

## All mentions of Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon (“Colonel Peter”) and Jacob Pickering Fireburn Interrogation Records

*The following is a collection of excerpts from the 6 books of interrogation records (1787-1880). The collection consists of 29 passages in which there is mention of Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon and Jacob Pickering.*

- **Mary Thomas** was sentenced to death on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1878 for participation in looting and arson during the revolt on St. Croix in 1878. Her sentence was commuted to hard labor in prison for life in Copenhagen, Denmark, where she arrived on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July 1882. She was sent back to St. Croix on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 1887.
- **Thomas Graydon**, born on Barbados, employed at plantation William, was sentenced to death for participation in the uprising and was shot at the Court Martial on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 1878
- **Jacob Pickering** died during the course of the Inquiries in St. Croix Arrest on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 1879.

1. December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1878 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (book 1)
2. December 12<sup>th</sup> 1878 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (book 1)
3. December 5<sup>th</sup> 1878 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (book 1)
4. December 6<sup>th</sup> 1878 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (book 1)
5. December 7<sup>th</sup> 1878 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (book 1)
6. December 9<sup>th</sup> 1878 Thomas Graydon (book 1)
7. December 10<sup>th</sup> 1878 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon (book 1)
8. December 13<sup>th</sup> 1878 Thomas Graydon (book 2)
9. December 17<sup>th</sup> 1878 Thomas Graydon (book 2)
10. December 27<sup>th</sup> 1878 Thomas Graydon (book 2)
11. January 13<sup>th</sup> 1879 Thomas Graydon (book 4)
12. January 20<sup>th</sup> 1879 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon (book 4)
13. January 25<sup>th</sup> 1879 Thomas Graydon (book 4)
14. March 5<sup>th</sup> 1879 Thomas Graydon (book 4)
15. March 28<sup>th</sup> 1879 Thomas Graydon (book 4)
16. April 16<sup>th</sup> 1879 Jacob Pickering (book 4)
17. April 17<sup>th</sup> 1879 Jacob Pickering (book 4)
18. September 27<sup>th</sup> 1879 Thomas Graydon (book 5)
19. November 8<sup>th</sup> 1879 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon (book 5)
20. November 14<sup>th</sup> 1879 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon (book 4)
21. November 22<sup>nd</sup> 1879 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (book 5)
22. December 20<sup>th</sup> 1879 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (book 5)
23. January 1<sup>st</sup> 1880 Mary Thomas (book 5)
24. January 9<sup>th</sup> 1880 Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (book 5)
25. January 29<sup>th</sup> 1880 Jacob Pickering (book 5)
26. January 30<sup>th</sup> 1880 Mary Thomas (book 5)
27. April 4<sup>th</sup> 1880 Mary Thomas (book 6)
28. April 30<sup>th</sup> 1880 Mary Thomas (book 6)
29. May 1<sup>st</sup> 1880 Mary Thomas (book 6)

## Mention #1 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (1)

Thursday the 3rd of December, 1878

Jacob Pickering from Pl. Concordia W: E who is charged with participation in the excesses and arson at Westend Northside (...) On Wednesday, he was at Sprathall where he was employed until the end of August and where his woman Mary Thomas lives. On Thursday, Thomas Graydon /: Colonel Peter, shot :/ came to him from Pl. Williams, and told him that he was going to go down to the Southside /: several gangs were ravaging there at the time :/ and the detainee said that he would follow him, but he meant that he was going to go home to Concordia. Shortly after, he was on the road with his woman Mary Thomas, and in the vicinity of the plantation Prosperity, they came across a little gang of 13 or 14 people, as far as he could see, mostly laborers from Prosperity and La Grange. Thomas Graydon was in the lead, armed with a harpoon and a knife, Daniel Philip with a manure fork, Emanuel Jacob with a piece of iron, and a man called Francis, also with a piece of iron. The detainee turned around and followed them, but, as he says, he was forced to because they threatened to kill him otherwise. The detainee estimates that the time was approximately 10 in the morning. The gang moved towards Lt. La Grange, where some more people joined it, but they did no harm there, and then to Brooks Hill, where the gang broke open the allowance cellar and distributed allowance, and then to Orange Grove where they burned down the manager's dwelling, to Mont Pellier, where the greathouse burned and they set fire to the works, but the detainee does not know whether they burned down; to Two Friends where they burned the greathouse and set fire to the works which did not burn down; to Mt Steward where they burned down the greathouse, and where "Colonel Peter" got himself a triangular hat. From there onward to Annally where they burned everything. When they were at Mt Steward, it was getting dark. At Annally, the detainee left the gang. At that time, the gang had grown significantly, because it was joined by laborers from the plantations to which they went. As far as the detainee knows, the gang went from Annally to Mt Victory and from there on to Nicholas and from there on to Punch. The detainee was a Sprathall when he saw the fire from Punch. During further interrogation, the detainee states that as a rule, the plantation's laborers did not participate in the destruction of their own plantation, but when the strangers had broken open the allowance cellars, they helped themselves to sugar, flour and rum. Apart from that, they mostly, as the detainee says, stood "one side<sup>140</sup>". The gang proceeded under great noise and wildness and under the cries "our side" and "no more work for 10 cents", and the leaders, here amongst the detainee's woman Mary Thomas, who went by the name Queen Mary, dashed into the houses and destroyed whatever was there, after first, wherever they came across drink, exep(..) it and, besides, having a merry time. The detainee himself was not inside any houses, as it was the leader's job to ransack. The detainee did not start any fires with his own hands and he says that he is done wrong when it is claimed that he gave orders and that he carried a bottle of kerosene.

Mary Thomas from Sprathall appears. She states /: cf. her testimony from Frederiksted's Police Interrogation of the 7th of October :/ that after having been in town for a part of Tuesday evening, she was about to go home, following the driver from Sprathall, and when she passed the back of the Fort, she saw Samuel Henry creeping on his stomach, and he crept over and set fire to the petroleum storage whilst Thomas Greydon ran up town in order to call the rabble down to the Fort. She stayed at

Sprathall all day Wednesday and did not intend to do any evil or “go out walking” until Thursday morning at about 11. **Thomas Graydon** came into Sprathall with a gang and yelled that the laborers there were not to be idle whilst others were out to “fight for more pay<sup>146</sup>”. The next day, they wanted to turn them in<sup>147</sup>. He took a needle from the detainee and sewed a red handkerchief onto a cane as a flag, and then he gave it to the detainee who was to follow along as Queen. When the detainee resisted, he drove her forward with a beat of his cane and he threatened to jab her in the waist with his knife. Then, the detainee followed along with the flag. Apart from **Graydon**, she particularly noticed Ferdinand Ludvig, Daniel Philip, Emanuel Jacobs and Francis. The gang followed the course which has been stated by the previous detainee, and which the detainee has also admitted to during the interrogation in Frederiksted, however adding the plantation Two Friends, and the detainee was not at Annally, Mt Victory or Punch, because she fled the gang between Mt Steward and Annally. The detainee admits that the gang called her **Queen**, but she was not as active as it is said, and she particularly did not participate in the destruction within the houses, as she never went further than to the door. The detainee did not see **Jacob Pickering** in the gang or at Sprathall, neither when the gang went out nor when it returned.

