

than sufficient for five or six weeks' consumption, and the quantity of lumber too scanty to meet any thing like the demand and immediate exertion to reconstruct the habitations, the mills, and the other sugar works.

The Council, therefore, unanimously recommended that flour and lumber should be admitted duty free, until the 31st of December next.

The advanced season of the year rendered timely supplies from British America unlikely, whilst the deplorable situation of Barbados confirmed the necessity of yielding to the proposition. I deemed it inexpedient to extend the period beyond the present year of 1831, for the free admission of flour and lumber, which gives ample time to receive your Lordship's instructions on the subject, and in case of the arrival of sufficient supplies to resume, by proclamation, the payment of duties. There has been an arrival here last week of 500 barrels of flour, and although an embargo on Barbados has been laid against the export of provision (of which we do not in any manner complain) yet I have no dread of absolute want.

Opportunities have offered and have been taken of notifying in Canada, and the United States, the situation of both Barbados and St. Vincent, and supplies direct to each of these islands, may soon be expected from the United States. St. Lucia has not experienced much injury; the other islands to the North (as reported) none at all.

I enclose the Royal St. Vincent's Gazettes for your Lordship's information, which give full particulars of this lamentable occurrence.

I have very great satisfaction in reporting to your Lordship, that neither during the confusion occasioned by the tempest, nor from the dispersion of all sort of property thrown about thereby, have any instances of plunder occurred, or the slightest degree of insubordination. Whereas on some estates the exertions of the negro population, to assist their owners and managers, have been most meritorious, nor have the merchants generally taken advantage of the present distress by enhancing prices. The loss of life has been comparatively with Barbados insignificant. Poor Mr. Littledale (the Judge's brother) and his housekeeper were crushed to death in the ruins of his house, which is the only instance amongst those in his station of life of any person being killed.

I shall feel much anxiety to be informed whether the measure I have ventured to take shall receive your Lordship's approbation.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) G. F. HILL.

The Right Hon. Viscount Goderich,
&c. &c. &c.

From the Royal St. Vincent Gazette.

Friday Evening, August 12, 1831.

WE stop the press to announce one of the most awful and destructive visitations of Providence ever experienced in this island. Yesterday morning early the wind commenced blowing from the westward, and continued to increase in violence, attended with a heavy sea, until about ten o'clock, when every ves-

sel in Kingstown harbour, except the ship Sarah Ward, Captain Moore, and the brig commerce, Captain Wainwright, was on shore. The wind and sea continuing to increase, it was observed that the Sarah Ward was dragging her anchors and nearing the shore, although slowly. About twelve o'clock, however, all hopes of her safety were at an end, by her grounding opposite Durham's wharf, one of the most dangerous places in the harbour. The state of the other vessels was now lost sight of, and all eyes were turned towards this ship and her unfortunate crew. The sea continued to increase in violence, breaking completely over her, and as she was nearly loaded (having in upwards of four hundred hogsheads sugar and fifty puncheons rum), she grounded too far from the shore to admit of any escape by the crew, either by swimming or on rafts. Her main and mizen masts were both cut away to lighten her, but unfortunately she bilged, and the water rushing in increased the great weight of her cargo. It was now perceived that the ship was settling fast and heeling over to the sea, and that unless speedy aid was afforded them all on board must perish. Three brave fellows (Sam Bruce, Nelson Morgan, and Healy Gelizeau) launched a canoe and ventured near enough to the vessel to receive a line which was thrown to them, but before they could get to the shore one of them (Healy) was forced overboard with the line in his hand, and having received a heavy blow in the struggle, was picked up senseless, but soon recovered himself. All efforts made from the ship to get a line on shore failed, the reaction of the waves carrying every thing thrown overboard back to the ship, often when just within reach, and one man in too eagerly plunging after a buoy was carried out to sea, and was only saved by a miracle. Interest the most intense was now excited for those on board. The day was waning fast,—the sea unabated in its fury. At length Charles Simmons (slave to Mr. Jones) after many attempts succeeded in slinging a stone with a line attached to it round one of the ropes thrown from the ship, and by that method a hawser was passed to the shore. This was presently secured to the house of Mr. Henry Arrindell, opposite the ship, and every necessary preparation being made on shore and on board, at three o'clock the first man took his leave of the ship. No words can describe the anxiety of the spectators on shore for the fate of this man as he was now seen lifted up into the air, and then dashed into the water beneath, according to the movements of the vessel. A few moments however relieved them of their fears—he was brought safely to the shore, and received with a shout that rent the air. In this way twenty-seven fellow-creatures (including six black men employed on board as labourers) were rescued from a watery grave. Captain Moore was the last man but two that left the ship, and they refused to leave her until they saw him safe on shore. The ship shortly after heeled over and became a perfect wreck. Not a vestige of property has been saved either by the captain or crew, and these poor fellows (the crew) have now to depend upon charity until they can get employment, which is far distant, the Sarah Ward being the last ship to leave for Europe during the year. Captain Moore himself is too highly esteemed throughout the island, both as a gentleman and seaman, and has too many friends in it, to suffer any privations, and therefore his greatest anxiety must be to see his crew pro-