduct.

How far the Act appears to be calculated to carry into effect the wise and benevolent intentions of the House of Commons, your Grace will be able to determine when it comes under your review; and wherein it may seem to be deficient, if your Grace will be pleased to point out such further measures as you may deem necessary for that purpose, I am persuaded I possess influence enough to obtain a dispassionate consideration of them, either by the Assemblies of the different Islands separately, or by the whole of them jointly, when they meet again, and if they are found likely to effectuate the ends proposed, I have no doubt of their being readily acceded to.

I have the satisfaction to observe to your Grace, that one sentiment seemed to pervade the whole of the Members who composed the General Council and Assembly, which was, a sincere desire to adopt such measures as they thought would tend to make the Negroes happy and contented, and thereby promote the desired object of increasing their numbers by propagation.

Before I conclude, I will beg leave to observe to your Grace, that as the great objects of the Resolution of the House of Commons of last year, seemed to be left to the Colonial Legislatures to carry into execution, and as it would require time to determine whether, by any means that could be devised, the number of Slaves could be kept up without importation, the agitation of the question of abolition again this year was rather unexpected by the people of this country.

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No. 12.—Extract of a Letter from President Thomson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, 28th June 1798.

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IN addition to what I had the honour to mention to your Grace on the subject of the Negroes in the Colonies, I beg leave to observe, that besides the established Clergy of the Islands, there are Moravians and Methodist ministers settled in all of them, for the purpose of affording moral and religious instruction to the Negroes, and their congregations are very numerous.

To evince to your Grace how successful these Missionaries have been in their labours among the Leeward Islands, I will endeavour to procure an exact account of the number of Negroes who have been admitted into their congregations, and transmit to your Grace as soon as it can be obtained.

The sect of Moravians appear to be well calculated to gain the affections of the Negroes, and thereby to instil into their minds the principles of Christianity; and I have observed, that the Negroes of their communion are more decent and orderly in their behaviour than any of the rest.

I have for some years past ordered some sugar or rum, to be given annually by every estate under my direction in this Island, to the Missionaries, as a small gratuity for their attendance upon the Negroes, and the practice has been followed by many others, though it has not yet been general.

It appears to me highly probable, that, in the course of years, every Negro in these Islands will receive baptism, and be admitted into the communion of one or other of the religious sects.

No. 13.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Thomson to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, the 20th of July 1798.

IT makes me very happy to find that my Speech to the two Houses of General Council and Assembly, at the opening of their Session, met with His Majesty's approbation; and I flatter myself that he will also be graciously pleased to approve of the Act they passed, for meliorating the condition of the Slaves.

No. 14.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Mr. President Thomson; dated Whitehall, the 16th August 1798.

THE favourable disposition which the General Council and Assembly of the Leeward Islands have shewn, for promoting the salutary objects proposed in the Resolutions of the House of Commons of the 6th of April 1797, makes me concur with you in regretting that my circular and secret Letter of the 23d April last, did not reach you during the late Session.

The provisions which the General Council and Assembly have already made for the melioration of the state and condition of the Negroes, afford the strongest pledge of their readiness to adopt such further means as shall be found most effectually and speedily to promote the welfare and happiness, and consequently the population of these people in the West Indies. You will, therefore, I imagine, have frequent opportunities of recommending the measures I suggested to you, to the fair and candid consideration of the individuals who compose the General Council and Assembly, or of the Councils and Assemblies of the respective Islands, as may be judged most advisable.

You are perfectly right in your conception, that the object of the Resolutions of the House of Commons of the 6th of April 1797, was left to be carried into effect by means of the Colonial Legislatures; and it is upon this very presumption, and in order that it may appear that adequate measures for attaining so desirable an object

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ject have been adopted by the Colonial Legislatures, that I have been led to suggest such ideas, as I conceived would have an immediate tendency to promote those very desirable objects.

Since writing the above I have received your Letter, N<sup>o</sup> 23, and it is with great satisfaction I observe the care that is taken to infill the principles of the Christian religion into the minds of the Negroes; it is the great and leading step to the introduction of the other measures I have suggested for their benefit.

N<sup>o</sup> 15.—Copy of a Letter from John King, esq. to Mr. President Thomson.

Sir,

Whitehall, 7th March 1799.

I AM directed by the Duke of Portland to send enclosed His Majesty's Order in Council of yesterday's date, confirming an Act passed by the Legislature of the Leeward Islands, intituled, "An Act more effectually to provide for the Support, and to extend certain Regulations for the Protection of Slaves, to promote and encourage their Increase, and generally to meliorate their Condition."

I am, &c.

J. King.

Mr. President Thomson.

N<sup>o</sup> 16.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, to Mr. President Thomson; dated Whitehall, 1st May 1799.

IT gave me particular pleasure to lay before the House of Commons the Act of the General Legislature of the Leeward Islands, for promoting the natural increase of the Negroes, and for the general improvement and melioration of their condition in those Islands. The House must have seen with pleasure the conformity of the provisions contained in that Act, with the Resolution of the 6th of April 1797, and cannot fail to observe, that those provisions must have been framed for the express purpose of carrying into effect the humane and benevolent objects pointed out by that Resolution. I must therefore consider this proceeding as a pledge, that the Act will undergo the further consideration of the united wisdom of the General Council and Assembly at their next Meeting; and that it will be rendered still more effectual for attainment of the objects which it is intended to accomplish.

N<sup>o</sup> 17.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Thomson, to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Saint Christopher's, 26th October 1799.

SOME difficulties having occurred to the Privy Council of Antigua, about receiving an exemplification of the Act for meliorating the condition of the Slaves, which was passed by the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands, for publication in that Island, they requested that I would send them the original Act for that purpose; but that could not be done, without a manifest risk of its loss, either by the enemy or by tempestuous weather in the hurricane season; for if it had been sent to one Island in the Government, it must have gone to all of them, as each was equally entitled to receive it.

I have, however, at length been enabled to obviate all their objections, and sent them an exemplification of the Act, under the Great Seal of His Majesty's Leeward Islands, which the Attorney and Solicitor General were of opinion was of sufficient validity to authorize its publication, and putting it in force in each of the Islands within this Government; but this necessarily took up some time, and the Act was not published in the Island of Antigua until the 27th of last month, though it had been in force in the other Islands above two months before that period.

This

This delay necessarily occasioned my postponing the Meeting of the General Council and General Assembly, which was to have been on the first day of next month to the second day of March next, in order that people may have time to discover from the operation of the Act wherein it may be defective, and what alteration and amendments may be necessary to be made, to promote the humane ends it was originally intended to effect; and I beg leave to enclose your Grace a Copy of the Proclamation which I have issued for that purpose.

St.  
Christopher's

[The Proclamation referred to is not amongst the Correspondence.]

No. 18.—Extract of a Letter from President Thomson, to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Christopher's, 22d March 1800.

No. 18.  
with Six  
Enclosures.

(Six Enclosures.)

AS the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands had been prorogued to meet at Antigua, it became necessary that I should be present at such Meeting, and I accordingly got there previous to the time appointed; but the Members of that Body, who were to go from the other Islands to Antigua, did not assemble; and finding that they chose to avoid the trouble and expence of going from one Island to another, under the idea that whatever had been left unfinished by the General Council and General Assembly of the important business upon which they had been convened, might be done as well by separate Acts of the Legislature of the respective Islands, as by a General Assembly of the whole, I thought a further prorogation would answer no good purpose.

Had the General Council and General Assembly met, it was my intention to lay before them the suggestions which your Grace did me the honour to transmit soon after the close of their last Session; but as their Meeting did not take place, I shall now submit them to the consideration of the Legislature of all the Islands within this Government separately, so that by the aid of them, and the experience they have had of the operation of the Act to ameliorate the condition of the Slaves, which was passed by the General Council and General Assembly, they will be enabled to discover how far the intentions of the House of Commons have been answered, and by separate Acts of their own, attain all the benevolent objects which that Honourable House had in view by their Resolution of the 6th of April 1797.

