

S I X T H
R E P O R T

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

SUGAR AND COFFÉE PLANTING;

TOGETHER WITH THE

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND APPENDIX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
3 April 1848.

Veneris, 4^o die Februarii, 1848.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Present Condition and Prospects of the Interests connected with, and dependent on, SUGAR and COFFEE PLANTING in Her Majesty's East and West Indian Possessions and the Mauritius, and to consider whether any and what Measures can be adopted by Parliament for their Relief.

Lunæ, 7^o die Februarii, 1848.

Committee nominated :

Lord George Bentinck.	Mr. Philip Miles.
Mr. Labouchere.	Mr. James Wilson.
Mr. Goulburn.	Lord George Manners.
Mr. Milner Gibson.	Mr. Ewart.
Mr. Cardwell.	Sir John Pakington.
Sir Thomas Birch.	Mr. James Matheson.
Mr. Henry Hope.	Sir Edward Buxton.
Mr. Charles Villiers.	

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the said Committee.

Martis, 15^o die Februarii, 1848.

Ordered, THAT Mr. Ewart be discharged from further attendance on the Committee, and that Mr. Moffatt be added thereto.

Jovis, 24^o die Februarii, 1848.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to Report the Minutes of Evidence taken before them, from time to time, to The House.

REPORT - - - - -	p. iii
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - -	p. 1
APPENDIX - - - - -	p. 135

SIXTH REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the present Condition and Prospects of the Interests connected with and dependent on SUGAR and COFFEE PLANTING in Her Majesty's East and West Indian Possessions and the Mauritius, and to consider whether any and what Measures can be adopted by Parliament for their Relief, and who were empowered to Report the MINUTES of EVIDENCE taken before them, from time to time, to The House ;

HAVE made a farther Progress in the Inquiry referred to them.

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LIST OF WITNESSES.

Mercurii, 29^o die Martii, 1848.

Mr. Edwin Pickwood	- - - - -	p. 1
Mr. Richard Farrer	- - - - -	p. 32

Jovis, 30^o die Martii, 1848.

Robert Christian, Esq.	- - - - -	p. 41
Mr. William Hugh Lawson Syers	- - - - -	p. 73

Sabbati, 1^o die Aprilis, 1848.

John Wood, Esq.	- - - - -	p. 81
Mr. William Betts	- - - - -	p. 124

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Mercurii, 29^a die Martii, 1848.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Lord George Bentinck.
Mr. Cardwell.
Mr. Goulburn.
Mr. Labouchere.
Mr. Matheson.

Mr. Miles.
Mr. Moffat.
Mr. Villiers.
Mr. Wilson.

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Edwin Pickwood*, called in; and Examined.

13704. Mr. *Wilson*.] YOU are a resident and a proprietor in the island of St. Kitts?—I am the son of a proprietor; I do not own any property myself.

13705. Is your father still alive?—My father is not; my mother is.

13706. You have resided in the island a number of years?—I have resided there for the last 18 years.

13707. You left Harrow School and went direct to St. Kitts?—Two years after I left Harrow I went to join my father, who presided in the courts of the island of St. Kitts; he was chief judge.

13708. How many years have you resided at St. Kitts?—With the exception of three years, I have been there the whole time.

13709. You have had many opportunities of forming an opinion as to the general state of St. Kitts, and the affairs of that island?—Yes; after my father's death I had the sole control and management of our family property, one of the largest in the island.

13710. In what year was that?—From the year 1830, when I went out to the West Indies. My father died in 1834, but owing to the many public duties he had to discharge I was director of the estate even before his death, but after his death I became my mother's attorney, and I had the entire control of that estate.

13711. That was before the period of emancipation?—Four years before the period of emancipation.

13712. Therefore you are able to speak to the condition of the island, and of your own property in particular, for four years prior to emancipation, during the whole period of apprenticeship, and during the period that has elapsed since apprenticeship?—As regards other opportunities I have had of forming an opinion, I have been during the whole of that time a member of the Legislative Assembly of St. Kitts, during the time of slavery, during apprenticeship, and under the present existing system.

13713. Will you state to the Committee what, in your opinion, are the chief causes which have led to the failure of the planting interests in that island, which has been so much complained of, of late years?—I think it may be traced to a great variety of causes, but, in my own mind, I have no hesitation in saying that the principal evil with which the West Indians have had to contend has been that of absenteeism, the total withdrawal of nearly the whole of the proprietary body. I speak particularly with respect to St. Kitts and the neighbouring small islands, and I speak from information derived from other sources not within my own knowledge as regards the larger islands.

13714. In the island of St. Kitts to what extent does absenteeism prevail; what portion of the estates are managed by resident proprietors and what by attorneys or agents of absentees?—In the island of St. Kitts absenteeism prevails to a most fearful extent. I am bound to say, so far as St. Kitts is concerned,

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

and as regards what we should term, out there, the higher orders of people, by which is understood the proprietary body (because we have none higher there except the governor of the colony), there is no such class; there are exceptions, men of education and family and men of enlightened minds, but those are merely exceptions.

13715. Have you any idea of the proportion of estates which are managed by resident proprietors and those managed by the agents of absentees; should you say three-fourths of the estates are managed by the agents of absentees?—A considerably larger portion than that. I have been so recently from the island that I could almost mention every one.

13716. Would you say seven-eighths?—I should say seven-eighths. I think there are not more than 15 resident proprietors in the management and possession of their own properties.

13717. In seeing that there are only 15 resident proprietors in the possession of their own properties, you do not exclude from that number those proprietors whose estates are mortgaged to merchants in England, do you?—No, clearly not; because I do not think there is one in that position.

13718. When you speak of resident proprietors, you include those who are nominally the proprietors of the estates?—Yes; in whom the fee-simple still remains. It may be mortgaged to any amount you please.

13719. Will you tell the Committee what, in your estimation, are the chief evils arising from absenteeism?—It will be hardly necessary to observe that it acts by lowering the tone of society in general, and therefore has a most pernicious influence upon the land in that way. But the system, as regards attorneyships, is what I would particularly allude to.

13720. The necessity of employing attorneys to manage estates is one of the causes of the evils to which you refer?—Yes.

13721. Will you explain the evils that arise from that necessity?—The proprietary body are not represented individually. It is a misfortune, perhaps, that one man having established a reputation as an attorney, represents the interests of many others. It has always been the case that there has been some one person who very deservedly, no doubt, from peculiar circumstances, has been entrusted with the management and control of nearly one-third of the actual estates in the island.

13722. One single attorney?—Yes.

13723. Is that single attorney competent to pay personal attention to the estates the management of which he has under his care, or is he obliged to employ agents under him?—He is necessarily forced to employ managers, and those managers, for the most part, are persons selected from the lower grade of society; and whatever his activity, and whatever his power may be, he must be dependent, in a great measure, upon those persons.

13724. Generally speaking, would you say that those persons are competent to the task to the same degree that the proprietor would be were he looking over his own property?—It may so happen. There are instances, as far as agriculture is concerned, where it may be so; but that is not where the evil, in my mind, exists. It may so happen that men brought up to this particular business are more competent to carry on the agricultural department of an estate than the actual proprietor.

13725. The parties you are now speaking of are the overseers of estates?—Managers and overseers. As regards the managers of estates, they cannot be actuated by the same motives as the proprietor would be. The object of a manager of an estate, in the first instance, is to build himself up a character to get a large crop. He goes upon an estate which is producing little or nothing; and if he succeeds in getting a large crop, no one knows except the merchant at home at what cost that crop is produced. If in the course of a year it is thought expedient to remove him, there is no difficulty in his getting employment the next day on any other estate. Such a person cannot be supposed to have those inducements which a resident proprietor would have in keeping down the expenses of the estate.

13726. One of the faults of overseers or managers of estates is, that they want personally to get a reputation for getting a large crop, regardless of the expenditure of the proprietor?—Yes. I do not include in this the whole body of men, nor do I mean to say that they are necessarily regardless, but in no portion of the world would a man's property succeed so well in his absence, and particularly

larly in the West Indies, from certain peculiarities which belong to West India property alone; whereas there is no property that I am aware of, in any part of the world, which has given per acre such a gigantic return, so there is no property which has required such an outlay to procure that return, and also that return is very uncertain. If instances were wanted, it has been the case, within the last three years, that an acre of land has produced four tons of sugar; and I do not mean one solitary acre, but a piece of cane land of 10 acres. I by no means give that as an average, but I am only stating what has been done. If sugar were bringing 25*l.* sterling a hogshead, the Committee will at once see what an enormous return it would be for that particular 10 acres. In the event of a dry year, that same land would not produce 10 barrels. I have seen that within my own experience; it would produce nothing sometimes.

13727. Your observations now are to show rather the uncertainty of the crop?—Yes; but where an estate requires such an outlay, it would require particularly the supervision of the person directly interested in the expenditure.

13728. The object of your present remarks is, to show that the circumstances are so different at different periods, that they required especially the presence and judgment of the proprietor in order to act differently under the variety of circumstances to which the estates are exposed?—Certainly.

13729. And that it is difficult, therefore, to delegate such instructions to a mere agent as would enable him to act wisely and prudently under all the peculiar circumstances to which West India property is exposed?—Yes; and from those circumstances there is no property so soon ruined as West India property. In one year, from bad management, a property may be plunged into the greatest difficulties and distress.

13730. Which it may cost a great sum of money to restore?—Clearly.

13731. You are of opinion that, looking to that peculiar characteristic of West India property, the presence of the proprietor, who can exercise full control, and exercise his own judgment upon the spot, under peculiar circumstances, is the more necessary, in consequence of those accidental circumstances, than on any other property in the world?—Yes.

13732. Do you think that it would be safe or prudent for a West India proprietor to invest an overseer with such an amount of power as to enable him to do anything, or to follow any course which might be necessary under all those peculiar circumstances?—The overseer is never entrusted with such power by absent proprietors; there is always an attorney; the attorney visits that estate, of course; and on that estate there is generally a manager, and an overseer under him.

13733. It is peculiarly the duty of the manager and the overseer to be conversant with, and to be able to inform the attorney of all the peculiar circumstances, the accidents of seasons, or the accidents of cultivation which may arise, and to advise the attorney as to the course which shall be pursued, as to any special estate in the island?—The attorney is the responsible man, of course; the manager is under his control, and is subject entirely to his orders; but a person who has the command of so many properties must necessarily be very dependent upon his managers.

13734. What you mean is, that the manager of an estate, or the overseer of an estate, representing a particular circumstance to an attorney, the responsible agent for the estate in the island, the attorney under such circumstances would not be likely to attend to his instructions or his representations so much as the proprietor himself, were he resident upon the spot, and able to investigate into the representations which the overseer made, and to judge for himself upon the spot as to the propriety of following such advice?—The proprietor would be resident upon his estate, and the circumstances would be passing before his own eyes. I am now taking a case where he does not think himself capable of managing it, or where he fancies some one else more competent to direct the agricultural part of the estate than himself.

13735. How far, according to your practical observation and experience, have you seen the success of estates apparently dependent, or arising out of proprietors being resident upon their estates, and the want of success dependent upon non-residence?—As far as the island in which I have resided is concerned, I can speak very strongly upon this point. When I speak of the proprietors who have been residing in the island I do not mean at the present moment, for I have been eight months away from St. Kitts, and during that time sugar

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

has fallen very much; but since the year 1830, most of the proprietors living in the island have survived every crisis, and there have been a good many during that time; I cannot say this from any documentary evidence, but in all small communities the circumstances of persons are pretty generally known, therefore I can take upon myself to say that many of those persons have not only kept possession of their estates, and holding no appointment, have lived out of their properties, but they have succeeded in paying off family and other claims; I speak of those persons whom I know personally, and who have been resident within my own time, since the year 1830.

13736. Would you say of the present proprietors in the island of St. Kitts their condition since 1830 has been decidedly improved, and that they have upon the whole succeeded in the cultivation of their estates, and succeeded not only in maintaining themselves in comfort, but in many cases, or in the generality of cases, have succeeded in relieving their properties of charges to which they were then subject?—Yes. It is difficult to enter into the circumstances of other people. They have received during that time the amount of compensation money, but it is well known that previous to that time there was not an estate which was not mortgaged to more than its value; I speak of several islands.

13737. Since the emancipation of the slaves in 1834, is it your opinion that the condition of those estates has improved, and a portion of those claims have been paid off by the resident proprietors, and that they have during the same period maintained themselves out of the estates?—Many of the proprietors have lost their estates since that; but there are men with whom I am personally acquainted, and who have survived every crisis since 1830; they are now in possession of estates, having lived out of the estates; perhaps not well, but they have had no other means of existence.

13738. Is it your opinion, that upon the whole those estates to which you refer, belonging to resident proprietors, are less encumbered by charges than they were at the period of the emancipation of the slaves?—Certainly; but that would be accounted for in some measure by the compensation money.

13739. The compensation money went in the first instance to the mortgagees?—Unhappily it did; that is a question which it is useless to discuss now, because it is past, but unhappily it did, the whole of it.

13740. Irrespective of the portion of claims paid off in consequence of the compensation money, is it your own opinion that those estates have otherwise been cleared from a portion of the claims which then existed upon them?—Yes, within my own knowledge several have; as regards the compensation money, it would only reduce the time from 1830 to 1834 as to which I would speak.

13741. Since the compensation money was paid, is it your opinion those proprietors have succeeded in still further diminishing their charges?—Within my knowledge a great many have. I am not prepared to say at this moment how many, and I give the authority upon which I make these statements. The estates of those who have not succeeded have passed out of their possession, and those who have succeeded have been living out of their estates, and, in many instances, they have paid off family claims, and have reduced others, because at the time of emancipation the mortgagee took all the compensation money, and you made your own terms with him, depending upon the person with whom you had to deal, and he reduced his mortgage to something within the value of the estate; that was the case in nine instances out of ten.

13742. In your opinion, speaking comparatively, what would you say of the prosperity of the island of St. Kitts since 1834, and for the period prior to 1834, when you resided in the island?—I resided only four years previous to that; I could not form a very accurate opinion. I have heard of an outcry since 1807; but that is going beyond the period to which I can speak.

13743. What in your opinion, if those people have been enabled to improve their condition by the payment of a portion of the claims which existed upon the estates previously, has led to the present complaint of the West India body, as far as you are acquainted with them, and to the distress which exists now among the planters?—I would not wish to state that the proprietors have been enjoying an uninterrupted flow of prosperity, but sugars have been at very remunerating prices since that time. As regards other causes of distress, I have a note of some here. I was not aware till very recently of the exact increase in the production of sugar, but from the statements which I have seen, and which I take as the data from which to reason, I think it will account in a very great measure,

measure, for the last 20 years, for the gradual fall in price ; the increase all over the world.

13744. The Committee have had a very able and intelligent witness examined before them, who spoke particularly to the condition of the island of St. Kitts, who had himself been resident as a manager of an estate, Mr. Greene ; he put in a table showing the cost of producing sugar upon an estate with which he was connected for six years prior to the emancipation of the slaves, showing that it cost 4*l.* 18*s.* per ton during those six years ; that for four years, during the period of apprenticeship, it cost 6*l.* 11*s.* a ton ; that for the next succeeding four years after apprenticeship, it cost 6*l.* 19*s.* per ton ; and that for the last four years, ending 1846, it cost 21*l.* 11*s.* per ton. Are you acquainted with any of the circumstances connected with the cultivation of this estate, or are you acquainted with Mr. Greene himself, or do you remember his residing upon the island ?—I am personally acquainted with Mr. Greene, and with that estate. I knew Mr. Greene when he managed the estate.

13745. Is not it the case that Mr. Greene was considered, and in reality was, one of the most successful and able managers of an estate whom you have ever known to be in the island of St. Kitts ?—No doubt of it ; I have not the slightest doubt that he was considered so ; and it was the more astonishing as he was a very young man, but though very young he was particularly steady and very successful.

13746. Do you attribute to the personal attention and superior management of Mr. Greene the peculiar success which attended that estate while he was resident upon the island ?—I do so.

13747. Other statements which we have had before this Committee, and other statements made before other Committees appointed to inquire into the subject of the West Indies, have shown that the average cost of producing sugar during that period was more like 16*s.* or 17*s.* a cwt. than 5*s.*, as would appear from this account ; do you attribute the great difference in any measure to Mr. Greene's personal attention and residence upon the spot ?—I was not aware till this morning what evidence was given by Mr. Greene before the Committee, and I at once said that could be attributed only to a difference of management.

13748. Mr. Greene states he left the island in the early part of 1837, consequently the crop of 1836 would be the last over which he had the personal superintendence ?—I returned to St. Kitts in 1837 ; Mr. Greene had left then.

13749. Mr. Greene states in his evidence that he returned to England in the early part of 1837, consequently the crop of 1836, as given in this table, must have been the last which had the advantage of his personal superintendence. I find, and it agrees with your observations, that the item "Other plantation expenses" rose in one single year from 1,257*l.*, that being the last year of Mr. Greene's management, to 1,910*l.* in the first year of his successor's management ; will you tell the Committee, from your recollection, what the character of that change was, and what the character of his successor was ?—I was personally acquainted with Mr. Greene and also with his successor ; the one earned a great reputation as a planter, and the other was dismissed from that employment after some years by Mr. Greene's father, who is the owner of this very property, and it is to be presumed, for mismanagement.

13750. His character was notoriously that of a bad manager ?—I will not take upon myself to say that, but Mr. Greene evidently thought so.

13751. Was that understood to be the cause of his dismissal ?—I will not take upon myself to decide upon another man's merits. I only know that Mr. Greene's father, who is now alive, removed him after some years, and it is to be presumed, from mismanagement.

13752. From your recollection, was it understood in the island that he was a very inferior manager to Mr. Greene ?—Certainly.

13753. Do you recollect how long he was intrusted with the management of the estate ?—He was there some years ; I think four or five years.

13754. In the last year of Mr. Greene's management the net expenditure of the estate was 979*l.*, and the crop was 210 tons ; the following year when Mr. Greene left, and the estate was put into the hands of an attorney, the net expenditure was 1,459*l.*, and the crop was only 211 tons, being one ton more ; do you account for that difference solely from the cause of a different management, or is there any other reason that you can suggest ?—I can only repeat what I said before ; the moment it was mentioned to me, and before I knew the period of Mr. Greene's

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

departure, I said it can only be accounted for by a change in the management. It is a very seasonable estate and a very fine estate; perhaps one of the finest in the island.

13755. Can you tell the Committee when the apprenticeship was concluded?—
In 1838.

13756. In 1838, which was still under the same circumstances with regard to the state of labour, the net expenditure which, under Mr. Greene's management, was 979 *l.* had risen to 1,459 *l.*, the crop being only a ton more; the second year of the new management shows a further increase from 1,459 *l.* to 1,796 *l.* Do you account for that further increase upon a smaller crop from the same cause?—
Wages rose in that year.

13757. In 1836, under Mr. Greene's own management, the total expenses of the estate amounted to 2,057 *l.*; the very first year Mr. Greene leaves, and gives it to an attorney to manage, the total expenses rise immediately to 2,710 *l.*, without any increase in the crop except one ton; in the following year the total expense of the estate rises to 2,896 *l.*, but in the latter part of that year the change from the state of apprenticeship may account for that increase. Is that your opinion?—I cannot account for the increase of any one individual year; all I would say as regards that table is, that it is impossible for me, not having access to the facts of the estate or to the books of the estate, to account for the great increase except by a change in the management. I cannot say more. If I were asked whether this would have been the state of things if Mr. Greene had managed the estate, I should say certainly it would not.

13758. Confining your attention to the difference between the year 1836 and the year 1837, you do not know any reason for that difference excepting the change of management?—No. I will not take upon myself to say that the whole of this increase was to be attributed to the change of management, but when I was first asked to account for it, I said that I could not account for it in any way except by the change of management.

13759. You recollect, as a matter of fact, that Mr. Greene was himself considered one of the best managers that was ever in the island of St. Kitts, while his successor was considered an inferior one?—Yes; I can say, without exception, that Mr. Benjamin Buck Greene was considered one of the best managers in the island of St. Kitts, and the most successful.

13760. I will call your attention to the last year; the difference in the amount of labour paid in 1845 and in 1846. Mr. Greene in his evidence stated that he attributed that to the introduction of implements; can you give the Committee any opinion as to the improvement or economy which has been effected in the cultivation of the island by the introduction of implements during the last three or four years?—It has been very great indeed. Upon this very estate it commenced under Mr. Greene's auspices; upon that estate was erected the first steam-engine, I believe, which came out from Mr. Bligh's manufactory, and subsequently to that period we have had 40 or 50 others.

13761. Mr. Goulburn.] In what year was that?—I suppose about the year 1833.

13762. Mr. Wilson.] I spoke rather of the introduction of implements of late years?—In every case where they have been introduced it has had the greatest effect.

13763. Do you believe that there has been a great economy from the introduction of implements within the last few years?—On a great many estates there has been a great introduction of implements; some men will, however, oppose all improvements.

13764. Have you observed that the resident proprietors have shown any greater readiness to adopt improvements than the attorneys who have represented the non-resident proprietors?—All resident proprietors in the island have done so; I cannot say to what extent the non-residents have instructed their attorneys; but of course labour has been economized to a certain extent, and very greatly, because the estates could not go on under the old system.

13765. Is that process of economizing labour by that means still going forward?—It was up to my leaving; I do not suppose that the prices of sugar now would justify any further outlay.

13766. Do you anticipate a still further reduction in the cost of sugar from the use of those implements?—I should hope so.

13767. Have you formed any opinion as to how far the present West India distress is attributable to the admission of foreign sugar into this market?—It would

would appear that opening any large supply to this country would cause a corresponding depression; but if I am to argue from results, it did not appear to be so last year; when I left St. Kitts in June last, sugars were, in the month before, or in the month of May, at a very fair price, as far as we knew, in the colonies.

13768. Was there a speculation in sugar in the colonies at that period?—Not in our sugar, because very little is sold in the island.

13769. How far do you think the West India body have been affected at different periods by the acts of the Government, and in what way?—I believe they think that the very uncertain policy which has been adopted has, in a great measure, tended to injure the West India interests. I was in England in the year 1834, and I am perfectly aware of the feeling which prevailed at that period as regards slavery; and I think that the Government was so hampered that they had not power to act. I am not one of those who fancy that the Government has determined to ruin any part of the British dominions, but I am quite aware that a party-feeling prevailed at that time, and that the governors whom they appointed partook of that feeling; and the stipendiary magistrates, who were appointed, generally speaking, from persons in this country, partook of that feeling still more strongly, and that it was too much the practice to induce the labourer to regard his employer as his natural enemy, so to speak. But whilst making this declaration, I am bound to say that the evil here spoken of has ceased to exist for some time past. It is within my knowledge, from the appointment of Sir Charles FitzRoy to the Leeward government, and of the late lamented Mr. Cunningham to St. Kitts, that, from their high example, this unhappy state of things was succeeded by more liberal and enlightened views, and that, at the present moment, the law as between the employer and the employed is fairly administered. From public sources it can also be learnt that, about the same period, a better feeling sprung up under the wise rule of Lord Metcalf in Jamaica, and I believe throughout the colonies.

13770. Are you of opinion, from what you observed, that a very unnecessary suspicion existed?—Yes, and I think one of the causes of the present distress has been the absence of all legislation tending to stimulate labour at the time of the apprenticeship; and I think that the acts of the colonial legislatures were looked on with extreme suspicion at that time.

13771. You refer to the colonial legislatures in the islands?—Yes. The feeling evidently was, that after so great a sacrifice slavery was not to be tolerated in any form whatever. I think that feeling was carried to a most fearful height, as regards the interests of both classes.

13772. You think that it was prejudicial to the labourers as well as to the proprietors?—Yes.

13773. It is your opinion that the acts of the Government imposed such restrictions upon the planters, and disallowed so much the judgment or the exercise of the discretion of the colonial legislature with regard to the regulations of labour, that they acted prejudicially to the interests of both parties?—Certainly; which is one of the causes which I think has led to the present state of things.

13774. Is it your opinion that the process of emancipation was much too sudden, and that a longer period of apprenticeship, going over such a length of time as would have accustomed the slaves to habits of industry, and have brought up the new generation with feelings of liberty, but with habits of industry, would have been better calculated to promote the interests of both parties?—I think so; and I think it must be admitted by all parties now.

13775. You think that it was a fatal error on the part of the Legislature of this country to abolish the system of apprenticeship, but that it ought rather, in due consideration of the interests of both the planter and the labourer, to have been extended to a longer period rather than curtailed to a shorter period?—Yes, that they should have sanctioned such laws as were framed in the spirit of English laws; of course they must have been suited to the local circumstances; but such laws should have been passed for restraining the labourer as were altogether within the spirit of those laws existing in England.

13776. Is it your opinion that such restrictions as you have alluded to having been imposed upon the labourer at that period, would have added as well to his moral as to his physical comforts and interests?—I have no hesitation in saying so.

13777. Is it your opinion that the sudden change from slavery to apprenticeship, and then from apprenticeship to perfect freedom, had the effect of demoralizing

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

Mr. E. Pickwood.
29 March 1848.

izing, and rendering idle, and giving vagrant habits to the population, which were prejudicial to their moral as well as to their physical comforts?—So much so, that I am quite astonished that the negro works as much as he does, and is as good a subject as he is; his natural wants in that magnificent climate are very few indeed, and easily supplied.

13778. Have you found, on the part of the Colonial Office at home, any disposition to co-operate with the local Assembly of your island in passing laws which you consider sufficient to restrain vagrancy and squatting, and otherwise to restrain the population from habits of indolence?—I do not think so.

13779. You do not think that you have been supported by the Colonial Office in that effort?—I do not think so. I think every Government has been so pressed by public feeling here, and the tender regard they have had for the interests of the slave, that not till very recently, when from the reports of their own governors it is known that in no part of the world are any labouring population in such an independent position as the negro is now, that that feeling has subsided. I think that feeling prevailed to such an extent that it hampered every Government, and their subordinates partook of that feeling.

13780. Do you consider that the public in Great Britain, from the ignorance which prevailed as to the actual condition of those islands and the condition of the slave population, and in consequence of prejudices which they had imbibed during the anti-slavery agitation, influenced and pressed upon every Government from time to time in such a way that they were not able to co-operate with local Assemblies in placing such restraint upon the negroes as would have been really beneficial to them?—Certainly. I was in England in 1834 myself; I am proud to say I have been brought up in England; I came from a public school, and I hope, as regards slavery, I entertained the dislike to it which all English persons did; but I was in England in 1834, and I attended public meetings, and I know the feeling that raged then; for it was an epidemic that raged. The people of England had not the slightest idea of the change that was about to take place; they had certain images of slavery and chains before them, and from those circumstances they determined, after the enormous sacrifice that was made, to gain unrestricted freedom; that it should not be continued in the shape of apprenticeship; and they looked with suspicion upon every act of the local legislature which they thought would effect that object; and every Government, I think, from that time has been so hampered as to have caused them to act in a manner which has been equally detrimental to the labouring population and to the proprietary body.

13781. You carry the great fault back to the prejudices and the ignorance of the English public?—As regards that particular charge.

13782. Have you found that that same prejudice and ignorance which you have described on the part of the English public acting upon the Government here from time to time, has influenced prejudicially the introduction of fresh labourers, as well as the control of the labourers existing in the islands?—I think it has. As regards St. Kitts we have imported a great many free labourers into the island.

13783. At what period?—Within the last three or four years.

13784. Prior to the last three or four years, immediately after the abolition of apprenticeship, were there not such restrictions against the introduction of labourers of any kind as rendered it quite impossible?—Clearly. I do not think it was ever attempted in St. Kitts.

13785. And it has been only within the last three or four years that such restrictions have been practically removed?—I think so.

13786. Therefore you had really fallen back, and had not the opportunity of introducing fresh labourers during that period?—No.

13787. You are a member of the Legislative Assembly in St. Kitts; will you inform the Committee what enactment you at present have to compel the performance of contracts, and to prevent vagrancy and squatting in your island?—I believe they have all been disallowed; contract and vagrancy Acts have been passed, but they have been disallowed. There was one contract Act passed, I think, for three years, which was allowed.

13788. Can you furnish the Committee with copies or with the particulars of any of those Acts passed by your Assembly in St. Kitts for the compelling the performance of contracts or the suppression of vagrancy and squatting which have been disallowed, or can you furnish the Committee with the dates of them?—I cannot to-day.

13789. Will

13789. Will you furnish the Committee with the dates and the particulars as far as you can of all the Acts which have been passed by your local Assembly for the purpose of enforcing the performance of contracts, and for the purpose of suppressing vagrancy and squatting, which have been disallowed by the Colonial Office?—I find that, without a reference to the colony, I should be unable to do this.

13790. Is it your opinion that the disallowance of those Acts passed by the Colonial Assembly has been extremely prejudicial, not alone to the interests of the planters, but also to the best interests of the labouring classes themselves?—I think so; but I am hardly competent to give an opinion, because I have taken a part, perhaps a very immaterial one, in passing those very Acts.

13791. You have had an opportunity of observing the habits of the labouring classes in the island, and you have had an opportunity of observing the consequences which have resulted from the non-allowance of those various Acts; is it your opinion, after what you have seen, that the non-allowance of those Acts has proved prejudicial to the moral and physical condition of the labourers, as well as to the interests of the planters?—I think so; the negroes are seen walking into the town with articles which we know cannot belong to them; they supply the inhabitants with wood, and grass, and milk, and they possess no land, and own no forests, and have no cows. It is a well-known fact that they are stolen, but there is no one to question the right of those persons to vend those articles.

13792. Are the Committee to understand, that as a member of the Legislative Assembly of the island, it is distinctly your opinion that you have not at the present moment a sufficient stringency of law to prevent those improprieties on the part of the labouring population, or to maintain good order, and to check vagrancy, stealing, and squatting, and other improprieties?—I am of opinion that we not only have not sufficient, but we are without any.

13793. You attribute that to the disallowance of those Acts which you have passed from time to time, by the Colonial Office?—I do not know how faulty those Acts were; I can only say such Acts have been passed with a view of controlling these matters, and that they have been disallowed.

13794. You were educated at Harrow; you went out to the West Indies immediately on leaving Harrow, and you joined the Assembly in the island; you know the character of the parties who belong to that Assembly, and you must be pretty well aware of the feeling which influenced them in passing those various Acts; is it your opinion, as a private individual, disconnecting yourself for a moment from the Assembly, that those gentlemen were influenced by true regard to the interests of the labourers, or is it your opinion that they were influenced by a selfish reference to their own special interest as planters only?—I think that when they found that emancipation could no longer be avoided, the majority of them sought heart and soul to endeavour to make it work well; they believed that their own interests were identical with those of the labouring population. That they must have partaken somewhat freely of the prejudices which grew with their growth, I cannot deny, but I believe they went to work with a desire of meeting the objects which they knew to be entertained at home.

13795. You think that those Acts to which you have referred as having been disallowed, and which has left the island in a state of anarchy as far as regards the police of the island, were passed with a regard only to the general interests of the community, and not out of any special regard to the particular interests of the planters?—I think not; I think they legislated with the knowledge that those Acts would be viewed with a very scrutinizing eye on the part of the Government, and that whatever their private views might be, they so framed them as to avoid any such suspicion.

13796. How is the Legislative Assembly in St. Kitts constituted?—It is an annual parliament.

13797. What is the character of the constituency; who are the electors?—Every renter of a house of a certain value, 10*l.*, and every person owning a house of 10*l.* has a vote. It is framed very nearly in the spirit of the English law.

13798. It is a 10*l.* franchise, is it?—Yes.

13799. Practically, is there any considerable portion of the black population who are electors?—Now there is.

13800. Are there any of them elected as members?—Yes, six or seven out of the 25 are coloured people.

13801. Is there any considerable portion of the electors coloured people?—Nearly all of them, from the absence of a white population.

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

13802. Are the majority of the electors of the island coloured people?—A very great majority.

13803. Those Acts which have been disallowed by the Colonial Office have been actually Acts passed by the House of Assembly, consisting of a portion of coloured people, and elected by a majority of coloured people?—No question about it.

13804. Therefore, those Acts which have been passed in relation to vagrancy and squatting, and the performance of contracts, may be said to have really had the sanction of the whole of the constituency of the island, a large majority of whom were coloured people?—Yes, and Government, I believe, were very well satisfied at the time with the very liberal Act that was passed for the extension of the franchise.

13805. Can you give the Committee any information with regard to the lands which are in the occupation of the labouring population other than those belonging to private individuals?—In the absence of any laws to restrain vagrancy and squatting, the negroes occupied lands in every part of the island where they could find them, and in the old colonies there are several large portions of land belonging to the Crown, old forts, and fortifications which were thought necessary; those were in the occupation of the negroes; no one molested them, they built their houses by mutual consent, and divided the land which they found.

13806. They have taken possession of those lands of their own accord?—Yes. In all those old islands at every point there is a fort enclosed, and in some cases a very large portion of land belonging to the Crown. Since the war they have not been used; they are not in the occupation of any one, but taken possession of by the negroes; wherever they can get a bit of land there they will build a house.

13807. Has there been no means taken by the representatives of the Crown to prevent the forcible occupation of the lands belonging to them by the labouring population?—Within the last 12 months a step has been taken, but up to that time they have been in quiet possession since the time of freedom. The colony gave the land over to the Crown, and it is now in the occupation of the commander of the forces.

13808. Is there no rent paid for those grounds which have been taken possession of by the labouring population?—Not the slightest during the time they occupied them.

13809. Do they still occupy them?—They have been dislodged within the last 18 months, but up to that period they had them.

13810. Have you any other observations to make with regard to the effect which the occupation of those lands by the labouring population has had upon their own habits or the interests of the island?—It must occur to every one that it is very prejudicial in a climate of that sort, where their natural wants are so few, where vegetation is constantly progressing, and where the crops follow one another in a succession which is truly wonderful; if the negro were not very fond of fine dress we should not have any inducement to compel them to work more than two days in a week. That has in a great measure caused this want of labour. I conceive we have nearly labourers enough in the island of St. Kitts to cultivate the island.

13811. How far does the want of effective labour exist, and from what causes does it exist?—From the absence of all laws to restrain those people and to direct their energies; the want of labour has arisen in that way. Many of them do not labour at all, and those who do, do not perform their full proportion of labour. When sugar was at high prices the managers of estates walked out into the high roads and outbid one another; then came the Agricultural Association.

13812. What was the object of that association?—For the purposes of agriculture, but one of their rules was to restrain persons from such practices; all the members were bound to give a certain price. There were a certain number of rules which they were bound to observe, but they were evaded in every possible way. If the manager agreed to give only 1 s. a day on his employer's property, in the evening the gang came and received a pint of molasses and half a pint of rum each in addition to the 1 s. a day. That, too, is one of the evils of absenteeism; the manager would outbid his neighbours as regards waste lands, and the higher the price of sugar was the more they outbid each other.

13813. Although one of the regulations of this agricultural society was partly for the purpose of restraining each other against taking away each other's labourers, yet that regulation was very materially evaded, as well as the arrangement among the planters not to pay more than a certain rate of wages?—Yes; I know that to

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be a general ground of complaint; it is a common topic of conversation in the colonies the acts of neighbours with regard to each other.

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

13814. Is it your opinion that the wages in the island are too high?—I understand, from public accounts, they have been reduced one-third. I was surprised to hear it, because we know how easy it is to raise the standard of wages, and how difficult it is to reduce it; but I understand they have been reduced one-third. I think they were too high.

13815. Was it always the case in years when high prices of sugar prevailed that a great effort was made by different planters to procure each others' labourers?—Of course the temptation was so much the greater; inducements of every kind were held out to them. The labourer was more independent; he not only got more wages, but he did less work as a matter of course.

13816. That was in consequence of a competition existing among the planters?—Yes.

13817. In order to avail themselves of the very high price of sugar which prevailed at the time?—Yes.

13818. In proportion as the price of sugar was high that temptation increased, and they paid higher wages, and used increased means to obtain each others' labourers?—There is no question about it.

13819. Is it a notorious fact, that a great part of the conversation among yourselves in the island is devoted to the tricks of each other for the purpose of obtaining each others' labourers?—It is the principal theme, I think.

13820. What gave rise in the first place to this extraordinarily high rate of wages that you paid till a late period?—Several circumstances contributed to it; the negroes began, I think, at as low as 6*d.* a day, but certainly not more than 8*d.* It was generally admitted that when wages rose to their maximum, sugar could be cultivated at a profit.

13821. What was the maximum?—It has never gone higher than 1*s.*; but it is not 1*s.* a day for a day's work; the negroes were never seen in the field after 10 or 11 o'clock in the day.

13822. What proportion of labour do you think a man gave for that 1*s.*; in comparison with what he did in the time of apprenticeship; how many hours did he work in the one case, and how many in the other case?—In the one case his time was proportioned; he worked either 7½ hours for six days, or nine hours for five days, giving him the sixth day for cultivating his own ground.

13823. How many hours did he work for this 1*s.* a day afterwards?—When they became free, the people began to work by task-work, and when labour rose, one of the inducements was to give them less work. I have seen a statement Mr. Greene made, as regards the cost of his labour, in a deputation to Lord Grey. It was thought a very singular fact that as the labourer got more money he should do less work, but it is very clear it was so; 1*s.* a day was the maximum of his inducement; say one estate was doing 300 cane-holes for 1*s.* a day; in the next estate they would only call upon the labourers to do 250; that was by way of out-bidding his neighbour; though he did not give more money, he did less work.

13824. Are there any perquisites which labourers have given to them or take of their own accord, in addition to their wages, since the period of apprenticeship expired?—Yes; they make use of all the waste ground upon the estate without asking leave.

13825. Is not it the case that labourers generally have either horses or ponies and goats?—They have all that. I believe nearly every grown-up working man, or two-thirds of them, have ponies. It is only the first cost they have to meet; they tether them upon your land without asking you.

13826. In addition to the wages that you give to your labourers, each estate furnishes a labourer with keep for his horse, and keep for his goats and his sheep?—Yes.

13827. Is that any part of the agreement with the labourers?—It is to keep them on the estate; it is not a part of the agreement.

13828. It is a thing which the labourer takes of his own accord?—Yes; if he does not come to work for you, the only thing you can do is to say, "You shall not make use of my land;" he will tell you, "I will go to the next estate; I should be very well received there."

13829. He knows if you will not let him tether his animals upon your grass your next neighbour, in order to get his labour, will be very glad to do it?—Very glad to do it indeed.

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

13830. That may be considered as an addition, practically, to the wages which he receives?—It must be so.

13831. Have you formed any opinion as to the comparative cheapness or dearness of slave labour and free labour in the British colonies?—I have paid some attention to that fact.

13832. What is your opinion as to the comparative dearness or cheapness of labour prior to the emancipation of the slaves and since?—I consider that those resident proprietors (and their number is exceedingly few) who in time of slavery complied with all the requisites of the Act which is known in the West Indies as the Amelioration Act, were subject to an expense which was very considerable; and without any reference to the price of sugar, it is cheaper to cultivate an estate by free labour, provided it is continuous labour, for that is essential, than under the old system. The only estate I can speak of is our own family estate; it is as fair a sample as can be adduced as regards that island; it is not the largest, but it is one of the best, and it had a gang of negroes not more than sufficient for its cultivation. It has not more than 200 acres of land, and on it we had 264 negroes; that was not more than sufficient to cultivate the estate. Slave labour may have been considered cheaper than free labour from some circumstances. I am bound to say, upon the death of my father documents came into my hands by which the then governor admitted that the provisions of that Act were openly violated by the planters; with respect to my father, who held a high official appointment, and who was an English gentleman, and who cultivated his estate or superintended the expenditure of it, I can say that the money paid for the support of those gangs then would not be much more than equal to the amount required for the cultivation of the estate by free labour now.

13833. Will you describe to the Committee the different kind of expenses to which you were subject during slavery, which you are not subject to now?—Under the provisions of the Amelioration Act the slave was entitled to eight pints of meal a week, and a pound and a quarter of salt fish. In bringing forward this estate I am prepared to say it is not an overdrawn statement; it was neither overhanded, as it is called, nor underhanded. That would be two puncheons of meal, at 60 dollars, or 12*l.* 10*s.*; two and a half barrels of herrings would be 15 dollars; that would bring it to a weekly consumption of 15*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* The provisions would be 812*l.* 10*s.*; clothing and implements I have put at 100*l.*; medical attendance, at 9*s.* currency a head, say 50*l.*; and I have put down the expenses of the hospital, 25*l.* This sum would be the cost of that gang. It is true that in after years a system was generally pursued of giving the negroes ground provisions instead, but that could not be done on every estate, and it is very problematical whether it was eventually beneficial to the interests of the proprietors or not; some held one thing, and some another; it was generally preferred, however, than going into the market and becoming indebted to the merchants; but the peculiar nature of those farinaceous roots impoverish the land exceedingly. It was more easy for the proprietor to go into the market to purchase and pay for those provisions to the merchants than to find a certain amount of capital every week in wages. But for this sum of money, which from our estate-books I can show we were forced to expend annually, that estate could be cultivated from one end to another, if we could get continuous labour.

13834. Out of that gang of 264 slaves how many were actually employed in labour, and how many were invalided, or infants, or old people?—They were put in different gangs: there were 70 on the first gang, about 60 on the second, and then there were little people; then there were tradesmen, house servants, drivers, overlookers, carters, and mechanics.

13835. The cost of that gang of slaves, which your father considered necessary to manage the estate, was as great as you would require to pay for free labour, according to the present current rate of wages, to cultivate that estate well from one end to the other at the present time?—Yes, if you could get the labour.

13836. Can you tell the Committee as to the proportionate produce of an estate under those circumstances of slavery, and what it would be under the free labour which you at present speak of?—When I said this sum of money would be sufficient if you could go into the market and get labour, I meant to put it in the highest state of cultivation. I have not had access for some years to the books of the estate, because it is under the management of Mr. Greene; but I mean to say that this sum of money is sufficient, if you could get the labour, to put that estate in the highest possible condition of cultivation.

13837. You

13837. You would expect to get the same produce from it that you did in the time of slavery?—Quite as much, if you had corresponding seasons. Mr. E. Pickwood.

13838. Upon what do you found your calculation that that amount of wages would be sufficient to cultivate the estate?—I have expended 300*l.* less than this, because I could not get more labourers. When I had the management of the estate it was difficult to get labourers; I never expended this sum of money. 29 March 1848.

13839. With free labour, under your management, you have never been able to expend as much as you did during slavery?—No; it is within my knowledge that within the last three years as great a return was made from the lands of that estate as it had ever been known to produce. I cannot say at what cost, because it was not under my management.

13840. When it was under your management, you say you never expended so much, within 300*l.*, for labour, as the cost of that gang was during the period of slavery; but can you tell the Committee, from what you remember, of your own knowledge, whether you produced under your management with free labour as large a crop as you did with the additional expenditure under slavery?—The crops are not so large; there is not so much land in cultivation; every one found it necessary to abandon their mountain land. It was more laborious, and not so productive.

13841. What was the produce of the estate at the period of slavery to which you have referred, when that sum was laid out upon it; how many hogsheads of sugar did the estate make in those days?—About 150 hogsheads.

13842. How many hogsheads did it make under the management to which you refer, and with free labour, when you had the management of the estate?—In the absence of the accounts of the estate I can only speak generally; I can only say that the amount of sugar has decreased.

13843. What was the crop usually under free labour as long as you had the management of the estate?—During the time of my management it has varied from 40 hogsheads to 196.

13844. Did that variation from 40 to 196 take place under the free labour you refer to?—No, under slave labour; it is difficult to strike the average without seeing the books.

13845. You say 150 would be the average under slavery; what would be the average under free labour?—I do not think it has ever amounted to 100 hogsheads. Mr. Greene has had it since 1840. As a planter engaged on that particular estate, I would say that this sum of money, 1,000*l.*, would be ample for the purpose of putting every arable acre of the estate into first-rate cane cultivation, and if it pleased God to send the usual rains upon that property it would give as large an amount of sugar as it ever gave in the period of slavery.

13846. Mr. Miles.] How many arable acres are there?—Two hundred and thirty acres, but that includes mountain land, which has been out of cultivation many years ago; I will put it at 200 acres.

13847. Mr. Wilson.] What was the general state of agriculture in the island in the time of slavery, apprenticeship, and freedom?—In the time of slavery everything was done by the thews and sinews of the labourers; they had no idea of economizing labour, and in a great measure there was no need for it. If lands were to be opened instead of being ploughed they were opened by means of the cane hoe; if a mountain was to be removed it was all carried away upon the head, piecemeal.

13848. You had no implements which facilitated labour?—In no way whatever; it was not till the want of labour was felt persons began to discover that want of labour must be supplied in some way, and then it was that ploughs were imported; and after that other mechanical contrivances were invented, I believe.

13849. Were wheelbarrows in use during the time of slavery?—I do not believe it to be at all fabulous that those light wheelbarrows were carried upon the head in the first instance.

13850. Since the time of freedom there has been a large introduction of implements, and with great success?—Yes, with acknowledged success. As this want of labour grew more apparent implements were invented which were never in existence before; implements for weeding, for example.

13851. Necessity has been the mother of invention in the West Indies as well as elsewhere, and the want of labour has led to the invention of many means of economizing labour which were not thought of before?—No doubt about it; the plough is working now in most of the fields, and it was supposed at one time canes would not grow upon ploughed land, that it was not deep enough.

Mr. E. Pickwood
29 March 1848.

13852. Have you any confidence in the continuation of the economy, and in its being still further pushed in your colony by the additional introduction of implements?—I have no doubt of it. One of two things must take place; sugar must materially rise, or they must reduce their expenses.

13852*. Can you point out by what means the cost of sugar could be reduced by the introduction of improved implements?—I can only say that those resident proprietors who have gone further than others in the introduction of those implements have expressed themselves highly pleased with them, and to all appearance they are successful planters.

13853. And you think they will go still further?—I have no doubt of it.

13854. At what do you estimate the produce of the different qualities of the land in the island; you stated that at one period the mountain land was cultivated, and you stated that it has latterly been in a great measure abandoned?—In all those islands, with the exception of Barbadoes and Antigua, there are mountains rising from the sea. The estates slope on each side to the sea. In St. Kitts there is a range of mountain lands. All those mountain lands had been abandoned years before the emancipation of the negroes.

13855. Do you know what the difference of the return in the mountain lands and in the flat lands is?—The lower lands, what are called the middle lands of the estates, are capable of producing as much again. The mountain lands have this advantage, that they are more seasonable, and our lower lands are subject to dry weather. One year they will produce you two hogsheads of sugar an acre, and the next year I have seen upon the same piece of cane nothing got from it at all.

13856. The mountain lands, I presume, can only be stimulated under the system of very high prices?—No.

13857. Is distillation understood or practised much in your colony?—It is practised upon every estate, but I believe it is acknowledged we do not understand it; it is left in a great measure to the overseers. We know that a certain quantity of scum and a certain quantity of molasses and a certain quantity of wash which have been set up in a vat, after a certain time, will produce spirit, but as a body we know nothing of distillation.

13858. Do you think the interests of the estates have been prejudiced by the ignorance of the parties to whom this distillation has been committed?—No question of it; I never heard any planter pretend to know anything about distillation.

13859. Do you know what proportion of spirit is made from the refuse of a given proportion of sugar?—Yes. On this very estate which I speak of the vats were particularly large. The stills in the island are generally 300 gallons, but this was a 600-gallon still, and that produced an average of 12 casks of five gallons of spirits, and nearly the same quantity of another spirit, which is called "low wines." The wash undergoes fermentation; that is drawn off into the still, and it is distilled, and from the produce of that you get 60 gallons of a strong rum, and about a similar quantity of a very weak spirit, called "low wines." The low wines are put into vats by themselves; and when you get 600 gallons, or enough to fill your still, you re-distil it, perhaps once in a month, or once in six weeks, and from that you get a strong spirit of wine, and with that spirit of wine you add to your rum to make it the market proof.

13860. Mr. Goulburn.] Six hundred gallons of wash make 60 gallons of spirit?—Yes.

13861. What quantity of molasses goes to make the 600 gallons of wash?—Forty pails of the skimmings, 60 pails of the lees, the residue of the previous still, and 10 pails of molasses.

13862. You speak of five-gallon pails all through?—Yes; then the vat is not quite full, and some add a few gallons of water, but that is the wash; a very active fermentation takes place, and in a certain number of days the wash is distilled, and from that you get the spirit which I have mentioned.

13863. Mr. Miles.] What is considered the average return of rum in proportion to 100 hogsheads of sugar; how many puncheons?—It was considered a very great return to have a number of puncheons of rum and molasses corresponding to the number of hogsheads of sugar made. It depends very much, as far as rum is concerned, upon the price of those articles; you can make rum from molasses alone.

13864. Is not that the case in St. Kitts usually?—No. If rum is very high they will use up their molasses. Two years ago rum was more remunerative than
sugar;

sugar; and in that case the planter would use up as much molasses as he had room for in his loft. In every estate in St. Kitts the molasses form a separate item in the account.

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

13865. *Mr. Goulburn.*] When you do make the rum of molasses do you know what quantity of spirit is obtained from a cwt. of molasses?—No; you expect to get the same quantity of rum that you use of molasses, or nearly so. So little is distillation understood, that to make rum of molasses alone, without the assistance of the scum, is not very often done, because they fail in getting a good return. The negro makes all the rum; he can neither read nor write; he chalks up 60 pails of one and 40 of another and 10 of another; and as he brings the pail upon his head he takes his finger and in a very original way he rubs out one chalk, and if the manager interferes with him he generally spoils the whole.

13866. Then it is not in the manager's power to make any improvement?—It is in his power if he is a good distiller; but I do not know such a person, and the return is pretty much the same throughout the island.

13867. *Mr. Wilson.*] Do you think it is a practical inconvenience or injury to the interests of the planters in St. Kitts that so little is understood of distillation?—I cannot think otherwise.

13868. How far has immigration been resorted to in the island of St. Kitts, and with what success has it been attended?—It was generally felt in the Legislature that immigration would be beneficial, and with that view large sums were expended. Agents were employed in England to send out English labourers, but, in a great degree, they failed. I suspect we did not get a very fair sample; they generally failed, though not entirely, because many were men of good character, and they taught the negro the use of the plough and many other agricultural implements, of which before he knew little or nothing. We got about 150 from Madeira, and those answered remarkably well; and I know that the attorney of the largest estate in the island at present cultivates his estate, and the neighbouring one, of which he is lessee, entirely by Portuguese labourers.

13869. What was the cause of the failure of the English labourers?—It was not an entire failure.

13870. In the cases where it was a failure, what was the cause?—The Englishman falls an early victim to the produce of those stills just spoken of, but when he is sober he is the best man that can be had.

13871. Was there anything in the island which was prejudicial to the English labourer; do you believe that an English or Irish labourer, provided he were sober, would labour beneficially in the island?—Very beneficially; there are many offices upon the estates in which he would be very useful. I do not think, however, the climate is fit for Europeans, and if he gives himself up to ardent spirits, it will destroy him in a very short time; but in attending plough-horses no negro can be compared to him. There is no doubt that though their importation has been attended with some evils, yet, upon the whole, it has been beneficial. He takes care of your cart, though when he comes into the town, if he gets hold of any rum, it is ten chances to one that the cart will be taken up by the police, without its driver.

13872. It would be very beneficial, you think, if European labourers could be found to go to the island; there are many processes in which they could be usefully employed provided they were sober?—Yes. It was felt by every one that the negroes would see that we were not entirely dependent on them, but that if the country had the means of introducing those labourers, a great many unprofitable servants would be thrown out of employment in the manufacturing department. If you supplied those offices with white labourers, it would throw more of the negroes into the field.

13873. Would not it also have the effect of exercising a certain moral control over the other labourers if you had a few Englishmen?—I have some doubt of that. I think where those men have gone astray the example has been prejudicial.

13874. Provided you could get sober men, that would be the case?—Certainly there are many families there now who went out many years ago; there is no question but that to a certain extent it has succeeded.

13875. Have you had any description of immigration besides English and Portuguese?—No; we have had nearly 150 Portuguese.

13876. Constitutionally, do you think the European in that climate is afflicted with great thirst, and therefore has a greater temptation to become an habitual drunkard?—

Mr. E. Pickwood. drunkard?—Certainly; it was considered by an Irishman as a most glorious country, on the ground that he was always drinking and always dry. I do not think the climate adapted to the European; in fact, if he indulge in rum he is a lost man.

29 March 1848.

13877. You think, even in the case of sober men, there is something connected with the climate that induces habits of thirst, which would naturally lead to habits of intemperance?—I think so.

13878. You have had no coolies nor African immigrants?—No; they have been swallowed up by the larger and more important colonies, Trinidad, Demerara, and Berbice.

13879. Do you suppose, if the Navigation Laws were altered in this country, so as to give you an opportunity of employing any ships you pleased, it would confer on you any benefit?—As far as the Navigation Laws are concerned, I have only looked at the question upon one side, namely, how the repeal would affect the West Indians. It would have the effect, I think, of lowering our freight, which is at a most cruel height. For many years freight from St. Kitts was 5 s. a cwt., or 5 l. a ton; this was felt to be so great a grievance that previously to emancipation a public meeting, at the instance of my father, was called in the year 1832, and the question was discussed, and he proposed to reduce it 1 s.; an arrangement, however, was carried that it should be reduced 6 d., with a view to a gradual reduction, feeling that our interests were identical with those of the shipowners, on whom we were dependent. All I can say is, that the parties who acted then have now passed away, and they have been succeeded by another and a less influential body. A public meeting now, from the circumstances which I stated in the commencement of my examination, would not be responded to, because the attorney of a large mercantile house would not give his support to a measure which would destroy the supposed interest of his employers, because the merchants are shipowners as well, and therefore it remains at 4 s. 6 d. If from Demerara they get a freight at 2 s. 6 d., and from Jamaica for 3 s. or 3 s. 6 d., I do not think they can have any cause of complaint.

13880. You are aware that the Navigation Laws influence Demerara as much as they do St. Kitts; they apply as much to the one place as to the other?—Clearly.

13881. If you pay higher for your freight in St. Kitts than they do in Demerara, it cannot be in consequence of the Navigation Laws?—No. There is no doubt the freight might be reduced, and would have been reduced, if there were anything like an independent body in the island; but I am of opinion that a repeal of the Navigation Laws, as far as we are concerned, would have the effect of reducing the freight in our island.

13882. Have you any reason for believing that foreign ships would bring home your produce cheaper than British ships do now?—Yes; I think it would be of very little consequence to the grower of sugar whether the sailors that navigated the vessel that contained his produce were fed upon the smallest quantity of stock fish, or whether they had prime pork and beef to eat, if we could get our sugar home at a cheap rate.

13883. If you pay at the present rate a higher freight than is paid from Demerara, and both colonies are subject to the Navigation Laws, it cannot be the Navigation Laws alone which create your large rate of freight. If it be that you pay a higher rate of freight now than you would do to a foreign vessel, provided foreign vessels could go to your island, how would you be affected, with your present arrangements with mercantile houses in London, to whom your estates are mortgaged; would that fact enable you to release yourselves from your obligations to those houses; is not your rate of freight now fixed by arrangements with the mortgagee in England?—No; I am forced to give him my sugar. If I were to take out a ship upon an independent interest, and say I will receive all sugar at 3 s. 6 d., that would regulate, for a time at least, the freights of all the others. I am not bound to the merchant for any particular rate of freight; he is to take the ordinary rate of freight.

