

Intercourse of his Friends, until the promised Inquiry should remove the Stigma of the vague Imputations and Calumny. It was in this gloomy Retirement that he first discovered the clandestine Proceedings carrying on against him—a *Fabrication and Forgery*, formally addressed to, received and acted upon by, Lord Sydney—a Communication of which had been *refused* to the Colonial Chief Justice—a Copy whereof had been promised, but had not been transmitted to him, was put into his Hands by a Gentleman, whom Mr. Hurd had requested to use it for a calumnious Purpose. Thereupon, having urged with redoubled Ardour in the Secretary of State's Office for the promised Copies of the alleged Complaints—*They were not to be found!* The Under Secretary, pointing at a Desk in the Office, said "if he could tell what Clerk or Messenger had taken them from thence, he should immediately be dismissed." DesBarres served thar, the fame had been put into Circulation by Mr. Hurd for the past Two Years, and perhaps were at that very Instant circulating. The Under Secretary of State pretended that "it might only be a Copy which Mr. Hurd had received from Colonel Yorks." Some time after (in August 1788) being informed that the said Mr. Hurd was about to leave the Kingdom, DesBarres, having formally moved for his Detention in order to be confronted, was verbally answered, "You must ruin Mr. Hurd, or Mr. Hurd must ruin you." [P 54. N 250 to 257].

Mortified at the Treatment and insuperable Delays in Lord Sydney's Office, DesBarres, [in December 1788] requested of his Lordship the Honour of a private Conference. Upon Expollulation, Lord Sydney was pleased to express an Intention, after the Settlement of the Accounts at the Treasury, of recommending him for "some *Mark of the Royal Favour*"—and his Lordship, desiring to know what were his Expectations, having appointed a certain Day for investigating and giving an Opinion on the Case, he accordingly submitted his Claim to *Reparation of Injuries, Payment, and Compensation*. No Investigation, nor Decision, took place. [P 54. N 253, 258, 260 to 262].

A Report on the Account rendered (amounting to £19,579 18s. 0d.) was sent to the Treasury, in February 1789, [P 55, N. 259].

Mr. Hurd (on the 22d March 1789) on being questioned in respect to the Complaints, which he had in 1786, formally delivered into the Secretary of State's Office under his own and ten other Subscriptions, having confessed, in the presence of Lord Sydney, of his Lordship's Two Under Secretaries, and of DesBarres, that "he could not support *the Charges therein*." DesBarres pointed out, among the *forged Subscriptions*, the Name of a Person, who then happened to be in London and had declared, "he would suffer his Hand to be cut off, rather than put it to such an *abominable Piece of Paper*," and proposed to bring him before Lord Sydney. His Lordship declined to see him. [P 56 N 263 to 266, 269, 270.]

DesBarres affiduins Solicitations at the Treasury had been answered with general Expressions of regret at the Delays. It was alleged that "Lord Sydney's Reports were so vague and indecisive that the Office could not possibly proceed in the Business, and that it were absolutely necessary it should undergo Mr. Pitt's own thorough Examination." DesBarres humbly requested a Communication of these Reports, or to be furnished with Extracts of the Objections alleged therein against his Claim, in order to refute the same. The Request was refused. [P 56. N 267].

At an Interview appointed by Lord Sydney on the 11th of June 1789, DesBarres, having adverted to the Pe-

plexities ascribed at the Treasury to the Reports on the Accounts, lamenting the Effects of Inferences therein, undeservingly sanctioned by his Lordship's Official Authority, humbly and earnestly moved to his Lordship's Feelings the Necessity of no longer delaying seriously to inquire into the Affairs respecting His Majesty's Colony of Cape Breton—the Administration of which had unhappily been entrusted into the Hands of the Authors of the Fabrication and Forgery imposed on Government, whose Proceedings, since his Absence, had been represented to his Lordship. Lord Sydney, in Conclusion, was pleased to say, that, "on that very Day he would make Inquiries at his Office and sent to the Treasury about the Business." On DesBarres requesting to be informed when he should attend for a Result, his Lordship replied, that "he would send to him within Four Days." In this Interval, Lord Sydney quitted the Office of Secretary of State, and did not send. [P 56. N 268, 271 to 281, 283, 284.]

The Secretary of the Treasury, in September 1789, demanded "a List of the Holders of Bills drawn by DesBarres in the Course of carrying on the Public Service, together with a Description of the several Buildings erected in Cape Breton, by his Orders, in order that he might write to Governor Macarwick agreeably to the Instructions he had received from Mr. Pitt." Among the Proceedings which had taken place since DesBarres' Departure from the Colony, it had been represented in the Beginning of the Month of March, preceeding to His Majesty's Minister, that, Mr. Macarwick in Conjunction with his Councillors [chiefly composed of the Authors of the abovementioned Fabrication and Forgery] had seized on and plundered DesBarres' Property in Cape Breton. [P 56. N 271 to 284]. The Report, which they may have returned for Mr. Pitt's Use to form an Opinion of, and decide on, DesBarres' Claim, has not been communicated to him—But from a general View of the unreprieved Proceedings on the Spot, which have nearly accomplished the Ruin of His Majesty's Colony, as well as of DesBarres' oppressive Treatment at Home, the most indelible Proofs of the undiminished Operation of a similar Influence to this Day are evident.

Having complied with the above Requisition, DesBarres was, shortly thereafter, directed to attend at the Treasury, where, Mr. Steele, having, in the Course of several Days' Examination and Investigation, gone through a Scrutiny of the Accounts and minutely compared the Vouchers with the respective Articles of Charge, expressed his Satisfaction thereof, and declared, that, "he would report to Mr. Pitt accordingly, and propose a Sum of Money to be issued, in the mean time, to allay the Impatience of the most clamorous Creditors, until the Accounts might be finally liquidated." [P 61. N 282, 285 to 288.]

Accordingly, the Lords of His Majesty's Treasury were pleased, in December 1789, to place the Sum of £10,000 in the Hands of Bankers, and to issue Instructions to them "to discharge sundry Bills, drawn by Lieutenant Governor DesBarres in the Course of his carrying on the Public Service in Cape Breton—directing an Allowance to be made to the Holders of the Bills for *Notes, Protests, and Interest*, at the Rate of Five per Centum per Annum, from the Time the Bills were due to the Date of Payment thereof."

Some of the Bill Holders, who had early taken Advantage of DesBarres' oppressed Situation, and made Seizures, far beyond the Amount of their Claims, of his Property

in Nova Scotia on reasonable Law Alterations which lapsed Arbitrators [&c:] though Lords of His Majesty's "Investigation" Governor DesBarres, had "them that had" "the Government" "deserving Compensation" "The Bank" liquidated Bills of . . . having paid Interests, accounts and they preferred together with Demands, then them, and received five of Expenses Sum was issued to 300.]

DesBarres, the Accusation and suffering Operation, added then Secretary Subject and actions, his Answer, was proposed to his Situation "Letter which" "Barres" on "Lordship by" "quiring into" "far back as" "February 17" "Lords of His" "counts—that" "impossible for" "Part of it," "just received" "[DesBarres]" [P 66. N 301.]

He was not "counts with" "had been" "to the Commission" "with Direction" "Delay." An Order forth his Account and instead of being in his own Hands. of the Voucher submitted to the

Upon Information Number of Qu such of the V accordingly. General of the "To Lieutenant" "February 1789"