**Jacob Pickering** appears again and states that he was in **Mary Thomas**' house when **Thomas Graydon** came there and made the flag - he did not see that **Thomas Graydon** struck her or threatened her, and they both left together with **Graydon**'s gang, and they were both in the gang until Annally, where they both left the gang together.

Then, **Mary Thomas** has to admit that **Jacob Pickering** was in her house when **Graydon** came (...)

## Mention #2 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (1)

### Wednesday the 4th of December 1878

(...) Detainee Prince Huggins from Pl. Punch appears, particularly charged with having participated in the excesses at Westend Northside. /: cf. his own testimony in Frederiksted's Police Court interrogation of the 8th of October :/. He further states that when he saw the gang come up from Annally to Mt Victory, he went down the road, where **Thomas Graydon** forced him to follow into Mt Victory and then, when the detainee and some others stood idle in the yard, he commanded him into the manager's dwelling to destroy things. The detainee, however, who had a cane in his hand, had only broken a cupboard when the “**Captain**” **Thomas Graydon** ordered that enough had been broken and that it was time to burn. Contrary to what he stated in Frederiksted, he was not inside Nicholas' manager's house, which was burned. He heard that when **Graydon** had been in the negro village, and he came back and chided the gang for having burned the house against his order, it was said that it was the **Queen** who had given the order. The detainee went from Nicholas right home to Punch, so he was only at the above-mentioned two places. He says that when he said that all the main characters had petroleum, it is to be understood that they had a bottle of petroleum with them which one passed on to the other when needed. He saw the kerosene in use in sugarcane fields on the road below Nicholas, when Daniel Philip had the bottle, but he did not see it used on any of the buildings. After the gang had burned the manager's house at Punch, it went to Williams, but it returned with the message that there were guards at William, and then they burned Punch's works. Punch was the last plantation which was burned, and the detainee assumes that it happened between 9 and 10 on Thursday evening. He says that the so-called **Queen**, whom he is told is called **Mary**, was with the gang at Victory, Nicholas and Punch, and he is under the impression that she had as much command as **Graydon**, and he heard her say to **Graydon** that she did not want the battle cry “our side” to be used any more. At Punch, the gang split up, and the members sought those places where they had lodgings for the night.

Mary Thomas is presented to the detainee who firmly recognizes her as the person who acted as Queen.

Detainee Emil Hodge from Pl. Punch appears. He states that he was at home at Punch when the gang came in there on Thursday evening; He was standing in the yard and did not participate in any excesses. Amongst the leaders of the gang, he particularly noticed Thomas Graydon and Daniel Philip.

Thomas Edward from Pl. Punch, born on Antigua, appears. He states that he was at Punch when the gang came in on Thursday evening at around 10. Shortly before, Prince Huggins, who had left the plantation in the afternoon in order to, the detainee assumes, join the gang - came into the plantation and delivered an order from the gang that the plantation's laborers were to bring water up into the yard /: to drink :/ and they themselves were to come to the yard in order to receive allowance, as the gang was now coming to Punch. The water was brought up and the laborers stood in the yard when the gang arrived. It was the driver at Punch who - as far as the detainee knows - but only after the gang had broken open the allowance cellar - distributed allowance, mostly to the plantation's own laborers. Thus, the detainee himself received 12 Quarts<sup>149</sup> of flour and 9 mackerels, which he, however, handed in to the manager the next day, as they were encouraged to do. The detainee knew several people in the gang and he mentions, as those who were most prominent, the same names as did Jacob Pickering along with his name. A woman called Mary was called Queen and acted as a commander. The detainee heard that when some of Punch's laborers wanted to extinguish the fire in the manager's house, she yelled that no one was to put it out, and that anyone who tried to do so would be "beheaded". The gang was not excessively boisterous, and it was not merry when it entered the plantation. Only one shot was fired. The cry "our side" was heard, and the plantation's laborers had to answer it if they wanted to avoid being molested and have the negro village burned down, and some, here amongst particularly Jacob Pickering, yelled that they should not work any for "for 10 cent". As soon as the gang entered, they asked for the driver and they wanted to burn down his house, but the detainee does not know why. Before the gang arrived, the laborers had moved the manager's possessions out into the field. In the afternoon, Prince Huggins went out with Jacob Tergus. All the way through, the detainee maintains that he did nothing apart from receiving allowance, and that was distributed in measures (...)

### **Mention #3 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (1))**

#### **Thursday the 5th of December 1878**

(...)Ferdinand William from Pl. Annally appears. He states that he was at home at the Pl when the gang came in. Along with other of the plantation's laborers, he went up to the yard when the gang arrived, and in his estimate, the gang ravaged for a couple of hours. When the gang, under the leadership of a man who turned out to be Thomas Graydon, whom the detainee later participated in catching, and another man whom he assumes to be Daniel Philip, came to the edge of Annally's negro village, they called out Annally's laborers and let them form a line whilst the gang passed by; and then, Annally's laborers followed them. Whilst Thomas Graydon, who was wearing a large white hat on his head /: of the kind which the negroes sometimes call a cock'd hat ( a triangular hat) :/ and a large white band as a scarf over his shoulders, walked up and down with a saber in one hand and a revolver in the other and gave his orders, the detainee saw a woman in front of the gang, a small, stocky one, who was called queen. The detainee did not know her or her name, and he doubts that he would be able to recognize her again. The detainee heard that people in the gang complained that Annally's laborers were "very stiff" and that they wouldn't even pass a match, and the detainee also believes that just as he himself didn't in any way assist the gang, all Annally's laborers held back. However, he has heard that they acted

badly in town on Tuesday. Also, he does not believe that any of Annally's laborers followed the gang further, if not for any other reason, then because the negro village had started to catch the fire from the yard, and they stayed at home to extinguish the fire there as well as in the sugarcane fields, which were also on fire. The detainee was not in Frederiksted during the excesses, either, but was at home at the Pl. until the manager sent him to the burning town with the hose, but he had to turn around with it because he came across a rabble mob just as he had passed the bridge by Frederiksted lagune. At Annally, it was **Thomas Graydon** who distributed the allowance. The detainee himself got his share, as much as can be in what he calls "a 40 Cts Pan".

