

COMMISSION

Under the Treaties with Foreign Powers,
respecting the Slave Trade.

INTERROGATORIES for the Use of the
British Commissioners, to be administered to
the Witnesses belonging to the Vessel taken.

1819.

S. BROOKS, Printer,
45, Paternoster-Row, London.

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INTERROGATORY
to the Master of
the Vessel cap-
tured.

I. WHERE were you born? Where do you live, and how long have you lived in that Place? Of what Prince or State are you a Subject? Have you ever been Subject of any other? If yea, of whom and when? Are you a married Man, and if married, where do your Wife and Family reside?

Interrogatory to
the said Master.

II. WHO appointed you to the Command of the Vessel taken? Where does he live, and of whom is he a Subject? Where did you take Possession of her, and at what Time? What was the Name of the Person who delivered such Possession to you, and where does he live, and of whom is he a Subject? How long have you known the Ship? When and where did you first see her, and where was she built, as far as you know or believe?

Interrogatory to
each Witness, ex-
cept the Master.

III. WHAT is the Name of the Master or Commander of the Vessel taken? How long have you known the said Master? Where was he born, and what is his fixed Place of Abode, or where does he generally reside? Is he married? If yea, where does his Wife and Family reside?

Interrogatory to
each Witness, ex-
cept the Master.

IV. WHO appointed the Master to the Command of the Vessel, and where does such Person reside? Where did the Master take Possession of her, and at what Time, and what was the Name

of

the said Ship and the Shore, or the Natives belonging to such Port or Place?

Interrogate each
Witness.

IX. IN what Place, or in what Latitude, and at what Time, stating particularly the Year, Month, and Day, did you first see or observe the capturing Ship? Set forth as accurately as you can the Place of Capture. When, and at what Time did the Chace of the Ship taken begin? Towards what Port or Place was the Ship taken steering at the Time of her being first pursued? Was her Course altered, or was any and what additional sail made, upon the Appearance of the Vessel by which she was taken? Was her Course at all Times, when the Weather would permit, directed to the Place or Port for which she appears to have been destined by the Ship's Papers? Was the Ship, before or at the Time of her Capture, sailing beyond or wide of the Place or Port to which she was destined by the Ship's Papers? At what Distance was she therefrom when first pursued? Was her Course altered during any Part of the Voyage in which she was captured? If yea, at what Time, and to what Port or Place? and set forth particularly the Reason why her Course was so altered.

Interrogate each
Witness.

X. WHAT Guns are mounted on board the Ship, and what Arms and Ammunition were belonging to and on board of her at the Time of the Capture? Why was she so armed? Was any, and what Resistance made at the Time of Capture? Had you any, and what Instructions or Directions, and from whom, for resisting or endeavouring to avoid or escape from Capture, or for destroying, concealing, or refusing to deliver up any or either of your Ship's Documents and Papers on board? If yea; interrogate particularly as to the Tenor of such Instructions, and all Particulars relating thereto. Let the Witness be asked if he is in Possession of such Instructions, or Copies thereof; and if yea, let him be directed to leave the same with the Examiner to be annexed to his Deposition.

Interrogate each
Witness.

XI. WHO were the Owners of the Ship or Vessel, concerning which you are now examined, at the Time when she was seized? How do you know that they were the Owners of the said Ship at that Time? Of what Nation or Country are such Owners by birth? Where do they reside, and where do their Wives and Families reside, and of whom are they Subjects? How long have they

the said Ship and the Shore, or the Natives belonging to such Port or Place?

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XI. WHO were the Owners of the Ship or Vessel, concerning which you are now examined, at the Time when she was seized? How do you know that they were the Owners of the said Ship at that Time? Of what Nation or Country are such Owners by birth? Where do they reside, and where do their Wives and Families reside, and of whom are they Subjects? How long have they

they resided there? Where did they reside before, to the best of your Knowledge?

Interrogate each Witness.

XII. WAS any Bill of Sale made, and by whom, to the aforesaid Owners of the said Ship? If yea, in what Month and Year, where, and in the Presence of what Witnesses was such Bill of Sale made? Where did you last see such Bill of Sale? What was the Price or Consideration for the said Ship? Hath such Price or Consideration been paid or satisfied; or has any, and what Security been given for the Payment of the same, and by what Person or Persons, and where do such Person or Persons now live? Was the Sum so paid or secured a fair and true Equivalent for the said Ship? Do you know, or believe in your Conscience, such Sale or Transfer has been truly made, and not for the Purpose of covering or concealing the real Property? Do you verily believe, that if the Ship should be restored, she will belong to the Persons now asserted to be the Owners, and to none others? Are there any private Agreements for the Return of the Ship to her former Owners at any and what Period?

Interrogate each Witness.