While I was at Antigua, and likewise at Montserrat (at which Island I called in my return here) I convened their Legislatures, and in my Speech to each of them, copies of which and their Addresses in answer, I have the honour to enclose, your Grace will see how strongly I recommended your suggestions to their fair and candid considerations, and how favourably such recommendation was received.

(1.)—In Mr. President Thomson's, of 22d March 1800.

Extract of an Address of the Assembly of the Island of Antigua, to President Thomson.

WE shall not fail to pay due attention to any suggestions for promoting the welfare of this Colony, which your Honour may think fit to communicate, and to adopt such farther regulations for meliorating the condition of our Slaves, as shall appear to us compatible with that due subordination so essentially necessary to the peace and welfare of the Colony.

(2.)—In Mr. President Thomson's, of 22d March 1800.

Extract of an Address to the Council and Assembly of the Island of Antigua.

AS the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands have not met at the time and place appointed by their last prorogation, it becomes necessary that I should lay before you, and the Legislatures of the other Islands within this Government, some suggestions on the very important business which had occupied their attention during their sitting, which I had the honour to receive from his Grace the Duke of Portland soon after the close of their last Session.

St.  
Christopher's

These suggestions will evince to you the anxiety of His Majesty's ministers to promote the welfare of these Colonies, by their turning their thoughts to a subject of this nature, at a time when their minds must have been deeply engaged by other matters of greater national import; I am therefore persuaded they will meet with your most serious and candid consideration.

By them, and by the operation of the Act which was passed by the General Council and General Assembly, to meliorate the condition of the Slaves, you will be enabled to discover how far the humane and benevolent intentions of the House of Commons have been answered; and what may yet appear necessary to be done for the completion of such important objects, you can effectuate by an Act of your own Legislature, which I shall more cheerfully and readily join you in passing for so salutary a purpose.

(3.)—In Mr. President Thomson's, of 22d March 1800.

Extract of the Answer of the Council of the Island  
of Antigua.

SUCH suggestions as your Honour may think proper for communication to us, on the important business which has fallen under the attention of the General Council and General Assembly, will at all times meet our best consideration; and we trust that, in our earnest endeavours to discharge the relative duties of our station, His Majesty's ministers will never find cause for abating their zeal for the promotion of these Colonies; nor your Honour, during your administration, will ever have reason to relinquish your recommendations of this Island to their best offices, and to our Sovereign's gracious favour.

We receive great content in finding that the Act passed by the General Council and General Assembly, for meliorating the condition of Slaves, has had an impressive effect on the humane and benevolent intentions of the House of Commons: what may hereafter appear from the test of experience as defective or mistaken in the good intentions of this Act, we shall be happy in contributing to remedy as far as we constitutionally may, and shall rejoice in your assistance to our efforts.

(4.)—In Mr. President Thomson's, of 22d March 1800.

Extract of an Address to the Council and Assembly  
of the Island of Montserrat.

IN consequence of the General Council and General Assembly of the Leeward Islands not having met at the Time appointed by their last prorogation, I shall lay before you some suggestions which I have received from the Duke of Portland, soon after the close of their last Session, by which you will discover how much of his Grace's time and attention have been dedicated to promote the prosperity of these Colonies, and which cannot fail to ensure to them your most serious consideration.

These suggestions, together with the operation of the Act which was passed by the General Council and General Assembly to meliorate the condition of the Slaves, will point out to you wherein that Act has been deficient for carrying into full effect the object contained in the humane and benevolent Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April 1797; and such deficiency, as far as it relates to this Island, you can supply by a separate Act of your own Legislature, which I shall most readily concur with you in passing.

(5.)—In Mr. President Thomson's, of 22d March 1800.

Extract of the Answer of the Council of Montserrat.

WE shall readily attend to the suggestions of his Grace the Duke of Portland, and will use our utmost exertions to further the benevolent intentions of the House of Commons, expressed in their Resolution of the 6th of April 1797; and should we find the Act passed by the General Council and General Assembly, to be in any respect deficient, you may be assured our endeavours shall not be wanting effectually to meliorate the condition of our Slaves.

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

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(6.)—In Mr. President Thomson's, of 22d March 1800.

St.  
Christopher's

Extract of the Answer of the Assembly of Montserrat.

WE shall not fail to pay due attention to any suggestions from your Honour, for promoting the public good; and we shall be always ready to make such laws and regulations to meliorate the condition of our Slaves as humanity dictates, and which may be found compatible with that degree of subordination so necessary to the peace and security of the community.

No. 19.—Copy of a Letter from Mr. President Thomson, to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated Saint Christopher's, 26th March 1800.

No. 19.  
with Twenty  
Inclosures.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.

(Twenty Inclosures.)

My Lord,

IMMEDIATELY on the Receipt of your Grace's circular Letter of the 12th July, enclosing an Address of the House of Commons to His Majesty, I wrote a circular Letter to the Presidents of the respective Islands within this Government; copy of which I have the honour to enclose.

With a view of obtaining an accurate account of the number of Negroes in these Islands, and of the births and deaths for the last three years, in conformity to your Grace's directions and the terms of the Address; I found it would be necessary to have Bills passed by the Legislatures of each for that purpose, to compel such an account to be taken.

I accordingly got a Bill introduced in this Island without delay, copy of which I beg leave to enclose your Grace; it was very quickly passed by the Council and sent to the Assembly, where, after being twice read, it was thrown out upon a division, owing to an idea which then struck them, that such an account as had been required, was intended to favour the abolition of the Slave Trade, and that it was preparatory to that measure; a similar Bill has however been passed by the Assembly at Antigua, and is now before the Board of Council, and if your Grace still wishes for such an accurate account as the Bill was meant to obtain, I hope I may be enabled to get the new Assembly, which will be elected in June next, to pass it.

When I found that great delay would attend the passing of these Bills in the different Islands, I lost no time in obtaining from the public and parish Registers of Antigua, Nevis, Tortola, and this Island, an account of the number of Negroes for three years back, distinguishing the number for each year, together with an account taken from the Custom House books of each of these Islands, of the imports and exports for the same period of time; and from the Islands of Montserrat and Anguilla, an account was sent me by the Presidents of each of them, in consequence of my circular Letter, all which I have now the honour to enclose your Grace.

I beg leave to observe to your Grace, that the numbers of Negroes which are inserted in either the public or parish Registers, are all given in upon oath by the respective Proprietors or Possessors of them, and therefore the account taken from them, ascertains the exact number of the whole in each of the Islands, which, if compared with the imports and exports, will give the increase and decrease upon the whole for the last three years.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

*Robt. Thomson.*His Grace the Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

(1.)—In

St.  
Christopher's

(1.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800.

Copy of a circular Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Presidents of the several Islands within the Leeward Island Government; dated Saint Christopher's, 13th September 1799.

(Circular.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose you copies of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, dated 12th July, and of an humble Address of the House of Commons to His Majesty, of the 11th of the same month, and I have to request that you will use the best means in your power to obtain, with the utmost expedition, an authentic and accurate account of the number of Negroes now in the Island of \_\_\_\_\_ and of the births and deaths upon an average for the last three Years, distinguishing what proportion of those who died were born within the Island, or had been imported more than three years before; and what number of those that died had been imported within three years of the time of their death, in conformity to his Grace's directions, and the terms of the said Address. And you will be pleased, as soon as you can get such Account prepared, to send it to me, together with the Documents on which it is founded, with Duplicates thereof, that the same may be transmitted to his Grace the Duke of Portland, without loss of time, as you will see by his Letter how very anxious he is to receive it.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) *Robt Thomson.*

The Presidents of the several Islands within  
the Leeward Island Government.

(2.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800.

An ACT for the effectual obtaining a just and correct List of the Negro and other Slaves within this Island, and for other Purposes therein specified.

