

comrades had done at Fort Dauphin) and then reduced the town itself to ashes (*b*). C H A P.
XII.

ON the whole, there is reason to suppose that a great proportion of the present Spanish proprietors in St. Domingo are a debased and degenerate race; a motley mixture from European, Indian, and African ancestry; and the observation which has been made in another place (*i*), concerning the Spanish inhabitants of Jamaica, at the conquest of that island in 1655, will

(*b*) In the northern province of the French colony, the inhabitants of Fort Dauphin, a town situated on the Spanish borders, having no assistance from the English, and being apprehensive of an attack from the rebel negroes, applied for protection, and delivered up the town, to the Spanish government. The Spanish commandant, on accepting the conditions required, which were chiefly for personal safety, issued a proclamation, importing, that such of the French planters as would seek refuge there, should find security. Seduced by this proclamation, a considerable number repaired thither; when, on Monday the 7th of July 1794, *Jean François*, the negro general, and leader of the revolt in 1791, entered the town with some thousands of armed negroes. He met not the smallest resistance, either at the advanced posts, or at the barriers occupied by the Spanish troops; the inhabitants keeping their houses, in the hope of being protected by the commandant. In an instant, every part of the city resounded with the cry of "Long live the king of Spain! Kill all the French; but offer no violence to the Spaniards;" and a general massacre of the French commenced, in which no less than 771 of them, without distinction of sex or age, were murdered on the spot: the Spanish soldiers standing by, spectators of the tragedy. It is thought, however, that if the Spaniards had openly interposed, they would have shared the fate of the French. It is said that *Mont-Calvos*, commander of the Spanish troops, moved by compassion towards some French gentlemen of his acquaintance, admitted them into the ranks, dressing them in the Spanish uniform for their security; others were secretly conveyed to the fort, and sent off in the night to Monte Christi, where they got on board an American vessel belonging to Salem.

(*i*) History of the British West Indies, vol. i.

equally