

Great Britain. Colonial Office
Original Correspondence: Jamaica (CO 137/84)
(HIL-MICL FC LPR .G7C6J3C6)
Content List (excludes Miscellaneous Papers)

**Note: Page numbers are stamped.*

| Page | Date/Place | Author | Summary |
|-------------|------------------------|--|--|
| 1-4 | 1784 Jan. 12/Whitehall | [Lord] Sydney to Gov. of Jamaica | Rations for troops – directed to find another mode of issuing other than from His Majesty’s Stores |
| 5-22 | 1783 Nov. 26/Jamaica | Arch ^d Campbell to Lord North | <p>House of Assembly met 21 Oct., enclose copy of my speech (no. 1) plus the Address of Council and my Reply (nos. 2 and 3); local reaction to the additional duties and excise upon sugar and rum, and on account of the restriction laid upon American trade by His Majesty’s Order in Council 2 July 1783 (American vessels not permitted to unload cargoes); enclose Address (no. 4) and accompanying answer (no. 5); 20 Nov. Assembly concerned about the consequences, presented Address (no. 6) for 9 month suspension, I refused for reasons stated in Reply (no. 7), in addition customs numbers do not warrant concern of a want for staves and lumber; biggest concern of inhabitants due to its taking effect immediately; misunderstanding by some of the intent of the Order of 1783; 25 Nov. Assembly voted in favour of a motion for Island sustenance pay for troops.</p> <p>Enclosures numbered 1 to 7 noted above included: No. 1 – 21 Oct., acknowledge King’s appreciation of attention shown Prince William Henry during his stay; recommend revisal of Militia Laws and institution of regular musters</p> |

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------|--|---|
| | | | <p>No. 2 – 23 Oct., appreciate acknowledgement of our endeavours to support this administration during the war; glad King content with attention given his son; expect to work towards island’s tranquillity</p> <p>No. 3 – 23 Oct., gratified by favourable manner addressed administration</p> <p>No. 4 – 24 Oct., look forward to meeting gov. early after the cessation of a war which was “highly dangerous and grievously burthensome to this Colony”; will take care of ordinary expences of gov’t; will consider whether impoverished state of island will allow provision for peace-time military establishment for our protection</p> <p>No. 5 – 24 Oct., thank you for favourable Address</p> <p>No. 6 – 20 Nov., concerns American trade and the King’s Order in Council 2 July disallowing American vessels to unload their cargoes; very concerned as necessary to fortunes, especially supplies of wood products; had not ordered from anywhere else and worry about consequences from French; redress solicited and extension of 9 months to import and export products targeted</p> <p>No. 7 – 20 Nov. 1783, power restricted to affect change concerning American trade Order; optimistic – requested supplies from Nova Scotia and Canada and from the encouragement given to British merchants, expect prices to fall and worry of scarcity removed</p> |
| 23-28 | 1783 Nov. 28/Jamaica | Arch ^d Campbell to Lord North | <p>“Private”, original Address over-ruled by majority of House but could not include in public letter of 26 Nov.; many “malcontents” in Assembly – those with close relationships and trade with 9Americans, or who have lost much; expedient to watch myself</p> <p>Enclosure: 24 Oct. 1783; <i>Original Address to Assembly by Committee appointed to draw up an Address to Governor’s speech at the opening of Session but which was rejected by Assembly</i> – hope also peace has been restored, expect to hear from gov. confirmation; provision had been made for His Majesty’s Forces during war but unable to vote supplies requested in speech; justified as representatives of “oppressed People” - taxes already imposed by</p> |

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------|--|--|
| | | | British Parliament on staple produce of the island is too much, and if imposed for protection which not received, forts and fortifications should not come out of our taxes; latest measures oppressive and will ruin smaller sugar planters; expect equality as British subjects who dutifully struggled through hardships of military duty and three expensive martial laws; thus no money for fortifications or forces stationed on island; agree to revisal of militia laws for domestic safety; period of crises – subjects grievously oppressed by interruption of American trade – “an interruption which comprises in it all the calamities of War, Pestilence, and Famine |
| 29-30 | 1783 Nov. 28/Jamaica | Arch ^d Campbell to Lord North | Duplicate to above enclosure. |
| 31-34 | 1783 Nov. 30/Jamaica | Arch ^d Campbell to Lord North | <p>No. 39, received despatches of the 7th, 23rd, and 30th of Sept and confidential letters of the 3rd of Oct.; concerning Definitive Treaty, forwarded copies to Spanish governors of Cuba, Guatemala and Yucatan and propose meeting of British Commissaries with Spanish at mouth of Bellise [Belize] River Feb 1784 to discuss limits of Treaty; will provide instruction to those appointed; enclose copy of letter to superintendent of Mosquito Shore, presumes Spaniards will attack (for reasons given) and requests guidance to support British inhabitants and native chiefs</p> <p>Enclosure: 26 Nov. 1783, Jamaica; Campbell to Major Laurie, superintendent of Mosquito Shore – encloses copy Definitive Treaty of Peace signed Versailles 3 Sept 1783; Article 6 excludes Mosquito Shore as does not belong to Spain, thus natives and inhabitants on same footing as before war; request chiefs to continue commerce with English, and with Peace between Spain and Britain that they will stop hostilities against subjects of Spain</p> |
| 35-36 | 1783 Dec. 10/Jamaica | Arch ^d Campbell to Lord North | No. 40; concerns report given by commissary general of provisions for His Majesty’s Troops – want of provisions and need to purchase here, reason - contractors in England not fulfilling contracts; received no flour 1783 and only half amount of salt expected; to purchase only what is necessary to victual troops already embarked |

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------|------------------------|---|
| | | | and embarking for England and Windward Islands; have 6 weeks' stores left; request advice as to whether to continue adding fresh beef to troops' diet; include invoice pertaining to cost of beef |
| 37-54 | 1783 Dec. 24/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | No. 41; Council and Assembly met, summary account enclosed – appropriation of the surplusage of revenue a bone of contention between the two branches of legislature, describes; 8 enclosures pertaining to – A) message from Assembly in response to proposal for amendment; B) his speeches; C - F) his replies; G) final speech; pertaining to expenses during war, Assembly allowed enough to cover claims of all individuals |
| 55-56 | 1783 Dec. 24/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | Since peace established, request permission to go to England for personal reasons for 6 months |
| 57-60 | 1783 Dec. 24/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | Concerns Captain Alexander Dirom of 60 th Regiment, deputy adjutant general of His Majesty's Forces in Jamaica, and adjutant general of the militia – a recommendation for Royal favour; enclose resolutions of the legislature of the island in his favour, dated 17 Dec. 1783 |
| 61-66 | 1783 Dec. 25/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | No. 42; concerns 2 battalions of the disbanded provincial regiment, Duke of Cumberland - felt it necessary to provide 4 months' pay to officers to be able to return home or pursue other employments; 1 st battalion reduced 24 Aug and 2 nd the 23 Feb. next as stationed at out quarters; Enclosures: 1. lists of officers (in hopes they are placed on the establishment for half pay), includes dates of commissions, if elsewhere, and tabular data - numbers discharged and remaining in the island or enlisting in the regular regiment, embarking for Great Britain or Ireland, embarking for Nova Scotia, and embarking for Mosquito Shore); and 2. Return of Officers recommended [by him] for Half Pay Staff Commissions in the Duke of Cumberland Provincial Regiment of Foot (all reduced without half pay and "unfortunate in service") – Lt. Hugh McLachlan, to be Adjutant in place of Ensign |

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------|------------------------|---|
| | | | Shaw, Lt. Alexander Campbell to be quarter master in place of Lt. Smyth, Capt. Lt. David McConnell in place of Capt. McDonald, Ensign Thomas Greatly and quarter master of provincials to be quarter master in place of Lt. Philips |
| 67-70 | 1784 Jan. 10/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | No. 43; since last despatch, no occurrence of material importance in government; relief from expenses of supporting military with peace – 30 th , 63 rd , 65 th , 71 st , 79 th and 99 th regiments having sailed; Militia Bill, rejected last year, but accepted this year with reasons for both – one reason for assent was concern for insurrection of slaves in 2 of Leeward Parishes; Freeport Act – understood it had not been renewed; will pay attention to items recommended in secret letter of 7 Nov respecting Mosquito Shore, based on steps already taken, expect will be accomplished [gives no more details]; sent information gatherers out to find out what Spanish islands think about Article 6 of Definitive Peace Treaty – Omoa, Yucatan, Guatamala, Merida |
| 71-72 | 1784 Jan./Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | Concerns the war-time experiences of the letter bearer – Captain James Campbell of the 42 nd Regiment, lately arrived from New Orleans; had been brigade major to Lt. General John Campbell and paymaster to the staff in West Florida, involved in defence of Pensacola against Galvez, detained as hostage and compelled to live at Mobile which is very unhealthy place, could not get him exchanged for 2.5 years; after 22 years distinguished service recommend justice |
| 73-87 | 1784 Jan. 18/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | No. 44; concerns quit rents - as per request, investigated state of quit rents; include enclosures; on 10 th Admiral Gambier arrived at Port Royal with ships <i>Europa</i> , <i>Flora</i> , <i>Iphiginea</i> and <i>Swan</i> sloop of war; his aid de camp goes home a seconded captain in the 14 th and will deliver letter Enclosures – 1. Receiver Generals Office. Account of impost, quit rents, fines, forfeitures and escheats, wine licences and gun powder duty in Jamaica from 30 Sept 1778 to 30 Sept 1783, shows totals for |

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | | | <p>each year; 2. Account of salaries and expences charged on His Majesty's revenue in Jamaica from 30 Sept 1778 to 30 Sept 1783 (shows yearly and annual salaries for governor, chief justice, attorney general, auditor general, captain of Fort Charles, Lt of Fort Charles, 12 matrosses [gunner's mates] of Fort Charles, chaplain to council, provost marshal for his ordinary salary, secretary of the island for his ordinary salary, clerk of the Crown, public messenger, captain of the train of artillery, waiter, and forts and fortifications; 3. Remarks on His Majesty's Instructions to Governor of Jamaica [which are the governor's responses only to these instructions]; some topics included: rights of absentees in cases of debt, governor's right to grant patents of naturalisation to deserving aliens; interference with private acts, particularly privileges to people of "colour"; issuance of public money; money bills – Assembly's claim to right of; Act pertaining to setting value of foreign coins such as Seville Pillar; quit rents – whether owing any to England; appointing of justices of the peace; building of churches; danger of conversion of slaves; governor's involvement in business's debt payment; no account found of number "negroes" imported being sent every year; martial law of 1779; store houses; fortification grants; lists members of council; sending of shipping lists; revising words used to describe subjects [inhabitants]; entitlement of Americans to purchases on island</p> |
| 88-95 | 1784 March 19/Whitehall | Sydney to Gov. Campbell | <p>Laid before King numbered letters 38 to 44 and letters of 28 Nov., 24 Dec. and Jan. last; committee of Privy Council established concerning commercial regulations, brought to their attention the interest of the West Indies to do business with America; hope to convey their sentiments by next packet; sent to Treasury subject of purchases of provisions and misconduct of contractors, expect will be dealt with; my letter of 12 Jan. conveys King's intentions relating to supplying of troops; subject of the right of interference of council in appropriation of surplusage of island revenue contentious and will be brought before committee of Privy Council; will recommend half</p> |

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|------------------------|--|
| | | | pay for officers in Duke of Cumberland Regiment to Parliament; informed of arrival of Lord Charles Montagu [(1741-1784), commander of Duke of Cumberland's Regiment] at Halifax with much of his corps and land grants to be provided; permission granted from King to return to England upon arrival of Lt. Gov. Clarke, your temporary replacement; concerning application of Capt. James Campbell and Capt. Dirom for favours – rejected by King who previous to request decided not to grant additional rank by brevet out of the common course (further explains) |
| 96-97 | 1784 Jan. 23/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | <p>Concerns Bay of Honduras – extension of bounds requested by settlers, agrees to, plus settling on St. Georges Quay, shipping at South Triangles and turtle fishery; recommend plan for police and superintendent; recommendation of Colonel Despard as superintendent; Eliphalet Fitch, native of Boston, lately from England, announced his appointment as deputy receiver general, does not approve and provides reason – mainly that he was ill affected to government during last war; men of disaffected character by acquiring places of trust and confidence in government, could endanger peace and safety of island</p> <p>Enclosure: 1. Resolution by House of Assembly, 18 Dec. 1783, recommending Captain Edward Marcus Despard (services to island 1779-1782) for Army rank or other mark of Royal favour; provides reasons, including his conduct in Sept. 1782 - took Spanish garrison at Black River on Mosquito Shore and rescued fellow subjects; 2. Resolution in council 20 Dec. 1783, for same</p> |
| 102-103 | 1784 Feb. 22/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord North | No. 46; Letters received of 11 Sept., 4 and 5 Dec. 1783 which included the Treaty of Peace with U.S.; will comply with recommendation on behalf of merchants who trade with Spanish settlement in West Indies; Royal Artillery companies arrived from England and North America to relieve those here, measures [not stated] adopted for their accommodation to experience a degree of health which has been scarcely know here; building lately used for |

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | | | prisoners of war at Kingston and repurposed as military stores – needs repairs and funds to use as such; officer of sick and hurt hopefully will initiate request |
| 104-109 | 1784 April 12/Whitehall | Sydney to Gov. Campbell | Concerns complaint from France on the capture and condemnation in Court of Admiralty at Kingston of French vessel, <i>la Marquise de la Fayette</i> , in 1783, contrary to preliminary articles of peace; Ambassador requests enquiry be made into the matter Enclosures: 1. 1784 April 1 from Wm Fraser? at St. James to Evan Nepean, Esq. [under-secretary to home dept.]; transmitting complaint from French Ambassador; 2. Note dated 1784 March 30 from Le comte d’Adhemar, in French |
| 110 | 1784 March 9/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord Sydney | No. 49; Acknowledges and good wishes on appointment as principal secretary of state for the Home Department |
| 112-117 | 1784 March 10/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord Sydney | No. 47; Send enclosures: 1. List of Laws passed in the Session of 1783 (examples – highway, public work house, quit rent, smuggling, militia, rum, rules and articles of war, and private and privileged laws by individuals - Ann Williams, Sarah Bonner, Dorothy Manning, Patrick Duncan, Mary Pinnock, Edward Beeker, James Kerr, Grace Needham, and James Jones; 2. letter from Mr Mure, secretary of this land and clerk of the Council, 1784 Feb. 18, Spanish Town; mistakes noted by Lord North are only in the copy sent to England, explains what happened |
| 118-119 | 1784 March 10/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord Sydney | No. 48; received letters from Lord North 17 Nov., 19 Dec 1783, and your circular letter of 23 Dec. 1783 and 12 Jan. 1784, accompanied with observations on the best method of victualling His Majesty’s Troops in Jamaica; believe these methods will not answer the problem to the full extent proposed; advertisements printed encouraging merchants to give proposals for victualling troops; great abuses exist in Bay of Honduras previous to last war owing to lands being improperly divided among British settlers; propose remedy |