Laurence Bradly from Pl. Sprathall, born on Antigua, appears. He states that he left Sprathall at one time during Thursday morning, because, as he states, he had an errand at Prosperity. By Williams, however, he came across a gang which he estimates consisted of 20 to 50 people /: is noted as evidence as to how little comprehension negroes have of counting, as their statements when in numbers expressing how large a gang was, are mostly completely unreliable :/, **Thomas Graydon** or "**Colonel Peter**" was in the lead along with **Mary Thomas** whom the detainee, who is from Sprathall, knows well. **Jacob Pickering** walked at the back and kept the gang together, making sure that no one deserted. **Thomas Graydon** forced the detainee to go along, threatening to kill him, and when the detainee objected, he said that there was no longer any other law in the country apart from what he - **Graydon** - himself ordered. Thus, the detainee followed on the previously stated route until Annally where he got away when it became dark. He couldn't have gotten away earlier, because the gang was kept tightly together and was watched carefully to make sure that no one escaped. It was watched so carefully that the entire gang stopped when one of them had to go into the fields. Thus, the detainee could not have done anything else but follow along and he crossed his arms whilst others destroyed and burned. He cannot say who started individual fires at each place, but he assumes that it was mostly the "Captain" /: **Thomas Graydon** :/ himself, whilst it was mostly **the Queen Mary Thomas** who gave the order or the signal. He saw that the two of them together had a can of kerosene or at least a kerosene can with an amount of kerosene /: kerosene is sold in closed tin cans, each holding 5 gallons :/ . It was the **Queen** who was the actual commander, and she was the wildest of the pair, so for example when **Thomas Graydon** was inclined to listen to the laborers' plea to spare a building, **Mary Thomas** would not have it, but ordered to "burn level down". Things went about in much the same way at all the places where she was; first, the fire broke out in the greathouse, they destroyed whatever they came across if they gave themselves time to do it, as they plundered what was in the cellar, then they burned the house and finally, they set fire to the works where, as stated previously, the fire was extinguished some places (...)

Henry Daniel from Pl. Little La Grange appears. He was arrested and charged with having been part of the Northside gang on its course right until Annally. He admits this and states a further explanation: It was at noon on Thursday the 3rd of October that a not particularly big gang, led by a few men, here amongst primarily **Thomas Graydon** and the woman **Mary Thomas** from Sprathall, came to Little La Grange where they entered the negro village and ordered that the laborers were to join the gang, but only the men - **the Queen** did not want any women to come along. "**Colonel Peter**" and **Mary** entered the houses, one after the other, and threatened the people to come out, or else they would be killed on the spot. The few men who had stayed after 27 laborers had left the plantation on the 1st of October, only 5, had to go along. At Jolly Hall - which is under Lt. La Grange - the same thing happened, and two men were brought along. Thus, the gang left Little La Grange strengthened, and it went towards Brooks Hill, until **Mary Thomas** declared that Oxford and Little La Grange were not to be burned until the evening when they returned after having rounded Annally. From Brooks Hill they went by the route which was previously stated. At Orange Grove, they were greeted by the plantation's laborers, and there the **Queen** asked them whether they had already had their allowance, and they asked her to spare the plantation, which the gang did and then the gang continued onwards to Mt Pellier which,

though the laborers there also pleaded for the property, she would not spare it, and the same happened at the next plantation, Two Friends, where the laborers did not come out from the negro village when the gang arrived, but were taken out to receive allowance. The detainee has no doubt that it was **Mary** who had the power, and it was certainly she who was determined to cause the greatest destruction, such as for example at Annally, where the laborers asked **Craydon** to spare the works, but when he put it to **Mary**, she said that they had to be burned just like all other works. The detainee says that it was not possible for him or anyone else to get away, for the gang was held tightly together. As proof of this, he mentions that John Port from Jolly Hill, who was ill and who fell - or threw himself down - was not allowed to stay at home until **Mary** herself had inspected him. The detainee believes that just as he himself did no evil apart from unwillingly following the gang, so did the other laborers from Lt. La Grange and Jolly Hill. They only followed the gang for as long as they had to, until they could see an opportunity to escape (...)

#### **Mention #4 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (1)**

##### **Friday the 6th of December 1878**

(...) Steven Rodgers from Lt. La Grange appears. Regarding how he came to join the gang, he states in agreement with Henry Daniel, though adding that he showed **Graydon** his feet on which the toes are partially rotted away because of malicious wounds, and he asked to be spared of following along, but **Graydon** would not hear of it and said that he had to go along, even if he did nothing. The detainee says that it was impossible for him to get away until he reached Mt Steward where he could escape through the negro village because his parents live there. The detainee did nothing else than just follow along, and he particularly did not receive allowance at any place. In agreement with Henry Daniel, he also states that **Mary Thomas** was more eager to cause harm than any of the men, and that **Jacob Pickering** walked at the back of the gang and ensured that no one got away.

Detainee Peter Felix, a boy of approximately 16-17 years old, from Pl. Jolly Hill, appears. He states that his mother, who was afraid that he would join the gang when it came to the plantation, tried to hide him under the bed, but **Thomas Graydon** found him and forced him to go along. Thus, he followed to Brooks Hill, where he slipped away into a sugarcane field.

John Port from Jolly Hill appears and also states that he was forced to go along. When the gang came, he had jumped out of the window, but **Thomas Graydon** detected him and said that today, no one would get their way, and that everyone had to follow along. Thus, the detainee followed the gang to Brooks Hill and then he left, because he stopped and said to **Jacob Pickering** that he was ill. **Jacob P.** did not dare let him go, but he summoned **Mary Thomas** who said that the detainee could go and gather strength and then join them another day.

Then, James Wacks from Pl. Jolly Hill, born on Barb. appears. He states that on Tuesday the 1st of October, he had left hospital and was therefore very weak when the gang came to Jolly Hill on the 3rd. He was lying on his bed when he heard commotion outside, and immediately after, he saw **Thomas Graydon** in the door. **Graydon** called him out, but the detainee objected, and then he heard a woman's voice outside saying "He has to come out, otherwise chop off his head". Thus, he had to get up and he saw that the woman was **Mary Thomas**. At the time, the detainee estimates that the gang consisted of no more than 25 people - the detainee emphasizes that he can count - and it was not strengthened until it proceeded and forced the negroes from other plantations to follow along. At Mt Pellier, the detainee managed to escape in the negro village and did not continue further (...)

Thomas Dembo from Pl. Grove Place appears. Apart from being charged with the riots in Frederiksted town, he is also charged with having set fire to the buildings and works at Pl. Mt Victory. He states that on Thursday evening, he left Nicholas, where he was with his woman, and went down to Mt Victory whilst the gang was at Annally, and thus he was at Mt Victory when it was burned. He has family at Mt Victory, and he went there to see to them, and he did nothing. He states that he saw that the woman who called herself **Queen, Mary Thomas** from Sprathall, struck a woman who asked **Graydon** to spare the hospital three times over the neck with her “cowskin”, declaring that the hospital had to be burned. He states that this woman was Cathrine Taylor.