13884. Is there any peculiarity in the shipping from St. Kitts, any heavy drogherage or boat hire, more than there is in Trinidad or Demerara?—I suppose there is; I do not speak from my own knowledge of the freight from Demerara.

13885. Are not you of opinion that if the present rate of 4 l. 10 s. is higher than in proportion to the other colonies, the interests of the shipowners would lead them to send their ships to St. Kitts, and would reduce it to a level with the

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the others?—Take the case of Mr. Greene; he has many estates; he employs as many ships as he can freight from that island; it so happened that rather than come down in their freight he and another house coalesced; he says, I have double the number of estates that you have; I will send out twice the number of ships that you do.

13886. The limited quantity of produce which you have to send home would not require a large number of ships, and those who have the estates under their management have therefore in some measure the control of the produce?—Yes.

13887. Is not this high freight rather the consequence of the estates having actually been dependent upon the arrangements of certain merchants and ship-owners in some degree?—I think it may be. But the planter says, now you have placed me on a footing to grow sugar in competition with the whole world; let me have the option of seeing if I cannot get my sugar home a little cheaper.

13888. You think that the Navigation Laws, as far as they confine you at present to employing British ships to send your produce to Europe, must either be prejudicial to you in imposing a higher rate of freight upon you, or must be useless to the shipowner if he does not get a higher rate of freight than he otherwise would do?—Yes.

13889. To what extent do you think a differential duty of 10 s. a cwt. in favour of our colonies would benefit the proprietors of estates?—Unless it were permanent I do not think it would be beneficial at all.

13890. On what ground do you form that opinion?—One of the great evils with which we have had to contend hitherto, is the very uncertain and vacillating policy of the Government at home towards the West Indians; it has been stated that if 10 s. a cwt. were put on, the proprietor would get 10 l. a hogshead more.

13891. Do you think he would?—Certainly not: if the British Government were to consent to exclude all foreign-grown sugar, and to give the West Indians an exclusive market, the price of sugar would rise till the supply far exceeded the demand, but till that happy day shall arrive for the West Indians I do not think that 10 s. duty, unless it is permanent, would benefit them at all; the 10 s. would tend, in the first place, greatly to increase the rate of wages unless we ever get a sufficient supply of labourers.

13892. Unless you were to get so many labourers as would press upon the means of subsistence in the island, and compel them to continuous and active labour?—Yes, such a supply of labour in the market as would reduce the wages to a fair level without oppressing in any way the negro.

13893. Is it your opinion that the increased price, under the present circumstances, would only have the effect of proportionately increasing the cost of producing the sugar?—That would be the case, to a great extent. I am astonished to hear that the rate of labour has been lessened, and it has happened, I believe, from the very disastrous state of prices; persons have sent out to their attorneys positive orders, which the managers cannot disobey, restraining them as regards wages, and they have been forced to be unanimous; therefore the labourer has been obliged to submit to that which he would have had to submit to were there an abundance of labour in the island.

13894. The reduction in the price of sugar has so far had the same effect upon wages which an increased supply of labour would have?—Certainly; it is an odd way of gaining an advantage, but it has been one.

13895. Supposing the price of sugar were to advance now by a continuance or by an addition to the present amount of protection, would the effect of such an advance be to take it out of the power of the planters to insist on this reduction, which they have already obtained, and to prevent any further reduction taking place?—I am perfectly certain that wages would rise as the news reached the island.

13896. Supposing we were to pass an Act to-day increasing the protection upon sugar for the next three years, or to continue the present rate of protection for the next three years, and the news were to go out to the island of St. Kitts, do you believe that the immediate influence of the rise of price consequent upon the passing of that Act would have the effect of increasing the rate of wages?—Yes; I cannot take upon myself to say how far, but I am persuaded that a great proportion of the duty would be swallowed up in that way; it would raise the rate of wages I am certain.

13897. Do you believe that the fall which has taken place has been not only

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

in consequence of the present low price of sugar, but the fact, which is known to every West Indian, that the protection which he now enjoys is to decline in each of the next three years?—He feels that he cannot produce sugar at the present price; I do not know whether he looks to the cause or not; it is sufficiently low to induce those who have the control to be all of one mind; there is no inducement to outbid another; wages have fallen of necessity; they are now of one mind; formerly when prices were a little higher they made more sacrifices to the labourer.

13898. Mr. *Miles*.] Do you think that the continuance of the present rate of duty for three years would have the same effect?—If it did not affect the price of sugar it would not affect the price of labour; the continuance of the present 6s. duty, perhaps, would cause a rise in the price; if the sugar market were to be affected favourably in consequence of such an alteration of the law the same result would take place that I anticipated from any other cause.

13899. Mr. *Wilson*.] Independently of the effect which the increased price of sugar and the increased amount of the present protective duty would have upon the price of labour, do you see any other means by which it would operate to increase the cost of sugar to the planters; would the increased protection add to the cost of the cultivation in any other way besides the increase of wages?—I think it would act generally in that way.

13900. You think that the managers and overseers of the estates would be made less careful and less economical in their course of cultivation?—If such a person were not controlled as he is at the present moment, the same state of things would return which I have already alluded to.

13901. Which occasioned greater expense in the production of sugar?—Yes; the ordinary expenses of the estates have been reduced of late years.

13902. Do you think that the improved processes and the additional application of implements would be suspended or interfered with by an additional protection?—I do not think so; persons are so convinced of their utility now that I do not think so; on the contrary, I think it would rather enable them to go on with such improvements.

13903. What measures of relief could you suggest to the Committee as measures which it would be wise for Parliament to afford to the West India interest in its present state?—As far as I have seen, immigration has worked well, and if that has been established, it would be for the Government to afford every facility that they possibly can to immigration. It is a matter for their consideration, of course; but I mean to the extent of pecuniary aid, either by loan or otherwise. I think they should provide every facility within their power.

13904. Supposing the Government were to come to the conclusion that it would be wise to make an advance of money to the West Indies, similar to the advances made to Ireland and to Canada, for the purposes of improvement, do you think the security of the West Indies would be sufficient for the Government to rely on for the repayment of those loans in the course of years, and the repayment of a high rate of interest, say six per cent.?—I think it would add great confidence to the West Indians, because what an interest the Government would have in their welfare if they were slightly mortgaged to them. I do not think I have closed my eyes to the evils which have already arisen from immigration, but it is acknowledged by all who have had an opportunity of forming an opinion, that it has done good to a certain extent. It is a tree which will not bear fruit immediately; you cannot expect to throw into the islands such a vast quantity of labourers as to affect the price immediately.

13905. Do you think it would be wise in the Government to go to any expense to increase the number of labourers, and advance immigration, unless they were at the same time to pay attention to the Acts of our Colonial Legislatures, and to enforce laws for the prevention of squatting and vagrancy?—If there is a serious defect in the machine you cannot expect it to go on. I think the Government is bound, especially as they are responsible for the present state of things, to see that the whole of the machinery is in as perfect order as possible. If they neglect the interests of the colonies in other respects, they cannot hope to cure the evil by immigration alone.

13906. Do not you think that it would be absolutely necessary that in anything which the Government did to encourage immigration the Government should not only agree to any suggestions which the colony might make, but invite the attention

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tion of the Colonial Assemblies to the enactment and enforcement of laws for that purpose?—Clearly; I think the Government ought to take the lead.

13907. Do you think that increasing the number of labourers by immigration, unless that were accompanied by such increased stringency of the laws, would be a disadvantage instead of an advantage?—I think nothing could be more obvious.

13908. You are clearly of opinion that immigration, in order to be beneficial, must be accompanied by a much stricter description of law for the performance of contracts, and the prevention of squatting and vagrancy, than you have hitherto had?—There can be no doubt about it.

13909. If the Home Government were to persist in disallowing the Acts which you have passed, immigration, instead of being a benefit, would be an aggravation of their present difficulties?—No question about it.

13910. Are there any other measures of relief which you would propose besides immigration?—We do not call for anything beyond such laws as are in existence in the mother country; and I think that the feeling that I mentioned which was so abroad some years ago has so far subsided that the Government now are in a different position from what they were then. I think they are in a position to sanction such laws as are in the spirit of the laws existing in England. They might, for example, sanction such laws for the prevention of vagrancy and squatting as are framed within the spirit of the English laws.

13911. In fact, you want no more power over your labourers than the law of England gives to the employer over the employed in England?—Certainly not. No Colonial Assembly would be so mad as to sit down and frame an enactment which would be at variance with the spirit of similar laws in England.

13912. With the introduction of fresh labourers by immigration, would not it be an important thing that there should be contracts made with them prior to their coming to the island, or immediately upon their arrival?—Yes, clearly.

13913. For what length of time do you think such contracts ought to be made with immigrants?—Even in that instance I would be guided by what prevails in England: youths here are apprenticed for seven years.

13914. What restrictions would you propose during that period of apprenticeship; would you propose to pay them wages according to an ascending scale, year after year, in proportion as their labour became more valuable?—Yes. In the cultivation of canes a considerable degree of knowledge is required, which can only be gained by practice; and the man's work would be more valuable the second year than it would be the first.

13915. Would you propose to place any social check upon his liberty, or would you propose to give him the same liberty as any other labourer, only compelling him to perform his contract, and to receive his wages according to that contract?—He would enter into the contract with his eyes open; and having done that, I would compel him to perform his part of the contract, and I would see that the other party did the same. I think immigrants taken from Africa would suit better than any other.

13916. With regard to those immigrants, you would give them every privilege and every liberty which other labourers have, excepting that you would hold them bound to work to a given employer for a given period, at an ascending scale of wages, during the existence of the contracts agreed on freely by them in the first instance; and you would enforce the performance of their contracts on the one hand, and the contract of their employers upon the other?—If you take a savage from Africa, he would not be in a position to enjoy the same privileges which others would. I would not impose any restrictions upon him.

13917. You would impose no restrictions which the law does not impose upon others?—No.

13918. You would not impose any restriction as to where he should live, rendering it necessary that he should live in the house of his master; you would give him the same liberty as every other labourer had, only you would require a performance of his contract?—Yes.

13919. Is there any part of the island of St. Kitts where you think irrigation would be particularly beneficial?—No, certainly not; there are no means for it.

13920. Have you no rivers?—There are three running streams, but they cannot be made available for the purposes of irrigation.

13921. At what cost can a hogshead of sugar be made in the island of St.

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

Kitts at present?—It is a matter of opinion; it may vary from 10*l.* to 12*l.* Mr. Benjamin Greene, I think, would make it cheaper than any one else.

13922. You have been long connected with and acquainted with St. Kitts; can you give the Committee any account of the character and prospects of the rising generation in the colony?—A very great improvement has taken place and is taking place; as far as the rising generation is concerned, sufficient time has not elapsed to enable me to form an opinion from any results. I can only judge from the different schools; I went round with the late Mr. Cunningham, in his annual inspection in the different parts of the island, and it was very gratifying to see the state in which they were; I am bound to say that, especially as regards the Moravians and Wesleyans, their schools were in a very high and forward state indeed; a state very creditable to themselves.

13923. The scholars being all the black population?—Yes. The question was pressed very much upon the Legislature by Mr. Cunningham, and they gave a grant, which was considered, for the circumstances, a very liberal one; they granted 700*l.* a year in aid of those schools; they apportioned the grant according to the number and the wants of the different classes, without making any distinction between the Church of England and others. The principal sects are the Wesleyans, and Moravians, exclusive of the Church of England.

13924. Have you any hope from the people that one of the effects of those schools upon the rising generation may be increased wants consequent upon their increased education, and an increased standard of comfort, which may be necessary for the population, in consequence of the increased standard of mind?—I have very great hope; if there is any virtue in education to improve the social position of a country, we have every reason to hope.

13925. Do you already see symptoms of the wants of the population increasing in such a way as to form an inducement, in the course of a short time, to additional and more continuous efforts to obtain those enjoyments which more civilized people desire?—Yes; their wants have increased very much since emancipation; but that will hardly refer to the rising generation.

13926. Probably the first want the supply of which the negro sought after emancipation would be the imitation of those he had hitherto considered his superiors in point of dress and ornaments?—Yes; that has taken place in the most astonishing manner; the surest proof of that is in the number of dry-goods merchants which have grown up: it is difficult to describe them; they are not shopkeepers, but they sell everything.

13927. The storekeepers in the island have increased very rapidly, have they?—Yes, they are three or four to one since emancipation.

13928. Do those storekeepers deal almost exclusively in articles of British manufacture?—Not exclusively; they deal in everything, and they sell to the negro population principally.

13929. The negro population are consumers of articles of dress of British manufacture to an enormous extent in proportion to what they were during the period of slavery?—Yes; and it is from that source that we derive our revenue principally; three per cent. *ad valorem* import duty is the principal part of our island revenue, and that is paid by the merchants in the first instance.

13930. Have you any means of showing the Committee how that revenue has progressed for a number of years past?—I have no accounts by me; it has increased very much.

13931. You have a tax upon the import of goods of all descriptions?—Yes.

13932. During the period of slavery the imports consisted chiefly of articles of food for the estates?—Yes, which we got from America.

13933. During that period the largest portion of the tax would be derived from those articles, but since that period would not a large portion of the tax be derived from articles of attire?—Yes.

13934. In your revenue accounts are the sources of the tax distinguished, so that you could tell the Committee the relative amounts?—Yes; every article is mentioned in a schedule, but trusting to memory I can only give general information as regards them. It is a tax upon imports of three per cent. *ad valorem*.

13935. You do not distinguish between one kind of imports and another?—Yes, we do.

13936. Can you give the Committee any example of the way in which the artificial wants of the negroes have increased in articles of dress?—I attribute to the pride of the negro in possessing articles of finery, and his great demand for

for them the success of the scheme of emancipation altogether, so far as it has succeeded. He works till he can supply those wants.

13937. What are those wants; he will have a doubloon coat, will not he?—The coat is supplied to him at an enormous profit; the highest price for a ready-made would be a doubloon, 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* It is the character of the negro to desire to obtain a coat of that kind, to say he gave a doubloon for his coat; the coat may not have cost as many shillings in England.

13938. His distinction is not according to its quality or value, but according to its price?—Yes.

13939. With the existing race, or the race of negroes who were emancipated, the first symptoms they show of artificial wants exhibit themselves through articles of apparel and dress, but with regard to the rising generation, who are receiving this better education, have you any reason for hoping that their wants will be of a more dignified and civilized kind, more appropriate to an informed and free people, and therefore that they may, in order to possess better houses and enjoy better society, or in order to purchase books, have an increased stimulus to labour?—I have no doubt that will be the case; sufficient time has not elapsed to enable me to speak with confidence to a point of that sort.

13940. Is there any taste beginning to exhibit itself for better houses and better furnished houses among the population?—I think there is; they now have shingled houses instead of thatched houses.

13941. With respect to the furniture inside?—I cannot speak as regards the fact.

13942. As far as regards the experiment of emancipation and freedom, with respect to the labourers, and the trade of the island, and the storekeepers, would you say that, generally speaking, it has been successful?—Yes.

13943. Supposing that the emancipation of the negro had been guarded by a much longer apprenticeship, and that the Acts of restraint which the colonial Legislature have passed from time to time, for the purpose of enforcing contracts, and preventing squatting and vagrancy, all of which have been disallowed by the Colonial Office, had been adopted, so as to make an industrious population, is it your opinion that the experiment of emancipation would, upon the whole, have been more successful, and that the condition, as well of the labouring classes as of the proprietary classes, would have been consulted thereby, and have been much better than it now is?—Yes, I can entertain no doubt but that that would have been the case.

13944. Therefore you think, as far as the experiment may be said to have failed, so far as the interests of the proprietary body of the island are concerned, a great deal may be attributed to the hasty and inconsiderate way in which emancipation was conducted in the first instance, in which apprenticeship was abandoned, in the second instance, and in which your colonial Acts have been disallowed, in the third instance?—Yes, as regards those and many other things; those are among the principal circumstances which have led to it.

13945. Are there any other circumstances besides those which you would wish to mention?—There is one as regards the compensation money, but that can only be referred to as one of the causes; it is of no use discussing a matter which has passed. That was one of the evils in the first instance, the way in which the whole of the compensation money was given over to the mortgagee.

13946. What you mean by that is, that the compensation money which was intended by the British Legislature and the British people to compensate rather for the change of the character of the labour than to furnish a fund for the purpose of paying off the charges upon the estates, was not appropriated to the cultivation of the estate, and therefore that the effect of the grant in continuing the cultivation of the islands was destroyed?—Yes; the only effect it had was this: before it was known how Government meant to dispose of the money it was generally believed by the mortgagees themselves that a greater portion of it would have been reserved to enable the proprietor to carry on the cultivation of his estate and improve it. Some persons were fortunate enough to make arrangements with their mortgagees before the intentions of Government became known; they said, I will give you up the whole compensation if you will reduce my debt to a certain amount; but the moment it was known that the mortgagee was to become the possessor of the whole fund, he made his own terms.

13947. You cannot complain that the money really was handed over and

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

apportioned to the mortgagee, who had a prior claim upon the estate?—It is very true that it was in part payment of a debt.

13948. Mr. Goulburn.] You stated that you considered the West Indies at present rather in a state of transition, and that under proper laws their situation was likely to improve hereafter?—That is my feeling; it is impossible they can remain as they are; I look upon them as in a state of transition.

13949. I understood you also to say, that you did not consider any protection would be useful unless it were permanent; how do you reconcile that opinion?—I said I did not like to undertake to say how far the proprietors would benefit by a 10s. duty; that I thought it would give rise to the state of things which I pointed out in the beginning of my examination; if it were to affect the price of sugar to anything like the extent of 10s., of course he would be materially a gainer by it. I also stated that I thought the West Indians suffered from an entire ignorance of what was coming next upon them, and from the uncertain policy which had been adopted by the Colonial Office towards them. A protection of 10s. for a limited period would have the effect of increasing the price of sugar in the sugar market, and that effect would be most direct upon the article of wages in the colony. I think the one would be consequent upon the other, the next week after the news arrived in the West Indies.

13950. The rise in the price of sugar, as in other commodities, would then be divided between the proprietor of the sugar and the workmen who made it?—Yes, if it were a material advance it would.

13951. As you apprehend the period may arrive in which, under proper legislation, the island may conduct cultivation successfully, do not you think a temporary assistance during that period might be serviceable?—The question is whether it would be an assistance; I have already stated it is one of those questions which I could not undertake to answer as to the proportion; I could not say what proportion of the 10s. would go into the pockets of the proprietors, but a very immaterial portion in my opinion.

13952. I was rather addressing myself to your objection to anything but permanent protection; do not you consider, as you contemplate a great improvement in the state of society hereafter, that a temporary assistance might be beneficial?—It would lead to speculation; it would lead to a state of things which we have just seen, in a great measure, abandoned; if it led to an increased price of sugar it would lead immediately to that destructive state of things which has been in existence ever since the total abolition of slavery, namely, a great expenditure in labour, which is the great item we have to contend against; unless it was known to be permanent we should have no security whatever; there would be no confidence in the mercantile body in England, and we should not be able to avail ourselves of those resources which must come from England in the first instance.

13953. Any rise in the price of sugar, from whatever cause, would necessarily produce the same effect upon sugar as a rise caused by protection would?—I think so. If it be asserted that a duty of 10s. would put 10l. a hogshead into the pockets of the proprietor, such persons are deceiving themselves. It is impossible to say what portion would go to him, but in my opinion a very immaterial part would do so. If Government were to create a monopoly and exclude all foreign sugar, whether free or slave, the question is as plain as possible.

13954. You apprehend that if the price of sugar were to be increased, from whatever cause, the price of wages would eat up the greater part of that increase?—I do not think I said that; I think it would eat up a great proportion of it, as it is very difficult to answer a question of that sort to say what the proportion would be.

13955. The state of this particular island, according to your opinion, is this, that the prices at present are ruinously low, but if anything should occur to raise the prices the profit would not be to the proprietor, but it would be to the negro population?—By no means to the extent of the protection would the proprietor be benefited.

13956. The relief would not be so much to the proprietor as to the person who receives wages?—Certainly the proprietor would be benefited by a rise in the price to a certain extent. I do not think the increase in wages would be so great as to swallow up the whole, but a great portion of it I think would go in that way.

13957. I am speaking of an increased price of sugar, whether derived from protection or any other cause?—The result would be the same.

13958. You

13958. You have drawn a contrast between a particular estate in St. Kitts when under the management of the proprietor, Mr. Greene, and under the management of a person whom he left in charge of it; do you know any estates where the case is the converse of that; that is, estates which have been managed by the managers of absentees, and which have suffered by the presence of the proprietor?—I have not any such instance before me.

13959. Do persons who come out as residents generally manage their properties better than those that are managed by attorneys?—I do not think an English person coming out, knowing nothing of the cultivation of sugar, would manage that department of his estate better than a person who has been brought up to it; but where he would benefit would be in the supervision of the expenses of the estate.

13960. Mr. Greene was a very able man in every respect as a manager of property, was not he?—He was very much so; he was singularly successful in St. Kitts.

13961. And his manager was not an average specimen of the persons who manage properties?—He was not considered so by Mr. Greene's father. Mr. Greene had two attorneys, and it is quite clear that he did not think so.

13962. It appears that the expenses of the estate under Mr. Greene's management amounted to 1,236*l.*, and that in the following year they amounted to 1,910*l.*?—It would appear so from documents I have seen to-day for the first time.

13963. Mr. Greene's absence necessarily imposed upon him, among those charges, the charge of paying an attorney and manager probably?—Yes; Mr. Greene's attorneys received, it was said, 500*l.* a year each.

13964. You do not happen to know whether Mr. Greene was paid by his father in that charge of 1,236*l.*, do you?—I should suppose that it was so; I do not know; I suppose he would look upon his son in a pure matter of business light.

13965. Mr. Greene being resident, acted, I presume, both as attorney and manager also?—Yes.

13966. Therefore his absence entailed an additional servant to be paid for at all events?—Clearly.

13967. Do you happen to know what has been the increase of population since the time that slavery was abolished in St. Kitts?—It has been nearly stationary; it would have increased, had not it been for the unusually large number of deaths of infants; and that was one of the subjects which occupied the attention of the Legislature at the time the necessity of employing medical attendants after apprenticeship ceased. It is not to be expected that medical men would attend without receiving a fee, and a great number of deaths occurred, and those deaths were brought under our notice by the number of inquests that were held; it was a matter which occupied the attention, to a considerable degree, of persons anxious about West India affairs. Had not it been for that, the population would have increased.

13968. Notwithstanding the interval of 14 years, no material increase has actually taken place in the original negro population?—No material increase certainly; it has been nearly stationary.

13969. Have you any return of the births which have taken place since that time?—I have none with me.

13970. You think the number of deaths among young children has been more considerable since emancipation than it was before?—I am quite clear upon the point, inasmuch as it has occupied our attention as a matter of very serious import.

13971. You ascribe that either to the negligence of parents or to the want of medical assistance?—To both; to the absence of all medical attendance, because they were provided with medical attendance by their owner in the first instance, but when that ceased the negro seldom brought his own child to the medical man.

13972. Is there considerable inattention on the part of mothers to their children?—As far as I have observed, a great deal; they are careless of their offspring.

13973. There is very little prospect, then, of any rapid increase of population in the island from natural causes?—I think not; I think the effect would be much more disastrous if it were not such a magnificent and favourable climate.

13974. The boys that are about 16 or 17 must have known nothing of slavery;

Mr. E. Pickwood. are they a better class of workmen than those persons who were previously slaves?
—I think so.

29 March 1848.

13975. They work more willingly?—Yes; they are more intelligent, and they understand the nature of the orders you give better.

13976. You have not in St. Kitts any great number of persons, have you, who lead a roving life, without any occupation whatever?—No, I think not; they have all some place of residence, and they remain there because it is the interest of the employers to keep them.

13977. *Chairman.*] Speaking of the Navigation Laws, you said that the average freight was from 4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*?—Yes.

13978. According to the evidence taken before the Committee the freight this year is only 4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.* Was not last year a-year of unusually high freights?—From the island of St. Kitts it has never been otherwise since the public meeting to which I alluded, with the regular trading ships: it does not vary, unfortunately, according to the prices or quantity of sugar.

13979. You draw a comparison between St. Kitts and Demerara; are not you aware that while there is a very heavy drogherage in St. Kitts there is none in Demerara?—I am not aware that there is a very heavy drogherage in St. Kitts.

13980. Do you know what that drogherage is?—Four shillings and twopence per hogshead, on an average. The island is only 15 miles long; but as an evidence of the high rate of freight, there is always a premium given to independent estates, estates which are not bound to ship to any particular interest by transient ships; they will send 10 miles for your sugar, and give you a guinea a hogshead.

13981. Charging you the usual freight, they will pay you, under the rose, a guinea premium?—Not under the rose; they proclaim it; the more it is known the more customers they have. Mr. Greene will not give that, because he has a supply of his own.

13982. The seeking ships will offer 1*l.* a ton for freights?—Yes; their bill of lading is made out at 4*s.* 6*d.* a cwt., and they will pay the drogherage. I have received it twenty times, and so has every proprietor of an independent estate; those transient ships will pay the drogherage, and give you a guinea a hogshead for as many hogsheads as you choose to give them.

13983. As many as you choose to give them at 5*l.*?—At 4*s.* 6*d.* a cwt.

13984. As the ordinary freight?—Yes.

13985. Merchant ships bring out to you your supplies, without charging you any freight, do not they?—Yes, it is merely a nominal freight; it is the home freight which they look to reimburse them.

13986. Seeking ships do not do so?—No.

13987. When you are paying 4*l.* 10*s.* sugar freight to England it is virtually a sugar freight to England and a nominal freight back of all your supplies from England?—Yes.

13988. Which does not apply to the case of seeking ships?—No.

13989. It would not apply to foreign ships?—No.

13990. Therefore you are comparing things to one another which are dissimilar?—To a great extent; but I do not think we are compensated by that; I do not think it is a compensation.

13991. Do you imagine if the Navigation Laws were to lower your freights, they would not also lower equally the freights of Brazil and Cuba in competition with you?—I think not; if they get their freights home at what I see them stated there, they cannot expect them to be carried across the Atlantic for less.

13992. What do you see them stated at?—The freight from Demerara is 2*s.* 6*d.* Demerara is 700 miles to the southward of St. Kitts, further off from England, and I do not think they can in any way complain of that as the freight; suppose our freight were 2*s.* 6*d.* instead of 4*s.* 6*d.*, that on a small estate shipping 100 hogsheads of sugar would pay the interest of the value of the estate.

13993. As far as the Navigation Laws are concerned, you are precisely on the same footing as Demerara?—Yes.

13994. The Navigation Laws do not prevent the Demerara planters from getting their freights at as low a rate as you say it is possible for any ships to carry sugar?—It is the want of competition in St. Kitts, I think; they have a monopoly there, and that is the reason why we cannot get our sugar brought home cheaper.

13995. Is there not another reason, namely, from the small quantity of sugar shipped from St. Kitts, the ships are detained a long time at the island?—I know the

the trading vessels there make two voyages annually; they cannot make more than that. Mr. E. Pickwood.

13996. The Committee has had evidence showing that from the other colonies ships make three and sometimes four voyages in the course of the year; that is because they are not detained in the island?—If such evidence has been given, all I can say is it cannot be done. 29 March 1848.

13997. How long are ships detained at St. Kitts?—That of course depends upon the crops; a ship cannot very well load under six weeks, but they may be detained three months.

13998. The Committee has it in evidence that three Danes made their voyages out of the port of London and back again with sugar in 66 days. If you detain your ships two or three months in St. Kitts, it is not very possible that British ships should be able to perform their voyage, load their sugar, and get back in 66 days?—Just so; I think we certainly at present pay too high a freight, but I did not state that I looked upon the repeal of the Navigation Laws as a sovereign remedy. I do, however, think that the outcry for some modification of the Navigation Laws at all events is unanswerable. Men say, “We are suffering from a gross wrong, and if you deprive us of protection leave it open for us to judge; let us taste some of the fancied sweets of free trade.” I do not think that the delay, which it is admitted takes place in St. Kitts and those islands, accounts for the very enormous rate of freight, though it may do so to a certain extent.

13999. Is not it common sense, that if in an island where there is none of this detention ships are able to make a voyage and back again in 66 days, while you detain them 90 days at St. Kitts, you should pay a higher freight where you detain them in the island at a considerable cost for 90 days than the others should who only detain them six days?—I quite admit that.

14000. Do not you think that the shipowner may with great propriety say, “You are unreasonable, and do me a great wrong, when you ascribe to me or to the Navigation Laws this extravagant freight, when it is you who are causing it by not having your sugar ready for me to take at the wharf at St. Kitts”?—I have no doubt he might say so, and I would answer him in this way: Last year there were 3,000 hogsheads lying on the beach; when your ship comes and finds our sugar there you may take it away in 48 hours, if you please; but do you consent to take off 1 s. in consequence? If there are delays in St. Kitts which do not occur in Santa Cruz or in Cuba, that will account for some difference in freight; but I see no reason why it should make the difference between 5 l. and 2 l. 10 s.

14001. Cannot you estimate that if in one case a ship only occupies 66 days in one voyage and in the other she is detained 90 days, exclusive of her voyage, she ought to charge double the freight in the one case to what she does in the other?—Certainly not.

14002. Will you give a reason for that answer?—You speak of a detention of 90 days. I say, in the first place, the vessel may be detained 90 days, not that she must be detained 90 days; if it can be shown that the expenses there for the 90 days, in any proportion, amount to a sum which shall equal the 2 s. 6 d. I speak of, I yield the point; but expensive as a ship is, that loss to the shipowner will in no wise meet the difficulty I complain of.

14003. What has expense to do with the matter; the question is whether the expense while she is lying idle at St. Kitts is greater or less than the expense would be while she was running across the Atlantic. Will you answer to this Committee what difference it can make to a shipowner, whether he is paying his ship's crew, and for the capital invested in the ship, while she is lying idle at St. Kitts, or while the ship is crossing the Atlantic?—It can make no difference except in the wear and tear of his vessel.

14004. Which probably in those tropical climates would go on nearly as fast, if not faster, than if she were crossing the Atlantic. You have stated that the universal freight for St. Kitts was 4 l. 10 s. a ton. I hold in my hand a paper, signed by Mr. Liggins, stating that he has for a great many years received consignments from St. Kitts, and never yet paid more than 4 l. a ton?—It has been 4 l. 10 s., and I will pledge my word as a resident at St. Kitts that it has never been under that amount. I will appeal to every bill of lading, and to every West India merchant. I cannot undertake to say that the contrary has never happened, but a bill of lading has never been filled up with less than that amount.

14005. Have you any bills of lading with you?—No; but I can get thousands from different merchants whom I have consigned to. It was 5 l. from St. Kitts,

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

and it was reduced at a public meeting convened by my father and another member of the Council, two independent shippers.

14006. Is not Mr. Liggins a West India merchant?—I do not know the name in connexion with St. Kitts. I am personally acquainted with that island, and I am prepared to state, and will establish the fact, that freight does not vary, and that it has never been under 4*l.* 10*s.*, except that it has been invariably the practice for transient ships to give you a guinea a hogshead, and pay the drogherage too.

14007. Adverting to your theory, that resident proprietors manage their estates a great deal better than others, Mr. Greene was an exception to that rule, was he not?—I do not know that he was.

14008. You have admitted that there was no example of any person having managed his estate so well as Mr. Greene had managed the estate under his charge?—Yes.

14009. And you said the only way in which you could account for the total expenses of the estates increasing in the year 1839 was, that Mr. Green left in 1838, and that then there was appointed for four years an agent, who was at the end of that time dismissed by Mr. Greene's father, as you presume, for mismanagement and misconduct?—Yes.

14010. You know nothing of the facts of the case?—Nothing whatever.

14011. It is mere surmise?—From the facts before me.

14012. What are the facts before you?—Will your Lordship allow me to state, in a very few words, how that arose? This schedule which I have before me was shown to me this morning for the first time. I was asked, "How do you account for the increase here?" When it was shown to me I did not know when Mr. Greene left the island. My reply was, "I cannot account for it in any way but in a change of management." Then we said, "Let us go to the accounts, and see whether my surmise is borne out by the fact;" and, oddly enough, on looking at this document in evidence before the Committee, it does appear that it is so. When I gave that opinion I had no idea when Mr. Greene left, or that the change of management took place in 1837. In my own mind now, I attribute it to the change of management in a great measure; but I cannot take upon myself to say that the whole difference is to be attributed to that.

14013. Because you see that in the year 1837 the expenses increased, as compared with the year 1836, from 2,057*l.* to 2,710*l.*, you come to the conclusion that there was gross mismanagement on the part of the new manager?—When that new manager has been discharged for alleged mismanagement.

14014. What authority have you for stating that he was discharged for gross mismanagement?—It was the common report of the day; unless I had Mr. Greene's confidence, who was the person who discharged him, I could not undertake to say; if Mr. Greene has 20 estates, and he discharges this man, and it is known that those estates have gone wrong, I am justified in saying, as far as common rumour is concerned, that that person is discharged for mismanagement.

14015. Are you aware that in the year 1835, during Mr. Greene's management, the total expenses amounted to 2,931*l.*, being 220*l.* more than this very year when this gross mismanagement, as you now allege upon common rumour, occurred on the part of this new agent who came into the occupation?—No, I know nothing of it.

14016. Do you know who was the agent who succeeded Mr. Greene?—Yes.

14017. Who was he?—Mr. Davy.

14018. Was not it Mr. Greene's own brother?—No.

14019. Did not Mr. Greene's brother go out in 1837-38?—Mr. Greene had a younger brother upon that estate.

14020. You do not even know whether it was Mr. Greene's brother or not, do you?—Yes, I do; but it is very immaterial whether it was Mr. Greene's brother or not. Mr. Greene was a gentleman who had established in the island the greatest reputation as a planter. Mr. Greene's brother, I am sure, cannot be quoted as a planter; his father recalled him also, I suppose not because he was very successful in the estates. I did not, however, myself, allude to those documents. They were brought before my notice for the first time to-day; whoever the person was, whether it was Mr. Greene's brother or Mr. Davy, both of whom were recalled, neither of them enjoyed anything like the reputation of Mr. Benjamin Buck Greene; and there can be no doubt that if he had continued in the management of that estate the result would have been very different.

14021. Do you not think that Mr. Greene is a better judge of his own affairs than

than you seem to be, and that when Mr. Greene accounts for the increase in the cost by the conclusion of the apprenticeship and the commencement of freedom, he is more likely to be right than you?—I think Mr. Greene is not so competent a judge. A man may be too near, as well as too far from an object, to see correctly; and in this particular instance I may be permitted to observe that Mr. Greene is rather too near to see as correctly as might be wished.

14022. You think you know more about Mr. Greene's affairs than he knows himself?—No, I do not pretend to that knowledge.

14023. Are you aware that Mr. Greene states that he managed from 16 to 18 estates, constituting one-third part of all the estates in the island?—I am not aware that he stated so; I am aware he did do so in his character his father's attorney.

14024. Then so far as one-third of all the estates in the island of St. Kitts are concerned, those that were managed by the deputy of the resident proprietor in England were the best-managed estates in the island?—I spoke of Mr. Greene's success as regards the estate in question.

14025. Is it not a third part of the estates in the island?—I deny that; it is impossible for one man, even with all Mr. Greene's capabilities, to manage one-third of the estates in St. Kitts with success; a great deal must be attributed to—

14026. In some way or other it was by this wonderful management under Mr. Greene that one-third part of all the estates in the island were better managed than any other estates upon the island, Mr. Greene being resident in the island, representing the absent proprietor in England?—He was so.

14027. Though Mr. Greene permitted this agent to remain four years upon the estate, his mismanagement the first year did not extend to others?—I am not aware that I have made any charge of mismanagement. I have stated that I thought the increase in this particular year might be attributed to a change of management, and when I said that, I was not aware that Mr. Greene had ceased to be the manager at that time; as regards the charge of mismanagement, Mr. Greene removed the person who had been in charge for many years, and it was generally reported, and in a small community those things are known, and known pretty correctly, that he was dismissed upon account of bad management. I could not state it on any stronger evidence than that.

14028. You said he was dismissed in the year 1841, did not you?—I stated it from my memory.

14029. You do not know accurately to a year or two when he was dismissed, and yet you conclude, because it appears that in the year 1837 the expenditure exceeded by 650*l.* the expenditure of the previous year, though it did not come up to the expenditure of the year before, that all this is mismanagement, and one of the proofs that absentee proprietors cannot manage their estates in St. Kitts to advantage by deputy?—I must take the liberty to deny that I ever made such a statement in the first place; it was not in consequence of seeing this document that I came to any such conclusion; I do not quote this document; it was asked me by a member of the Committee, "Is not this a singular fact? What do you think of it?" I said I cannot account for it in any other way than by a change of management, and when I was shown this document it occurred to me that I was very right in the opinion I had formed; but that opinion was not founded upon the document; it was rather strengthened by it.

14030. You said that the present price of sugar would not justify anybody in sending out implements; how do you expect the island to continue to be cultivated without implements?—I do not expect it to be cultivated.

14031. You do not expect, that if the present prices continue, the island will be cultivated?—I think not, with the exception of some very favourable estates. I confess that I think things cannot be much worse.

14032. Is it your expectation that the whole island will go out of cultivation if the present prices continue?—I do not think sugar can be cultivated at the present prices. As far as my own individual opinion goes, it may prove my sincerity, when I say that I am myself engaging now to a small extent. By the last packet I sent out the lease of an estate, in which I covenant to put all available lands in the sugar cultivation belonging to the Earl of Romney.

14033. You are going to continue your cultivation?—Yes; and I think that as soon as confidence is restored to the money market, and the present depression is removed, though sugars will not rise to a high price, yet I cannot think they will remain as low as they are.

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

14034. To what price do you imagine sugar must rise to enable you to carry on the cultivation of your estates?—I have already said that I think sugar may be made at from 10*l.* to 12*l.* a hogshead; anything beyond that will be profit.

14035. That is equivalent, with 7*s.* a cwt. charges, to 19*l.* a hogshead in this country?—Yes.

14036. Can you state what price per cwt. will pay you in the island?—No.

14037. What is the average weight of your hogsheads?—The hogshead I speak of would weigh 20 cwt. in the colony.

14038. What extent of estate do you manage yourself, and how many hogsheads of sugar do you manufacture?—None at the present moment. I refer to our family estate, which I stated has been in Mr. Greene's possession since the year 1840.

14039. In his possession, or managed by him?—The estate owed a debt to Mr. Greene; my mother's life interest was sold to Mr. Greene for a debt; it is entirely within his management; we have no control over it now; there are no proceeds, as far as the family are concerned.

14040. Did not you say that the resident proprietors in the island had prospered; your father was a resident proprietor, was not he?—Yes, and he did prosper to the extent I have mentioned.

14041. Four years after your father's death this property got into the possession of the mortgagee?—Yes, when it lost its proprietor.

14042. Who became the proprietor of the estate upon the death of your father?—My mother.

14043. Did she remain in the island?—No; she was in England at the time.

14044. Do you know what was your father's net income up to 1834?—I cannot state; I can state generally the amount of the original mortgage, and the amount he left after his death; that is all I can state.

14045. When your father died was not he in debt to his merchants?—Yes.

14046. £. 16,000 or 17,000 *l.*?—The estate belonged to my mother and aunt; when it came into the possession of my father by marriage it had upon it a mortgage of 16,000 *l.*; when he died it was 9,000 *l.*; in the year 1812 it was 16,000 *l.*; and in the year of his death, in 1834, it had been reduced to 9,000 *l.*

14047. Are you sure that he did not die in debt to his merchants, Messrs. Reid, Irving & Co., between 16,000 *l.* and 17,000 *l.*?—I am certain that he owed Messrs. Reid, Irving & Co. nothing but the current expenses of the year in which he died; they never held the mortgage; these are facts which I state from my own knowledge. At the time of emancipation, after my father's death, I got Mr. Paul, of the island of St. Kitts, to advance the sum to Messrs. Bailey which was requisite to pay them off that mortgage; we paid them the compensation money, 5,000 *l.*, and Mr. Paul advanced bills for 4,500 *l.*, making 9,500 *l.*; Messrs. Bailey consented to forego the interest on the mortgage, which had been accumulated three or four years since my father's death; subsequently to that Mr. Greene and Mr. Paul came into an arrangement; Mr. Greene now holds the mortgage; but so far from owing Messrs. Reid, Irving & Co. 16,000 *l.*, they never had the mortgage at all.

14048. Was not your father in debt to them?—Nothing more than the current expenses of the year.

14049. What were the current expenses of the year?—Not 1,000 *l.*; in fact, I do not believe my father owed them 1*s.* at the time of his death.

14050. It appears your father died before emancipation, so that he died when everybody was prospering in the island?—My father died in the beginning of 1834; the emancipation took place in August. I know my father was not prospering in 1830, 1831, nor 1832, because sugars were quite as low, if they were not lower than they are now.

14051. Was not the produce of the island greater?—Yes, generally speaking.

14052. If you get twice the produce at 21*s.* 10*d.* in 1830, may not that be much more profitable than getting half the produce at 24*s.* in 1828?—If it was making any profitable return at all; if not it was doubling the loss.

14053. We have heard from you that the resident proprietors managed their estates so much better than the non-resident proprietors, while the estates managed by Mr. Greene in 1830 and 1831 appear to have averaged 4*l.* 18*s.* a ton as the cost of production?—I merely said that they had survived every crisis. I have not said that those estates were flourishing then in spite of their being present, but

I said

I said that they had remained in the occupation of their estates ; that they had paid off family claims and had survived every crisis.

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

14054. I understand you to say that there were 15 proprietors who had survived every crisis ; “ but perhaps not well,” were the words you used ?—I stated that they were still in possession of their estates, and I stated from what source I derived my information ; namely, that in the case of persons who had no obvious mode of living but the estates upon which they lived, it was fair to suppose that they lived out of those estates ; and I stated that in small communities those things were known.

14055. Mr. Miles.] You managed the estate in question yourself up to a certain period, did not you ?—Yes.

14056. Mr. Greene took possession of it in the year 1840 ?—Yes.

14057. Then it was four years under your management ?—Yes.

14058. Was that management successful ?—It was not. I lost many thousand pounds during that time.

14059. That was in the time of the apprenticeship, when you had a certain amount of labour ?—Yes, and all during freedom.

14060. Therefore your management was not at all successful ?—Certainly not. I have the accounts for two years by me. When I came out in 1837, the hurricane in 1835 had laid all the works of the estate flat, and I can show from the estates’ account that the most enormous charges in this account grew out of that fact. I went out there and found the estate dismantled. The result of my management was unsuccessful, but a great part of the charge arose from that fact and from the fact that during that time I erected two steam engines. At the same time I by no means refer to my management as a successful management.

14061. Mr. Greene, you say, left the island in 1837 ; do not you think that the same fact may have arisen in the change of management of Mr. Greene’s estates which arose upon yours, that larger works and a larger outlay were required in consequence of this hurricane ?—Mr. Greene may be able to show that fact ; I cannot speak to it.

14062. You do not think it unreasonable to suppose that some larger outlay may have been incurred by the successor to Mr. Greene from this cause ?—I do not deny the possibility of it.

14063. You seemed to be surprised at Mr. Greene producing sugar at so low a cost at the period he was out there, and you attributed his being able to do so to his successful management ?—Yes, from the fact that Mr. Greene was always considered one of the best managers.

14064. Are you aware that his evidence is corroborated by several statements which have been made before this Committee, and also by a despatch from Lord Harris, in which he states that sugar in the time of slavery was grown at 3s. 2d., and that now it is grown for 1l. 0s. 10d. ?—I am not aware of that fact ; I do not know one single matter of evidence which has been before this Committee.

14065. You are not generally aware that his evidence is corroborated by other witnesses ?—No.

14066. Have you had any estate of your own since 1840 ?—No.

14067. Have you rented an estate ?—No.

14068. You have had no management of an estate since the year 1840 ?—None whatever.

14069. Nor have you been connected in any way with estates ?—No.

14070. Your duties have been at the head of the police in St. Kitts ?—Yes, since the year 1840.

14071. In the course of your evidence you stated that the overseers or managers of estates were in the habit of not strictly adhering to the rate of wages which they had agreed upon among themselves, but were in the habit of giving allowances besides ; are you aware whether the resident proprietors, any of them, have adopted this course, or has it been exclusively confined to the overseers ?—I know one instance of a gentleman, a friend of mine, who owns two estates at directly opposite points of the island one from the other ; one is on the westward side of the island and one on the eastward. Giving the produce was done without his sanction. He resided upon the estates alternately, and he has been invariably successful during the time of his own management.

14072. Do you know of its being the practice of any of the resident proprietors in the island to give those allowances, or was it exclusively confined to the managers of the absentee proprietors ?—I do not think it was exclusively confined

Mr. E. Pickwood.
29 March 1848.

to them, nor do I know that the practice was general. I mentioned it as a fact which came to my knowledge; it was the topic of every day's conversation in the colony there, so and so had been giving rum and molasses, contrary to the general understanding.

14073. You would think that it was not done a bit more by one than by the other?—Yes; it was left optional to a person. A manager gave it to the labourer as an inducement.

14074. You think this practice was continued much more by the managers of absentee proprietors than by resident proprietors?—That is my opinion.

14075. You do not think it was the force of circumstances that compelled them to endeavour to obtain labour which induced them to give that particular produce?—It was done in a clandestine manner, and it was a cause of complaint. The manager is left with power to do it, because it is supposed he can have but one object, the interest of his employer. I have heard resident proprietors say they would not do it.

14076. You stated that you could keep 200 acres of land in a high state of cultivation for 1,000 *l.* a year, provided you could get continuous labour?—Not 200 acres in constant cultivation; one-third of it would be kept in cane land, one-third would be in fallow, and one-third in green dressing. I spoke of this estate of 200 acres of land, and I said it could be put in the highest possible state of cultivation, in my opinion, for that sum.

14077. Have you estimated at all, when you make this calculation, what price you should give for your labour and how many hours the labourers should work?—I suppose the rate of wages which has prevailed; 1 *s.* a day.

14078. How many hours are they to work?—I do not know; I should require a day's work.

14079. What do you call a day's work?—So many hundred holes; we never work by the day.

14080. How many holes do you want?—I cannot say; I might plough.

14081. You cannot tell me the number of hours' labour you should require?—No; we never employ labour in that way, it is all done by measurement. I take the day's work to be what is considered in the colony a fair day's work.

14082. You have lived for 14 years in the colony, and you can give the Committee no idea of what may be considered a fair day's work, either as regards measurement or the number of cane holes, or as to the work of any particular task?—I cannot; I do not wish to trust my memory to do so at this moment.

14083. What return would you expect to get from that estate cultivated at a cost of 1,000 *l.*?—I would expect to get a hogshead and a half of sugar to every acre, and two hogsheads with ratoons.

14084. Would you expect to get 140 hogsheads from the estate?—Yes.

14085. And you think you could produce that for 1,000 *l.* as far as labour is concerned?—I should not take that as the average.

14086. What average crop should you expect to get?—You must take an average of so many years. I say the highest return would be two hogsheads an acre; but I will admit that two hogsheads an acre is not the average.

14087. What should you expect to be the lowest return?—I have already said that we have got from the estate as a whole, when the gang was effective, 196 hogsheads of sugar, and as low as 40; what the average between those two in any given number of years would be I cannot state without reference to the books; say 120 hogsheads for 200 acres.

14088. From your experience in the island of St. Kitts you think you could make 120 hogsheads of sugar for 1,000 *l.* a year?—Yes, upon the labour list alone.

14089. Provided you could get continuous labour?—Yes.

14090. You state that it would be of no use having any protection at all, because it would only create a rise of wages in the island, and therefore the planter would get nothing from it?—I said it had been asserted that 10 *s.* a cwt. would put 10 *l.* into the pocket of the proprietor; and I said that such an assertion to me appeared exaggerated to a great extent. I could not undertake to say how far the proprietor would be benefited, but I felt in my own mind that by far the greater part of it would in no way reach the proprietor.

14091. That it would rather go to the labourer?—Yes.

14092. Has the reduction in the price of the sugar hitherto considerably affected the reduction of wages?—Never till recently.

14093. Are

14093. Are you sure that this reduction in wages is thoroughly established in the island?—It appears so.

14094. Are you aware of what has taken place in Demerara?—From the public papers I am.

14095. That the reduction has not been established?—It either has not been established, or has not been established without great opposition; I expressed my surprise that the negroes would consent to it at first.

14096. Do you think there is any hope for the proprietors in the colonies that as sugar falls so they will be able to reduce their wages?—I do not think so; I have no reason for believing that they will. They have succeeded in reducing it one-third, which is a very great amount. If you had asked me six months ago whether I should be enabled to reduce my wages by sugar falling in the way it has done I should have said no; but I think if there were not this want of labour, having got the negroes to take a fair amount of wages, they would be contented with it for the future.

14097. You have also stated that if sugar continues at the present price all the estates, except a few favoured ones, must go out of cultivation; do you think it probable that any other product would take the place of sugar in St. Kitts?—I do not know any other; it appears to me that sugar is the one most suitable; there are a great many others but they have all been abandoned for sugar.

14098. What do you think will become of the island of St. Kitts when all those labourers are thrown entirely out of employment and the estates have become ruined?—I suppose something will arise in the course of events to make a balance and adjust matters; I cannot foresee what it will be; I only say if people cannot produce sugar except at a greater cost than what it sells at in the English market, it stands to reason that the land must go out of cultivation, except in a few favoured instances: as evidence, however, that I do not think so, I am only waiting in England now to pay off the incumbrances upon my father-in-law's two estates, which I hope to do upon very favourable terms. I have not completed that, but the lease of Lord Romney's estate I have completed, and I have covenanted in that lease to cultivate all the lands that are available for sugar cultivation.

14099. Did not you say you were not interested in West India cultivation at all?—Up to the present moment.

14100. You have only taken that recently?—By the last packet; from the year 1840 up to the present moment I have not been engaged in sugar cultivation.

14101. Your plans have been formed entirely upon the hope of a rise in the price of sugars?—A moderate rise; I never expect to see them very high again.

14102. Do you think that is likely to take place when the protection will fall in 1850 by 6s.?—It will be a gradual fall; I hope we shall be able to meet it.

14103. Do you think that the price is likely to rise in the face of a diminished protection?—Yes, I think so; I think the depression in the money market contributes greatly to the depression in the price of sugar.

14104. That depression in the money market has taken place before?—Yes; matters were improving, but recent events on the Continent have rather kept alive the feeling of distrust in the money market.

14105. You still think, in the face of a diminishing protection to the amount of 6s., the price will rise in this country enough to enable you to carry on successfully the cultivation of those estates?—I do so, and as evidence of that I state these two facts, that I have covenanted to carry out the agreements of that lease on a rented estate, and I am very anxious to get possession of two estates of my father's in the island of St. Kitts.

14106. Since the year 1840 have you been making agriculture your study, or has your opinion changed as to your own capabilities?—I have already said I do not think it necessary for a gentleman to manage his own estates if his inclination does not lead him that way; I certainly should not invest any capital in West India estates, and yet live in England; if I go out there I am bound to that island, and I think I have sufficient time upon my hands to give sufficient supervision to that part of the management of an estate which I think the essential part, namely, the financial department. If I owned the largest estates there, and I could get the services of a very efficient manager, I should not interfere in the agricultural department, but I should never think of parting with the financial one.

14107. If proprietors were to go out to the colony you would not recommend that

Mr. E. Pickwood.

29 March 1848.

that they should manage their own estates, but confide them to the manager?—If they could do it. It would depend upon the person; if he had no talent that way, and he found other persons could do it better for him, I should not recommend him to interfere in that department.

14108. Do you think you are likely to get a large resident proprietary throughout the West India colonies?—I can see no hope of it; I would make any sacrifice to stay in England myself.

14109. Do not you think that that feeling exists among other people as well as yourself?—Yes.

14110. Therefore if a proprietor made a little money in the island, his first idea would be to come home to England and enjoy himself?—Yes.

14111. Therefore we never can expect that we shall have a large proprietary body in the West Indies?—I do not think so.

14112. It is needful, as long as we possess the West India colonies, that that must be submitted to?—As long as a man has English property he is quite right to live in England; but if he thinks he can do so, and enjoy a revenue from his estates in the West Indies, I humbly imagine he is mistaken.

Mr. Richard Farrer, called in; and Examined.

Mr. R. Farrer.

14113. Mr. *Moffatt*.] YOU are engaged in trade in Liverpool?—I am.

14114. You have some experience of Brazilian commerce?—Yes, principally in coffee.

14115. You have been in Brazil?—Yes.

14116. At what period were you there?—I went in May 1839, and returned about October or November 1846; about seven years I was there.

14117. What was your principal occupation while in Brazil?—My principal occupation was in getting the planters to prepare and superintend the preparation of coffee suitable for the English market.

14118. Did you reside principally in the country at Brazil?—In Rio Janeiro, and part of the time in the coffee district, about 10 miles off.

14119. The object you had in going to Brazil was, to see whether the cultivation of coffee could be increased and improved there, so as to render it a profitable article of import to this country?—No: I went simply with the intention of purchasing a few cargoes of coffee to bring to England, in the year 1839, in consequence of the very inadequate supply from the British colonies, and then to return; but when I arrived there I found that such coffee as I wanted could not be bought; that it was not prepared in the right manner. Though I expected to get out of a crop of 80,000 tons a reasonable quantity of coffee for England, it was not perhaps more than 20 tons.

14120. Upon that did you return to this country or continue in Brazil?—I continued there; and believing it could be accomplished, and that the prices would remain high for some years, I persuaded several planters to adopt the West Indian mode of preparation.

14121. What was the result?—The result was very satisfactory. When a few had done it, many others were very willing to follow, so that in the course of, I think, the year 1845, the import had amounted to about 4,000 tons of coffee, suitable for consumption in England.

14122. Does coffee form a very material article of production in the Brazils?—The most material by far.

14123. A considerable proportion of the capital in Brazil is invested in coffee plantations?—Yes, and in the slaves.

14124. Is there a larger amount of slave labour employed in the production of coffee or sugar?—I am not quite certain about that, but I should think in coffee.

14125. Is it usual that the parties who invest their capital in coffee plantations are also engaged in the production of sugar?—Not usually; there are some instances of it, but it is not usual. For the most part, in the districts where coffee is best grown, there are no lands suitable for sugar.

14126. You view the coffee planters as being the most influential class in the Brazilian empire?—The most influential, certainly. The coffee plantations are almost entirely in the province where the capital is situated; the sugar district is to the north.

14127. Are

14127. Are many of those gentlemen engaged in coffee planting engaged also in the affairs of government?—Yes.

14128. As a body, are they satisfied with our legislation in reference to coffee?—Not at all.

14129. What is their cause of dissatisfaction?—They complain that though such an immense amount of British manufactures is taken by Brazil from England, we take in return so very small a quantity of their produce; they consider themselves very unfairly treated.

14130. What proportion do the exports from England to Brazil bear to the exports from Brazil to England?—I should think about one-fifth, as nearly as I can tell without documents. There is a very great disproportion.

14131. That is to say, we export five times to Brazil what we receive from it?—I should think we do.

14132. Can you assign any reason to the Committee for that great disproportion in the balance of trade between the two countries?—The reason has been clear enough, that both sugar and coffee have been almost entirely excluded by us. We shall now, with the arrangements for sugar, no doubt approximate more nearly, but still the sugar cannot supply the whole of the deficiency.

