

into *Martinica*, contrary to the Agreement between both Nations, he sent a Ship to demand them of Monsieur *Phelypeaux*, General of the *French* Islands, upon which they were forthwith restored; and there being several *French* Prisoners at *Barbadoes*, which were taken on the Coast of *Guinea*, they were sent to the said General.

Having made this short Digression, I return now to the Squadron at *Jamaica*, where, on the 29th of *August*, there happened a terrible Hurricane, which encreasing from Nine at Night, abated not till near Twelve, doing a very great deal of Mischief. Most of the Shingles of the Houses were blown away, some of the Roofs were torn off, and a great part of the Walls laid flat with the Ground. The Lightning was very dreadful, seeming like a continued Flame, while the Wind roared like Thunder. The Morning discovered a dismal Scene of Houses ruined, Trees blown up, the Streets of the Town filled with Shingle and Rubbish, the People in great Consternation, condoling one another's Misfortunes, and the West End of the Church with the Walls were entirely ruined; the Governor's House suffered also very much, nor were there many that escaped without considerable Damage.

*A terrible Hurricane at Jamaica.*

Several People were drowned on the Shore in this Tempest, the Sea forcing the Boats and Canoes a great way into the Land at *Spanish Town*, and washed away the Houses, so that what with the Wind and the Water there were not above two standing, and few or none of the Ships of War but what were either driven on shore, lost their Masts, or were otherwise disabled. The Hospital was blown down to the Ground, and several of the sick People killed; and on the 1st of *September* a Third Rate Ship, the *Monmouth*, which had been on the Coast of *Hispaniola*, came in with Jury Masts, having lost her proper Masts in the Violence of the Weather, and had not her Main mast given way, she must (as her Commander believed) have instantly overset.

After this not any thing of Moment happen'd till the Proclamations for the Cessation of Arms were brought into those Parts; for to enlarge on the Disputes which frequently happen'd between the Sea and Land-Officers, the unjustifiable Desertion of the Seamen, tempted away by the Commanders and Owners of Privateers, and the intolerable Insolence of those People, would be too tedious to receive Place in these Sheets. Suffice it therefore that I acquaint you, when the Damages were repaired which the Ships received in the Hurricane, Sir *Hovenden Walker*, pursuant to the Orders he received from the Lords of the Admiralty, repaired homewards, and arrived off of *Dover* the 26th of *May* 1713.

*Sir Hovenden Walker returns to England.*