Because of this statement, Cathrine Taylor appears again and states that she is not the one who was struck over the neck by **Mary Thomas** because, as she stated earlier, she was not at Mt Victory until later. She further says that she has heard that **Mary Thomas** accuses Thomas Dembo of being the one who led the gang into Mt Victory.

**Mary Thomas** /: called **the Queen** :/ appears along with Thomas Dembo and when asked whether she saw this man in her gang, she answers that he joined the gang down at Orange Grove gut when the gang came back from Two Friends in order to go to Mt Victory, and he told the gang to walk calmly and quietly in order to surprise the plantation, where the laborers had divided out all manager Stafford’s belongings around in the negro village. Therefore, he had the gang march in regular ranks, 4 and 4, and he himself walked in the lead along with the Captain. In this respect, she is asked who she means when she says “**Captain**”, and she answers **Thomas Graydon**, Daniel Philip and herself. From this statement it appears that **Mary Thomas** did not leave the gang at Annally, as she has previously stated.

Thomas Dembo flatly denies the truth of **Mary Thomas**’ statement.

## **Mention #5 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (1)**

### **Saturday the 7th of December 1878**

(...) **Mary Thomas** from Pl. Sprathall appears again. It is made clear to her that through the various statements given by other detainees, as well as her own statement given yesterday, regarding what happened at Mt Victory, it has emerged that she did not leave the gang at Annally as she had first stated. She then admits that she followed the gang from the beginning and all the way to Punch, where it ended. However, she left it after the greathouse had been “smashed up” and a fire had been started in it, so she did not have any part in the arson of the works, which took place after **Thomas Graydon** and Daniel Philip, along with most of the gang, had tried to get down to Williams, but had been discouraged from forcing entry there. Thus, she has no opinion about whether **Thomas Graydon**’s statement in Frederiksted’s Police Court /: Interrogation of the 7th of October :/ regarding who set fire to Punch’s works is true. During closer interrogation, she states that as far as she knows, petroleum was not used to start fires in her gang. She says that **Thomas Graydon** had a whole “Can” of kerosene which he took from the cellar at Two Friends, but they did not bring it along with them, because **Graydon** gave it to a man who was going to bring it to safety at Pl. Lt. La Grange. He - **Graydon** - said that he would use it for a second attempt to set fire to the Fort, whereafter he would run away. The detainee does not know whether he tried to do it again, because after they parted at Punch, she did not see him again until they were placed in interrogation. The detainee then states that the laborers at the plantations in question mostly joined them, and that it was usually one of the plantation’s laborers who broke open the allowance cellar and the rum cellar, and that the laborers then took what was handed

out to them. But the forced entry happened on Th. Graydon's order, as he called together some of the plantation's laborers, and then he pointed out one or two for the job. She cannot say who they were, because she did not know the people at the various plantations, and no names were to be mentioned because they were not to inform on each other afterwards. But as far as she knows, none of the plantations' laborers took part in the arson. At Mt Steward's greathouse, it was the aforementioned Francis who started the fire. It was only at Mt Victory and Punch that the laborers did not come out when the gang called them. At Mt Victory, Thomas Dembo broke open the door, saying that it didn't matter about the laborers because he knew the plantation well enough to show the way. When presented with the various testimonies from other detainees stating that she was the one who was most eager and violent, she can only say that a poor woman such as herself could not have any power over the men.

Prince Huggins appears. He did not see Thomas Dembo in the gang when it entered Mt Victory, but then, he was not really part of the gang and in any case, he did not play a prominent role.

Jacob Pickering appears again and cannot offer any statement regarding Mt Victory, because he maintains what he has stated previously, that he left the gang at Annally. However, at the same time, he also says that he and Mary Thomas walked home together.

Mary Thomas, who appears again, repeats that it was from Punch that she and the detainee went home together and that they were both at Mt Victory (...)

Susanne Abrahamsen, called Bottom Belly, from Pl. Prosperity, appears. She is charged with participation in the excesses by the Customs House /: Frederiksted Police Interrogation of the 13th of October :/ (...) She is certain that the Barbados people started the riots. In the mob, she knows Thomas Graydon and a little fellow whose name she does not know but who was also shot. A third, who was employed at La Grange, she also believes was shot. The detainee says that the clock just struck 7 when she parted with the gang, and before she went home, she went down to the beach to wash off the blood (...)

Mary Thomas appears again. It has been informed that she was in town on Tuesday evening /: Frederiksted Police Interrogation of the 7th of October :/ She states that she was only in town once. She went in at some time after 6 o'clock after work hours. On that afternoon, she had heard, as had the other laborers at Sprathall, that there was unrest in town, because at around 4-5 o'clock, Thomas Dembo had passed the field where they were working, and he had yelled to them why they were working while other country negroes were fighting in town. When the driver asked him what they were fighting for, he replied that they were fighting because they could not leave the island because \$3 was demanded for a pass. When the detainee, along with two other people from Sprathall or Williams came into town, - after having walked by the square - she met a mob which was busy breaking open merchant Lund's shop on the square. Samuel Henry was the first to break open the shop; however, she heard him call for Bordeaux directly, so she assumes that he was also there. As soon as the shop was open, the rabble rushed in, town negroes as well as country negroes, and they started to throw goods out onto the street. From the shop, kerosene was poured onto the goods which were strewn on the street, and then they were set on fire, and from the bonfire on the street, which was continuously fed with goods which were thrown out, the fire spread to the house. From Lund's house, the rabble went to Wood's shop, but the detainee was not nearby, because she had heard Sprathall's driver's voice in Meel G(.)r's yard, which is adjacent to Lund's house, so she ran in there and helped him to (...) fetch water in order to keep the house's roof wet, so that it would not be ignited by the neighboring house.

The detainee was not anywhere else during the night, but, as she has stated previously, she went back home to Sprathall along with the driver. She did not steal anything (...)

#### **Mention #6 Thomas Graydon (1)**

**Monday the 9th of December, 1878**

(...) William H. Lucas from Annally appears. He is charged with having participated in arson both in town and in the country. He states that he was at home at the Pl. on the evening when the gang came in and he is in overall agreement with Ferdinand William /: Interrogation of the 5th of December :/. He states that before manager Høibrock fled from the plantation on Wednesday, he gave him and the other laborers orders not to leave the plantation, and he did not leave until Tuesday the 8th of October, when manager Høibrock again, for the first time, showed up at the plantation, accompanied by a military patrol, and this patrol arrested him. He was at home in the intervening days, and manager Smith from Oxford regularly inspected the plantation. In particular, he was part of the guard of 12 men whom manager Smith put in charge of guarding the plantation on the day after the fire and the guard participated in the arrest of **Thomas Graydon**. He denies having taken part in the arson in town; he was on his way to town on Wednesday, but when he heard gunshots in there, he became afraid and did not continue but turned back. He did not join any gang in the country (...)