WHEREAS the honourable House of Commons of Great Britain did, on the eleventh day of July, in the present year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, resolve that an humble Address should be presented to His Majesty, requesting that His Majesty would be graciously pleased to give directions to the Governors of His Majesty's Islands and Plantations in the West Indies, to transmit an account, specifying, as far as the same could be made up, the total number of Negroes in each of such Islands and Plantations respectively, and the total number of births and deaths on an average of the last three years, distinguishing what proportion of those that died were born within such Island or Plantation, or had been imported more than three years before, and what number of those that died had been imported within three years of the time of their deaths, together with the Documents on which such accounts should be founded, in order that the same might be laid before the House of Commons in the next session of Parliament. And whereas His Majesty has been graciously pleased to signify his special commands to the Commander in Chief of the Leeward Islands, that he should, with all possible dispatch, cause to be prepared in and for the Islands under his government such an account as above specified, in conformity to the terms of the Address which was presented to His Majesty in pursuance of the said Resolution, and to transmit such account, without loss of time, to his Grace the Duke of Portland, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, to be laid before the House of Commons at the opening of the next Session; to the end therefore to carry into effect His Majesty's gracious pleasure, and to obtain a complete and accurate account of the objects proposed by the said Resolution of the House of Commons, we, Your Majesty's  
loyal

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loyal subjects, the Commander in Chief in and over all Your Majesty's Leeward Charibbee Islands in America, and the Council and Assembly of the Island of St. Christopher, do pray Your most Excellent Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it and it is hereby enacted by the said Commander in Chief, and the said Council and Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That every Owner, Renter, or Possessor of any Slave or Slaves, and in case of the absence of any Owner, Renter, or Possessor, then the Manager or Overseer, or Attorney of such absent Owner, Renter, or Possessor, shall and are hereby enjoined to attend at such place and at such time as shall or may be hereafter appointed, by the persons hereinafter named, by their several Precepts, to be directed as hereinafter directed; and shall then and there give in, upon their several corporal oaths, a just and true account of the number of Slaves which each and either of them severally own, rent, or possess, or which they severally have the direction of as Manager, Overseer, or Attorney, as also of the number of their Slaves who have been born, or who have died since the first day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, distinguishing what proportion of those that died were born within the Island, or had been imported more than three years before, and what number of those that died had been imported within three years of the time of their deaths, under the penalty of one hundred pounds current money for neglecting to attend and giving such account as aforesaid, having been duly summoned as hereinafter directed, or for wilfully giving a false account; such penalties to be levied and recovered by warrant of distress, under the hands and seals of any two Magistrates within the said Island, directed to the Provost Marshal of the said Island, or his lawful Deputy, who is hereby required and directed to execute the same immediately on the receipt thereof, and to sell at public outcry the thing that shall be distrained by virtue of any such writ of distress to him or them directed, in ten days after such distress shall be made, under the penalty of one hundred pounds for every omission or neglect; and every such penalty shall and may be levied and recovered, upon due conviction of any such omission or neglect, before any two Justices of the Peace within the said Island, who are hereby authorized and required to hear and determine the same, by warrant under their hands and seals, directed to any of the Coroners within the said Island, who are hereby authorized and required to distrain the goods and chattels of the said Provost Marshal, or his lawful Deputy, that shall be convicted as aforesaid, and such distress to sell within ten days after the same shall have been made, under the penalty of being for ever disqualified from acting as a Coroner within the said Island, after due conviction before two Magistrates of his neglect or omission to execute such warrant of distress that shall be directed to him as aforesaid.

St.  
Christopher's

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Clergymen of the said Island shall, and are hereby authorized, required, and empowered, to take such accounts as hereinbefore required, within their respective parishes, and they are hereby enjoined and required to issue, within twenty days after the publication of this Act, their several Precepts directed to some Constable or Constables of the Island, commanding him or them to summon the several Owners, Renters, or Possessors of any Slave or Slaves within their respective parishes; and in case of the absence from the Island of any Owner, Renter, or Possessor of any Slave or Slaves, then the Manager, Overseer, or Attorney of such absent Owner, Renter, or Possessor, to attend at such time and place within their respective parishes as shall be appointed by such Precept respectively (the time of attendance not to exceed ten days from the issuing such Precept) and then and there to give in such account of their Slaves, and of the deaths and births of such of their Slaves as have died within the period aforesaid, distinguishing respecting the deaths as hereinbefore required; and if any Clergyman shall neglect or omit to issue such Precept within his parish or parishes, or to take such Account, and to return the same to the President of the Council, as is hereinbefore and hereinafter directed, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred pounds current money for each parish that he shall neglect or omit to issue such Precept in, or to take such Account as hereinbefore directed; every such penalty to be recovered in the like manner as is hereinbefore directed in the first clause of this Act, for the recovery of the penalties in such clause mentioned.



St.  
Christopher's

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Clergymen aforesaid shall, and they are hereby authorized and required to administer on oath, in their respective parishes, to every person who shall give in such Account as is hereinbefore required, that such Account is a just, correct, and true one, in the several particulars specified, according to the best of their knowledge, information, or belief; and shall also return to the President of the Council of the said Island, within ten days after the day appointed for taking the same, the Account which they shall severally have taken as hereinbefore directed, in order that the same might be delivered to the Commander in Chief, to be transmitted to His Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the purpose aforesaid.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every Owner, Renter, or Possessor of a Slave or Slaves within the said Island, and in case of his or their absence from the Island, then the Manager, Overseer, or Attorney of such absent Owner, Renter, or Possessor, shall be personally summoned to attend at such time and place within the parish where he resides or his estate is situate, as shall be mentioned in each several Precept by the Constable to whom such Precept shall be directed, or by such Constable leaving word with any white person upon the estate, or in the dwelling of the person to be summoned, of the time and place when and where such person is to attend for the purpose hereinbefore mentioned; and if any Constable to whom any Precept shall be directed, shall omit or neglect to summons in manner aforesaid the several Owners, Renters, or Possessors of Slaves, and in case of their absence from the Island, their Managers, Overseers, or Attornies, to attend at such time and place as shall be specified in such Precept, such Constable shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty pounds, to be recovered in like manner as is hereinbefore directed in the first clause of this Act for recovery of the penalties mentioned in such clause; and the Constables shall severally receive the usual fee for serving their respective warrants.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person shall be sued or molested for any thing done by virtue of this Act, he, she, or they, may plead the general issue, and give this Act and the special matter in evidence for their justification; and if the plaintiff or plaintiffs be nonsuited or discontinue such action, or a verdict be found against such plaintiff or plaintiffs, or if judgment be awarded for the defendant upon a demurrer or otherwise, in each and every of the said cases such plaintiff or plaintiffs shall pay treble costs of suit; and this Act is hereby declared to be a general law, and all Courts, Judges, and Justices, are to take notice thereof accordingly.

Read and passed 5th Nov. 1799.  
*W<sup>m</sup> D. Beard,*  
Clerk of Council.

Read in the Assembly twice,  
and afterwards rejected.  
*W<sup>m</sup> Bryan,*  
Clerk of Assembly.

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(3.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800.

St.  
Christopher's

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S. An ACCOUNT of the Number of Negroes and other  
Slaves, taken in the Parish of Trinity Palmeto Point,  
for the Years 1797, 1798, and 1799.

Y E A R.	N <sup>o</sup> of Negroes and other Slaves.
1797 - -	1,537
1798 - -	1,508
1799 - -	1,539
Amount -	4,584.

I JOSEPH WARNER, Rector and Incumbent of the parish of Trinity Palmeto Point, in the Island of Saint Christopher aforesaid, Do certify that the above Account of the number of Negroes and other Slaves, taken for the years 1797, 1798, and 1799, from the Register of the said parish, is just and true.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 15th day of February 1800.

(Signed) *Joseph Warner.* (L. S.)

(4.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
dated 26th March 1800.

Years.	Slaves.
1797. - - - - -	2,735.
1798. - - - - -	2,741.
1799. - - - - -	2,736.

THESE are to certify, That the number set opposite to each year above, is the total amount of the annual List of Negroes and other Slaves, delivered upon oath, for the last three years, as appears by the Parish Register of Saint George, Basseterre, Saint Kitt's, kept by the churchwardens. Besides which, it is supposed that there are from fifty and one hundred more annually, part of which belong to poor people, who are excused from paying taxes, and part to others who find means to evade doing so.

*R. Pemberton,*  
Rec' of above Parish.

Saint Christopher's,  
29th March 1800.

(5.)—In

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's

(5.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson

PORT of BASSETERRE,

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of SLAVES Imported into this Island,  
between 1st January 1797 and 31st December 1799.

Date of Entry.	Vessels Names.	Masters Names.	From whence.	Number of Slaves Imported.
1797.				
30th Jan.	Henry - - -	H. Kennedy - -	Angola - - -	141
5th May	Nubby - - -	Jn <sup>o</sup> Munro - -	Banana - - -	96
				237
1798.				
12th June	Harlequin - -	Jeffee Topping -	Angola - - -	274
5th October	Mary - - -	W <sup>m</sup> Farquhar -	Ditto - - -	181
				455
1799.				
5th Jan.	Maria - - -	I. Phillips - -	Angola - - -	117
21st Feb.	Telegraph - -	J. Maginnis - -	Ditto - - -	135
30th April	Succes - - -	R. Reap - - -	Martinique - -	50
—	Three Sifters -	W <sup>m</sup> Coram - -	Nevis - - -	18
13th May	Enterprize - -	Jn <sup>o</sup> Brine - - -	Angola - - -	348
				668

These are to certify, That the above is a true Account of the Number of Slaves imported into this Island, between the 1st of January 1797 and the 31st of December 1799.

Given under our Hands,  
at the Custom-House, Basseterre,  
this 20th February 1800.

Geo. M. Tapshire,  
Act<sup>g</sup> Coll<sup>r</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup> H Male,  
Act<sup>g</sup> Comp<sup>r</sup>

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St.  
Christopher's

to the Duke of Portland; 26th March 1800.

## SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of SLAVES Exported from this Island,  
between 1st January 1797 and 31st December 1799.

Date of Clearance.	Vessels Names.	Masters Names.	Where bound.	Number of Slaves Exported.
1797.				
4th Jan.	Pinkerton - - -	E. Phillips - - -	Nevis - - - -	12
6th Feb.	Suckeys Polly - -	G. Penifton - - -	Montferrat - -	32
7th - - -	Pinkerton - - -	E. Phillips - - -	Nevis - - - -	30
17th March	Mary Ann - - -	M. Levy - - -	Ditto - - - -	32
				106
1798.				
21st June.	Eclipse - - -	J. Harrifon - - -	Nevis - - - -	60
—	May Flower - - -	C Carroll - - -	Ditto - - - -	27
30th —	Stanley - - -	M. N. Chambers	Antigua - - -	59
22d Oct.	Wheel of Fortune	W <sup>m</sup> Beek - - -	Nevis - - - -	53
—	Scourge - - -	A. G. Dow - - -	Antigua - - -	93
				292
1799.				
15th Jan.	Two Sisters - - -	D. Prudden - - -	Nevis - - - -	10
—	Active - - -	B. Turner - - -	Ditto - - - -	25
21st Feb.	Barton - - -	A. G. Dow - - -	Antigua - - -	135
4th April	Fanny - - -	D. T. Rivers - -	St. Vincent - -	20
10th May	Kitsey - - -	Jn <sup>o</sup> Brown - - -	Montferrat - -	54
—	Teazer - - -	Cha <sup>s</sup> O'Brien - -	Ditto - - - -	50
—	Beauty - - -	W <sup>m</sup> Bennet - - -	Nevis - - - -	25
16th —	Mary Ann - - -	W <sup>m</sup> Smith - - -	Ditto - - - -	18
17th —	Enterprize - - -	Jn <sup>o</sup> Brine - - -	Antigua - - -	13
				350

These are to certify, That the above is a true Account of the Number of Slaves exported from this Island, between 1st January 1797 and 31st December 1799.

Given under our Hands, at the  
Custom-House, Basseterre,  
20th February 1800.

Signed *Geo. M. Tapscire,*  
Act<sup>s</sup> Collr.  
*W<sup>m</sup> H. Male,*  
Act<sup>s</sup> Comp<sup>r</sup>.

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## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's(6.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800.AN ACCOUNT of all NEGROES and other SLAVES Imported into the Port of  
SAINT JOHN in ANTIGUA, between 1st January and 31st December 1799.

1797.				
19th Jan.	Sch. Walsingham	M. Chambers	- Nevis - - -	30 New Negroes.
26th — -	— Nettle - -	R. Richardson	- Dominica - -	60 Ditto.
6th March	Ship Ranger	R <sup>d</sup> Rogers	- Africa - - -	150 Ditto.
26th May	— Young Ralph	Joseph Gibson	- Ditto - - -	230 Ditto.
				— Total in 1797 - 470
1798.				
5th July -	Sch. Stanley	M. N. Chambers	- St. Kitt's - -	59 Ditto.
29th Nov.	Ship Britannia	Ja <sup>s</sup> Carlhore	- Africa - - -	337 Ditto.
				— Ditto in 1798 - 396
1799.				
26th Jan.	B. Pr. Royal	B. Cornish	- - Martinique -	110 Ditto.
12th Feb.	Sch. Columbia	Geo. Potter	- Dominica - -	16 Ditto.
23d — -	— Amiable	J. Criffen	- - Martinique -	130 Ditto.
26th — -	— Succes	Rob. Reap	- - Ditto - - -	60 Ditto.
— — -	Ship Barton	A. G. Dow	- - Saint Kitt's -	135 Ditto.
24th May	— Enterprize	John Brine	- - Ditto - - -	13 Ditto.
				Ditto in 1799 - 464
				1,330

These are to certify, That the above is a true and faithful Account, taken from the  
Custom-House Books.Given under our Hands,  
4th March 1800.(Signed) *Josiah Martin*, Coll<sup>r</sup>.  
*W. Jarvis*, Comp<sup>r</sup>.

(7.)—In

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

95 H.

(7.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland ;  
26th March 1800.

St.  
Christopher's

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.

Parish of Saint Mary Cayon.

A LIST of Slaves, as given in on Oath, for three successive years ; viz.

For the year	-	1797.	-	-	-	2,100.
—	-	1798.	-	-	-	2,080.
—	-	1799.	-	-	-	2,080.

I certify the above to be a true Copy of the Parish Register.

(Signed)

*Joseph Barnes,*  
Rector of the Parish of St. Mary Cayon,  
15th April 1800.

(8.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland ;  
26th March 1800.

NEVIS.

Parish of Saint James, 21st March 1800.

I do hereby certify, That the following Statement of the Return of Negroes for the last three years, as given in on Oath before a Magistrate, is a true and exact Copy ; taken from the Vestry Book of the above Parish ; viz.

In	-	1797.	-	-	-	2,019.
—	-	1798.	-	-	-	2,025.
—	-	1799.	-	-	-	2,023.

(Signed)

*Sam<sup>l</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Harman,*  
Rector.

N. B. The Return for the present year has not been given in.

(9.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland ;  
26th March 1800.

A LIST of Negroes in the Parish of Saint George, in the Island of Nevis, for the years 1797, 1798, and 1799 ; taken from the Vestry Book of the said parish.

1797.	-	-	-	-	2,149.
1798.	-	-	-	-	2,140.
1799.	-	-	-	-	2,257.

(Signed)

*W<sup>m</sup> Green,*  
Rector of the Parish of Saint George.

(10.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland ;  
26th March 1800.

Saint Peter, Basseterre, in the Island  
of Saint Christopher.

The number of Negroes and other Slaves in the Parish and Island aforesaid, in the year 1797, was 2,902.

In the year 1798, the number of Negroes and other Slaves in the said Parish, was 2,859.

In the year 1799, the number of Negroes and other Slaves in the said Parish, was 2,822.

I certify, That the above Account of the number of Negroes and other Slaves in the Parish of Saint Peter, Basseterre, in the Island of Saint Christopher, in the years 1797, 1798, and 1799, is taken from the Parish Register.

(Signed)

*W Davis,*  
Rector of the said Parish.

21st February 1800.

H. 96

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's(11.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800.A LIST of Negroes in the Parish of St. Paul, in the Island of Nevis, for the  
years 1797, 1798, and 1799; taken from the Vestry Book of the said Parish.

1797	-	-	-	-	811.
1798	-	-	-	-	792.
1799	-	-	-	-	824.

(Signed)

*W<sup>m</sup> Green,*  
Rector of the Parish  
of Saint Paul.

