

# The London Gazette.

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Whitehall, April 30, 1782.

**T**HE following are Extracts of Letters received at the Office of the Earl of Shelburne, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the 25th Instant.

*Extract of a Letter from Major General Shirley, Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Leeward Caribbee Islands, dated St. Christopher's, February 15, 1782.*

**I** AM extremely mortified at being obliged to inform your Lordship, that the Islands of St. Christopher and Nevis, having been attacked by a powerful Fleet and Army, under the Command of the Marquis de Bouillé, were compelled to surrender to the French Arms on the 12th of February instant, after a Siege of about Five Weeks, upon the Terms of a Capitulation, which I have the Honour to send inclosed to your Lordship.

*ARTICLES of CAPITULATION for the Islands of Saint Christopher and Nevis, between his Excellency the Count de Grasse, Commander of his Most Christian Majesty's Fleet, and his Excellency the Marquis de Bouille, Commander in Chief of the French Windward Islands in America, and his Excellency Thomas Shirley, Esquire, a Major-General in His Britannic Majesty's Army, and Governor of the Islands of Saint Christopher and Nevis, and Thomas Fraser, Esquire, a Brigadier-General, and Commanding Officer of the Troops.*

## Article I.

**T**HE Governor, the Commander of the Troops, and the Officers and Soldiers, the Officers of the Militia, and Privates, shall march out of the Garrison of Brimstone Hill through the Breach, with One Mortar, Two Field Pieces, with Ten Rounds to each Piece, Arms, Baggage, and all other Honours of War, and shall afterwards lay down their Arms, the Officers excepted.

Article II. The Regular Troops shall be made Prisoners of War, and sent to England in safe and good Vessels, with Provisions for their Voyage; but shall not serve against the King of France until they shall be exchanged.

All Officers may remain in these Islands upon their Parole.

All Privates of Militia and armed Negroes shall return to their respective Homes.

Article III. The Inhabitants, or their Attornies, shall be obliged to take the Oaths of Allegiance to the French King, in the Presence of the Governor of the said Islands, within the Space of One Month; and such as may not be able, from Sickness or any other substantial Cause, to comply within the said Term of Time, shall be allowed a reasonable Delay.

Article IV. They shall observe a strict Neutrality, and shall not be obliged to take up Arms against His Britannic Majesty, or any other Power. They shall preserve their Arms to keep good Order among their Negroes; but they shall be obliged to report them to the Justices of the Peace, who shall be answerable for the bad Use that may be made of them against the Tenor of this Capitulation.

Article V. They shall be allowed, until Time of Peace, their own Laws, Custom and Usages, and Justice shall be administered by all Persons in their present respective Offices.

All Expences attending the Administration of Justice shall be at the Charge of the Colony.

Article VI. The Court of Chancery shall be held by the present Councillors, and in the same Form; and the Appeals from the said Court shall be made to the Council of his Most Christian Majesty.

Article VII. The Inhabitants and Clergy shall be maintained in the full Possession of their Properties of every Kind; in their Privileges, Rights, Honours and Exemptions; in the Possession of their Religion; and all Ministers in the Enjoyment of their Livings.

All Absentees, and those immediately in the Service of His Britannic Majesty, shall be protected in the Possession and Enjoyment of their different Properties, left under the Care of their Attornies.

The Inhabitants shall be allowed to sell their Properties to whomsoever they judge proper, and be permitted to send their Children to England for Education, from whence they shall have Liberty to return.

Article VIII. Instead of all Taxes, the Inhabitants shall pay into the Hands of the Treasurer of the Troops, every Month, the Amount of Two Thirds of the Taxes which the Inhabitants of the Island of Saint Christopher and its Dependencies pay to the King of Great Britain, according to a Valuation that shall be made of the Revenues of the Colony in 1781, which shall be the Basis.

Article IX. The Slaves that have been taken during the Siege shall be religiously restored, and the Inhabitants shall be allowed to reclaim them in any of the French Windward or Leeward Islands.

Article X. The Inhabitants shall not be obliged to furnish Quarters for the Troops, unless in Cases of Emergency; but they are to be lodged at the King's Expence, or in Houses belonging to the Crown.

Article XI. In case Negroes shall be required to carry on Public Works, they shall be furnished by the Inhabitants to the Amount of Five Hundred.

Article XII. All Vessels and Coasters belonging to the Inhabitants at the Time of Capitulation shall be restored entire to their Owners. The Shipping that is expected by the Inhabitants from the English Ports, or the Dominions of His Britannic Majesty, shall be received in these Islands during the Term