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Port Royal in Jamaica, Aug. 17.

THE French at Hispaniola being encouraged by divers dissipated Persons that went over to them from this Island, to make an attempt upon us, resolved at last to put that design in execution, having received an additional strength by the arrival of three Men of War from France, carrying about 50 Guns each; of which we had the first certain advice from Captain Elliot, who being a Prisoner at Petit Guaves, made his escape from thence, and arrived here the last day of May with two Persons more in a Canoe, which could carry no more; Whereupon our Governor, Sir William Beeston, assembled the Council; and such Resolutions were taken as were judged most proper for putting our selves into the best posture to receive them: And it was ordered that the principal Forces of the Island should be posted about Port Royal. On the 17 of June the French Fleet came in sight, consisting of the 3 Men of War before-mentioned, several Privateers, Sloops, and other small Vessels, in all 20 Sail, Commanded by Monsieur du Casse, Governor of St. Domingo. Eight of them staid about Port Morant, and 14 sail Anchored in Cow-Bay, 6 or 7 Leagues to Windward of Port Royal, where they landed their Men, and plundered and burnt all before them for several miles Eastward, killed the Cattle, drove Flocks of Sheep into Houses, and then fired them, and committed the most inhuman Barbarities, torturing the Prisoners they took, murdering others in cold Blood after two days quartering, causing the Negroes to violate several Women, and digging up the Bodies of the Dead. They designed to have done the like in other parts of the Island, and during their stay at Port Morant, sent 5 or 6 Vessels to the Northside, and landed at St. Mary's and St. George's, but upon the appearance of some Forces that were sent thither, they withdrew, and returned to their Fleet. On the 21th the Wind blowing very hard, Monsieur Rollon, in the Admiral Ship, riding in deep Water, his Ankers came home, and he was driven off with another in his Company, and could not get up again to the Fleet, but bore away to Blackfield Bay towards the West end of this Island, where he landed about 60 men; But Major Andresse, who was left there to take care of those parts, fell upon them, and killed several of them, the rest running on board in such haste, that they left their Provisions behind them; and as soon as they could get up their Anchors they sailed away. The Enemy having done what mischief they could at Port Morant, their whole Fleet sailed from thence the 16th of July; The 17th in the morning some of them came in sight of Port Royal, and in the afternoon they went all to an Anchor again in Cow-Bay, and to amuse us, landed their Men very fast, and made Fires along the Bay, but in the night they took all their Men on board again; and on the 18th we saw them from Port Royal, standing to the Westward. We concluded they were designed for Carlisle Bay in Veré; and thereupon two Troops of Horse, and the Regiment of St. Catherine's, and part of the Regiment of Clarendon, that were in Town, and part of the Regiment of St. Elizabeth, which lay in the way, were ordered thither. The Enemy Anchored in Carlisle Bay the 18th in the afternoon; and the 19th in the morning landed 1200 or 1500 men, who attackt a Breast-work, which was defended by about 200 of ours; A great Fire was made for a considerable time on both sides, but our Men finding that Work could not be maintained, at last retired and repaired the River, after having killed many of the Enemy; In this occasion Colonel Cleyburne, Lieutenant Colonel Smart, Captain Passall, and Lieutenant Dawkins, were killed, and Captain Dawkins and Captain Fisher, and some other Officers wounded. In the mean time 4 or 5 Companies of Foot, and some Horse, came in, having marched 39 miles the night before, and though they were very much wearied, fell upon the Enemy, and charged them with such Gallantry, that they not only prevented their pursuing our men who quitted the Breast-work, but made them retreat; Here many of the French were killed, and

some on our side, and Captain Bakesstead, and some other Officers were wounded. The 20th and 21th there passed some small skirmishes between Parties; The 22th the French came to a Brick House belonging to Mr. Hubbard, and attackt it; There were in it 25 men, who killed and wounded divers of the Enemy, among whom were some of their most considerable Officers; Major Lloyd hearing the dispute, marched with some Horse and Foot to their assistance, and came in time enough to help them to beat off the Enemy; who resolved to try their fortune again the next day against the same place, with a stronger Party, and with Cannon; upon notice of which Major Lloyd put 50 men into Mr. Hubbard's House, and laid the rest of his men in an Ambuscade, expecting the French to come on as they had reported; But they changed their resolution, and finding they had lost many of their Men, and several of their best Officers, and that they could make no farther advance into the Country, went all on board again the night following, and the 24th their whole Fleet of 20 sail, Monsieur du Casse with 2 or 3 Ships more made the bit of his way home, and about 17 sail went into Port Marrant, to Wood and Water, which they did with all the speed they could. On the 28th they put ashore most of the Prisoners they had taken, and sailed away homewards as we conjecture, seeing we have heard nothing of them from that time. The Enemy according to our best computation, and the report of the Prisoners that are returned from them had above 350 men killed, besides many died of sickness, and their whole loss, while they were on this Island; is computed to be at least 700 men; on our side we had killed and wounded about 100 of all sorts, Christians, Jews and Negroes.

Malaga, Off. 12. Admiral Ruffel sailed with the whole Fleet from Alicant on the 5th instant, and on the 10th the Greyhound Frigate came into Gibraltar Bay, with Orders to such of the English Men of War as were there, to follow the Fleet to Cape Spartell, where the Admiral intended to Cruise for some time, in order to meet with the French in case they endeavoured to pass out of the Straights.

Madrid, Off. 20. N. S. The Letters from Cadix of the 12th say, That the Fleet Commanded by Admiral Ruffel did then appear off of that place, and that the same day arrived there above 100 sail of Ships, with their Convoy, laden with Provisions and other Necessaries for the Fleet from England. They tell us also, That 3 Flushing Privateers were arrived at Cadix with several Prizes which they had taken in the Mediterranean, among which was a French Man of War of 24 Guns, and an Algerine having on board 200 Turkish Passengers, and a great many Presents for the Grand Signior, the whole being valued at 400000 pieces of Eight. The Marquis de Gassanaga was two days ago declared Viceroy of Cataloniá, in the place of the Marquide Villena.

Turin, Off. 18. The Duke of Savoy returned hither yesterday from the Valley of Aost, where he had been to view the Passes, and to give the necessary Orders for the securing of that Country against the Enemies Incurfions during the Winter. Prince Eugene of Savoy, Count Passi, and several other General Officers are likewise come to this place from the Army, which is separated and going into their Winter-quarters. The Enemy are doing the like; and the Marechal de Catinat, after having been to visit the Garison of Pignarol, will return to Paris. The French, to take their revenge of the Vaudois, who in August last defeated some of their Troops in the Valley of Pragelas, made on the 25 of the last month 4 Detachments to attack them in the Valley of St. Martin by different ways. The first of these Detachments, which consisted of 200 men, was sent beyond la Perouse, to amuse the Vaudois, who had a Guard there: The second, which was of the same number, marched to Pomaret, and passed the River Clifton. The 3d, composed of 400 men, marched through the Vinyards, and divided afterwards into two Parties; and the 4th Detachment, which was of 800 men, passed over the Hills in three Parties; Their first appearance in the Valley of St. Martin occasioned a great Alarm there, but our Guard