

British and Spanish Court of Mixed
Commission. 86

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Before Edward Gregory Esquire His
Britannic Majesty's Comptroler and
and Edward Fitzgerald Esquire His
Britannic Majesty's Commissioners of
Arbitrations.

Charles Barrett Acting Marshall of
the said Court being duly sworn on
the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God
deposes and saith. That on the afternoon
of the 16th of May Instant he received
written Instructions from the Commis-
sioners of the said Court to repair on
board the Schooner "Anne Maria" under
Spanish Colors and report on the
Numbers of Men, Women, Boys and Girls
Slaves on board the said Schooner. Also
to cite the Officer and principal part
of the Crew of said Schooner to appear
at said Court next morning at ten o'clock.
This Deponent at the same time received
verbal Instructions to communicate with
a Medical Officer whom his Honor the
Acting Governor had been requested to
send to examine said Slaves, with a view

if

Commission, May 16, 1822

Thomas Johnson, Master

Master of the Schooner

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In the presence of the Commissioners
of the Court of Arbitration,
at the Court House,
No. 4
St. James's Street,
London.

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of ascertaining if any and what part of them
it would be necessary to land immediately
on account of sickness. It was likewise
signified to him that it would be proper to
wait on Mr. Reffell, Chief Superintendent
of Captured Negroes, to arrange as to the
accommodation of such Slaves, as it might
be found necessary to land. - This Deponent
further says that in consequence of these
instructions he waited on Mr. Reffell accord-
-ingly, who informed this Deponent that
he could not accommodate any Slaves
that Evening - but would be able to do so
next Morning. - That this Deponent then
waited on Doctor Haskins the Medical
Officer before alluded to, who informed him
that he had examined said Slaves and had
reported to His Honor the Acting Governor
his opinion that it would be advisable to
land a certain part of them forthwith.
That Doctor Haskins requested this Deponent
to see His Honor the Governor on the
subject, which he did. That on seeing
the Governor this Deponent stated he
had been informed by Doctor Haskins
that he Doctor Haskins had reported to his
Honor that it would be proper to land
certain of the Slaves who were sick on
board the Schooner "Anna Maria" that
Evening; that this deponent requested to know
of His Honor if they could be accommodated

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on Shore; - His Honor informed this Deponent
that there was no place ready for their
reception that Evening - that it was then
too late that they would be better on
board that night - and that they could
be received next morning - or words to the
same effect; That this Deponent then
asked his Honor if he could accommodate
him with a large Boat in the Morning.
His Honor replied - not the large one but
another. - That in consequence of this
information and it being then as this
Deponent believes, much past five o'clock -
he gave up the Idea of going on board
the Schooner that Evening. That on the
following Morning, he repaired to the
Wharf about seven o'clock, and waited some
time in expectation of getting a Convey-
-ance on board the Schooner - but could
not; that he then went to Government
House and asked His Honor the Acting
Governor if the Boat had been ordered
to be in readiness. His Honor replied that
he had arranged matters with Mr. Reffell
who had the Boat for the purpose of
landing the Slaves; or something to the
same effect. That this Deponent then
endeavoured to find Mr. Reffell but
could not - that he then returned to the
Wharf

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Wharf and hailed a Fishing Boat passing
in which he obtained a passage on
board the Schooner: That on his arrival
there he found M^r. John Morgan who this
Deponent understands is Clerk to M^r.
Reffell) in Charge of a large Boat in
which were already placed the Female
Slaves belonging to the Schooner; That
this Deponent enquired his Authority for
landing the Slaves - observing that he
this Deponent imagined that such duty
more properly belonged to the Marshall
of the Court. That M^r. Morgan informed
this Deponent that M^r. Reffell had ordered
him to land the Slaves and he under-
stood that he so ordered him by Command
of the Governor - or words to the same
effect: That this Deponent not having
had the charge of the Vessel assigned
to him - did not conceive that he had
the power of giving counter Orders to M^r.
Morgan, or that he possessed any Control
over either the Vessel or Slaves except
those who were sick - and therefore this
Deponent declined to interfere; - but that
he proceeded to execute his Instructions by
taking an Account of such Slaves as
remained on board - and again of
those already in the Boat as they
landed on the Wharf: That some time
afterwards this Deponent had occasion

to return again to the Wharf for the
purpose of going on board the Schooner 88
when he saw the same Boat with the
remainder of the Slaves on board - which
were landed during the time of his
proceeding on board and returning from
the Schooner - and were subsequently
lodged in the Goal Yard of Trestown
Signed, C. Barrett.

Sworn in Court
this 15th day of May 1828

Signed, J. S. Woods
As Registrar

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