(12.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800.An ACCOUNT of the number of Negro and other Slaves within the Virgin  
Islands, in the years 1796, 1797, and 1798; taken from the Treasurer's Books for the  
Virgin Islands, this 11th March 1800.

1796	-	-	-	-	7,238.
1797	-	-	-	-	7,294.
1798	-	-	-	-	7,219.

I do hereby certify, That the above is a true Account of the number of  
Slaves, appearing by the Treasurer's Books to be within the Virgin  
Islands, in the years 1796, 1797, and 1798.

(Signed)

*W<sup>m</sup> Geo. Crabb,*  
Treasurer.

(13.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800

SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S, 15th April, 1800.

Parish of Christ Church, Nichola Town.

A LIST of Slaves, as given in on Oath for three successive years; viz.

For the year	-	1797	-	-	-	2,102
—	-	1798	-	-	-	2,091
—	-	1799	-	-	-	2,098

I certify the above to be a true Copy of the Parish Register.

(Signed)

*Joseph Barnes,*  
Rector of the Parish of Christ Church,  
Nichola Town.

(14.)—In

## L E E W A R D I S L A N D S.

97 H.

(14.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland; St.  
Christopher's  
26th March 1800.

Saint Christopher's, 22d Feb. 1800.

A LIST of Negroes and other Slaves, taken from the Parish Book in the Parish of Saint John Capisterre, for three years following; viz.

For the Year	-	1797	-	-	-	1,814.
—	-	1798	-	-	-	1,706.
—	-	1799	-	-	-	1,712.

I hereby certify, That the above is a true Copy, taken from the Parish Book of Saint John Capisterre, by me,

(Signed)

*H. C. C. Newman,*  
Rector of the Parish aforesaid,  
in the Island aforesaid.

(15.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800.

## MONTSERRAT.

THE Committee of the Council and Assembly of the said Island, appointed to take an Account of the total number of Negroes, and of the total number of births and deaths, agreeably to a Requisition contained in his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter to his Honour the Commander in Chief of the Leeward Islands, which was laid before both Houses by his Honour the President, have proceeded in conformity thereto, and do report, That it appears to them, from the mode annually adopted of taking four Lists of Slaves by lawful authority, and from those not considered as objects of taxation, the Proprietors thereof being in indigent circumstances, that the total number now in the Island collectively is 7,725.

And the said Committee do further report, That from the enquiries and the information they have obtained, having applied to the several Owners, Proprietors, and Directors of Negroes in the said Island, the numbers of births and deaths upon an average, for the last three years, appear as follow; viz.

Number of births of Negroes for the last three years	-	-	-	-	-	640
Number of deaths of Negroes for the last three years	-	-	-	-	-	514
Number of those who died, born in the Island	-	-	-	-	-	426
Number of those who died, imported more than three years before	-	-				77
Number of those who died, imported within three years of the time of their deaths	-	-	-	-	-	11

(Signed)

*Edw<sup>d</sup> B. Wyke,*  
*John Barrey,*  
*John Dyer,*  
*Thomas Underwood,*

*Walter Morison,*  
*W<sup>m</sup> Dannel,*  
*Rob<sup>t</sup> Morison,*  
*John Hugh Allen,*  
Members of the Council.

21st November 1799.



H 98

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's(16.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March, 1800.

## I M P O R T S.

1796.	
17th Nov.	Brig Rodney, John Sillers, from the Coast of Africa, with 124 males, 69 females, above four feet four inches; 25 males, 16 females, under four feet four inches - - - - - 234
1797.	
12th July.	Schooner Thistle, Rob' Bafden, from Saint Vincent's, with 40 new Negroes - - - - - 40
1798.	
17th Sept.	Lugger Greyhound, Jer. Fisher, from Martinique, with 50 new Negroes for exportation - - - - - 50
26th Oct.	Sloop Jane, Matt <sup>r</sup> Worthington, from the Coast of Africa, with 20 males and 9 females, above four feet four inches; 36 males and 24 females, under four feet four inches - - - - - 89
	Total <u>413</u>

## E X P O R T S.

1796.	
8th Dec.	Sloop Jack, A. Gibbons, to St. Croix, with 51 new Negroes, condemned as prize, at Tortola, to His Majesty's ship Favourite 51
—	Schooner Betsey, I. Lougair, to St. Thomas, with 10 new Negroes, condemned as prize, at Tortola, to His Majesty's ship Favourite 10
1797.	
20th Jan.	Sloop Agent, W. Wainwright, to St. Croix, with 95 new Negroes, condemned, at Tortola, as recapture, to His Majesty's ship L'Aimable - - - - - 95
21st —	Sloop Agent, John Gulley, to St. Thomas, with 34 new Negroes, condemned as prize, at Tortola, to His Majesty's ship Favourite 34
14th July	Schooner Thistle, Adam M'Aclan, to St. Thomas, with 34 new Negroes, part of the cargo inwards - - - - - 34
1798.	
19th Sept.	Lugger Greyhound, Jer. Fisher, to St. Thomas, with 50 new Negroes entered in said lugger for exportation - - - - - 50
	Total <u>274</u>
Custom House, Port of Tortola.	

These are to certify, That the above Imports and Exports are taken from the Books, in this office.

*Tho' Thomason, Coll<sup>r</sup>,  
John Pasca, Comp<sup>r</sup>.*

(17.)—In

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

99 H.

(17.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800. St.  
Christopher's

NEVIS.

## Parish of Saint John.

	Slaves.
1797 - - - - -	2,237.
1798 - - - - -	2,278.
1799 - - - - -	2,333.

## Parish of Saint Thomas.

	Slaves.
1797 - - - - -	1,794.
1798 - - - - -	1,730.
1799 - - - - -	1,665.

N. B. No List given in this year by W<sup>m</sup> Scarborough.

I do hereby certify, That the above are true Extracts from the Vestry Books of the Parishes of Saint John and Saint Thomas, in the Island aforesaid.

Given under my Hand,  
8th March 1800,

*Willm Jones,*  
Rector of St. John and St. Thomas.

H. 100

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES

St.  
Christopher's(18.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland ;  
26th March 1800.AN ACCOUNT of all NEGROES and other SLAVES Exported from the Port of  
SAINT JOHN in ANTIGUA, between 1st January 1797 and 31st December 1799.

Date.	Vessel's Name.	Master's Name.	Where bound.	Number of Slaves cleared.
1797.				
26th January	Sch. Peggy and } Polly - }	J. Cameron -	Martinique -	13 Seafoned Negroes.
15th March	— Portland } Prize - }	J. Newton -	St. Vincent's -	30 Ditto.
19th June -	— Walsingham	J. Morrison -	Montferrat -	20 New Ditto.
31st July -	— Catherine -	C. Johnston -	St. Vincent's -	10 Seafoned Ditto.
1st August	— Lydia - -	T. Atkins - -	Trinidad - -	6 —
— — -	Sloop Bob & Kate	W. Bowman -	Ditto - - -	8 —
8th Decem.	Brig Commerce	D. Sullivan -	Martinique -	30 —
— — -	Sch. Two Sisters	A. Dow - -	Montferrat -	20 —
				Total in 1797 - 137
1798.				
18th January	Brig Fortunatus	J. Baker - -	Demerary - -	30 New Ditto.
5th April	Sch. Lydia - -	H. M'Minn -	St. Vincent's -	100 Seafoned Ditto.
10th July -	— Richard -	W. Brown -	Trinidad - -	5 Ditto.
— — -	— Hawk - -	John Eddy -	Ditto - - -	25 Ditto.
				Ditto in 1798 - 160
1799.				
22d January	Brig Venus - -	James Shaw -	St. Vincent's -	70 Ditto.
28th Nov. -	Sch. Scourge -	S. Tapper - -	Trinidad - -	25 Ditto.
				Ditto in 1799 - 95
				392

These are to certify, That the above is a true and faithful Account ; taken from the  
Custom House Books.

Given under our Hands 4th March 1800.

Antigua, Port of St. John.

(Signed)

Jo' Martin, Coll<sup>r</sup>  
W. Jervis, Comp<sup>r</sup>

## LEEWARD ISLANDS.

101 H.

(19.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland;  
26th March 1800.

