

British and Spanish Court of Mixed Commissions

Before Edward Gregory Esquire His Britannic Majesty's Commissioner Judge and Edward Fitzhugh Esquire His Britannic Majesty's Commissioner of Arbitration.

Don Francisco de Paula His Catholic Majesty's Commissioner Judge and Don Jose Canales His Catholic Majesty's Commissioner of Arbitration having left the Colony

Present James Woods Esquire Acting Registrar

Sina here 15th May 1824

Spanish Schooner *buena Maria*

Examinations on oath of Mr John Hudson, Master Mate of His Majesty's Ship Tartar, and Prize Master in charge of the Spanish Schooner *buena Maria*.

Q. Were you present at the taking and seizing of the Schooner and her loading concerning which you are now examined?

A. I was on my way in one of the Tartar's boats to take a part in the capture, and on reaching the Schooner found she had already surrendered to the Master Mate of the *Shuttle* who had got on board with a party of about twenty men by means of a Canoe.

Q. For what reason was the *Vessel buena Maria* seized?

A. For being under Spanish Colors and having Slaves on board.

Signed John Hudson

the copy words of Reg.

Spanish Schooner *buena Maria*

Declarations of the copies

D

In the City of W. M. M. Compendium to the Court of Mixed Commissions

No. 4

Spain

of the 5th June 1824

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference: -

F.O. 84

11

COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Q^r In what place, or in what latitude and what time, stating particularly the time month and day, was the capture made.

A^r The capture was made within the outer Bar of the River Bonny, on the evening of Friday the 23rd March last 1831 about 8 o'clock. The Schooner was at single anchor at the time the capture was made. When first seen she was under way coming down the River Bonny. The night was dark at the time of the capture, but the moon rose after about midnight.

Q^r Was any resistance made.

A^r I have heard that a Blunderbuss was fired out of the Cabin and that one of the Marines of the Thistle was hurt, by a blow of a Sabre - but this I do not know of my own knowledge.

Q^r What cargo did you find on board at the time of her capture.

A^r There was a great number of Slaves, apparently between four and five hundred I did not count them, I have heard that some of them jumped overboard at the time she was taken, I understood that upwards of one hundred and fifty were removed to the Tartan, from the crowded state in which they were on board the Schooner, on the 26th March I was put on board the Schooner as Pilot Master, at which time I found on board two hundred and twenty two Slaves, and entered the number of each sex in the log Book. - I think one hundred and forty five males,

Signed / John Hudson

and one hundred and twenty seven females on the passage from the River Bonny to Sierra Leone. Thirty four died. Viz^{ly} Twenty three Males and eleven females.

Q^r What other Cargo besides Slaves did you find on board.

A^r Nothing but provisions and water for the Slaves.

Q^r What proceedings did you take when you went on board as Pilot Master.

A^r In pursuance of orders received from Commodore Sir George Collier. I proceeded with the Schooner to Sierra Leone, where I arrived on Sunday last the 13th of May.

Signed / John Hudson

Examination closed

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	2	1
Reference: -					
F.O. 84					
11					
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON					