

In obedience to your wish I have assembled Rear Admiral Drake, and the Captains of His Majesty's Fleet under your Command and Communicated to them the Copy of the Kings Sign Manual, you did me the Honor to put into my hands for that purpose, wherein His Majesty has most graciously been pleased to relinquish His Right, to all the Effects taken at St. Austatus, (Provisions and Military Stores excepted) to the Captors of His Majesty's Land and Sea Forces, employed on that Service; and I am Authorised to say, that we the Rear Admirals and Captains, do, with the utmost humility submit to the Kings pleasure respecting the distribution His Majesty has so bountifully been disposed to direct, of the effects taken at the said Island, and are impressed with the most lively sense of Gratitude for His Royal Munificence which can never be effaced from our minds.

I herewith return you the Kings Sign Manual together with a paper you at the same time gave me, which His Majesty's Sign Manual has no reference to; and

as

as it bears no signature, or has any writing  
with it, to shew from whom or whence it  
came; and as you was pleased publicly  
to declare to us last evening, that you had  
not received a syllable, from the Admiralty  
upon the Subject of His Majesty's most  
gracious bounty; we are unable to say  
anything upon it, but beg to repeat  
with one unanimous voice that we wish  
to be guided solely by His Majesty's good  
pleasure and that alone.

Copy J W M Hardy

This Letter was written with our full  
approbation and consent.

Fra. S. Drake

Wm. Payne

M: Robinson

C: Taseton

Stair Douglas

Tho: Rich

Cha: Thompson

Cha: Fitzgerald

R: Wickerton

J. N. Inglefield

J L. Gordon

R: Manners

G: Reynolds

Ja: Ferguson

Alex: Cochrane

Wm Carnegie