

**Den til Forsendelse med de Kongelige Brevposter privilegerede
Berlingske Politiske og Avertissementstidende 5. oktober 1878**

The long title above translates into something like "To be sent with the Royal Post privileged Berlings' Political and Advertisement Paper". This Danish newspaper has been in print since 1749, and has traditionally been considered a conservative paper. It is simply called *Berlingske* today. Berlingske was the first paper in Denmark to report about the riot after receiving a telegram from Jamaica on October 5. 1878 (translated from Danish):

Unrest on St. Croix. "Ritz. Bureau" announces a telegram, dated London, the 5th Octobr., of the following content: "A Telegram from Jamaica to Reuters Bureau reports that there has been an outbreak of Negro riots on St. Croix. Several plantations burn. Governor of St. Thomas has arrived with the available strength, 50 soldiers. Several plantation owners are killed. On the Plantation Anna's Hope there has been a battle in which the Negroes were defeated. The death count was 200. English and French frigates are expected." From the same source, Jamaica, there was already news on the 3rd over the New York Telegraph to London, that among the Negroes on St. Croix was an uprising and the rioters had committed many cruelties. Whether this is correct is still difficult to determine since there has only been one telegram on the 2nd to our government, which contained a message that serious riots had erupted in Frederikstad on St. Croix, and that, as a consequence, commandeur Garde with the available troops from St. Thomas had arrived to restore the order.

What could be assumed and hoped is that the condition on St. Croix and the extent of the unrest are depicted in colors too dark, since the fact is that among the Negro population there has been no trace of the slightest misery or grievances lately, just as there have been no skirmishes of any kind between workers and employers. All the more surprisingly, the telegrams are about a

ARBEJDERMUSEET
& ARBEJDERBEVÆGELSENS BIBLIOTEK OG ARKIV

serious uprising and battle against troops, which apparently have led to the loss of many human lives.

The troops on St. Croix (approx.. 80 men) have previously been dispersed in two places, Christiansted and Frederikstad (and a few men at King's Hill), but have been reduced to only one place after the reduction of the military, Christiansted, which can explain why the unrest could not be suppressed at once and reinforcements from St. Thomas was necessary. As a possible explanation for the riot is mentioned that October the first is Changeover-day for the workers, and many are vacant at that time which might have led to discontent with the new labour contracts.

Uroligheder paa St. Croix. „Nyh. Bureau“ meddeler et Telegram, dateret London den 5te Octbr., af følgende Indhold:
„Et Telegram fra Jamaica til Reuters Bureau melder, at der er udbrudt en Regeropsstand paa St. Croix. Flere Plantager brænde. Gouverneuren fra St. Thomas er ankommen med den disponible Styrke, 50 Soldater. Flere Plantageiere ere dræbte. Paa Plantagen Anshope har der staaet en Kamp, i hvilken Negrene bleve slaede. Tabet af Døde var 200. Engelse og franske Fregatter ventes.“
Fra samme Kilde, Jamaica, var der allerede den 3die ds. over New York telegrapheret til London, at der blandt Negrene paa St. Croix var udbrudt en Opstand, samt at Tumultuarterne havde begaaet mange Grusomheder.
Hvorvidt disse Efterretninger ere correcte, er det endnu vanskeligt at afgjøre, da der til vor Regering indtil i Middags kun var indtruffet et Telegram af 2den ds., som indeholdt en Meddelelse om, at der var udbrudt alvorlige Uroligheder (serious riots) i Frederiksted paa St. Croix, og at som Folge deraf Commandeur Garde med den disponible Troppstyrke fra St. Thomas havde begivet sig derhen for at gjenoprette Ordenen. Hvad der lader antage og haabe, at Tilstanden paa St. Croix og Opstandens Omfang er mildret med for mærke Farver, er den Omstændighed, at der blandt Regerbefolkningen lige indtil den sidste Tid ikke har været sporet den mindste Misnøje eller Sjæring, ligesaa lidt som der er forefaldet Rioninger af nogen Art mellem Arbeidere og Arbejdsgivere. Saa meget mere overraskende ere derfor Telegrammerne om en alvorlig Opstaad og Kamp med Tropperne, der skal have ført til Tab af mange Menneskeliv. Den paa St. Croix garnisonerende Styrke (c. 80 Mtd.) har tidligere været fordelt paa to Steder, Christianssted og Frederiksted (med nogle saa Udliggere paa King's Hill), men er senere efter Militairets Reduction bleven indskrænket til det ene, Christianssted, hvorved det forklæres, at Urolighederne ikke strax have kunnet undertrykkes, men at man har maattet opprøbe Forstærkning fra St. Thomas. Som en mulig Anledning til Opstanden nævnes, at det den 1ste October er Skiftetid for Arbeiderne, af hvilke ved den Tid ikke saa gaar ledige, og at der maaskee er opstaaet Utilfredshed med de nye Arbeidscontracter.

ARBEJDERMUSEET
& ARBEJDERBEVÆGELSENS BIBLIOTEK OG ARKIV

ARBEJDERMUSEET
& ARBEJDERBEVÆGELSENS BIBLIOTEK OG ARKIV