#### **Mention #7 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon (1)**

Tuesday the 10th of December 1878

(...)David Cameron from Pl. La Grange appears. He has requested to appear before the Commission because he has a statement regarding the detainee Henry Daniel from Lt. La Grange and William Henry Lucas from Annally (...) So, he came up to Mt Steward and he got the cart loaded with the help of Julius Edward from La Grange and James Gaspar from Mt Steward, but before he dared to drive back with the cart, he wanted to see where the gang was, so he rode down the road. Just as he got close to the place, above Orange Grove, where the Mt Steward road joins the main road, the gang with **Th. Graydon** and **Mary Thomas** in the lead came out from Orange Grove where he could see the magass stacks still burning, and the detainee wanted to turn his horse around, but then he was hailed by **Th. Graydon** who wanted him to join the gang. The detainee was recognized as the person who had passed them with the cart a little while earlier, and he stated that he had been unable to get the flour, which was why he now returned. Then, he excused himself saying that he was hungry, so he could not join the gang right away, but that he would join them later. That was when Henry Daniel insisted that the detainee should join the gang immediately, and he advised **Thomas Graydon** to not let the detainee go. However, **Thomas Graydon** let him go, and when the detainee shortly after heard and saw that the gang was at Mt Pellier, he saw his chance to drive away from Mt Steward (...)

#### **Mention #8 Thomas Graydon (2)**

Friday the 13th of December

Daniel Benjamin from the plantation Fountain appears before the Commission. He is accused of participation in the revolt in town during the night between the 1st and the 2nd of October. He states

that he was born at the plantation North Star, he is 25 years old and belongs to the congregation of the Moravian Brothers' Church. He was at the plantation Mt Stevard alongside his wife Cathrine Benjamin, and when he saw the fire in town, he came to help put it out. When confronted with the testimony from principal Emanuel Jacobs' /:144:/ in which he states that he struck him with a saber at around 7 o'clock, he says that it was not on purpose and that he struck him with a cane, but after Emanuel Jacobs had appeared, he admits that he struck him with a saber which he had found on the road. Emanuel Jacobs claims that Daniel Benjamin was in Thomas Graydon's and Samuel Henry's gang. To this, Daniel Benjamin comments that he did not follow the gang but that he stood on the side of the gang. Emanuel Jacobs is led back to the arrest.

### **Mention #9 Thomas Graydon (2)**

#### **Tuesday the 17th of December**

Edward James from the plantation Mt. Pellier appears before the Commission. He states that he was born at the plantation Sion Hill. He does not know his age and he belongs to the congregation of the Catholic Church. He admits that he was with the gang at Mt. Pleasant, he believes that it was Wednesday the 2nd of October, during the morning, but he has done nothing. He was forced to join the gang and follow it, but he returned to the plantation Mt. Pellier whilst the gang was at plantation Mt. Pleasant. When faced with the testimony given by Harriet James from the plantation Mt. Pellier in which she states that he was the leader of the gang, he says that **Thomas Graydon** was the leader and he himself was only there and yelled "our side<sup>29</sup>", because if he had not done so, Graydon would have killed him. Since the detainee appears to be given to drink, he is asked whether this is the case, and he answers that he enjoys drinking and that he started off the day in mention with a drink. The statement is presented to the witness and affirmed. Witness stands down.

### **Mention #10 Thomas Graydon (2)**

#### **In 1878, on Friday the 27th of December**

Peter Petersen from the plantation Spring Garden appears before the Commission. He is informed that he is present as a witness and enjoined to be truthful, whereafter he, on request, states that he was born at the plantation Rose Hill, that he belongs to [*Folio 10b-11a, notice 15*] the congregation of the Catholic Church and is approximately 33 years old. He then states that he is certain that he saw Susanna Zachæus at the plantation Annaly when the works were set on fire, and he is certain that she said to **Thomas Graydon** that it was not too soon to burn the plantation. The plantation was set on fire at 5 o'clock. The testimony is presented to the witness and affirmed.

### **Mention #11 Thomas Graydon (6)**

#### **Monday the 13th of January 1879**

(...) Detainee Joseph James from Pl: Orange Grove /: Frederiksted District :/ appears and states that he was born on the island St Johns, he has been on this island for 9 years, the first two years at the

plantation La gr. Princesse, and then 4 years at Becksgrove and then at Orange Grove. He was arrested by a military patrol on the 8th of October, and it was said that he had been at the plantation Annally, which he admits, but he did nothing there. He also admits that he was at Pl. Mt Steward previously, but he claims that he was forced by Daniel Phillip, who was part of **Graydon's gang**. He left the gang at the plantation Annally and did not go to other plantations, which he assures the Commission repeatedly, and likewise that he did not participate in the destruction of the plantations where he was (...)

#### **Mention #12 Thomas Graydon, Mary Thomas (6)**

**Monday the 20th of January 1879**

Detainee Ferdinand Ludvig from Frederiksted /: see interrogation 5th of November :/ states that he, who has been in Frederiksted since he was a boy, and who has studied the writer's craft at his grandfather's for the last couple of years, has primarily made a living as a porter on the plantation's fields (...) He does not at all remember which expressions he used during the day. He claims that all day Wednesday and Thursday, he was in hiding in the sugarcane fields at La Grange, because he was afraid of being picked up by some black volunteers who came through the plantation, and he particularly denies following **Thomas Graydon** and **Mary Thomas**' gang as stated by **Mary Thomas** /: Interrogation 3rd of December :/.

**Mary Thomas** appears and maintains her accusation and the detainee maintains his denial (...)

#### **Mention #13 Thomas Graydon (6)**

**Saturday the 25th of January 1879**

(...) Detainee Prince Huggins from Pl. Punch appears and is enjoined to be truthful. He states that he saw the detainee Civil standing in Punch's yard when the gang was there and burned the greathouse. He knows that the detainee Civil did not follow the part of the gang which went down to "Williams", because at that time, he heard his voice in the negro village, and the same is the case regarding **Thomas Graydon**, as he returned from William, he was angry because half of that gang had not followed him. The detainee is in particular asked what happened to detainee Civil. Huggins does not know whether he found him in the negro village (...)

#### **Mention #14 Thomas Graydon (6)**

**Wednesday the 5th of March 1879**

(...) Detainee Emanuel Jacob maintains his statement and adds that he did not do anything illegal until the following day, on Thursday, when **Thomas Graydon** forced him to open up the allowance cellar at Mt Pellier (...)

