

Your Excellency,

I hereby take the liberty of forwarding to you a description of the examination into the assault and obstinacy committed by Negro women, all from Spratt Hall Estate. These women – Calisto, Agnes, Mary, Rosette, and Venus – tried to interfere against the driver Salomon. The attack took place when the driver, by order of the overseer Connortys, was about to punish the Negro Addo for an offence he had committed.

That incidence I consider suitable grounds for setting an example for the other Negroes on the estate. This could be done by having them watch when the above women are punished. Therefore I humbly submit that the aforementioned slaves Calisto, Agnes, Mary, Rosette, and Venus be punished at Spratt Hall Estate. everything supervised by the police and in the presence of the other Negroes. As for Calisto I suggest a punishment of between 50 and 80 lashed and labor in shackles for two months. As for the others I suggest a punishment of between 25 and 40 lashes.

Frederiksted Police Department, July 11, 1828

A. J. Andreson

His Excellency

Lord Chamberlain v. Scholten

Knight of Order of the Dannebrog, Knight of the Order Pour le Merité Militaire, Governor-General

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Police Chief Andreson

July 15, 1828

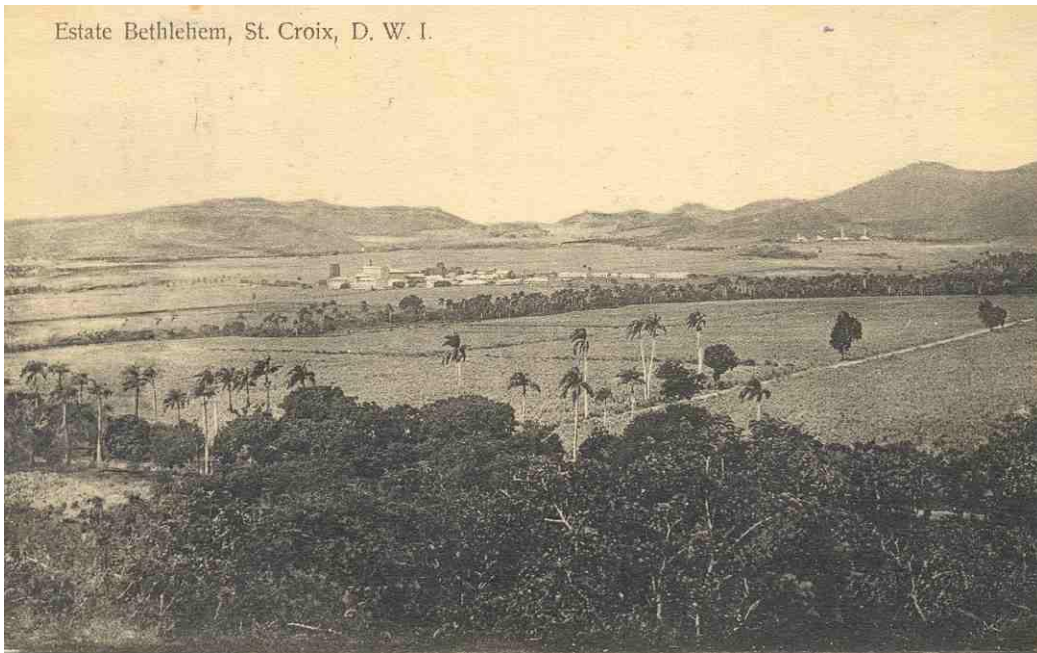
..Nr..

In regard to the assault and the obstinacy committed by some Negresses form Spratt Hall Estate against the driver, the following is determined:

The Negresses Calisto, Agnes, Mary Ann, Rosette, and Venus are to be punished at Spratt Hall Estate by a command of soldiers and the police. The punishment is to be witnessed by all attached to the estate. Calisto is to be punished with 80 lashes and work in shackles for a period of two months, the other four with 30 lashes.

The executioner is to be supplied with a whip to execute the punishment.

Captain v. Lønborg is to provide soldiers as requisitioned by the Police Chief.