14133. Has there been any large quantity of sugar exported from Brazil to this country, in consequence of the admission of slave sugar in 1846?—I am not aware that any large quantity of Brazilian sugar has been actually used by grocers; but it has been admitted for several years under bond for refining. Indeed, before the Act of 1846 there was a vast deal passed through the refiners' hands for re-exportation.

14134. Do you think that the production of sugar has been largely stimulated in Brazil by the legislation in 1846 in reference to sugar?—No; I came through Bahia and Pernambuco at the end of September 1846; indeed I was in Bahia the day the news arrived from England of the passing of the Act, and they were then getting the largest crop which has ever been known in Brazil, so that it could not influence that crop.

14135. Are you able to give the Committee any information as to what has occurred subsequently to that, in reference to the production of sugar?—No.

14136. Your practical knowledge in Brazil is confined to coffee?—Yes.

14137. When you were in Bahia, was there any advance in the price, in consequence of the news of the permission to bring slave sugar to this country?—Yes.

14138. To what extent?—It was not much; sugar was already very high then; there was some small advance. It was one of those things which take place because people at the moment think it may be a good thing; but there was not room for a great advance.

14139. Can you give the Committee any information regarding the cost of labour in Brazil; what is the annual value of the labour of slaves?—There are a great many people in Rio Janeiro and other parts of the country who let blacks for hire; for those, if they let them for agricultural purposes in large numbers to people, they reckon they get 10 millreas a month, that is about 2*s.* 6*d.*

14140. The current value of slaves for hire is 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per month?—That is the lowest rate. The rate at which they are let for other purposes than agriculture; for instance, there are now employed in my store at Rio Janeiro some to whom we give 12 millreas. That is the ordinary rate when they are let out for anything except agricultural purposes.

14141. It appears, according to this statement, that the price of slaves for agricultural purposes is lower than for other uses?—Yes.

14142. Why is that?—It is a more uniform occupation; there is not so much straining of the system; they are in a more healthy atmosphere, and they are not so hardly used.

14143. In stating so considerable a difference in the value of labour, will you state to the Committee what causes that difference?—The difference is because being on an estate is an easier and more healthy occupation. The black will live longer than if he is put to all kinds of porter's work.

14144. What is the price of the hire of slaves for mining operations?—I do not know. The mining companies have generally bought all their slaves, excepting since the Act of Parliament which forbade Englishmen purchasing slaves, since which they have hired them for 50 years, or something of that kind.

14145. The Act does not limit the period for which the slave may be hired?—

Mr. R. Farrer.

29 March 1848.

I am speaking of the English Act, passed three or four years ago, which forbids all Englishmen from purchasing any additional slaves.

14146. And that Act is evaded by the English in Brazil hiring their slaves for 50 years?—It is evaded by anybody who works slaves in Brazil in that way. They pay a certain sum to have the use of the black men for a certain number of years; 50 years was the time specified.

14147. Does this price of hire include the food of the slave?—The hirer pays the food of the slave.

14148. That is to be taken in addition?—Yes.

14149. What cost does it take to maintain a slave?—To maintain a slave with food, taking a number of them together, (for instance, an average of 70, including clothes, food, medicines, and so on,) costs 5*d.* a day.

14150. How many days in a month do they work?—We reckon 26 days a month.

14151. You reckon six days in the week?—Yes.

14152. The Sunday is respected in Brazil, is it?—They are never expected to work for their master on the Sabbath.

14153. The average price of labour per diem for a slave in Brazil, according to that calculation, would be about 1*s.* 4½*d.* per diem, averaging agricultural with in-door labour?—Just about that where they are hired.

14154. That you would state as a fair estimate of the average cost of healthy slaves in Brazil?—Yes; the 5*d.* which I have given is what it actually costs upon the estate of a friend of mine, who has 70 blacks, and that is the result of his yearly expenditure as I have in my book, taken three or four years ago.

14155. How many hours a day do those people work?—They will work from daylight till nearly dark, having about half an hour to breakfast, and perhaps an hour to dinner.

14156. Do you estimate that they work for 10 hours in a day?—Thereabouts.

14157. It is 10 hours continuous labour?—Yes, except for meals.

14158. During your residence in Brazil how many instances come within your cognizance of the slave working for a very much longer period than that?—There are cases in which the proprietor works him for special purposes in the evening, but that is not a constant thing. We will suppose he is on a coffee estate, they have their troop of mules coming from the city; there are troops of mules constantly passing to and fro between their estates and the city with the coffee, and they always have cargoes ready for them when they arrive, but if they have not got sufficient coffee milled and picked at the time, they pretty frequently on some estates have to prepare it in the evening after the field work is done.

14159. That occurs only at one season of the year, does it?—Principally at the gathering time.

14160. At other times the custom is to work the slaves not more than 10 hours a day?—I am not aware that generally they are worked more than that.

14161. As far as your experience goes, are the slaves willing labourers, or do they require the coercion of the lash?—They are very seldom whipped.

14162. Whipping is a thing very unusual?—It is. The overseer is there with them, but in most cases there is very little use of the whip; nothing at all has occurred within my knowledge, and I have been to a great many estates in Brazil, like the accounts I have seen of the West Indies.

14163. Your impression is that it is not a very severe day's labour which a slave ordinarily performs?—I should think not.

14164. Not more than, considering the difference of climate, an English agricultural labourer performs?—I do not think there is any hardship about it if a man is to labour at all.

14165. Is there a plentiful supply of labour at the present time in Brazil?—The people are always short. They could always do with more than they have.

14166. Is it your impression that the Brazilian planters are a wealthy body?—Some of them undoubtedly have considerable wealth, but the bulk of them are considerably in debt for the slaves which they have bought. They have always been under a kind of apprehension that the time would come, and they could not tell how soon, when the importation might stop, and this has kept floating on until a kind of anxiety rests upon their minds and induces them to try and get as many as they can.

14167. In consequence of that many of them are in debt for the value of their slaves?—Yes.

14168. Would

14168. Would you say that there were more in debt than there were free from debt?—Yes.

14169. What is the rate of interest in Brazil?—It varies from 12 to 24 and sometimes 30 per cent. ; 24 per cent. is frequently paid.

14170. What is the current rate of interest a planter pays who gets advances upon his slaves on his estates?—There is no current rate ; so much depends upon the man himself.

14171. What is the rate of interest usually paid ; you have stated that the planters are many of them in debt?—It will rarely be less than 12 per cent. I should think, as far as I have heard, that in reference to money advanced upon blacks, it will be 1½ per cent. per month very frequently, and frequently, but perhaps not so frequently, it may be two per cent., which is equivalent to 24 per cent. per annum.

14172. In the case of the 1½ per cent. per month is it required that it should be paid monthly?—It is reckoned to be paid every three months.

14173. If that is not done is it generally carried to the capital account?—That is very frequently the case.

14174. So that it is interest paid upon interest?—Yes.

14175. What is the average price of slaves in the Brazils?—When I left it was, and had been for some time, about 500 millreas, which is about 60*l.* sterling, for a good black ; good blacks who have been at work, and have obtained good characters, would sell, according to their qualifications, for perhaps 600 or 700 or 800 millreas ; 500 is about the average market price.

14176. What is the price of imported slaves?—They, perhaps, would be about 10*l.* less.

14177. What proportion do the male slaves bear to the female slaves in the Brazils?—There are much fewer female slaves than males.

14178. Do you consider the slave population in the Brazils to be on the increase or decrease?—I should think, from the births, they are not on the increase. I should think the increase would be from importation, but not much from any source.

14179. During the year you were in the Brazils what was the average importation of slaves?—I do not know.

14180. There was no means of getting any accurate return?—No ; we did hear statements made, but they were conjectures.

14181. Have you ever seen one of those slave ships upon its arrival?—I was not on board when the slaves were on board, but I have seen vessels in the bay.

14182. Do you think them very fit for passenger vessels?—Certainly not. There was a little thing came in one day which had several hundreds in her ; she was not as long as this room ; they were in a shocking condition.

14183. You have seen the slaves shortly after their landing?—Yes.

14184. What sort of condition are they in?—I have seen them in an excellent condition, as fat and flourishing as they could be after a favourable voyage, but others you would think probably could not live.

14185. Generally do they arrive in a tolerably good condition?—Latterly they have not done so ; but we do not see much of them, they are landed at the out-ports ; those we have seen generally are those who have been taken by the cruisers.

14186. Their sufferings are somewhat aggravated?—Those taken by cruisers are not the slaves that arrive in the best condition. The English do not understand managing them half so well as the Portuguese do at sea.

14187. Is it your impression that the import of slaves is on the increase in the Brazils?—I do not know ; I should think it is very likely, from the feeling that was prevailing when I left the Brazils.

14188. Mr. *Villiers.*] What do you mean by the feeling that prevailed?—People seemed then resolved to get as many slaves as they could.

14189. For what purpose?—For the purpose of working still more land.

14190. For coffee?—Coffee and sugar ; there are a great many other cultivations besides sugar and coffee.

14191. Is there a general want of labour?—Yes.

14192. Mr. *Meffatt.*] Is there any free labour employed in the Brazils?—It is almost entirely slave labour.

14193. Is it your opinion that free labour might be advantageously employed, seeing slave labour is so costly?—I should think it might.

Mr. R. Farrer.

29 March 1848.

14194. Can you explain how it is that it is not so used?—I suppose it is because they have got the blacks.

14195. They do not appear to get enough labour from the blacks?—In a country where there is a black population, whites will not go and be occupied in the same menial way. They have taken from Germany several thousands of poor people, but they are obliged to keep them in separate districts altogether from where the blacks are.

14196. Did they find that speculation to answer?—I do not think they did.

14197. What proportion of the population is slave, and what is free?—I do not know.

14198. The slave population bears a very large proportion, does not it?—It must preponderate immensely.

14199. Are you able to inform the Committee whether the production of coffee is profitable in the Brazils?—Looking at coffee in the abstract, as we as Englishmen should look at money invested with a view to a return, I should say it was very unprofitable, but those Brazilians do not enter upon it with that view at all; they get land and they get blacks because they wish to have an estate and to make themselves, as far as they can, independent men, and men of consequence. They reckon upon cultivating an estate, so as to find food and everything requisite for themselves and the blacks in the first instance from the estate, and that they shall have nothing to buy except clothing for themselves and the blacks, and some other trifling articles; and for all those things, and for the payment of interest for their own money and upon the money they borrow, they reckon upon coffee or something of that sort. The Brazilians are an indolent sort of people, and they are perfectly content if they can manage that.

14200. They feel no great desire for the acquisition of large properties?—Their desire is not so strong as to render them particularly industrious about it.

14201. Can you state the result of the production of coffee in any year on various estates?—The first I have upon the paper before me is the best coffee estate in the Brazils, though not the largest; the investment, including blacks and land, is about 7,200*l.* sterling; the best production they ever had, and they are never likely to have such another, yielded them 1,860*l.*

14202. That was sold in the market at Rio Janeiro?—I bought it.

14203. Did that leave a very large profit?—The expenses of the estate and the keep of the blacks would be about 460*l.*; the interest upon the blacks would be, reckoning it upon that kind of property at 20 per cent., which is customary for advances upon blacks, about 778*l.*; the land is not mortgaged; if it were mortgaged, the interest would be 10 or 12 per cent., that would be about 400*l.*; the interest and the expenses would make 1,638*l.*; the produce was 1,860*l.*; so that there was 222*l.* left for profit, out of which they would have to maintain the family if they had not a large interest to receive for themselves, and that is the best estate in the Brazils.

14204. In an unusually prosperous year?—Yes.

14205. Can you give the result of any other instances?—The next estate I have is an estate in which 3,300*l.* is invested; the coffee produced 530*l.*, the expenses were 250*l.*, leaving 180*l.* for the keep of the family, and to pay interest upon that 3,300*l.*; there is a dead loss upon that estate. The next I have is an investment of 10,000*l.*; the result is that they have 790*l.* to keep the family and to pay interest upon 10,000*l.*; that also is a loss. Those are estates which I know, and from which I have bought the coffee.

14206. What year do you refer to?—1845; I am not sure whether one or two of them may not be 1846, but they are about that time. The next case I have here is one for two years together, 1845 and 1846; in 1845 the produce was 63 tons, and the next year it only produced 29 tons.

14207. What is the result of the average?—The outlay upon that estate was 10,600*l.* I know all the particulars of the property; the loss was 170*l.*; the owner had to keep himself out of some other means.

14208. Are the planters expensive in their habits in Brazil?—Not at all; they are remarkably frugal and very abstemious; they spend nothing scarcely, except now and then on festival days, and that is in a rough sort of way.

14209. To what do you attribute their willingness to go on with the cultivation of coffee with those losses year by year?—There are a great many people who
are

are much better off; but the bulk of them are content to continue existing, and trying to get out of debt.

14210. The result of your experience is, that the production of coffee in the Brazils yields no profit, on the average, to its producers?—No, except in the way of an estate which I have now got here. I have given four estates, which are worked within four or five leagues of Rio Janeiro, where they have to buy their provisions. I have now one which is managed in a different fashion; it produces everything required upon the estate itself; that shows a rather better result.

14211. What is the total investment there?—When I say it will produce a better result, the account I have here does not show a good result, though it is for two years, but it was an improving estate; the man is a clever man, and will ultimately make money of it; he gave for that estate, five years ago, 20,000*l.*; that included the estate itself and 117 blacks of all ages; the first crop he took off was 172 tons; the next was 72 tons; there was a blight that year; the result of those two years is, that he would be a loser to pretty nearly the extent of the carriage to Rio Janeiro, which is 6*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

14212. What is the weight of an arroba?—Three and a half arrobas make one cwt. I made this account when I was there in the summer of 1846; the trees were then loaded so prodigiously that he would make money by it that year; he would keep all his people from the estate, and he would sell enough coffee to maintain his family and to pay his interest, and perhaps get back a return for the loss of the previous years; upon the whole, however, it is a most unprofitable speculation.

14213. With all those circumstances of the high price of labour in Brazil, and the uncertainty of the seasons, do you see any reason why the West Indian planters should not successfully compete with the Brazilian?—I cannot conceive it possible that they should compete with them unless they adopt the same habits which prevail in Brazil, of personal residence, economy, and care. Those people in Brazil eat in a way that would astonish persons who have not seen it.

14214. What kind of food do they eat?—Almost the entire of their food, and that which is most liked too, is black beans and jerked beef, boiled along with a little bacon and some pepper; that is the universal food through Brazil. The most respectable planters all over the country never have, except on some special occasion, wheaten bread; they eat Indian corn flour; so that I cannot see how it is possible that the West Indians can compete with people who live in this fashion, unless they will also live in the same way.

14215. The more expensive mode of living by the West Indian planters you believe to be the chief cause of their being unable to compete successfully with the Brazilian planters?—I should think whatever supply of labour they had in the West Indies, unless they also changed their habits and mode of management, they could not compete; as to the mere rate of wages, I do not know anything about what it is in the West Indies, but I do not consider wages the most important item in the cost of production.

14216. Is it the result of your experience that continuously a larger amount of labour can be obtained from the slave than the 10 hours which he ordinarily gives?—No.

14217. You believe that no compulsion would compel him to work more than that?—No; there is a doggedness about him, which, to use the expression of one of those whose estate I have quoted here, “wears you out.”

14218. Is it your impression that the interference of this country in the slave trade has been beneficial in tending to extinguish it as regards the Brazilians?—Quite the contrary; and I do not give merely my own opinion but that of other persons upon whose judgment in that matter I have greater reliance than upon my own; their opinion is that our interference has prolonged the existence of the trade indefinitely.

14219. Is it the opinion of those gentlemen to whom you refer, that the slave trade would gradually have diminished had not it been for the interference of Great Britain, and other nations who agreed with Great Britain, respecting the slave trade?—There is a great deal of the spirit of opposition about it; they will not be compelled to do a thing, and the Brazilian government at that time went before the people; and therefore the people do not feel themselves bound in honour to carry it out.

14220. The Committee may gather that in your opinion the slave trade cannot

Mr. R. Farrer.

29 March 1848.

not be put down by the means we now adopt for its suppression?—I do not think it can.

14221. Your opinion is that it is now on the increase rather than the decrease in Brazil?—It was when I left.

14222. What is the current opinion in Brazil with reference to the interference of England?—They cannot think that England is sincere.

14223. She spends a large amount of money in her efforts?—Yes; and yet you will find the Brazilians almost universally of opinion that England has some sinister motive; they hear it talked of as a means of making money by naval officers, and so forth; and while they see and hear so much of that it is difficult to persuade them, that there is not something in it more than appears.

14224. When in 1844 we admitted the coffee of Brazil at a lower rate of duty than had previously existed, did that give general satisfaction in Brazil?—Yes; they liked it.

14225. The allegation upon which slave-labour sugar was then excluded was, that coffee planting was very light-labour?—Yes.

14226. Was that generally accepted in Brazil as a good and sufficient reason for excluding sugar?—No. I can remember, perfectly well, the scoffs of the people in Rio Janeiro when that news arrived.

14227. In what proportions would you estimate the labour in the production of coffee and of sugar?—I scarcely know. Sugar is a more disagreeable kind of work.

14228. Is there a greater amount of labour employed in the production of a ton of sugar or a ton of coffee?—A greater amount of labour in the production of a ton of coffee; I should think nearly double.

14229. Therefore the cost of labour in the production of a ton of coffee is much larger than the production of a ton of sugar?—Yes.

14230. The difference is not in so large a ratio as the difference in the value of the article when manufactured?—It is difficult to say.

14231. You estimate the value of a ton of Brazil coffee to be about 25 *l.* in Brazil, do not you?—From 25 *l.* to 30 *l.* a ton. The quality varies very much.

14232. What is the cost of the sugar?—I do not remember.

14233. About 14 *l.* a ton, should you say?—I cannot say.

14234. Are slaves openly bought and sold in the Brazils?—There is not a slave market, but they do it as openly as they do anything else.

14235. It is a legalized transaction?—Yes; it is not legal for anybody to buy new slaves.

14236. What proof do they require of their being old blacks?—They do not require much; they manage all that very nicely.

14237. There is no discredit attached to it?—Not the slightest.

14238. Are there some English planters in the Brazils who have slaves?—Yes.

14239. They have them under 50 years' contracts, have not they?—I only heard of one or two persons in Rio Janeiro having them under 50 years' contracts; the bulk of the English people who are there who have blacks had them before this Act was passed.

14240. Has the cultivation of sugar much increased in Brazil of late?—I do not know what it has done since 1846. In 1846 I believe there was the largest crop they had ever known.

14241. Do you find any difficulty in the Brazilian custom-house?—There is a great deal of difficulty; the custom-house is very large, but the quantities of goods that are sent out, from England principally, are so great that they are puzzled to find room for them often. The captain who brought us a cargo of coffee three months ago has been in the habit of going to Rio Janeiro for 20 years, and he said that he had never in his life seen in Rio Janeiro such a quantity of goods as there were then; he thought there must be enough to last them three or four years.

14242. How are the British goods paid for ordinarily?—They profess to pay in about eight months, but they think themselves very well off if they get the money in a year, and a great many accounts go for two years.

14243. Can you inform the Committee how the slaves are paid for generally when imported?—It is generally understood that a good many of the slaves are paid

paid for with the money that ought to go to pay for the goods. I should think by far the greater number of slaves are sold for credits; there are a great many people in Rio Janeiro who have got money, and they invest 3,000 *l.* or 4,000 *l.* perhaps in blacks, and sell them at three, four, or five years' credit to people who have estates, taking a sort of mortgage and getting a great amount of interest till the principal is paid.

14244. The principal is paid off by gradual liquidation, with a very heavy rate of interest?—Yes.

14245. Have you in the course of your experience in Brazil found any difficulty in consequence of the Navigation Laws of this country; do they impede your commercial affairs?—To Liverpool, for instance, where I have taken most of the coffee I have shipped, I have had to keep it three or four months before there can be got together, either by myself or other persons in the place, a sufficient quantity to send to Liverpool, from so many qualities being excluded by your duties.

14246. You find, as a dealer, that but a small portion of coffee can be obtained fit for this market; and you find a great obstruction in sending home those coffees, by reason of not being able to send them home in any vessel?—No; not in consequence of not sending in any vessel, but because a sufficient quantity could not be obtained suitable for the English market to fill a vessel.

14247. If you had had the privilege of sending those coffees home in any ship that was leaving for Liverpool, would it not have been a great advantage to you in your business?—If there had been any vessel coming it would have been a great advantage to us to send them; but the nature of the case prevented any foreign vessels taking them on board, any more than English vessels, because there was no cargo to bring. If the duties on coffee were equalized, I could have had plenty; but we could send none but the finest now.

14248. Are you speaking of the old duties or the present ones?—The present duties.

14249. Of the 4*d.* and 6*d.*?—Yes.

14250. You have stated to the Committee that you have not had a sufficient bulk to freight a ship entirely, and that you have been compelled to keep your coffee many months in store; if you had had the privilege of sending your coffee home in a ship of any nation, would not that have been a great advantage to you in your commercial transactions?—Certainly it would; to have had a vessel to bring it of any nation would have suited our purpose.

14251. Are there vessels of other nations frequently there by which you would have had such opportunities, if our Navigation Laws had not intervened?—I do not know; there was no cargo to come, whether in foreign vessels or English vessels; that appears to me the absurdity of the Brazil trade, that we can send a vessel or two every week from Liverpool to Rio Janeiro, but the bulk of those vessels must go to Hamburgh, or Bremen, or Constantinople, anywhere but England, with the return of the funds they have taken out from England.

14252. That evil you do not attribute to the Navigation Laws?—No.

14253. Then there is always an abundance of British tonnage home from Brazil?—There is not a vessel that goes from Liverpool to Rio Janeiro but would like to come back to Liverpool. Where the Navigation Laws interfere with coffee is, that when coffee gets on to the Continent in any vessel, whatever its quality may be, you cannot bring it from there to England.

14254. It would frequently be advantageous to you to have the privilege of sending your choice parcels in a ship going to Hamburgh or Bremen, and then to send it on to Liverpool by another vessel, did not our Navigation Laws intervene?—I do not know that we should go to the expense of that; if we could select from Hamburgh, or could select from Amsterdam, Java coffee, for instance, or in any other continental ports, in the same manner that continental ports can select in England, we should have a much better chance of doing business; there is a great deal of coffee which I have seen lately, which ought to come to England for consumption. The duty being high, we should have the finest we can get.

14255. You believe that upon the general trade of this country the Navigation Laws act very prejudicially?—So far as they affect the article in which I deal, I do not like them.

14256. You believe that they are disadvantageous to you as an extensive trader in coffee in Liverpool?—Yes. I can give instances of that kind from Rio Janeiro; it is so notorious there that the foreign vessels take more care of their

Mr. R. Farrer.
29 March 1848.

cargoes of coffee, that, generally speaking, while there is a foreign vessel that can be chartered to take coffee to any part, she is preferred to an Englishman and we should frequently do the same to England. They take a vast deal more care of their cargoes.

14257. Referring to the question of the customs' regulations in Brazil, is it the case that ships are frequently detained there from there not being room in the bonded stores to admit of the goods being taken in?—Yes.

14258. That is a frequent occurrence?—Yes.

14259. And those ships so detained are generally ships with cargoes from Great Britain?—With cargoes principally of bale goods.

14260. They will not extend their building accommodation for the storing of goods?—They have extended them from time to time, but when there come in a great number of vessels altogether it is a very awkward thing to know what to do with them; sometimes in Rio Janerio you will have 20 vessels a day come in.

14261. Can you inform the Committee whether at the present time, or according to your most recent advices, many ships are lying with cargoes on board, being, as it were, floating warehouses?—I do not know; I have known a great many vessels lie a week or three weeks before they could get their cargoes discharged.

14262. Before there was room in the bonded stores to store their cargoes?—Yes.

14263. How is the revenue of Brazil raised?—It is principally raised by fixed duties.

14264. What is the per-centage imposed upon British goods?—It varies a great deal according to the sort of goods.

14265. Upon cotton goods?—I do not remember.

14266. Is there any export duty upon their produce?—Yes, upon coffee there is a duty of 11 per cent.; upon sugar it is seven per cent. In January next the English goods are to be made one-third more than the goods of those countries in which Brazilian goods are received for consumption.

14267. They are received for consumption in this country?—I mean upon favourable terms; for instance, in America they have no duty upon coffee at all.

14268. Is there a large export of sugar from Brazil to the United States?—I believe not.

14269. Have you any further information to give to the Committee?—No.

14270. Mr. Wilson.] Is not it the fact that that contemplated advance in the duties upon English goods has reference to a law which was passed in 1846, giving to our Court of Admiralty a jurisdiction over the Brazilian slavers?—I am not aware that that was the reason why the law was passed.

14271. Are not you cognizant that that was stated as the reason in the House of Assembly?—I am not. I know the law you speak of has given them great umbrage.

14272. Were you there when the news came out?—Yes.

14273. Did it excite great indignation?—Yes.

14274. Was it an indignation in which the government went along with the people?—I am not aware of that, but I have no doubt of it.

14275. Are you aware that there was a commission sitting at the time for the purpose of making a commercial treaty with England?—I do not know.

14276. Do you remember that that commission was broken up in consequence of it?—I am not certain in my recollection about it.

Jovis, 30^o die Martii, 1848.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Lord George Bentinck.	Mr. Matheson.
Sir Edward Buxton.	Mr. Miles.
Mr. Cardwell.	Mr. Moffatt.
Mr. Milner Gibson.	Mr. Villiers.
Mr. Goulburn.	Mr. Wilson.
Mr. Hope.	

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK, IN THE CHAIR.

Robert Christian, Esq., called in ; and Examined.

14277. *Chairman.*] YOU are very largely interested in the island of Ceylon? *R. Christian, Esq.*
—I was, rather.

14278. And you have been personally intimately acquainted with it for some years?—I resided there for about six years. *30 March 1848.*

14279. You are a partner in the firm of A. and R. Crowe & Company, in Colombo?—Yes.

14280. And Alexander Crowe & Company, in London?—The corresponding firm.

14281. Some years ago you made large purchases of land in the island of Ceylon, did you not?—Between the years 1838 and 1844 we purchased in all nearly 30,000 acres; it was purchased from the government, and cost about 6*s.* an acre upon an average, including the surveying charges. We have sold a great part of that; we retain a very small portion now of that land.

14282. The government afterwards increased the upset price of their lands from 6*s.* to a minimum of 1*l.* an acre?—Yes.

14283. Which immediately raised the value of land in the island, of course?—Yes, the previous purchases.

14284. And you availed yourself of that opportunity to sell off a considerable portion of your first purchase?—By far the greater portion.

14285. Can you state what extent of land you now hold in Ceylon?—I cannot state the exact quantity we hold, but including waste land, I do not think we hold 5,000 acres altogether. When I say we hold it, we are only co-proprietors of some estates; I mean that we are interested in about that quantity in some way, rather than the actual owners of it.

14286. Can you state to the Committee what your inducements were at the period you speak of to plant coffee in Ceylon?—I perhaps should first state, that when I left Ceylon we were interested in 21 different estates altogether, but now we retain only an interest, either as agents or proprietors, in six of those.

14287. It takes five years, does not it, for a coffee tree to arrive at full maturity, and three years before it bears fruit at all?—It does.

14288. You reckon that a coffee plant wears out in about 20 years?—That is rather uncertain, because Ceylon is not a sufficiently old colony as regards coffee planting to know from experience there; but from the best information we have obtained, that may be assumed as the average.

14289. It is not sufficient to plant a coffee tree and leave it to grow, prior to its bearing fruit, but it is necessary to weed and take care of it?—That is one of the great expenses of a coffee estate.

14290. Before you get any return at all there is a constant annual expenditure for three years?—Yes.

14291. Is not it the fact that the weeds and the jungle are of such quick and rank growth in that climate that if left to themselves the jungle would grow up and

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

and smother the coffee tree in about a month?—I do not know that in a month it would produce that effect; the longer the jungle was left uncut the trees would be deteriorated very rapidly, much more rapidly than a person who has not resided in the country would suppose; creeping plants twine round the coffee plant, and destroy it. Those lands which were cultivated with coffee were all in a state of forest and jungle when purchased from the Government, and there was a great expense in cutting it down. The remains of the trees and shrubs require constant grubbing up; the roots throw out shoots again.

14292. Were you able to plant the same year that you cleared the lands?—I think the general calculation was that if they were able to cut down the forest and jungle, collect it into heaps and burn it in the dry season, about January or February, they could plant in the next rainy season, in June.

14293. Will you state to the Committee what were the inducements which caused the firms with which you were concerned to embark in coffee cultivation?—It was about 1837 when we first embarked; the inducements were in a great measure the falling off of the production of coffee in the West India islands, and the large protective duty which British plantation coffee then enjoyed; and the high price of course, consequent upon those circumstances.

14294. It was the high price of coffee brought about by the reduction of the cultivation of coffee in the West Indies consequent upon emancipation, was it?—I presume it was consequent upon emancipation.

14295. And the high protective duty, the continuance of which you calculated on?—We generally calculated upon it.

14296. What was the protective duty which you enjoyed in 1837, when you embarked your capital?—Up to the year 1842, after Ceylon was put upon the same footing as the other colonies, the duties were upon colonial coffee 6*d.*; on what was called East India coffee, 9*d.*; and on foreign coffee, 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb.

14297. Did you rank as East India coffee?—We ranked as colonial coffee, at 6*d.*; East India coffee was supposed to be coffee imported from any part of the East India Company's possessions; the duty was altered in 1842 to 4*d.* on colonial, and 8*d.* on all foreign coffee from whatever port it came; the last alteration was in 1844, when the duty on colonial coffee was left at 4*d.* and on foreign coffee was reduced to 6*d.*

14298. Though the duty on foreign coffee was reduced from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 8*d.* in 1842, apparently reducing your protection of 9*d.*, you esteemed, practically, that it was no such thing, inasmuch as advantage was taken of the wording of the Act of Parliament to bring Brazilian coffee round by the Cape of Good Hope, and entitle it to come in at 9*d.* duty?—There was a great quantity of foreign coffee, I think chiefly Rio Janeiro, but I not sure of what description, landed at the Cape, and from the Cape imported as coffee the produce of India, which really reduced the protective duty to little more than 3*d.* a lb. They had extra expense, of course, in landing at the Cape; they had to pay double freight and a little more insurance.

14299. The freight would not exceed half-a-farthing, would it?—I do not know what all the extra charges amounted to by that evasion, but I should think a halfpenny covered the whole freight and other charges.

14300. A half farthing would be equal to about 20*s.* per ton for the extra freight?—The whole of the coffee had to be taken out of the ship, and landed at the Cape, and probably there would be some commissions and port-charges at the Cape. I have not made any calculation as to what it is, but I think it is very likely the whole extra freights and charges would be about a halfpenny per lb.

14301. In point of fact, a fraud was committed upon the spirit of the Act, of which the wording was, "coffee imported from British plantations;" the words, "British plantation growth" being omitted?—I believe it was the omission of the word "growth" or "produce" in the Act, which enabled it to be so imported. I cannot positively state how the evasion was managed.

14302. The spirit and intention of the Act was defeated for want of that trifling amendment?—That was the interpretation which the colonists put upon it.

14303. The colonists remonstrated, did not they?—I think they did.

14304. Practically you considered yourselves, after the Act of 1842, in as good

good a position as you were before?—Fully in as good a position, as regarded the duty. R. Christian, Esq.

14305. What was the price you got for your coffee in 1842?—I have a statement of the price of native Ceylon coffee in March, from 1838 to 1848. The coffee of native growth is not so good as that grown by Europeans, but it is a more correct indication of the general price in this market, being of a more uniform quality. In 1842 I find that the coffee was worth about 78*s.*; in 1838 it was about 80*s.*; in 1839 about 102*s.*; in 1840 it was 99*s.*; in 1841 it had fallen to 61*s.*; in 1842 it rose to 78*s.*; in 1843 it was at 55*s.*; in the early part of 1844, up to March, it was at 68*s.*; it fell in that year, about the months of May and June, to 50*s.*

30 March 1848.

14306. That was after the reduction of duty?—Yes; after the reduction of duty on foreign coffee from 8*d.* to 6*d.* in 1845 it fell to 46*s.*; in 1846 it also was about 46*s.*; in 1847 it was at 43*s.*; and at the present time it is worth about 32*s.*

14307. At 32*s.* does it pay the cost of production?—That coffee is grown by the natives, so that is very difficult to know whether it pays or not; but I should think, judging from the small portion of the price which goes to them, it does not pay.

14308. In consequence of those very high prices which prevailed in 1838, 1839, and 1841, there was a very large capital invested in the cultivation of coffee in Ceylon?—There was; and I may also state, that as an inducement, every facility was given by the local government of Ceylon to the planters; every possible encouragement was held out to purchase land from the government and to invest capital in cultivating coffee or any other produce.

14309. The coffee lands were exempted from any land-tax, were not they?—There was no land-tax except on the cultivation of rice; but various promises of making roads and other improvements in the country were given to the planters, and in fact the governors of the island themselves were among the first growers of coffee; the secretaries to the governor, all the government agents, and many of the judges, the archdeacon and a number of the clergy; in fact, everybody in Ceylon purchased land at the time and began growing coffee. The late archdeacon was one of the largest growers of coffee in the island.

14310. If the prices had continued what they were some years past it would have been a most profitable speculation?—It would have been very profitable if prices had remained at what they were from 1838 to 1844. The amount of capital expended in cultivation I have no means of ascertaining, further than a mere estimate. I have seen various estimates, making it from two and a half to three millions sterling invested in coffee plantations in Ceylon. Those figures must be considered as very uncertain.

14311. You know what you invested yourselves, and what amount of coffee you grew, and you may probably derive some sort of conclusion from that knowledge?—I know the amount that passed through the books of our house, and from that I estimate the total sum invested in Ceylon at about 3,000,000 sterling.

14312. Can you state what the consequent increase in the production of the island of Ceylon was?—I find that in the year 1838, about which time there was scarcely any European coffee grown, the natives sent home 2,500 tons of coffee from Ceylon. The production of the last crop which has been received in this country, the crop of 1846 and 1847, consisted of 7,173 tons grown by the natives; and 5,309 tons the produce of European cultivation; making together 12,482 tons. I have a statement of the imports of coffee from Ceylon to this country, but that does not show the whole crop; this statement gives the importation of Ceylon coffee to the port of London, to which the great bulk of the crop always comes, from 1838 to 1847; it shows a gradual increase. In 1838 the exact quantity received in London was 2,426 tons; the next year, 1839, it was less, 1,852 tons; in 1840 it was 3,969 tons; in 1841, 3,175 tons; in 1842, 5,144 tons; in 1843, 4,471 tons; in 1844, 6,941 tons; in 1845, 7,595 tons; in 1846, 8,819 tons; and in 1847, 11,275 tons. The difference between 11,275 and 12,482, which I stated, is coffee sent to Liverpool and to the Mauritius.

14313. The consumption of Ceylon coffee in England is not equal to the production of Ceylon?—It is not; the consumption in 1847 of Ceylon coffee was between 9,500 and 10,000 tons; I cannot state it exactly, because the published accounts of the Board of Trade do not distinguish between Ceylon coffee and West Indian coffee, so that the consumption can only be contrasted between

R. Christian, Esq.
30 March 1848.

British-grown coffee and foreign coffee, but I believe the proportion of Ceylon coffee was about 10,000 tons in 1847.

14314. The total consumption of coffee of British possessions in 1847 was 27,000,000 lbs. ?—I have it converted into tons. The consumption of British coffee was 12,067 tons; of foreign coffee, 4,610 tons; making the total consumption of Great Britain 16,677 tons.

14315. The British possessions do not grow coffee quite sufficient for the consumption of the country ?—I observe that in 1847 the importation of British-grown coffee was 15,285 tons, the consumption being 16,677 tons.

14316. Therefore you argue that if you had never been interfered with by foreign coffee the market would not now have been glutted as it now is with more coffee than the country can consume ?—The admission of foreign coffee at a lower duty in 1844, no doubt encouraged the consumption of it in this country. I think that the excess of production of Ceylon coffee over the consumption, when we still have a protecting duty, arises from the difference in the quality of the coffees which are required in this country from the quality we chiefly produce. I think the consumption of this country is, in a great measure, of the better classes of coffee.

14317. And the Ceylon coffee is not so ?—All Ceylon coffee is not of the better kinds, nor is all the coffee of any other country, but I think the best sorts of coffee of all growths are taken for consumption in this country.

14318. The foreign coffee of a superior quality is that which is taken for consumption in this country, while all the Ceylon coffee comes here ?—Almost all.

14319. Can you state what the crop and the expenditure on a coffee estate, favourably situated, would be in Ceylon ?—I have no objection to hand in a statement which was prepared some time ago, not for production here, but for the information of the proprietors of the estate. The only part of the statement which I omit is the name of the property, not that individually I wish it kept back, but our firm has only a very small share as proprietors in it, and the other proprietors might not wish the name of the estate to be published. The extent of that cultivation is about 650 or 700 acres; 700 acres were planted, but they have partly gone out of cultivation, from various causes. The cost on the 1st of January 1846 was 27,651*l.*; the crop of 1846–47 was collected at an expense, including the salaries of all superintendents and all the expenses for stores for that year, of 6,608*l.* As the produce is realized in London, of course the exchange is to be added to it to compare the cost to the London proprietor with the price he gets here; adding 357*l.* for the loss of the exchange, that makes the expenditure 6,966*l.* The crop of that year was 4,314 cwt. of coffee. Dividing the cost by the number of cwts. it gives a cost, on board ship, of 32*s.* 3*d.* Before that can be sold there are charges paid in London of freight, and insurance, and dock rates, brokerage, petty expenses, the commission of 2½ per cent., which is the usual merchants' commission, the allowance for loss in weight, and the allowances paid by custom to the buyer of the coffee; all those charges amount to 12*s.* 4*d.*, which makes the cost 44*s.* 7*d.* To that I add, for interest upon capital invested, five per cent., and five per cent. also for depreciation of the property, as a coffee estate only lasts a certain number of years.

14320. Fifteen years in full bearing ?—It is very uncertain how many years it may be; it may be less than 15, or it may be more.

14321. That is the general estimate, is not it ?—The general estimate is, I think, about that time.

14322. But the expenditure goes on for a period of between three and five years without any return ?—It does; that I consider as capital invested in the property; five per cent. interest on capital of 27,651*l.*, the interest on capital and five per cent. depreciation amount to 12*s.* 9*d.* per cwt., making the cost here 57*s.* 4*d.* of that coffee.

14323. When the trees are worn out you give up the plantation, do not you, and begin afresh upon new ground ?—I have no doubt it will be so; it has never been so yet, because the plantations having been commenced so recently I cannot say; but from seeing coffee plantations which have been abandoned from the want of capital and unsuitable soil, I should say it would be as expensive to plant an old piece of ground as to take in fresh. The coffee sold in London for 45*s.* 6*d.* the cost being 57*s.* 4*d.*, that leaves a loss of 11*s.* 10*d.* per cwt. Upon this individual

vidual crop that would be a loss of 2,552 *l.* It appears by this statement that it is just the interest upon capital and the depreciation of property which is lost. R. Christian, Esq.

14324. The whole of the property is lost?—If it went on in this way the best plan would be to abandon the property. I find the preceding crop on that property sold at an average gross price of 51 *s.* 10 *d.*, and realized net 6,693 *l.*; the expenditure of that year was 8,755 *l.*, of which some part would consist of buildings and roads, so that it is not fair to compare those two amounts as the cost of that individual crop. The amount which I state is what the crop sold for here, deducting the London charges; I contrast that with 8,755 *l.*, the expense of collecting that crop, which realized 6,693 *l.* I consider the crop I have now named was the first crop that could fairly be taken as showing the cost of collecting a crop and what it realized. 30 March 1848.

14325. With respect to the roads, are not they much more perishable in Ceylon than they are in this country, as buildings in those tropical climates are more perishable than they are here; there come tremendous rains, do not there, which destroy the roads very rapidly in Ceylon?—Both roads and buildings suffer more from climate a great deal than in this country.

14326. You have been speaking of properties favourably situated as to locality; your plantations are near the great roads and not so far removed from the sea, and they are also favourably situated from the circumstance that they are not burthened with debts as a great portion of the estates in Ceylon are?—They are not, nor has any interest except 5 per cent. ever been charged. I stated the 5 per cent. interest and 5 per cent. for depreciation separately, that the Committee may form their own opinion as to whether a proprietor is entitled to 5 per cent. or 10 per cent. As regards roads, the estate is more favourably situated, I think, than any other except one or two in the same locality. It is on the range of hills nearest Colombo, the shipping port. All the coffee estates are situated in the interior at a distance, the nearest of them about 60 miles, the furthest, probably, from 120 to 150 miles from the shipping port of Colombo; of course, the cost of carriage is very much enhanced for those at a greater distance.

14327. The island is about 400 miles long and 300 broad, is not it?—The breadth is only, I think, about 160 miles.

14328. Will you state the particulars of the charges, which amount to 12 *s.* 4 *d.*?—The freight at five guineas comes to 5 *s.* 10 *d.*; insurance 2 *s.* 1 *d.*; dock charges in London 1 *s.* 3 *d.*; sale expenses and petty charges 4 *d.*; commission, brokerage, fire insurance, and discount to buyer, 1 *s.* 10 *d.*; and the loss in weight, which always occurs, 1 *s.*; making 12 *s.* 4 *d.*

14329. The ordinary rate of interest, I believe, in Ceylon is 10 per cent. for money lent on mortgage?—The interest varies from 7 to 10 per cent. I do not think the coffee planter could borrow money in Ceylon, nor could he borrow it here, upon the security of his coffee estates, just now, at less than 10 per cent.

14330. Nor at any other per centage probably?—Not from a party who was acquainted with the state of matters in Ceylon, I think.

14331. Your charges assume that the cultivation is kept up to its full and proper extent?—Yes; that is an important point with reference to the statement I have given in. It could easily be shown that coffee could be shipped from Ceylon at a much lower price than this, but then the party would have gone to no other expense than to collect his crop, and in the course of a year or two, from weeds and other causes, the estate would be valueless. There is a great expense constantly in pruning the trees and keeping them up.

14332. Have you any calculation to show what, at the same rate, the gross loss upon the crop of the island would be?—Any calculation of that kind must be very general, but I think that where the estates are not so well off for roads or labour as the one in question, and when the planter has to pay the colonial interest for his money, it cannot be assumed that the last crop was collected at a less loss than 15 *s.* a cwt. to the planter, or 15 *l.* a ton.

14333. That would be upon 12,842 tons?—Yes, which would be 187,000 *l.*; that includes the native crop, assuming that the native also loses by his crop. The average price of plantation coffee is now, I should think, about 44 *s.* in London; the gross price. Some planters, who have a small crop and are able to collect it slowly, sometimes manage, with great care, to send home a small portion that fetches a higher price, and some of the estates, from some causes I am not aware of, send home coffee which realizes perhaps 55 *s.* to 60 *s.*; but the whole amount of that coffee must be very small.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14334. Have the effects of this disastrous fall in the price of your produce caused the failure of a great many Ceylon firms?—It has caused the failure of several firms in London connected with Ceylon, and it has, no doubt, partly caused the failure of some other East India houses who were interested in Ceylon; they were corresponding houses of firms in Ceylon as well as in the Mauritius.

14335. Can you state which of the houses which have failed were connected with Ceylon in any way?—Cockerell, Larpent & Co. were connected with Ceylon, not largely, I think; Scott, Bell & Co. were also connected with Ceylon; there were also the firms of Boyds & Thomas, and of Lawrence Phillips & Sons, more immediately connected with Ceylon than the other two I have named; Hudson Chandler & Co., who also recently failed, were established in Ceylon. The following is an extract from the Ceylon paper, with respect to their affairs: "Messrs. Hudson, Chandler & Co.—A meeting of the creditors of the above firm was convened by circular to meet at their office on the 13th instant, to take into consideration the state of their affairs, and to adopt such measures as might appear most conducive to the benefit of the concerned; H. Ritchie, esq., in the chair. The statement of liabilities and assets, which was read to the meeting, showed (after the insertion of a previous omission) the following result: Total amount of liabilities, 218,840*l.*; total amount of assets, 229,620*l.*; surplus assets, 10,780*l.* The amount of assets, it appeared, was based upon the calculation that the many large and valuable properties belonging to the firm would realize their cost, or thereabouts. The proposition that the affairs of the concerned should be wound up, under trust, was very generally supported; but requiring to be unanimous, was overruled by the opposition of one or two creditors, and recourse to the insolvent court now appears inevitable. It is found that owing to the present state of depreciation of property in Ceylon, aggravated as it will be by such an extent of property being thrown into the market, that the assets will, in place of showing a surplus, fall far short of the liabilities."

14336. Were they connected with coffee estates?—They were largely connected with coffee planting.

14337. Coffee planting has become the great staple production of Ceylon, has it not?—Yes.

14338. Is it principally the fall in the price of their produce which has caused them to fail?—I presume chiefly the fall in the price of produce; but as I know nothing of the affairs of the firm further than I see in the paper, I cannot speak very positively.

14339. In proportion as the cultivation of Ceylon progressed did the export of British manufactures to Ceylon increase?—I find that the exports from England of cotton goods did increase from the year 1838, in which they amounted to 45,000*l.*, up to the year 1845, when they had increased to 130,000*l.* In the last two years, 1846 and 1847, they have fallen off, in one year to 90,000*l.*, and last year to 70,000*l.*

14340. That is about one-half the value in 1845?—Yes. With reference to the production of Ceylon coffee, I should state that as it takes four or five years to show any return, the coffee we are now receiving is the result of plantations commenced four or five years ago; the production now, I apprehend, from no new estates for the last three or four years having been opened, will fall off much in the same proportion as it has increased; the falling off will be gradual.

14341. It is thought by some persons whose plantations are more inland and higher up, that they will answer better than those plantations which are nearer the sea; that is not your opinion, is it?—No; the reason it is not so is that the cost of carriage to them must be very much more than the cost to those nearer the sea.

14342. They have to carry their coffee upon the backs of cattle?—That is in extreme cases, perhaps; but a great number of them have roads, where even the small native carts can barely travel, the roads are so very bad.

14343. Where is this estate situated of which you have given evidence; is it on the coast?—It is about 60 miles from the coast. The elevation of that estate is about 2,500 feet above the level of the sea. The higher estates are those more recently commenced; they have never any one of them given a full crop of coffee; they have given a small crop, and the prices realized for a small quantity are higher generally than from an estate producing a full quantity, though the cost of gathering must be much greater. With respect to the importation of goods, I have a statement of the importation of all kinds of goods into Ceylon from the
Ceylon

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 47.

Ceylon gazettes, up to the year 1846, and also the exports from the island. In 1839 the total exports amounted to 330,000*l.*; in 1842 they had increased to 421,000*l.*; in 1845, the year in which they were greatest, they were 530,000*l.*; and in the year 1846 they had fallen off, being 497,000*l.* So with the imports, they had increased up to the year 1845, being then 1,495,000*l.* value, and in 1846 they had fallen off, being 1,372,000*l.* Those figures are taken from the Ceylon government gazettes.

R. Christian, Esq.
30 March 1848.

14344. Those calculations, of course, are made upon the invoice value of the coffee?—And other produce; they are the value for which they have paid duty at the Ceylon custom-house.

14345. Are the duties *ad valorem* duties?—Most of the duties are *ad valorem*; on imports five per cent., and on exports they were 2½ till recently, when they have been altered, making exports free of duty, except cinnamon.

14346. The government and military expenditure of the island has very rapidly increased, has not it?—From the return published by the Ceylon government I have a statement of the expenditure and of the revenue from 1841 to 1845; the expenditure has increased gradually, not quite equally in each year, but it has increased from 1841, when it was 361,000*l.*, to 1845, when it was 448,000*l.* A great part of that is expenditure on roads and other purposes.

14347. Does that return distinguish how much of the expenditure is in roads?—It does not. I am not aware that the government has published any statement showing in what way the expenditure is charged.

14348. Was not there some remonstrance from the island with respect to the increase of the expenditure a year or two back?—I do not know, but I think there was. I was not in Ceylon at the time, and I did not happen to see it here.

14349. Was not there a remonstrance; the answer being, that the island could bear it, as the revenue was annually increasing?—Up to the year 1845 the revenue did increase.

14350. It is now beginning to fall off, is not it?—I have no return showing that, but I hear from the island, by a letter, that it is falling off.

14351. The population of the island is something under a million and a half, is not it?—It is under a million and a half. I find by the census of 1843 it was 1,442,000.

14352. The island of Ceylon not only maintains the cost of the civil but of the military government also?—The following is a statement taken from the government return of the expenditure for the year 1845.

[The same was read, as follows:]

EXPENDITURE by the Government of Ceylon for the Year 1845.

	£.	s.	d.
Salaries of governor, civil servants, and all other civil charge - -	328,136	7	2
Military and commissariat charges paid by the island - - -	120,096	4	8
Total Expenditure - - - £.	448,232	11	10

I should also say that a sum, the amount of which I do not know, comes to credit for commissariat stores sold.

14353. Are not the population of Ceylon a very quiet orderly population, not requiring a large military force to keep them in order?—They are exceedingly quiet and peaceable. I recollect immediately preceding the disasters in Affghanistan, and immediately preceding the war in China, two regiments were withdrawn from Ceylon. Mr. Stewart M'Kenzie, being governor, was requested by the Governor-general of India to allow as many troops as he could spare, and two regiments were taken away; and I have heard Mr. Stewart M'Kenzie say he thought he might have spared them all except the Malay regiments.

14354. Therefore this large military establishment is maintained there more for imperial than for island purposes?—A great portion of it, I presume, is more for imperial than for island purposes; but I should state, of course, that opinions vary as to that; military officers, of course, generally think there are not more troops than are required.

14355. Those who have to pay for them think there are?—They do.

R. Christian, Esq.
30 March 1848.

14356. Mr. Goulburn.] There is a dockyard, is not there, at Ceylon?—At Trincomalee there is, but it is of no great use to the mercantile shipping of the island.

14357. It is the Queen's Dockyard?—Yes. In the event of a ship requiring repairs at Colombo, the great shipping port of the island, she would generally rather go to some other port than Trincomalee; the passage round is tedious; she had better go to Cochin to repair, upon the Malabar coast.

14358. The neighbourhood of Trincomalee has profited very much by the dockyard, has not it?—I have no doubt it has, but there is no export of produce from Trincomalee at all.

14359. Chairman.] You have stated that the revenue is raised in a large degree from a land-tax upon the rice land and upon imported rice?—There is a land-tax upon all rice lands, which I think, one year with another, gives from 45,000 *l.* to 50,000 *l.* a year of revenue. There is also an import duty on rice of 7*d.* a bushel, which I think yields very nearly the same amount annually, sometimes more and sometimes less; so that together they probably yield 90,000 *l.* to 100,000 *l.* a year.

14360. What do you reckon the value, *ex* duty, of rice per bushel?—The rice used in Ceylon is of the lowest quality. The price in Colombo of that rice, after having paid the duty, was 2*s.* 6*d.* per bushel; last year it has been upwards of 3*s.* a bushel, duty paid, in Colombo.

14361. The duty is between 15 and 20 per cent. upon the value of the rice?—It is considerably more than that. The price I speak of is the price at which it is sold to the native, after having passed through the bazaar; probably the value of it is under 2*s.* and the duty 7*d.*; that would be upwards of 25 per cent. I have a statement of the declared value at the Ceylon custom-house of the whole of the rice imported. I find they value it at 3*s.* 6*d.* a bushel. Why that should be so I do not know; it must have been some assumed value; it does not show the real value, but it shows the proportions of different years. The importations, commencing in 1839, were 242,000 *l.* value, which gradually increased up to 1845, when they were 459,000 *l.*, and in 1846, the last year of which I have any return, they had fallen to 430,000 *l.* value. The last few years would give an average importation of about two and a half millions of bushels of rice.

[The Statement was delivered in, and is as follows:]

VALUE of RICE and other GRAIN Imported into Ceylon from India, by Government Returns; valued by the Ceylon Custom House at an average of 3*s.* 6*d.* per Bushel.

	1839.	1840.	1841.	1842.	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846.
Rice and other Grain.	£. 242,394	£. 270,313	£. 239,305	£. 248,363	£. 334,346	£. 350,231	£. 459,262	£. 430,177

14362. May the Committee suppose that the payment made by Ceylon to India for rice is about 300,000 *l.* a year?—Not quite so much as that, because from the valuation there stated various charges have to be deducted, and the valuation is high.

14363. There is a revenue raised also from salt fish?—That is increased by the new tariff, which came into operation in the beginning of January this year; there was an *ad valorem* duty on salt fish before. It is important as regards the natives; they consume a large quantity of salt fish with the rice which they eat.

14364. Have you any statement of the quantity of salt fish imported?—I have no means at hand of ascertaining the quantity.

14365. Can you state to the Committee what are the alterations in the tariff which have taken place?—The import duties on various articles have been slightly raised; the duty on gunpowder and opium and tea, and a few articles of minor importance, were raised about 25 per cent. by the new tariff.

[The following Tariff was delivered in:]

TABLE (A.)—IMPORT DUTIES.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

	DUTY.	FORMER DUTY.
Ale, porter, and all other malt liquors, per imperial gallon	£. s. d. — — 3	£. s. d. — — 2½
Cigars, per 1,000	— 5 —	— — —
Fish, dried and salted, and fins and skins, the produce of creatures living in the sea, per cwt.	— 1 6	— — —
Guns and rifles, each	— 5 —	— — —
Gunpowder, per lb.	— — 4	— — 3
Opium, per lb.	— 2 —	— 1 —
Paddy, per bushel	— — 3	— — 3
Pistols, per pair	— 5 —	— — —
Rice, per bushel	— — 7	— — 7
Spirits and cordials, per imperial gallon	— 5 —	— 4 6
Sugar, per cwt., unrefined	— 2 6	— — —
Ditto ditto refined or candy	— 5 —	— — —
Tea, per lb.	— — 6	— — 6
Tobacco, per cwt., unmanufactured	— 10 —	— — —
Ditto ditto manufactured, other than cigars	1 — —	— — —
Snuff, per lb.	— 1 6	— — —
Wheat, grain, pease, beans, and other grain, (except paddy) per bushel	— — 7	— — 7
Wine, per imperial gallon, in bottles	— 2 6	— 2 —
Ditto ditto not in bottles	— 1 6	— 1 —
Goods, wares, and merchandize, not otherwise charged with duty or prohibited, and not comprised in the table of exemptions hereinafter set forth, for every 100 l. of the value thereof in this market	5 — —	5 — —
Goods, &c., being the growth, produce, and manufacture of any foreign State, for every 100 l. value thereof in this market	— — —	10 — —

TABLE OF EXEMPTIONS.

		FORMERLY.
Books and maps, printed	Free.	Free.
Bullion, coin, pearls, and precious stones	”	”
Coal and coke	”	”
Copperah	”	”
Garden seeds and plants	”	”
Horses, mules, and asses, and all other live stock	”	”
Ice	”	”
Manures	”	”
Regimental accoutrements	”	”
Specimens of natural history	”	”
And also musical and scientific instruments, iron tanks, casks, staves, heading and hoops, and all machinery.		

The duties specified in the above Table (A.) to be levied from and after the 10th day of January 1848.

By decree of the Ceylon Government, No. 9, 4th December 1847.

