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[Handwritten notes on the left page, including:]
Condemnation of the
'Esperanza' - and capture
of the 'in chains' there
traders.
R. 21 March 50

[Handwritten text on the right page:]
I Charles Bussingh Staring
Commander of the British Majesty's
Ship 'Hogue', hereby declare that
on this tenth day of December 1819 being
in or about Latitude 5° 49' North,
Longitude 9° 57' West, detained the
Ship or Vessel named the 'Esperanza'
sailing under Spanish Colours, armed
with one Gun and eight Pieces, commanded
by Don Pedro Martin Ruiz who declared
her to be bound from Porto Rico as
appears by passport to the South of the
Line with a crew consisting of seventy
four Men (two of whom were killed
in boarding her, and two others with
the 'Esperanza' were on shore at Grand
Bassas) the rest whose names, as declared
by them respectively, are inserted in a
list at foot hereof, and having on
board Fifty Slaves, said to have been
taken on board at Petty Bassas, Grand
Bassas, Grand Cora, Nanna, River
Sister &c. between the first day of
November 1819 and the date hereof, and
are enumerated as follows Viz:

	Healthy	Sickly
Men	Twelve	
Women	Twelve	One
Boys	Twelve	
Girls	Three	

I do further declare that the said Ship

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or vessel appeared to be seaworthy and was supplied with a sufficient stock of water and provisions for the support of the said Negroes and crew on their destined voyage. It appears that a part of the crew has been landed to pay for the slaves at present on board. - I must now call the attention of the Court to the serious charge which I make against the Captain of this Slave vessel, or more properly speaking this dealer in human flesh, of firing upon the Subjects of His Britannic Majesty, - when in the lawful discharge of that duty their Country has ordered them to perform. His Majesty's Ship under my command has now on board, three men wounded and unable to perform their duty at present, - and had not the Officer with the rest, done their duty with the greatest bravery, they must have fallen a sacrifice to those lawless Villains, who besides carrying on a strict forbidden trade, I have very reason to believe, by the conduct of one of them about a month back, to an English Merchant Ship called the William Rathbone, they are Pirates and Robbers upon any vessel they think they are superior to.

(Witness) Geo. Mat. Rogers 1st Lieut.
James Forrest 2^d Lieut. Surgeon
Chas. B. Strong Commander

List

List of crew found on board

- Don Pedro Martin Ruiz Master
- Anastasio Bayreli Mate
- Santiago Giamé
- Gabriel Leon
- Juan Gutierrez
- Ignacio Serechins
- Jose Martenez
- Don^{te} Enriquez
- Nicholas Perez
- Jose Abigo
- Manuel Rodriguez
- Juan Perez
- Francisco Gonzalez
- Pasqual Blas
- Bayetano Brown
- Gregoria Rodriguez
- Juan Bant^o Moller
- Jose Rodrigo
- Don^{te} Luckin.

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Ant^o Cuesta } Killed in Boarding
Juan Gil }

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