XIII. WHAT are the Names of the respective Laders, Owners, and Consignees of each respective lading of Merchandize or Slaves on board the Ship taken? What Countrymen are they respectively? Where do they now live and carry on their Business? How long have they resided there? Where did they reside before to the best of your Knowledge? Where was the Merchandize or Slaves now on board to be delivered, and for whose real Account, Risk, or Benefit? Have any of the Consignees or Laders any and what Interest in the said Merchandize or Slaves? If yea, whereon do you found your Belief that they have such Interest? Can you take upon yourself to swear that you believe, that at the Time of the Lading, and at the present Time, and also if the said Merchandize and Slaves shall be restored and unladen at the destined Ports, the same did, do, and will belong to the same Persons whom you state to be the Owners, and to none others? What is the Ground of such your Knowledge and Belief?

Interrogate each Witness.

XIV. WHAT Lading did the Ship bring out on her last Voyage, and where was it shipped? Of what does the present Cargo consist? How many Slaves were taken on board from the Time you commenced

commenced trading to the Time of completing your present Cargo, distinguishing Males, Females, and Children under the Age of Fourteen Years? At what Port or Ports or Places were the said Slaves taken on board, and how many at each? Were they all taken from the Shore or Quay, or were any and how many Slaves (distinguishing as before) removed or transhipped on board your Vessel from any other Vessel? If yea, from what other Vessel, and to what Nation belonging, and when and where and by whom was the same so done, and from what Place had the said Slaves been brought? Had any and how many, and of which Description of the Slaves died previous to the Capture? Have any and how many, and of which Description of Slaves died between the Capture and the present Time? Into what Ports or Places has the Vessel been carried since the Capture?

Interrogate each Witness.

XV. WERE and are all the Passports and other Papers, which were found on board the Ship taken, entirely true and fair, or are any of them false or colorable? Do you know of any Matter or Circumstance to affect their Credit? If yea, set forth the same, and state particularly what Variation has been made therein, and when, and why, and by whom.

Interrogate each Witness.

XVI. WAS the Ship, concerning which you are now examined, provided with a Royal Passport conformable to the Model annexed to the Treaty between His Britannic Majesty and His Catholic Majesty, signed at Madrid, on the 23d September, 1817? On what Day, Month, and Year, as nearly as you can depose, did you receive such Royal Passport? By whom was it delivered to you? Who was the Minister of Marine of His Catholic Majesty when the said Passport was delivered to you? Who was the principal Naval Authority of the District, Station, or Port from whence your Vessel cleared out? Let the Royal Passport be produced to the Witness then under Examination, and let him be interrogated.—Are the Signatures affixed to the said Passport in every respect true and genuine, so far as you know or believe?

Interrogate each Witness.

XVII. WERE any of the Papers, Bills of Lading, Letters, or other Writings, which were on board the Ship at the Time she took her Departure from the last Clearing-port, and before the Capture, burnt, torn, thrown overboard, destroyed, or cancelled, concealed, or attempted to be concealed, and when, and by whom,
and

and who was then present? Were any Papers delivered out of the Vessel and carried away in any Manner whatsoever? If yea, when, and by whom, and to whom, were the same delivered, and in whose Custody, Possession, or Power, do you believe the same now are? What was the Nature and Contents of the Papers so delivered out, or carried away, as far as you know or believe?

Interrogate each
Witness.

XVIII. ARE there, in any and what Country, any Bills of Lading, Invoices, Letters, or other Writings, relative to the Ship and Cargo concerning which you are now examined? If yea, set forth where, and in whose Possession, and what is the Purport thereof, and when they were carried or sent into such Country, and by what Means?

Interrogate each
Witness.

XIX. WAS there any Charter-party signed for the Voyage in which the Ship was seized and taken? When, where, and between whom was such Charter-party made? Is it amongst the Papers delivered up? if not, where, and in whose Possession does it now remain? What were the Contents of it? How came it not to be on board the Vessel, and amongst her other Papers relating to the Voyage?

Interrogate each
Witness.

XX. Is the Ship or Goods, or any and what Part, insured? If yea, for what Voyage is such Insurance made? And at what Premium, and when, and by what Persons, and in what Country was such Insurance made? Under whose Direction and Management has the said Ship usually been, with respect to her Employment in Trade? With whom do you correspond on the Concerns of the Vessel and Cargo?

Interrogate each
Witness.

XXI. WAS Bulk broken during any Part of the Voyage, that is, from the Time of your sailing from your original Port of Clearance, up to the Time when you were taken? Has Bulk been broken, or any and how many and what Slaves disembarked at any Time, since the Capture of the said Ship? If yea, how often has this been done? When and where, by whom, and by whose Orders, and for what Purpose, and in what Manner?