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | | | [included] to remove confusion and monopoly, mentions benefit to wood cutters |
| 120-122 | 1784 May 6/Whitehall | Sydney to Gov. Campbell | Draft; cutting logwood in Bay of Honduras – seems worthy and hopes instructions sent will have desired effect; regulation for internal government of Honduras being considered and your recommendation will likely be accepted concerning Captain Despard as superintendent; Mr Fitch – after making enquiries, found great differences of opinion on his character but person that appointed him will remove him if it can be shown he should do so; building to be used for military stores of the Army - your report of the state of the building given to Lords of the Admiralty for consideration; your proposal for the allotment of Honduras land – King thinks judicious |
| 123-124 | 1784 July 7/Whitehall | Sydney to Gov. Campbell | Concerns provision of barrack furniture for troops in Jamaica – sent letter from Mr. Steele, secretary of the Treasury, to Mr. Nepean [Evan Nepean (1753-1822) under-secretary of state for Home Dept]; I desire you use your influence with legislature to continue supplies for troops; not received letter since No. 49 |
| 125-126 | 1784 May 28/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord Sydney | No. 50; acknowledge circular and despatch of 19 March, with extract of minutes of committee of West India merchants of 20 Nov 1783 and their resolution of 4 March 1784 concerning extravagant fees taken by Revenue and other officers of sugar colonies; in relation to this, an Act of Assembly has settled those fees to mutual satisfaction of merchants and officers; happy King approved of suspension of King's order in council of 2 July 1783 and the right of appropriating the surplusage is to be settled so as to remove contentions and animosities between Council and Assembly; enclose list of ships entered and cleared from 29 Sept 1783 to 29 March 1784 [not included]; recommend Hugh Lewis Esq. to succeed as advocate general for Jamaica as Thomas Harrison Esq. has resigned to go home to England; hope his replacement gets here before hurricane season which would delay leaving |

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 127 | 1784 May 30/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord Sydney | <p>No. 51; Concerns Turks Islands and their defence by a provincial regiment during the war and now in peace - Andrew Symmers, Commandant of Turks Islands had authority to raise a company 29 June 1781 by King's Council and by Treasury 27 Aug. for company pay; cannon, small arms and stores came for this purpose to Jamaica early 1782 and 12 month's pay advanced from 23 Aug 1781 to 22 Aug 1782; he could not fill the company and taken prisoner of war when French took island start of 1783; pay allowed to Dec 1783 when all provincial troops in this country disbanded; by Symmers' letter of 6 April, he thinks still entitled to provincial corps, has near completed filling its ranks and wants the stores left at Jamaica; disapprove and think cannot comply without special orders; believe people who wouldn't support their own defence in time of war are not entitled to the confidence or support of government</p> |
| 129 | 1784 Aug. 2/Whitehall | Sydney to Gov. Campbell | <p>Draft; Received and laid before King No. 50 and 51; table of fees submitted – heard no complaints about; advocate general appointment for Jamaica – passed along your recommendation to Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and suppose it acceptable; King agrees with you concerning Mr. Symmers' request</p> |
| 131-134 | 1784 May 26/Jamaica | Gov. Campbell to Sydney | <p>Enclose memorial by merchants of the island requesting redress for the amount of insurance paid by them for a vessel that was sunk in the Harbour of Rattan by order of the commanding officer there to obstruct the entrance of the enemy; think it should be considered and one of the merchants can give more information when he delivers this – William Hibbert</p> <p>Enclosure: Kingston, Jamaica, 1784 May 12; memorial to Campbell complaining of heavy loss sustained during the late war in consequence of orders issued by His Majesty's commanding officer at the Island of Rattan; during war had formed society to insure vessels and cargoes which was encouraging to trade, but enemy captures and other misfortunes occasioned losses that exceeded premiums received on vessels insured; complaint concerns a snow</p> |

| | | | |
|---------|------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| | | | called the <i>Liberty</i> , Robert Reed master, and her cargo of mahogany bound from Mosquito Shore to Kingston, Jamaica; after leaving Island of Rattan [now Roatan, Honduras], Captain Holmes, the commanding officer, forcibly carried vessel to Port Royal Harbour and had her sunk to obstruct the Spanish; had to pay owners 1, 805 pounds; request redress; signed Robert Hibbert, John Moore, And. Catheart, William Dillworth, Richard Lake, John McLean |
| 135 | 1784 July 2/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord Sydney | No. 52; Acknowledge receipt of letters 19 and 24 March, 12 April, 5 and 6 of May; concerns condemnation of ship <i>Marquis de la Fayette</i> – when Judge of Admiralty returns from Leeward parishes, he will provide information |
| 137-140 | 1784 July 3/Jamaica | Campbell to Lord Sydney | No. 53; enclose letter received from Governor Tonym [Patrick Tonym (1725-1804), Governor of East Florida] concerning [American] loyalists; these loyalists have arrived and expect to go to Mosquito Shore; without direction have ordered 4 months' rations and wait on further instructions; these settlers should render that settlement respectable and of consequence Enclosure: 1784 May 27, St. Augustine; Pat. Tonym to Campbell; 243 loyalist refugees are on their way and require assistance; secretaries of state have given assurance of resting places and provisions; in addition to the <i>Betsey</i> , 2 transport ships will follow with more people seeking your protection and promised bounty |
| 141 | 1784 July 12/Jamaica | Alured Clarke to Lord Sydney | No. 1; Concerns moiety of his salary possibly being offered by Assembly which is not supposed to be part of the governor's salary |
| 143 | 1784 Sept. 2/Whitehall | Sydney to Lt. Gov. Clarke | Draft; Campbell delivered letter 12 July of your arrival; concerning moiety of salary, King will allow if Assembly offers; loyalists – to follow Campbell's example and to assure these "unfortunate" people immediate measure will be taken for further assistance |
| 146 | 1784 Oct. 5/Whitehall | Sydney to Lt. Gov. Clarke | Delay in return of packet - expect due to dreadful effects of hurricane; condition of jails – crowding, disease, immense expence; prisoners may be useful on Mosquito Shore and coast of Honduras |

