

Rogue Revolutionaries

The Fight for Legitimacy
in the Greater Caribbean

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CONTENTS

List of Key Figures	vii
Introduction. Foreigners of Desperate Fortune	1
Chapter 1. Ghostly Governments: Statehood and Sovereignty	9
Chapter 2. Traveling Words: Communication Circuits	37
Chapter 3. American Freedom Fighters: The Struggle for Equality	60
Chapter 4. Revolutionary Dreams: Diplomatic Games and International Politics	83
Chapter 5. Crocodiles and Country Houses: Revolutionary Memories	109
Conclusion. Monitoring the Contagion of Revolution	136
List of Abbreviations	145
Notes	147
Index	191
Acknowledgments	199

KEY FIGURES

LOUIS-MICHEL AURY. Born near Paris, France; joined the navy during the revolution as a sailor; deserted his post in the West Indies; became an independent corsair; appointed commandant general of the naval forces of the Republic of Cartagena; clashed with Simón Bolívar; embarked on a more independent career, setting up headquarters on the islands of Galveston (1816–1817), Amelia (1817), and Providencia (1819–1821).

BENJAMIN AND PHILIPPE, ALIAS TITUS, BIGARD. Brothers born in Guadeloupe, France; served in the revolutionary corsair fleet; moved to the Swedish colony of St. Barthélemy; set up a mercantile house; lobbied for voting rights and political representation of free men of color; funded an expedition against Puerto Rico in 1822.

AGUSTÍN CODAZZI. Born in Lugo, northern Italy; enlisted in the Napoleonic army; crossed the Atlantic Ocean in 1817 to join the Spanish American independent movements on Amelia and Providencia; returned to Italy and bought a farm; became a cartographer and geographer in Venezuela and New Grenada; recruited German migrants for Venezuela; died in Colombia.

MANUEL CORTÉS CAMPOMANES. Born in Madrid, Spain; began his career as a professor; instigated the antiroyalist San Blas conspiracy; deported to Venezuela, where he plotted an anticolonial coup; worked with Spanish American insurgent exiles in London; joined the first republic of Venezuela in 1811; moved to the Republic of Cartagena; participated in an expedition against Mexico from Galveston, Texas, in 1817; became an editor and bookseller in Belgium.

SÉVÈRE COURTOIS. Born in Ouanaminthe, northern St. Domingue, France; left colony first for Cuba and then for Louisiana; enlisted in a battalion of free men of color in the Battle of New Orleans of the Anglo-American War

of 1812; joined the Republic of Cartagena; served in Simón Bolívar's army; became an independent privateer; moved to Providencia, western Caribbean; oversaw the unification of Providencia to the Republic of Gran Colombia; participated in the revolutionary conspiracy against Cuba in 1823.

HENRI LOUIS LA FAYETTE VILLAUME DUCOUDRAY-HOLSTEIN. Born in Schwedt, northeastern Germany; volunteered in the French army; captured in Spain; escaped to the United States; enlisted in the Republic of Texas in 1813; joined the Republic of Cartagena; became Simón Bolívar's chief of staff; plotted a revolutionary expedition against Puerto Rico in 1822; settled as a language teacher and a writer in Albany, New York.

COSTANTE FERRARI. Born in Reggio, northern Italy; joined the Napoleonic army; volunteered for South American independence movements at Amelia and Providencia; returned to Italy and bought a farm with Codazzi; fought in the Greek war of independence; fought in a liberal rebellion in Italy in 1831; traveled to Venezuela in 1834–1835; led a battalion of volunteers in the Italian revolutions of 1848; died in Reggio.

MARCELIN GUILLOT. Born in St. Domingue, France; evacuated during the revolution probably to Cuba and then to Louisiana; enlisted in the battalion of free people of color in New Orleans during the Anglo-American War of 1812; moved to Galveston, Amelia, and Providencia; fought in the Battle of Lake Maracaibo with the republican forces in 1823; became an army officer in Gran Colombia.

BAPTIS IRVINE. Born in Baltimore, eastern United States; journalist; fought with the Maryland militia during the Anglo-American War of 1812; promoted the cause of Spanish American independence as the newspaper editor of the *New-York Columbian*; served as a U.S. special agent in Venezuela in 1818; participated in a revolutionary plot against Puerto Rico in 1822.

GEORGES NICHOLAS JEANNET-LOUDIN. Born in Arcis-sur-Aube, northcentral France; his brother was an army general and his uncle, George Danton, was a political leader during the revolution; posted in Guyana (April 1793 to November 1794 and April 1796 to November 1798) and in Guadeloupe (1800); recalled to the metropole; fled to North America and founded the Champ d'Asile colony in Texas in 1818; led a revolutionary expedition against Puerto Rico in 1822; died in France.

JUAN BAUTISTA MARIANO PICORNELL. Born in Palma de Mallorca, Spain; joined scientific and literary societies; taught in Madrid; wrote treatises on education and pedagogy; involved in the 1796 antiroyalist San Blas conspiracy; transported to Venezuela, where he participated in the anticolonial La Guaira conspiracy; took refuge in the United States; joined the first Republic of Venezuela in 1811; returned to the United States; joined an expedition against Texas; became president of the “provisional government of the free men of the Interior Provinces of Mexico” in 1813; rallied the Spanish royalist cause in New Orleans; died in Cuba.

JOSEPH SAVARY. Born in Saint-Marc, western St. Domingue; went to Cuba and Louisiana; joined Spanish American insurgent movements on the Louisiana/Texas border; participated in the republic of Texas from 1812 to 1813; led a battalion of free men of color during the Battle of New Orleans in 1815; moved to Galveston Island; settled in New Orleans with his wife Eugenie, also a native of St. Domingue.