#### **Mention #15 Thomas Graydon (6)**

**Friday the 28th of March 1879**

(...) Detainee Cornelius Larcus from Pleasant Valley, born at Pleasant Valley. He states that he had to go along to Punch when the gang haunted Pleas. Valley negro village and it was just on the verge of burning the negro village because no laborers from there followed the gang. The detainee, who tried to escape, was intercepted and was brought before "**Colonel Peter**", who threatened to "blew out his

brain”, while Daniel Philip stabbed him in the arm with a mulesax. He did nothing at Punch, and when **Graydon** brought the gang to Pl. William, the detainee ran off into the negro village. He did not go anywhere else. Hereafter, it is found that the detainee, at least for the time being, can be released, and he is then released until further notice (...)

#### **Mention #16 Jacob Pickering (6)**

##### **Wednesday the 16th of April 1879**

(...) Detainee John Peter from Pl: Concordia /: West End District :/ appears and now states that he came to Frederiksted on Tuesday evening along with Christian Coulsen and **Jacob Pickering**, after the fire had broken out. In the afternoon, the latter had come out to the plantation with the information that “they were fighting in town”(…)

#### **Mention #17 Jacob Pickering (6)**

##### **Thursday the 17th of April 1879**

(...) Detainee **Jacob Pickering** from Pl Concordia appears and is interrogated with reference to the testimony given by John Peters, and he admits that he staggered around in the streets of Frederiksted on the night in question, but as usual he did not participate in plunder or destruction (...)

#### **Mention #18 Thomas Graydon (5)**

##### **Saturday the 27th of September 1879**

Medical orderly B. C. Bogens appears. It is made clear to him that he is to give testimony as a witness and he is enjoined to be truthful (...) The witness is indeed under the impression that John Moore’s shop was broken open long before it was set on fire, but he was not present on any of the two occasions. The witness himself had a shop in Kongs:Gade, which was the first which was broken open, namely right before Junghans’ shop was broken open, a bit after 7 o’clock. The witness did not see the detainee there. He believes that it must have been Samuel Henry and **Thomas Graydon** who were in the lead. He did not see Emanuel. The witness’ and Junghans’ shops were broken open before the gang destroyed Officer Jackson’s house (...)

#### **Mention #19 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon (5)**

##### **Saturday the 8th of November 1879**

(...) Abraham Isaac, crook driver at Plt Mt Victory, born the same place, appears. After having been enjoined as a witness, he states that he who, at the time, was also a guardsman at the plantation, was in the negro village, which is situated close to the country road, when the gang, which was calmly approaching Mt Victory, came in. In the lead, he saw Col: “Peter” wearing the white hat, and when he came up to the yard, he saw Menckho Joombee (Daniel Phillip) and **Jacob Pickering**. He also saw Thomas Dembo, but he did not see him play a prominent part. He did not see any details at all, and he cannot say who started the fires at the manager’s house or at the works. During further examination, no new information emerges, and the witness affirms his testimony and stands down (...)

(...) David Thomas from Pl: Mt Victory, born at Diamond & Ruby, appears. After having been enjoined as the previous witness, he states that he was in Mt Victory negro village when the gang came in there on Thursday evening. He did not follow them up to the yard, and he can give no information on who was in the gang. When requested to elaborate on Thomas Dembo, he can only state that on Wednesday, that is, the day before the fire, he saw Thomas Dembo sitting with some others inside the driver's house, talking and drinking, but he did not hear anything about an uprising or destruction. He, the witness, has later heard that Thomas Dembo is to have been active at the arson, but as far as he knows, it is something which **Queen Mary** has told her fellow prisoners up at St Croix arrest, and he has since been released. The witness affirms his testimony and stands down.

The Judge, the Chairman of the Commission, remarks that it is detainee **Mary Thomas' (Queen Mary)** particular charge against Thomas Dembo which has led to the inquiry regarding his person, and it has emerged that when several of Mt Victory's laborers mention Thomas Dembo as the instigator of the destruction at Mt Victory, they have done so on the mentioned information from **Mary Thomas**. It is also remarked that when the gang had first been at Annaly and then progressed on the northside, Mt Victory was right at hand, and it was such a prominent plantation that even without encouragement, it could hardly be avoided that **Coln: Peter** and the others should go in and destroy it (...)

Now, Abraham James, guardsman at Pl: Annaly, born at Pl: Punch, appears (...) As far as he knows, there were also some laborers from Annaly at Allendale, but he does not know how many. He does however know that Mac: Fresco was there, and he thinks he has heard that Isaac Anthony was also there. After the witness' testimony is presented to him, it gives cause for further questioning, and he now states that he saw that Wm Grossmann bring burning magass to both the manager's house and the works, and when someone took away the trash from Wm Grossmann, **Queen Mary** set fire to a rum barrel. The witness has heard that Wm Grossmann bought both kerosene oil and matches in the negro village. The witness starts to say that **Queen Mary** hit him because he wouldn't use trash, and when then confronted with the fact that then, he must have been up in the yard and not, as he has otherwise stated, hiding by the watermill, he states that **Queen Mary** came after him all the way down to the country road. It then emerges that after the witness had been beaten by the 2 men, as mentioned above, he followed them all the way to Pleasant Valley, but he did not know any of the people he met on the way. He excuses himself by saying that it was evening and dark, but after a lengthy interrogation in which he has been compelled to go into detail, his testimony causes him to appear wholly unreliable (...)

Adolphus Larsen, who has previously been arrested, has been brought in. He repeats that he did not show the gang the way to the allowance cellar, the cellar which was situated beneath Mt Victory's works. He also states that he did not see Thomas Dembo inside the plantation Mt Victory, but he knew him well, and he saw him at Mt Victory's greathouse, when **Thomas Graydon** and Daniel Phillip had it burned down, after the gang had been at Nicolas (...)

## **Mention #20 Thomas Graydon, Mary Thomas (5)**

### **Friday the 14th of November 1879**

Commissarius Supreme Judge Rosenstand remarks that an inquiry into the circumstances at Plantation Mt Stewart has been conducted. It has emerged that groundsman Charles Samuel and John David, who was the driver at the time, had gone into hiding before the gang came in to the plantation. None of the remaining laborers could give any reliable information regarding, in particular, Emanuel Jacobs and

Francis Harrison, about whom, on account of detainee **Mary Thomas**' statements, the inquiry was specifically directed. It is yet again confirmed that the four leaders are primarily to blame, and regarding others than them, it is very difficult to find anyone who is willing to stand forward – probably because virtually the entire northside population was more or less active in the destruction on the day in question (...)

