

AT the Court at the *Queen's Palace*, the 16th of March 1809,

## P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the Forty-eighth Year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled "An Act for further continuing, until Three Months after the Ratification of a Definitive Treaty of Peace, an Act, made in the Forty-fourth Year of His present Majesty, for permitting the Importation into Great Britain of Hides and other Articles in Foreign Ships," it is enacted, that an Act, made in the Forty-fourth Year of His present Majesty, intituled "An Act for permitting, until the Fifth Day of May, One thousand eight hundred and five, the Importation of Hides, Calf-Skins, Horns, Tallow, and Wool, (except Cotton Wool,) in Foreign Ships, on Payment of the like Duties, as if imported in British or Irish Ships;" which, by an Act, made in the Forty-fifth Year of His present Majesty, was revived and further continued until the Twenty-fifth Day of March One thousand eight hundred and six, and extended to Goat-Skins imported in Foreign Ships; and which was further continued by an Act, made in the Forty-seventh Year of His present Majesty, until the Twenty-fifth Day of March, One thousand eight hundred and eight, shall be, and the same is thereby further continued until Three Months after the Ratification of a Definitive Treaty of Peace: And whereas His Majesty was pleased, by His Order in Council of the Twenty-first Day of September last, pursuant to the Powers vested in His Majesty by the said Act, to allow, for the Space of Six Months from the Twenty-fifth Day of the said Month of September, the Importation in Foreign Ships of any Hides, Pieces of Hides, dressed or undressed, Calf-Skins, or Pieces of Calf-Skins, dressed or undressed, Horns, or Pieces of Horns, Tallow, and Wool, (except Cotton Wool,) and Goat-Skins, dressed or undressed, on the Terms specified in the said Order: And whereas it is judged expedient for His Majesty's Service, that the said Permission should be continued for some Time longer, His Majesty is thereupon pleased, by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, to allow, and doth hereby allow, for the Space of Six Months from the Twenty-fifth Day of this instant March, the Importation of any Hides, Pieces of Hides, dressed or undressed, Calf-Skins, or Pieces of Calf-Skins, dressed or undressed, Horns, or Pieces of Horns, Tallow, and Wool, (except Cotton Wool,) and Goat-Skins, dressed or undressed, in any Foreign Ship or Vessel; and His Majesty doth hereby order, that, on the Arrival at any Port of the United Kingdom of any Foreign Ship or Vessel, with any of the Articles above mentioned, the said Goods shall be admitted to Entry on Payment of the same Duties of Customs and Excise as are due and payable on the like Goods when imported in any British or Irish-built Ship or Vessel.— And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury are to give the necessary Directions herein accordingly.

*Steph. Cottrell.*

*Downing-Street, March 27, 1809.*

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies, have this Day been received from Lieutenant-General Beckwith, Commander of His Majesty's Forces in the Leeward Islands, addressed to Viscount Castlereagh, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

My LORD, *Martinique, Feb. 1, 1809.*

IN my last, No. 42, I had the Honour to report to your Lordship the Sailing of the Army from Castille Bay upon the 28th ultimo. I have now the Satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship that we landed in Two Divisions upon the 30th.

The First Division, under the Orders of Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, consisting of between Six and Seven Thousand Men, at Bay Robert on the Windward Coast in the Course of the Afternoon without Opposition; and notwithstanding the Difficulties of the Country, we occupied a Position on the Banks of the Grande Lezard River before Day-break of the 31st, with a Corps of nearly Four Thousand Men, after a Night March of Seven Miles through a difficult Country.

These Services were greatly facilitated by the judicious and manly Conduct of Captain Beaver of His Majesty's Ship *Acasta*, who led into the Bay in a bold and officer like Manner, preceded by His Majesty's Brig *Forester*, Captain Richards. The Exertions and Success of this Measure were completely effective, Two Transports only striking in the narrow Passage at the Entrance of the Bay.

Hitherto we have experienced no Resistance from the Militia of the Country, and they manifest a Disposition every where to return to their Homes, in conformity to a joint Proclamation by the Admiral and myself, which is obtaining a very extensive Circulation.

The Second Division of the Army, consisting of upwards of Three Thousand Men, under the Command of Major-General Maitland, landed near St. Luce and Point Solomon on the Morning of the 30th, but as our Communication with that Corps is not yet established, I cannot enter into any Details.

Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, with the Advance in my Front, will take Possession of the Heights of Bruno in the Course of this Day, and I am led to expect will there for the first Time feel the Pulse of the regular Troops of the Enemy.

The Port of *Trinité*, which lies beyond the Line of our Operations, will, by Order of Captain Beaver of the Navy, be taken Possession of this Day by a Detachment of Seamen and Marines from the Squadron to Windward, under the Command of Captain Dick of His Majesty's Ship *Penelope*.

The Admiral, with the Body of the Fleet and Store-Ships, is in the Vicinity of Pigeon Island, at the Entrance of Fort Royal Bay.

Our Operations to Windward have been vigorous and effectual in Point of Time, and the Privations of the Troops have been considerable, and borne in a Manner worthy of the Character of British Soldiers.

From what has passed, I am of Opinion the Inhabitants of the Country manifest a friendly Disposition; and after the Heights of *Surirey* shall be carried, which I expect will be strongly contested, the Campaign will be reduced to the Operations of a Siege, and the Defence of the Forts.