

General Mason informs me he is doing all in his power to collect the remainder of the Prisoners, and obtain satisfactory reasons with respect to those who it may not be in his power to deliver. I hope he will succeed in getting most of them and delivering them to you. It is not in my power to give you the precise number from Admiral Sir John Warrens statement to me, it appears about thirty men remain to be delivered, of these sixteen are of the Victorious taken in Barges on or about the 10th of April last in Hampton Roads.

General Masons Official conduct has on all occasions since my arrival been candid and honorable; in his private character he is equally estimable. The delay which has occurred in the delivery of the Prisoners, I am satisfied is as painful to him, as disagreeable to His Majestys Servants. I have confidence in his assurances, and I therefore beg leave to request, that on a Delivery of the remainder of the Men of the Victorious, and Captain Rodney and his apprentice, if any tolerably satisfactory reasons are assigned for not delivering the remainder, you will, unless specially ordered to the contrary by His Excellency the Right Honble Sir J. B. Warren permit the Anabostan to proceed to Jamaica.

R. Admiral Cockburn. I have the honor to be Dear Sir,
John Barclay.