

CHAP.
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they were habituated ; and, besides, disease is less fatal to the active and victorious, than to the inert and defeated. From Guadaloupe, arms and other supplies were frequently transmitted ; and, though some of the vessels fell into the hands of our cruisers, many more of them reached their destination in safety.

The republicans now began to act decisively. They first reduced Pigeon island, and several other posts ; and, on the seventeenth of June, made themselves masters of the Vigie. By this means they interrupted the communication with the Carenage, and held, as it were, the keys of Morne Fortune, upon which they now prepared for a desperate assault. As, in the weak condition of the garrison, it would have been imprudent to hazard the consequences of the meditated attack, the general determined to withdraw his troops. This determination was hastily carried into effect, on the evening of the eighteenth. The British, leaving behind them some women and children, and a quantity of stores, withdrew undisturbed to the ships ; and thus the whole of St. Lucia reverted to the republican control. It is but justice to the enemy to state, that the women and children were, without delay, allowed to pass over to Martinico, in a flag of truce.

While these events were taking place in St. Lucia, the work of desolation was proceeding in the other British islands. In St. Vincent's, the affairs