TABLE (B.)—EXPORT DUTIES.

	DUTY.	FORMER DUTY.
Cinnamon, per lb.	£. s. d. — — 4	£. s. d. — 1 —
Ditto oil, per oz.	Free	— — 4
All other articles	Free	2 10 — per cent. on value in the market.

The duties specified in the above Table (B.) to be levied from and after the 1st day of September 1848.

By decree of the Ceylon Government, No. 9, 4th December 1847.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14366. Has there been anything said of a proposition to increase the land-tax?—The only land that was taxed, as I mentioned before, was the rice land. It has been proposed to tax all lands, both cultivated lands and uncultivated lands, at 3 s. an acre a year on cultivated lands and 1 s. an acre a year on all waste lands; and for the purpose of that tax being carried into operation, the government are preparing surveys of the estates, and they have sent for returns from various proprietors of the number of acres.

14367. Are those surveys going on at the expense of the island?—I cannot say that they have commenced them yet, but I know that the government has sent for returns of the number of acres in cultivation.

14368. What do you calculate will be the effect of any such enactment as that of putting a land-tax of 1 s. an acre upon the waste lands?—I think a great part will revert to government again. I cannot conceive any object with a proprietor of waste land to retain land paying a tax of 1 s. an acre.

14369. Is there to be an additional tax upon the rice lands?—That point I am not sure of. It will be a tax upon cinnamon lands, and cocoa-nut lands, and every sort of land which government may choose to call cultivated lands; and I apprehend that it will be a tax very difficult of collection, from the great subdivision of land among the natives.

14370. Do the natives possess small allotments of land?—The natives hold a great proportion of the cultivated land in Ceylon, and their holdings are often very much subdivided.

14371. In your opinion it will not be very easy, but at all events it will be very expensive, to collect the tax?—Yes, it must lead to a great many disputes; the natives are extremely tenacious of anything they consider to be oppressive on the part of the government; they frequently go into the courts of law there against the government.

14372. You do not consider that those alterations would be any alleviation, but rather an aggravation of the position of the planters in Ceylon?—I think the tax of 3 s. an acre would just come instead of a tax of 2½ per cent. upon the worth of his produce.

14373. You are under no very great difficulty as regards procuring plenty of labour, are you?—The labour is chiefly derived from the coast of India; the coolies come over and work in Ceylon for various periods, some six months, some 12 months, some two years.

14374. The coolies come over from India very much as Irishmen come over from Ireland to this country; they come over at their own expense, and go back again at their own expense?—They do, but they remain longer generally in Ceylon.

14375. In Ceylon they come over for periods of six months or 12 months, but do not bring their wives or families with them?—They do not.

14376. And that is the only grievance, so far as labour is concerned, which you feel, that a great part of the work of a coffee plantation could easily be performed by women and children, while you are obliged to have the whole of your labour performed by men at higher wages?—Quite so.

14377. Do you ascribe that indisposition to bring their women and children with them to the high price of rice in the island?—In a great measure, I do.

14378. That is to say, the tax upon the rice lands and the duty of 7 d. a bushel upon the import of rice?—Quite so.

14379. A great portion of the rice consumed is the imported rice?—I think the greater portion is imported; I have no means of ascertaining the quantity grown in the island; but it is small, not more than sufficient for the wants of the natives who do grow it.

14380. What are the wages which you pay to those coolies?—The wages vary very much, according to the locality,

14381. The nearer they are to the sea and to the road, the cheaper the labour?—Yes.

14382. And the better the men?—I do not know that the men are better.

14383. Have not the planters nearest the port of disembarkation an opportunity of picking and choosing their own men before those who live inland?—As compared with one another the planters who pay from 6 d. to 8 d. a day wages, those whose properties are nearest the main roads get the first choice of them. I thought the question referred to labourers residing upon the coast of Ceylon. With reference to those who do go into the interior, the planters whose estates they first pass upon the road get the choice of them.

14384. Have

14384. Have you a statement showing how many coolies come over in a year? *R. Christian, Esq.*
—There were 34,080 men, 917 women, and 402 children, making a total of 35,399, came in the year ending 30th September 1843, by a Government return, many more no doubt come not included in it. *30 March 1848.*

14385. Do they come chiefly from the Malabar coast?—Yes.

14386. What is the distance from the Malabar coast to Ceylon?—By the route which they travel the length of the sea voyage is not much; they pass into the north part of the island, which approaches very close to the continent of India. Those men come over in ferry-boats, which are provided by the Ceylon government.

14387. They came over free?—Yes; they may go either way free; government charge nothing, or at least a very small sum.

14388. What sort of boats are those ferry boats?—I have not been in that part of the island, and I cannot describe the boats; they are of the usual description of the large native boats; they are decked boats, small coasting vessels; a great number, however, come in larger vessels, which come to Colombo and other quarters of the island.

14389. Do you reckon the Malabar people very good labourers?—I believe they are as good as the average of Indian labourers.

14390. The Kandians prefer working upon their own estates to letting themselves out for hire, do not they?—They do; those who have small properties of their own.

14391. When they do let themselves out, do they work as well as the Malabars?—In some descriptions of work on an estate I believe they are considered better workmen.

14392. You reckon the Kandians a more independent class of people than the low country Ceylonese?—They are much more so.

14393. How many labourers do you employ on your own estates?—Between 3,500 and 4,000 people we employed at one time.

14394. Another item of duty in Ceylon is the tax on salt?—Yes; that is in the form of a government monopoly; they manufacture salt, which they sell at 4*d.* a bushel, if you export it from the island, but they sell at different prices according to the contracts they make with the men who receive a licence to sell and deal in it. The average of the charge to those men, if the salt is to be used in the island, is 2*s.* 8*d.* a bushel; but if the man who purchases exports, he only pays 4*d.*

14395. Is that felt to be an oppressive tax by the people?—I think it is; they use a great deal of salt with the rice, and it must be in some measure oppressive, because the poorer classes pay more than the rich.

14396. One of the great expenses of the planter is the cost of transit of the coffee, is it?—Yes.

14397. The roads are very excellent roads?—From Colombo to Kandy is very excellent; most of the other roads in the interior are very bad.

14398. That cost of transport affects those who live near the roads less than it does those who live further inland and higher up the mountains?—Yes.

14399. Is there not an opinion, which has obtained credence in this country, that there is some great advantage in being upon the eastern or the western side of the island in preference to the other?—There is an opinion that estates higher than those generally in bearing now will give a superior quality of coffee; they are generally to the east side of the island. I do not know that it is so much the aspect of the estates as the elevation.

14400. That is a misapprehension, which arises from the circumstance that the monsoons and monsoon rains alternately prevail more on the one side of the island than the other?—The misapprehension, I think, is this, that in a very dry season the higher estates generally have more rain than the lower ones, but if it be a wet season those high estates get a great deal too much rain, and it then becomes a favourable season for the proprietors of estates not so much elevated.

14401. The weather desirable for the success of a coffee plantation is fine showery weather, is it not?—I believe so, from the time the tree blossoms till the fruit ripens.

14402. If a strong monsoon, with heavy rain, comes when the tree is in fruit it knocks the berries off, and a great part of the crop is lost in the rank grass?—It is; and a number of the unripe berries are knocked off the trees.

14403. It frequently happens that you are suffering greatly from drought upon one side of the island and from rain upon the other?—It is sometimes the case.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14404. I believe you have come to the conclusion, that unless the price of coffee very much improves a large portion of the plantations in the island will go out of cultivation?—I have.

14405. What remedy do you see which might be adopted to prevent any such disastrous occurrence as that?—I have no doubt that if the differential duty were again increased, as the entire production of British plantation coffee is not equal to the consumption, at least it is not now, though if it had prospered in Ceylon it would soon have become so, that would have the effect of raising British coffee very considerably, more particularly if it were altered in this way by a reduction of the duty on British plantation instead of raising the duty on foreign.

14406. That would increase the consumption beyond its present amount, or at all events it would cause, you think, British plantation coffee to take the place of Brazilian and Cuban coffee?—To a certain extent it no doubt would; in addition to that answer, I may state that I think if it should be determined that no further protection should be given, or that a still less protection should be given to the British grower, what would save the planters of Ceylon, or at least those more favourably situated, from utter ruin, would probably be a reduction of the duty on all sorts of coffee in this country, probably making it 2 *d.* on British and 4 *d.* on foreign, which would give us the same protection as at present, or 1 *d.* on British and 2 *d.* on foreign when imported into this country. I think that would cause a great increase in the consumption of coffee, and in that way relieve the Ceylon planter.

14407. That would incur a great loss of revenue?—It would for a time; but the question seems to me whether after a time the island must not become a charge upon the mother country

14408. A reduction of 2 *d.* a pound upon 36,000,000 lbs. of coffee would be a loss of 300,000 *l.*, would not it?—Presuming the consumption not to increase.

14409. It is your opinion that if nothing is done to save the coffee planters of Ceylon the result will be that a very large portion of the expenditure of the island of Ceylon will fall upon the Government of this country?—I have not the least doubt of it, if they determine to retain Ceylon as a colony. If it be abandoned, of course the expense will be saved.

14410. The expense is now 448,000 *l.*?—It is for the year 1845.

14411. Your calculation is, that supposing that one-half of that expense to fall upon this country, in consequence of the abandonment of the coffee estates, the result would be that there would not occur a greater loss, in point of fact, than 76,000 *l.* in the reduction of the duty to 2 *d.* a pound, even if the consumption did not increase. You would lose 300,000 *l.* of revenue on one side by the reduction of the duty, but the obligation would be saved of an extra cost upon the Imperial Government of 224,000 *l.*?—If they maintained the establishment in Ceylon on the present scale; but of course, if nothing should be done, the planters being obliged to allow their estates to fall into decay, Government would, no doubt, reduce the expenditure of the island. Instead of being a colony, taking a large quantity of British goods from this country, it would become a very secondary place, and they would only maintain a small establishment there.

14412. I believe the salaries of some of the Government officers have been considerably increased within these few years?—In looking over some of the papers published by Government, I find that several of the salaries have been increased since I left the island. The Colonial Secretary formerly had 2,000 *l.* a year; I find he has now 2,500 *l.*

14413. Has not he some assistants besides?—I think, but I speak from memory when I say so, there used to be one assistant in his office; there are various clerks and parties under him, of course, but there were only two officers who could sign the various documents necessary. Now I find there are five assistants in the office; one at 1,000 *l.*, two at 800 *l.* each, one at 315 *l.*, and one at 250 *l.* a year. In other offices the salaries remain as before, as the treasurer and auditor-general on 1,500 *l.* a year each, but the latter is, I think, to be increased. The salaries of the Government agents are increased, at Colombo from 1,200 *l.* to 1,500 *l.*, at Galle from 1,000 *l.* to 1,200 *l.*, at Jaffna from 1,200 *l.* to 1,500 *l.*, and at Kandy from 1,200 *l.* to 1,500 *l.* As regards the civil engineer and surveyor-general's office, Mr. Norris used to perform the whole duties of that department.

14414. At what salary?—At a salary of 800 *l.* a year.

14415. Mr. Goulburn.] At what date was that?—I cannot speak to the date; it was between the years 1838 and 1844; it was while I was there he performed the

the office for the first part of that time; then part of the duty was taken from his office, and an officer, called the Commissioner of Roads, was appointed, at a salary of 1,000 *l.* a year. Since 1844 the office has been again subdivided, and an officer appointed, called the Surveyor General, at 800 *l.* a year. I find there are ten assistants in his office, having from 200 *l.* a year to 550 *l.* each. The commissioner of roads has now two assistants, at 200 *l.* and 250 *l.* each, and the civil engineer three at from 200 *l.* to 575 *l.* each; and I believe there are various other officers whose salaries have been increased, though I cannot name them.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14416. *Chairman.*] In this particular department, the establishment, which consisted of one surveyor and his assistants, with about 1,600 *l.* a year, has grown to about 18 persons?—Yes.

14417. What is the total increase of the cost?—I cannot give the exact increase; I suppose the department, which cost about 1,600 *l.*, would now cost about 7,200 *l.* I might also mention three officers, called master's attendants, one at Colombo, one at Point de Galle, and one at Trincomalee; the one at Colombo has 700 *l.*, the one at Galle 500 *l.*, and the one at Trincomalee 400 *l.* a year.

14418. What have they to do?—I was never able to find that out, their exact duties.

14419. What are their alleged duties?—To look after the shipping which visits the port; but, excepting Trincomalee, the larger vessels anchor in the roadstead, and there is no such officer required as a harbour master. I did not mean to bring this so prominently forward, except that it was made a question some time ago by the Chamber of Commerce in Ceylon.

14420. The administration of justice is carried on upon a somewhat similar scale, is not it?—I believe that the administration of justice is performed by judges, who have higher salaries than the island can afford; whether they are too much for the men who receive their appointments I cannot say.

14421. How many district judges are there in Ceylon?—I have a list of them before me, in a correspondence between Lord Stanley and Sir Colin Campbell, in which Lord Stanley prohibits the civil servants from engaging any longer in agricultural or commercial pursuits, and adds that all who may have done so, must, within a reasonable time, dispose of their property or retire from the public service. The time fixed by the Government for their selling their estates was 12 months; it was then thought that it would be so hard upon them to force the sales of those properties that the time was again extended to two years, and that extended time must by this time have expired, but I have not learned the result. I do not think that the civil servants have yet sold their property. I do not think that this statement is a complete one with respect to the number of district judges: it is evidently made up with a view to their claims for pensions and seniority; and I think they are not all stated here; but I find there are 15 judges of districts in one list, without including those of the Supreme Court, of whom there are three appointed by this country.

14422. At what salaries are those 15 district judges?—There are four at 1,000 *l.* a year, two at 800 *l.*, one at 790 *l.*, one at 700 *l.*, one at 650 *l.*, and two at 550 *l.*; in another list there is one at 700 *l.*, two at 550 *l.*, and one at 350 *l.*, but the list is incomplete, there are about 30 district judges some with higher salaries than any now mentioned.

14423. Have not they a great number of assistants?—Not as judges.

14424. They have other duties beside judges, have not they?—There are several of them in the smaller stations who act as government agents as well as judges.

14425. Do they get other pay as government agents?—There are six of them under the title of assistant government agents and district judges; I presume the pay is for both offices.

14426. Their duties as district judges are very much similar to those of the sheriffs of counties in Scotland, are not they?—They are, except in this respect, that by the law of Ceylon every case must originate in a district court. However willing the parties might be that they should at once proceed to the Supreme Court and get a final decision, they must go through the district court before they can arrive at it, which merchants have felt to be a considerable grievance. In cases where both parties were in doubt which was in the right, they would be very desirous of obtaining a decision.

14427. Is there a great deal of business in those district courts?—In some of them there is a great deal, and it is increased by that which I have now mentioned.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14428. Do you know what the ordinary salaries of the sheriffs of counties in Scotland are?—I think none are under 300*l.*, and the average is from that to 400*l.* a year, I think; some have 500*l.*; the sheriff of Edinburgh, I think, has 1,000*l.*, but I am not very sure.

14429. Do you think that, without prejudice to the description of persons selected to fill those offices, there might be a very great reduction in their salaries, and perhaps in their number too?—I do not think with reference to the judges that there could be a very great reduction, though, no doubt, there might be a reduction; but as to the other officers of the Government, I think there might; I think the Government agents, for example, have higher salaries than is necessary, and that there are more of them than are necessary to perform the duties.

14430. Could the same officers not perform the duties of district judges in more districts than one?—No, I do not think that arrangement could be made.

14431. Do they sit every day?—They do except Saturday; nominally they do; they used to be constantly obtaining leave of absence, but a great deal of that has been put a stop to recently.

14432. The revenue from the pearl fisheries has pretty nearly ceased, has not it?—It has entirely ceased.

14433. Mr. Goulburn.] To what do you attribute the cessation?—The reports given to the local government attributed it to the oysters not forming on those beds now. From the oyster beds the fish have disappeared, either from their having overfished them and disturbed the young deposits, or from the Madras government having endeavoured to alter the channel between Ceylon and the mainland; some parties thought that the currents setting into the gulf had swept the beds away.

14434. And there is very little revenue from the cinnamon lands, is there?—The government have sold nearly all the cinnamon lands.

14435. It was a government monopoly, was it?—It was.

14436. The fact is that there is very little land in Ceylon suitable for rice cultivation?—Very little for rice cultivation.

14437. The island must always depend chiefly upon India for rice?—I believe it must, so far as my information goes.

14438. Do you consider that if the cultivation of coffee should be abandoned, it would be a great injury inflicted upon India as regards its source for the exportation of rice?—To a certain extent the labourers would return to India. The Malabars, for instance, who have migrated to Ceylon, for whose use a great deal of that rice is imported.

14439. So that the ruin of the island of Ceylon would not be limited in its disastrous effects to the island itself, but would recoil upon the continent of India?—Quite so, so far as Ceylon is a customer to India for rice.

14440. Mr. Goulburn.] When was the great stimulus given to the coffee cultivation in Ceylon?—From the year 1836 to 1840, I think.

14441. There has no change taken place in the state of society in Ceylon, has there, in the way of depriving them of slave labour?—There has not. Slavery was to a small extent existing in Ceylon, even under the British Government; but that was entirely confined to the natives, who had held slaves under the Candian Government. That has altogether been abolished by their neglecting to register the slaves as required by law.

14442. The abolition, then, has not affected the means of procuring labour upon the land in Ceylon?—Not the least.

14443. Parties who have cultivated coffee in Ceylon have suffered nothing from the causes which have affected the cultivation in Jamaica?—Not as regards slave labour.

14444. There has been, of course, ever since the institution of those coffee plantations, for a considerable time, a great ardour to embark in additional plantations of coffee in the island?—Very great, up to a certain date.

14445. Are you aware that in proportion as Ceylon increased in its cultivation of coffee, the islands of the West Indies diminished in their product?—To a great extent, the one in proportion to the other. That may appear from the statements of the imports of coffee into this country.

14446. The ruin, therefore, of the coffee planter in Ceylon stands upon a very different ground from the ruin of the coffee planter in the West Indies?—I apprehend so.

14447. You have alluded to the increase of the establishments in Ceylon; do you

you think that, generally speaking, contemplating the expense of living in Ceylon, the rate of the salaries paid to individual officers is higher than is fairly due to the services which they perform in that climate?—I hardly think that the salaries to individual officers are too much, though I have mentioned that when the colony was failing in prosperity the salaries of the officers, or some of them, were increased; but I do not think, on an average, that those officers are overpaid; though, so far as I can judge, there are too many of them.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14448. You alluded to the inconvenience which was sustained to the mercantile interest in being obliged to originate their causes in a district court before they come to the Supreme Court; are you aware of the reasons which rendered that arrangement necessary in Ceylon?—I am not.

14449. May not it have been that it was thought improper for a merchant, or a person who had great means, to draw the local population from the district where the cause might be decided to the court at Colombo?—I have no doubt that was thought of as a reason for preventing the cause being brought at once into the Supreme Court; but I apprehend it might have been, in some degree, remedied in this way; that causes involving a great amount, say 5,000 £, should, at the option of the plaintiff, be brought into the Supreme Court.

14450. Hast it ever been proposed to the government of Ceylon so to limit the jurisdiction of the district court as to require the larger causes to go to Colombo?—I am not sure that the merchants ever, in a body, so remonstrated with the government; but I am aware that at one time so dissatisfied were they as to the courts in Ceylon, that government, in order to meet them, appointed to the chief district court of Ceylon a barrister from London, passing over the civil servants who would have been, by seniority, entitled to that appointment. They considered that a lawyer appointed from this country would be more satisfactory than any of the others.

14451. The district judges, you stated, are generally government agents?—Only in the smaller districts.

14452. The establishment at Ceylon is formed very much with reference to the establishment in the East Indies, is not it?—Very much, only upon a smaller scale.

14453. The collector in the East Indies exercises judicial duties as well as administrative duties under the Government?—To a certain extent, but that is much modified now by the appointment of judges, I believe.

14454. When you stated that in Scotland the sheriff had only 300 £, a year, whereas the district judge in Ceylon has a considerably greater emolument, you did not advert to the union of the duties in the one case which does not exist in the other?—I find by this correspondence it appeared to be the opinion of the governor of Ceylon and the Colonial Office that the more those duties were divided, so much the better; and I presume that the spirit of that is being carried out; dividing the judicial from the revenue department of the Government.

14455. However desirable that arrangement may be, does not it necessarily lead to an augmentation there of the number of persons employed?—I do not know whether a government agent in a small district, being freed from his judicial duty, might not exercise the office of government agent in a larger district, and so not increase the number of officers.

14456. What are the particular duties of a government agent?—The duties of a government agent in a large district, where a good deal of trade is going on, are exceedingly numerous; all disputes with regard to land, where the government are concerned, are referred in a great measure to him; he had the charge, while the government sold waste land, of having that land surveyed and sold, the surveys being conducted by the surveyor-general's department; he is also concerned in the collection of those rice duties I have named, the tax upon the growth of rice.

14457. And the sale of salt probably?—That is confined to one district of the island, the northern.

14458. Does the collection of the duties on spirits devolve upon him?—In those districts where arrack is distilled. One reason for assuming that the number might be decreased was the small space of time that they were to be found at their offices in Colombo and elsewhere; if a person wished to transact business with them before 12 o'clock he could not find them before that time; now I believe it is very much altered.

14459. What are the usual office hours in mercantile houses in Ceylon?—The usual office hours are from 10 to half-past four.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14460. Are the government office hours different?—They are not, I believe; at least I think 10 is the hour of opening the office; but the government agent or officer in charge at the head of the office is, or rather was, very rarely to be found there so early in the day.

14461. What time are you speaking of; is it long since?—No, I speak of the period of my residence in the island, from 1838 up to 1844.

14462. You do not know whether the practice has been altered since that?—I apprehend, judging from the despatch of Lord Stanley, that things must have been considerably mended.

14463. It was in consequence of that neglect of duty that Lord Stanley made an interference to prevent their employing themselves upon their individual estates, instead of at their offices?—Yes. I do not wish that the tendency of the remarks I have been making should be to reflect upon the civil servants of Ceylon as to the mode in which they conduct their business; it was merely as to whether fewer officers might not perform the whole of their duties.

14464. Are the duties of the offices, generally speaking, well done?—Great complaints existed as to some of them, but as to the others I do not think there was reason for much complaint; some were very well conducted; the colonial secretary's office, while Mr. Anstruther was there, was exceedingly well conducted; that was the chief office of the government.

14464*. The colonial secretary is the person who principally regulates the island establishments, is not he; it is at his suggestion that the appointments take place?—It depends upon him and upon the governor.

14465. Mr. *M. Gibson*.] The consumption of coffee has increased very greatly of late years, has not it?—The consumption of coffee in this country has increased; not very greatly, I should say, but gradually.

14466. Considerably since 1842?—Yes.

14467. Are you aware of the cause of this increased consumption; is it from the price being more moderate?—I apprehend it arises partly from the price being more moderate, and from the duty being lowered.

14468. Are you aware that a great number of houses have been established in this metropolis and in other parts of the United Kingdom for the sale of coffee at moderate prices to the working classes?—I have no particular knowledge of that fact.

14469. Are you aware of the fact that in this metropolis alone something like 1,800 to 2,000 coffee-houses are established exclusively for the sale of coffee, in small quantities, to the working classes at low prices?—I have no means of knowing the number.

14470. If that be so, and if the Legislature in raising the price of coffee, through the means of a differential duty, were to decrease its consumption, would not those persons be entitled to some consideration who are now carrying on business in all those numerous houses?—In answering that question, I said I did not know anything as to the number of those houses.

14471. If it be the fact that those houses have been established in consequence of the moderate price and the increased consumption of coffee, in case the Legislature were to take steps to raise the price, and thus limit the consumption, would not those persons be entitled to some compensation?—I suppose that their case is very much the case of the Ceylon planters on a small scale; those houses, I presume, can be converted to another purpose without sacrificing any capital, or capital to a very small amount, and if you give them compensation for this small capital it is certainly an argument for giving the Ceylon planter some compensation for large capital invested in coffee estates, which he can turn to no other account.

14472. If we were to check the consumption of coffee and have an increased consumption of ardent spirits, would not that be an injury to the working classes?—No doubt.

14473. Has not it been advantageous to this country that the working people should rather resort to those coffee-houses and consume coffee and tea and sugar, and so on, than resort to houses where ardent spirits are sold?—Certainly.

14474. Would not it be a disadvantage to the general welfare of society in this country if the Legislature were to take steps for raising the price of coffee and sugar, and to check its consumption among the people?—It would, of course, be a disadvantage in every respect to decrease the consumption of coffee; but it may be by allowing matters to remain as at present, or by decreasing the differential duty, and thereby throwing the Ceylon cultivation out, that ultimately the price may be raised

raised upon that very class of people. I am not aware myself, but I have heard that the present prices of coffee do not pay the foreign grower; that probably the consumption will outrun in a few years the production, so that if the production of Ceylon decreased, as I expect it will, the price in a few years will be much higher in this country of all coffee.

14475. Do not you advocate an increase of the differential duty?—I stated that if the differential duty were increased by lowering it on British or increasing it on foreign coffee, it would be a great relief to the grower of Ceylon coffee. I do not consider that I should answer the question with reference to the general policy of this country.

14476. Previous to the year 1835 Ceylon coffee was excluded from the British market, was not it?—It came in as East India coffee, at a higher duty than West India coffee.

14477. Very little was brought into consumption in this country?—Ceylon coffee at that time, I suppose, did not consist of 1,000 tons a year sent over here, which was all grown by the natives; in 1838 the whole production of Ceylon was 2,500 tons.

14478. It was in 1835 that Ceylon coffee was first of all admitted to a share, as it were, of the benefit of this market, was not it?—Part of the coffee was used for consumption in this country, I think before that time.

14479. By reference to the evidence given before the Import Duties Committee as to the prices of coffee previous to 1835, the price of Ceylon coffee was the same then as the price of St. Domingo coffee, clearly showing that it was on the footing of foreign coffee; that it had no benefit whatever at that time?—I think the St. Domingo coffee might have been of a better quality.

14480. Was not St. Domingo coffee excluded by a differential duty?—I have not looked into the tables so far back; if it be so in the return, of course it was the case.

14481. You are in a better position in reference to your coffee than you were in 1835?—As to coffee sent by Europeans from Ceylon, there was none in 1835.

14482. All the coffee brought from Ceylon is now in a better position than it was in 1835; it was then as much excluded as foreign coffee?—My impression is, that at that time Ceylon coffee paid 9 *d.* a pound duty; St. Domingo coffee paid 1 *s.* 3 *d.*; British West India coffee paid 6 *d.*; Ceylon coffee at that time was not on the terms of foreign coffee as respects the duty.

14483. I will read a passage from the evidence given before the Import Committee by Mr. Sheil: "Before Ceylon coffee was admitted at 6 *d.* duty, in 1835, it was then, like St. Domingo, imported and sold for export, and I find that up to that period they bore the same value; St. Domingo coffee was a little higher than Ceylon. I take this market as being a better criterion than any other, because coffee is brought here for all other markets, and therefore it is the measure for the value of other markets. I find Ceylon and St. Domingo coffees, up to 1835, running nearly parallel in price; but in 1835 there was a change made in the duties, and then Ceylon coffee became an article of consumption in this country; then I find that the consumption increased, and it rose rapidly in price." Is not it true that from 1835 your position, as regards coffee, has been an improving position, and that previous to 1835 you were practically on the same footing as the foreign grower?—In answer to that, there must probably have been a difference in the quality of those Ceylon and St. Domingo coffees which are compared together. I cannot say there was, but I think it is likely. I am strongly of opinion that they then paid 1 *s.* 3 *d.* per pound duty, Ceylon coffee paying 9 *d.* per pound duty; 1835 was the year, when the Ceylon grower was benefited by reducing the 9 *d.* duty to 6 *d.* only, and putting him in the same position as the West Indies; that of course improved his position.

14484. Since 1835 he has been admitted into a share of a monopoly which he did not enjoy before, has not he?—Why should you call it a monopoly?

14485. He has been admitted to a share of a privilege which he did not enjoy before?—Yes; but which he had an equal title to with the West India body.

14486. Is not it the fact that since 1835 he has been enjoying a share in a sort of monopoly price with the West India grower which he did not enjoy before?—Previous to 1835 there were no European producers in Ceylon.

14487. The price of coffee was, in fact, such that there was no encouragement offered to the cultivation of coffee in that island?—Previous to that time I should say not.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14488. Since that time there has been a constant enjoyment of greater advantages as against the foreign producer of coffee in this market, which Ceylon did not possess before?—I have already stated the duties, and the various changes in them.

14489. Since 1835 Ceylon has enjoyed advantages against the foreign grower which she never possessed before?—You speak of Ceylon, I speak of the European planter of Ceylon.

14490. I speak generally of the producer of coffee in Ceylon?—Previous to 1855 there was no inducement for Europeans to grow coffee in Ceylon; after 1835 we were admitted on the same terms as West Indian coffee. The prices rose of all British plantation coffee from a decrease of the production in the West Indies, and of course, from foreign coffee paying a higher rate of duty; that induced Europeans to commence growing coffee in 1838: up to 1844 we had such prices as induced our cultivation to be extended, or, at all events, kept up. Since 1844 the prices have fallen off, year after year, which is partly to be attributed to the extended production in Ceylon, and partly, no doubt, to the alteration of the duties in 1844, as against the British planter; and now the prices have fallen to such a price as will not pay the producer in Ceylon.

14491. You mentioned that the governor and archdeacon, and a number of persons in that island, were themselves engaged in producing coffee?—I did.

14492. How did they get possession of the lands upon which they grow coffee?—They bought them; the government put the land up for public sale, and they bid for it, or their friends for them.

14493. Those were waste lands?—Yes.

14494. Which came into cultivation from the coffee being admitted for the first time into this market?—They came into cultivation, as all other lands sold for the purpose of growing coffee in Ceylon did.

14495. Those lands were of no value before that took place?—The price obtained for them was about 5s. or 6s. an acre; the price was paid into the colonial treasury. The waste land of Ceylon is held all to belong to the government, and they sold the lands while a demand existed, and so obtained the value thus created.

14496. It gave, in fact, a value to those lands which they never had before?—It gave a value to those lands which they had not before, which value the present prices have taken away from those lands.

14497. They have enjoyed a value they never before enjoyed during the meantime?—The value was never more than about 1*l.* an acre; the value was the amount of money spent in cultivation; the value of the land was the smallest portion of the cost of an estate.

14498. So far as it went it has been created since 1835, has not it?—Yes; the value of the land has been created, because by the duties in this country there was a purpose to which the land might, it was thought, be profitably applied.

14499. Supposing the duties on foreign and colonial coffee were equal, would there be a large supply of coffee into these markets?—You mean, would more coffee come into consumption? I do not think more coffee would be used, at the present prices. My reason for believing so is, that with regard to the lower descriptions of Ceylon coffee, I think we are at the continental price.

14500. Does the present difference of duty of 2*d.* make any difference in the price?—I apprehend it makes a difference in the price of the better qualities of coffee.

14501. But not of the other?—I do not think it does; I think the higher qualities of Ceylon coffee are benefited probably to some extent. I think, as regards the great bulk of the importations from Ceylon, the prices now prevailing here are very much the same as would be paid on the Continent, except this, that in every trade it takes some time to change the current of it; the same coffee being exposed for sale in Hamburgh or Amsterdam might not be sold at once, coming in as a new thing.

14502. Is there much coffee exported from St. Domingo?—I believe there is; I have no return to show the quantity.

14503. Have you had an opportunity of comparing the prices of St. Domingo and Ceylon coffee in bond?—I have not any statement before me to show the prices in bond; any price current would correctly show it.

14504. Are you of opinion that this 2*d.* differential duty which is now enjoyed keeps out any coffee?—I do not think the 2*d.* keeps out coffee, particularly as regards

regards the lower classes of consumers; as regards those who consume the lower qualities, I do not think the 2*d.* keeps out any coffee. If you were to make it 4*d.* I think it would keep out foreign coffee, and of course benefit the colonial planters, at the expense for a time of the consumer.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14505. Does not the 2*d.* keep out any?—I said I thought it gave an advantage to the higher kinds of colonial coffee.

14506. What is the proportion of those higher kinds?—The proportion is small; I cannot state it; there is no means of ascertaining it. If there were an *ad valorem* duty at the custom-house it might be ascertained. The reason for thinking that the difference in duty does not raise the price is, that Ceylon sent to this country last year upwards of 12,000 tons of coffee; this country consumed at most 10,000 tons of that, leaving 2,000 tons excess of production of Ceylon coffee over consumption; but the same year England took 5,000 tons of foreign coffee; from that I think the prices, with reference to quality, must be pretty much the same as on the Continent.

14507. You mean, quality for quality, coffee is as cheap here as on the Continent?—There are 7,000 tons of native coffee sent to this country from Ceylon, which is now worth in London 30*s.* to 32*s.* a cwt.; I believe that coffee is worth as much on the Continent. It is not so with the plantation coffee, or at all events the better qualities.

14508. If the difference were removed, you would not be in a much worse position than you are now you think?—I do not think the native grower would be, but those estates which grow coffee of the value of from 40*s.* to 60*s.* would be injured by the reduction.

14509. Has not there been since your acquaintance with Ceylon, previous to a very recent period, a great deal of money made by the production of coffee there?—A few of the earliest growers of coffee got very high prices for what crop they did produce, and they made money by selling those estates to other parties who now hold them; it was not money made by the production of coffee; it was not a fair annual return for the capital laid out. It was merely that the adventure seemed, up to a particular time, to promise better and better results, and those who were wise sold.

14510. For a considerable time after Ceylon coffee was admitted on the same terms as West India coffee, the supply of coffee was below the wants of this country, and the price was high; during the enjoyment of those privileges there must have been very large profits made and capital accumulated by persons in connexion with the growth of coffee in Ceylon?—In answer to that, I would say that when an estate was planted it took five years before it gave a full crop; the increased production from Ceylon, even up to the present moment, is only the result of those estates which were cultivated from six or seven years ago; the production of Ceylon does not increase immediately upon those estates being cultivated; a coffee tree requires four or five years to come into bearing, consequently the price, from the scarcity of British plantation coffee, still kept up, and a number of the earliest planters sold their estates; but I am not aware of an instance where a party who commenced an estate in Ceylon, and continues to hold it up to this moment, has made a profit upon it; in the earliest years he might have done so.

14511. You say that, as far as the present state of things is concerned, it is immaterial whether the present difference of 2*d.* is retained or not?—As regards the very low qualities of coffee, they are as low, I think, as they would be for consumption on the Continent; but, in addition to the causes which affect coffee alone, every article is now depressed in this country, so that, on a better trade commencing, the price of coffee might rise to something more than the continental value. I presume it probably would.

14512. After the present depression has passed away?—Yes; I think there is every reason to suppose that the price of coffee will very materially advance.

14513. Is not the soil of Ceylon particularly fine, and the climate very good for coffee, and the extent of uncultivated land very great?—It does not pay the cultivators.

14514. But you say the price is going to rise?—There is a probability of the price rising, but I do not think there is a probability of its rising to such an extent as to induce parties to increase the cultivation, or even to keep it up. This question has been agitated for years, and every time the question has been agitated the colonial grower has suffered, in the prospect of a change of duty, almost as severely as if he had lost it all at once.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14515. Is not Brazil coffee of an inferior quality?—A great deal of it is.
14516. Is there much coffee comes from Java?—There is a large quantity of coffee from Java.
14517. What quality is that?—Some of the Java coffee is very good; the bulk of it is not of a very good quality, I think.
14518. Should you fear a competition with Java coffee upon equal terms?—I believe that the growers of Ceylon fear a competition with foreign countries very much. The fear of it is one reason of the impossibility of those connected with Ceylon, who require advances for their estates, being able to get them. Some fear it more than others. Some attribute the decline in the price more to the production of Ceylon than to the last alteration of the duty; others think the alteration of the duty had more to do with it than the production of Ceylon.
14519. Are you, in any respect, in a worse position for the growth of coffee than they are in Java?—I think we are in a worse position in respect of the cost of rice. In Java the cost of living is very small. In Java, I believe, also, that though nominally there is no slave labour, yet the labour is very much of the nature of slave labour; that it is a sort of forced labour. I have never been in Java, nor do I know that except from hearsay.
14520. Have you understood that there are means of producing any quantity of coffee on the coast of Africa, in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone?—I know nothing of Sierra Leone.
14521. As far as Brazilian coffee is concerned, you do not fear competition with that, do you?—I apprehend the colonial grower fears competition with all foreign growers; it is of no importance to him from what foreign country the coffee comes, provided they can grow it cheaper than he can.
14522. It has not anything to do with freedom or slavery, but you fear the competition of all foreign countries?—Yes.
14523. Should you fear the competition of St. Domingo?—I never considered the question in relation to a particular country. There was never a distinction in the duties drawn between free-labour coffee and slave-labour coffee.
14524. It is not any particular mode of cultivation in any particular country that you apprehend would be injurious to the coffee of Ceylon, but generally you object to the competition of any foreign grower whatever?—One reason why there is a fear of the foreign grower is the rate of wages in Ceylon which we pay, and the cost of transport from the estate to the shipping port, which are both very heavy. I think that the rate of wages being so high, in a great measure depends upon the price of rice, which price, as I have mentioned in the first part of my evidence, is enhanced by the import duty upon that rice, and by the tax upon the cultivation of rice in the island.
14525. What is the reason, if St. Domingo coffee were admitted upon the same terms as colonial coffee, it would not come into competition in this country; do you mean it would not find its way into consumption in this country?—I know from this table that the finer qualities of foreign coffee do come into consumption in this country.
14526. Speaking particularly of that coffee, would it come into consumption here?—I cannot say as to that coffee.
14527. What possible advantage can St. Domingo have over an English colony?—I am not at all acquainted with St. Domingo, but I fancy St. Domingo is governed at a very different rate of cost to what we in Ceylon pay. I think the native grower of Ceylon should meet with some consideration here as well as the European planter. So far as I am interested personally now in Ceylon it is much more as a merchant than as a planter. I stated that the firm of which I am a member, in 1844 endeavoured in every way to get rid of their interest in plantations. My interest is as a merchant trading to the colony. The natives who produced 7,000 tons of coffee a year, and who have been encouraged to extend their production in every way, are a class very well deserving of the consideration of this country, particularly as they take large quantities of British goods.
14528. Do you mean the Committee to understand that it is the expense of this establishment in Ceylon which entitles you to something of a monopoly in this market?—I think that is one reason; but the main reason upon which we would rely would be the monopoly we had, which encouraged us to begin; we enjoyed more protection when we began than we have now. Had the coffee duties been altered in 1835 to reduce the duty on British coffee and foreign to the

the same rate, the Ceylon coffee planters would not have existed at all; the production would not have taken place. R. Christian, Esq.

14529. Do not you get a good deal from the cocoa-nuts?—The cocoa-nuts are grown on the coast, the coffee is grown in the interior; so that you cannot grow them on the same land. 30 March 1848.

14530. Does not the colony get a considerable advantage from the sale of cocoa-nuts?—Yes, clearly.

14531. Is not there a considerable export?—There is a considerable export of cocoa-nut oil.

14532. Does not it enter largely into the manufacture of soap, and is not it used for the manufacture of various articles in this country?—Yes, but it is very small in value in comparison to coffee.

14533. Is not it a large item of export?—It is a considerable item, but it is a very small item in point of value in comparison with coffee or cinnamon.

14534. I suppose you would be very sorry to lose that trade if you could help it?—There is no protection as regards that trade, so that there is no chance of its being lost if it is profitable now.

14535. Is not it a growing trade?—It is a profitable trade, but of small amount.

14536. Previous to those advantages being enjoyed by the coffee producers what state was the colony in?—One source of revenue they had then which they have not now was the pearl fishery, which was extremely profitable to the government.

14537. Mr. Porter speaks of large shipments of oil and cocoa-nut as being made from Ceylon to this country?—With regard to the growth of cocoa-nuts we can compete with any country, because there is much less labour employed in the cultivation of the cocoa-nut than in the cultivation of coffee; the cocoa-nuts grown on the coast of the island are cultivated by labourers whose wages are much less than those in the interior.

14538. Is there anything else which you have lost since 1835?—Yes; the government have lost three great sources of revenue: they have lost the pearls, they have lost the cinnamon gardens, and they have lost their revenue from the sale of waste lands, which amounted to a considerable sum when purchases were going on for coffee planting. They sold their cinnamon gardens I think in 1842, 1843, and 1844; they have abolished the export duty, which was at one time as much as 2s. 6d. a pound on cinnamon; they now propose to reduce that duty in September next to 4d. a pound.

14539. Under the cinnamon monopoly they used to limit the supply, did not they?—They were the growers themselves, and they produced as much as the markets in Europe would take off. It was then in their hands, but it is not now; there has been cinnamon of good quality sent home from Java, and from the coast of India. The way in which the revenue is collected shows that the government of Ceylon has great difficulty in finding how to raise the taxes required; they are taxing the food of the natives in every possible way, which shows that there is no other way in which they find they can raise the revenue.

14540. Mr. Wilson.] Are you aware what quantity of coffee of British possessions was imported last year into this country altogether?—The total quantity in 1847 was 15,285 tons.

14541. That was of colonial growth?—Yes.

14542. Will you state what the entire consumption of last year was?—It was 16,677 tons.

14543. Do you know the total amount of importation, including the foreign coffee?—It was 24,000 tons.

14544. And therefore, in round figures, we had 8,000 tons of coffee imported last year more than we consumed?—We had.

14545. Is not there a large export trade in coffee?—There is.

14546. How much coffee was there exported last year?—I have not the return at hand.

14547. You are not aware that it was 13,300,000 lbs. weight?—I presume the amount is correct.

14548. What would be the effect of an increased protection in the island of Ceylon upon your coffee cultivation?—I think the effect of an increased protection, which you assume would raise the price here, would be to keep the estates in cultivation, which will now, without increased protection, fall out of cultivation.

R. Christian, Esq.
30 March 1848.

14549. If the same causes were in operation now which were in operation from 1842 to 1844, the period to which you have referred to, when the protection was reduced, do you believe the increased production of coffee would go on now as it did then?—I think not. I think any increased protective duty in this country would be looked upon with so much distrust by the colonial grower, that though it encouraged him to keep up his present estate he would never plant again; if you established a protective duty for a series of years, so that it should be an understood arrangement that it should last a certain number of years, it might induce the parties to plant again in Ceylon.

14550. Do you think the planters in Ceylon in 1842 had confidence that the protecting duty in coffee would be maintained?—I think the great bulk of them had.

14551. Are you aware of the changes that have taken place in the coffee duties since 1823?—I can state them since 1842.

14552. Are you aware what the changes have been since 1823?—Generally I am.

14553. Do you remember that in 1823 the duty upon colonial coffee was 1 s. a lb., upon East India coffee 1 s. 6 d., and upon foreign coffee 2 s. 6 d. a lb.?—I have no doubt that the figures are correct.

14554. Do you remember that Mr. Huskisson halved all those duties?—I assume the statement to be correct.

14555. Are you aware that the consumption of coffee, in consequence of that reduction, rose from 7,000,000 of lbs. in 1823 up to 28,000,000 in 1840, prior to the reduction to which you have alluded?—I know the consumption increased; I do not know the figures.

14556. Are you aware that from 1840 to 1842 there was great agitation in favour of free trade in this country?—Yes.

14557. Are you aware that coffee was one of the articles which was always referred to as being an article upon which the free-trade principle had been tried with great success?—I do not think it was the free-trade principle which was so much brought forward; it was the question of a reduction of duty on all coffee, for the duties were all reduced proportionally, retaining protection.

14558. Was not there considerable agitation during that period for the reduction of the duty on foreign coffee?—I do not think that coffee was so prominently brought forward as sugar and corn. At that time I was in Ceylon, so that I did not go minutely into all the statements brought forward by the free traders; but I did see that, particularly with reference to corn and sugar, they agitated the question. Coffee seemed, in some measure, to have fallen into the back ground.

14559. Are not you aware that coffee was one of the most favourite arguments, both by writers and statesmen, to show the great advantages which had occurred from the reduction of the differential duties?—All duties were reduced on coffee, I think, by Mr. Huskisson, both upon colonial and foreign coffee, leaving the same relative amount of protection. I do not see how that could be brought forward as an argument in favour of free trade.

14560. Are not you aware that every year, when the budget was brought forward in this country, there was a considerable agitation in the coffee market as to what change should take place in the coffee duty?—Yes; but those alterations were alterations which showed more the increase of consumption from lower duties generally, than any particular proof of the benefit of free trade.

14561. If the alterations which you expect were only to be a general reduction of duty, not a reduction of the protective duty, what agitation should that create in the mind of the coffee holder?—You misapprehend my previous answer. Coffee was more an example of the benefit of a reduction of duty than a reduction of protecting duty. I quite admit that coffee was brought forward, but not so prominently as sugar.

14562. Do you mean to say that from 1840 to 1844, during which period the cultivation of colonial coffee increased so rapidly, the planters in Ceylon acted upon the calculation that they were secure in the protection they then had?—I do not wish to speak as to the opinion of all the planters of Ceylon, but I think there was a general feeling in the colony that the duty would be retained in their favour, and certainly the native growers, encouraged by the local government, did not apprehend any discouragement from the Imperial Government. As regards myself, previously to 1844 I had great doubts whether, seeing the course which free trade was taking, any protection would be left to the colonies at all.

14563. You said they always expected some protection; have not they a protection of 50 per cent. yet?—They have.

14564. Do

Christian, Esq.
30 March 1848.

14564. Do you believe in 1840, seeing the state of public opinion in this country, and the agitation which was being made in favour of free trade, and the general tendency to the reduction of differential duties, any coffee planter could have made his arrangements with the calculation of a higher protecting duty than 50 per cent.?—From the year 1842 to the year 1846 he had 100 per cent.

14565. Do you think those cultivations were entered on upon the calculation of a certainty, or an expectation of a higher protecting duty than the 50 per cent. which he now enjoys?—A certain number of them entered into speculations earlier than that, and having done so, they must have sacrificed all they had expended, or carried it on; so that though they might doubt whether protection would be maintained, it was only the choice of two evils, either to give up their cultivation or carry it on to the full extent.

14566. Is not it the fact that the great bulk of those plantations have been taken into cultivation since 1839 and 1840?—Some commenced as early as 1836 or 1837; the great year was 1840, perhaps.

14567. What was the proportion of protection which they really enjoyed then?—They had 4 *d.* a lb. in two of the years.

14568. Before the alteration in 1842?—They paid 6 *d.*; the East Indies paid 9 *d.*, and foreign 1 *s.* 3 *d.*

14569. The 1 *s.* 3 *d.* duty was a nominal duty, not a real duty; the operation of landing at the Cape made it 9 ½ *d.*?—Yes, it varied as freights and insurance varied, upon which the extra halfpenny depended.

14570. Are you not aware that the greatest bulk of coffee which was so freighted for this market, in consequence of the expenses being less, and the quality suiting the market better, was coffee on its way home from Java, being landed at the Cape of Good Hope, re-shipped in a British vessel and brought to England, and therefore costing very little?—The greater part came from Rio.

14571. Are you aware that that quantity of coffee that came from Rio by way of the Cape was never suited to this market?—I know it did not pay the importer.

14572. Supposing the cultivation of Ceylon were to go on, as it has done during the last five or six years, rapidly increasing, seeing that we have already imported 34,000,000 lbs. of colonial coffee last year, and that our consumption is altogether 37,000,000 lbs., you must own that a very little increase to this quantity will make a larger entire supply of colonial coffee than our entire consumption?—But we cannot expect the production of Ceylon to continue to increase, because we know that during the last four or five years very few new plantations have been opened, so that if you commenced even now to plant coffee again in Ceylon it would not affect the production till three or four years afterwards.

14573. The reduction of the price has been caused in consequence of the reduced protection?—I apprehend in a considerable measure, combined with the increased production of Ceylon.

14574. If you were to increase your production, and you had confidence in an increase of protection, would not that have the effect of restoring this increased cultivation?—Nothing that could be done would, I think, give colonists so much confidence in the course of legislation in this country as would induce them to increase it; from year to year the policy of this country has changed so rapidly.

14575. Do you think it would be wise in Government, if they could not give a protection in which the colonists would have confidence, to give it at all?—If I were asked what, in my opinion, should be done with reference to the duty, the best arrangement that could be made would be a general reduction of duty on all coffee, leaving us a protection.

14576. Do you think it would be beneficial to your interests to reduce the duty on colonial coffee to 1 *d.* and foreign coffee to 2 *d.*?—Yes.

14577. At the present moment you have a protection amounting to 2 *d.* a lb.?—I think it is rendered ineffective by the great quantity of low quality coming from Ceylon, as I have explained before.

14578. The reduction of duty would not alter the relative quality?—No, but it would alter the consumption in this country very materially.

14579. The increased price would apply to all the Brazil and St. Domingo coffees which are now kept out of consumption, because they are not so suitable to this market as the produce of Ceylon?—If they were not suitable they would not come in. The whole quantity of Ceylon coffee that went to the Continent last year was 142 tons.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14580. At present you have a protection of 2 *d.* a lb., which is equal to 18 *s.* 8 *d.* a cwt. ?—Yes.

14581. Supposing you were to lower the duty, and reduce it to 1 *d.* and 2 *d.*, it would only be a protection of 9 *s.* 4 *d.* to you ?—Yes.

14582. Do you think that would be as efficient a protection as you have at present ?—I do not think either would be very efficient. I think the consumption of coffee in this country would not increase so rapidly as to take off the whole of the Ceylon coffee till a number of the plantations fall into decay, as they are rapidly doing.

14583. What has been the effect of this great reduction in price upon the consumption in this country ?—I find in the two last years, in which coffee fell very much in price, the total consumption increased 300 tons.

14584. That is comparing 1846 and 1847 ?—Yes; if you go back as far as 1840, there is an increase of 5,000 tons.

14585. An increase of the price would have the effect of diminishing the consumption ?—No doubt.

14586. Do not you think it would be prejudicial to you if the consumption were materially diminished by the increased price ?—If it arose from increased protection, it would increase the consumption of British-grown coffee, though it might on the whole diminish the entire consumption. I stated in the beginning of my examination the reason why, in 1844, we began to doubt the profit likely to result from the speculation.

14587. Do not you think that your difficulties in Ceylon arise much more from those charges to which you have referred, the great cost of carriage and the great price of labour consequent upon the high price of rice, than upon any difference of protection which you enjoy in this market ?—I suppose it arises partly from both.

14588. Do you see any means through the medium of protection, by raising the price to the consumer and increasing the quantity produced in the colony, of giving any permanent relief to the colony ?—I think such improvements as the reduction of the cost of labour and of transit would have a good effect upon a great number of the cultivators of Ceylon; but there are a great many of the estates which are now so near the verge of being given up, that they would be given up before those remedies could be of any avail.

14589. Do you believe it possible, in the present state of public opinion in this country, that a higher differential duty than 50 per cent. should be given upon any article at all ?—I have not any very great hope of it myself, though public opinion in this country alters very much, and sometimes without any good reason.

14590. Do you know any article at the present moment which is so highly protected as coffee ?—I cannot recollect any just now; there may be.

14591. But you do not know of any ?—I do not recollect any.

14592. You cannot tell the Committee any article which is protected so highly as coffee, which has an advantage of 50 per cent. in the duty ?—I do not recollect one at present.

14593. Do you know any article which has a protection of one-half the amount which coffee has ?—There may be; cocoa, I find by referring to the paper before me, has 100 per cent. protection. I think it is a matter for consideration whether coffee of the average value of Ceylon, taking it at 35 *s.*, should pay so high a duty as 100 per cent. upon its value. I think upon an article such as coffee the duty of 4 *d.* a pound and 5 per cent. additional, amounting together to 39 *s.* 2 *d.*, being considerably more than 100 per cent., is too high a duty, upon the same plea that the tea duties are constantly agitated; and it might be further stated that when the duty was 6 *d.*, it was not so high *ad valorem* as it is now at 4 *d.* Had it been reduced in proportion, it would now be as low as 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per pound.

14594. Can you tell the Committee what the calculation in Colombo is of the cost of conveying coffee from the plantations to the shipping port; it is stated in a Colombo paper that the cost of conveying coffee varies from 6 *s.* to 12 *s.* a cwt. from the estate to the coast ?—I have no doubt that estates which are at a great distance from the coast pay as much as that, but none of those do so with which our firms are connected.

14595. In fact the cost of conveying the produce, in consequence of bad roads, is nearly equal to half the protection you at present enjoy in the duty ?—Not only does it arise from the badness of the roads, but from a deficiency in the means of transport.

14596. If

14596. If you had good roads you would have better means of transport, would not you?—The roads would of course facilitate the transport. R. Christian, Esq.

14597. The natives in the island of Ceylon are complained of as being an extremely idle race of people?—That is not my opinion; a great many persons say so. 30 March 1848.

14598. Is it from want of population that you are obliged to have recourse to the Malabar coast for labourers?—The demand for labour increased rapidly from increased cultivation, and the Cingalese population were employed upon their own small properties, which they did not choose to leave.

14599. You do not attribute much of it to their indolence and indisposition to work?—Decidedly not. I know a great many persons say they are indolent, but I think not.

14600. Do you know the chief difference between the condition of your labourers in Ceylon and in Java, where they produce coffee so much cheaper?—I do not.

14601. Are you aware that the Java labourer has invariably a large quantity of rice field attached to every plantation, which enables him to subsist very cheaply?—I do not know that. I know the price of rice is much less than with us.

14602. You are not aware that the Dutch government make a rule of appropriating a certain quantity of land to every village where they grow coffee; that they always take care that a sufficient quantity of land shall be in rice cultivation, and that it is the duty of the local administrator of the island to see that done, in order to give a sufficient maintenance to the population from home-grown rice upon the spot?—I am not aware of it.

14603. You are not aware that that is one of the great reasons why the more perfect administration of the island leads to great advantages in the island of Java in the diminution of the cost of labour, and the facilities with which they produce their coffee?—However willing the government of Ceylon might be to attach rice lands to the coffee estates, they cannot get them. Rice requires to be cultivated on irrigated land, and we have no means of doing that unless to a small extent. In the northern part of the island there are large tanks, but they have long fallen into decay.

14604. The only way in which the difficulty might be got over would be by abolishing the duty upon its importation?—Yes; abolishing the duty both on the growth and importation of rice.

14605. Do not you think it is a very injudicious thing to tax rice?—It is most injudicious.

14606. In other respects Ceylon is considered to be a highly favourable climate and soil for the growth of coffee?—I believe the soil and climate in the interior of Ceylon is very favourable, but that always entails upon you a great cost of transport to the shipping port.

14607. In Java they have also a great cost of transport, more than you have in some parts?—I do not think they have more upon the average.

14608. There is nothing you know of but the difference of cost in labour, consequent upon the cost of living, which places you in a worse position than Java?—The cost of transport is greater with us.

14609. That is only in consequence of the want of roads?—And in consequence of the distance from the shipping port. As regards the taxation of Ceylon, the rice duty I consider the very worst that could be imposed, and in addition to that the salt monopoly, and they have recently increased the tax on the importation of salt fish.

14610. Is it true that it is in contemplation to put a poll tax upon the people?—I believe it is; I have heard it was mooted to put a poll tax upon them, or rather to revert again to the forced labour which used to exist in Ceylon, to make every man work six days upon the public road, or find a substitute.

