

driving them to join in the mountains those who had already taken shelter there. In the hands and under the control of a strong man like Cromwell, the troops employed in the reduction of Jamaica might have been kept in order, but a body of men strongly imbued with levelling principles and impatient of the slightest control, especially refusing obedience to the royalist d'Oyley, could only have been kept in military subjection by the determined power of the leader of the Ironsides whom he disciplined into a trustworthy force. Hence the violence and scenes of disorder in the island, and hence, there seems little doubt, the bloody reprisals made by the fugitive Spaniards and negroes, who burned and destroyed animate and inanimate alike, whenever they had or could make opportunity, slaughtering without mercy every man, woman and child of their hated conquerors, giving no quarter to any one, no matter of what age or sex.

A few trifling advantages over the Maroons were counterbalanced by the slaughter of soldiers and others caught straying out of bounds. Want of provisions and ammunition secured, in 1664, the surrender of part of the fugitives, but a large body held out and kept the interior of the country in such a state of alarm that few ventured far from the coast; the whites who attempted to form settlements inland being ruthlessly slaughtered.

A proclamation offering a free pardon, 20 acres of land, and freedom from slavery, had little, if any, effect, and Juan de Bolas, the head man of the party which surrendered, was killed when in command of an expedition for the reduction of those who held out. Under pretense of negotiating for peace, the hostile blacks obtained breathing time, and having lulled the white inhabitants into security, the slaughter began with greater intensity and the island was under a reign of terror for upwards of forty years, according to Edwards. Even counting from the renewal of the outbreak after 1664, this state of affairs lasted till 1738, a period of 74 years. In reality, the duration of the Maroon war, without cessation, was 82 years, for the peace of 1664 was only partial, and, so far as the part which held out was concerned, was only a truce, during which preparations were made for fresh hostilities.

Cudjoe, the leader with whom peace was made in 1738, was a man who from his physical and mental qualifications obtained the chief command over the different groups of Maroons. For years he had, by the skilful disposition of his forces, defied every attack, taking advantage of the peculiar formation of the mountain recesses and the difficult approaches. But experience taught the white commanders how best to meet the tactics of the Maroons by means suited to the contest with an enemy who could fight and disappear with little loss, after causing great injury to the invading force. In 1730, two regiments of regulars were sent to the island as a reinforcement, corps of rangers, light auxiliary