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | | by cutting logwood or assisting recent settlers to cultivate lands; direct to investigate if settlers amenable; believe best option |
| 149-155 | 1784 Aug. 15/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | <p>No. 2; received letters of 25 and 31 May and 4 and 10 June with several enclosures to Gen. Campbell who left the island on 12th of last month; answer to letter of 12 April, enclose letter from Judge of Admiralty to explain circumstances under which condemnation of French vessel <i>La Marquis de la Fayette</i> occurred; Mr. Alpres, member of Council died and will attend to replacement when have time; send copy of resolution of Council for King's approbation on subject of their intention to order payment of that part of the Revenue salary which is not to be given but normally is</p> <p>Enclosures: 1. 1784 Aug. 7, Spanish Town, George C. Rickets [Judge of the Admiralty] to Clarke - provide particulars relative to condemnation of French vessel name <i>la Marquis de la Fayette</i> in Court of Vice Admiralty here on 16 June 1783; libel filed 8 April 1783 by advocate general at the request of Alexr Wood, commander of His Majesty's ship of war <i>Amiable</i>, and Samuel Thompson, commander of His Majesty's ship of war the <i>America</i>; claim filed 1 May by Paul Loarde Martigna master of said ship on behalf of himself and Francis Borel of Bourdeaux and others arguing capture was made when hostilities had ceased between France and England and therefore restitution to be made; author of letter further explains where the process lies; 2. 1784 July 15; resolution from Council respecting moiety of captain general's salary be given to Brigadier General Clarke</p> |
| 156-172 | 1784 Aug. 15/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | <p>No. 3; enclose final report by commissioners appointed to meet with representatives of Spain for the purpose of adjusting boundaries allotted for settlers in Bay of Honduras; commissioners had assistance from captains Cornwallis and Cauzier of the Navy; will pay account of expences as seem reasonable; concerning Mosquito Shore – based on accounts from commissioners and Colonel Lawrie, superintendent there, strong reason to believe Spaniards mean to</p> |

take that territory by force at end of term mentioned in Definitive Treaty of Peace; settlers and natives concerned for reasons given; until hear from King, will support if necessary; vessel from East Florida arrived few days ago with about 50 white persons [American loyalists] and near 200 “negroes” bound for Mosquito Shore - will support as Campbell did before; Captain Despard will deliver letter and as well acquainted with Mosquito Shore and happenings in the Bay of Honduras will inform on subject; suggest salary for his work should be augmented

Enclosure: 1784 May 31; letter from British commissaries on Bay of Honduras to Gen. Campbell, on board His Majesty’s ship *Iphigenia* off the mouth of the River Belize in Honduras; found General Merino Y Zevallos inclinable to comply with terms of Article 6 in the Definitive Treaty of Peace upon a liberal scale, but he assured us that he could not grant anything further; only request complied with was use of Southern Triangles [6 or 8 miles to the southward of River Belize] to heave down vessels at; signed E.M. Despard, Richard Hoare, James McAulay, James Bartlette; enclose copy of our letter to the General [No. 1](#) and his answer to us [No. 2](#); set the boundary lines – Col. Despard and Major Mcaulay went up River Belize, Major Hoare went up New River and Capt. Bartlett up Rio Hondo and enclose as [No. 3](#), and gave General a receipt and acknowledgement of such possession enclosed as [No. 4](#); refer you to our journal which accompanies this for a more minute account [not included]; congratulations on additional district which is valuable – produces logwood and mahogany and large amount of manufactured wood fit for British market at small expence and beneficial to proprietors; settlers – tolerably well satisfied with boundaries but dread fresh troubles and are “backward” in establishing themselves and in preparing plantation grounds; from what have seen and heard believe Spanish intend to demand possession of Mosquito Shore at expiration of 18 months mentioned in Definitive

Treaty and will have considerable strength; Col. Despard is on his way to Jamaica and will further inform; compliment Capt. Cornwallis of ship *Iphiginia* and Capt. Cauzier of sloop *Antelope* for their assistance

Enclosures of commissioners: **No. 1.** Copy of letter to Gov. of Yucatan (Don Joseph Marino Y Zevallos, captain general and governor of Yucatan) from British commissaries, 1784 May 15, Belize - request place for a general "rendezvous" necessary for preservation of internal police of settlers, benefit of their health, and convenience of loading their vessels, recommend one of the Kays laying opposite to district; request place to heave down and repair merchant vessels as no place of convenience within limits, recommend South Triangles south of Belize where formerly used as; request greater extent of fishery – Kays and shoals immediately opposite to limits marked out are by far too narrow and British wood cutters will be unable to support their slaves and labourers upon fish and turtle as previously the case which is necessary for their existence; to produce harmony submit the necessity of prohibiting desertions of slaves and servants which previously had produced jealousies and discontents; **No. 2.** Joseph Merino Y Zevallos [Jose Merino y Ceballos, governor of Yucatan] to Commissaries Despard, Hoare, McAulay and Bartlett - response to British commissioners' letter, translation - agree to British vessels use of kays called Triangles and will communicate this to my Sovereign; cannot agree with any other, my conduct must be guided by the will of my Sovereign; **No. 3** copy of translation of governor of Yucatan's certificate of delivery of district in Honduras, signed Juan de Aguilar 1784 May 27 – certifying delivery to Great Britain of lands allotted for cutting logwood in 6th Article of Definitive Treaty of Peace; **No. 4** Receipt of British Commissaries for District in Honduras, 1784 May 27 – Gov. Zevallos being satisfied of accuracy of limits traced, this day put us in possession of same which we