14611. Supposing an increase of protection is not possible, or does not take place, but that there is a great probability of the diminution of your production rather than otherwise, the only remedies which you could suggest for the improvement of the island of Ceylon would be a reduction of the expenditure, an improvement in the roads, a repeal of the taxes charged upon rice, the necessary of life, upon both the importation and the growth of it, and of the salt monopoly?—Yes.

14612. Apart from the question of protection, those are the chief things which occur to your mind as lying within the power of the Government or the Legisla-

R. Christian, Esq.
30 March 1848.

ture to improve the condition of the island?—Apart from protection, the chief benefit that could happen to us would be a reduction of the import duty on coffee here.

14613. And the duties generally?—Yes, not a small reduction, but such a reduction as would at once affect the consumption in this country materially; the small reductions of duty have constantly gone into the hands of the middlemen, the retailers, and others; the public take a long time to get the benefit of them.

14614. Do you think the public would be very willing to submit to a higher income tax to make up for the deficiency in the revenue thereby caused?—You asked me the opinion of the public in reference to it; I think it is fair to bring to the notice of the Committee a tax of upwards of 100 per cent., which 4 *d.* is, upon our coffee.

14615. You are not aware that Penang sugar, which is worth 8*s.* in bond, pays 14*s.* duty?—If it is so, that is no reason why we should also be taxed so heavily.

14616. Are not you also aware that common tea, worth 8 *d.* a lb., pays 2*s.* 1½ *d.* duty?—That I know perfectly; I think all three come in the same category; if you lower the duty on tea you should lower the duty on sugar and on coffee.

14617. You will admit that that is rather a question of revenue than anything else?—It bears upon our local prosperity as planters.

14618. Not upon your local prosperity as Ceylon planters only?—If we are benefited, all the world may be benefited too.

14619. Supposing tea and other things were reduced in the same proportion, they would also be increased in consumption, therefore all the benefit which you expect would not result to you?—I have no doubt that the consumption of tea and coffee would go on increasing together.

14620. Mr. Miles.] The great increase in the production began in 1837, did not it?—Yes.

14621. The agitation which you were asked about in favour of free trade began in 1840?—I recollect perfectly well, when I left this country in 1838, there was very little agitation upon the subject, or at least there was very little attention paid to it.

14622. In 1841 Government proposed their first measure for the reduction of those differential duties?—I think so, and resigned soon after.

14623. In 1842 you had a large protection given you by the new Government?—We had.

14624. Upon the faith of that the colonists set to work to increase their cultivation?—Yes, it had a beneficial effect upon the price, and tended to increase the cultivation.

14625. Then you had every reason to believe that you would enjoy this protection for some considerable period?—In this way, it showed we had reason to think so; the cultivation of coffee then commenced would only yield a return in four or five years.

14626. When was the last reduction made?—In 1844.

14627. In reality, before you had the power of bringing this increased cultivation into operation the protection was diminished upon you before you reaped any advantage?—Yes.

14628. Since that time therefore you have been retrograding?—Yes.

14629. The prices have been constantly falling since that time?—Yes.

14630. And the condition of the planter has been becoming worse?—Yes; and yet his production has been increasing, because it was the result of previous cultivation; he had no power over it at all. Had coffee required to be annually planted, I have no doubt, instead of the production of Ceylon, having increased during the last two or three years, it would materially have diminished.

14631. Have you any idea how many estates will go out of cultivation?—I should think two-thirds of the whole.

14632. Has there been any difficulty in obtaining capital to carry on those properties?—I do not think the coffee planter of Ceylon could, either here or in Ceylon, raise money upon his properties; we would neither ourselves, nor would we advise any persons to advance money.

14633. Do you know at all whether the consumption of coffee has been most increased in the inferior sorts or in the better sorts of coffee?—I have no certain means of knowing the proportion.

14634. Can you give any idea of it?—No, I cannot state whether the increase has been chiefly upon the better or the inferior sorts.

14635. Sugar

14635. Sugar cultivation has been already set on foot in Ceylon, has not it? *R. Christian, Esq.*
—Yes.

14636. What state are the sugar properties in there; are they prosperous or not?—I think all except one have been given up, or are in the course of being given up. *30 March 1848.*

14637. Do you know whose that is?—I think the one which still continues belongs to the firm of Hudson, Chandler & Co.

14638. Has not Lord Elphinstone property there?—Yes, he had; but I do not think he is exporting any sugar from it.

14639. As far as the sugar cultivation goes, you do not think that it will be grown there for exportation?—No.

14640. Is that from the high price of land, or the difficulty of obtaining labour?—It is owing in a great measure to the land near the coast not being suitable for it; the land is poor; and then in the interior where the soil is good the carriage comes to so very heavy an item of cost.

14641. Therefore you do not think it is likely that Ceylon will export any considerable quantity of sugar?—I think not.

14642. You have plenty of labour in Ceylon, have not you?—Yes, but it is enhanced in cost by the price of food.

14643. Have you stated what the value of a day's labour is in Ceylon?—It is from 6 *d.* to 8 *d.* a day on the coffee estates.

14644. Is there any difficulty in obtaining plenty of labour?—Sometimes there is, but not generally.

14645. How many hours in the day does the labourer work?—It is very various, according to the season of the year or the management of the estate?—I forget the usual hours.

14646. Does he work 10 hours a day?—I think it used to be about 10 hours a day; he commenced soon after sunrise; from about 6 to 10, and from 12 to 5 or 6 again in the evening.

14647. Have there been any strikes among the labourers for higher wages?—Nothing that you would compare to a strike in this country; there has been no general combination among them; they have no property with them except what they can carry off, and if dissatisfied they leave the estate.

14648. Is there a great competition for them?—There was; it has fallen off now.

14649. Did the condition of the labourer improve during that time?—The condition of the labourer improved very much. I do not think the condition of the Malabar labourer improved much. The condition generally of the inhabitants improved very much.

14650. There was a large importation, was there?—There was.

14651. Do they come merely to take off the coffee and go back?—They come for 9 or 10 months, or something longer.

14652. Do they come of their own accord?—A few have been brought by planters.

14653. Are you allowed to make any contract with the labourers in Ceylon?—Now we are. I believe formerly no contract was allowed by law to be binding for more than a month; now that is altered; there is no practical inconvenience felt now from the state of the law, so far as I know.

14654. *Mr. Moffatt.*] In reference to the statement you have given in, showing the cost of a crop on an estate in the island of Ceylon in the year 1846-47, I find the total cost was 6,608 *l.*; have you any detail how that cost arose?—If you will look over the paper you will find it, as far as I can give it.

14655. You appear to have obtained from this estate for the year in question 215 tons; how many men were employed in the production of that crop?—I cannot state.

14656. Can you give the Committee any idea of the number of men it takes to produce five tons of coffee?—You require more men in crop time than during the rest of the year, but to keep the estate clean you require a considerable number all the year round.

14657. You have never made an estimate of what number of men per 10 acres would be required upon a coffee plantation?—I cannot tell that, it varies from local circumstances.

14658. You stated that the cost of labour was 6 *d.* per diem?—That is to say, the average cost of it on estates best situated for a supply of it.

R. Christian, Esq.
30 March 1848.

14659. The day's labour is about 10 hours?—Yes, about that.
14660. And they work six days in the week?—They work 5½ days; they have Saturday afternoon as holiday.
14661. They have no holidays as in Catholic countries?—No, I think not; if they have any holidays they are not paid for them.
14662. Are the salaries paid to the superintendents large?—The salary of the head superintendent upon that estate was large, that is to say, it was about 400*l.* a year; but that has been reduced this year to the extent of about 100*l.*; 300*l.* instead of 400*l.*; the reduction would not materially affect the cost.
14663. You cannot give the Committee any idea of the number of men employed upon this estate?—I do not think I could. Except in crop time, or in seasons when they are repairing the roads and other extra work, there are, perhaps, 200 or 250 people employed, but that is not to be taken as very positive; in crop time our expenses, in every possible way, are increased for labour. I should think you have double the number of people at crop time for about three months.
14664. According to the statement, coffee appears to cost, exclusive of charges of transit, and those charges which accrue in this country, about 30*s.* per cwt.?—Yes, 32*s.* per cwt., without any interest on capital invested.
14665. Was that plantation coffee?—Yes.
14666. You were understood to state that you desired at least the maintenance of the present protecting duty as regards coffee the produce of slave labour?—There has never, with respect to coffee, been any distinction drawn between slave and free labour.
14667. It is by reason of the allegation that slave labour is cheaper than free labour that you claim protection for Ceylon coffee, is it not?—In some measure, I presume, it is so, because the coffee produced in slave countries lowers the price generally of coffee produced by foreign countries cultivated by freemen.
14668. Do you mean that in countries where slave labour is exclusively used, coffee is produced cheaper than where free labour is used?—I do not know which system produces cheaper.
14669. Your sole reason for seeking the maintenance of the present protection is to give an increased price to the production of coffee?—Quite so.
14670. That is your sole reason for seeking an increase in the present protecting duty?—I do not think there is any other reason for it, except that it may have the effect ultimately of reducing the price instead of raising it. If the Ceylon estates are allowed to be thrown out of cultivation, this country will be thrown upon foreign coffee entirely.
14671. It is perfectly clear that you can produce cheaper than other countries?—That I do not know.
14672. Assuming coffee in Brazil to cost 38*l.* a ton, it is clear that you in producing this fine plantation Ceylon at 32*l.* a ton can produce upon more advantageous terms than they can?—That is the answer given by another witness. I know nothing of the cost of production in foreign countries; 32*l.* or 33*l.* a ton is the cost on an estate favourably situated, and without any interest on capital.
14673. Assuming that to be the cost of production in foreign countries, there is very little reason to fear that it will be necessary for Ceylon to abandon its cultivation?—It is not the general belief in the colony that it costs so much in Brazil as you state to be the fact, nor is it my own belief.
14674. Have you made any estimate how far the taxation raised in Ceylon presses upon the cost of the production of coffee?—I have made no calculation; it would be very difficult to arrive at it in figures.
14675. It appears from official returns that the total value of the exports are 500,000*l.*, of which coffee makes considerably more than one-half?—Yes.
14676. Upon that showing there must be a considerable amount of taxation which must fall upon the production of coffee?—Of course there is.
14677. Therefore if a large reduction in the expenditure of the government of the island could be introduced, that would enable you to produce your coffee at less cost?—Yes, but it would not affect us for two or three years to come.
14678. Does the outlay upon the estate of which you have given the particulars to the Committee represent the ordinary outlay upon coffee estates of similar extent?—It is under the general cost.
14679. With so large a capital originally invested, for one bad year are the producers of coffee likely to abandon the cultivation?—They will not abandon the cultivation for one bad year, but repeated years resulting in the same loss would induce

induce them to abandon it, if they see no hope of improvement; many under any circumstances must abandon, as they cannot raise money to carry on their cultivation.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14680. There has been only one year yet in which the prices have fallen so low as you have quoted?—I am aware that the price is lower than it has ever yet been, but it does not follow that next year it will be higher; though my own opinion is that all coffees will be very much dearer very soon.

14681. If they are dearer then the estates will be rendered more profitable?—They will be rendered profitable.

14682. Can you inform the Committee the proportion of native and plantation coffee which is exported?—Last year there were 7,173 tons of native, and 5,309 tons of plantation.

14683. It appears that the larger proportion of coffee sent from Ceylon is native coffee?—Yes.

14684. To which the chief part of your evidence does not apply?—No.

14685. Can you give the Committee any information with regard to the cost of production of this larger portion of Ceylon coffee?—Only generally; it may be approached in this way: 32*s.* being the price here, deducting the various charges before you can give anything to the native grower, you have so small a sum that it is hardly possible it can pay him.

14686. What was the price on board according to the last quotations from Colombo?—22*s.* to 23*s.*

14687. Assuming that coffee is purchased at 22*l.* a ton free on board, that leaves a slight profit to the importer, does not it?—I do not think it does.

14688. It is simply a means of remittance?—Yes, it remits your money at par; but most of the coffee of this season was bought higher than last quotation.

14689. It appears that almost two-thirds of the coffee exported from Ceylon at the lowest price which has ever been known, now leaves no loss to the importer?—To the grower it leaves considerable loss; there is to be deducted from the cost, at Colombo, about 4*s.* for expense incurred after it is purchased from the natives; you may buy coffee from the natives in the bazaar, at Colombo, by the last accounts, at 18*s.* It has passed through one or two hands, the native dealers who collect it in the country beforehand, and it has also paid the expense of carriage from Kandy, which is considerable. I do not suppose you leave the native grower more than 5*s.* 10*d.* for expense of cultivation.

14690. The supply of native coffee increases, does it not?—It has increased; but every year the price has fallen.

14691. With a continual declension in the price of the article, the production has increased in the markets of Colombo?—The great fall of the native coffee has been within two or three years; last year it was 43*s.*

14692. Is there any guarantee that it will not be 43*s.* this time twelvemonth?—That I do not know.

14693. What is your opinion?—I have stated already that my belief is, that coffee will be dearer than it is at present.

14694. Are there unusual circumstances which are at present affecting coffee?—There are unusual circumstances affecting all articles of produce.

14695. Consequently the present low price of coffee is no fair criterion of what its value is likely to be over a series of years?—The extreme depression at the present moment is no criterion, but the average price of last year is a criterion.

14696. The average price of native Ceylon coffee, last year, was 42*s.*?—Ten shillings more than at present, at this date last year; it fell in the latter part of the year.

14697. That left a profit to the importer?—They bought it dearer than they have done this year. It did not leave much profit; but I do not think the profit to the importer is any guide as to what it cost the native to grow it.

14698. Has not the decline been very steady for the last six or seven years in the price of Ceylon coffee?—It has been steady, but there may be a point between the cost five years ago and the present price at which it did pay them.

14699. You stated that in the main the coffees imported from Ceylon were as cheap, irrespective of duty, as the coffees imported from any other part?—At the present prices I suppose they are the cheapest coffees in this country. Under the present state of the duty, I believe Ceylon coffee is the cheapest.

R. Christian, Esq.

30 March 1848.

14700. The quality considered, the bulk of it is as cheap as any quality that enters into the market of Europe?—At the present moment.

14701. Your information applies to all, except a portion of the finest qualities?—Yes.

14702. What proportion should you say that is?—I should say it is a small proportion.

14703. How much of your own imports do you obtain above 50s. a cwt.?—We get hardly any of the finer qualities; the few estates we are still connected with are those that gives large crops; those giving a very small crop just in the first few years have given better qualities of coffee. The six estates we are connected with did give better qualities some years ago than they do now.

14704. Taking the present market value, do you think there are 500 tons of coffee imported from Ceylon that would realize 50*l.* a ton?—I do not think so.

14705. It appears if that estimate be accurate, that protection only benefits you to the extent of its operation upon 500 tons of coffee?—Probably those between 35*s.* and 40*s.* are favoured to some extent. All those above 42*s.* or 44*s.* are favoured by the protecting duty; it is not a point I can ascertain very readily.

14706. When you were giving evidence in regard to the tax on rice, you stated it as 7*d.* a bushel?—Yes.

14707. What weight is a bushel estimated to contain?—Two and a half bushels weigh a cwt. and a half.

14708. Can you state what the quantity of rice imported year by year is?—In 1844 the import was 2,350,000 bushels.

14709. Can you state what the value of that rice is?—I have given in a memorandum of the value, according to the Ceylon custom-house, of rice imported for four or five years.

14710. How much per cent. does the tax amount to upon it?—I think about 25 per cent. and upwards, according to quality.

14711. This rice forms the main article of food among the labourers of Ceylon?—Nearly the sole article.

14712. Is there any charge upon the rice land?—The tax upon the rice land is nominally a tenth part of the produce, but that has been commuted by the government in nearly every instance, so that I suppose it is considerably less than that; that is to say, it is commuted to a lower rate than that.

14713. Whence do you principally obtain your rice?—From various ports in India, from Cape Comorin, half way up to Madras, and recently from Arracan.

14714. Do you export produce to those places in return for the rice?—No, the remittances sent to India for that rice consist to a considerable extent in bills, by drafts in this country, or on the presidencies of India.

14715. By what authority are the taxes raised in Ceylon?—Under the sanction of the Legislative Council of the island, and allowed by the Colonial Office here.

14716. How is the Legislative Council constituted?—It consists of the governor, and nine official members and six non-official members.

14717. How are the non-official members appointed?—By the governor.

14718. The whole council is at the nomination of the governor?—Yes.

14719. So that there is no representative system in Ceylon?—No; the selection of those six members of the council has been considered fair by the community; three of them are generally members of European houses, and three are native members.

14720. That is, six in a council of 16?—Yes; with the governor having a double vote.

14721. Has any attempt on the part of the planters been made to limit the expenditure?—No, whatever the council do must have the consent of the Government at home.

14722. Mr. Villiers.] You have been in Ceylon?—I have.

14723. Were you there in Sir Edward Barnes's time?—No.

14724. When was it the labour was emancipated there, and it was no longer in the power of the Government to use forced labour?—I forget the year; it took place before I went to Ceylon; it was considerably before 1838.

14725. There is no longer forced labour in the island?—There is not now; but it is proposed to re-introduce something extremely like it.

14726. The planters used to have the benefit of this forced labour before it was abolished, did not they?—I have heard it stated that they had some benefit from it; I cannot speak from my own knowledge.

14727. Have

14727. Have you heard complaints among the planters that they have not sufficient control over their labourers?—When the estates were being first brought into cultivation, there was great competition among the planters for labourers, but that has very much fallen off, and I do not think any complaints exist now; at least not to the extent they did some years ago, as to the difficulty of enforcing agreements with the labourers.

14728. Are you to be understood that there is plenty of labour?—There is a plenty of labour at a certain price; there are number of Malabar coolies come over constantly, and if the planter can afford to pay them a certain price he can get as many of them as he wants.

14729. Has not it been rather a complaint lately that he has had to pay too much?—They do complain that they have to pay too much with reference to the return they get from their estates; but the price of labour entirely depends, I apprehend, upon the price of the labourers' food; they cannot live cheaply.

14730. So that whatever the supply of labour was, they could not work for less than they do work for now?—Not much; we find that immediately the planter endeavours, as many have done, to reduce the cost of wages, his labourers leave him.

14731. Is not it rather a party sort of question in the island, the treatment of the coolies; are not they refractory sometimes; and is not there a party in the island who side with the coolies, and another who think that the planter should have more control?—I dare say there are two opposite opinions on that point; I have not heard lately that there has been much discussion.

14732. They get the labour done by contract by those Malabars and coolies, do not they?—No; those Malabars and coolies are paid so much a day.

14733. They come over for the period of a year, do not they?—They probably remain a year or a year and a half; they remain till they have saved something.

14734. It is no reason for the depression that exists among that interest that they cannot get labour enough; they have plenty of labour at a low price?—I think the price is high.

14735. There is no difficulty in getting labour there, but owing to the price being high the cost of production is enhanced?—Yes.

14736. Are you to be understood that the cost of labour might be reduced in consequence of there being an ample supply of labour if the price of provisions were lower?—I have no doubt of it.

14737. Do you consider that it is only the tax upon imported food which tends to enhance the price of provisions?—Not entirely so; the cost of conveying food to the interior raises the price of it and the price of labour, but to the extent of the tax the price of labour is enhanced.

14738. Is the cost great of transit for the food?—The cost is very great.

14739. Are there good roads in Ceylon?—From Colombo to Kandy there is a very good road.

14740. Where is the food landed?—At Colombo.

14741. Are the roads good to the interior?—To Kandy; but the planter has generally to carry it 20 or 30 miles further by a district road, which is always bad, sometimes extremely so.

14742. This is chiefly rice?—Yes, and other small articles.

14743. Will rice not grow in Ceylon?—Not profitably, except on a few pieces of land.

14744. There are parts of the island which are as well suited to rice as any country in the world, are there not?—A small portion here and there which can be irrigated.

14745. Is not there a great deal of marsh land in Ceylon?—There is a great deal of jungle, but it is dry jungle; a great part of Ceylon is dry jungle.

14746. Do you know what the revenue of the island is; is it a considerable part of the amount which is raised by this tax?—It amounts to 50,000 *l.* a year upon the import of rice, and as much more upon the local growth of rice, which is also taxed.

14747. Do you mean that home-grown rice is taxed, or that by taxing what is imported they raise the price of all that is grown at home?—The home-growth is taxed.

14748. Salt is not an indigenous production; it is imported, is not it?—The Ceylon government are manufacturers of salt; they have a monopoly, and in the

R. Christian, Esq.
30 March 1848.

northern district, where the climate is suitable, they have salt pans, which manufacture to a large extent.

14749. Then there is a duty upon the importation of foreign salt?—It is prohibited except when the Ceylon manufacture fails, then it is allowed to be imported at a very high duty; one year they made but little salt, and they allowed it to be imported at 2 s. 6 d. a bushel.

14750. Is that an article which any native can dispense with?—No, he uses more than a European does.

14751. Does the benefit of that monopoly go to the revenue?—Yes.

14752. There is an export duty upon salt, is not there?—No; if I wish to send a quantity of salt to Calcutta I apply to the government, and make a contract with them at about 4 d. a bushel, which is the price they sell for export; but they will not allow me to resell that salt for consumption in the island.

14753. They allow you to buy it at a lower price than they sell it to the natives?—The price they sell it for home use is about 2 s. 4 d. to 2 s. 8 d.

14754. Is there a duty upon salted provisions?—By the tariff they have imposed a duty of 1 s. 6 d. a cwt. upon salt fish imported.

14755. Is that a reduction?—That must be an increase; it came in before at five per cent. *ad valorem* duty.

14756. Is this since the late governor has gone out?—Yes.

14757. Is salt fish much consumed by the inhabitants?—To a considerable extent; all the custom-house duties, except export duties, have been raised.

14758. But the export duty of cinnamon has been reduced?—It is to be lowered, in September next, to 4 d.

14759. Do we chiefly get cinnamon from Ceylon?—Chiefly.

14760. Does the export duty limit the export of it?—To a certain extent it must have done so, particularly the lower qualities.

14761. Is there any export duty on coffee?—Up to September next the export duty is 2 ½ per cent.; it then ceases.

14762. What are the other sources of the revenue; there is a tax upon verandahs, is not there?—No, that is not a tax; it is a grievance which has been recently brought forward, from the Government insisting upon encroachments upon the roads and streets being removed, or else paid for.

14763. Do you consider that it would be a considerable relief to the planter in Ceylon if those duties upon imports were removed?—If the duties on imports of food were removed the relief would be very great.

14764. Or anything else which enhances the cost of labour?—Yes.

14765. Is there any other suggestion you have to make, by which you would consider that the interest with which you are connected would be relieved?—No, except the duties on rice, and as regards the expenses of the government of Ceylon, except the question of the import duties on coffee here, which appear to me, being more than 100 per cent., to be too high.

14766. *Chairman.*] Is not there a little job about those verandahs?—I cannot say that there is any job about them; but I know that that has been said, and a good deal of discussion has taken place. I believe it has been made the source of complaint to Lord Grey, directed chiefly against Sir Emerson Tennent; my own feeling is, that although it did increase somewhat his income, that was quite an accidental circumstance.

14767. Is not this the real state of the case, that the natives have very generally built out their verandahs, encroaching upon the public roads, which are Crown property; it being discovered that this was an encroachment the Crown interposed to enforce its rights and oblige those natives to purchase the land?—Yes, or have the verandah removed.

14768. Of course they all purchased their rights?—No, a great many stood out; not for the sake of the money, but thinking it was a great hardship; and they allowed the Government to enforce it by pulling down by main force the verandahs of the houses.

14769. In point of fact, the charge made for the compromise was small, in individual cases, was not it?—I do not think the Government exacted a very high price from them.

14770. But then wherever there was a sale of land there was a fee?—Yes, on the title deed.

14771. For every sale of land there was a fee, which became the perquisite of the governor?—Of the colonial secretary; but I should state that I know from
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my partner in Ceylon, who is a member of the council, that Sir Emerson Tennent showed and satisfied the members of the council that what he did get from those fees was not a large sum. I can only state that from a private letter from my own partner. It did attract great attention; and some parties said it was done for the purpose of those fees accruing to Sir Emerson Tennent; but from the letter I received I think that a great deal more was made of it, as regards him, than there should have been.

14772. The whole proceeding was very obnoxious?—Yes, it was, no doubt; it was probably introduced without much consideration for the feeling of the natives; there was, probably, more in the manner of doing it than the hardship it subjected them to.

14773. Do you know what the amount of the fee upon the transfer of property is?—It is in proportion to the value; the table is published in the Gazette.

Mr. William Hugh Lawson Syers, called in; and Examined.

14774. Mr. Moffatt.] YOU are largely interested in the coffee trade with Venezuela?—I am.

14775. You have been some years engaged in that branch of commerce?—Yes.

14776. Can you inform the Committee what proportion of free labour and what proportion of slave labour they employ in the production of coffee?—There is now no slave labour employed in the production of coffee.

14777. There are a few slaves in the country, are not there?—Yes; they are upon the sugar estates.

14778. The production of coffee is exclusively carried on by free labour?—Yes; there may be half a dozen slaves.

14779. Do you know what proportion the slave population bears to the free population?—I should say there was not above 100 slaves in the whole republic.

14780. The labour is practically entirely free in Venezuela?—Yes; in consequence of a decree passed some 25 years ago, the then existing slaves were emancipated.

14781. Can you inform the Committee what is the cost of labour at the present time?—I have it exactly for coffee; the cost of picking from the trees is 6 s. sterling per 100 lbs. English, equal to 10½ lbs. Spanish.

14782. Can you give the Committee an accurate idea in regard to the cost per diem of labour?—Yes; for the remainder of the process it is 2 s. British sterling per day, upon the average of the year. In some parts the people are fed besides that, by the proprietors.

14783. What is the price of labour employed in hoeing and keeping the plantations clear?—Two shillings per day.

14784. So that the accurate quotation would be about 2 s. a day throughout the whole coffee-planting district; that is for men?—Yes.

14785. How many days in the week do they work?—I cannot exactly say, but they work six days, I believe; they have a great many Catholic holidays.

14786. For those holidays they are not paid?—No.

14787. How many hours of the day will they work at this price?—The usual hours in tropical climates; I do not exactly know; much the same as in British Guiana and the neighbouring colonies.

14788. Has the cultivation of coffee increased in Venezuela?—Very considerably; it has gone on steadily increasing.

14789. Can you give the Committee any idea of the exports?—In 1839, from the port of La Guayra, the exports were 4,682,221 lbs., and in 1840, 4,870,609 lbs., and in 1841, 6,268,646 lbs. We have not the exact returns lately, but I know that in 1846 there came to England alone 6,800,000 lbs.; that is a small portion of it; Germany takes the largest quantity. I should say there were four times as much as that sent to other countries.

14790. You estimate the export last year from Venezuela at about 25 million lbs.?—Yes, about that.

14791. Can you give any estimate of the export at the date of your first quotation?—From La Guayra, which is the principal port, it was 4,682,221 lbs.; that is from Sir Robert Ker Porter's account.

14792. So that it appears since the year 1839 the export of coffee from La Guayra has quadrupled?—I should say it had at least.

14793. Are you aware whether there has been any material advance in the value of labour within that time?—I should say not.

Mr.
W. H. L. Syers.
30 March 1848.

14794. Then it would appear that with an enormous cost for labour you have quadrupled your export of coffee from Venezuela within the last nine years?—
Yes.

14795. Are the coffee estates in Venezuela so situated that there is very little cost incurred in the conveyance of the produce to the seaboard?—Many estates are so situated that the cost is enormous.

14796. Can you give the Committee any information as to that?—This is from my brother, who is largely interested there; the carriage from the coffee estates to the place of shipment varies according to the distance, but the average of the whole will be fully 5 s. per quintal.

14797. That is equivalent to about 6 l. per ton?—To about 5 l. 15 s.

14798. The principal part of the coffee grown in Venezuela is subject to a charge amounting to 6 l. per ton before they reach the seaboard?—Yes, upon the average; there are very few roads.

14799. Under the treaties which the state of Venezuela may have entered into has she a protected market in any of the states of Europe?—None whatever.

14800. So that notwithstanding the high cost of labour and the great expense in transit, she competes successfully with all other coffee producing countries in the markets of Europe?—Yes, of course, or her production would not increase.

14801. To what cause do you attribute this successful production in Venezuela under those great difficulties?—I attribute it to the residence of the proprietors upon their estates, and to general good management; the coffee is generally a superior coffee; taking it on the average, it is superior to any coffee in the world.

14802. Do the coffee planters in Venezuela generally reside upon their estates?—Generally; they have generally a town-house in the Caraccas, but generally and at important times they are there continually.

14803. The eye of the master is continually upon the estate?—Never long away. On my brother's property there is some beautiful coffee grown by one of his tenants, and I suggested to him that he should plant upon his own account; but he objected to do so, because he said, I cannot superintend it, and though my tenant may make a profitable return, it would be a loss to myself, probably.

14804. The impression was general throughout Venezuela, that unless there is the personal attention and care of the proprietors, coffee planting is not profitable?—The result shows that.

14805. Have there been examples in which coffee planting has been tried without the personal care and superintendence of the proprietors?—Yes, I should say many. I am not aware of any being tried by persons not living in the country, but I know an instance of an estate which would produce as fine coffee as any in the world, but owing to the proprietor being a member of Congress his coffee is never good; it is worth about 40s., whereas it might be made worth about 70s. I had an interest in asking the question, because I thought, as being an importer, it would be a very desirable crop to import.

14806. The result of the information you obtained left a conviction upon your mind that the absentee proprietor would gain little, but a loss from cultivating the coffee?—I do not know that he makes a loss by it, but he might double his income were he present.

14807. The cultivation is much less successful than it would be were he present?—I should say not half so successful.

14808. Owing to the increase in the import of coffee from Ceylon, that of Venezuela, which was previously in considerable demand in this market, is almost excluded at present?—Almost; in 1845 the prices were good; in 1846 the import was to the extent of 100,000 l.; last year I imported 30,000 l. This year I shall not have a pound, nor shall I have any more till the duties are equalized.

14809. You believe the protective duty against Venezuela to the extent of 50 per cent. precludes the coffee being brought in?—Yes; it was only when the supply of British colonial coffee was short that we had a chance.

14810. Consequently the Venezuelans must send their coffee to Germany?—To all parts; to the United States, but to Germany principally.

14811. Has there been much export of British manufactures to Venezuela?—It has been very considerable to Colombia; that includes the republics of the Equator, Venezuela and New Grenada. We have no return for Venezuela separately.

14812. The population of Venezuela is much larger than that of the other portions of Colombia?—Yes; the others are of very little importance.

14813. What has been the export of the cotton manufactures of this country
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SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 75

sent to those places?—The cotton twist sent to Colombia in 1846 was eleven millions of pounds; I should say it is about half what goes to the British West Indies; in 1847 there were 25,000,000 lbs. of sewing thread, 91,777,000 lbs. in 1846.

Mr.
W. H. L. Syers.
30 March 1848.

[The Paper was delivered in, and is as follows:]

EXPORTS of the Chief ARTICLES of MANUFACTURES from London, Liverpool, Bristol, Hull, and Clyde, from 2 January to 31 December 1847, Compared with same Periods 1846.

	Cotton Twist and Yarn.		Thread and Sewing.		Plain Calicoes.		Printed and Dyed Calicoes.		Cambrics, Muslins, Lawns, and Lenos.	
	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.
British West Indies	27,516	21,242	54,593	39,866	13,203,370	11,825,985	19,716,145	14,584,166	502,662	418,570
Ceylon	50,000	63,890	8,777	3,064	4,030,533	2,235,704	604,190	363,080	25,232	1,637
Colombia	11,588	25,057	91,777	56,375	8,591,282	5,505,451	10,292,362	7,606,622	92,195	97,782

	Other Plain Cotton Goods.		Lace, Gauze, &c.		Counterpanes and Quilts.		Cotton Hoslery, Caps and Gloves.		Cotton Shawls and Handkerchiefs, Plain and Printed.		Tapes, Bobbins, &c.	
	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.
	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	No.	No.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.
British West Indies	72,769	50,263	317,454	179,418	23,135	21,467	24,517	14,554	40,748	33,231	1,430	908
Ceylon	1,248	2,176	58,970	140,909	24	18	969	1,743	166	2,350	None	None
Colombia	3,430	2,900	245,247	44,970	84	272	1,678	1,049	18,984	21,726	None	None

	Cotton and Linen Cloth, Mixed.		Cotton Goods Unenumerated.		Linen, British and Irish, Partly Value and Partly Quantity.				Woollen and Worsted Yarns.	
	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.		1847.		1846.	1847.
	Yards.	Yards.	£.	£.	£.	Yards.	£.	Yards.	Lbs.	Lbs.
British West Indies	153,966	92,302	36,304	18,198	51,954	5,916,507	38,868	5,770,333	-	1,120
Ceylon	350	910	521	154	4,806	33,494	477	11,310	-	-
Colombia	98,732	66,460	808	1,396	2,634	2,785,233	-	2,356,448	6,944	-

	Woollens and Cottons, Mixed.		Kerseymeres.		Long and Short Cloths.		Stuffs, Woollen and Worsted.		Heavy Woollens.	
	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
British West Indies	4,650	6,422	289	842	6,809	4,277	18,848	17,480	1,210	713
Ceylon	1,062	1,555	-	-	275	1,197	908	1,050	89	-
Colombia	1,187	1,010	-	-	-	-	30,889	26,099	472	140

	Shawls (Woollen).		Flannels and Blanketing.		Hosiery, Woollen and Worsted.		Woollens, Unenumerated.		Total of Woollens.		Silks, and Silk and Cotton, and Silk and Worsted, Mixed.	
	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.	1846.	1847.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
British West Indies	1,062	976	5,770	5,448	4,953	2,060	10,198	6,180	53,779	44,398	12,094	7,438
Ceylon	170	155	146	214	453	200	254	167	3,417	4,538	1,000	1,016
Colombia	137	346	1,070	2,520	444	85	13,340	4,763	48,713	44,063	1,785	1,410

Mr.
W. H. L. Syers.

30 March 1848.

The export of our goods is likely to be driven out by German competition; they have driven out the whole of the English houses by underselling them in the price of their fabrics; they are not so good, but they are lower in price.

14814. Is it by reason of the lower price of the articles which the Germans send to Venezuela, or their taking the produce of Venezuela in exchange?—It is attributable to both causes. I should say that chiefly they have established themselves by lower prices.

14815. Their being able to supply cheaper?—Yes; but of course the having direct returns is an important consideration to the merchant; everybody knows that a direct return in the produce of a country is of very great importance; we have only had direct returns since 1844.

14816. Can you state to the Committee what has been the increase in the export trade to Venezuela, since we have been able to take a portion of their produce in return?—I cannot state it exactly, but I should say it has not had time enough to develop itself; we had very little coffee from Venezuela till 1844.

14817. What was the value of our exports to Venezuela in 1839?—I should say, in 1839, about 100,000*l.*

14818. What was the value in 1844 and 1845?—They had increased about one-fourth; since then they have been decreasing; but I do not attribute it altogether to the coffee. I only look upon coffee as a thing which might encourage it for the future; it is the only thing we can bring from there of any importance.

14819. At what cost can you produce coffee of a fair average quality in Venezuela?—I never knew washed coffee to cost, on board, less than 44*l.* per ton, for the warm climate coffee; up to 58*l.*, for the mountain coffee.

14820. To that must be added the charges of freight and insurance, and the charges of selling in the English market?—Yes; I have known it much higher than that, but never lower.

14821. Can you state to the Committee what proportion of the cost of that coffee is borne by the labour?—Not exactly, but I should think from 20*s.* to 25*s.*; that is for washed coffee.

14822. The unwashed coffee is not suitable for this country?—No; it is badly flavoured.

14823. Do sugar and coffee constitute the larger portion of the exports of Venezuela?—Coffee does. The sugar is insignificant in amount. Coffee is the only thing that we can load a ship with.

14824. Is sugar cultivated in the same districts as coffee?—No; the best coffee is cultivated upon the mountains, and the sugar is cultivated in the plains; there are two places of cultivation for sugar; one is in the plains, which is used for home consumption.

14825. Do they clay their sugars in Venezuela?—They clay some of them; some are muscovado.

14826. Can you give the Committee any information with respect to the cost of producing sugar?—No further than as relates to the general price of labour.

14827. Where are the sugars of Venezuela principally exported to?—Some to the United States, but chiefly to England; they come chiefly to Liverpool.

14828. Do you know the cost on board?—I do not.

14829. Do they refine sugar in Venezuela?—There is a French gentleman who has established a refinery there; he buys the sugar.

14830. Does he export the refined sugar?—No.

14831. Is the general consumption of Venezuela refined sugar?—No; the chief consumption is what is called papillon, a very rude production in brown loaves.

14832. Are the syrups discharged?—No; they make it in cases or moulds. If it remains standing long, the syrup will run out of it like molasses or treacle. It is not fit for this country, nor for export; it is all consumed in the country.

14833. Is the export of sugar from Venezuela to Liverpool on the increase?—No; it has been about stationary.

14834. What do you estimate to be the quantity annually sent, during the last three years, from Venezuela?—When there was a protection to it, in consequence of its coming under the favoured nation clause, it was stimulated, and it was then brought over the mountains from all parts. As soon as that was taken away it fell

fell off considerably; but for the last two years it has been about 1,000 tons, and it may continue that.

14835. All their sugar pays a duty for home consumption of 20 *l.* per ton?—This year it will do so.

14836. The labour is the same in the plains, where the sugar is cultivated, as in the coffee districts?—Precisely the same, I should say.

14837. Your impression is, as a person largely engaged in trade with Venezuela, that unless there is an equalization of the duties on coffee, the trade with Venezuela will be lost?—Yes, that will be one chief cause of its decline; I believe it will be totally excluded from this market for home consumption. I know I shall never import another pound while it remains so.

14838. And you have been hitherto the largest importer?—Yes.

14839. Mr. Miles.] What is the total value of the export trade to Colombia from this country?—I have not formed an estimate of it. Comparatively, I should make it about half to two thirds of the trade with the British West Indies.

14840. You said coffee could not be put free on board ship at a less price than 44 *s.* a cwt.?—That is the washed coffee; that which is not washed would not be consumed in this country.

14841. Forty-four shillings is the lowest price at which coffee could be put free on board in Venezuela?—Yes, for the cheapest description of washed coffee.

14842. Have you any idea that it could be grown at a cheaper rate than that in Venezuela?—I cannot say.

14843. Do you think there is any chance of it?—I think it might be if labour were cheaper.

14844. How much cheaper?—Not materially cheaper.

14845. Not to yield any profit at all?—No; the grower could not make a living by it.

14846. What is the price of that washed coffee in the market, for home consumption?—It is without a price now. I hold 20,000 bags now, and I cannot sell any of it for home use.

14847. What is the weight of a bag?—One hundred pounds.

14848. What is the price for export?—For washed coffee in the present depressed state of things I could not get more than 35 *s.* for it, and it has cost me nearly 50 *s.* on the average.

14849. Is Venezuela coffee of a higher quality than Ceylon coffee?—It is superior in quality decidedly to Ceylon coffee. I should say washed La Guayra coffee is the best coffee in the world. My coffees ran from 44 *s.* up to 70 *s.* when I could sell them.

14850. By how much should you say it is better than Ceylon coffee?—It is very difficult to estimate it; taking the quality which costs 44 *s.* on board, coffee is now selling from Ceylon of a similar quality at 56 *s.*

14851. Upon the Ceylon coffee are all the freight and charges paid?—Yes. The coffee which costs 44 *s.* is now without a price here at all; the 20 *s.* protection drives it completely out of the market.

14852. Has there been any quantity of Venezuela coffee entered for home consumption here?—Yes; I should think I have sold to the amount of 50,000 *l.* worth in 1846 and 1847.

14853. Have you a plantation yourself in Venezuela?—My brother is a very large landholder there, but he has no coffee plantation of his own, because he says he cannot superintend it; he lets it off, and his tenants grow coffee.

14854. What rate of wages do they pay there?—Two shillings a day.

14855. How many hours labour do they get for that?—I cannot say exactly; but I presume what is usual in those countries.

14856. What is usual in those countries?—I cannot say that.

14857. You do not know that it is not 14 hours a day?—I should say it is not, from the character of the people; they are not very fond of work.

14858. Is it more than four hours a day?—I should say seven or eight hours.

14859. Do you know anything of the manner of obtaining labour there; do the labourers work every day in the week?—They work during the time they have no holidays; there are many Catholic holidays, which take them away sometimes a month at a time, and then you lose them from their work; and there is a general complaint of the scarcity of labour; and whenever there is anything political, for instance at the present time, there is no work to be done at all.

14860. Is there a want of continuous labour?—Yes.

Mr.
W. H. L. Syers.
30 March 1848.

14861. Is the planter very often impeded in taking off his crop, by the labourers leaving his estate and going to other places?—That is a matter of very frequent occurrence.

14862. Are there large losses sustained in this operation of planting?—Occasionally part of the crop is lost for want of picking.

14863. How many estates have you known that have lost their crops?—I cannot say; in my letters it has been frequently complained of by my brother, when he has been wanting to load ships.

14864. Upon what does the value of the coffee depend; upon the time of its being picked?—The value of the coffee chiefly depends upon the manner in which it is cured; coffee that may be one year worth 70s. may be only worth 40s. the next.

14865. Is that on account of the fault of the manager himself, or on account of the labourers not faithfully performing the work to which they are set?—If there is a want of labour at a critical time the crop gets spoiled; there is a great deal to be attributed to wet and dry seasons.

14866. Do they suffer much from changes of seasons there?—On the mountains, but not in the plains; the mountain coffee is very subject to wet weather, but if it is a fine season it would be 10s. per cwt. more valuable than the wet one, but in other seasons it may not be worth half the money, owing to bad curing.

14867. Do you attribute your not being able to compete with the coffee of Ceylon entirely to the protection of 2d., or do you attribute any part of it to the scarcity of labour?—I attribute it entirely to protection; we can bring large quantities, and have a direct trade if we had a fair field.

14868. If you had plenty of labour it would be impossible, you think, for you to reduce the cost of production?—No doubt it could be reduced, but not sufficiently reduced to compete with West India coffee and the Ceylon coffee; 20s. difference is so enormous.

14869. Do you think it impossible to reduce the cost of production to that extent?—Yes; still it might be reduced if labour were very abundant.

14870. You say it is perfectly impossible, notwithstanding you have high-priced labour and a great scarcity of it, to reduce the cost of producing a ton of coffee by 20s. per cwt.?—Quite impossible; there would be no chance whatever.

14871. You do not stand upon so good a footing as other foreign coffee, 5,000 tons of which we heard were imported last year?—That was partly ours; ours formed a material part of it. The duties in Liverpool were paid upon foreign coffee principally. It is very different in London, because the chief supply of Ceylon coffee is to London. I suppose this coffee which has been imported these last three years has paid a very considerable portion of the duty in Liverpool, probably one-fifth of the whole duty.

14872. You do not think there is the slightest hope of the importation of foreign coffee continuing?—Not the slightest for home consumption; it must be shut out if the production of Ceylon increases as it has done, or continues sufficient for the consumption of this country.

14873. You do not think, during the present year, any amount of the foreign coffee will be introduced for home consumption?—Some may; last year a great quantity was introduced, but it was all at the loss of the party who imported it.

14874. *Chairman.*] What is the process of curing coffee?—The first process is to pick it from the trees; it resembles a berry with a pulp; that is picked from the trees, and carried in baskets to the pulping mill.

14875. You do not call picking the berries from the trees "curing"?—No, but coffee which is not washed is not picked from the trees; it is shaken off, but that would injure it and spoil the flavour if it is to be washed.

14876. What is the process of curing coffee?—The first process is to put it through the pulping mill, and drag off the pulp; it falls from the mill upon a sloping wire; the pulp goes through the wire, and the berries fall into the basket; they are then taken and put into a trough of water, and there left all night. In the morning they are well stirred up and washed, and all the remaining pulp that adheres to them is washed away; after that they are spread upon barbicues to dry the coffee.

14877. What is the barbicue made of?—Various materials; some are wood, the best is a composition of lime and other materials, which harden.

14878. You mean a sort of floor?—Yes, the water runs off, and on this it is left perhaps, according to the weather, from 10 to 15 days; that is called the curing

curing of the coffee; it has a silver skin under the parchment skin upon it inside, which will not separate unless it is properly cured; by the effect of the sun this silver skin rises, and in the course of from 10 to 15 days the coffee is cured, and then they take it and put it under the peeling mill.

14879. This operation is out of doors exposed to the sun?—Yes.

14880. Of what thickness is the coffee laid upon those barbicues?—Sufficient for the sun to get at it all round.

14881. Have you seen the process yourself?—No; I have heard it minutely described; I have taken great pains to improve it.

14882. It does not require a man of any great understanding to be able to spread the coffee, does it?—If it is carelessly done, and put in a heap in one place and none in another, it will not cure. It requires an overlooker to go and see that it is properly managed; it is a very nice process, the curing of coffee, and it requires very great care.

14883. You never saw it yourself?—No, but I have been interested in it, and I have made minute inquiries about it.

14884. Altogether this process takes about 17 days?—From 10 to 15, this curing process.

14885. Would you have the Committee believe that there can be the difference between 40s. and 70s. in the value of coffee dependent upon such a simple process as this?—Yes, decidedly. If it is well cured it cannot spoil afterwards, but if it is not well cured, and put into a heap, it becomes bad in flavour.

14886. Nobody but a fool would put the coffee in a heap, would he?—He may not be a fool; in England we attach mere importance to the flavour of coffee than anywhere else.

14887. Do the coffee planters employ persons to cure their coffee who know nothing about the business?—Certainly not.

14888. All the skill required appears to be pretty much the same sort of skill which is required in making hay?—It requires more attention than that; they must have houses to put it in when it is wet, and then put it out again when it is dry; it is the care which is the chief thing, to watch it well, and if careless people are put to do it they will spoil it; it is in the same way that a man gains or loses by good or bad curing, but in a much greater with respect to coffee than hay.

14889. What length of period does it take to bring a coffee plantation to perfection?—It requires three years before they bear, and five years before the full growth; they generally last 25 years; after that they decline, and at 30 years they are generally past bearing.

14890. What quantity of coffee would an acre of favourable land bear?—That I cannot say exactly, because the land is so moderate in price, compared with land in this country, that we never estimate it; the estate I last purchased was 20,000 acres.

14891. How much coffee did that estate bear?—It had only one coffee estate upon it.

14892. How many acres were there under coffee cultivation?—That I cannot say. It was a very excellent plantation, and produced very fine coffee. The man was a very skilful man of that kind; he was a Frenchman, and resided upon the estate entirely; he is, in fact, the land agent, not agent for the coffee estate.

14893. Have you accounts of any of those estates?—No, I have not the results. We have no interest at all in the production of the coffee estates; those are my brother's tenants; he will not plant coffee on his own account.

14894. How many tenants has he?—I cannot say; he has been letting off lately very large quantities of land.

14895. Do you know what he lets his estate an acre for?—No.

14896. Has he purchased the estate?—Yes.

14897. How did he purchase this estate?—From a gentleman in this country; I purchased it for him.

14898. What did you pay for the estate?—I paid 2,000 *l.* It was considered at the time as worth 7,000 *l.* I purchased from a party who was in great difficulty.

14899. You purchased 20,000 acres at 2,000 *l.*, or 2 *s.* an acre?—Yes; but it was considered worth more. It includes every feature of the country; there is mountain in it, which was measured too.

14900. Does not the coffee grow on the mountain side?—Upon the slopes. On this estate there is only part of it that will do for coffee growing; there are

Mr.
W. H. L. Syers.
30 March 1848.

some parts of this land which are very favourable for coffee, but a large portion is not.

14901. You cannot tell how many acres are under coffee cultivation?—I cannot tell how many acres, but I should say there was not one one-hundredth part of it under cultivation.

14902. There were about 200 acres in coffee cultivation?—I do not know that there was. I should say there was not more.

14903. Do you know into how many different plantations this estate was divided?—There was only one coffee estate then upon it.

14904. Do you know into how many farms it was divided?—No.

14905. Do you know how many labourers were employed upon it?—No, I cannot say that.

14906. You do not know how many hours the labourers worked?—Not precisely; it was the usual time.

14907. Can you undertake to say that you know positively that 2s. a day is the rate of wages?—I do know it from positive information.

14908. How do you know it?—From my brother's information.

14909. Have you any written statement of that kind?—I have my brother's letter. (*Producing the same.*)

14910. It appears that 55s. is the price that your brother expects for the coffee in England?—He expects it will bring that upon the average, for the crop alluded to in the letter.

14911. It appears that it is only the labourers engaged in picking and curing that are paid the high wages of 2s.?—That is the general rate all over the country.

14912. How many pounds of coffee go to a bushel?—I cannot say.

14913. You have never yourself seen it?—No.

14914. Have you any other statement in detail as regards the price, than what is contained in your brother's letter?—No.

[*The following Extract from a Letter, dated La Guayra, the 7th of March 1846, was read.*]

“Picking coffee from the trees, free labour almost entirely, 6s. per 100 pounds. Free labourers employed pulping and washing, and attending to the coffee whilst drying, 2s. per day wages, and in some parts fed besides; pounding, winnowing, &c., 2s. per day wages; separating the bad coffee from the good, 1s. per quintal.

“Carriage from the coffee estate to the place of shipment varies according to the distance, but the average of the whole of the coffee shipped to England will be fully 5s. per quintal.

“Almost all the coffee sent from this country is the produce of free labour; slaves are getting scarce, and what there are, are generally employed on sugar estates; sugar, also, is almost the entire produce of free labour in many parts of the country.”

14915. Mr. *Moffatt.*] In reference to the estate which you purchased for your brother, I suppose those 20,000 acres were a vast tract of uncultivated land?—There was a tract in it very suitable for coffee, and that was one reason for purchasing it.

14916. *Chairman.*] How are the taxes levied in Venezuela?—By export and import duties.

14917. Are there no assessed taxes or direct taxes?—No, not that I know of. The country is in a very disturbed state just now; it is, in fact, in a state of civil war.

14918. How are the internal communications in that country?—It is only within the last three or four years that they have had a circuitous cart road to Caraccas, which is the principal market; formerly it was all brought on mules' backs over the mountains. There is no country in South America where it is so difficult to bring coffee to the coast, and there is no means of removing the difficulty.

14919. There is a great abundance of cattle in the country, is not there?—In the plains there is a very large quantity.

14920. Do they grow their own grain there?—They grow Indian corn.

14921. Rice?—No.

14922. Do they live chiefly upon Indian corn?—The natives boil Indian corn and eat it; but they eat the flesh of animals too, I think.

14923. The Brazilians live principally on beans, we have heard?—It is not the case

case in Venezuela; they live very well; the planters are very respectable people generally.

14924. The people themselves are a poor race?—Yes; it is a poor country.

14925. Mr. *Moffatt*.] In reference to the price of labour, your brother appears to have written to you that the cost of labour was 2s. per diem?—Yes.

14926. You have considerable acquaintance with Venezuela; have you ever received any other information confirmatory of that statement of the high price of labour?—I cannot tax my memory with it at present, but I fancy I have; I could not tell without referring to my letters.

14927. You have yourself no doubt of the perfect accuracy of that statement?—None whatever.

14928. It is not in any way coloured for any special purpose?—I am quite sure of it; that statement was made in the year 1846.

Mr.
W. H. L. Syers.
30 March 1848.

Sabbati, 1° die Aprilis, 1848.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Lord George Bentinck.
Sir Thomas Birch.
Mr. Cardwell.
Mr. Milner Gibson.
Mr. Goulburn.

Mr. Labouchere.
Mr. Matheson.
Mr. Miles.
Mr. Villiers.
Mr. Wilson.

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK, IN THE CHAIR.

John Wood, Esq., called in; and Examined.

14929. Mr. *Labouchere*.] WHAT situation do you hold under Government?—For the last 10 years I have been Chairman of the Excise.

14930. Have you had opportunities of examining into the effect of the restrictions caused by the Excise regulations in the manufacture of spirits?—I believe I have seen all the memorials which have been presented to the Government during the last 10 years, and I have also had an opportunity of referring to the papers in the office as to the memorials for many years previously.

14931. Have you had representations or communications submitted to you from time to time by the principal distillers?—Yes, many.

14932. Will you have the goodness to state them in detail?—The first, which was not to myself, but I have an authentic account of it taken at the time, and initialed by my predecessor Sir Francis Doyle, is what was stated by a deputation of distillers, who waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer; that deputation consisted of Mr. Atlee, of Wandsworth, Mr. Weymouth, of the house of Currie and Company of Bromley, and Mr. Smith, of Whitechapel. Mr. Weymouth, as all the rest of them, seemed to lay the great stress not upon the Excise restrictions, but on the Corn Laws, and from his observations it appears that he considered that they were entitled to, and that Lord Goderich had given to them a protection of 1s. 6d. as the differential duty between rum and British spirits; Mr. Atlee thought that 1s. 3d. per gallon was the expense to which the English distiller was liable from revenue regulations, from which the West India planter, in the case of rum, is exempted; Mr. Smith entered into detail as to the expenses of producing a gallon of spirits in this country. Mr. Smith stated that his expenses were 3s. 6½d. a gallon: grain 2s., yeast 2d., coals 3d., and labour 1s. 1½d. On Mr. Smith's statement it was remarked, that if the spirits cost him 3s. 6½d. per gallon, this with a duty of 7s., which was then the duty, would make 10s. 6½d. as the cost; but Mr. Smith also stated that British spirits were selling to the rectifier at 9s. 6d.; that that was the average price; and therefore, according to this calculation, Mr. Smith actually lost 1s. - ½d. upon every gallon which he made; and as he made about 700,000 gallons in the year, his loss must have been 36,458l. annually. They put in a paper stating the grounds on which Lord Goderich had made his calculation of 1s. 6d.

John Wood, Esq.
1 April 1848.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

Lord Goderich assumed that if there were no taxes of any kind in this country barley would be produced to the country at 24 s. a quarter, and adding 4 s. for the making of it into malt, the malt would be at 28 s.; that of course is exclusive of the duty. Then he calculated, in producing spirits, that $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of malt would be employed and $\frac{1}{3}$ ths of barley, which would cost two bushels of malt, at 28 s. per quarter, 7 s., and six bushels of barley at 24 s. would be 18 s., making 25 s. He goes through a variety of calculations, the conclusion of which is this, that taking the barley and the malt together at 47 s. 6 d., he deducted the natural or untaxed price of corn, namely 25 s., and so left 22 s. 6 d. as the enhancement of the price in a quarter of grain caused to an English distiller by taxes of all kinds, to which amount he was to have protection. A quarter of grain was then calculated to produce 20 gallons of spirits, at eight per cent. over proof, on which the above sum of 22 s. 6 d., which is assumed as the actual taxation on the materials, would give for each gallon 1 s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., to which was added 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. arising from the malt duty, and from paying the duty promptly. The distillers in England, instead of bonding, pay their duties once a fortnight; that is, the duties are paid on the second Saturday after the charge is made up. If, therefore, the distiller's charge is made on a Saturday, he has a fortnight's credit given him; if, on the contrary, his charge be made up on the Monday or any day in the subsequent week, he still pays on the second Saturday, and therefore his credit is shortened; but distillers, for their own convenience, and perhaps with the view of taking a longer credit for the duty, always finish their distillation, if they can, on Saturday evening. The 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. added by Lord Goderich was thus made up: malt duty, prompt payment of duty on spirits, and duty on losses by evaporation which rum escapes on being put into bond; these made up 1 s. 6 d., which Mr. Robinson gave as the just protection to British spirits. I may observe, that this came from the distillers themselves as paper No. 1, of which they had taken a note in their conferences with Lord Goderich; and though I have not the paper itself, it is recited here almost *in extenso*. I will now go on to the other calculations presented to the Government or to the Excise by distillers.

