

The London Gazette.

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From Tuesday September 18, to Saturday September 22, 1781.

St. James's, September 22.

THIS Day being the Anniversary of Their Majesties Coronation, the Park and Tower Guns were fired at Noon, and in the Evening there were Illuminations and other public Demonstrations of Joy.

Whitehall, September 22, 1781.

CAPITULATION of the Island of Tobago, received from Lieutenant-Governor Ferguson.

[TRANSLATION.]

CAPITULATION of the Island of Tobago, between the Count de Grasse, commanding the Naval Forces of his Most Christian Majesty, and the Marquis de Bouillé, Commandant-General of the French Windward Islands in America on the one Part, and the Honourable George Ferguson, Esq. Commander in Chief of the Island of Tobago, and the Honourable Major Stanhope, commanding His Britannic Majesty's Forces in the said Island, on the other Part.

Article I.

THE Governor, Staff and other Officers of the Troops, and Soldiers of the Garrison of the Island of Tobago, shall march out of the Redoubt and Forts with the Honors of War, and shall afterwards lay down their Arms, the Officers excepted.

II. The Officers and Troops shall be afterwards sent to France, except such Officers as shall have Permission from the French General to remain in the Windward Islands of America upon their Parole.

The Wives and Children of the Troops shall follow the same Destination.

III. The Inhabitants of the Island shall preserve their Civil Government, Laws, Customs, and Ordinances; and the same Persons who now administer Justice shall be continued in their Functions until the Peace, as long as they conduct themselves properly.

The Court of Chancery shall be held by the Members of the Council, in the Form established by the Laws, Customs and Ordinances, under which the Island is governed, until the Peace; but the Appeals from the said Court shall be made to the Council of his Most Christian Majesty.

IV. The Inhabitants in general of the said Island, and the Clergy, shall be protected in the Enjoyment of their Estates, and of every Thing in their Possession, of whatsoever Nature it may be, as well as of their Privileges, Rights, Honors, and Exemptions. They shall have the free Exercise of their Religion, and the Clergy shall enjoy their Benefices.

The free Negroes and Melattoes shall be maintained in their Liberty, but no Slave shall be franchised in future without Permission from the Governor-General, conformable to the Customs established in the French Colonies.

V. The Inhabitants shall pay no other Taxes to his Most Christian Majesty than they paid to His Britannic Majesty.

The Expences attending the Administration of Justice, the Allowances to the Clergy, and other ordinary Charges, to be defrayed by the Colony.

Merchandizes exported from the Colony shall pay the same Duties to the Revenue as are paid in

the French Colonies. The Duties on Entry shall be the same.

The Inhabitants shall enjoy all the Commercial Privileges granted to the Subjects of his Most Christian Majesty in his Windward Islands in America.

VI. The Inhabitants shall not be liable to pay the Contribution of 1200 Half Joannes required and agreed to by the Provisional Capitulation; but the Colony shall be at the Expence of reconstructing the Buildings which were burnt during the Siege, so that the Inhabitants to whom they belonged will only contribute their Quota of the said Re-construction, so that the whole Amount do not exceed 1200 Half Joes.

VII. The Effects, and particularly the Slaves, belonging to the Inhabitants of this Colony, which may have been taken during the Siege, and which can be recovered, shall be restored. Those which have been carried on board any of the Ships belonging to the French Squadron shall be landed and delivered into the Hands of the Provost Marshal.

N. B. The Vessels and Effects on board of them, which were taken before the Island surrendered, or after, not comprehended in this Article.

VIII. The Ships, Vessels, and Droghers belonging to the Inhabitants of this Island, shall remain their private Property; but English Vessels, owned by Persons in Europe, or in the English Islands, shall be faithfully given up, and surrendered to the French Governor.

IX. The Inhabitants who are absent, even those in the Service of His Britannic Majesty, shall be maintained in the Possession and Enjoyment of their Property, which may be managed by their Attorneys.

X. The Inhabitants shall be obliged to provide Lodgings for the Troops, only in Cases of indispensable Necessity, as is the Custom in the French Islands, the King lodging them in general at his own Expence, or in Buildings that belong to him.

XI. They shall be obliged to furnish Negroes to work upon the Fortifications, or in any other Work relative to the King's Service, to the Amount of 400; and the said Negroes shall be maintained at the King's Expence, while they are so employed.

XII. The Inhabitants shall take the Oath of Fidelity to His Most Christian Majesty, before the French Governor of the Island, of Tobago, within the Space of Two Days, under the Penalty of forfeiting their Property.

But those Inhabitants, and particularly Widows, who, on Account of Sickness, Absence, or any other Impediment, cannot do so within the Time limited, shall have a Delay allowed them, which shall be signified to them.

XIII. The Inhabitants shall observe a strict Neutrality, and shall not be forced to take up Arms against His Britannic Majesty, nor against any other Power.

In consequence of which, they shall carry all their Arms to the chief Residence, where they shall be deposited in the King's Magazines, except such as the Judges of the Peace shall think necessary on each Estate to preserve Order among the Negroes; but the Justices of the Peace shall answer in Person for any improper Use that may be made of them, contrary