St.  
Christopher's

AN ACCOUNT of New NEGROES Imported into the Island of  
NEVIS, from 5th January 1797 to 5th January 1800.

Date of Entry.	Vessel's and Master's Names.	From whence.	No. of Negroes.
1797.			
8th February	Sch. Pinkerton, E. Phillips	St. Christopher's	30
18th Mar.	Slo. Mary Ann, Moses Levy	Ditto	32
1798.			
22d June	Sch. Eclipse, John Harrison	Ditto	62
23d —	Sch. May Flower, C. Carroll	Ditto	27
23d Octo <sup>r</sup>	Wheel of Fortune, W <sup>m</sup> Beck	Ditto	53
1799.			
16th Jan <sup>r</sup>	Slo. Active, B. Turner	Ditto	25
— —	Slo. Three Sisters, W. Coram	Ditto	10
9th Mar.	Sch. Success, R. Reap	Martinique	50
12th —	Slo. Enterprize, W. Groves	Ditto	40
11th May	Sch. Beauty, W. Bennett	St. Christopher's	25
17th —	Slo. Mary Ann, W. Smith	Ditto	18
			372

Nevis, 15th January 1800.

We do hereby certify, That the above are true Extracts, taken from the  
Custom House Books of the said Island of Nevis.

*Ja<sup>s</sup> Ward, Coll<sup>r</sup>.*

*Rich<sup>d</sup> Stanly, Comp<sup>r</sup>.*

AN ACCOUNT of the NEGROES Exported from the Island of  
NEVIS, from 5th January 1797 to 5th January 1800.

Date of Clearance.	Vessel's and Master's Names.	Whither bound.	No. of Negroes.
1797.			
16th January	Sch. Walsingham, M. N. Chambers	Antigua	30
1799.			
30th April	Slo. Three Sisters, W. Coram	St. Christopher's	18
			48

We do hereby certify, That the above are true Extracts, taken from the  
Custom-House Books of the aforesaid Island of Nevis.

*Ja<sup>s</sup> Ward, Coll<sup>r</sup>.*

*Rich<sup>d</sup> Stanley, Comp<sup>r</sup>.*

H. 102

## SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES, &amp;c.

St.  
Christopher's(20.)—In Letter from Mr. President Thomson to the Duke of Portland,  
26th March 1800.

Number of Slaves in the years - - -	1797	1798	1799.
In the parish of St. Ann, Sandy Point	2,188	2,128	2,240.
— — St. Paul, Capisterre -	1,953	1,890	1,939.

In the Island of St. Christopher.

Saint Christopher's, 17th Feb. 1800.

I do hereby certify, That I have examined the Lists of Slaves given in on Oath for the three years last past, in the parishes of St. Ann and St. Paul in this Island, which are recorded in the Vestry Books of the said parishes; and that the amount of the said Lists, or the number of Slaves in each of the years and parishes aforesaid, as it appears in the Vestry Book, is truly exhibited above.

(Signed)

*William John Julius,*

Rector of the Parishes of St. Anne, Sandy Point, and St. Paul Capisterre, in the Island of St. Christopher.

I.

ST. VINCENT.

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*Ordered to be printed 8th June 1804.*

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- No. 1.—Letter from Governor Seton to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Vincent,  
6th July 1797 - - - - - p. 3.
- No. 2.—Another; dated St. Vincent, 12th July 1797; with one Enclosure - - - - - ibid.
- No. 3.—Extracts from the St. Vincent Legislative Council Minutes - - - - - p. 4.
- No. 4.—Letter from the Duke of Portland to Governor Seton; dated 2d October  
1797 - - - - - p. 8.
- No. 5.—Letter from Governor Bentinck to the Duke of Portland; dated St. Vincent,  
8th June 1798 - - - - - p. 8.
- No. 6.—The Duke of Portland to Governor Bentinck; dated 14th August 1798 - - - - - p. 9.
- No. 7.—Another; dated 22d March 1799 - - - - - ibid.
- No. 8.—Letter from Mr. President Ottley to the Duke of Portland; dated 6th June 1799 - - - - - ibid.
- No. 9.—The Duke of Portland to President Ottley; dated 10th August 1799 - - - - - p. 10.
- No. 10.—President Ottley to the Duke of Portland; dated 20th March 1800 - - - - - ibid.
- No. 11.—Another; dated 1st of May 1800 - - - - - ibid.
- No. 12.—The Duke of Portland to President Ottley; dated 12th July 1800 - - - - - p. 11.

[ 3 ]

## I.

## ST. VINCENT.

(Copy.)

No. 1.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Seton to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Vincent, 6th July, 1797.

My Lord,

**I** YESTERDAY had the honour of receiving the duplicate of your Grace's Letter, circular, of the 6th of May, enclosing a Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes in His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, which I immediately laid before the Council, and shall lay it before the Assembly on Tuesday next, for which purpose I have summoned them to meet on that day, to whose particular attention and consideration I shall recommend the formation of such a system of measures as may appear to them best suited to the attainment of the several important objects which are specified in the Resolution; and I shall not fail to transmit to your Grace, from time to time, accounts of the Proceedings of the Legislature respecting the same, nor to do every thing in my power, at all times, to avail myself of every opportunity of cultivating and improving the disposition in the Planters and Inhabitants to promote the humane and beneficent views which the Legislature of Great Britain has so eminently manifested in this Resolution; but, as the Mail-Boat stays so short a time at this Island, it will be impossible, by this Packet, for me to acquaint your Grace with the result of the deliberations of the Legislature on this subject.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

*J<sup>d</sup> Seton.*

To his Grace the  
Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

(Copy.)

No. 2.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Seton to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Vincent, 12th July 1797.

(One Enclosure.)

My Lord,

**HEREWITH** I have the honour to transmit your Grace a Copy of the answer I have this day received from the Council and Assembly in consequence of the communication made to them of your Grace's Letter, circular, of the 6th of May, and the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April, relative to the Slave Trade.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.

*J<sup>d</sup> Seton.*

To his Grace the  
Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.



## I. 4 SLAVE TRADE—WEST INDIES.

(Copy.)

Copy of the Answer from the Council and Assembly of  
St. Vincent to Governor Seton; dated 12th July 1797.

(1.)—In Governor Seton's Letter of the 12th July 1797.

His Honour the President and Council, the Speaker and Gentlemen of the  
Assembly, to his Excellency the Governor in Chief:

In reply to your Excellency's communication of the Duke of Portland's Letter, and the Resolutions of the House of Commons of the 6th of April, we beg leave to observe, that the Slave Laws of this colony are now under consideration: We shall most readily adopt every measure that can be suggested, which appears calculated to obviate the causes (if any exist) that have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes already in the Island, and assure Your Excellency we shall be happy indeed if we can devise such means and regulations that the Slave Trade may be gradually diminished, and, in time, rendered totally unnecessary.

(Signed.) *James Hartley*, President of the Council.  
*Geo. Lowman*, Speaker of the Assembly.

12th July 1797.

No. 3.—Extracts from the St. Vincent Legislative Council Minutes.

In Governor Bentinck's Letter of the 20th July 1798.

HIS Excellency communicated to the Board the following Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, and Resolutions of the House of Commons.

(Circular.)

Sir,

Whitehall, 6th May 1797.

I HAVE received His Majesty's Commands to transmit to you the enclosed Resolutions of the House of Commons, of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes in His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies; and to signify to you His Royal Pleasure, that you should take the earliest opportunity of communicating it to the Council and Assembly of the Island of St. Vincent, to whose particular attention and consideration you will recommend the formation of such a system of measures as may appear to them best suited to the attainment of the several important objects which are specified in the Resolution. You will not fail to transmit to me, from time to time, accounts of the Proceedings of the Legislature of your Island in consequence of this communication; and I desire you will take care in your first dispatches, to inform me whether any measures have been already taken by the Legislature of the Island, which may tend to promote the purposes expressed by the Resolution of the House of Commons; and you will also be attentive at all times to avail yourself of every opportunity of cultivating and improving the disposition you observe in the Planters and Inhabitants, to promote the humane and beneficent views which the Legislature of this kingdom has so eminently manifested in the Resolution which is herewith transmitted to you.

