

1777. § 958 *cont.*]

I here enclose." [They are not in the bundle.] "After which a cabal was formed to address a letter from the freeholders of St. Michael's parish to their two members of Assembly, who are Mr. Duke himself and Mr. Valentine Jones, a merchant or storekeeper, the substance of which is contained in Mr. Duke's answer to the freeholders. The freeholders' letter was signed by few men of any property; the principal man among them was James Shepherd, Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, who, I am told, was very busy upon the occasion, and whom I propose to remove, as having rendered himself unworthy of holding a post of that dignity by putting himself at the head of a cabal to create mischief. Many papers have appeared in the *Barbados Mercury* under the signature of *Impavidus*, which nobody doubts being Mr. Duke's composition, all levelled at me. These I overlook; let him scribble on!

"In the Assembly held the 19 March some motions were made by Mr. Duke and his colleague Mr. Jones, but they were not seconded and nothing succeeded; so now I suppose the matter is dropped.

"All this bustle arises from a pique of the Assembly against myself and the Council for giving Capt. Paine leave to buy provisions for Gen. Howe's army at Boston, because the Assembly themselves were not consulted, who had no right to be consulted, for the Council was called upon that occasion as a Privy Council, and not as the second branch of the legislature of the island."

Hay now adds that, if Shepherd had not acted from faction, "he ought to have known that neither the freeholders nor the Assembly had anything to do with the Governor's suspending Mr. Duke, an officer of the Crown, the Governor being only accountable to his Majesty in all these cases."

27 May. [959.] APPEALS. Committee report on *Reid v. Burke (Jamaica)*—V. p. 174.

ACTS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL (COLONIAL). 573

§ 959 *cont.*]

1777-8.

———. Memorial of the solicitors on both sides for the postponement of *Keeling v. Niles (Barbados)*; also Committee minute and report of 13 Dec.—V. p. 327.

19 June.

———. Committee report on *Perrin and Vaughan v. Blake (Jamaica)*—V. p. 455.

24 June.

———. Committee report on *Serjeant v. Hibbert (Jamaica)*—V. pp. 455-6.

29 Nov.

[960.] JAMAICA. *Act confirmed*. B. of T. representation. 19 June.  
V. p. 579.

[961.] GRENADA. *Dispute about land*. Committee report; and Order of 4 July; on petition of J. Drummond. 24 June.  
V. p. 444.

[962.] DOMINICA. *Petition of the mulattos against an Act re manumission of slaves*. Order of reference. 13 Aug.  
V. p. 450.

[963.] COURT MARTIAL. Admiralty report; and Order of 7 Nov.; for restoring J. Brown and L. Mosey. 25 Oct.  
V. p. 456.

[964.] ST. VINCENT. *Grants of land*. B. of T. representation. Gov. Morris had granted 3,854 acres in 64 lots, some of them very considerable, out of the country ceded to the Crown by the Caribs, without having advised with the Council, seven of whom remonstrated against the measure. 9 Dec.  
V. p. 445.

1778.

1778.

[965.] ST. VINCENT. *Grants of land*. Letter from W. Knox, enclosing a representation of the B. of T.; B. of T. report of 3 March with draft instruction; and Committee report of 4 May. 1 Jan.  
V. pp. 445-6.

[966.] ACTS. (1) B. of T. representation, and Committee report of 7 Feb., for confirming five Acts of the *Virgin Islands*; (2) B. of T. representation of 6 Jan., and Committee report of 7 Feb., for disallowing an *Antigua Act*; (3) B. of T. representation, and Committee report, for disallowing a Quebec ordinance. 6 Jan.  
V. pp. 584-5, 457-8.