14933. Mr. Goulburn.] That was the settlement which took place in 1825? — Lord Goderich's settlement took place in 1825. The distillers thought that the settlement would be disturbed by the additional duty of 1 s. on British spirit, which did not extend to rum, which was proposed in 1830, and they therefore came to the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, to complain that the arrangement which they had entered into with Lord Goderich was departed from, and they urged him to maintain that arrangement. On a commission of Excise inquiry, of which Sir Henry Parnell was chairman, evidence was taken in 1834, as to the expense of manufacturing spirits. In the Seventh Report, Appendix No. 94, I find a paper delivered in by Mr. Octavius Smith, the great distiller at Thames Bank. From that statement of his, this is an extract which relates to the matter under consideration: "The restrictions increase immensely the expense of manufacture; for instance, I would willingly pay 3,000 l. a year to be exonerated from the jurisdiction of the Excise." I have ascertained that at that time Mr. Smith was making between 500,000 and 600,000 gallons a year; and the 3,000 l. would amount to a little more than 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gallon. I may be permitted to remark, that this, though in a written and printed document, was rather a casual observation, than perhaps an exact calculation. In the printed evidence before this Committee, I see that Mr. John Currie gives a calculation, and I see that he makes the net charges under the present system of Excise restrictions 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and he says that the net charges, without the Excise restriction, would be 1.97 d. I have here a statement which was sent in for another purpose, by a Scotch distiller, Mr. Patrick Chambers, a distiller at Wishaw, on the Clyde. It was sent in entirely for another purpose, and therefore is perhaps to be received as impartial, because it was put in, not for the purpose of showing what the expense was; it was a statement to the Excise, incidental to a request which he was making to the Excise. In this paper, which I will put in, he gives a detail of his work for a certain period; that is for a distilling period, ending 5th of February 1848; his net charges, including the expenses of making the malt, amounted to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gallon.

[The same was delivered in, and is as follows:]

A STATEMENT

John Wood, Esq.
1 April 1848.

A STATEMENT of the Cost of Manufacturing SPIRITS, for the Distilling Period ended 5th February 1848, including the Cost of Manufacturing the Malt; furnished by Mr. Patrick Chambers, Distiller at Wishaw.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Barley, 339 Bolls, at 24s. 6d. - - - - -	-	-	-	415	5	6
Gallons of Proof Spirits produced, 4,862.						
Yeast and soap - - - - -	27	12	6			
Peat and coals - - - - -	20	1	8½			
Interest on casks and capital, wear and tear, &c. - - -	80	13	3			
Wages - - - - -	40	10	2			
Incidental charges - - - - -	7	-	-			
	125	17	7½			
Deduct draft, 2,058 bushels, at 6d. - - -	51	9	-			
				74	8	7½
TOTAL - - - - £.				489	14	1½
Cost for grain, per gallon - - - - -				-	1	8½
Net charges, including the expense of making malt - - -				-	-	3½
Cost, exclusive of duty - - - - -				-	2	-½
Spirit duty - - - - -	3s.	8	d.			
Malt duty, if consumed in England - - - - -	1s.	4½	d.			
				-	5	-½
Total, including duty - - - - -				-	7	-½
Deduct drawback, if consumed in Scotland, nearly - - -				-	-	8½
	£.			-	6	4½

With respect to the answer to Question 8621, where Mr. Currie puts in a comparative statement, I beg to remark, that in the statement of the expense incurred under the Excise restrictions, the deduction made for grains and wash sold to cowkeepers is 4,000*l.*, which is not quite 1½*d.* a gallon; whereas in the statement which I have just put in, from the Wishaw Distillery, near Lanark, the deduction for grains and wash is 2½*d.* a gallon; though in that small village, we have ascertained that distillery offal is not so valuable as it is in London; and if the grains in the present instance be taken at the low rate of 3*s.* a quarter, and the spent wash at even 1*s.* the 100 gallons, which is much below the usual price, the sum realized could not be less than 8,000*l.* instead of 4,000*l.*, which would be equal to nearly 2½*d.* a gallon, and would therefore correspond with the account from Wishaw. This calculation reduces the net charges to 4*d.* a gallon, and the total cost per gallon to 1*s.* 11½*d.* There is a counter statement put in, on which I would remark that it is there assumed that if there were no Excise restrictions, 96,000 quarters would be distilled instead of 40,000; that the produce would be increased 10 per cent., and that the charges on 96,000 quarters would be 140*l.* less than on 40,000 under the Excise. The net charges per gallon may be called 2*d.*, and the total cost per gallon 1*s.* 7½*d.*, or 3½*d.* less than spirits can be made for under the Excise. That is the recital of the counter statement, upon which I have to remark that those assumptions cannot be supported. It cannot be shown that the present restrictions in any way hinder the distillers from getting nearly all the extract from the grain, or from carrying the fermentation to the lowest point possible under any other circumstances. There are no doubt restrictions as to the materials used by distillers, but on giving the notices required by the Act, the distiller may carry on all his processes in any way he considers most beneficial. Another point which I consider very material indeed, is the complaint of the distillers of the United Kingdom as to the decreases they are subject to after the charge for the duty is made. The Committee probably understand that the charge is invariably made in the British distilleries at the worm end; it is the simplest mode, and it is the one which exposes the revenue to the least chance of loss, because after the charge is made no fraud can be committed

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

by which the distiller himself is not a sufferer. If there be any loss, we have raised the charge against him, and he is liable to that loss of duty; whereas if the charge were not taken at the worm end, the distiller would have a very great temptation to carry spirits away to decrease the quantity; because in so decreasing the quantity he would avoid the payment of duty on the quantity so decreased. With regard to the decreases, those, I take it, are matters of fact. A great deal of the evidence I have given is of course matter of opinion, and I hope will be taken by the Committee, and those before whom the evidence may come, with a considerable allowance, because it is mere matter of opinion; but my object in giving these different statements is to show that the distillers themselves have stated the cost of the manufacture at all sums between 1 s. 1½d. and 3½d. I now come to matters of fact, which I think cannot be disputed; and if the Committee please I will put this paper in, reciting generally what it contains. It is a memorandum showing the actual deficiencies in the stocks of distillers and rectifiers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and also in transit from one country to another during given periods. I have not mentioned the names in this paper, but I have designated the distillers by numbers, which I am sure the Committee will consider the more proper way. I have first the decreases in distillers' stocks in the year ending the 10th of October 1832, and I have taken that account because it was an account not liable to suspicion, as not being prepared for any such inquiry as this Committee is engaged in; the stocks were taken by our three principal Surveying General Examiners, Mr. Logie, Mr. Hetherington, and Mr. Steele, in March 1833. I have the gallons of spirits actually brought to charge in that year by the six principal distillers in England; the numbers of gallons brought to charge in that year, was 2,672,125. The decreases amount on the average to $\frac{3}{10}$ ths of a gallon per cent., which in money is equal to 1·13 farthing per gallon; I have then the charges and the actual decreases in the same six distillers' stocks from the 5th of April 1845 to the 5th of April 1846; and I may here remark, that whereas in 1832 the quantity of spirits brought to charge by the six principal distillers in England was 2,672,125 gallons, in the year ending the 5th of April 1846 the produce was nearly doubled; it amounted to 5,138,725 gallons. The decrease on those stocks was 33,920 gallons; the loss per cent. on the total stock was sixty-six hundredths, which is equal in money to one halfpenny and forty-eight hundredth parts of a farthing. It is now necessary to look at the decrease in a rectifier's stock, and I have accordingly taken the stock account of a rectifier for the year ending the 5th of April 1846, and the total stock being rather more than 1,000,000 gallons passing through his rectifying house in the course of a year, the decrease was 9,189·6 gallons, which gives a decrease per cent. of ninety-one hundredths, in money, equal to 3·42 farthings; therefore supposing the rectifying to be a necessary part of the manufacture of spirits, you have to add those two decreases together, as the actual decrease between the worm end and the consumer.

14934. *Chairman.*] This is calculated, including the duty?—Yes, with 7s. 10d. duty.

14935. *Mr. Goulburn.*] How do you account for the great discrepancy of the decreases in 1832 with those in 1845; in 1832 they appear to amount to a farthing and some hundredths per gallon, and in 1845 to a halfpenny and some hundredths per gallon?—The fact is so; I do not wish to hazard any opinion upon it.

14936. That is an undoubted fact?—Yes, if our Excise dips are to be taken as correct, and they are always watched most jealously by the distiller, and he is quite as much alive, it is to be presumed, to his own interests as the Excise officer to the interests of the revenue. I now come to Scotland, where the duty being 3 s. 8 d. a gallon, the money calculation is at that rate; and I find that in the year 1845 there were taken out of the warehouse in Scotland 5,991,600 gallons: I find that the decrease charged thereon was 11,708, which is about nineteen hundredths per cent., equal to thirty-two hundredths of a farthing per gallon. I now come to Ireland. The duty in Ireland is only 2 s. 8 d.; the number of gallons taken out of the warehouse in Ireland was 7,067,799; the decrease charged thereon was 63,657 being about ninety hundredths per cent., which is equal to one farthing and fifteen hundredths of a farthing per gallon. And here I may explain that the probable
reason

reason why the decrease in Ireland is ninety hundredths per cent., while in Scotland it is only nineteen hundredths, is this, that the Scotch use so large a quantity of malt in their distillation that the spirit is fit for use almost immediately after it has come from the still. The Irish use the smallest possible quantity of malt, and therefore they have to give it age, it not being considered palatable till it has had long keeping. Of course if the casks lie on the average a much longer period in the warehouse, the decrease will necessarily be greater; the Irish spirit probably lies two or three years in the warehouse, the Scotch spirit, perhaps, as many weeks, or, at most, as many months; and therefore those decreases are spread over a longer period of time in the Irish bonded warehouse than they are in the Scotch bonded warehouse. The Committee will find that to the Table which I have read there is annexed a note, which being of a very technical nature, it is not necessary to read, but it does give, in substance, rather a larger decrease. The reason arises from this, that the quantity measured out and in, owing to certain Excise or Customs regulations, is liable to a variation. There are allowances; the odd parts of a gallon are not calculated, and things of that kind; so that the actual decrease is perhaps a little more than what I have stated, as shown by our actual measurement. In Scotland, owing to those regulations as to the measurement of spirits, it would amount, in addition to what I have stated, to fifty-nine hundredths of a farthing per gallon, and in Ireland to seventy-eight hundredths of a farthing per gallon. I have made this note lest the statement should be obvious to criticism. It arises in this way, that any part of a gallon above 100 gallons, is perhaps not calculated. A cask, for instance, is noted as containing 100 gallons, but it may contain $100\frac{1}{2}$ or $100\frac{3}{4}$, and it depends upon whether it is noted in our books as 100 or 101 gallons. It is quite right, of course, to give the distiller the benefit of those decreases which are actually experienced by him.

14937. *Chairman.*] Does this apply to England?—No; distillers are not allowed to bond in England. Another complaint of the distiller, particularly of the Scotch and Irish distiller, is, that there are great decreases in the transit from one country to another; I have therefore prepared an account of Scotch and Irish spirits imported into the port of London, from the 5th of January 1846 to the 5th of January 1847. The total number of casks was 11,548; they contained 1,673,998 gallons on leaving Ireland and Scotland, and upon arriving in London, and being re-gauged by our officer for the purpose of charging the duty, they measured 1,665,414 gallons, being a deficiency on the transit of 8,584 gallons, equal to fifty-one hundredths per cent., and, at the English duty of 1s. 10d., a loss to the importer of one farthing and ninety-two hundredths of a farthing per gallon.

14938. What is your deduction from this table?—It thus appears that the Scotch and Irish distillers have a direct interest in the question of the duty on deficiencies in transit, to the extent only of about one-half per cent. on the average, or about 3s. 11d. on every 100 gallons (the duty on which is 39l. 3s. 4d.) shipped for England, the deficiencies not having exceeded that proportion on the shipments of the last year. If, however, it be argued that the amount is unimportant to the revenue, and that therefore the point might be conceded to the pressing remonstrances of the distillers, it may be replied, first, that a similar rule must be established with respect to the English spirits removed to different parts of England, so that only the quantity actually delivered to the purchasers should eventually be subject to the duty, leaving the difference between the amount charged or paid in the first instance, and that to which the subsequent deduction would reduce it, to be repaid by drawback. For such a state of things no sufficient regulations could however be devised, and the revenue would be continually exposed to frauds, which the present practice will always obviate, whether in the case of removal from Scotland and Ireland to this market, or from one part of England to another.

[The following Paper was delivered in:]

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

MEMORANDUM showing the Actual Deficiencies in the Stocks of DISTILLERS and RECTIFIERS in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and also in Transit from one Country to another, during given Periods.

DECREASES in DISTILLERS' STOCKS in the Year ended 10th October 1832, as shown by Report of Messrs. Logie, Hetherington, and Steel, Surveying General Examiners, in March 1833.

	Gallons of Spirits Made.	Decreases.
Distillery, No. 1 - - - - -	302,882	$\frac{6}{100}$ of 1 per cent.
Ditto - No. 2 - - - - -	418,491	$\frac{7}{100}$ of 1 ditto.
Ditto - No. 3 - - - - -	565,013	$\frac{3}{100}$ of 1 ditto.
Ditto - No. 4 - - - - -	322,038	$\frac{2}{100}$ of 1 ditto.
Ditto - No. 5 - - - - -	553,037	$\frac{10}{100}$ of 1 ditto.
Ditto - No. 6 - - - - -	510,664	$\frac{1}{100}$ of 1 ditto.
	2,672,125	
	Average $\frac{3}{100}$ of a gallon per cent., equal to $\frac{1}{4} \frac{3}{100}$ d. per gallon.	

DECREASES in DISTILLERS' STOCKS, from 5th April 1845 to 5th April 1846.

	Stock on 5 April 1845, and the Quantity brought in subsequent to that Date.	Sent out by Permit.	Deficiencies.	Loss per Cent. on Total Stock and Credit.
Distillery, No. 1 - - - - -	585,103	577,864	7,104	1.21
Ditto - No. 2 - - - - -	892,320	866,673	7,264	0.81
Ditto - No. 3 - - - - -	785,825	762,154	9,231	1.17
Ditto - No. 4 - - - - -	897,990	860,763	4,610	0.51
Ditto - No. 5 - - - - -	1,038,642	1,012,976	4,383	0.42
Ditto - No. 6 - - - - -	943,845	924,936	1,328	0.14
TOTAL - - - - -	5,138,725	5,005,366	33,920	0.66 = $\frac{1}{2} \frac{3}{100}$ d. p. gal.

STOCK ACCOUNT of a RECTIFIER in the Year 1845.

5th January 1845, Stock - - - - -	50,310.2
Brought in - - - - -	954,841.2
Total - - - - -	1,005,151.4
Sent out - - - - -	953,605.6
Balance - - - - -	51,545.8
3d January 1846, Stock - - - - -	42,356.2
Decrease - - - - -	9,189.6

Decrease per centum $\frac{0.1}{100} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{3}{100}$ d. per gallon.

BRITISH SPIRITS, Year 1845.

SCOTLAND:	Number of Gallons.	IRELAND:	Number of Gallons.
Taken out of warehouse - - -	5,991,600	Taken out of warehouse - - -	7,067,799
Decrease charged thereon * - -	11,708	Decrease charged thereon * - -	63,657
Being about $\frac{10}{100}$ per cent., equal to $\frac{3}{100}$ of a farthing per gallon.		Being about $\frac{10}{100}$ per cent., equal to $\frac{1}{4} \frac{15}{100}$ d. per gallon.	

* In addition to these decreases, a further deficiency might occur in the quantities of spirits taken out of warehouse for home consumption, from the circumstance of the bulk contents of each cask being warehoused, and removed from warehouse in whole numbers, disregarding the fractional parts of a gallon. Thus a cask actually containing 100.9 gallons at 25 o. p., might be warehoused as 100 gallons, equal to 125 proof gallons, when taken out of warehouse, the bulk quantity having decreased to 99.1 gallons, it might be delivered as 100 gallons, equal to 125 proof gallons; thus a decrease of 1.8 gallons at 25 o. p., equal to 2.25 gallons at proof, would be lost sight of by the mode of warehousing and delivering such spirits.

The difference here stated is the maximum that could occur; but assuming a loss to have taken place in this way on each cask of spirits delivered out of warehouse for home consumption, at the mean of 9 at 25 o. p. or 1.12 gallons proof, and taking such cask at an average content of 130 gallons, the decrease to be added for Scotland, would amount to 20,435 gallons, which would be about $\frac{4}{100}$ of a gallon per cent., equal to $\frac{6}{100}$ of a farthing per gallon: for Ireland, would amount to 43,690 gallons being about $\frac{6}{100}$ of a gallon per cent., equal to $\frac{1}{100}$ of a farthing per gallon.

AN ACCOUNT of Scotch and Irish SPIRITS Imported into the Port of London, from the 5th of January 1846 to the 5th January 1847.

Proof Gallons, full Duty Paid in Ireland and Scotland.				Proof Gallons, part Duty only Paid in Ireland and Scotland.				Proof Gallons, Duty Free, removed under Bond for Exportation.			
No. of Casks.	Sent from Ireland and Scotland.	Received in London.	Deficiency on Transit.	No. of Casks.	Sent from Ireland and Scotland.	Received in London.	Deficiency on Transit.	No. of Casks.	Sent from Ireland and Scotland.	Received in London.	Deficiency on Transit.
1,171	140,774	139,996	778	9,619	1,525,542	1,517,783	7,759	158	7,682	7,635	47
			rather more than $\frac{1}{100}$ ths of a gallon per cent.				rather more than $\frac{1}{100}$ ths of a gallon per cent., equal to $\frac{1}{100}$ d. per gallon.				rather more than $\frac{1}{100}$ ths of a gallon per cent., or $\frac{1}{100}$ d. p' gallon.
9,619	1,525,542	1,517,783	7,759								
158	7,682	7,635	47								
Total	11,548	1,873,998	1,665,414				8,584				
	English Duty -	7 s. 10 d.	$\frac{1}{100}$ per cent.				$\frac{1}{100}$ d. p' gallon.				

TABLE for calculating Deficiencies in SPIRITS.

Loss per Cent. in Gallons.	English Duty per Gallon.	Loss per Gallon.	Loss per Cent. in Gallons.	Scotch Duty per Gallon.	Loss per Gallon.	Loss per Cent. in Gallons.	Irish Duty per Gallon.	Loss per Gallon.
1	s. d. 7 10	d. $\frac{1}{4}$ 76	1	s. d. 3 8	d. $\frac{1}{4}$ 76	1	s. d. 2 8	d. $\frac{1}{4}$ 80
9	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 38	9	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 38	9	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 40
8	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 30	8	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 30	8	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 32
7	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 22	7	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 22	7	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 24
6	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 14	6	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 14	6	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 16
5	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 6	5	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 6	5	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 8
4	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0	4	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0	4	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 4
3	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0	3	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0	3	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0
2	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0	2	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0	2	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0
1	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0	1	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0	1	- - -	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0

Excise Office, London, 25 March 1848.

As we are upon the subject of these losses by decrease, I may also state that the English appear to be directly opposed to the Scotch and Irish. I have a letter addressed to the Commissioners of Excise, dated the 11th of June 1838; it is signed by Messrs Currie & Company, of Bromley, Octavius Smith & Company, of Thames Bank, Moore & Company, of Bromley, and Sir Felix Booth & Company, Brentford, four of the principal distillers in England, and in that letter, these distillers make this remark, "In regard to the suggestion, that with respect to allowances for loss, leakage, deficiencies, &c., home-made spirits should be placed upon the same footing as foreign and colonial spirits," that being the request of the Scotch and Irish distillers "we conceive that in common justice to all parties, the duty should be charged upon the quantity of spirits which leaves the premises of the distiller where they are manufactured; for, although the Government have thought fit to lay such a duty upon foreign and colonial spirits as shall prevent the possibility of their displacing the produce of the home manufactured article, and levy the duty upon that quantity only which is actually brought into consumption; yet with spirits manufactured in different parts of the United Kingdom the case is totally different, and we," the English distillers, "have an equal right to claim a protecting duty against the local advantages which the Scotch and Irish derive from cheap corn, labour, and fuel, as they can possibly have for a return of duty upon the waste occasioned by sending their spirits to our market."

14939. Mr. Labouchere.] Have you recently received any memorials from the West India body, or from the distillers, upon this subject?—In the autumn

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

autumn of 1846 the present Chancellor of the Exchequer requested the distillers to state to him in writing what were their claims on account of the Excise restrictions on the manufacture of spirits; he also invited the West India body to send in their statement. The distillers in their memorials claimed 1*s.* 4½*d.*, and the West Indians estimated the restrictions at only 2*d.* a gallon. The particulars of the distillers' 1*s.* 4½*d.* were these: for corn duty 1*d.*, malt duty, 1½*d.*, distillers' increased plant, 1*d.*, Excise restrictions, 3*d.*, duty on decreases, and interest on duty advanced, 4*d.*, extra expense of rectifying in consequence of the law, 6*d.*; making altogether 1*s.* 4½*d.* The West Indians put down nothing for corn duty; malt duty, 1½*d.*; nothing for increased plant; Excise restrictions one halfpenny and nothing more.

14940. Have you yourself come to any conclusion as to what really is the amount of charge to which the English distiller is subjected, in consequence of the Excise restrictions?—I certainly have formed an opinion; but I present that opinion to the Committee with very great diffidence, because I think the Committee will be already aware of the very great difficulties with which the subject is encumbered. At all events I may be permitted to say that I am a dispassionate person on the question, for if I had any inclination in favour of one body or the other, I should think it would naturally be in favour of a body which pay to my revenue upwards of 5,000,000*l.* a year; but the estimate, if it deserves the name, which I venture to suggest on those two memorials is this: in the first place, the corn duty is either abolished, or so nearly so, that I have not put down anything for it. I take the malt duty at 1½*d.*, I believe 1½*d.* would be the actual amount, but I have taken 1½*d.* because both the West Indians and the distillers have agreed upon that sum. The distillers' increased plants I have taken at 1*d.*, because the distillers have so given it. I have also put down the Excise restrictions at 3*d.*, because the distillers have put them down at 3*d.* So far I have gone on the data presented by the distillers themselves. But we now come to their demand for 4*d.* for duty on decreases, and interest on duty advanced, and if the calculations which I have stated to the Committee this day are right, instead of the duty on decreases being 4*d.*, it amounts to one halfpenny. This I should state was the memorial of the English distillers. The interest on money advanced I estimate at nothing, because as I have already stated to the Committee, though it is perfectly true that on the second Saturday after the charge is made up, the duty is paid by the English distiller in ready money, yet it is perfectly well known in practice that the distiller only works according to the demand he has from the rectifier, and that in a great majority of cases he has no stock in hand, but that previous to the second Saturday arriving, the spirit he has distilled is in the hands of the rectifier. The rectifier can, as I am credibly informed, if it were necessary, convert the raw spirit so sent to him into gin in the course of a few hours; but if instead of a few hours it is converted and ready for consumption in the course of the fortnight which elapses on the average before the payment of the duty is required, I cannot see that any charge for interest ought to be made.

14941. Is there any inconvenience to the English distiller in being obliged to work from hand to mouth in this way?—That is his own business; the practice is that they do work from hand to mouth.

14942. That practice is the result of this duty; is not it?—The English distillers have hitherto resisted the privilege of bonding being extended to them, therefore if they pay the duty, they do it on the calculation that such an arrangement is for their advantage.

14943. *Chairman.*] Is not the necessary consequence of this obligation to pay the duty, that amounts to something between 300 and 400 per cent., this, that a distiller being obliged to work from hand to mouth, is obliged to distil when barley is at 50*s.* a quarter, just as hard as when barley is at 23*s.* a quarter?—I do not think that the payment of the duty has any influence upon his work; and I conclude it is so from this, that the Government, according to my experience of ten years, have always been willing to extend to the English distiller the privilege of bonding, and the English distiller has been unwilling uniformly to accept it; he might have had at any time the privilege of putting all or any part of his spirit into bond. His arrangements however with the rectifier are such, that he does not choose to have that privilege extended to him, and there may be other reasons that may conduce to it.

14944. *Mr. Cardwell.*] That is because the greater wastage upon Irish and Scotch

Scotch spirits operates as a protection to him?—I do not think that is the reason; I believe the distillers deny that this demand of the duty promptly gives them a monopoly. I do not say that it gives them a settled monopoly, but I think it has a tendency to confine the business to persons of very large capital and large plant. Certainly, so far as the revenue is concerned, it is much cheaper and a much pleasanter proceeding to have to deal with a person who pays his 1,000 *l.* a day, than with people who pay their 300 *l.* or 400 *l.* in the course of a year; and there is more security in dealing with a large establishment than a number of small ones.

14945. *Chairman.*] Keeping out of sight the half dozen individuals who may obtain a monopoly through this obligation of paying the duty in this way, is not it clear, taking a general view of the subject, that the obligation to work from hand to mouth, in a business where the raw material varies in value about 100 per cent., must be a great inconvenience, and actually prevent the public engaging in it?—Abstractedly, I must assent to your Lordship's remark; but when I have offered them year by year the practical remedy, that is, of allowing them to bond, and they have as uniformly refused it, I conceive that on the balance of advantages and disadvantages, the distiller is contented with the present arrangements.

14946. Is not it admitted by distillers that bonding could not be carried out without injuring the revenue?—On the contrary, I believe that bonding would rather tend to the security of the revenue. Of this I am quite certain, that if bonding were compulsory over the kingdom, the revenue would be much more secure; at present it is optional. But to make bonding compulsory would be a very great evil to the small distiller, more particularly because, if bonding were compulsory, we should require warehouses of special security, and the trade of a poor Highland distiller, or a distiller in the centre of Ireland, would be completely broken up. Such a regulation might suit the great distillers in large towns, more particularly if those towns were sea ports; but compulsory bonding would be nearly annihilation to the small distillers.

14947. *Mr. Miles.*] Does the distiller buy his raw material from hand to mouth?—I should suppose, if he has the command of capital, he exercises a proper discretion, and that he buys at the time of the year when it can be obtained in large quantities at the smallest rate; and as a matter of fact, I believe about the month of October and November you will find the granaries of the principal distillers supplied with corn, or contracts made for corn, which will carry them on probably during the greatest part of the distillery season.

14948. They prefer speculating with the raw material instead of the manufactured article?—Every man of capital uses his discretion as to the application of that capital; the obvious economical application of that capital is, to buy at that time of the year when the material is at the lowest rate, rather than to buy from hand to mouth.

14949. *Mr. Labouchere.*] Will you proceed with your calculation?—I have stated that according to my calculation, taking the malt duty at 1½ *d.*; the distiller's increased plant at 1 *d.*; and the excise restrictions at 3 *d.*, which are the figures given by the English distillers; and instead of 4 *d.* for duty on decreases and interest on duty advanced, giving a halfpenny, it amounts to 6 *d.*; but I have a remark to make upon the 3 *d.* charge for excise restrictions, and without wishing to be at all invidious, I think the Committee will allow me to state, that if I test any one of their demands by facts, and I find that such a demand is unreasonable, that is, that it is not sustained by facts, I have a right to apply a similar process to a demand which I cannot test by the accurate application of facts; and pursuing that train of reasoning, having tried the demand of 4 *d.* for duty on decreases and interest on duty advanced, and finding it to be one halfpenny, or we will put it at 1 *d.*, if the Committee please, I then try the excise restrictions, for which they demand 3 *d.*, by the same rule, and I find by a common rule-of-three sum, that if the 4 *d.* turns out to be only one halfpenny, the 3 *d.*, which is the demand for excise restrictions, turns out to be a farthing and four-eighths of a farthing; but taking, as has been suggested, the decreases and interest at 1 *d.*, I find, that as 4 *d.* is to 1 *d.* so is 3 *d.* to 0¾ *d.*, and therefore, instead of allowing the 3 *d.*, I should be very much inclined to say that 1 *d.* was the utmost amount that can be made out as the value or cost to a distiller of the excise restrictions.

John Wood, Esq.
1 April 1848.

14950. With regard to what is charged for the extra expense of rectifying, have you any observation to make?—I assume that some allowance is to be made for rectification, but I would premise that my opinion is, that no allowance ought to be made for it; but I will state to the Committee the several demands which have been made upon the Excise for the expense of rectifying. The extra expense of rectifying, in consequence of the law, is stated in the distillers' memorial at 6*d.* In a paper delivered to the Chancellor of the Exchequer by a deputation on the 11th of February 1847, when the equalization of the duties between East India and West India rum was proposed, a letter was addressed to the President of the Board of Trade, signed by Messrs. Currie, of Bromley, Mr. George Smith, of Whitechapel, Mr. Octavius Smith, of Thames Bank, and James Murray & Company, of West Ham, in which a calculation is given of the cost of rectifying; it is said that the price of a gallon of British spirit, where barley is at 36*s.* a quarter, is equal to 2*s.* 8*d.*, the cost of rectification, &c. is 1*s.*; but so far as I can make out, that 1*s.* comprehended not only the cost of rectifying, but all the excise restrictions upon the manufacture of spirits; the cost of compounding rum in India is stated in the same paper at 2*d.* In this estimate of the expenses, which I will put in, from the English rectifiers, there is a loss by decreases of 2*d.* a gallon. I have proved, by the stock taken of one of the greatest rectifiers in England, through whose stock, in the year in question, upwards of 1,000,000 gallons passed, the expenses were a little more than three farthings, but say 1*d.*; then there are the wages of the men, one halfpenny; water-rate, one farthing; interest on plant, one halfpenny; horses, one farthing; coals, one halfpenny; repairs, 1½*d.*; fire insurance and taxes, one-eighth of a penny. I made inquiry into the subject, and my inquiry was this: Supposing that at any one of the great distilleries the spirits were allowed to be rectified, as well as to be distilled, could the existing establishment of any one distillery rectify those spirits? I am informed, upon very good authority, it could not; and that, therefore, a considerable proportion of the expenses, of water-rate, for instance, interest on plant, wages, coals, repairs, and fire insurance, would devolve upon the distiller who undertook the double business on the same premises, of rectifier and distiller. I state this as the result of my inquiries; but it is a subject with which, of course, I am not very conversant.

[The Paper was delivered in, and is as follows:]

ESTIMATE of Expenses to which the RECTIFIER is subject in *England* (delivered to the Chancellor of the Exchequer by the Deputation, 11th February 1847); to which is added the MONEY VALUE of such Expenses on 1,000,000 Gallons.

RECTIFIER'S ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES, PER GALLON.		Money Value on 1,000,000 Gallons.
	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>
Loss by decreases - - - - -	2	8,333
Wages of men - - - - -	½	2,083
Water rate - - - - -	½	1,041
Interest on plant - - - - -	½	2,083
Horses - - - - -	½	1,041
Coals - - - - -	½	2,083
Repairs - - - - -	1½	6,249
Fire insurance and taxes - - - - -	⅛	520
	5 ⅞	23,433

February 1847.

14951. What is the conclusion you come to, with regard to the amount to be put down for the extra expenses of rectifying?—It has been stated by one party at 6*d.*; it has been stated in another paper at 8*d.*; I have reason to believe it is not nearly so large as is represented, and I will explain to the Committee

Committee my reason for so thinking. I had lately occasion to see a deputation of rectifiers, and one of the suggestions which I threw out was this; at present no spirits can be sent from a distillery which are at more than 25 per cent. over proof, but where Coffey's still is used, the spirit comes over at from 50 to 60 per cent. over proof; 54 is considered the strength of spirits of wine; I therefore suggested to the rectifiers, that if the distiller were permitted to send out spirits at 60 per cent. over proof instead of at 25, spirits of wine in large quantities might go directly to the consumers; and thereby I was given to understand, that a considerable expense would be saved; if the price of spirits of wine could be thus reduced, the temptation to deal in illicit spirits would of course be diminished; and I also stated to them, that I also thought it was a great pity that, inasmuch as spirits came over at 60 per cent. over proof, they should be reduced by water to 25 by the distiller; that they should then be sent to the rectifier to be passed through the still, and then to be raised up to 54, the strength of spirits of wine, merely by the process of watering them in the first place, and distilling them over again in the second. One of the principal rectifiers replied that he should oppose any change in the law; and that as to the reason I had assigned for it, the expenses of rectifying amounted to so little, that it was not worth taking into the calculation. I am talking now of spirits of wine, and not of compounded or flavoured spirits. There has been a great deal said of the law preventing distilling and rectifying being carried on, on the same premises; I believe it is perfectly well known both to distillers and to rectifiers, that if they could make an arrangement among themselves that it should be so, there is no revenue objection whatever to the flavouring of spirits by the distiller; the matters which flavour the spirits do not affect the action of Sykes's hydrometer; it is the sweetening which affects it, and therefore we could not permit the distiller to sweeten his spirits, because the action of the instrument would be thereby disturbed, and we should not have a correct test of the strength of the spirits. The calculations which I have taken the liberty of submitting to the Committee, are not calculations of my own; but I have in every instance given the names of the persons by whom they were propounded.

14952. What is the conclusion you came to, with regard to the charge that it would be fair to put down on account of the extra expense of rectifying?—I am unable to come to any conclusion; a great deal of the expense of rectifying depends, as I am informed, not upon the mere passage of the spirit through the still, but on the flavouring or the sweetening matter which is added to the spirit for the purposes of making it palatable.

14953. Do you think it would be fair in this calculation to consider the expenses of rectifying at all?—I do not.

14954. For what reason?—I take a general view of the distillery trade in the three kingdoms, and I will take, first, Ireland, because that is the most simple case: the Irish distiller puts forward no claim for the expense of rectifying, he puts forward no claim for the malt duty, and for this simple reason, that he distils his spirits in such a way that they need no rectification; but they do need time, and my opinion is that if the rectifier be entitled to consideration for the rectifying, and flavouring, and sweetening of his spirit, the Irish distiller is equally entitled to the loss of interest upon the money during the two, three, four, five, or even six years which he keeps his spirits in store, in order to give them the requisite flavour. Then with regard to Scotland, there a different mode is adopted; the Scotch, instead of distilling from the raw grain, prefer to distil from malt, but if they distil from malt it is to please the taste of their customers, and their customers are willing to pay for it; and in illustration of that, I have an account of the quantity of malt spirits imported into Ireland from Scotland, and into Scotland from Ireland, and the quantity brought to charge for consumption in those countries, and exported to foreign parts, from 1826 to 1847. When the malt drawback was first allowed it extended to Scotland and to Ireland alike; it was 1*s.* When the wine gallon was changed for the imperial gallon that 1*s.* was then represented by 1*s.* 2*d.*, therefore the drawback was raised to 1*s.* 2*d.*; it was reduced in April 1832 to 8*d.*, and I believe it was reduced in consequence of a Committee of the House of Commons which sat in 1831, which Committee came to this conclusion, "That it is the opinion of this Committee that the present system of allowing a drawback on malt spirits affords great opportunities for fraud." I believe,

John Wood, Esq.
1 April 1848

in consequence of that report the Government of the day reduced the drawback from 1s. 2d. to 8d. ; that so continued till the year 1842, when the Irish distillers, who, with the exception of three very small ones, are all distillers from raw grain, saw that the quantity of malt spirits sent into Ireland from Scotland was rapidly on the increase; it had increased from 70,000 gallons in 1826 to 455,000 gallons in 1839; therefore the Irish distillers prayed to be relieved from this indulgence of the malt drawback, because if Ireland were exempted from the malt drawback all the whiskey coming from Scotland into Ireland would have to repay the 8d. which had been allowed for consumption in that country. The effect was, that in 1843 the drawback having been repealed on the 1st of August 1842, as regarded Ireland, the quantity fell in that year from 432,000 gallons to 329,000, but a considerable portion of the Irish preferring the flavour of the malt spirit to that of the raw grain spirit, were willing to pay for it, and accordingly the quantity increased in 1844 to 399,000 gallons and went on to 507,000 gallons, and in 1846 it was 519,000 gallons, being about 100,000 gallons more than before the 8d. was imposed upon whiskey so imported into Ireland. I quote this as a convincing proof that those who are not content with the flavour of grain spirits are willing to pay the additional cost which the introduction of malt into the distillery causes.

14955. What alterations have been made in the rum duties, as compared with the rates of duty charged upon spirits in the three kingdoms?—Up to 1846 the duty on rum was 9s. 4d.; 6d. was then taken off, which reduced the rum duty in the three kingdoms to 8s. 10d.; it formed a difference of 1s. on rum and British spirits, the duty on British spirits being 7s. 10d., and the duty on rum 8s. 10d.; but in Scotland a reduction of 4s. 11d. per gallon was made on rum, and in Ireland a reduction of 5s. 11d., the duty on each case being put at 9d. above the existing duty on British spirits in the three kingdoms.

14956. What was the duty as originally proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons?—A distinctive duty of 6d., which, during the progress of the Bill, was raised to 9d. I have here an account of the quantity of rum which paid duty for home consumption in England, Scotland, and Ireland, during the last two years. In 1847, 2,619,839 gallons paid duty in England; in 1848, the quantity which paid duty was 2,770,308 gallons; in Scotland, in the year 1847, the consumption of rum was 49,264 gallons; and in the year 1848, 382,884 gallons. In Ireland the quantity in 1847, was 14,598 gallons, and in 1848, 176,485 gallons.

[The following Papers were delivered in:]

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of RUM that Paid Duty for Home Consumption in the last Two Years.

	Years ended 5th January.	
	1847.	1848.
	Gallons.	Gallons.
England - - - - -	2,619,839	2,770,308
Scotland - - - - -	49,264	382,884
Ireland - - - - -	14,598	176,485
TOTAL - - -	2,683,701	3,329,677

31 March 1848.

COLONIAL SPIRITS (RUM).

QUANTITIES charged, RATES and AMOUNT of DUTY, from 1800 to 1845.

Years.	ENGLAND.		SCOTLAND.		IRELAND.		UNITED KINGDOM.	
	Number of Imperial Gallons charged with Duty for Consumption.	Rate of Duty.	Number of Imperial Gallons charged with Duty for Consumption.	Rate of Duty.	Number of Imperial Gallons charged with Duty for Consumption.	Rate of Duty.	Total Number of Gallons.	Amount of Duty.
		s. d.		**		s. d.		£. s. d.
1800	1,945,266	9 - 1/4	239,913	- -	864,411	6 8 1/2	3,049,590	1,184,182 6 4
1801	1,687,839	8 10 1/2	349,237	- -	1,057,316	"	3,094,392	1,302,632 9 2
1802	2,204,897	9 - 3/4	468,103	- -	637,005	6 11 1/2	3,310,066	1,429,850 14 -
1803	2,573,602	13 4 1/2	379,043	- -	259,966	8 6 1/2	3,212,611	1,457,011 1 -
1804	1,508,899	13 5 1/2	124,548	- -	180,289	9 2 1/2	1,813,736	1,123,927 9 9
1805	1,696,384	13 5 1/2	153,635	- -	123,049	"	1,973,008	1,280,171 3 1
1806	1,857,321	13 6 1/2	188,811	- -	160,148	"	2,206,280	1,440,602 1 -
1807	1,999,783	"	226,296	- -	210,822	"	2,436,901	1,593,590 13 11
1808	2,174,751	"	239,263	- -	343,333	10 3 1/2	2,757,347	1,799,261 19 11
1809	2,200,625	13 7 1/2	289,325	- -	1,063,661	"	3,613,611	2,278,821 7 3
1810	2,708,718	"	330,560	- -	336,658	"	3,370,936	2,227,504 12 3
1811	2,711,945	"	300,306	- -	150,290	"	3,162,541	2,127,539 7 11
1812	3,205,465	"	288,569	- -	283,135	"	3,775,169	2,509,156 1 11
1813	3,044,680	13 10 1/2	241,686	- -	463,008	12 10 1/2	3,740,374	2,518,275 19 2
1814	3,332,188	"	260,493	- -	91,154	12 8 1/2	3,703,835	2,571,638 9 1
1815	3,019,204	"	281,748	- -	64,833	"	3,365,785	2,281,768 3 8
1816	2,221,533	"	185,874	- -	21,543	"	2,428,050	1,648,557 18 10
1817	2,179,213	"	198,412	- -	30,886	"	2,408,311	1,638,849 2 7
1818	2,406,266	"	203,951	- -	21,366	"	2,631,583	1,789,302 7 6
1819	2,390,193	13 11 1/2	148,955	- -	25,735	"	2,564,883	1,748,737 9 3
1820	2,325,733	"	142,997	- -	20,390	"	2,489,120	1,697,406 12 10
1821	2,166,441	"	138,189	- -	19,685	"	2,324,315	1,588,915 7 4
1822	2,100,925	"	130,879	- -	15,035	"	2,246,839	1,526,202 18 2
1823	2,222,923	"	108,562	- -	18,175	13 11 1/2	2,349,660	1,602,201 4 11
1824	2,407,207	12 7 1/2	134,986	- -	9,453	12 7 1/2	2,551,646	1,606,924 13 7
1825	1,980,807	"	104,752	- -	10,128	"	2,095,687	1,284,627 18 5
1826	3,982,053	8 6	295,505	- -	27,758	8 6	4,305,316	1,828,878 8 9
1827	3,080,152	"	185,214	- -	23,240	"	3,288,606	1,390,576 8 11
1828	3,064,856	"	188,089	- -	24,708	"	3,277,653	1,392,553 17 2
1829	3,202,143	"	152,461	- -	21,262	"	3,375,866	1,434,782 13 1
1830	3,503,144	9 -	136,520	- -	19,294	9 -	3,658,958	1,600,331 9 11
1831	3,479,911	"	125,702	- -	18,984	"	3,624,597	1,629,881 9 5
1832	3,401,349	"	112,026	- -	24,432	"	3,537,807	1,591,100 1 9
1833	3,344,948	"	124,357	- -	22,888	"	3,492,193	1,570,796 13 1
1834	3,206,650	"	111,189	- -	27,358	"	3,345,177	1,505,139 16 7
1835	3,285,473	"	105,198	- -	26,295	"	3,416,968	1,537,693 18 9
1836	3,194,892	"	104,882	- -	24,975	"	3,324,749	1,496,155 14 1
1837	3,079,778	"	83,804	- -	20,673	"	3,184,265	1,432,929 7 6
1838	3,029,490	"	66,460	- -	19,701	"	3,135,651	1,411,066 14 2
1839	2,737,263	"	75,337	- -	15,663	"	2,828,263	1,273,626 15 2
1840	2,445,221	9 4	55,408	- -	12,331	9 4	2,512,060	1,155,612 19 7
1841	2,217,073	"	48,523	- -	12,374	"	2,277,970	1,063,087 - -
1842	2,050,331	"	35,951	- -	11,465	"	2,097,747	978,958 12 3
1843	2,055,594	"	36,493	- -	11,628	"	2,103,715	981,905 7 5
1844	2,143,865	"	42,092	- -	12,635	"	2,198,592	1,026,066 12 3
1845	2,412,099	"	43,297	- -	13,739	"	2,489,135	1,152,300 12 6
1846	2,619,839	9/4 - 8/10	49,264	- -	14,598	9/4 - 8/10	2,683,701	1,219,532 11 4
1847	2,770,308	8/10 - 8/7	382,884	8/10 - 4/5	176,485	8/10 - 3/5	3,329,677	1,316,140 6 6

Office of the Inspector-General of Imports and Exports, }
Custom House, London.

(signed) W. Irving.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848

in consequence of that report the Government of the day reduced the drawback from 1s. 2d. to 8d. ; that so continued till the year 1842, when the Irish distillers, who, with the exception of three very small ones, are all distillers from raw grain, saw that the quantity of malt spirits sent into Ireland from Scotland was rapidly on the increase; it had increased from 70,000 gallons in 1826 to 455,000 gallons in 1839; therefore the Irish distillers prayed to be relieved from this indulgence of the malt drawback, because if Ireland were exempted from the malt drawback all the whiskey coming from Scotland into Ireland would have to repay the 8d. which had been allowed for consumption in that country. The effect was, that in 1843 the drawback having been repealed on the 1st of August 1842, as regarded Ireland, the quantity fell in that year from 432,000 gallons to 329,000, but a considerable portion of the Irish preferring the flavour of the malt spirit to that of the raw grain spirit, were willing to pay for it, and accordingly the quantity increased in 1844 to 399,000 gallons and went on to 507,000 gallons, and in 1846 it was 519,000 gallons, being about 100,000 gallons more than before the 8d. was imposed upon whiskey so imported into Ireland. I quote this as a convincing proof that those who are not content with the flavour of grain spirits are willing to pay the additional cost which the introduction of malt into the distillery causes.

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TOTAL - - -	2,683,701	3,329,677

31 March 1848.

COLONIAL SPIRITS (RUM).

QUANTITIES charged, RATES and AMOUNT of DUTY, from 1800 to 1845.

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	Number of Imperial Gallons charged with Duty for Consumption.	Rate of Duty.	Number of Imperial Gallons charged with Duty for Consumption.	Rate of Duty.	Number of Imperial Gallons charged with Duty for Consumption.	Rate of Duty.	Total Number of Gallons.	Amount of Duty.	
		s. d.				s. d.		£	s. d.
1800	1,945,266	9 - 1/4	239,913	- -	864,411	6 8 1/2	3,049,590	1,184,182	6 4
1801	1,687,839	8 10 1/2	349,237	- -	1,057,316	"	3,094,392	1,302,632	9 2
1802	2,204,807	9 - 3/4	408,163	- -	637,005	6 11 1/2	3,310,005	1,429,850	14 -
1803	2,573,602	13 4 1/2	979,043	- -	259,966	8 6 1/2	3,212,611	1,457,011	1 -
1804	1,508,809	13 5 1/2	124,548	- -	180,289	9 2 1/2	1,813,796	1,123,927	9 9
1805	1,696,384	13 5 1/2	153,635	- -	123,049	"	1,973,068	1,280,171	3 1
1806	1,857,321	13 6 1/2	188,811	- -	160,148	"	2,206,280	1,446,002	1 -
1807	1,929,783	"	226,296	- -	210,822	"	2,436,901	1,593,590	13 11
1808	2,174,751	"	230,263	- -	343,333	10 3 1/2	2,757,347	1,790,261	19 11
1809	2,200,625	13 7 1/2	289,325	- -	1,063,661	"	3,613,611	2,278,821	7 3
1810	2,703,718	"	330,560	- -	336,858	"	3,370,936	2,227,594	12 3
1811	2,711,945	"	300,306	- -	150,290	"	3,162,541	2,127,539	7 11
1812	3,205,465	"	286,569	- -	283,135	"	3,775,169	2,509,156	1 11
1813	3,044,680	13 10 1/2	241,686	- -	463,008	13 10 1/2	3,749,374	2,518,275	19 2
1814	3,332,188	"	280,493	- -	91,154	12 8 1/2	3,703,835	2,571,638	9 1
1815	3,019,204	"	281,748	- -	64,833	"	3,365,785	2,281,768	3 8
1816	2,221,533	"	165,874	- -	21,543	"	2,428,950	1,648,557	18 10
1817	2,179,213	"	198,413	- -	30,666	"	2,406,311	1,638,849	2 7
1818	2,406,266	"	203,851	- -	21,366	"	2,631,583	1,789,302	7 6
1819	2,390,193	13 11 1/2	148,955	- -	25,735	"	2,564,883	1,746,737	9 3
1820	2,325,733	"	142,997	- -	20,390	"	2,489,120	1,697,406	12 10
1821	2,166,441	"	138,189	- -	19,685	"	2,324,315	1,588,915	7 4
1822	2,100,925	"	130,879	- -	15,035	"	2,246,839	1,526,202	18 2
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1825	1,980,807	"	104,752	- -	10,128	"	2,095,687	1,224,627	18 5
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1827	3,080,152	"	185,214	- -	23,240	"	3,228,606	1,390,576	8 11
1828	3,064,856	"	188,089	- -	24,708	"	3,277,653	1,392,553	17 2
1829	3,202,143	"	152,461	- -	21,262	"	3,375,666	1,434,782	13 1
1830	3,503,144	9 -	136,520	- -	19,294	9 -	3,658,958	1,600,331	9 11
1831	3,479,911	"	125,702	- -	18,984	"	3,624,597	1,629,881	9 5
1832	3,401,349	"	112,026	- -	24,432	"	3,537,807	1,591,100	1 9
1833	3,344,948	"	124,357	- -	22,888	"	3,492,193	1,570,796	13 1
1834	3,206,650	"	111,189	- -	27,358	"	3,345,177	1,505,139	16 7
1835	3,285,473	"	105,198	- -	26,295	"	3,416,966	1,537,693	18 9
1836	3,194,892	"	104,882	- -	24,975	"	3,324,749	1,496,155	14 1
1837	3,079,778	"	83,804	- -	20,673	"	3,184,255	1,432,929	7 6
1838	3,029,490	"	86,460	- -	19,701	"	3,135,651	1,411,066	14 2
1839	2,737,263	"	75,337	- -	15,663	"	2,828,263	1,273,626	15 2
1840	2,445,221	9 4	55,408	- -	12,331	9 4	2,512,900	1,155,612	19 7
1841	2,217,073	"	48,533	- -	12,374	"	2,277,970	1,063,087	- -
1842	2,050,331	"	35,951	- -	11,465	"	2,097,747	978,958	12 3
1843	2,055,594	"	36,493	- -	11,628	"	2,103,715	981,905	7 5
1844	2,143,865	"	42,092	- -	12,635	"	2,198,592	1,026,066	12 3
1845	2,412,099	"	43,297	- -	13,739	"	2,469,135	1,152,309	12 6
1846	2,619,839	9/4 - 8/10	49,264	- -	14,598	9/4 - 8/10	2,683,701	1,219,532	11 4
1847	2,776,308	8/10 - 8/7	382,884	8/10 - 4/5	176,485	8/10 - 3/5	3,329,677	1,316,140	6 6

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Custom House, London.

(signed) W. Irving.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

14957. You state that 9 *d.* is the present discriminating duty, 6 *d.* being originally proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer; are you able to state to the Committee what in your opinion would be the amount which would be most just, under all the circumstances of the case?—I have no hesitation in saying that, in my opinion, the distillers have not made out a case for anything like 6 *d.*

14958. Are you able to say to what amount they have made out a case?—If I had to fix it myself, I should say 4 *d.* is all that they have made out a case for.

14959. *Mr. Cardwell.*] You have no doubt that 4 *d.* would place the parties upon a fair footing?—If I were the arbitrator between the parties, and I should certainly have no temptation to incline to one rather than to the other, I should think I was doing ample justice if I allowed 4 *d.* as a discriminating duty. At the same time, the grounds upon which I have formed that opinion I have detailed, and the Committee are much better able than I am to fix the amount; but being pressed for my opinion, I of course thought it my duty to give it.

14960. Of course, in these calculations, which are in themselves so vague as not to be capable in their nature of being reduced to figures, your great experience, and the attention which you have paid to the subject, must necessarily give you the means of judging better than a stranger could do, and more than can be conveyed in words?—I can say that it is a subject which has very painfully occupied my attention at intervals during the last 10 years, because there has seldom been a Session of Parliament in which, under one form or other, the question has not been directly or indirectly before The House.

14961. *Mr. Labouchere.*] Have you prepared a Bill for the use of molasses in distilleries?—I have.

14962. That Bill stands for Committee?—It does.

14963. What alterations are proposed to be made in it, and at whose suggestion were those alterations introduced?—The Bill as originally prepared and as printed differed very little from the Bill of last year, excepting that we made an alteration in favour of the distiller, by only requiring him to produce 11 gallons instead of 11½ gallons from every hundredweight of sugar, and 7½ gallons instead of 8 as to molasses. Molasses are now admitted for the first time. The reason for that alteration was this: our experiments and the calculations founded upon them are, I believe, unimpeachable, at any rate they have never been questioned. Those experiments were made on sugar and molasses of the average quality, but the experience of the last year has shown us that there is an inclination on the part of distillers to use a lower quality than the average quality of molasses and sugar in the market, and we therefore thought it was a fairer plan, as it was the sincere object of the Government to put sugar and molasses on equal and just terms, to reduce the requirement. Various deputations of distillers and refiners waited upon me after the Bill was printed, and various suggestions were made by some of the principal distillers; I believe three or four of the principal distillers made suggestions, which I see are embodied in *Mr. Currie's* evidence, as objections to the Bill, that is, to the present system. I had before considered the objections, and in the Bill which I prepared for Committee I believe I have adopted for the consideration of the Committee every suggestion almost without exception which came from the men practically concerned in distilleries. As, for instance, objections were made that the notice required was too long; the notice is reduced from one calendar month to seven days, that period being fixed by themselves, because every seven days there is a change of work from brewing to distilling on their premises. Another objection is made, that by the old Bill corn and saccharine matter could not be allowed on the same premises; that objection I propose to obviate, because instead of stating that there shall be a penalty for its being found in any store belonging to a distiller or on a distiller's premises, as the Bill now stands any place approved of by the excise may be entered for storing either the sugar or the corn; and therefore in a place appropriated to the purpose by the consent of the excise, there would be no objection whatever to the different materials remaining on the same premises. Another objection is obviated, which was, that it was very hard that there should be a long period for notice, and that they should not be able to do anything pending that notice. Instead, therefore, of saying "at any time after such notice has been given," I have put "any time after such notice has taken effect," and therefore they will have

have the full privilege of having the materials in use during the currency of the notice up to the period when it expires and when the liberty attaches to it. Then again it was stated that the mash-tub was not the proper utensil in which to put the sugar or molasses; that has been altered to "such other vessel as with the approbation of the Commissioners of Excise shall be entered for that purpose." Then again an objection was made that whereas in the former Bill there was a forfeiture and double the duty on any deficiency of molasses or sugar which should be found on taking stock to exist, there is this proviso, "that such penalty and double duty shall not be incurred if such deficiency is proved to the satisfaction of the Commissioners of Excise to have arisen from unavoidable accident or loss." Of course, this Bill not having gone through Committee, I cannot answer for what will be its fate, but I hope I have shown to this Committee that there is every disposition on the part of the excise to meet the reasonable wishes of the trade, and that the objections to the provisions under which the brewing of sugar and molasses was to be adopted, are obviated as far as possible in the Bill under consideration.

14964. *Mr. Cardwell.*] Under the phraseology of that Bill, can treacle be used as well as molasses?—No.