I am, &amp;c.

To the Governor of the  
Island of St. Vincent.

*Portland.*Jovis, 6<sup>o</sup> die Aprilis, 1797.

Resolved,

THAT an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, requesting that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions to the Governors of His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, to recommend to the respective Councils and Assemblies of the said plantations, to adopt such measures as shall appear to them best

## ST. VINCENT.

5 I.

best calculated to obviate the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes already in the Islands, gradually to diminish the necessity of the Slave Trade, and ultimately to lead to its complete termination, and particularly with a view to the same effect, to employ such means as may conduce to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes, and secure to them throughout all the British West India Islands, the certain, immediate, and active protection of the Law; and, at the same time, assuring His Majesty, that this House will concur in such measures as will appear requisite to be taken by this House for the attainment of the same object.

His Excellency retired from the Board.

The following Message was sent to the Assembly by Mr. Gloster.

His Honour the President and Council to the Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:

THIS Board sends herewith to your House a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland, accompanied with a Resolution of the British House of Commons.

By Command,

5th July 1797.

The Board was adjourned sine die.

*J. Bernard,*  
Clerk of the Council.

Certified by

*J. Bernard,*  
Clerk of the Council.

Mr. George Sharpe and Mr. Fairbairn, from the Assembly, came into Council, and delivered the following Message:

The Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly to his Honour the President and Council:

WE request you will appoint a Member of your Board to join Mr. George Sharpe and Mr. Slater, as a Committee to address his Excellency the Governor on the subject of his Grace the Duke of Portland's Letter, and the Resolution of the House of Commons, communicated to us by your Board this day.

*Geo. Lowman,*  
Speaker.

11th July 1797.

The following Answer was sent to the Assembly by Mr. Glasgow.

His Honour the President and Council to the Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:

THIS Board has appointed Mr. Gloster to join Mr. George Sharpe and Mr. Slater as a Committee, for the purpose expressed in your Message of this day.

By Command,

11th July 1797.

*J. Bernard,*  
Clerk of the Council.

HIS Honour the President signed the following Answer of both Houses to his Excellency's communication of the Duke of Portland's Letter, and Resolution of the British House of Commons of the 6th of April last.

His Honour the President and Council, the Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly, to his Excellency the Governor in Chief:

IN reply to your Excellency's communication of the Duke of Portland's Letter, and the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April, we beg leave

to observe, that the Slave Laws of this Colony are now under consideration: We shall most readily adopt every measure that can be suggested which appears calculated to obviate the causes (if any exist) that have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes already in the Island, and assure your Excellency we shall be happy indeed if we can devise such means and regulations that the Slave Trade may be gradually diminished, and in time rendered totally unnecessary.

His Honour the President communicated to the Board the following Letter.

Sir,

59 Harley Street, London, 7th June 1797.

AS a Proprietor and Planter in St. Vincent's, and deeply interested in the prosperity of that Island, and of the West India Colonies in general, I feel it incumbent on me, in duty and regard, to transmit the grounds on which myself and others at the same time having estates in the West Indies, and being Members of the British House of Commons, proceeded in supporting Mr. Charles Ellis's Motion on the Slave Trade, and especially the situation of the Negroes in our Islands.

I think I cannot better state those grounds of conduct, than by transmitting a Report of the Committee of a Society which we have thought it necessary at this crisis to institute, consisting of members in either House of Parliament, being Landholders in the West India Islands.

We have thus been enabled to act in concert, and hitherto have in consequence acted with uniform success.

I have likewise taken the liberty to transmit pamphlets containing the substance of debates on that interesting question, and which have been collected with some care.

Having had a personal knowledge in the year 1791-2, of the general kind attention of Masters to their Slaves, and feeling the highest respect for the great abilities and integrity of the Gentlemen I presume to address through the honour of your communications, I have little to add to the documents which accompany this letter; but I cannot omit the declaration, that on every ground of past experience in Parliament, from the first agitation of the question I advert to, and from all speculations on the future that my mind can reach, it appears to me indispensably necessary to take some steps in our Colonies by legislative provisions, touching the situation of Negroes in respect to society, to promote a natural increase of their population, and thus not only stop for the present, but gradually supersede the very pretensions at a future period to a measure of direct Abolition of the Slave Trade by the Mother Country, a measure which would blast the root of all our settlements of property, change the foundations of every bequest, loan, and security, turn every mortgage into an annuity on the lives of Negroes, institute a general system of foreclosure, and depreciating our estates, preclude all immediate resources, and ruin every interest.

I hope this fatal and *sure* alternative will be precluded! I hope ere next winter session of the British Parliament, to be favoured with a copy of such Act as the wisdom of your colonial Legislature shall suggest, in concurrence with the Address of the House of Commons, and His Majesty's directions in consequence.

Feeling the strongest interest in the prosperity of the colony of Saint Vincent's, I beg you to consider this Letter, and so in kindness represent it, as the effusion of zealous attachment.

With due respect and regard,

I have the honour to be, &c.

*W. Young.*

To the Honourable the President  
of the Council of *St. Vincent.*

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## ST. VINCENT.

7 I.

YOUR Committee having been appointed to take into consideration, whether any and what steps should be taken respecting the Slave Trade, are unanimously of opinion that some measures ought to be taken in Parliament by the West India Proprietors on that Subject; and they are led to this opinion by the following considerations:

1st. That the repeated discussion of the Abolition of the Slave Trade in Parliament may produce consequences of the utmost danger to the colonies; and that if an Act for this purpose should ever pass the British Parliament, it will be fatal to them.

2d. That the question of Abolition will continue to be agitated, year after year, and as often as the forms of the House permit; and that neither the House of Commons, nor the Country in general, will suffer it to rest till some steps have been taken which may afford them reason to believe, that every regulation has been adopted which is consistent with the safety of the colonies.

3. That many persons of great weight and character, though conscious of the danger to be apprehended from the measures proposed by Mr. Wilberforce, have supported and will continue to support them, because no mode of conduct at all compatible with their ideas of humanity has been proposed as an alternative.

4th. That on the other hand many persons who have hitherto opposed the measures of Mr. Wilberforce, will feel themselves under the necessity of submitting to them, unless some plan of regulation shall be brought forward.

5th. That there is reason to believe, that besides Mr. Wilberforce's Bill, there will be proposed some more specious plan of moderate Reform and gradual Abolition, which will meet with very general support; and that it is of the utmost importance that such a plan should be anticipated, because the West India Proprietors, from their local knowledge, are the only persons to whom the formation of it can be safely intrusted.

6th. That, consequently, for the joint purposes of opposing the plan of Mr. Wilberforce, and establishing the character of the West India Body, it is essential that they should manifest their willingness to promote actively the cause of the Negroes, by such steps as shall be consistent with safety to the property of Individuals, and the general interest of the colonies.

Convinced, however, that the colonial Legislatures are alone qualified to judge of, competent to enact, and able to enforce, any internal regulations, your Committee, with a view of reconciling these considerations with the necessity of some proceeding in Parliament, submit to you that a motion to the following effect should be made, as your general opinion:

That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, requesting that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions that it be recommended to the Governors of His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, to adopt such measures, in concurrence with the Councils of Assemblies of each colony, as shall tend to regulate and controul the importation of Slaves from Africa; and by obviating the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of Negroes already in the Islands, shall render that Trade less necessary, and ultimately tend to its termination; and further, with a view to the same effect, the adoption of every measure which may conduce to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes, and promote their happiness by securing to them the certain, immediate, and active protection of the Law, and at the same time assuring His Majesty that this House will concur in whatever measures may be conducive to the attainment of these objects.