Detainee Isaac Anthony appears. He states that last year, he was living with Sophia Anthony at Annaly, and he usually slept in her house, where he also spent the night between the 1st and 2nd of October. He states that he left her at 7 or 8 in the morning with the intent to go to town, but below Oxford's hill, he heard gunshots, and he came across a man whose fingers had been shot off in town, and he gave up the idea. He stayed in this neighborhood for a while, and around noon, he turned around and went back to Annaly, where he stayed in the yard or at least in the vicinity of the yard, and he did not go down to the negro village. He thus maintains that he was not in town on Wednesday morning, and he was not at Allendale later during the day. His mother called him back on Tuesday afternoon and not on Wednesday morning. The detainee did not see that Annaly's laborers returned from Allendale on Wednesday afternoon. The detainee was at home on Thursday evening when Annaly burned, but he did not notice other people apart from the known leaders. **Thomas Graydon** called Annaly's laborers out into the yard, but apart from that, he was not as eager to burn as a woman who was with him (...)

#### **Mention #21 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (5)**

##### **Saturday the 22nd of November 1879**

(...) Detainee Emanuel Jacobs admits that he was inside Mt Stewart's greathouse, but he states that there were many more than the 3 people which the witness claims, and he took a "Demijohn" in which there was drink, and he took a sip himself, and then he brought the Demijohn out to the others. He did not break anything and he did not set fire to the house. None of Mt Stewart's laborers were inside the house, only members of the gang went in there. The detainee did not see Francis Harrison at Mt Stewart, and he did not see him go along further than at Brook Hill. The detainee himself did not go further than to Mt Stewart from where he was brought back by a woman at Br. Hill, whose daughter he lived with. The detainee further states that he was there when **Queen Mary**'s gang of approximately 20-30 negroes came in to Prosperity to get the laborers there to come out. However, he slipped away and went over to Br. Hill, but a while later, he was taken up by the gang and had to follow along. At the time, Francis Harrison was in the gang which must have taken him up from Prosperity. Regarding the plantation Two Friends, the detainee states that it was **Queen Mary** who, after she had first played on the pianoforte whilst the others rummaged around and broke things in the greathouse, and then she set fire to a carpet inside the door. It was **Colnl: Peter** and **Jacob Pickering** who set fire to the works, and immediately after, they left the place, so the laborers had the opportunity to extinguish the fire. At Mt Pellier, it was **Queen Mary** who gave "a big-eyed Fellow from Mt Pleasant" and John Wm Samuel from Lt. La Grange the order to set fire to the magass house. As he has admitted previously, the detainee had to distribute allowance on **Colnl: Peter's** orders. When presented with **Mary Thomas**' (**Queen Mary**) claim that it was himself and Francis Harrison who burned down Mt Stewart's greathouse, the detainee can only repeat what he has said (...)

#### **Mention #22 Mary Thomas, Thomas Graydon (Coln: Peter) , Jacob Pickering (5)**

##### **Saturday the 20th of December 1879**

(...) Detainee **Mary Thomas** appears, transferred from St Croix Arrest. She is interrogated regarding detainee Francis Harrison on occasion of this person's statements about him having left **Coln: Peter**'s gang at Brook Hill. She claims that detainee Harrison was in the gang all the way to the border between Punch and William. When the gang went from Punch down to destroy William, **Coln: Peter** had the gang stop at the border whilst he himself went in to explore the terrain at William. Then, he gave Francis Harrison the duty of keeping the gang together until he returned, but the detainee did not await his return but went home. At the time, there were no more than 50 negroes in the gang, and most of them had joined the gang en route from the plantations which **Coln: Peter** had passed and destroyed. Of the original little gang there was only the ringleaders **Coln. Peter**, herself, **Jacob Pickering**, Danl: Philip, Ferdinand Ludvig, Francis Harrison, Emanuel Jacob and perhaps one or two more. Thus, the detainee is certain that Francis Harrison was in the gang all the way. She is also certain that he was with the gang inside Mt Stewart's greathouse, but she dare no longer claim that he set fire to it along with Emanuel Jacob

Detainee Francis Harrison appears, and **Mary Thomas** repeats her statement regarding his person. First, he maintains that he did not go further than to Brook Hill, but then he states that he got so drunk at Lt. La Grange that he does not know where he was, but then he admits that he was in the gang all the way right until **Coln: Peter** left the gang at the border between Punch and William, but he denies that **Coln: Peter** gave him the command of the gang or made it his duty to keep the gang together. From there, he went straight home to Prosperity. He denies having taken part in the arson of Mt Stewart' greathouse and he was not inside the house. He was only outside on the steps where he got a bottle of "guavaberry" which he ate. He was not inside other houses.

Detainee **Mary Thomas** says that Francis was inside Mt. Stewart's greathouse along with everyone else, and she thinks he was inside other houses as well, but she can not say that she saw him do anything, but he was one of the ringleaders of the gang. The detainee is questioned regarding detainee Prince Huggins. She states that she did not see him anywhere, so if he was there, he couldn't have done anything bad.

Detainee Emanuel Jacob and **Mary Thomas** repeat that he set fire to Mt Stewart's greathouse, and **Mary Thomas** further states that he threw some burning "trash" or "magass" in under a bed. Some members of the gang were busy breaking things and plundering up in the house, whilst others were down in the cellar where they were robbing flour and food and other foodstuffs which they came across. They all rushed out of the house when the fire blazed up.

Detainee Emanuel Jacob denies the truth of this accusation. He also denies having followed along with the gang all the way up to William's border, because before the house was even on fire at Mt Stewart, he was taken away by the mentioned woman.

**Mary Thomas** maintains her statement.

**Mary Thomas**, Francis Harrison and Emanuel Jacobs led away.

**Mention #23 Thomas Graydon, Jacob Pickering (5)**

**Friday the 9th of January 1880**

(...) Detainee George Henry from Plantation Spratt Hall appears. He maintains what he has stated continuously, that when he came into town on the night of the fireburn, he went over the square with another negro to the house in Dronningens Gade where his sister lives and where tailor Don Pierre had his shop. At the time, his sister was on St Thomas, and when the fire drew closer, he had to get her belongings moved. Therefore, he had a good reason to be in the yard, and he was not in a flock with other negroes. Edward Roberts lived diagonally across the street, but the detainee neither saw him nor his son, and he did not utter the mentioned words to them. The detainee had no reason to talk about the price of a pass, as he had no intention of leaving the country. The detainee went home to Spratt Hall on Wednesday morning and did not follow the gang on Thursday. He saw **Thomas Graydon** and **Jacob Pickering** whet a saber and a knife in Spratt Hall's yard from where they went into the negro village, but the detainee did not follow them (...)

#### **Mention #24 Jakob Pickering (5)**

##### **Thursday the 29th of January 1880**

(...) The Judge then remarks that apart from the previous and gradually added deaths amongst the detainees, more deaths have occurred during the course of the inquiries, namely: John Henry Green 27th of June last year, **Jakob Pickering** 11th of June, Phillip Abraham 9th of August, James Spencer 31st of August, all in St Croix Arrest, and also Laurence Frazer 19th of September last year, and Sophia Mathersen 20th of this month, the last mentioned in Frederiksfort (...)

