

A British Consignee in
Sierra Leone
No. of 25. July 1825.
Per *Argyle*.

101

*Case of the Schooner the St. Salvador, Antonio de S. Alvarez
the Schooner the St. Salvador
(Militaire)*

Case of the Schooner the St. Salvador, Antonio de S. Alvarez
the captured under Portuguese Colors. - 107

The St. Salvador was taken possession
of on the 25th of January, at an anchor off the River Sierra
by His Majesty's Ship the Myrmidon, Captain John Lubbock
and brought to Sierra Leone on the 9th instant. -

On the Tender of the Myrmidon
approaching the Schooner, a Boat was seen to depart
from her endeavouring to reach the Shore, but was
prevented and taken to the Myrmidon, - on board
this boat there was a Negro who declared himself to be
a Slave, taken from the Schooner, in consequence of
which the Vessel was detained. - The Slave's name is
Pops - alias Willam - a Throeman, who had lived two
years at Sierra Leone: he declared on his oath (assisted
by an intelligent Interpreter named Tom Puck) that
he was sold by Charles Gomez, a Slave dealer at Monrovia,
to the Supercargo who sent him on board to be
inspected and approved of by the Master of the St.
Salvador; that he was put in Irons, and that he had
been one day and one night on board before he was
relieved by the Captains. -

As this Slave's deposition is too
voluminous to insert here, a copy of it will be
annexed. -

Mr. Baker Master Mate of the
Myrmidon declares, on oath, that on his approaching the
captured Vessel he saw two empty Boats a Stern of her,
one of which was soon hauled up on the starboard side
and put off with Negroes in her for the Shore: this was
the Boat which was brought alongside of the Myrmidon's
Tender as before stated, and out of which Pops alias
Willam the Slave, was taken. -

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	2	1

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The *St. Salvador*, prior to her capture had been chased by the *Myrmidon* and escaped. - Lieut. J. B. Smith and Mr. Charles Leach a Midshipman, who were put into the Schooner to conduct her to Sierra Leone, declare, on oath, that Antonio's son Alvaro the Master of the vessel told them that when he was thus chased he had twenty five slaves on board, that he escaped by tacking on its becoming dark and landed the slaves at Gallinas the next morning. -

In special interrogatories being put by the captors, with the consent of the courts, to Antonio José Peasey, as to the facts of his informing Lieut. Smith "that on the night the *St. Salvador* was chased by the *Myrmidon* there were twenty five negroes on board, and that they were all landed at the Gallinas the next morning," his answer is "No" which he qualifies thus - "he told him (Lieut. Smith) that another Schooner which was chased by the *Myrmidon's* boats, at the same time that the *St. Salvador* was chased, had on board twenty five slaves who were landed at the Gallinas." -

It appears by the declaration, on oath, to the standing interrogatories put to the Master of the *St. Salvador*, that she was purchased at Baltimore by himself, for accounts of a Mr. Martinez of the Island of Bona Vista, Cape de Verde, that for the present voyage (she not being the first on account of the same owner) she was laden at Bristol in the United States with a cargo, which he the Master purchased for his and Mr. Martinez's account. The vessel proceeded with this cargo (it being adapted for the Slave trade) to Bona Vista, from whence she was dispatched with the cargo for the coast of

Africa. - Her crew, exclusive of the Master, consisted of thirty two in number, namely 15 Americans, 6 Portuguese, and 11 Italians and French. She was fitted up in every respect for a Slave trading Voyage, with the intention of taking back from the coast of Africa a cargo of Slaves to the Havannah. - The *St. Salvador* was armed with eight eighteen Pound Cannonades, and ammunition corresponding thereto. -

Part of the *St. Salvador's* cargo was landed at Cape Monte, and the remainder, except a few trifling articles, which are still on board, was put on shore at Nanna where the Supercargo - a Mr. P. Greene - was landed to collect Slaves, as appears by a letter in his hands writing addressed to the first Mate of the Schooner John Fletcher, who acknowledged, on his oath, the letter to be genuine. a copy of which letter is annexed. -

That the *St. Salvador* was engaged in an illicit Slave trade, there is no doubt. - The fourth Section of Article the first of the Convention signed at London the 28th of July 1817 prohibits Portuguese Vessels from carrying Slaves to any Port not in the Dominion of Portugal: - The *St. Salvador* was to have taken her Slaves (as allowed on oath by the Master, Mate &c) to the Havannah. -

Article the 4th requires that all Portuguese Vessels shall be furnished with a Royal Passport. The *St. Salvador* had no such Passports and the only Pass she possessed was one from the Governor of Bona Vista. -

Article the 6th of the Instructions annexed to the Convention stipulates, that two thirds of the crew of all Portuguese Vessels shall be native Portuguese: - the St. Salvador had on board no more than six Portuguese Seamen. -

Were the Commissioners on the part of His most Faithful Majesty on the spot, it is conceived that they would coincide in the opinion which the British Members of the mixed Commission have formed, in this case; - namely, that the St. Salvador has been detected in carrying on an illicit traffic in Slaves, and they are further of opinion, upon the whole of the evidence that the Negro Pops was on board the St. Salvador as a Slave; and that the detection and seizure of the Boat in the act of taking him out of the St. Salvador to put him on shore is a sufficient finding on board to make it their duty to reserve the case for Adjudication. -

The Court in the meantime feel it their duty to declare that Captain H. J. Leake of His Majesty's Ship Myrmidon has been fully justified in detaining the said Schooner St. Salvador.

Pierre Levee
25th February 1830.

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 Portugal.