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At

At a MEETING held December 14th 1796;

PRESENT,

Sir R<sup>d</sup> Gamon,  
Mr. Nesbitt,  
Sir Cha<sup>s</sup> Bunbury,  
Mr. Cha<sup>s</sup> Ellis,  
Mr. Barham,  
Sir W<sup>m</sup> Young,  
Mr. Praed,  
Mr. Lewis,  
Mr. Colhoun,  
Mr. Petrie,  
Mr. Manning,

Mr. G. W. Thomas,  
Mr. B. Edwards,  
Mr. Lushington,  
Mr. Mitchell,  
Lord Lavington,  
Mr. Macdouall,  
Mr. G. Ellis,  
Sir G<sup>t</sup> Webster Vassall,  
Mr. Tudway,  
Sir Geo. Thomas;—

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider whether any and what measures should be taken respecting the Slave Trade, was read;

Resolved,

1st. That the said Report is highly approved of.

2d. That Mr. Charles Ellis be requested to make the motion approved of, and that he give notice, that on an early day after the Recess he will make a motion on the subject of the Slave Trade, and the situation of the Negroes in the Islands.

3d. That Mr. Ellis and Sir William Young, do wait on Mr. Dundas, and submit the motion to his consideration.

4th. That the Committee have leave to sit again, and report on such measures as further may be deemed advisable; and that they be authorized to communicate with Ministers on the subject.

Mr. Petrie then moved,

That out of respect to the Legislatures of the Islands, the Committee be requested to communicate to the Agents of the different Islands, with a view that they may transmit the same, to the respective Committees of correspondence.

Ordered.

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## ST. VINCENT.

9 I.

No. 4.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Seton; dated Whitehall, 2d Oct' 1797.

I have much satisfaction in observing the readiness you have shewn in attending to the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes in His Majesty's plantations in the West Indies.

(Copy.)

No. 5.—Copy of a Letter from Governor Bentinck to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Vincent, 8th June 1798.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Grace's circular Letter of the 23d of April, transmitting various points for enquiry upon the Proceedings of the Legislature of this Island, for the last ten years, as far as they relate to the importation and treatment of the Negroes, with suggestions tending to add to their comfort, to increase the population, &c. &c.

These are objects of such magnitude, that I shall by every confidential means, and every public endeavour, exert myself to procure Your Grace the clearest answer to the queries proposed; but as it will be necessary for this purpose to consult each branch of the Legislature, in addition to the private information I may be enabled to obtain, aided by my own personal observation, I must wait the meeting of the new House of Assembly, the former having been dissolved, when I shall recommend as one of the first objects the investigation proposed, and transmit Your Grace such an opinion upon the several points for enquiry as will enter fully into the detail, and reply to each proposition distinctly.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*W. Bentinck.*

To his Grace the  
Duke of Portland,  
&c. &c. &c.

No. 6.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Bentinck; dated 14th August 1798.

I shall be very anxious to receive the report of the communications and proceedings you propose making in consequence of my Letter to you of the 23d of April, touching the most effectual means of promoting the welfare, happiness, and population of the Negroes in the West Indies.

No. 7.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Governor Bentinck, dated Whitehall, 22d March 1799.

My former correspondence with you upon the state and condition of the Negroes, will sufficiently enable you to judge of the satisfaction it gave me to lay before the House of Commons the Acts which have been passed by the respective Legislatures of the Leeward Islands and Grenada, to promote the natural increase of that description of persons, and generally to improve and meliorate their condition in those Islands; also the measures which have been proposed for the same salutary purposes by the joint Committee of the Council, and the House of Assembly of Tobago, and the Provisions of an Act, passed in the Island of Jamaica, for limiting the importation of Negroes into that Island to such as are of the age of 25 years or under, and for securing

securing to them the advantages of moral and religious instructions. These proceedings must be particularly acceptable to the House of Commons, from their conformity to the Resolution of that House of the 6th April 1797, and from their having been evidently taken by the several Colonial Legislatures for the express purpose of carrying into effect the humane and benevolent objects pointed out by that Resolution.

The consideration of these proceedings, in addition to the suggestions I transmitted you in my Letter of the 23d April last, will, I am persuaded, induce the Legislature of St. Vincent to adopt measures of a similar nature, together with the introduction of such provisions and amendments as may be most likely to accelerate and secure the advantages which must necessarily result from the attainment of the objects which were in the contemplation of the House of Commons, when the Resolution of the 6th of April 1797 was voted, and which Resolution appears to have had so beneficial and salutary an influence on the determination of the Legislature of those Islands, whose conduct I have stated to you.

No. 8.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Ottley to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Vincent, 6th of June 1799.

Your Letter of March 22d, respecting the situation of the Negroes in the West Indies, together with the printed documents accompanying them, I had the honour to receive by the packet, and I laid them all before the Council and Assembly, at a meeting of the two Houses yesterday, the first which has been held since the packet arrived. I did not fail at the same time to recommend a revival of our Slave Act as a measure most necessary, and I have reason to believe, that previous even to this recommendation, the two Houses had made considerable progress in a Bill calculated as far as possible to put this description of people into a situation of comfort and security.

It gives me great pleasure to assure Your Grace, that, notwithstanding some disgraceful clauses in our old Slave Act, the practice of the community in the treatment universally at present shewn to Slaves, renders their situation as happy as that of those in any other colony in the West Indies which I am acquainted with; and it is my sincere opinion that the Negroes in this Island are annually increasing in numbers, and that the old settled estates will in a very few years be sufficiently stocked to render any further importation of African Negroes unnecessary.

The uncommon mortality in the course of the late insurrection, arising from a variety of causes, certainly has produced a demand for Slaves which would not otherwise have existed; but that demand will shortly be satisfied. It is much to be wished that some system of religious instruction could be adopted for the benefit of the Negroes; at present the only opportunity which they have of receiving any is from one clergyman, and from one or two preachers sent out by the society of methodists.

No. 9.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to President Ottley; dated Whitehall, 10th August 1799.

I have great satisfaction in learning that the Council and Assembly of St. Vincent, previous to your communicating to them my dispatch of the 22d of March, with the documents which accompanied it, had made considerable progress in a Bill calculated to promote the welfare and population of the Negroes in St. Vincent's: from the account you give of the increasing population of those people, and the disposition of the Legislature to promote their increase, and thereby finally to render the importation

## ST. VINCENT.

11 I.

importation of Negroes unnecessary, I look with impatience to receive from you, before the commencement of the next session of Parliament, or early in the course of it, the particulars of the measures which the Legislature of St. Vincent will have taken for the attainment of the great and salutary object recommended by the Resolution of the House of Commons of 6th April 1797.

I so entirely agree with you in opinion respecting the importance of religious instruction for the Negroes, that I consider some specific and adequate provision for that purpose as absolutely necessary to make a part of the Legislative measures now in contemplation in St. Vincent's. I therefore desire to refer you to what has been done by the Legislature of Jamaica, as far as relates to that point, and to what is contained in the suggestions which accompanied my Letter to the Governor of St. Vincent's, of the 23d April 1798.

No. 10.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Ottley to his Grace the Duke of Portland; dated St. Vincent, 20th March 1800.

I have the honour to transmit the returns of Negroes, as respecting their increase and decrease in the colony of St. Vincent, for the years 1797, 1798, 1799. No. 1.

The Returns referred to, were never received.

No. 11.—Extract of a Letter from Mr. President Ottley to his Grace the Duke of Portland, dated St. Vincent, 1st of May 1800.

I transmitted by the Mail Boat, which left this Island on the 23d of March, the original documents respecting the increase and decrease of Negroes in this colony, for the years 1797, 1798, and 1799; as I was supplied only with the originals, certified by the Commissioners appointed by Law for the purpose of taking returns of such increase and decrease, it is not in my power to transmit to your Grace duplicates of the same; a report is here current that the Mail Boat was captured on her way to St. Christopher's, where she is appointed to meet the packet, I have therefore applied to the Assembly for fresh documents, which I shall have the honour to send you as soon as I can after I receive them.

No. 12.—Extract of a Letter from his Grace the Duke of Portland to Mr. President Ottley; dated Whitehall, 12th July 1800.

I fear I must attribute my not having received the returns of the increase and decrease of Negroes in the colony of St. Vincent for the years 1797, 1798, and 1799, and the copies of such Bills as had passed the Legislature since the departure of Governor Bentinck from his government, to the capture of the Mail Boat on her passage from St. Vincent to St. Christopher's; you will of course see the necessity of immediately furnishing me with duplicates of them.