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>acknowledge receipt, signed Col. Despard (captain in 79th Regiment and Brevet colonel of provincials), Major Hoare, Major McAulay and Capt. Bartlet (members of provincial regiment)</p> <p>Enclosure: Zevallos to Campbell from vessel at mouth of Rio Nuevo, 1784 May 27; notice all is completed in reference to territories allotted by treaty for cutting of logwood; leaving for capital of Merida, have painful disorder</p> |
| 173-176 | 1784 June 12/Black River, Mosquito shore | Col. James Lawrie to Clarke | <p>[James Lawrie (1722-c. 1800) British superintendent of Mosquito Shore] Enclose duplicate of last dispatch 28 April; concerns the expected attack by the Spaniards after the expiry of treaty in 18 months – effecting inhabitants who are in the midst of trying to recover their losses; tried to assuage but unconvincing and gives reasons why fears settlers will leave (mentions concern of effects on slaves too), suggests a vessel off coast would reassure; Indians – also reassuring but suggest presents for last year and this sent quickly would help; Capt. Cornwallis and Col. Despard can provide better information on Truxillo and other Spanish affairs; tomorrow set out in <i>Iphigenia</i> for Cape Gracias a Dios and will write</p> <p>Enclosure: petition of Mosquito Chiefs to Gov. Campbell; concerns fears and apprehensions of Spanish attack and taking territories– warlike preparations at heads of main rivers and making of strong forts at Tuxillo with guarda costas, adverse effects to our subsistence of fishery for turtle; as independent people, abhor dreadful scenes of cruelty, slavery and desolation exhibited by Spanish against neighbouring Indian nations; British alliance - trust our ancient alliance and attachment; difficult and dangerous times, rejecting Spanish offers has resulted in their want to exterminate us; ask for aid to secure liberty; signed by Hobby Tempest (General Tempest’s eldest son), Prince Eugene, Admiral Dick Richard, Captain Dick Lee, Captain Powell, Col. Trelawny, captains Hall, Bella, Foster, Sweete, Tolerain, Bascourbe?, Clement, Pendar; George G. King of</p> |

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| | | | the Mosquito Indians, Governor Britain for himself and men, General Lee |
| 177-180 | 1784 Aug. 4/Kingston | Col. Lawrie to Clarke | Concerns intentions of Spaniards against Mosquito Shore and consequent apprehensions of His Majesty's subjects settled there [including American loyalists] and the native Indians; sailed to Black River, principal settlement British settlers; concerned the natives would retaliate against them if they believed they would leave them defenceless; informed Spanish guarda costa came to Black River looking for runaways, they told settlers preparations underway to take Mosquito Shore once British subjects withdrawn, and if Indians resisted, they would be exterminated; additional intelligence of same from Catacamas [Honduras]; vessel blown off course, on my way when can and will continue to strengthen attachment of Indians to His Majesty's subjects; suggest helpful if when the annual presents are shipped, arms and ammunitions sent as well; support for security should come no longer than end of Dec. as may lose territory by neglect |
| 181-184 | 1784 Aug. 4/Kingston | Col. Despard to Clarke? | Information pertaining to Mosquito Shore gathered during April's voyage – settlers, natives, Maj. Lawrie apprehensive about Spanish pursuit of a take-over; Capt. Cauzir on armed brig <i>Antelope</i> came, we went to investigate situation; describes military works at Truxillo [Trujillo, Honduras] – personnel there included a captain, 2 subalterns, 40 or 50 privates, 10 or 12 artificers and about 100 pioneers, people of colour; proceeded to Bay of Honduras, found settlers who had arrived some time before [American loyalists?] exceedingly alarmed due to reports given by Spanish officers – expected to take next March, British settlers to retire where directed, Sambo Indians to be sent to Havana and sold, real Indians, called rebel Indians to be reduced to state of dependence; confirmed by Spanish officers – subjugate all Mosquito Indians incl. Havana, Campeche, Baccalar, Meridei, Ornoa, Truxillo [Trujillo], Carthagena and all country in the back; settlers resolved to carry on business on confined scale rather than hazardous retreat; June went |

