

Should these liberal Terms, which in fact extend to the Inhabitants of this Colony a free Participation in the great Advantages enjoyed by the Subjects of His Britannic Majesty, be refused, the Governor and Court of Police, and all concerned, must be answerable for the Consequences, as an immediate Attack will be made by the Land and Sea Forces, which will render every Resistance vain.

One Hour and no more, is given to the Governor, from the Delivery of this by Brigade Major Armstrong, and Lieutenant Pardoe, to accept or not.

(Signed) LOFTUS OTWAY BLAND.

ROBERT NICHOLSON, Lieut. Col.

*To the Governor and Court of Police, and Military and Naval Forces of the Colony of Berbice and its Dependencies.*

By the Provisional Government and Court of Police, and the Commanders of the Batavian Land and Sea Forces, in the Colony of Berbice and its Dependencies.

ANSWER TO THE SUMMONS,

By Captain Loftus Otway Bland, Commander of His Britannic Majesty's Ships, &c. &c. &c. and Lieutenant Colonel Robert Nicholson, Commander of His Britannic Majesty's Land Forces, &c. &c. &c. under the Orders of their Excellencies Lieutenant General William Grinfield, and Commodore Samuel Hood, Commanders in Chief of His Majesty's Land and Sea Forces in the Windward and Leeward Charibbee Islands, &c. &c. &c.

THE Sovereignty of the Colony, with its Forts, Posts, Artillery, and Ammunition of War, will be surrendered to His Britannic Majesty's Forces, on the Capitulation offered, with the following Articles, viz.

Article I. The Inhabitants shall have the full and immediate Enjoyment of all Property, whether on Shore or Afloat; absent Persons shall, as far as regards their Property in the Colony, be considered as Inhabitants of Berbice. The Shipping now in the River, either belonging to resident Inhabitants of the Colony, or to absent Proprietors of Plantations, shall be as sacred as other Property in the Colony, and be allowed to proceed to Europe, or to any Part of America, or disposed of in the Colony, at the Option of the Owners or their Agents.

Answer.—With respect to absent Inhabitants and their Property, this Colony will be on the same Footing with Demerara. The Shipping and all belonging to them must be given up; but a particular Case may be considered.

Art. II. The Plantations, Lands, Manufactories, Workshops, Slaves, Effects, and Possessions, of the Berbice Association, of whatever Nature, shall be considered as private Property, in the same Manner as agreed to by the Capitulation with General Whyte in May 1796.

Answer.—All private Property whatever, of Individuals, to be respected.

Art. III. Provocations, or Appeals of Sentences and Dispositions passed in the Colony, shall be allowed as usual, and made unto such Court of Justice or Judges, as shall be agreed upon; yet, with this Proviso, that such Court or Judges shall determine the Case appealed, by the now existing Dutch Laws in the Colony.

Answer.—Granted, until decided which Country the Colony belongs to at the End of the War; in the

mean Time, Appeals to be made to His Majesty in Council.

Art. IV. The Troops of His Britannic Majesty shall garrison all existing inland Posts, for the Protection of the Colony, against Insurrections of the Negroes, and as many more Posts shall be created for that Purpose, as in future may be deemed necessary by the Court of Police, on making Application to the Commander of His Majesty's Troops, at the Time being.

Answer.—The Colony will be protected by British Troops;—the Officer commanding and protecting the Colony is to judge where Posts are to be erected.

Art. V. The Colony Assignations, and other Paper Currency of the Colony, shall retain their present Value, and continue in Circulation, until such Time as Circumstances will permit a Plan to be agreed upon, for the withdrawing and cancelling the same, founded on Justice and Equity, and without Injury to Individuals.

Answer.—Granted.

Art. VI. All Salaries due by the Colony to the Provisional Government, Civil Officers, and other Persons thereto belonging, shall be paid out of the ordinary Duties and Taxes.

Answer.—Granted, out of the Colonial Fund.

Art. VII. All Debts contracted by the present Government, or by Governor Van Batenburg on account of the Colony, shall also be paid out of that Fund, or out of such other as might appear they belong to.

Answer.—Granted.

Art. VIII. The bartering of Provisions and other Commodities with the Citizens of the United States of America for the Produce of this Colony, shall continue on the same Footing as at present.

Answer.—On the same Footing as the British Colonies.

Art. IX. The Grants of Land made by the Council of the American Colonies and Possessions of the Batavian Republic, before this Date, shall be respected, and the Grantees admitted, and maintained in the peaceable Possession of the same, except such Lands as might appear to be disposed of otherwise by the Government or Council here, and such as are reserved for Public Purposes; also except a certain Part of a Grant the Governor and Council have in their Assembly of the 4th October, 1802, judged to have been obtained surreptitiously.

Answer.—All fair Grants to be respected; all others to be left for future Investigation.

Art. X. The Grants of Land made by the Governor and Council before this Date, shall be respected as conclusive, though the Approvement and Confirmation of the Council of the American Colonies and Possessions might not have arrived in the Colony; and Governor and Council shall have the Power to issue Letters of Confirmation (*Grondbruren*) to the Grantees, which shall be deemed a complete and indisputable Title to them and their Successors.

Answer.—Left for future Investigation, and if found to have been fairly obtained, will be confirmed.

Art. XI. The Grants of Land on the West Coast and West Bank of the River Correntine, made by Governor Frederici, of Surinam, (which Territory was formerly held to make Part of, and belong-