

Possession of the Forts at that Hour the next Morning; this further Indulgence was granted.

At the Hour appointed on the 16th, I marched towards the Town and Forts, prepared for any Occurrence that might arise, but certainly little expecting that which happened; for the Governor (who was also Military Commandant) met me on the Road and told me, "he surrendered himself and the Garrison under his Orders at Discretion." Whilst he was thus expressing himself, the Dutch Colours were struck, and the Garrison marched out to the Place appointed, where they laid down their Arms, and were embarked as Prisoners of War, on board His Majesty's Ships, and our Troops took Possession of the Forts Louis and Amsterdam.

In this unexpected State of Things, every Measure has been and shall be adopted, which Liberality on the one hand, but a due regard to His Majesty's Interests on the other, can dictate. And first, in order to tranquillize the Public on a Subject of such Importance to the Community, I lost no Time in assembling the Council, and stating to them these Sentiments generally, assuring them that no ungenerous Advantages would be taken of their unprotected Situation; which Communication, I am happy to inform you, completely answered the desired End.

Such further Arrangements as shall appear necessary I shall forthwith adopt, and submit for your Excellency's Consideration.

The Refusal of the Dutch Governor to ratify the Terms of Capitulation is to be ascribed (as he stated to me himself) to our Rejection of the inadmissible Proposal of "his Troops being sent direct to Holland;" and on failing to obtain this Object, he came to the extraordinary Resolution of surrendering at Discretion, thereby leaving the Interests of the Colony wholly unprovided for.

Although the Nature of the Service has not afforded a Field for the Display of the active Merits of the Troops, I am not less bound to express my entire Satisfaction of their Discipline and Regularity, and I feel much obliged to Brigadier-General Skinner for his Advice and Assistance on all Occasions.

The Co-operation of the Royal Navy employed on those immediately under Captain Dowers, and the Superintendance of Commodore Fabie, has been (what it always is) truly honourable to themselves and advantageous to the King's Service; and here I cannot refrain from adding my humble Testimony to the Ability, Zeal, and Cordiality which the Commodore has unceasingly manifested throughout the whole Service in which I have been so fortunate as to act with them.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) G. HARCOURT, Brig. Gen.

His Excellency Lieutenant-General
Sir G. Beckwith, K. B. Com-
mander of the Forces, &c. &c.

P. S. Returns of the Dutch and French Garrisons, and a Copy of the Articles of Capitulation entered into, but not ratified, are inclosed.

Returns of Ammunition, Ordnance Stores, &c. shall be forwarded at the earliest Opportunity.

ARTICLES of CAPITULATION, between Brigadier-General George William Richard Harcourt, and Commodore William Charles Fabie, commanding His Britannic Majesty's Land and Sea-Forces, before

St. Martin's, under Authority from His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir G. Beckwith, K. B. Commander of the Forces, and His Excellency the Honourable Vice-Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, K. B. Commander in Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Squadron in the Windward and Leeward Islands, on the one Part, and on the other Part his Excellency John Vermeer, Colonel in Chief in the Dutch Service, and Governor over the Dutch Part of the Island of Saba.

Art. I. The Garrison shall march out of Fort Louis with all the Honours of War, Flag flying and Horn sounding, and surrender their Arms in the Pasture Ground called Mount Pleasant. The Officers shall be permitted to retain and wear their Side Arms. Their private Property shall be respected.

Answer.—The Garrison shall march out of Fort Louis with all the Honours of War, Flag flying and Horn sounding; ground their Arms in the Pasture Ground called Mount Pleasant. The Officers to keep their Side Arms, and retain their private Baggage; the Soldiers their Baggage.

Art. II. The Garrison (including Officers and Privates) shall be conveyed from hence to one of the Ports of Holland in the shortest Time possible, at the Expence of His Britannic Majesty, in suitable Vessels, provided with every Comfort for the Voyage, and engage not to serve against His Britannic Majesty, or his Allies, for Twelve Months from the Date of the present Capitulation.

Answer.—This Article is totally inadmissible. The Garrison shall be embarked for England; there to remain as Prisoners of War until regularly exchanged.

Art. III. The Governor shall not be considered in any other light than as an Officer of the Garrison, and if a private Conveyance is granted to him, to take him to one of the Ports of Holland, he shall be permitted to take on board the same Vessel with him such Military Officers of the Garrison as he shall think proper.

Answer.—Answered in the foregoing Article, the Governor being considered as Part of the Garrison; but all due Attention will be paid to his Accommodation.

Art. IV. The Sick in the Hospital shall be taken care of in the Town of Philipsburg, at the Expence of His Britannic Majesty, and treated with the same Attention as British Soldiers: after their Recovery they shall be embarked, as is provided for the other Part of the Garrison in Article II.

Answer.—The Sick in Hospital shall be taken the same Care of, and be treated in the same Manner as the Sick of the British Army. They must, however, be attended by their own Medical Staff, who are to be paid by their own Government, and when they are recovered they must follow the Fate of the Garrison.

Art. V. The Fortifications shall not in anywise be injured or demolished, but shall, in the event of the Colony being restored at the Peace to the Mother Country, be given over in the same State and Condition they shall be surrendered to the British.

Answer.—This Article totally inadmissible. The Fortifications must be subject to His Majesty's Pleasure.

Art. VI. The Artillery, Ammunition and Stores shall be delivered over to the British Officer ap-