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | | to Truxillo [Trujillo] on the way to Jamaica in ship <i>Iphigenia</i> ; found more officers and many more troops than before belonging to Regiment of Guatemala, raised for service of Honduras and Guatemala - most officers are natives of old Spain, privates are natives of America; proceeded to Black River, British settlers more uneasy than before [gives reasons]; decisions for settlers to consider: retreat before anything happens or sacrifice all?; if leave fear consequences of reaction of Indians – a ferocious people driven to madness from a strong sense of their injuries; intelligence from settlers who had been up river of war-like preparations and recruitment, and talk of Britain’s renouncing alliance with Indians; believe naval force will come from Havana and Carthagen, the land force mainly from Guatemala, and the crafts and craftmen mainly from Campeche, Bacalar and Omoa; intelligence that craftsmen building large crafts in the River and Gulf of Dulce |
| 185 | 1784 May 30 | From commissaries | Extract of the Journal of the British Commissaries appointed to ascertain the limits of the District allotted the wood cutters on the Bay of Honduras; describes boundaries; signed E.M. Despard, R. Hoare, J. McAulay, J. Bartlett |
| 187-197 | 1784 Aug. 15/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | No. 4; notice of dreadful hurricane night of 30 July – horrid devastation – ships, plantain destroyed, ground provisions suffered and concerned for famine and its certain forerunner - rebellion of slaves; relief needed; have taken measure for protection and relief of subjects; barracks on island suffered greatly so will be difficult to keep troops covered, mentions Up Park barracks and rebuilding Enclosure: copy of Minutes of Council and their resolutions relative to provisions and lumber, 1784 Aug. 4; concerns dreadful hurricane of 30 July, destroying estates, works, plantain walks, and provisions upon which is necessary for support of “negroes” and others; recommend immediate inquiry to give extent and advice how to obviate scarcity and want |

Memorial attached to Minutes from Town of Kingston, signed Paul Phipps Custos and 95 others; details situation after the hurricane – destroyed greatest part of shipping and small crafts, plantain walks and ground provisions (necessary for support of themselves and slaves), considerable part of the town and county, military barracks, victualling stores at Greenwich where Navy provisions kept and Navy ships and sloops; include return of provisions in town, which is inadequate even in short term; concerned about famine and consequent danger of slaves driven to desperation for want of food; request temporary assistance [gives details] and ability to get assistance from foreign powers

Letter attached to Minutes from William Dunlop Esq., Agent for victualling the troops in Jamaica, 1784 Aug. 4; concerns conditions after hurricane – not a week’s flour and but 2 week’s store of salt; not able to supply troops with provisions properly; request a plan be speedily adopted to get provisions into the island to alleviate distresses and fears of all ranks; willing to help alleviate financial burden in the short term and forgo a view of profit to obtain provisions

Minutes of Council 1784 Aug. 7; present Lt. Gov. Allured Clarke, Thomas Iredell, R. H. May, W. P. Browne, Thomas Wallen, Robert Sewell; contains **extracts of letters** from individual eye-witness accounts to the destruction of buildings and loss of provisions due to the hurricane in various parts of the island; details - destruction of crops (plantain, yam vines and cassava), ground provisions, buildings [providing a sense of the estate structures, and industry such as sugar – curing, distilling, boiling and trash houses]; and large concern of famine, especially “negroes” and “slaves” who depend on plantain sales; one example of sentiments: destitute of every support for his “negroes” - 500 mouths to feed in time of calamity without shelter for either them or ourselves afford melancholy

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| | | | <p>considerations to a feeling mind; letters authored by proprietors, overseers, etc of estates included: Hallet Hall, James Ferguson (Chiswick), Fairlie Christie (Albion St. Davids), Henry Forbes (Golden Grove), Anthony Madden (St. Thomas in the East), David Stewart (Holland St Thomas in the East), John Jameson (Middleton St. Thomas in the East), Alex Johnston (Amity Hall), George Davidson (York St. Thomas in the East), James Grant (Winchester St. Thomas in the East), Jacob Caruthers (Hordly? St. Thomas in the East), Joseph Neil (Norbrook, Liguanea), Richard Welch (Nutfield), [blank] French (Caswell Hill), William Crombie, John O’Mealley (Montpellier St. James), John White (Williamsfield St. Thomas in the Vale), John Milligan (N. Grove), Thomas Kae? (Rose Hall, St. Thomas in the Vale), Hugh Millar (Longville Clarendon), Hugh McLean (Old Pera and New Pera), J/I? Dickson (Middleton), Alex Johnston, William Mitchell (Potosi, St. Thomas in the East), John McQueen (Nutts River, St. Thomas in the East), Port Morant neighbourhoods – Philipsfield, Pleasant Hill, Hampton Court, Dalvey, Duckinfield, Plantain Garden River, Arcadia, Harbourhead, Bowden, Boxford Lodge; account summarised by James Wedderburne for Parishes of Westmoreland and St. Elizabeth and leeward side of Hanover; Dr. Crichton’s account from travels along north side of island; ; Board members’ accounts of Midland Parishes on south side of island; Resolutions taking into consideration extent of damage, etc. – inhabitants have serious and alarming apprehensions from a want of provisions of island growth and state of lumber to supply needs of rebuilding; Town of Kingston does not have provisions to furnish relief; Lt. Gov. be advised immediately to allow customs officers to admit a free importation of all kinds of provisions and lumber in vessels for 4 months</p> |
| 198-199 | 1784 Aug. 16/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | <p>Received letters of 22 June and 7 July with enclosures; Thomas Greathead, Collector of His Majesty’s Customs for Port Antonio in Jamaica killed by hurricane and have appointed Edward Manning Papley to replace if you agree</p> |

