

6-7 EDWARD VII., A. 1907

69. And Whereas the Merchants and Planters in Our plantations in America have, in time of War, Corresponded and traded with our Enemies, and carried Intelligence to them, to the great Prejudice and Hazard of Our said plantations; You are therefore by all possible Methods, to endeavour to hinder such Trade and Correspondence in time of War—

70. And You are to Report to Us, by one of Our principal Secretaries of State; What is the Nature of the Soil and Climate of the province under your Government, if it differs in those Circumstances from Our other Northern Colonies, in what that Difference consists, and what beneficial Articles of Commerce the different parts of it are capable of producing?—

What Rivers there are, and of what extent and convenience to the planters?

What are the principal Harbours, how situated, of what extent, and what is the Depth of Water and Nature of the Anchorage in each of them?

What Quantity of Land is now under actual Improvement and Settlement? what are the chief Articles of produce and Culture, the annual amount of the Quantity of each, and upon what Terms and Conditions the Inhabitants hold their Lands, either of Cultivation Rent, or personal Service?—

What is the Quantity, Nature and property of the Land uncultivated, how much of it is capable of Culture, and what part thereof is private property?—

What is the number of Inhabitants, Whites and Blacks distinguishing each; what number of the former is capable of bearing Arms, and what number of the latter is annually necessary to be supplied in proportion to the Land Cultivated.

What was the nature, form and Constitution of the Civil Government; what Judicatures were there Established, and under the Regulations did the french Inhabitants carry on their Commerce; and You are to transmit a Duplicate of such Account to Our Commissioners for Trade and plantations for their Information.

71. You are from time to time to send unto Us by One of Our principal Secretaries of State as aforesaid; An account of the Increase and Decrease of the Inhabitants, Whites and Blacks; And also an Account of all persons, Born, Christened and Buried and You are to Transmit duplicates of such Accounts to Our Commissioners for Trade and plantations for their Information.

72. Whereas it is absolutely necessary that We be exactly Informed of the State of Defence of all our plantations in America, as well in Relation to the Stores of War that are in each plantation, as to the Forts and Fortifications there, and what more may be necessary to be built for the Defence and Security of the same, You are as soon as possible to prepare an Account thereof with Relation to Our said province in the most particular manner, and You are therein to Express the present State of the Arms, Ammunition, and other Stores of War, belonging to the said Province, either in publick