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A. J. Andreson
Royal Appointee
Police Chief and Police Clerk, Frederiksted Jurisdiction
On
St. Croix

Hereby is certified:

On July 8, 1828, at 8 o'clock the police court was in session in Frederiksted under the supervision of the Police Sergeant and Police Officer (Wasserfall)

A new case was before the court, case Nr. 8/1828 Police. The Negresses Calisto, Mary Ann, Agnes, Rosette, and Venus belonging to Spratt Hall Estate.

The Police chief produced a letter from Adam Stevenson. The produced letter reads as follows:

Sir!

I have..

To the Honorable Judge Andreson

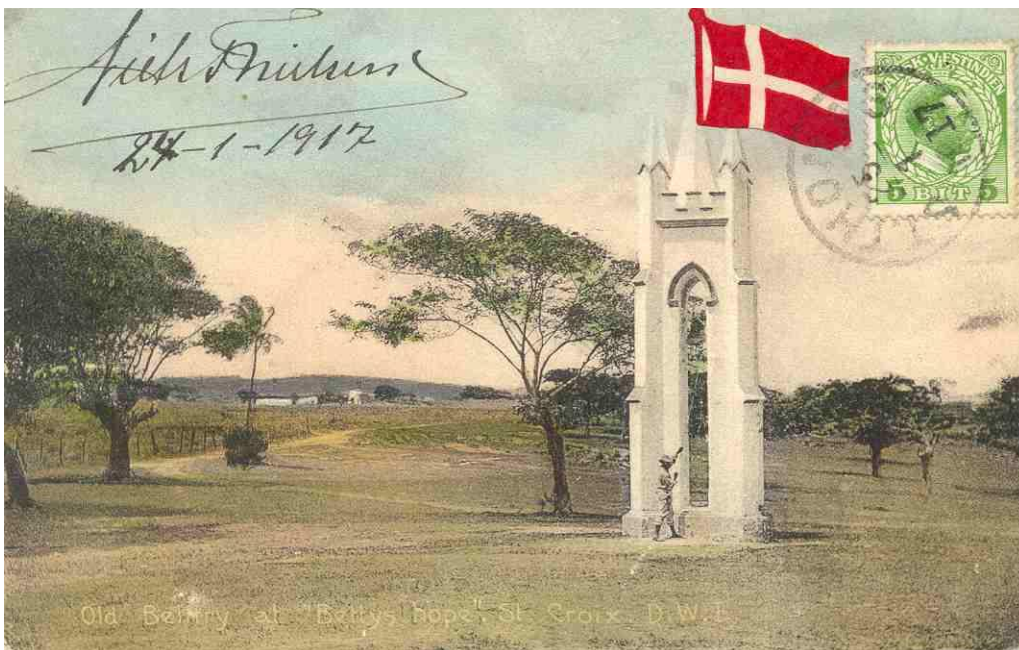
Submitted at Frederiksted Police Court on July 8, 1828, Nr. 8/1828

A. J. Andreson

Bernard Connerty, overseer at Spratt Hall Estate, appeared before the court as a witness. He explains that the Negroes on the estate were very negligent and slovenly about getting to work. For that reason he himself was present yesterday afternoon when those who had not shown up and didn't answer the roll call

were to be punished. The first who did not answer was the Negro Addo. Bernard Connerty therefore orders the driver, Salomon, to punish him and called some Negroes to go fetch Addo. However, they refused to obey orders, and when the driver wanted to force them to do it, he was first attacked by Calisto, and afterwards by the other aforementioned Negresses. They all took hold of the driver, threw him to the ground and pinned him down, until he, the witness Bernard Connerty, by threats and scolding made them let go of the driver, who then got a chance to get back on his feet.

This morning when the witness ordered that the five Negresses should be apprehended and imprisoned, they demanded to see the Police Chief. The witness accepted this, but on the way to the Police Chief, three of them wanted to return. Those were Calisto, Agnes and Rosette. When the witness noticed this, he ordered them put in house arrest, which they did. This is the second time during the short time that he has been on the estate, namely three weeks, that the witness has had trouble with the Negroes. In both cases he deemed it necessary to punish mildly a few individuals. – End of testimony.