14965. Will you have the goodness to state the reason for that?—An application was made to the Board of Excise, by some of the principal refiners in London, wishing that treacle the produce of English refineries should be used as well as molasses. The objection to the use of treacle is this: by the Bill molasses may be used separately or in mixture with sugar; if molasses be used separately, we give a drawback of 4*s.* 7*d.* a cwt. on every cwt., provided the distiller shows us that every cwt. has produced 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of spirits; that is the simplest mode of returning the drawback, and settling our account with him; but inasmuch as a very strong wish was expressed that the mixture of grain and molasses might be allowed, it was necessary in such case to make a different arrangement. If molasses and grain be mixed together, it is impossible for us to calculate what is the quantity of spirit produced from the molasses and what from the grain; and therefore we make a different arrangement as to the drawback; we simply give, without requiring any account of the quantity of spirit produced, a drawback of 4*s.* 7*d.* on every hundredweight of molasses. If, in addition to the molasses, we were to permit the use of treacle, we should be liable to this very palpable fraud, that treacle might be mixed with a very large quantity of water; sent from the refineries and distilled, and the consequence of that would be, that the drawback being calculated on the weight of the treacle without any regard to the produce, we should be liable to pay the drawback on the treacle and on the water. With regard to molasses the same objection does not exist; it certainly could never pay the West Indian to carry molasses and water across the Atlantic, and if he did he would pay duty not on molasses, but on molasses and water, and moreover he would be subject to the imposition being detected by the custom-house officers; for though they do not regularly test the quality of the molasses which comes in, and the quality necessarily varies very much, yet in the instance of so palpable a fraud as mixing a great quantity of water, the custom-house officers would of course in the long run detect it.

14966. In point of fact, it would be no fraud at all, would it, because 4*s.* 7*d.* would be paid to the customs, hereafter to be allowed by the excise?—No doubt of it. I am satisfied myself, and, what is of still more importance, I believe that the refiners who waited upon me, on that opening to fraud being pointed out, at once acquiesced in the restriction.

14967. Reverting to the question of the differential duty of 9*d.* and 4*d.* under the provisions of the Bill for distilling from sugar and molasses, will not Cuban and Brazilian sugar and molasses become British spirits at a protective duty against British rum, if the duty which you think ought to be 4*d.* remain at 9*d.*?—To that extent there can be no doubt of it.

14968. *Chairman.*] Have you considered the Report of the Select Committee on the use of molasses in breweries and distilleries in 1831?—I have; Mr. Thomas Smith, distiller, of Whitechapel, gave evidence before that Committee; he is asked in question 2211, "What inconvenience to the distillers would, in your opinion, result from a law permitting them to use molasses together with grain, independently of any danger to the revenue?" His answer is, "I think they could not together be fermented to advantage." He goes into the ques-

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

tion at some length, and he is then asked, this is the concluding question, "Do you anticipate from brewing from molasses together with corn, a loss to the distiller, or to the revenue, in consequence of the wash turning acid during the period of fermenting?" His answer is, "The distiller would pay the duty on what spirit he produced, therefore there would be no loss to the revenue, but with respect to the effect of it upon the trader, I think there might be a loss by bringing on an imperfect fermentation from the union of the two substances." "If it were wholly optional to a distiller to use molasses or not, what injury could be inflicted upon him, since if the fermentation were thus incomplete or unsuccessful, he would cease to make use of the molasses, and would brew from corn alone?—If I were to use molasses, supposing myself to be under that necessity, I would never use them, except alone; so with sugar, so with corn, I would never mix them." Mr. Atlee, a considerable distiller, also gave evidence before the same Committee; he had used sugar and corn together and separately; and he is asked, "Would you prefer working molasses by itself, and corn by itself, or molasses and corn together?" His answer is, "Separately." "Would you prefer working sugar by itself, and corn by itself, or sugar and corn together?—Sugar by itself, and corn by itself." "What reason have you for saying you would not like to use molasses with corn?—When I worked them together I never found them effective." "Be so good as to explain what you mean by effective?—That they did not produce so well as if they had been worked separately." "What was it that they did not produce?—In spirits; I varied the proportion many times, taking a certain quantity of corn and a certain quantity of molasses, mixing them together; I fermented them, and they did not produce so many gallons of spirits as they would if they had been fermented separately." "If you had the permission to use molasses in your distillery, you never would use molasses with corn?—Certainly not."

14969. Mr. *Goulburn*.] The distillers state that you must take into account of the grievances to which they are subjected, the excise restrictions which are imposed upon the manufacture of malt; have you taken that into your estimate in calculating the charges to which they are subject?—I have. I see it has been stated (but I think there must be some error or misunderstanding) on the authority of Mr. Huskisson, that the excise restrictions on the manufacture of malt amount to 50 per cent. upon the cost of manufacture. In 1834 particular inquiry was made into this, in consequence of the intended motion of the Marquis of Chandos for a repeal of the malt tax, and the excise were desired by Sir Robert Peel, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, to make inquiries and to give him the results. I have in my hand a paper with a copy of which Sir Robert Peel was furnished, which gives those details; it is dated the 9th of March 1835. This day's prices are for best barley, 38*s.* a quarter; for best malt, 64*s.* a quarter; inferior barley from 32*s.* to 37*s.* a quarter; and inferior malt from 50*s.* to 62*s.* a quarter. A calculation is then made; best barley at 38*s.*, and then the price rises to 64*s.*, as the best price of malt made therefrom; and these are the particulars: barley, 38*s.*; duty, 20*s.* 8*d.*; cost of making, 5*s.*, and 4*d.* profit, making 64*s.* I have reason to believe, from subsequent inquiries, that if there be any error in this paper, it is that the profit of the maltster at 4*d.* is stated too low, and consequently that the cost of making is put too high, and I believe from the inquiries I have made among some of the most eminent maltsters, that 4*s.* more nearly represents the cost of malting than 5*s.* Of course if this be any approximation even to the truth, if the barley and duty together were 58*s.* 8*d.*, the malt could not have been sold at 64*s.*, if there had been any very great increase to the duty by the restrictions on the manufacture of malt. I am sure some mistake runs through the whole therefore.

14970. With respect to the disadvantages imposed upon maltsters by the excise restrictions, can you inform the Committee whether there are not some advantages derived from the imposition of the duty: does not the mode in which the payment of the duty takes place by the maltster give him a portion of the capital for carrying on his trade?—No doubt of it; the duty is demandable by law as soon as the charge is made, but in practice, if the maltster gives no security, it is only in cases of grave suspicion demanded from him more than eight times in the year, being an average of seven or eight weeks through the year; but if a maltster gives security he has between five and six months for the payment of the duty.

14971. In

14971. In ordinary cases the malt is sold previously to the payment of the duty?—I should think it is sold from three to four months before the duty is demanded and sold as duty-paid malt.

14972. The maltster therefore has in his hands the duty, forming a large proportion of the whole price of the malt, upon which he can conduct his future operations?—Certainly.

14973. That therefore may be fairly set as a compensating advantage for the restrictions which the excise law imposes upon him?—I think it would go a long way towards it. There is no doubt, with respect to all excise laws, that they interfere not advantageously with the processes of manufacture. I think, seeing that the whole of a very terrific Act of Parliament has been read to this Committee, I may be allowed to say that there are many laws on the statute book which are not put in force every day. I see that in answer to question 8588 it has been stated that the distillers are subject to a very heavy expense in consequence of having to keep servants to watch the excise. I have so decided an opinion upon the subject, that perhaps the Committee will allow me to give it. The trader's servants are generally present when the excise officers take any gauge on which a charge of duty may be founded; that is twice during the distillation of the wash in any back, or 46 times for the whole distilling period, which lasts about five days; and though there were no excise survey, the trader would have to attend on all those occasions to take an account himself, or otherwise he would remain in ignorance of the manner in which his work was conducted. The trader's servants look at the excise officers doing what they would otherwise have to do themselves, and probably would not do so well; and I believe, as far as taking measure and gauging goes by the excise officers, onerous as their presence may be to the distiller, it is positively an advantage to him to that extent. But admitting that the survey of the excise occasioned expense to the distiller in this way, instead of three-fourths of the time of all the clerks in a large concern being taken up in looking after the excise officers, I am led to believe, from inquiry and observation, that it would not occupy one-fourth of the time of one clerk.

14974. The great amount of the penalties imposed upon distillers has been objected to; do you know many instances in which those extreme penalties which are laid down in the law have been enforced?—I think none. I may say generally that I hope the law is administered with some discretion; and though the penalties look very terrific in cases of mere breach of regulations which are not indicative of positive fraud, the Board generally do not interfere to prosecute, or if they prosecute they merely do it by way of caution, and take very small penalties. In cases which have occurred of grievous, and I may say scandalous frauds, the Board have considered it their duty, as much for the protection of the honest trader as of the revenue, to enforce tolerably heavy penalties; but I may state, as an instance, that in the great case of the Smiths, of Whitechapel, the penalties in that case sought for in the four actions were 300,000 *l.*; we were content with a verdict in one case only, which amounted to 75,000 *l.*, and then the Treasury reduced that verdict of 75,000 *l.* to 10,000 *l.*, which was the sum paid. I must, however, state that the trader was subject to considerable expense himself; he was subject to the inconvenience of the stoppage of his works for nine or ten months; and he also stated, and it was probably the case, that he was put to considerable indirect loss by not being able to supply his customers as theretofore.

14975. The great amount of penalties has been introduced, has not it, rather to protect the honest distiller against the fraud of other persons, by deterring from the commission of crimes, than from any view on the part of Government to levy those penalties?—Certainly; and the offences have been enumerated in detail to which penalties were attached, in order that we might put into our informations several counts; and if we did not succeed upon one count we might do so upon another; but there is scarcely an instance, as affects our general practice, of cumulative penalties, for substantially the same offence, being levied.

14976. The complaint on the part of an honest distiller of the extent of these penalties, is not altogether one, you think, which is deserving of much attention?—I would advert to the evidence of Mr. Currie, who stated, I believe perfectly truly, the other day, that a regard to the interest of the honest distiller prevented him from suggesting any alteration of the law.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

14977-8. You stated that an English distiller, sending his spirits to the rectifier, had them raised to that extent, that they were capable of being used as spirits of wine, and other spirits of a higher proof?—Where a distiller uses Coffey's still, which is the case in all the large distilleries in the kingdom, the spirit often comes over 60 per cent. over-proof; what is called the spirits of wine standard, is 54 over-proof.

14979. Very little rum is ever rectified in the distilleries in this country?—Very little; it is allowed by law; and I have a return of the number of gallons rectified during the last five years, which, if the Committee please, I will put in.

[The same was delivered in, and is as follows:]

QUANTITY of RUM admitted for Rectification in the last Five Years.

	Proof Gallons.
1843 - - - - -	55,183
1844 - - - - -	66,634
1845 - - - - -	47,140
1846 - - - - -	74,298
1847 - - - - -	95,032

Excise Office, London, }
25 March 1848. }

14980. The difficulties of rectifying rum preclude rum from being used in those cases where spirits of wine, or other strong spirits, for manufacturing purposes are required?—The English distillers remonstrated very strongly against the introduction of rum for the purpose of rectifying in this country; the result has shown that those apprehensions were not well founded, because it appears from the paper I have just put in, that the largest amount of rum admitted for rectification during the last five years, was 95,032 gallons.

14981. Rum is in fact practically excluded from a great many uses to which British spirit, highly rectified, is applicable?—No doubt of it.

14982. Do you consider that there are considerable difficulties which arise at present from the difference of duties on spirits in the three parts of the United Kingdom?—No doubt very great difficulties; and distillers in particular parts of the kingdom, particularly the Irish and Scotch distillers, have made it a very prominent subject of complaint that great difficulties exist as to the intercourse in plain spirits. The question is merely one of revenue, because there can be no doubt it would be a great convenience and an advantage, if the intercourse between the three kingdoms were just as free as between any three English counties; it therefore became of considerable consequence to see whether any equalization of duty could take place, and what would be the effect upon the revenue of any such equalization. With a view to illustrate that, I have prepared a paper, which will show the loss which would accrue to the revenue by an alteration of the duties.

14983. That loss would vary according as the general duty was 4 s. a gallon, 5 s., or 6 s. a gallon?—Generally we have found that all attempts to raise the duty above 2 s. 8 d. per gallon in Ireland have not been attended with success, therefore the question arises, if the duties are to be equalized, what would be the extra amount of duty which Ireland or Scotland would bear, and what would be the reduction and consequent loss upon spirit in England. I may state, as one curious result, that supposing the consumption in the three kingdoms to remain the same, it would take a duty of 5 s. a gallon in the three kingdoms to bring the same amount of duty to the Exchequer. If Ireland, as 5 s. is a duty which it would be impossible to raise in her, were left at 2 s. 8 d., and England and Scotland were put at 5 s., the loss to the revenue would be no less than 835,000 l. a year. If England and Scotland were put at 6 s., and Ireland continued at 2 s. 8 d., that would be equal to the present amount of revenue.

revenue. If England and Scotland were put at 4 s. a gallon, and Ireland continued at its present rate of 2 s. 8 d., the loss would be no less than 1,643,000 l. a year, and if England, Scotland, and Ireland were put at 4 s. a gallon, the loss would be 1,113,000 l. a year; therefore I greatly fear that the day is distant when any equalization of duty, so as to facilitate the intercourse materially, can be devised. At the same time I may state, that I believe measures are in preparation, which will go a great way to remove many of the complaints of the Scotch and Irish distillers.

John Wood, Esq.
1 April 1848.

[The following Paper was delivered in, and read follows:]

CALCULATIONS respecting the Equalization of the Duties on BRITISH SPIRITS, supposing the Consumption to remain the same.

		Present Duty.	
England, at 7 s. 10 d. per gallon	- - - - -		£. 3,595,315
Scotland, at 3 s. 8 d. - ditto	- - - - -		1,278,766
Ireland, at 2 s. 8 d. - ditto	- - - - -		1,060,276
			£. 5,934,357
		Duty at Equalized Rates.	
England	- - - - -		2,294,882
Scotland } at 5 s. per gallon	- - - - -		1,743,772
Ireland }	- - - - -		1,988,019
			6,026,673
		Present Duty - - -	5,934,357
		Gain - - - £.	92,316
England and Scotland, at 5 s. per gallon	- - - - -		4,038,654
Ireland, as at present, 2 s. 8 d. ditto	- - - - -		1,060,276
			5,098,930
		Present Duty - - -	5,934,357
		Loss - - - £.	835,427
England and Scotland, at 6 s. per gallon	- - - - -		4,846,386
Ireland, at present rate, 2 s. 8 d. per gallon	- - - - -		1,060,276
			5,906,662
		Present Duty - - -	5,934,357
		Loss - - - £.	27,695
England and Scotland, at 4 s. per gallon	- - - - -		3,230,924
Ireland, at present rate, 2 s. 8 d. per gallon	- - - - -		1,060,276
			4,291,200
		Present Duty - - -	5,934,357
		Loss - - - £.	1,643,157
England, Scotland, and Ireland; at 4 s. per gallon	- - - - -		4,821,339
		Present Duty - - -	5,934,357
		Loss - - - £.	1,113,018

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

14984. Mr. *Moffatt*.] Is there any revenue objection to distilling in bond, and allowing spirits to be retained in bond, provided that you make it compulsory on distillers throughout the United Kingdom?—There is the greatest objection to it, because I believe it would destroy every small distiller; and I do not think, for the purposes of the revenue, you should inflict such an injury as that; therefore I think it is objectionable.

14985. Will you explain to the Committee under what regulations spirits are allowed to be placed in bond in Scotland and Ireland at the present time?—The Irish and Scotch distiller, after the spirit has run from the worm end into the spirit receiver, and it has been charged with the duty, has his option either to lower the casks into a room which has been approved of by the Excise, which is called a duty-free warehouse, or he has the option to pay the duty direct, and send it into consumption immediately; he has the further option of removing them to a duty-free warehouse not upon his premises; as for instance, a warehouse separated for the purpose, at a port or a large town.

14986. Do the same regulations obtain in Scotland and Ireland?—Yes.

14987. And you see no objection to those regulations obtaining also in England?—None.

14988. You have stated in the earlier part of your evidence that the loss on decreases, by reason of natural wastage and evaporation, in no case furnished by the official returns, exceeds for any period of 12 months, more than a halfpenny per gallon?—I believe not, except in the case of a rectifier; in his case it amounts to something less than 1 *d*.

14989. And the loss by transit, so far as it has come within your knowledge, in the removal from Ireland to England, or from Scotland to England, has in no case exceeded a halfpenny a gallon?—No.

14990. Consequently you do not anticipate that any great loss will arise to the revenue, by reason of allowing those spirits to be transmitted in bond, and to be charged with the duty only on the settled quantity which is actually taken for home consumption?—There would be no great loss to the revenue, and there could be no great gain to the distiller.

14991. You have stated that it is the custom in Ireland to keep their spirits in bond for four, five, or six years?—The highest qualities of their spirits, which are to remain the greatest length of time; great expense of warehouse rent attends them; the finest quality is therefore selected, and they are kept for many years.

14992. Can you inform the Committee of the decrease in the quantity and the strength of spirits stored for five consecutive years?—No; but it is easily deduced from the table I have put in; I have given the decreases in one year, on a very large stock in Ireland, and it is only multiplying that by five.

14993. Do you apprehend any danger to the revenue, from making the alteration to which I have before alluded, in regard to charging the duty upon the quantity which goes into consumption?—Yes, the greatest.

14994. From what cause do you anticipate it?—I have explained to the Committee already, that the most desirable plan for simplicity, for economy, and for safety to the revenue, is to make the charge in every instance at the worm end; we could not do that in the case of colonial spirits, and therefore instead of making that charge, we put upon them a certain differential duty; if we could take the account at the worm end, in the West Indies, it would be by far the preferable mode, and it is preferable on this account, that if you charge a distiller at the worm end, you deprive him of the opportunity of subtracting from the spirits in the transit; because he being charged on the original quantity produced at the end of the worm, would be robbing himself, if he were to endeavour to rob the revenue.

14995. Your position is, that the distiller should be liable to pay the duty on spirit which neither in strength nor quality actually goes into consumption, and you can suggest no means by which the revenue can be guarded from that, except the crude method of charging from the worm end?—I believe the most simple and the most economical, and the least burdensome plan to the distiller, whether in this country or in the colonies, is to charge at the worm end. After all, it only amounts to a fraction of the duty. If the distiller be charged at the worm end for the quantity which does not ultimately go into consumption, instead of 7 *s*. 10 *d*. being the duty which is imposed upon him, it may be, taking into account the decreases and other circumstances, 7 *s*. 11 *d*.

OR

or 8s. I am putting this for the sake of illustration, not as giving the actual figures.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

14996. The distillers have a very different impression; they allege it to be a very great grievance; can you suggest any other method by which, assuming that the distillers are right in their statement, they could be admitted to pay the duty upon the quantity which actually goes into consumption, as in the case of colonial spirits?—Having completely made up my mind, from long experience, that the present mode is most desirable, I should be very unwilling to endeavour to bring into practice a mode which is less desirable.

14997. That is, a mode which is less desirable in your opinion?—In my opinion.

14998. Would not it be practicable for the British distiller, if he placed his spirit in a bonded warehouse of equal security to that in which colonial spirits are placed, to have equal privileges?—Certainly.

14999. Could not the Excise take sufficient security to see that no spirits are extracted between the worm end and this warehouse of special security?—In the first place, I may observe that no opportunity is given for fraud equal to that of spirits in transitu; in the next place, a warehouse of special security could not be established in the vicinity of every distillery, and the effect of this regulation would be, that every small distillery about the country would be obliged to cease to distil.

15000. You apprehend then that the advantages would be so large to those distillers who are near places of special security, that the small distiller would be beaten out of the market?—No, I do not; the small distiller would be burdened with the expense of sending his spirits perhaps 50 or 100 miles, for no object, except to place it in a warehouse of special security; he would be obliged to take it from the market at his door, and to warehouse it at a distance in a warehouse of special security; the consequence of that would be, that the expenses would infinitely exceed any possibility of advantage.

15001. Do you apprehend the expense of bonding in a warehouse of special security would be so onerous to the British distiller that he would not avail himself of it?—I think the expense of warehousing would be so great, that it is very improbable he would avail himself of it.

15002. He does avail himself of it, where there is the privilege of bonding in Dublin, to a considerable extent?—That is the instance of a large town with warehouses of special security in it; you will find, if you look at the distilleries in Ireland, that they abound in Dublin. The quantities of spirits brought to charge in Dublin are immense, compared with the quantity brought to charge in any other town.

15003. You think that the expense of warehousing spirits in those warehouses would be so great, that people would not avail themselves of it; is not it the fact, that in the King's stores of Dublin the immense quantities of spirit they now warehouse are liable to the same charge that rum or brandy warehoused in the King's stores is?—I believe the Excise and Customs' charges are pretty much the same.

15004. Consequently, your objection to the increase of expense falls to the ground?—Not at all, because the Dublin warehouses are filled with spirits distilled at the door; and the main question with the Dublin distiller is this: whether it is cheaper for him to warehouse in the Queen's warehouse, which is close to his door, or whether it is better for him to appropriate a part of his own premises to the bonding of spirits.

15005. And he finds that the public stores, where he has to pay the same charges as on colonial spirits, are cheaper than his own bonding stores?—Not always.

15006. Is not that the rule?—I am not aware of it, because I do not know the quantities.

15007. Are you aware what quantities there are now lying in the Queen's stores in Dublin?—No.

15008. Are you aware that nearly two-thirds of the quantity of spirits in bond in Dublin are in the Queen's stores?—I do not believe it is so, and I will state why; at the time when the question of the prohibition of distillation from grain was agitated in 1846, I ascertained that the whole quantity of spirits under the Queen's lock was about 70 weeks' consumption, and my recollection

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

of it is that about one-half of that was in the Queen's store, and the other in the private stores of the distiller. I state that subject to correction.

15009. From which it appears that the Queen's stores are as cheap as the private stores?—I do not know that that inference can be drawn exactly; there are a great variety of circumstances which influence distillers in the choice of the stores.

15010. Apply the same practice of bonding in the Queen's stores to Scotch and Irish spirits that are sent to this market; do you not think it would afford a very great facility and advantage to the parties sending those spirits if they were allowed to bond them here in places of equal security with those in which colonial spirits are bonded?—I see no objection whatever to their bonding them.

15011. Would it not be exceedingly easy to ascertain the quantity of spirits which leaves the distillery in Scotland or Ireland at the time of its leaving that distillery?—Certainly.

15012. Would it not be also very easy to ascertain the quantity of spirits which were actually warehoused in a bonding warehouse in this country?—We do that.

15013. And if any case of suspicion of abstraction of spirits arose, you could cause investigation to be made?—It might be done of course, assuming the British spirits to be placed in warehouses for special security in this country.

15014. Is there any objection to their being then treated precisely as colonial and foreign spirits?—The objection is this, that the British spirits, as the law at present exists, have a protecting duty of 9*d.*, in which 9*d.*, in the calculation of items, ample allowance has been made for the average rate of decrease, and therefore what the Excise object to do is this, that the distiller should have the allowance twice over; he has it in the first place in the less duty of 9*d.*, in the protecting duty of 9*d.* The moment that bargain was made, the Scotch distiller and the Irish, but particularly the Scotch, immediately tried to break the bargain, by asking for warehousing and for the decrease. The Scotch and Irish pleaded that there ought to be a discriminating duty on rum, in which respect should be had to their own calculation. As soon as that Act of Parliament passed, the Scotch and Irish distillers, particularly the Scotch, endeavoured to depart from the terms of the bargain by asking for a system of bonding, and only to pay the duty on the quantity actually brought into consumption. What I say is this, that they have no right to have the allowance in two ways.

15015. Irrespective of any differential or protective duty, are you not of opinion that it would tend very much to facilitate the trade in spirits if those privileges which are given to colonial spirits were given to British spirits?—Decidedly not; I would apply the same system to colonial spirits, which is now applied to British spirits, if I had the opportunity.

15016. You have the opportunity to a certain extent on their arrival in this country. You can charge from the strength and the quantity landed, on both foreign and colonial spirits?—Certainly it is a much simpler plan to have a discriminating duty.

15017. You prefer the discriminating duty, but you admit that there is a very extreme discriminating duty at this moment?—I do so; the whole tendency of this evidence has shown that.

15018. You think it should be 5*d.* instead of 9*d.*?—I think 5*d.* is quite as much as they have proved themselves entitled to at this time; I qualify that by stating that it is a subject of extreme difficulty, from its being almost impossible to come at the facts.

15019. You have made the remark that the Government, from granting those privileges, would not lose above a halfpenny; that is, in granting them that to which the previous part of my examination has alluded?—Taken in figures, it appears that the loss would not be much; but the opportunity for fraud given by ceasing to make the distiller the protector of the duty, as well as of his own property, would lead to a loss which I cannot calculate.

15020. Do you apprehend that there would be some enormous fraud between the period of transit from the worm's end to the bonded warehouse, an operation which it would probably take six hours to perfect?—I believe that there would be an opportunity for fraud, and I believe that where the opportunity exists for fraud, there are too many persons much too disposed to avail themselves of it.

15021. You

15021. You prefer the ascertaining of the duty at the worm's end, and to be charged there, by which process you know the exact quantity that comes from the still; but is there a loop-hole for any large fraud in the transit of the quantity which comes from the worm's end to the warehouse of special security?—Yes.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

15022. Without the chance of immediate detection on the part of the Excise?—Yes.

15023. Will you state how that can arise?—I state, as the result of an experience of 10 years, that I think the revenue would be exposed to great risk, unless the duty were charged at the worm's end.

15024. Assume that Mr. Smith obtained 10,000 gallons from the worm's end, and he wished to put those in bond; the operation of transmitting them to the bonded stores, where they are to lie in bond, subject to the same advantages which colonial spirits have, is an operation of three hours; now if of the 10,000 gallons which were obtained from the worm's end, only 9,500 gallons got into the bonded stores, you would then at once ask the deficiency to be accounted for?—In that case there would be suspicion. Every transaction of the distiller must be watched in order to see how grave a case of suspicion or how light a case of suspicion is engendered, and all that is avoided by making the charge at the worm's end; he then has an interest, for the sake of the revenue, as well as of himself, to prevent the abstraction of spirits on the part of the servants; for himself to do it would be to rob himself, because, in taking away the spirits, he would be still liable to duty.

15025. Are you quite clear, that when you had ascertained the quantity from the worm's end, you would get the duty on every pint of spirits which he distilled?—I do not say that our laws are so perfect that we have the whole charge.

15026. That is, however, the best security you can have for obtaining the full duty?—No doubt.

15027. Then if you compel the distiller, when he has obtained his spirits, to be liable to the duty for the quantity that comes from the worm's end, that is for any difference between the quantity that was obtained from the worm's end and the quantity lodged in the warehouse of special security, I apprehend that you have there as perfect a security for the revenue against fraud, as in any other plan that could be devised?—That would certainly obviate the objection to that extent.

15028. After that the spirits could have the privileges of foreign and colonial spirits, without any other chance of fraud upon the revenue than at present exists in reference to foreign and colonial spirits?—Yes, I believe so.

15029. You are aware, I believe, that it has been always made a ground of complaint, both by Scotch and Irish distillers, that they were greatly impeded in their trade by being compelled to pay duty on the spirit very shortly after its arrival in England, in fact by not having those privileges?—Not by the Irish; I have had, on the contrary, letters from the Irish, to say that they not only did not participate in the complaints of the Scotch, but those who have addressed me say that they utterly repudiate that participation.

15030. Are you aware that the majority of the Irish distillers have petitioned Parliament that their manufacture should be placed upon the same basis with regard to bonding privileges as colonial and foreign spirits?—That may have been some years ago, but I do not think it is recent.

15031. In the last Session of Parliament?—I do not know who signed it; I was not aware of such a petition.

15032. You have stated the transit deficiency on Scotch and Irish spirits brought into England to be about one half per cent., would your gauge here show such a deficiency?—Yes, of course, if there be that deficiency, the gauge would show it.

15033. Would not the gauge be made of the ullage?—An ullage cask is a cask that is kept on tap for the purpose of filling up casks which have decreased, and therefore the ullage cask could not be a full cask.

15034. Will you state to the Committee what is the allowance as to an ullage cask; are they permitted in the bonded warehouses in Scotland and Ireland?—Ullage casks are allowed; the practice is this: a person puts into a duty-free warehouse a quantity of spirits; he wishes to send out each cask full; he is therefore allowed to have a cask as it were on tap, which is called the

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

ullage cask, and out of that cask he fills up every other cask before it goes out; and his object particularly in sending to England is this, that the Irish distiller has his ullage cask, which is only charged at 2*s.* 8*d.* duty, the Scotch ullage cask is of course charged 3*s.* 8*d.*; he wishes to send full casks to this country, and instead of being charged 7*s.* 10*d.*, which is the English duty on the decrease, he fills up any decrease by wastage or accident from that ullage cask, and he thus escapes the 7*s.* 10*d.* duty, because he fills up the casks which are deficient out of the ullage at 2*s.* 8*d.* or 3*s.* 8*d.*, according to the country in which he is. If a cask were coming to England, that cask holding we will say 110 gallons, if we were to insist upon the identical cask, with the real contents, being sent to England, the distiller would have to pay the English duty upon the 110 gallons of 7*s.* 10*d.*; we will say that the leakage is two gallons, he would have to pay the full duty of 7*s.* 10*d.* in England on the 110 gallons, but he avoids that by having a cask on tap, which is called the ullage cask, and he fills up the deficiency of two gallons in his 110 gallon cask before it leaves the Irish warehouse with spirits which have only paid 2*s.* 8*d.* duty, and in that way he escapes the difference of duty on the deficiency between 2*s.* 8*d.* and 7*s.* 10*d.*

15035. If the duty were chargeable here on landing, would not each puncheon be gauged one gallon less than the shipped quantity?—No, that does not at all follow; we have given in an account of the quantity gauged on leaving Scotland and Ireland in 11,000 and odd casks; we have given the gauge as taken on arrival at the port of London, and the loss is in money 3*s.* 11*d.* on every 100 gallons.

15036. Suppose a cask to be shipped of 110 gallons, and that when landed here it contained 109 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons, the Excise having received the duty on 110 gallons, you would call the cask full, and so, I presume, show no deficiency, although there were only 109 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons landed?—I believe they would; but in the note I have appended to the calculation, there is an allowance made for that.

15037. Can you inform the Committee whether a merchant, receiving a consignment of Scotch and Irish spirits, is obliged to take out a licence to sell them, or whether he can deal with them as with any other merchandise?—He is liable to 10*l.* licence duty.

15038. A merchant who never sees other than the samples, and does not break bulk, is still compelled to take out a licence or be liable to a penalty of 10*l.*?—Every dealer is subject to the licence duty of 10*l.*

15039. But there is the difference between a merchant and a wholesale dealer?—I am not aware of that difference; a merchant is a wholesale dealer, if he deals without breaking bulk. Every one, in law, is considered a wholesale dealer who sells in quantities exceeding two gallons.

15040. Do you mean to state to the Committee, that a gentleman receiving a consignment of 10 puncheons of whiskey, and selling those 10 puncheons of whiskey, is a dealer in whiskey?—Yes, I do; in the eye of the law he is so described.

15041. Will you inform the Committee whether a merchant receiving rum is obliged to take out the same licence?—Every wholesale dealer in British spirits is compelled to take out a licence, which licence gives him the privilege of selling any quantity not less than two gallons; therefore every merchant receiving spirits from Scotland or Ireland may avail himself of the privilege or not; we never inquire when he comes to take out a licence, whether he intends to sell in puncheons or in quantities of two gallons; but whatever his intention may be, he has the privilege of doing so.

15042. But you do not allow a merchant in London to receive a consignment of Scotch spirits, and sell them, through his broker, in the London market, without taking out a licence as a spirit dealer?—We do not.

15043. Although a merchant receiving a consignment of brandy from Cognac has the privilege of selling it as he would any other merchantable commodity, without taking out a licence?—I believe he has.

15044. Can you inform the Committee whether the fractional parts of a gallon of rum are charged in assessing the duty, or whether the fractional parts are taken as of no account unless amounting to 84 parts of 100?—I have no practical experience whatever as to the regulation of the Customs; the rum duty is part of the Customs duty, and not of the Excise.

15045. Can

15045. Can you inform the Committee whether that practice obtains with regard to British spirits, whether imported from Scotland or Ireland?—The practice is minutely detailed in the note which is before the Committee.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

15046. Is it the practice to discard any fractional parts of a gallon, unless they amount to 84 parts of 100?—I believe that we only take account of the even gallons.

15047. You have stated, in reference to the process of rectifying, that you believe there is no charge accrues in the rectifying of spirits by reason of any restrictions or obstructions offered by the Excise?—I am not aware that I stated so.

15048. You stated that there ought to be no allowance for rectification?—Yes; but I gave a different reason for it. I stated that if they chose to drink raw-grain spirits, they had them without the expense of rectification; but that if they liked not raw-grain spirits, but rectified spirits, they themselves ought and would pay for it; and I instanced that in the case of malt spirits in Ireland, by showing that although the 8*d.* duty was imposed by law, and a malt drawback as affecting Ireland, the Irish nevertheless continued progressively to increase in the consumption of spirits made from malt, and that that was a proof to me that people would pay an additional price for that which they liked.

15049. The Committee wish to know whether there are any restrictions on the distillation which cause an increase of expense to the rectifier; are distillers allowed to send out their spirits at any strength they think proper?—No.

15050. They are compelled, are they not, to send them out at 25 per cent. over proof?—Not above 25 per cent. over proof.

15051. Are you aware that in the process of rectification those spirits have to be reduced?—Perfectly so. I have gone through all this in my evidence before.

15052. Are you aware that in that process of lowering the strength of the spirits there is a loss to the rectifier?—I am not. If there be a loss it is the rectifier's own choice, because I had offered to them to permit distillers to sell at 60 per cent. over proof, and they declined it; I offered that to the rectifiers.

15053. In your evidence you stated that one gentlemen said he would not have it so?—I stated that a deputation waited upon me of rectifiers, I believe, representing the rectifying trade in London, and that on my making this suggestion to them, whether it was agreeable or not, it was not received with any favour; and it was further stated, that the expense of reducing and passing these spirits through the still again amounted to so little, that to the consumer it was of no consequence. My object was to reduce the price of spirits of wine to persons wanting them in large quantities, and my idea was, that if, as the spirits came from the still 60 per cent. over proof, the distiller had the privilege of sending out those spirits at 60 per cent. over proof, he would directly supply from the distillery varnish makers, makers of French polish, and all persons requiring spirits of wine for the purpose of solvents, and not requiring them for compounding spirits, in which everything depends upon the flavour; I repeat that I thought it a very great absurdity, that the spirits being produced by the distiller 60 per cent. over proof, should be reduced by him by the addition of water; that they should be carted to the rectifier, for the purpose of having the water expelled by being again passed through the still, and so got up by rectifying from 54 to 60; 54 being generally considered as the standard of spirits of wine.

15054. I believe you are aware that in the course of that weakening of the spirits there is a loss to the rectifier?—I do not know how that should occur; if it occur at all, it is a loss to the distiller, because we prevent, under the present law, the spirits from leaving the distiller's premises at more than 25 per cent. over proof; and therefore the addition of the water, and consequent loss, if there be any loss from such addition, must be to the distiller, and not to the rectifier.

15055. I apprehend that the distiller has no loss on the spirits; the rectifier has bought the spirits of the distiller, and the question is one of the cost of manufacturing the spirits between the rectifier and the public?—The rectifier buys the spirits of the distiller, at the only strength at which the law permits the distiller to part with them, which is not 60, but 25 over proof.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

15056. Which strength the rectifier is compelled to bring down to par or proof, before he can use the spirit for rectification?—On the contrary, it is the distiller who is not allowed to part with the spirit from his manufactory, till he has reduced it to 25 over proof; he sends it to the rectifier at that strength, and the rectifier raises it again, if he be making spirits of wine, to 54; all we know is this, that with regard to the rectifier's business, the law does not permit him to receive any spirit that is more than 25 over proof; what he does with that, or how he manipulates it, when it is once in his possession, we have no knowledge, and we care nothing about it. He reduces it, or adds to its strength, just as suits his purpose; if he be making spirits of wine, he raises it from 25 to 54, and if he be making compounds, he probably reduces it a good deal below proof; I believe that he reduces it for some purposes to as much as 17 under proof.

15057. My questions have reference to English gin; the rectifiers allege that by reason of your compelling the spirits to be received by them at 25 over proof, they are compelled to bring them down to proof in their manufacture, and that they thereby incur a loss of one per cent.; do you know anything to the contrary of that?—I know nothing at all about it.

15058. Have you any practical knowledge with regard to rectification?—I have no practical knowledge on that point.

15059. The allegation is, that they have a loss of one per cent., and that in the process of rectification they have again to raise the spirit, by which they lose one per cent., and that in the insertion of the colouring matter there is also a loss of one per cent.?—I do not know that.

15060. Then the answer which you gave with regard to the distillers had nothing to do with the process and manipulation of the rectifier?—I merely stated as a fact that the rectifier was unwilling that the distiller should send out spirits of wine at 60 over proof, although the spirits sent to him are obliged to be reduced to 25, and he again raises them to 54 if he is making spirits of wine; I think that is a great waste of labour and of expense.

15061. Is that as regards the rectifier?—On the part of the rectifier. As you have asked me what is the maximum strength at which the rectifier may receive spirits, you should ask what is the minimum.

15062. What is the minimum strength?—The rectifier may receive from the English distiller spirits at 10 under proof.

15063. So that there is a range at from 10 under proof to 25 over proof?—Yes.

15064. You have continually alluded, in reply to questions as to the rectifying process, in your evidence, to spirits of wine; can you state to the Committee the proportion of spirits which leaves the rectifier's premises as spirits of wine, and the proportion as gin?—No; but I believe the proportion of spirits of wine is small, and I believe that the spirits of wine which leave the rectifier's premises are produced from what are called feints; that is, that they are produced from the refuse, and that a certain quantity are necessarily produced by every rectifier in the course of his general process.

15065. Do you think that the quantity of spirits of wine is in the proportion of one gallon of spirits of wine to 1,000 gallons of gin?—I have no means of forming an opinion on that subject.

15066. You have stated that the rectifier can receive spirits at from 10 under proof to 25 over proof; does that apply to spirits sent from Scotland and Ireland equally with British spirits made in England?—No; I stated, in answer to your first question upon this subject, that he could take spirits from the English distiller at 10 under proof.

15067. Will you state to the Committee at what strength the rectifier may receive them from the Scotch or Irish distiller?—I think 11 over proof is the minimum.

15068. *Chairman.*] Has your attention been directed to the duty which it would be proper to levy on cane-juice, sent from the West Indies here?—Yes; in May 1847, a sample of cane-juice was sent from the West Indies, and it was submitted to the Customs, and the question arose what duty the cane-juice ought to be subjected to; it was stated that it was a question of considerable importance, as it was supposed that if a proper duty were levied upon it, it might become a considerable article of traffic. The Chancellor of the Exchequer requested

requested us to receive from the Customs a sample of the cane-juice in question, and to analyse it; we have had it analysed, and I am prepared to put in the statement of our chemist.

John Wood, Esq.
1 April 1848.

[The same was delivered in, and read as follows:]

Honourable Sirs,

In obedience to the annexed order, I have examined a sample of cane-juice, handed to me by Mr. Steel, for the purpose of ascertaining the relative quantities of sugar and molasses contained therein, as well as the largest amount of crystallized sugar that concentrated cane-juice will afford.

The present sample is marked "London Docks Cane Juice;" it is in a concentrated state, as much so as it can well be to retain the character of juice, as will be seen by the results of the experiments on that head.

The density of the juice at 60° Fahrenheit, was 1.4925. Ordinary West India molasses is about 1.35, and ordinary muscovado sugar, about 1.55. Owing to the viscosity of the juice, the density cannot be well arrived at directly in consequence of the difficulty of freeing the juice from air; it was therefore ascertained by measuring the capacity of a mixture, composed of 1,000 grains of distilled water and 1,000 grains of the juice by weight. The volume of this mixture equalled 1,670 grains of distilled water, at 60° Fahrenheit; rejecting therefore the small condensation that ensued, we have $\frac{1000}{670} = 1.4925$ for the density, a gravity that closely agrees with that calculated from the known densities of sugar and molasses in the proportions in which they exist in the sample of juice in question.

100 grains of the juice were submitted to the action of a water-bath, until the mass ceased to lose weight; this occurred during the third day, when it weighed 865 grains, thus showing a loss of 13.5 per cent. for water.

2,415 grains of the juice were next operated upon for the purpose of separating the sugar from the molasses, which was effected by means of an air-pump. When the molasses, by the pressure of the atmosphere, were freed from the sugar, the products were weighed, and found to be

Molasses	-	-	-	-	-	736 grains.
Sugar	-	-	-	-	-	1,679 ditto.
Total						2,415 ditto.

These proportions indicate

Sugar	-	-	-	-	69.52 per cent.	
Molasses	-	-	-	-	30.48 ditto.	
Total						100.00 ditto.

or in 112ths,

Sugar	-	-	-	-	77.86	
Molasses	-	-	-	-	34.14	
Total						112.00

The alcoholic value of the juice may be calculated with some degree of accuracy, from the known worth of sugar and molasses; assuming, therefore, that 112ths of muscovado sugar will afford 11½ gallons of proof spirit, and that a like quantity of molasses will afford eight gallons, the value of the juice will be,

Sugar	-	-	-	-	-	69.52 = 7.03 proof spirit.
Molasses	-	-	-	-	-	30.48 = 2.17 ditto.
Total						100.00 = 9.20 ditto.

or 112ths of the juice would equal 10.30 gallons of proof spirit. But as the sugar separated from the juice, contains in the state it was separated about seven per cent. of moisture,

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

while ordinary muscovado sugar contains only four per cent., the juice could not be expected to yield more than 9·8 or 10 gallons of proof spirit for every 112ths.

1,492½ grains of the juice were distilled, and the product was an equal volume of alcohol and water, weighing, at 60° Fah. 9,989·6 = 98·7th = 1·3 per cent. by volume of proof spirit, or by weight about $\frac{3}{10}$ of a per cent.

3,171 grains of the juice were submitted to the action of a water-bath, until 2·7 per cent. loss of moisture occurred; the mass, when cold, was a thick viscid paste.

3,006·2 grains were treated as above, until 3·6 per cent. loss occurred; the mass when cold was a tenacious and very thick paste.

3,082·6 grains were similarly treated until 4·2 per cent. loss occurred; the mass when cold was a soft solid.

From the three last experiments, it may be inferred that the juice has been carried to the utmost limit of concentration, and therefore that cane-juice cannot be expected to exceed the density of 1·4925 while it retains the character of juice.

The results of the preceding experiments may be summed up as follows:

1stly. The density of highly concentrated cane-juice, appears to be 1·4925.

2dly. That in that state it may be expected to afford about 70 per cent. of sugar, and 30 per cent. of molasses.

3dly. That vinous fermentation takes place in it to a certain extent.

4thly. That every 112th of it may be assumed to afford 10 gallons of proof spirit.

5thly. That in a highly concentrated state it contains 13½ per cent. of water, and that that amount seems necessary to enable it to retain the character of liquid juice.

Two samples of sugar and one of molasses are preserved. The sample of sugar, marked A., is in the state in which its proportion was ascertained; that marked B. has been slightly washed to free it from impurities. The molasses are in the same state as separated from the sugar.

18 May 1847.

I am, &c.
(signed) *G. Phillips, Sup.*

Witness.] On this analysis I have to remark, that the question which we had practically determined was, what is the largest amount of crystallizable sugar which can be obtained from the cane-juice highly concentrated, as it will be necessary to fix the duty at the highest point. The sample in question was so highly concentrated, that if the concentration had been carried further, it would have ceased to be juice, and would, in fact, have been sugar. The produce in sugar was such that the duty ought to be 9s. 8½d. on the sugar, and on the molasses, 1s. 7½d.; therefore, that article of cane-juice, so highly concentrated as that it was as near to the crystallizing point, or solid point, as possible, would have been 11s. 4d. a cwt. In a work which has obtained considerable circulation, and which contains much valuable information, entitled the "Sugar Planter's Manual," by W. J. Evans, M.D., the author very much advocates the expediency and economy of sending cane-juice from the West Indies. His calculation (page 228) is this: he says that 2,680 lbs. of concentrated syrup contain 1,680 lbs. of sugar, and 660 lbs. of molasses delivered in Great Britain, and that therefore the duty chargeable on the syrup should be 9s. 5d. a cwt. instead of our 11s. 4d. The calculation is as follows: 1,680 lbs. of sugar, at 14s. per cwt., and 660 lbs. of molasses, at 5s. 3d. per cwt., would be a duty of 12l. 0s. 11½d., or, 2,860 lbs. of syrup, at 9s. 5d. per cwt., 12l. 0s. 5½d. I have put in these two statements to show of what very variable quality cane-juice probably is. That in one case the fair equivalent of duty, as compared with molasses and raw sugar, would be 9s. 5d. That in the sample submitted to us by the Customs on arrival in this country the duty would have been 11s. 4d., being a difference of very nearly 2s.

15069. *Mr. J Wilson.*] Would it not also depend upon the quality of the sugar you got?—At present there is a discriminating duty upon sugar of various qualities, but the sugar produced in this instance was of such a quality that it would in either case have been liable to 14s. duty.

15070. But then you are aware that 14s. duty involves an enormous variety of qualities?—The Legislature have fixed three or four varieties of quality to which different duties attach, as it is supposed in proportion to their value.

15071-2. It is your opinion that if cane-juice were allowed to be imported, it would, as a matter of course, always be imported at the most highly concentrated

trated point that was practicable, and therefore in reference to that state of concentration ought to be charged?—Yes; I think that the only safety for the revenue would consist on taking the duty on the assumed highly concentrated juice.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

15073. *Chairman.*] With respect to English corn spirits you have built all your calculations upon a sort of rule of three sum, deduced from a supposed exaggeration of the duties on decreases, and the interest for those duties, which you assumed to be set by the British corn distillers at 4*d.*?—Yes.

15074. Your premises appear to me to be rather rotten there, because if you recollect that the claim set forth was not upon their own decreases, but that those were the established decreases of the West Indians?—I am quite aware of that.

15075. How came you to allege that it was an exaggeration, because I apprehend it is a fact as far as the 3½*d.* is concerned, accurately calculated from official returns; is it not?—I am perfectly aware that the Parliamentary return, which I believe to be perfectly correct, is in existence by which the losses or decreases on West India rum are stated at 3½*d.*, but then I consider that the distillers are so completely in error in saying that that is a loss which attaches, owing to the excise restrictions, to their manufacture of spirit, that I deal with it accordingly; that is, I say, the decreases alleged have nothing at all to do with the question.

15076. Surely there is no fairness in that argument; whether they are right in estimating that a favour to one side is a prejudice to the other or not, may be a question; but as I understand you, you have made a rule-of-three sum, in which you started with this basis, that this 4*d.* should be a halfpenny, and therefore as a halfpenny was to 4*d.*, so you would estimate all the other restrictions which had been differently estimated by the British distillers; but it seems that you cannot deny the matter of fact which is not denied, and you cannot allege against them exaggeration in any respect?—I hope the Committee will allow me to state the course which I intended to take before them. I was asked, with my experience of 10 years as Chairman of the Excise, whether I was able to form any estimate of the restrictions which the Excise imposed upon the English distillers; and knowing that the English distillers had stated as part of their disadvantages decreases which they themselves did not suffer from, but decreases which were allowed to the West Indians, I consider myself perfectly justified in showing, that as those had been enumerated in their own memorial, which I held in my hand, as expenses which they were made liable to in consequence of the restrictions of the excise, I thought myself perfectly justified in showing that no such decreases existed in their stocks in this country, and that the excise was not chargeable with any such decrease as 4*d.*; that the utmost which the excise could take account of was a decrease, say of a halfpenny. But I know that the Committee were perfectly well aware that such a statement had been put forward, and insisted upon, before them by the English distillers as an indulgence which the West Indians had in bringing their spirit to market, and enabling it to compete with them at a less rate. I was perfectly aware of that, and I assume, perhaps hastily, that the Committee went along with me in the opinion, which had very forcible possession of my mind, that whatever was allowed for decrease to the West Indian on the voyage was not the effect of any Excise restriction on the manufacturer of spirits here.

15077. The Committee did not go along with you, and they had no opportunity, because you did not state that part of the case. The question was, What would put the West Indian and the British corn distiller upon an equality. The British distiller alleges that by permitting the West Indian to bond his spirits, he is saved in decreases a sum of money equal to 3½*d.* a gallon, which he would have to pay if there was an equal law dealt out to him, and dealt out to the British corn distiller; that you cannot deny?—No, certainly.

15078. You cannot deny that the difference of the law applied to the West Indian, and applied to the British corn distiller, amounts to 3½*d.* in favour of the rum distiller, in that point of view?—There is no doubt whatever, I believe, that the loss to the West Indian in coming to this country, and in bringing the spirits here, down to the time that they are delivered for consumption at the door of the Queen's warehouse, amounts to about 3½*d.* a gallon.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

15079. Was there no injustice, when it is once admitted that the British corn distiller had so fairly, and so truly, and so correctly stated that fact, that you should then proceed to a rule-of-three sum, and calculate that as a halfpenny is only the eighth part of 4 *d.*, so you estimate that the allegations of the British distillers are worth but a little more than 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of all that they have represented to me?—I thought that I was correctly answering the question that was put to me, which question was, “What, in your opinion, are the costs to which the British distiller is put in consequence of the Excise restrictions?” I brought before you the memorial of the distillers, in which they state them; I made no exception to the 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* for malt duty; that was agreed on all hands; I gave the distillers credit for the penny, and so on, and at last I came to the decreases.

15080. I wish to adhere to this most important point, upon which you build all your calculations?—The statement of the distillers in their memorial is, decreases of stock and the interest on money, 4 *d.* I can only find out a decrease in stock, I say, of a little more than a halfpenny. They are evidently stating that on decreases, because it can have nothing to do with the interest of money as regards the West Indian. I stated that I thought it was completely made out that it had nothing at all to do with Excise restrictions. I was perfectly aware that they had put forward the allowances made to the West Indians as 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* or 4 *d.*

15081. The question was, what difference of duties would make an equality between those two contending parties; there were two descriptions of distillers, one the distiller of rum, and the other the distiller of corn spirits; do the Excise, for your purposes, insist upon levying the duty upon corn spirits at the worm’s mouth?—Yes.

15082. The British distiller says, if you do that by us, do so also by the rum distiller, and we are equal; but you say no, so far as the rum distiller is concerned, we will not take the duty from him at the worm’s mouth in the West Indies, we will give him the whole of the advantage of his interest and decreases, but the advantage not only of that, we will allow him to bond his spirits for two years or three years whilst the rum is decreasing in quantity; but faster than it is decreasing in quantity it is increasing in value by improvement, and thus a value to the rum distiller of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; put him upon an equal footing with the corn distiller, and you would have charged him not only 7 *s.* 10 *d.* duty at the worm’s mouth upon his rum and upon the whole of those decreases, amounting to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, but there would be also the interest for the two years or the three years whilst his rum was in bond, chargeable upon him just as it is now chargeable upon the British distiller; consequently there is an advantage in the struggle to the rum distiller of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, of which he would be deprived if you dealt by him as hardly as you have dealt by the corn distiller. That is the case, and that is the question of equality upon which arises the whole discussion. Then you say there are a number of other restrictions, and you say, Why, those amount to but a halfpenny instead of 4 *d.*, and as the British distillers have exaggerated this advantage eightfold, so I will assume that they have exaggerated every other restriction. I believe you confess that you are not able to put any value yourself, that you are not able to estimate them in any way, for them or against them, yet you say I will judge of them by the exaggeration; that was your statement to the Committee?—I believe the Committee will find, if they will have the kindness to have the answer read, that I passed as of course on their own showing every one item excepting the decreases, and that I showed that those decreases did not actually exist as a consequence of the Excise restrictions. My idea was, that if each party got the loss that he actually sustained they were on a footing of equality. I therefore wished to show what the actual loss of the distiller was; I did not think it fair to enter into the question of what the loss of the West Indian planter was, because that was not a loss which was caused by the Excise restrictions. We had no dispute as to the amount of malt duty. The distillers’ increased plant I also allowed on their own calculation; I gave them exactly what they alleged upon the malt only, with this difference, that instead of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, which is, I believe, the actual calculation, I let them take 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; the distiller’s increased plant I also rather increased into 1 *d.* from their own statement; Excise restrictions 3 *d.*; those in the first instance I put at 3 *d.*; duty on
decreases

decreases and interest on duty advanced, 4 *d.* I showed from paper that the actual duty on decreases which the distillers lost was a halfpenny; that altogether made 6 *d.*

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

15083. You denied them anything for the advantage of rectifying?—Exactly so; but that, I thought, was the principle. We then entered into the expenses of rectification afterwards; but in my opinion those do not attach to distillation any more than I think the malt duty attaches to the cost of distillation, because if people choose not to be content with the raw-grain spirit, they must pay, I think, the extra price which is incurred by using malt, or by keeping their spirits for a long space of time; that made the 6 *d.*; and I then remarked that it was an exceedingly difficult subject; but testing the decreases, testing what we did not know by what we did know, that if the distillers were to be judged of by stating that their decreases and the interest on duty advanced amounted to 4 *d.*, whereas I had proved that it only amounted to a halfpenny; and also taking into account that I had read the memorials of the distillers from the year 1825 to the year 1847, and that those memorials varied the cost of producing a gallon spirits from 1*s.* 1½*d.* down to 3¼*d.*, without wishing to say anything invidious, I must say that I looked with distrust on their calculations; and that therefore on being pressed, and repeatedly pressed, for an opinion, I have said, that being pressed, I did not think that they had made out a case for more than 4 *d.*

15084. You summed up your statement upon this point of the decreases by saying that they had so exaggerated on that ground, that you came to the conclusion that it was 4 *d.*?—Yes, from those data I came to that conclusion.

15085. Having so summed up at last that the fitting allowance should only be 4 *d.* instead of 6 *d.*, which you at first showed it should be (I am obliged to look at some of those items), I want to know whether you dispute the fact, that in the case of Mr. Currie, in consequence of the alteration of the Excise laws, he was put to an extra expense in new buildings, in order to conform to the restrictions of the Excise, of no less than 40,000*l.* in the year, I think, 1825 or 1826?—I have no doubt whatever that everything Mr. Currie stated he believed to be thoroughly correct; that was long before I had any connexion with the Excise.

15086. But is it not a notorious fact?—There was a memorial by Mr. Currie and by the distillers generally, I do not say universally, and that led me to place great credit on what they stated as to such facts; at the same time I have made some inquiry, and what I hear is this, though it may not be the case, that at the period in question, though Mr. Currie did lay out that very large sum on his distillery, the impression in our service was, that from his buildings being not very new, and there being many recent improvements, Mr. Currie took advantage of the necessity for certain changes to make very extensive changes, and that the whole of that expense was not the necessary consequence of the alteration of the law. I may be right or wrong; Mr. Currie is here and can correct me, but that is the statement in our service.

15087. Mr. Currie has given in evidence, what he has repeated several times over, now, and in former periods, and which might be disputed and refuted, if it were not true, that he laid out 40,000 *l.* in consequence of those restrictions, and that the amount on spirits annually distilled, allowing five per cent. interest for the money, and five per cent. wear and tear alone, was 1 *d.* per gallon?—I believe it will be found on looking at the accounts that Mr. Currie's distillery has shared in the immense increase of work which other distillers have had; that whereas in 1832 the produce was about 22,600,000 in London, the principal distillers only now produce upwards of 50,000,000, from which I infer that when they made alterations in their premises they made them so much more convenient, that they can now, with their increased plant, double the quantity of produce.