#### **Mention #25 Mary Thomas (5)**

##### **Friday the 30th of January 1880**

(...) Then, detainee **Mary Thomas** appears. She wants to state that it was not Emanuel Jacobs but Francis Harrison who started the fire under a bed in Mt Stewart's greathouse (...)

At the moment, the after-mentioned 18 detainees are placed in Frederiksfort under the Commission.

1. Francis Harrison without employment
1. Hans Christian from the plantation Wms Delight
1. George Henry from the plantation Sprat Hall
1. Emanuel Jacob from the plantation Prosperity
1. Thomas Daniel from the plantation Wms Delight
1. Joseph Bowell from the plantation Høgensborg
1. Isaac Anthony from Frederiksted
1. David Cameron from the plantation La Grange
1. John Hodge from the plantation Fredensborg
1. Joseph Spencer from the plantation Høgensborg
1. James Emanuel Benjamin from the plantation Mt Pleasant / Calqh :/
1. Joseph Briggs from the plantation Friedensborg
1. Henry Barker from the plantation Høgensborg
1. James Murphy from the plantation Mannings Bay /: currently escaped :/
1. Susanna Abrahamson from the plantation Prosperity
1. Axelina E. Solomon alias Agnes from the plantation L: Bethlehem
1. Mathilda Mc Bean from the plantation Cane

1. **Mary Thomas** from the plantation Sprat Hall

## **Mention #26 Mary Thomas (7)**

### **Friday the 4th of April 1880**

(...) The above mentioned governmental document of the 5th of this month is presented, according to which 40 people are to be charged with participation in the riots which took place in October 1878 and with criminal actions which took place in this connection, namely:

1. James Emanuel Benjamin (Mannie) from Mt Pleasant
1. John Hodge from Fredensborg
1. George Henry from Sprat Hall
1. Francis Harrison from Prosperity
1. Emanuel Jacob from Prosperity
1. David Cameron from La Grange
1. Susanna Abrahamson al. Bottom Belly from Prosperity
1. Isaac Anthony from Frederiksted
1. Axelina E. Salomon (Agnes) from Bethlehem
1. Mathilda Mc Bean from Cane
1. Joseph Bowell from Høgensborg
1. Joseph Spencer from Høgensborg
1. Hans Christian from Williams Delight
1. John Thomas Sobers from Beck's Grove
1. Christopher Samuel from Mt Pleasant (Plessens)
1. George Michael from Envy
1. Thomas Critchlow from Jealousy
1. William James from Grove Place
1. George Callender from Enfield Green
1. Henry England from Jealousy
1. William Arnold from Upper Love
1. William Barnes from Rust up Twist
1. George Simons from Barren Spot
1. Richard Gibbs (Sealy) from Barren Spot
1. Edward Lewis from Mt Pleasant
1. Henry Barker from Høgensborg
1. Joseph Briggs from Fredensborg
1. William Henry from Lower Love
1. Christian Martin from Lower Love
1. Wren Gillens from Lower Love
1. George Cambridge from Upper Love
1. James Cox from Diamond
1. Joseph William from Windsor
1. **Mary Thomas from Sprat Hall**
1. Johannes Samuel (Bamberg) From Frederiksted
1. Joseph James from Anguilla
1. John Samuel from Anguilla
1. Thomas James from Anguilla [Folio 2b-3a, notice 7]

1. James Griffith from Anguilla
1. Rebecca Frederik from Cane

### **Mention #27 Mary Thomas (6)**

#### **Friday the 30th of April 1880**

(..)The detainee **Mary Thomas** from the plantation Sprat Hall appears. She was born on Antigua but came to this island 14 years ago and is estimated to be 25-30 years old. She belongs to the congregation of the English Church. The action is made clear to her and she is informed that she is particularly charged with having been one of the ringleaders of the gang which on Thursday the 3rd of October plundered and burned plantations on the West-End-Northside /: cf. the above mentioned regarding detainees Francis Harrison and Emanuel Jacob :/ such as is examined in the detainee's own and other testimonies of the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th of December 1878 /: cf. also the interrogations of the 22nd of Novbr: and the 20th of December last year and also the 30th of January of this year.

The detainee has nothing to add to what she has stated during the interrogations (...)

### **Mention #28 Mary Thomas (7)**

#### **Saturday the 1st of May 1880**

(..) the Commission presents the following outline of the movements in the uprising and the crimes committed in relation to the charged persons as reviewed above.

On Thursday morning, gangs were formed at various plantations, usually in such a way that a single plantation's gang, under the leadership of a couple of their own laborers, ventured out and attacked the neighboring plantations whose laborers, to a greater or lesser degree, joined them. As such, the gang which destroyed the western part of the South Side, Williams Delight, Enfield Green, Diamond, Good Hope, Whim and Carlton, originated at Høgensborg, and for which the detainees Henry Barker and Joseph Briggs, and also the above mentioned Joseph Spencer and partly Joseph Bowell are charged. From Castle, the gang which, at approximately the same time, burned Golden Grove and Negro Bay and which, at Mannings Bay, then joined the gang which had struck out from Lower Love for which the detainees William Henry, Christian Martin and Wren Gittens are charged,- having burned Adventure and Paradise - which was done along with a mob from Diamond and a mob from Upper Love - the detainee George Cambridge is charged - they burned Betty's Hope, and then the united gangs were one big gang, which must have been the largest, and around noon time, they attacked Anguilla - in which regard particularly the detainee James Cox is charged - and then onwards over Kingshill-Station, Bethlehem and Castle (the works) to Mt Pleasant and Plessens. From Mt Pleasant (Holm) came the gang which ravaged Hermitage, Lebanon Hill, Canaan, La Vallee and Rust up Twist, and in which the above-mentioned James E. Benjamin and the detainee Edward Lewis are charged with having been the leaders or at least participants. Around the same time, the laborers from Windsor struck out along with the laborers from the surrounding plantations and they ravaged Mt Pellier, Morning Star, Concordia, Windsor and partly Glynn, and in this regard, the detainee Joseph William is charged. Finally, on the West-End North-Side, further into the day, the gang which went over Orange Grove, Mt Pellier, Two Friends, Mt Stewart, Annaly, Mt Victory, Nicholas and Punch was formed and

from which the mentioned Francis Harrison and Emanuel Jacob and also the detainee Mary Thomas, who goes under the name “Queen Mary” are charged with being participants.

### **Mention #29 Mary Thomas (5)**

**Friday the 30th of January 1880**

(...) Then, detainee Mary Thomas appears. She wants to state that it was not Emanuel Jacobs but Francis Harrison who started the fire under a bed in Mt Stewart’s greathouse (...)