

Adm. Berriman
31st March 1844

Having seen an advertisement in the paper of this Island signed by you informing the Merchants & Ship Masters, that His Majesty's ship Scepter which is expected to arrive here next week, will be ordered to collect the Trade from the United Kingdom, sent to sea therewith on the 16th of next month, I conceive it my duty to inform you that I will not find myself authorized consistent with my orders from the Lords Com^{rs} of the Admiralty to suffer the Scepter or any other ship I may deem proper to appoint to proceed with the Trade now here to England until they are joined by the ships from the Bahama Islands which I do not expect will be here before the 1st of May. I have instructed Capt. Popham of His Majesty's ship Phoenix to hurry the ships now here in their preparations but much fear that previous to the above date the General Convoy cannot leave Bermuda.

Admiral
The Rt Honble W. B. Parram, Esq.
Bath 14th B.
Commanding in Chief
I have the honor to be
Your most Obedt. Servant
(Signed) A. H.
D. A. & Com^{rs} in the S. H. M. S. S. H. M. S.

Adm. 31 Mar 1844

Has night air Order came from the San Domingo to send fifty Marines to quell an insurrection on board the Prison ship, which order was soon afterwards countermanded. This circumstance has led me to enquire into the state of the Prison ship & I find (if my information is correct) that she is crowded beyond what she ought to be & that the ships has had a considerable number on board that cannot be used. If the Prisoners had been entirely French I would not experience so much difficulty in keeping them under subjection, but as a large proportion are Americans & others of the most dangerous description they leave to submit to