Before the court appeared as a witness the Negro Timoth, belonging to Spratt Hall Estate. He totally confirms the testimony given by the overseer. He says that he was present and a witness to everything that happened. – End of testimony.

The Negress Callisto, belonging to Spratt Hall Estate, appeared before the court as a witness. She does not know how old she is, but she is estimated to be around 40 years old. She explains that when the Negroes came to work, the overseer was in the field. The overseer had ordered the driver, the Negro Salomon, to give the Negro Addo, brother of Callisto, a hiding. Callisto said that there was no reason for this, and that Addo did not deserve it. Therefore she took hold of the whip which the driver was to punish the brother with. When the driver fought back, Callisto's daughters, Mary Ann and Agnes, interfered to help her. The driver threw Callisto to the ground and fell himself as a result. Callisto denies having laid hand on the driver. She says that the reason she wanted to go to the Police Chief, was that the sick, who were to be

admitted to the sick house on the estate, did not get enough to eat when they were there. – End of testimony.

The Negress Agnes, belonging to Spratt Hill Estate, appeared before the court as a witness. She explains that when the driver took hold of their mother, she and her sister, the Negress Mary Ann, approached the overseer. They wanted to ask him to prevent the driver from beating up their mother. However, the overseer did not want to do that. He, in return, said that both the mother and the two sister were to be put under guard until the Manager of the estate returned. She denied having laid hands on the driver and says that he himself fell when he threw their mother to the ground. – End of testimony.

The Negress Mary Ann, belonging to Spratt Hall Estate, appeared before the court as a witness. She does not know her age, but is estimated to be about 20 years old. Her explanation agrees with that of her sister Agnes. – End of testimony.

The Negress Rosette, belonging to Spratt Hall Estate, appeared before the court as a witness. She does not know her age, but she is estimated to be about 50 or 60 years old. She explains that the driver Salomon, hired by the present overseer, is a bad person who has used violence against them on several occasions. She had also said as much yesterday when he started beating up several Negroes. That is the only offence she has committed. She denies having laid hands on him, and she also denies having had anything to do with the whole disturbance. – End of testimony.

The Negress Venus, belonging to Spratt Hall Estate, appeared before the court as a witness. She does not know her age, but is estimated to be about 24 years old. Her explanation agrees with that of the Negress Mary Ann. – End of testimony.

All five Negresses were arrested and imprisoned at the Fort until further notice.

Philip McCabe, Deputy Manager on Spratt Hill Estate appeared before the court as a witness. He was questioned in relation to the examination and his explanation agrees with ... in concordance with the manager and says that the negress Calisto was the first one to grab the driver – dismissed.

Now the negro Salomon, who belongs to estate Spratt Hall, was called and told that he does not know his age, but is estimated to be 30 years of age, that he is driver at the estate and that he yesterday when the negroes came back to work after lunch was ordered by the manager to give the negro Addo a slab because he did not answer when his name was called from the list, but when he called 4 negroes to grab and hold Addo they refused to do so. The manager now forced him to make them do so and when he wanted to follow orders the negress Calisto grabbed him to prevent this and immediately the negresses Mary Ann, Venus, and Rosett grabbed him and threw him to the ground and held him until he got loose. Agnes did not touch him but she scolded him and made a lot of noise. By the way, his explanation is in concordance with the manager's. Dismissed as he did not have anything more to tell.

The manager Bernard Connerty was recalled and questioned about Callisto's complaint that the sick Negroes get too little food. He answered that the Negroes each got... And when they are sick, they each

get... as is standard. To that is added any invalid food which the doctor might deem necessary. – End of testimony.

Deputy Manager Philip McCabe, who was present, confirms the truthfulness of the Manager's explanation. – End of testimony.

The examination was subsequently discontinued as it was considered unnecessary to obtain further information. The result of the examination will be submitted to His Excellency, the Governor-General. The court is adjourned.

