

recting hostilities against themselves, summoned the people, from all parts of the colony, to hasten properly armed to protect their representatives; and most of the inhabitants of the neighbouring parishes obeyed the summons. The ship Leopard was brought from Port au Prince to St. Marc's for the same purpose. On the other hand, the Northern provincial assembly joined the party of the governor, and sent to his assistance a detachment from the regular troops in that quarter, which was joined by a body of two hundred 'people of colour. A much greater force was collected at the same time in the Western province by M. Mauduit, and the preparations on both sides threatened an obstinate and bloody conflict; when, by one of those wonderful eccentricities in the human mind which are seldom displayed except in times of publick commotion, a stop was put to the immediate shedding of blood, by the sudden and unexpected determination of the general assembly to undertake a voyage to France, and justify their conduct to the king and the national assembly in person. Their motives were thought the more laudable, as all the Western and great part of the Southern provinces gave a decided approbation of their conduct, and armed in a very short time two thousand men in their defence, which were in full march for Port au Prince. Their resolution however was fixed, and accordingly, of about one hundred members, to which the colonial assembly was reduced by sickness and desertion, no less than eighty-five (of whom sixty-four were fathers of families) actually embarked on board the Leopard, and on the 8th of August took their departure for Europe:—a proceeding which created as much surprize in the governor and his party, as admiration and applause among the

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