| | | | |
|---------|------------------------|--|---|
| 200 | 1784 Aug. 16/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | Have transmitted last quarterly return of shipping from Naval Office in Jamaica [not included] |
| 202 | 1784 Aug. 30/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | No. 6; concerns troop health, provisioning and pay – wishes the mode adopted during the last war for supplying provisions will continue, as heard troops suffered in health and discipline previously due to irregularities; Assembly not expected to assist monetarily as already have to afford rebuilding military barracks due to hurricane; hope to hear His Majesty’s positive commands on the subject soon |
| 204 | 1784 Aug. 30/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | As mentioned in letter no. 2 there is a vacancy due to death of Mr. Alpres, a member of council; 2 applicants – Mr. Chymest, a planter, and John Jackson, a barrister, both have large properties; do not know them and by duty mention their names |
| 206 | 1784 Sept. 30/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | Honoured with your letter in recommendation of Mr. Waite, to whom I shall be happy to give attention if I find an opportunity |
| 208 | 1784 Nov. 17/Whitehall | Lord Sydney to Major General Campbell at Edinburgh | Draft; Request attendance in London to ask opinion relating to government of Jamaica |
| 209-214 | 1784 Nov. 18/Whitehall | Lord Sydney to Clarke | Secret; received letter No. 3 by Capt. Despard conveying intelligence of Spanish preparations and intentions against Mosquito Shore; delivering King’s commands on matter – may send part of the troops at Jamaica under command of discreet officer to Mosquito Shore, directed to co-operate with Superintendent Lt Col. Lawrie; if attacked, consider plan and dispositions Gov. Campbell left; King desires hostilities be avoided if possible on the ground, negotiations ongoing in Europe; also desires prevention of further emigration to the Shore until dispute resolved; provisions will be sent for the troops going to Mosquito Shore and informed store at Jamaica has enough arms and accoutrements for use; keep me informed of this “important and interesting Subject” |
| 215 | 1784 Nov. 18/Whitehall | Lord Sydney to Clarke | Received letters Nos. 2 to 7; King agreed to your accepting part of the Revenue Salary; King agreed to your steps to relieve the island financially and of ill effects (resulting from the wants of the |

| | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| | | | <p>“negroes”) due to the hurricane; King expects his allowance of imports of produce from prohibited countries shall not be abused; concerning repair of King’s barracks at Up Park – master general of ordnance will give directions to officer in that department, hopes Assembly will allow monies to repair others; your recommendation of replacement for Mr. Greathead is being considered as well as supplying the troops; will wait to hear from you on who should fill Council vacancy</p> |
| 218 | 1784 Oct. 4/Jamaica | Clarke to Lord Sydney | <p>No. 8; Received letters of 2 and 6 Aug.; information from Capt. Christopher just arrived from Mosquito Shore confirms and corroborates accounts of Spanish intents to expel our settlers early in the year; hope to hear soon King’s commands on this so can effect assistance to those unfortunate people; William Henry Ricketts, Esq. is desirous of replacing Mr. Alpres on Council; enclose letter from Gov. Maxwell [not included]</p> |
| 220 | 1784 Dec. 1/Whitehall | Lord Sydney to Capt. Despard | <p>Draft; King agreed to your appointment - to regulate and superintend affairs within the District allowed for logwood cutters on coast of Honduras, and to prevent disagreements between subjects working there and Spanish inhabitants; position to be under the direction of Jamaican governor; pay at 500 pounds; expected to keep governor informed</p> |
| 222 | 1784 Dec. 1/Whitehall | Lord Sydney to Clarke | <p>Draft; Received letter No. 8; in response, King wishes officer heading detachment to Mosquito Shore to be field officer, as provincial officer may not be as competent for this purpose at this critical time; King appointed Capt. Edward Marcus Despard to regulate and superintendent affairs within the district agreed to by the treaty; you are to pay his salary of 500 pounds per year in same manner done with Mr. Lawrie; respect Despard’s knowledge of settlers and natives; plan for regulation of police with the Honduras District – your opinion upon enclosed sketch is requested [not included]</p> |

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------|---|---|
| 226 | 1784 Dec. 2/Whitehall | Lord Sydney to Clarke | Draft; Concerns Mr. Beach - gentleman has inherited large property in Jamaica, recommend him to your notice and protection on arrival to settle his affairs |
| 228 | 1784 Dec. 3/Harley Street | Arch ^d Campbell to Evan Nepean | Misstatements in memorial you sent me; inclined to give labourer his due but cannot subscribe to unreasonable requests or give countenance to memorials founded upon a misstatement of fact; expense pay for commissioners adjusting limits of Bay of Honduras – have not seen Report so cannot comment, but recommend Lt. Gov. of Jamaica appoint 3 officers to examine into expences; P.S. - remarks upon memorial stated in confidence will show unfairness of Mr. White's statement |
| 230-232 | 1784 Dec. 4/Whitehall | Lord Sydney to Clarke | Concerns claims by Honduras commissioners for compensation; enclose memorial presented by Mr. White on behalf of commissaries employed in adjusting limits of district allotted by treaty to logwood cutters on coast of Honduras [not included]; sent to Campbell for consideration, his response in letter to [Evan] Nepean; directed to enquire into matter of compensation to commissaries and adjust accordingly; in justice to Capt. Despard memorial was prepared by agent previous to his arrival in England; Campbell wishes his letter kept private |