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 Abstract of the case of the Brig La Conquistador
 and of the Schooner La Nueva Virgen
 under Spanish colours. 66

The Brig and La Nueva Virgen were brought to Sierra Leone on the 4th of November 1781. by His Majesty's Ploop Myrmidon, Captain Leake, without any of their original Spanish crews on board, but with a number of negroes that had been shipped in the River Booby.

The facts relating to these vessels as stated in the declarations of Captain Leake, and in the examinations of himself and of his Officers, are as follows.

About the 11th of August last, an attempt was made by the boats of the Myrmidon to visit the Brig and the Schooner; the crews of those vessels having powerful means of defence, opened a heavy fire on the approach of the first boat and succeeded in obliging the party to retire, yet not until, unfortunately, two Officers, one of

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25
 Sierra Leone, Dec 16, 1781
 J. Rogers & P. St. Andrew
 (His Majesty's Commissioners)
 Dec 9
 Francis
 3 B. Andrews
 Dec 4 March 7.
 Antigua
 with
 Permit these rights
 La Conquistador and
 Schooner Virgen

of them the Commander of the party, with
a Lieutenant of Marines and a surgeon were
wounded. At the next Spring tides after
this affair, Captain Leake proceeded in
the Myemiston to the place where the
revels lay which was a considerable
distance up the River; he found the
Brig and the Schooner entirely abandoned.

The slaves had been removed from both
revels, as also some part of their cargo.

The Masters of the Spanish revels
on the arrival of the Myemiston, sent a
letter to Captain Leake by the Master
of a French revel then taking in
slaves at Bonny, expressing their regret
that they should have fired upon the
boats of the Myemiston; that they knew
not to whom the boats belonged; that
they were extremely sorry for what they
had done and begged Captain Leake
that he would pity their situation.

Captain Leake demanded the
slaves and the cargo that had been
removed from the revels. The Spanish
Masters

Masters, accordingly, sent to Captain Leake
147 slaves belonging to the Brig, and
130 slaves belonging to the Schooner, ⁶⁷
they also sent the papers of both the revels.
These papers consisted of a Royal Passport,
a log book, a Muster Roll, and a
Mediterranean Pass of the Consulate,
and of similar documents belonging to
the Nueva Vizcaya. It appeared from
these papers that both the revels were
fitted out at Santiago de Cuba; the Brig
was commanded by José Piqueras, was
armed with seven guns of different calibers
and with small arms, and was manned
with forty two men.

The Passport of La Consulate bore
the original date of Madrid 2^d of April
1818, and had the usual Royal and Official
signatures. It was made effective at
Cuba on the 4th of March 1819 in favor
of the Brig Cometa, Don Juan Francisco
Ballajos, Master, Antonio Bailliant, Owner,
coming to the Coast of Africa for 485
slaves, signed Luis de Arce. In the present
instance it was put in operation

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on favor of Don José Figueroa and authorized
him "to proceed to the Coast of Africa to
"the Southward of the Equinoctial Line
"with the Brig under his command called
"Nuestra Señora de las Consuelos in search
"of the negroes that he had left there,
"as has been fully verified by the
"documents which he has produced,
"dated Cuba 24th of April 1824, signed
"Francisco Xavier de Rosillos". This
authorization was endorsed on the
manuscript notes upon the back of
the passport.

The Schooner *Los Niños Ninos*
was commanded by Juan Bautista
Tabares, mounted three guns of various
calibers, had small arms and a crew of
twenty three men. Her Passport was
originally given in favor of the
Schooner "*Niños Ninos*", José Traves,
Master and Owner. It was dated
Madrid the 14th of July 1818, and
had the usual Royal and Official
signatures. It was made effective for
the

the conveyance of 250 slaves by the authority
of the Commandant of the Marina at
the Havana under date of Cuba 23rd Sept.
1819, signed, Augustin Figueroa, Francisco
Xavier de Rosillos.

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This Passport was received by a few
lines endorsed in manuscript in favor
of the new Captain Don Juan Bautista
Tabares authorizing a voyage to the
permitted parts of the Coast of Africa
to trade in slaves complying with the
 requisite forms. This endorsement is
dated Cuba the 29th of May 1820, signed
Francisco Xavier de Rosillos.

Another endorsed memorandum in
"consequence of the sickness of the above
"named Captain Tabares," authorizes
Don Carlos Benjunt to take the command
of the vessel in his place and to proceed
on the voyage having complied with
the necessary forms, dated Cuba,
26th of June 1820, signed Luis de Arce.

A third endorsed memorandum
renders the Passport effective for the
present

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present voyage in the terms of the following tenor:

Removes in favor of Don Lucas Barrantes Tabares in order that he with the above named Schooner may proceed from this Port to the Coast of Africa, South of the Equinoctial Line in search of the negroes which were left there, as a part of her cargo, by the Brig proceeding from this Port named El Aquiles, as the principal Owner, Don Antonio Vinentes, has made apparent by judicial documents which have obtained for him the necessary permission from the other authorities of this place. Cebu, 17th of April 1838, signed, Francisco Javier de Rodilla.

It appeared by the log-book of the Quera Yegon that she left Santiago de Cebu on the 2nd of May 1838, in company with the Schooner Estrella and the Brig Caridad, the three vessels, as was expressed, "being" destined to the Coast of Africa to the

the South of the Equator, to take away
"from thence two hundred and thirty
"nine negroes that had been left by
"the Brig Aquiles, Don Pedro Cardenas, Master."

The Commissioners at the conclusion of the examinations of Captain Leche and of his Officers thought that the papers given to Captain Leche by the Masters of the Caridad and Quera Yegon clearly established their Spanish characters. The Commissioners further examined some of the negroes found on board; they deposed that they were natives of the Gambia Country, which is in the neighbourhood of Conny River, and that they were sold to the Masters of the Brig and of the Schooner. The Commissioners on the evidence thus obtained, decreed on the 7th of November the Caridad and the Quera Yegon to be condemned as prizes for being engaged in the traffic in slaves. The slaves on board those vessels were at the same time adjudged to be emancipated.

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emancipates. Accordingly, 120 negroes from
the Carolina and 106 negroes from the Anne
Virgin were delivered over to the Colonial
Government; during the passages from Bonny
to Sierra Leone 17 negroes died on board of the
first, and 34 on board of the second vessel.

Sierra Leone, Dec. 15th 1808. E. Sneyd
Edward Fitzgerald

Extract of the Report
of the Brig La Bonaire
Commander La Moine
under Spanish colors.

To the Hon. the Commrs
of the African Company
of Sierra Leone
of the 15th Dec. 1808.

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