15088. But this increased plant was not made for the increased quantity; but for the quantity which was being consumed in 1825; it was necessary in 1825, for this reduced quantity of which you are speaking, to increase their plant to the amount of 40,000 *l.*?—Yes; but the increase of plant has been followed by double the quantity of produce.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

15089. Do you think that it was Mr. Currie's plant which caused the public to consume double the quantity of spirits; that to oblige Mr. Currie the public drank twice as much spirits as they did before?—I have no doubt Mr. Currie was glad to have the opportunity, if there was a demand, of supplying double the amount he did before.

15090. But what has that to do with the question as to 1825?—I do not think it is an increase in the general consumption, but it is that the six London distillers have appropriated the trade to themselves; they have the means, owing to their increased premises, of making double the quantity of spirits they did before.

15091. Mr. Haig gave in a statement to the effect, that but for your restrictions, the produce of the grain would be increased 10 per cent.; you threw a doubt upon that, though you admitted that there could be no doubt that all the extract was not got from the grain, but you thought that nearly all was. Will you be pleased to state what is your calculation of the amount of extract that might be got from the grain?—On seeing that statement in Mr. Haig's evidence, I referred to some of our principal distillery officers, persons of experience, who had been in the Excise probably 30 or 40 years; they are much more intimately acquainted with that than I am myself. The first opinion they gave me was, that they believed that the whole of the extract was obtained, notwithstanding the Excise restrictions. This morning, however, some of the officers represented to me before the Committee met, that they wished to qualify that by stating that they thought that not the whole was obtained, though the proportion they did not tell me, but they still entirely disagreed with Mr. Haig in thinking that the loss was 10 per cent.; that is, they having first stated to me on my putting the question to them a day or two ago (for we have gone carefully, of course, through the evidence which you were so good as to give to us), that they thought Mr. Haig's account was erroneous entirely, and that the Excise did not injuriously interfere with the amount of extract. This morning, before I came to the Committee, I was informed by the same officers that on reconsideration they were disposed to think that the whole of the extract was not obtained, but still that Mr. Haig was in error.

15092. Then it seems that between Tuesday morning and this morning those Excise officers, that you think are such good judges, have cast aside their experience of 40 years, and entirely changed their minds?—The fact is this: there was a statement delivered to me, a memorandum in writing, alleging that they thought the evidence of Mr. Haig erroneous, and that the regulations of the Excise did not prevent the full amount of extract from being obtained. I was exceedingly anxious that everything should be as fair as possible, and that the evidence should be accurate; I therefore this morning had another conversation with them, and they then begged to qualify the memorandum they had given me, by stating that they thought that nearly all (I believe that was the exact expression) was obtained, but they would not go the length of saying that the whole was.

15093. Mr. Currie has stated in his evidence that the restrictions of the Excise oblige him to put his furnaces out of blast 585 times in the course of the year; do you dispute that fact?—I am quite sure that Mr. Currie stated what he believed to be the truth; but how, in consequence of any Excise restrictions or regulations, he is obliged to put his fires out 585 times in the year, I cannot understand. I think he goes on to say, that if he were in full work it would be 1,300 and odd times; but however, practically, 585 times. I have inquired from the surveying general examiners, from our secretary, and under secretary, who was for many years a distillery officer, and, without wishing to throw the least discredit on Mr. Currie's statement, I am bound to say that the utmost surprise is manifested by our own practical officers, and that they cannot understand his statement.

15094. Then, in point of fact, you do not believe Mr. Currie's statement on this head?—I believe that there is some great misunderstanding upon the subject; I do not dispute that his fires are put out 585 times, because I believe that on Mr. Currie's statement; but what I beg leave to state is this: that I cannot, after the most accurate inquiries, make out a reason for any such conduct owing to any regulations on the part of the Excise; I cannot divine any
reason

reason or any law which can lead me to the conclusion that the fires are put out by the command of the Excise. I am perfectly aware that the fires must be, not put out, but drawn, as it is called, for a short period between the distillation of every two backs of wort; that at the finishing of the distillation of a back of wort, the fire is necessarily withdrawn. I believe the process consists in this: that by means of a large rake, a solid sort of rake, such as they scrape streets with, the cinders are withdrawn from under the steam-engine. I believe these stills are worked by steam, the open fire not being applied to the stills, but the injection of a column of steam; and that, for the purpose of stopping the distillation when a back is finished, the fire is raked out from under it, and that the firemen take that opportunity, and it is one which they must necessarily make for themselves, of raking out all the clinkers, and making the bars free; that that operation is frequently necessary, and at this period when the fire is withdrawn, as there must be an interval between one back and another, they take advantage of it to clean out the grate.

15095. Then you do admit that the fire is raked out or put out?—I mean to say that it is not necessarily extinguished; the cinders are brought forward, and they still being lighted cinders, are pushed back under the boilers, not that the fires are let out, and the steam is all let off.

15096. Mr. Currie states, that in order to get all the spirits off from the still they are obliged to mix water with the wash to get the spirit entirely out, and to work that water for two hours in each distillation. Do you dispute that fact?—Not at all; I believe that to be the case; it depends of course upon the size of the still and the magnitude of the operations, but that a certain quantity of water is necessary to clean out the still, whether it be two hours or not, I do not dispute.

15097. Mr. Currie states in his evidence that two hours out of every five hours are consumed in this way, which need not be so consumed if they were able to work continuously. Do you dispute that point?—I should think the time is longer than is actually necessary.

15098. Mr. Currie has stated that he loses 1,170 hours in the course of every year, during which time, if he is to be believed, in his answers given to Sir Edward Buxton, the wages of all his men are going on; the men are standing looking on during the time, or are obliged to be kept employed in some way, but are employed unprofitably to him, wasting their time and wasting the fuel. Can you discredit that statement of Mr. Currie's?—I have had the advantage of being not unfrequently at Mr. Currie's distillery along with others, and I confess that I think Mr. Currie is a very good manager. I have never observed his men idling; they have all been employed, so far as I saw, but as to the extent of profitable employment I cannot tell how that is. I should say this, that the great distilleries in this country are, in my opinion, models of the successful subdivision of labour.

15099. They are models of the successful subdivision of labour, so far, I presume, as they are able to subdivide their labour, unmeddled with by excise restrictions; do you mean to say that you have been frequently in Mr. Currie's distillery just at the period when those fires were being relighted, and that you saw all the men in full employment?—Mr. Currie knows that he has given me the greatest facilities of access. I have not been in very lately, but when I joined the Excise I was particularly anxious to ascertain practically the process of distillation, and the ramifications of the law regulating it. I visited Mr. Currie's distillery, and Mr. Mure's, and several others, both in Scotland and Ireland, and I cannot charge my memory with the fact of having seen any of the people idling about in consequence of the excise restrictions.

15100. But are you prepared to state to the Committee that you have been at those distilleries within the first hour or two hours of the relighting of the fires, and that you then saw that all the men were in full employment?—I have been at some distilleries when the fire was withdrawn from under the steam boilers; I have myself seen the men extremely busy in cleaning and raking the grates, not only at Mr. Currie's but others, and I have not then observed anything of the idling about which is alluded to.

15101. You have been present and have seen all the men very busy and very hard at work, and very hot work I dare say it is, raking out those fires

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

in obedience to the excise restrictions; that you have seen?—I have seen them taking out the fires.

15102. That is very hard and very hot work, I dare say; is it not?—It is.

15103. That is spoiling the British distiller's trade, is not it, by occasioning so much inconvenience and so much loss to the distiller who wishes to keep his fire in, and would do so but for the interference of those excise restrictions?—I do not suppose it would be possible to keep the fire in continually. I take it that every steam-engine fire must occasionally be put out.

15104. Do you think that would be necessary in every steam-engine; did you ever hear that in an iron foundry the fires were put out 585 times in the course of a year?—On the contrary, I believe that in an iron foundry, which is a very peculiar manufacture, it is considered that putting out the blast furnace is equivalent to the destruction of the whole factory; I believe that the fire once put out, is in fact considered as the ruin of the works, and that the fire in that peculiar process is never put out, excepting when the furnace either wants repair, or when the proprietors abandon the trade. It is a very different thing, I believe, from an ordinary steam-engine.

15105. This is a miniature case, if we can believe the British distillers themselves, of an iron foundry?—I take it that there is not much analogy between the cases.

15106. But Mr. Currie tells us that he would have continued his fires, but for the restrictions of the Excise; and though the furnace is not so large as in the case of an iron foundry, and the consequences are not so great from your obliging them to put out their furnaces, as to amount to absolute ruin, yet Mr. Currie has gone into detail, and has shown that it is a loss of 1,170 hours, involving an ultimate sum of wages paid without profit, equal to 48 days and 18 hours, in the course of the year, and those are on the restrictions which you value at nothing?—I beg your pardon, not at nothing. On the contrary, I have allowed in my estimate 3 *d.* for excise restrictions, which is exactly the amount which Mr. Currie himself has put.

15107. You cut them all down afterwards, in summing up, to 4 *d.*, and then the British distillers have set the disadvantage of not being able to rectify at 6 *d.*, whereas you allow them nothing for that?—I allow them nothing; I do not dispute the expenses of rectifying; but I say that I do not calculate them at anything in my estimate; that is a matter of principle.

15108. You are aware that the distillers stated, that if they were allowed to be distillers and rectifiers, and to brew and distil at the same time, they would be enabled to make use of their own yeast, which now runs into the gutters, and that that is equivalent to 1 *d.* a gallon?—Yes; I believe that is the statement.

15109. Do you dispute that?—The understanding of the Excise is this, and it is confirmed, I believe, by very high chemical authorities, that the yeast produced by the distiller is not sufficient for his purpose; at least, that it is not the most valuable and most economical yeast that he can employ. That on the contrary, porter yeast being much stronger than the distillers' yeast, arising from the difference of gravity at which it is worked, is more economical, and that the distillers' yeast is not strong enough for the distillers' purpose. The evidence in corroboration of that is this, and it is a difference of opinion on a scientific subject, that we find that the very remote distilleries in Scotland and in Ireland go to the expense of yeast from the London porter breweries.

15110. Do not you know that that is one of the great grievances set forth by the Irish and Scotch distillers, that they are obliged to send to London for yeast, whilst they allege that they would rather have the yeast from their own backs than the brewers' yeast?—I am perfectly aware of that, but the authority of scientific men is this, that the porter yeast is so much more effectual, and is to a very great extent the most economical yeast which can be employed.

15111. But the practical men who are supposed to understand their own trade, you are very well aware, say the contrary; that they would prefer to use their own yeast, which you oblige them to allow to run down the gutters; is not that so?—There is a great difference of opinion upon that subject. I believe that scientific men usually are of opinion that the porter yeast is the
most

most economical, and that among practical men there is a division of opinion upon that subject.

15112. Do not you know that the distillers' allege that there is no yeast so good, or so quick for distillers' purposes, as that produced from their own wash?—I have seen that in evidence.

15113. And they have requested, have they not, leave of the Board to use their own yeast, and have been refused?—I am not aware of any such request, but I know that it is contrary to law that they should do so.

15114. Is not this a fact, that the Dutch distillers actually export their yeast made from spirits to this country, and that that is used by distillers here?—I was not at all aware of that, but Mr. Currie told me so.

15115. You do not doubt that it may be the fact?—I am quite sure that Mr. Currie would not wilfully deceive the Committee.

15116. You have said that it would be of no advantage to the distiller to be a rectifier also; the Committee were looking at that model of the establishment of Mr. Smith just now; is it possible to conceive that it should be otherwise than that a man carrying on the two establishments together should be able to apply a considerable portion of the same people to one work with the other?—There is no doubt that he could; I have never doubted that.

15117. If the same men, and the same wages of course, would suffice to carry on the work of brewing and distilling, and of rectifying, must not that be a great saving to the distiller, who is enabled on the same premises to distil and to rectify?—Though I admit to a certain extent that it would be economy for the rectifying and the distilling to take place upon the same premises, yet I by no means admit that the rectifying could be carried on without a great additional establishment, if both were allowed on the same premises; it is a question of amount, and not of entirety.

15118. Just so, they have claimed E.; I believe that the charge for rectifying spirits is somewhere about 8 *d.*, is it not; you stated it to be 1 *s.*?—I read from the memorial delivered in to the Board of Trade when the rum duties were proposed to be equalized, signed by Mr. Currie and the other principal distillers, a comparative statement of the cost of English spirit and East India spirit, and I observed that the compounding of East India spirit was stated to be 2 *d.* in the East Indies, and that the charge for rectifying, &c., in England was 1 *s.*; but I said that what that etcætera included, I was not able to state.

15119. Is not it the statement now of the distillers, that the cost of the ingredients used in the rectification of spirits, the juniper berry, the carraway seeds, and whatever else may be used to sweeten and flavour the spirits, amounts to 2 *d.*, and that the rest is in the plant, the wages of labour and the cost of fuel?—I put in the estimate, but I forget what it is, and I cannot refer to it now; in the paper which I put in, there is no statement at all of the expense of the materials for flavouring or sweetening.

15120. You were just now saying that the cost in the East Indies for compounding, was 2 *d.*?—That is the statement by Mr. Currie.

15121. And is it not true, that the cost of the articles for compounding the spirit, and for giving it a flavour, which constitutes altogether the process of rectification, amounts to 2 *d.*, and that the labour, the plant, and the interest of money upon the plant make the rest?—In answer to that question, I would state, that I have heard all sums, I believe, from a farthing up to 6 *d.*, stated as the expense of compounding in this country. Compounding consists technically, not only of rectifying the spirit, but also of the flavouring and sweetening. I think therefore that the Committee will at once perceive, that the price depends entirely on the material used; as for instance, if the rectifier wishes to make plain gin, that is done at a very small expense indeed, because the flavour is produced merely by the addition of some essential oil; probably juniper, in some shape or other. But if the rectifier, instead of that, wishes to compound a costly spirit, such as Noyeau or Curaçoa, which are made very largely in this country, that is a different thing.

15122. The question refers to the ordinary description of British spirits, and not to Curaçoa; do you mean to say that you have ever had any statement laid before you, worth one moment's attention, in which it was stated that the process of rectification could be performed for a farthing?—It is not the process

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

of rectification, but it is the cost of converting rectified spirit into gin, that was the question.

15123. The compounding of spirits were your words; it seems that it is not a high estimate to say, that, including the 2*d.* for the compounds used in rectification and flavouring of spirits, 8*d.* at all events may be held to be the cost of rectifying; and you have not disputed that a man who should be enabled to carry on his works in the way that Mr. Smith, of Whitechapel, carried on his works, that is to say, by having the breweries, and distilleries, and rectifying process all on the same premises, could carry them on at a considerably less cost than the same processes could be carried on when separated a quarter of a mile the one from the other?—No doubt of it.

15124. Do you doubt that something like 25 per cent. might be saved in the cost of those processes if our great capitalists could carry on the two works together?—It is almost impossible to answer that question.

15125. Would you undertake to say that one-half might not be saved?—I should be very sorry to make such an assertion, because there is one element in the calculation which I think has been overlooked, and which I think every practical man will say is a very essential element.

15126. Then I understand you to say that you should be afraid to state, that if the works could be carried on under one head, by one capital, half might not be saved?—I have no idea that either one-half or one-fourth would be saved.

15127. But you would be sorry to undertake to say that one-half could not be saved?—Not could not, but could be saved; I have no idea that one-fourth could be saved. Would you allow me, however, to say, that there is one element of the calculation which has been quite disregarded, that is, the quantity of work done in any establishment; if the establishment is full of work, and is on a very large scale, of course that makes a difference.

15128. The question is this, I have taken the case of one of the six great distillers, namely, Mr. Smith; whether you can conceive, that so long as he was enabled to carry on the two operations in concert, he was not able to save 25 per cent., or perhaps a larger sum, on the cost of rectification, by applying the labour of those persons engaged in the one manufacture to the other?—I do not believe so.

15129. Do you know how many men Mr. Smith employed whilst the two works were in full progress, and how many men he employs now that they are separated?—I did know how many people he employed at the time of the seizure of his premises, but I do not know how many, though I have heard; I cannot carry it in my head, how many he employs now. I know that at the time when the seizure was made, that is, as far as we were able to ascertain, there was a different set of men for each work; that the men who were employed in the rectifying business, never, excepting for some particular object, entered the distilling premises; that the two sets of men were distinct. I believe that their books were kept distinct, and that one of the two brothers who were in partnership had the charge of the distillery premises; that there was a distinct set of books for the distillery; a distinct set of workmen, carts, and horses, and everything else for the rectifying business, and that the two concerns were kept distinct; that is my recollection.

15130. And that none of the same persons overlooked the two works?—I believe that the whole of the work was superintended by the two brothers, with one head man under them; a man of the name of Gill. I believe that the same foreman, Mr. Gill, who was called technically the brewer, superintended both the works; but that the accounts of the two works were kept distinct, and that, generally speaking, there was an entire division of labour between them. I do not say that there might not have been an exception or two, but that, generally speaking, the men were employed distinctly on the two different works.

15131. I presume that you cannot dispute that the two works being so close together as we saw them shown in the model, the expense of cartage between the two works would be saved?—No doubt.

15132. We have it stated here that the cartage amounts to 3,500*l.* a year?—On two millions of gallons? I think it is stated, in the rectifying estimate that was delivered in, that it amounts to a halfpenny a gallon.

15133. I beg

15133. I beg your pardon, you stated it as nil?—I think not as to the horses.

John Wood, Esq.

15134. Do you mean to say that Mr. Smith, now being obliged to separate his two concerns, will be able to carry on those two concerns at the same expense that he did when they were combined together?—Certainly not.

1 April 1848.

15135. That being so, how do you account for your evidence to this Committee in stating that nothing was to be allowed for the disadvantage to the British corn distillers of not brewing, distilling, and rectifying on the same premises?—Because I do not think, as I have stated before, and it is the principle on which the whole of my evidence has gone, that the rectification of spirit is a fair subject of consideration.

15136. I am not asking whether you think it a fair subject of consideration, we do not want theories nor speculations, but we want to get the facts; it is a question of pounds, shillings, and pence; you cannot deny that it will not be possible for Mr. Smith, of Whitechapel, to carry on the process of brewing, and distilling, and rectification on separate premises at the same cost that he did whilst the premises were combined?—It would be impossible.

15137. And yet, in giving your evidence to the Committee, you most authoritatively stated that this disability must be set as nil?—I did.

15138. Now with respect to Scotland, as to the decreases, you admitted that the decreases were a halfpenny before the spirits left the Irish or the Scotch ports, but you have not made any allowance for that decrease which takes place during the voyage; whereas I understand that if 100 gallons were exported from Argyleshire for the port of London, they would be reduced one per cent., that there would be a gallon short for what is called "in drink" during the voyage?—In the paper which I have delivered in I have given the actual loss in transit on 11,600 odd casks which left Scotland and Ireland in one year for the London market. I have given the exact amount of decrease by giving the measurement in the ports where shipped, and the measurement in the port of London on arrival.

15139. But if the duty were charged on the landing of the spirits, instead of being charged upon the shipment, would not the quantity charged be one per cent. less, that is, one gallon in the 100 gallons?—I have stated the actual facts on the shipments of one year.

15140. But you take the duty as the duty paid in Scotland; the gallon is made up, if I understand rightly, from what is called in Scotland the ullage cask, or the tapcask, which cask pays the English full duty in England; does not it?—We have no such thing as ullage casks in England, at the distillers, because there is no bonding; the ullage cask in Scotland pays only 3s. 8d. duty; the ullage cask in Ireland pays 2s. 8d. duty in England; the ullage cask is unknown in consequence of there being no bonding in England, therefore of course it is unnecessary.

15141. If I understand rightly, after the duty is once paid, whether it is in Ireland or in Scotland, all interest on the part of the Excise ceases, and they have no interest in ascertaining the exact wastage or decrease that takes place afterwards. What reason has the Excise for testing, or what opportunity have the Excise then of truly testing the amount of decrease that takes place, either on the voyage from Ireland or Scotland?—It has always been the practice to do so, and I believe that it is as accurately taken as possible; one reason for it, among others, is, that we may be perfectly aware that the same quantity has been shipped at one place that is delivered at another; that is, that there is no mistake as to the quantity of gallons; the gauge taken in London is a check upon the gauge taken by our officer upon it being shipped, whether in Dublin or whether at Leith. There is also this further necessity for it, that the shipper of spirit from Ireland or Scotland has his option whether to pay the whole duty there or to pay the difference of the duty on landing in England, and it is therefore necessary, in order to correct any error which may have occurred on the other side of the water, to test as accurately as we can the quantity which arrives. If the duty of 2s. 8d. only be paid in Ireland, or 3s. 8d. in Scotland, the shipper gives a bond that he will pay the remainder of the duty on its arrival in England, where we uniformly gauge the casks for that purpose.

15142. If a given number of casks are exported from Cork or from Leith, you have the number of casks of spirits checked which have paid duty, and you also test the contents of each separate cask on all occasions; is that so?—

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

Of each cask; we not only gauge it, but we take the strength again as a protection against any abstraction of spirit or mixture of water on the voyage.

15143. Are you positive of that, that not only the casks are checked, but the contents are gauged, and the strength put to the proof?—I believe that that is the universal practice.

15144. You have no doubt about that?—I have no doubt about that at all; we have a port surveyor whose business it is to do that, and I know that he is an exceedingly correct and well informed man, and I have no reason to believe that he gives me accounts which are not accurately kept.

15144*. Now to come to the duty; have you calculated what the *ad valorem* duty upon rum is, and what the *ad valorem* duty upon British corn spirits is?—I have not calculated them accurately, but I saw that you had already evidence upon that, and what I saw of that evidence appeared to me to be correct. I had a further reason for not calculating the *ad valorem* duties, which was this: you asked me if I could come provided with the prices; the prices are easily obtained; but there was a further statement which you wished for, which I was unable to obtain, and that was the relative quantities at the respective prices, and though I could get the prices, and, indeed, have them here, I find they generally agree with the prices given in evidence from some of the leading spirit brokers in London; and as to the quantities, though I took great pains to get at the respective quantities, I failed, and therefore I could not make the calculation which you requested me to make.

15145. But you admit the correctness of the calculation by the British corn distillers, that if they were taken at an *ad valorem* duty, the *ad valorem* duty on British spirits is a higher *ad valorem* duty than the duty on rum or French brandy?—It depends on the quality; and I may observe that in the prices I have got there is a larger range of prices than those which have been given in to the Committee; of course the calculation depends upon the price, as, for instance, if the price of rum be stated at 3 s. 6 d., but there is rum in the market for which 5 s. is demanded, the *ad valorem* duty is of course very much disturbed by that, and I only observe that in the circulars I have received from the City there is a greater range of price given than in the evidence before this Committee, but substantially, I believe, according to the limits in each case, it is correct.

15146. Have you any reason to think that they have taken an unfair sample of the ordinary consumption in each case?—The accounts that I have received go to higher prices, both as respects Irish spirits, which have been a long time in bond, and Scotch spirits, the highest brands, I believe they are called, of Scotch malt whiskey; and also there is a quality of rum at a very low price, and there is some rum at a price so high that I was quite startled to see it; there is a greater range in the prices in the returns obtained than in Mr. Grey's, but taking his data, I believe his calculations are correct.

15147. But do you think that in the prices Mr. Grey gave in, he was taking fairly the bulk?—I think he was; but I must be allowed to say, that it is a question more particularly for the brokers and dealers in those articles; I have found great difficulty in determining it.

15148. Now as to the relative duty between Scotch malt spirit and rum. The duty is 7 s. 10 d. upon the spirit in England, and then upon the loss of that, is to be added 1 s. 4 d. for the malt; is that so?—Malt spirit brought into England from Scotland, is subject to the English duty of 7 s. 10 d., and in addition to that, it costs the producer in Scotland 1 s. 4 ½ d. for the malt which has been expended in its production.

15149. For the malt or the malt duty?—The malt duty.

15150. Then it has paid a tax to the Crown of what?—Nine shillings and two-pence farthing.

15151. Whilst the rum has paid a tax to the Crown of only 8 s. 7 d.; is that so?—That is quite true.

15152. Then Scotch malt spirits consumed in England are under a disadvantage, instead of a protection of 6 ½ d. in comparison with rum?—That is quite true.

15153. Malt spirits, if manufactured in England, stand upon precisely the same footing; do not they?—Precisely; because in England no drawback would be

be allowed whatever on the malt used, and in Scotland there is a drawback for spirits consumed in Scotland to the amount of 8 *d.*

15154. So that, as far as all the malt spirits consumed in England are concerned, British colonial rum has a protection, a differential duty in its favour, setting all restrictions aside, of 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*?—Precisely so.

15155. Now I come to Ireland, and take malt spirits again; but whether they be Scotch or Irish makes no difference, I believe?—It makes no difference at all; formerly, in Ireland, the malt drawback was allowed; but in Ireland the great distillers begged to be relieved from the malt drawback.

15156. That was, the great distillers being raw corn distillers, not the malt distillers?—Exactly. In Ireland there were only three distillers from malt, and only three distillers consequently who availed themselves of the malt drawback. The consumption of malt spirits in Ireland was supplied from Scotland. The great corn distillers in Ireland, distillers from raw grain, thought that by repudiating the malt drawback in Ireland, they should prohibit to a certain extent the introduction of malt spirits into Ireland; because, so long as the malt drawback extended to Ireland, 8 *d.* a gallon was allowed on the malt used; but the moment the malt drawback was withdrawn from Ireland, spirits coming from Scotland of that sort had to repay the 8 *d.* that had been allowed there.

15157. So that malt spirits made in Scotland get no drawback in Ireland?—None, and none in England.

15158. So that malt spirits going from Scotland to Ireland pay 2 *s.* 8 *d.* and 1 *s.* 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*?—Yes, that is 4 *s.* 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*

15159. What does rum pay?—Three shillings and five pence.

15160. That is 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* less; so that British colonial rum has a protection against the malt spirits consumed in England, and the malt spirits consumed in Ireland, of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a gallon?—Yes.

15161. Exclusive of any disadvantage that the malt distiller has from Excise restrictions?—Quite so.

15162. That is not the case in Scotland, because if I understand rightly, the malt distiller in Scotland gets a drawback for the malt spirits consumed in Scotland of 8 *d.*?—Yes.

15163. So that he has a protection of three farthings, 3 *s.* 8 *d.*, and 1 *s.* 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, making 5 *s.* $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, from which 8 *d.* is deducted; is not that it?—Mr. Baring's 5 per cent. runs over all this; it breaks it a little into fractions. Mr. Grey reminds me that to the 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, we ought to add Mr. Baring's 5 per cent.; we have got within the 10th part of a penny of 8 *d.*

15164. So that in point of fact, the malt distiller in Scotland has the advantage of three farthings; has not he?—I believe that is so; exactly 3 *s.* 4 *d.*

15165. In point of absolute duty paid to the Crown, he pays three farthings less than the colonial rum distiller, and that three farthings is all the protection he has to set against the restrictions of the Excise?—I believe it is so.

15166. We have had a great deal of discussion between British corn distillers and malt distillers. Is not the fact this, that the malt distiller does come very largely into competition with the raw corn distiller in England, and the raw corn distiller cannot enter into competition at all with the malt distiller, either in Scotland or Ireland?—If you will allow me, I have got a return, which will show how the fact stands; perhaps if I were to put in that return, it would answer the question better than I can. The title of it is, "An Account of the Quantities of Malt Spirits imported into Ireland from Scotland, and into Scotland from Ireland, the Quantities brought to charge for Consumption to those Countries, and exported to Foreign Parts, from 1826 to 1847." Then I have also this: "An Account of the Number of Proof Gallons of Spirits imported into Ireland from Scotland, and into Scotland from Ireland, in the last Five Years, distinguishing the materials from which made." Then I have a return for 10 years of the whole trade in British spirits.

[The Witness delivered in the same, which are as follows:]

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of MALT SPIRITS imported into *Ireland* from *Scotland*, and into *Scotland* from *Ireland*, the Quantities brought to Charge for Consumption in those Countries, and Exported to Foreign Parts, from 1826 to 1847.

YEARS.	Malt Spirits Imported into		Malt Spirits brought to Charge for Consumption		Malt Spirits Exported to Foreign Parts	
	Ireland from Scotland.	Scotland from Ireland.	In Ireland.	In Scotland.	From Ireland.	From Scotland.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1826 - -	70,656	- - -	38,434	3,302,948	390	4,445
1827 - -	89,632	- - -	197,299	3,994,990	1,536	9,063
1828 - -	158,717	- - -	231,332	5,151,111	249	11,203
1829 - -	183,080	- - -	311,575	5,213,072	1,037	12,660
1830 - -	209,955	- - -	268,573	5,529,027	1,159	10,443
1831 - -	254,401	- - -	291,003	5,339,169	729	13,371
1832 - -	The drawback on malt spirits reduced from 1 s. 2 d. to 8 d. per gallon, 21 April 1832.					
1833 - -	187,940	- - -	265,895	5,305,796	1,900	24,462
1834 - -	214,390	- - -	328,747	5,466,702	1,386	20,330
1835 - -	316,337	- - -	417,717	5,486,161	8,001	38,175
1836 - -	406,915	- - -	485,861	6,066,362	8,754	53,596
1837 - -	389,807	- - -	468,192	5,536,846	914	23,094
1838 - -	408,066	- - -	536,955	5,674,148	4,171	48,393
1839 - -	455,243	261	552,793	5,539,057	9,216	49,775
1840 - -	427,822	69	541,850	5,579,180	5,188	76,210
1841 - -	432,805	435	527,196	5,375,162	9,153	69,669
1842 - -	The drawback on malt spirits in Ireland repealed from 1 August 1842.					
1843 - -	329,992	- - -	380,258	4,741,063	693	50,367
1844 - -	399,428	23	467,425	4,998,039	3,961	67,030
1845 - -	507,694	- - -	582,579	5,368,697	6,561	70,039
1846 - -	519,707	- - -	591,099	5,565,772	1,547	89,937
1847 - -	361,427	- - -	394,160	4,674,848	- - -	51,924

Excise Office, London, 30 March 1848.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Proof Gallons of SPIRITS Imported into *Ireland* from *Scotland*, and into *Scotland* from *Ireland*, in the last Five Years; distinguishing the Materials from which made.

YEARS.	NUMBER OF GALLONS OF PROOF SPIRITS IMPORTED INTO							
	IRELAND FROM SCOTLAND.				SCOTLAND FROM IRELAND.			
	Malt only.	A Mixture of Malt with Unmalted Grain.	Sugar.	TOTAL Gallons.	Malt only.	A Mixture of Malt with Unmalted Grain.	Sugar.	TOTAL Gallons.
1843 - - -	329,992	132,054	- - -	462,046	- - -	66,771	- - -	66,771
1844 - - -	399,428	169,209	- - -	568,637	23	138,378	- - -	138,401
1845 - - -	507,694	256,086	- - -	763,780	- - -	136,243	- - -	136,243
1846 - - -	519,707	225,937	- - -	745,644	- - -	96,662	- - -	96,662
1847 - - -	361,427	129,776	13,027	504,230	- - -	90,542	1,946	92,488

31 March 1848.

	1838.	1839.	1840.	1841.	1842.	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846.	1847.
ENGLAND:										
Spirits made in England -	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,776,411	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,685,608	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,851,007	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,917,435	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,008,160	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,800,509	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,493,843	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,866,598	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,624,868	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,358,794
Spirits imported from Scotland -	1,828,732	2,149,325	2,056,640	1,804,657	1,652,979	1,538,979	1,950,396	2,106,842	2,136,214	1,979,921
Spirits imported from Ireland -	325,347	351,529	370,441	354,898	294,915	384,563	650,201	1,102,946	1,418,448	1,072,450
TOTAL Consumption in England -	7,930,490	8,186,552	8,278,148	8,166,985	7,956,054	7,724,051	8,234,440	9,076,381	9,179,530	8,409,165
Malt charged with Duty -	<i>Bushels.</i> 33,823,985	<i>Bushels.</i> 33,826,016	<i>Bushels.</i> 36,653,442	<i>Bushels.</i> 30,956,394	<i>Bushels.</i> 30,796,262	<i>Bushels.</i> 30,891,002	<i>Bushels.</i> 31,856,551	<i>Bushels.</i> 30,508,840	<i>Bushels.</i> 35,723,774	<i>Bushels.</i> 30,270,139
SCOTLAND:										
Spirits for Home Consumption -	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,259,711	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,188,589	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,180,138	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,989,905	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,595,166	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,693,798	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,922,946	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,441,011	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,975,091	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,193,249
Malt charged with Duty -	<i>Bushels.</i> 4,419,141	<i>Bushels.</i> 4,360,373	<i>Bushels.</i> 4,397,304	<i>Bushels.</i> 4,058,249	<i>Bushels.</i> 3,786,476	<i>Bushels.</i> 3,618,606	<i>Bushels.</i> 3,889,458	<i>Bushels.</i> 4,353,038	<i>Bushels.</i> 4,584,667	<i>Bushels.</i> 3,650,443
IRELAND:										
Spirits for Home Consumption -	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 12,296,349	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 10,815,709	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 7,401,051	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,485,443	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,290,650	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 5,546,483	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,451,137	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 7,605,196	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 7,952,076	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 6,037,383
Malt charged with Duty -	<i>Bushels.</i> 2,262,440	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,744,552	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,406,116	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,149,692	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,268,656	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,184,220	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,441,177	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,684,112	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,788,644	<i>Bushels.</i> 1,387,405
UNITED KINGDOM:										
Spirits paid Duty for Consumption -	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 26,486,543	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 25,190,843	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 21,859,337	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 20,642,333	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 18,841,890	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 18,864,332	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 20,808,525	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 23,122,588	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 24,100,697	<i>Galls. at pf.</i> 20,639,797
Malt charged with Duty -	<i>Bushels.</i> 40,505,566	<i>Bushels.</i> 39,930,341	<i>Bushels.</i> 42,456,862	<i>Bushels.</i> 36,164,335	<i>Bushels.</i> 35,851,394	<i>Bushels.</i> 35,693,888	<i>Bushels.</i> 37,187,186	<i>Bushels.</i> 36,545,990	<i>Bushels.</i> 42,097,085	<i>Bushels.</i> 35,307,987

Witness.] The account for last year of malt spirit imported from Scotland into England was about 685,250 gallons. I will furnish an accurate return; this is merely in round numbers.

15167. But of raw grain spirits there were none, I presume, imported from Scotland to England?—Yes, a large quantity. Perhaps as we have already the 685,250 gallons from Scotland imported into England, by the Parliamentary Return, I need not encumber the notes with that.

15168. But the result of all this is, that malt spirits and corn spirits are pretty well upon an equality, as far as competition goes in this country; there is no great ground for the British corn distiller to say that he labours under a disadvantage as compared with the malt distiller, or for the malt distiller to complain that the corn distiller has any great advantage over him, the malt distiller being able successfully to compete in England with the raw grain distiller?—That appears to be practically the result.

15169. Practically the result is, that the rate of duties have been fairly assessed between the two. Then if it is clear that in England the malt distiller, who is upon an equality with the corn distiller, is under a disadvantage of 7½, as compared with the colonial rum distiller, does not it follow, as things equal to the same are equal to one another, that if 7½ is the absolute difference in favour of the rum distiller, plus all the restrictions upon the raw grain distiller which he suffers in common with the Scotch malt distiller, the raw corn distiller must be in the same position, and that the weight of the restrictions weigh as 7½ against him, plus those other restrictions which he and the malt distillers suffer equally under?—The English consumer pays 1s. 4½d. additional tax on every gallon of malt spirit which he consumes, as compared with the raw grain, but notwithstanding that, we receive from Scotland, with that extra amount upon it, between 700,000 and 800,000 gallons in the year; the malt whiskey in England comes into consumption with a duty of 9s. 2½d. upon it; the rum comes into consumption in England with a duty of 8s. 7d.

15170. Now with respect to foreign export, is it not the fact that if we export malt spirits to Canada they go out charged with a duty of 8½d?—8½d. if exported from Scotland; it is a little more than 8d.; I believe there is a small fraction, the tenth of a penny.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848.

15171. But if they are exported from England, what then?—If they are exported from England they go out with a duty of 1 s. 4½ d. upon them.

15172. And if malt spirits are imported from Canada into England they come in under the advantage in duty of 7 d.; they come in at 8 s. 7 d.?—I believe that they would come in at that duty by law, but practically I am not aware that any have come in, or come to the customs at all events. But I was going to say that I believe, as by the words of the Act the duty on rum and strong waters applies to all the British colonies in North America, any description of spirit, the produce of Canada, would come in at the West India rum duty,

15173. Then if Scotch malt spirits were exported to Jamaica they would go out charged with 8½ d. a gallon duty; is that so?—From Scotland.

15174. And 1 s. 4½ d. from England?—Yes.

15175. And when they get to Jamaica they pay 6 s. duty there by the Jamaica tariff of the 20th of November last, making the duty, as regards Scotch spirits, 6 s. 8½ d., and as regards English exported malt spirits, 7 s. 4½ d., whilst the colonial spirits enter into consumption at 1 s. 6 d.?—I was not aware of the Jamaica tariff; it is a customs and not an excise affair; but I have no doubt it is so.

15176. If British corn spirits go out to Jamaica they go out charged with 7 s. 10 d. duty, to which this 6 s. is to be added, making 13 s. 10 d. to struggle against 1 s. 6 d.?—On the export of plain British spirits the full duty is returned.

15177. But practically there is no such thing. I am speaking of compounded spirits, of spirits in that state that they would be fit for the taste of any market?—If you take the case of Ireland where the raw grain spirits are exported to Jamaica, they are fit for immediate consumption, and they would be entitled to the full drawback.

15178. That is in Ireland?—Yes, or in England; supposing any raw grain spirits in a fit state for consumption, were exported from England to Jamaica, if they had paid the 7 s. 10 d. duty, they would have the whole duty returned to them.

15179. I am speaking of England, where, from the circumstance of the manufacture, you do not allow them to bond, but you make them pay the duty when they are compounded; what are called British raw spirits pay 7 s. 10 d., and there is no drawback, and practically there is no market for British raw spirits in the state in which they would be entitled to drawback?—The present state of the law amounts virtually to a complete prohibition.

15180. Now with respect to foreign countries, I believe you are aware, that under the old duty, prior to what is called in this country the amelioration of the American tariff, by the lowering of the duties, British spirits, whether they were English corn compounded spirits, or Scotch malt spirits, paid 70 cents a gallon, that is, 3 s. 11 d.?—Yes.

15181. That was before the alteration of the tariff; British corn compounded spirits would go out to the United States, charged with a duty of 7 s. 10 d.?—No doubt.

15181*. And British malted spirits would go out charged with a duty of 1 s. 4½ d.?—No, 9 s. 2½ d.; there is no drawback from England.

15182. But from Scotland they would go out charged with 8½ d.?—From Scotland the malt spirits would go out with a deduction of the whole duty paid upon them, because malt spirits do not fall under the denomination of rectified or compounded spirits.

15183. But they only get half the drawback in fact, do they?—They would get 3 s. 8 d. the duty they had paid, and they would get 8 d., which is about half the malt duty; therefore they would go out burthened with 8½ d.

15184. When under the old tariff of America, a gallon of Scotch malt spirits would have paid 70 cents, which is 3 s. 11 d. and 8½ d., making 4 s. 7½ d. duty; but in gratitude for what some call the wisdom of Parliament, though I think it is the weakness, in gratitude for our having repealed the duties upon her produce, America altered her duties in 1846, and instead of the duty of 70 cents, which is 3 s. 11 d. a gallon, exacts 100 per cent. *ad valorem*; the duty being now an *ad valorem* duty, and the value of the malt spirits, which are 11 over-proof, being about 3 s. 9 d., without the malt duty, in consequence of your not returning the full malt duty on the export, therefore a gallon of spirits going out charged with 8½ d., the price in bond in America of a gallon of spirits is

4 s. 5½ d.,

4s. 5½d., then comes the 100 per cent. duty on that, and the effect of your excise laws is this; that instead of paying 3s. 9½d. with the freight, the Americans charge 4s. 5½d., so that there is 8½d. of your drawback of injustice, and 8½d., being cent. per cent. *ad valorem* duty, clapped upon the back of that, making 16½d. as a disadvantage to malt spirits, through your excise restrictions, upon being exported to the United States of America; can you gainsay that?—I am not conversant with the data, but I have no reason to suppose that the calculation is not exactly true. I am not conversant with the ever-varying changes of the American tariff.

15185. Do not you think that is a great grievance under which the Scotch malt distillers labour; and are you surprised under such circumstances, that the export of malt spirits from Scotland, which was 70,000 gallons in 1845, and 89,937 gallons in 1846, fell off in 1847 to 51,924?—I believe there is a reason which you are probably not acquainted with, but which Mr. Grey will at once appreciate, which led to this remarkable falling off. I am speaking of the export to foreign countries. Up to a very late period it was supposed that the Act of Parliament gave the privilege of a drawback of 8d. a gallon, not only on spirits exported direct from Scotland, but on spirits sent through England.

15186. Do not you think that the increase of duty from 2s. 11d. to 4s. 5½d., is a sufficient reason for the check. I refer to the American duty?—I think a very sufficient cause.

15187. Now I come to the case of Scotch spirits coming by England, or English malted spirits going to the United States; then there is no drawback at all, and the whole 16½d. would be charged?—Doubtless.

15188. And with this cent. per cent. *ad valorem* duty in the United States, another 16½d. on account of your duty would be charged on the other side of the water?—Cent. per cent. on the malt duty.

15189. So that practically the excise restrictions are guilty of inflicting upon the malt distiller in England, or upon the malt distiller in Scotland, whose circumstances oblige him to send his spirits round by England, 2s. 8½d. a gallon upon his spirits sent to the United States?—Yes, 1s. 4½d. the malt duty here, and cent. per cent. upon that by the American tariff.

15190. And that annihilates the trade?—The trade is evidently a decreasing trade.

15191. I believe, as far as any export of malt spirits from England, as distinguished from Scotland, goes, there is scarcely any?—I believe what is sent goes there more as a matter of curiosity than anything else; as a sort of fancy trade.

15192. I believe, that as an immense number of Scotchmen have emigrated to the United States of America, it is supposed that there would be a considerable consumption of malt spirits, were it not for those checks, those restrictions of the excise in this country?—I believe that the existing laws very much diminish the export of Scotch malt spirits.

15193. When Mr. Gladstone, in his pamphlet on commercial legislation, said that the Legislature had sealed the doom of the very last of the export duties, he totally forgot the case of the unfortunate malt distillers?—I never read his pamphlet, I am sorry to say.

15194. Have not the Scotch malt distillers some ground to complain, that up to a late period they were considered to be entitled, or practically were permitted, the 8d. drawback upon their malt spirits, though they came by England?—I think they have great reason to complain. The history of the case I believe is this; that for a long period after the Act of Parliament had passed, it was supposed that England might be the entrepôt for Scotch malt spirits making their way to foreign ports; and some, not very considerable quantities, but some quantities were sent through England, and were entitled to the 8d. drawback. Circumstances arose, however, which led to the opinion of the law officers, I believe, being taken on the question, and it was decided against the claim of the Scotch malt distillers. Believing it to have been the intention of the Legislature that that 8d. should be allowed, but being prevented from allowing it by the decision of the lawyers, we were obliged of course to withhold it, because we could not make an allowance which was declared by the lawyers to be contrary to the Act of Parliament. I have represented the case to the Government, and I have every reason to believe that what I conceive to have been the original intention of the Legislature will be forthwith restored.

15195. In point of fact, so far as all the eastern coast of Scotland is concerned,

John Wood, Esq. cerned; she has no means of export except through the English ports, her eastern coast having little direct trade with the United States?—Precisely so; in fact, I think it may be stated that Glasgow is the only port of which the whole of Scotland could avail itself for the purpose of the export of malt spirit; therefore in withholding from the Scotch the 8 *d.* drawback, if they send the spirit through English ports, you are practically sealing the exports against them.

1 April 1848.

15196. Eightpence is not so great a hardship as 1 *s.* 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; do not you feel that that other 8 *d.* must always be a great grievance, and a great hardship upon the malt distillers?—I have no doubt of it. I think with regard to the export of spirits, as distinguishing it from the home trade, it is a very hard case.

15197. The rum distillers, the soap boilers, and the sugar refiners, all get a drawback for the duties that they are paying?—And you may add the brick-maker, and the paper maker, and the pasteboard maker; in short, the general principle of the excise is to repay, by drawback on exportation, the amount, as nearly as it can be calculated, of the duties which an article has been subjected to in the course of manufacture.

15198. That is not all; the French brandy manufacturers and Dutch gin distillers, all get their drawback upon the export of their spirits from this country to foreign countries?—Practically they do that, because they are all put into bond, but the export can only take place from the bonded warehouse; however practically it is so.

15199. They would not want to go into the interior of the country?—They make use of this country as an entrepôt, just as the Scotch distillers want to make use of it as an entrepôt for the malt spirits.

15200. I believe that the duties in Brazil are also 30 per cent. *ad valorem* duties; the same argument, therefore, which applies in a higher degree to the United States of America where the *ad valorem* duties are cent. per cent., applies in a proportionate degree to the Brazils, where they are 30 per cent. *ad valorem*?—The same principle of course applies in each case.

15201. But as regards the British corn distiller, his commodity goes out charged with 7 *s.* 10 *d.*, and 7 *s.* 10 *d.* is added upon the back of that?—Not for plain spirit, but for rectified and compounded spirit.

15202. But I am speaking practically of the only spirits that are suitable to any market; the English corn distiller, practically, cannot export his raw corn spirits, because no foreigner would drink them; is not that so?—Yes.

15203. Therefore, for all practical purposes, the produce of the corn distiller goes out charged with 15 *s.* 8 *d.* entirely through the restrictions of the excise?—No doubt of that as to America, where the *ad valorem* duty is cent. per cent.

15204. And proportionately where duties of a less amount are charged *ad valorem*?—Yes.

15205. If the malt distiller be entitled to his whole drawback, at least you would take it that the British distiller is entitled to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*?—Upon principle he is just as much entitled to it on exportation as the Scotch distiller; but where the matter is so small, and where it would be subject to frauds, as it would to a large extent, I think it would not be advisable to allow it.

15206. In fact, that would do him no good, because you utterly destroy his export trade by the 7 *s.* 10 *d.* which you do not return to him?—Yes, but I think there are much more effectual ways of relieving him; he labours under great disadvantages, and I hope to see those disadvantages removed.

[The following Letter and Papers were subsequently sent by the Witness:]

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to enclose four papers, containing observations, and explanations of the evidence I gave before the Select Committee on Sugar and Coffee Planting; and to request you will do me the favour to lay them before the Committee.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Wood.*

Lord George Bentinck, M. P.

STATEMENT delivered to the Chairman of Excise, by Mr. *Browning*, of the firm of *Twiss & Browning*, wholesale Spirit Dealers, on 4 April 1848.

Per Royal Victoria, *Leith*, 27 March 1848.

R 3

SCOTCH ACCOUNT.					ENGLISH LANDING ACCOUNT.							OUGHT TO BE.				
Numbers.	Content.	Ullage.	Strength.	Proof Gallons.	Bung.	Wet.	Content.	Ullage.	Strength.	Proof Gallons.	Deficiency on Transit.	Content.	Ullage.	Strength.	Proof Gallons.	Deficiency on Transit.
1,011	Full	131	11·2	145·67	36·7	35·6	Full	131	10·8	145·14	·53	131	130	10·8	144·04	1·63
1,037	"	130	11·5	144·95	36·6	35·5	"	130	11·1	144·43	·52	130	129	11·1	143·31	1·64
100	"	122	11·5	136·08	36·7	35·5	"	122	11·1	135·54	·49	122	121	11·1	134·43	1·60
234	"	102	11·5	113·73	33·4	32·4	"	102	11·3	113·52	·21	102	101	11·3	112·41	1·32
		485		540·38				485		538·63	1·75		481		534·19	6·19
									Transit Deficiency shown by Excise	1·75						
										540·38		Actual Transit Deficiency			6·19	
															540·38	

N. B.—No fractional parts being charged on rum below $\frac{84}{100}$ ths of a gallon, 1 $\frac{16}{100}$ parts of a gallon would escape duty.

Immediate.
Port Surveyor for Report,
4 April 1848.

John Wood, Esq.
April 1848.

John Wood, Esq.

1 April 1848

MEMORANDUM OF SURVEYING GENERAL EXAMINERS,
 THE four casks of Scotch spirits referred to in the annexed paper arrived at this port by the Royal Victoria on the 27th ultimo, of which the following are the particulars:—

SCOTCH ACCOUNT.					ENGLISH ACCOUNT.				LOSS ON TRANSIT.			
No.	Content.	Ullage.	Strength O. P.	Proof Gallons.	Content.	Ullage.	Strength O. P.	Proof Gallons.	O. P. Strength.	In Quantity.	Total.	
1,011	131	Full -	11.2	145.67	131	130 $\frac{1}{4}$	10.8	144.31	.53	.75	1.28	
1,037	130	"	11.5	144.95	130	129 $\frac{1}{4}$	11.1	143.59	.52	.75	1.27	
100	122	"	11.5	136.03	122	121 $\frac{1}{4}$	11.1	134.70	.49	.75	1.24	
234	109	"	11.5	113.73	102	101 $\frac{1}{4}$	11.3	112.69	.21	.75	.96	
TOTAL - -				540.38	TOTAL - -				535.29	1.75	3.00	4.75

I most respectfully beg leave to state that when large casks of British spirits are permitted full from Ireland and Scotland, and the loss in quantity does not amount to a complete gallon, it has always been the practice to give the traders credit for the entire quantity expressed in the permit, by calling the cask full, which was the case in this instance, the entire loss in quantity in each cask being only three quarts.

As regards the practice of the Customs in gauging and ullaging large casks of foreign spirits, or rum, I beg to observe that if the quantity shown by the rule is anything short of a full gallon, it is wholly disregarded; and in computing the proof quantity for duty, they disregard the centesimal parts in every cask, when they do not amount to .84, so that in calculating the proof quantity for duty in the above four casks in London, had they been rum, or foreign spirits, instead of charging 535.29 they would have charged only 533 gallons.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Thomas Bennett,*
 Port Surveyor.

Port of London, 5 April 1848.

MEMORANDUM of Surveying General Examiners.

THE principal difference between the two annexed accounts in detail, arises from the fractions of a bulk gallon, in each cask, being omitted in one of the accounts, as is stated to be the Customs practice in gauging foreign and colonial spirits.

But the fractions on the bulk quantities have been included by Mr. Bennett according to Excise practice, which shows the decrease to be only 5.09 gallons at proof, or $\frac{2}{100}$ parts of one gallon per cent.; and such a result is not surprising considering that the spirits must have been several days at sea, in the hold of a steam boat, at a high temperature.

Some confusion in the accounts arises from calculating the bulk and strength of quantities separately, but the two simply stand thus:

540.38 proof gallons Scotch account.
 535.29 Ditto English account.

5.09 decrease by Mr. Bennett.

540.38 proof gallons Scotch account.
 534.19 Ditto Mr. —'s account.

6.19 decrease.

6.19
 5.09

1.10 difference from disregarding the fractions of a gallon on the English gauge.

ACCOUNT showing the Deficiency on Four Casks of SCOTCH SPIRITS from *Leith* to *London*, per the Royal Victoria Steamer, on the 28th March 1848.

John Wood, Esq.,
April 1848.

	Quantity sent from Leith.	Quantity Landed at London.	Total Loss on Transit.	Loss Per Cent.	Loss Per Gallon in Farthings.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	
Duty charged on deficiency, according to the usual practice of the Excise - -	540.38	538.63	1.75	$\frac{38}{100}$	1 $\frac{30}{100}$
Transit loss calculated by the Excise, on the actual quantity in the casks - - -	540.38	535.29	5.09	$\frac{94}{100}$	8 $\frac{53}{100}$
Transit loss, as calculated by the trader -	540.38	534.19	6.19	1 $\frac{14}{100}$	4 $\frac{38}{100}$
Transit loss, the quantity shipped and landed, being calculated according to the practice of the Customs -	539.	533.	6.	1 $\frac{11}{100}$	4 $\frac{16}{100}$

It is understood that these four casks were imported in the hold of a steam vessel, and were consequently exposed to great heat and loss *in transitu*.

But assuming that the loss was about an average, the calculation made by the Chairman in his examination before the Select Committee, must be altered as follows:

“ It thus appears that the Scotch and Irish distiller has a direct interest in the question of the duty on deficiencies in transit, to the extent of about $\frac{24}{100}$ of a gallon per cent. on the average, or about 7 s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on every 100 gallons shipped for England.”

J. W.

Mr. William Betts, called in; and Examined.

15207. Mr. Moffatt.] I BELIEVE you are extensively engaged in the Spirit Trade?—I am.

Mr. W. Betts.

15208. In what branch of the spirit trade are you engaged?—As a Rectifier.

15209. Have you been long engaged in that trade?—Nearly 20 years with my father and on my own account.

15210. Then of course you have had very considerable experience in the manufacture of spirits?—I have some information as to the manufacture of spirits; I am not a distiller, but I have informed myself and been informed from time to time by different distillers when I have made inquiry in respect to the manufacture.

15211. I believe the manufacture of spirits divides itself into two branches; the distilling from grain, and, as regards the consumption in England, the rectifying these spirits?—Yes; the grain distiller manufactures the spirit, and the rectifier purchases it from him, to render it fit for the public.

15212. I think you stated that you were a rectifier, consequently your business leads you to purchase the spirits of the distiller?—Yes.

15213. There are two distinct and separate branches of the trade, the distilling and rectifying?—Yes; quite distinct.

Mr. W. Betts.

1 April 1848.

15214. The rectifier has therefore to purchase his spirits from the distiller?—He has either to buy them from the distiller or from the agents of either the Scotch or Irish houses, who recently have become very few; there used to be 11 or 12 of them, and now I think we have but three.

15215. But you buy spirit also of the English distillers, do not you?—Yes.

15216. Is there any large importation of Scotch and Irish spirits into the London market?—Not so plentiful by any means as it used to be.

15217. To what cause do you assign that short supply of spirits from Scotland and Ireland?—To three distinct regulations and clauses in the Act of Parliament, that give privileges, particularly to the English, that are denied to the Irish and Scotch.

15218. Can you state the nature of those respective clauses?—I can: the first is, that the English distiller is allowed, over and above the Scotch, to have worts on any part of his premises, of any gravity, the Scotch being restricted to one vessel, that being the underback. Secondly, there is no efficient check on the spirits sent out by the English distillers after the charge is made in the receivers. The third being as to the payment of duties; the English are allowed to send out their spirits as fast as they are made, and they have now a fortnight's credit upon the duties; they used to have three weeks.

15219. And you are of opinion that the effect of those three clauses favouring the English distillers, has been very much to shut out the supply of spirits from Scotland and Ireland into England?—I think it has had the effect of closing the trade, and has ruined a great many Irish and Scotch distillers. And also rectifiers here, who embarked in the trade, did so on the faith and with the prospect of the state of supply from Scotland and Ireland continuing as it used to be.

15220. Is there any other cause which precludes the Scotch and Irish distillers from sending their spirits to this market?—I think that those are the great causes, but there are other illiberalities and restrictions in the law independent of those other reasons.

15221. Can the Scotch and Irish distillers send their spirits here, and bond them in this market?—No.

15222. Is not that a great cause operating against their sending them?—Yes.

15223. What course do they adopt if they desire to send their spirits to this market?—They have to pay the duties both in Ireland and Scotland thereto belonging.

15224. They pay a duty in Scotland of 3 s. 8 d. per gallon?—Yes, and which upon being put into and taken out of bond in Scotland, are subjected to an Excise check; they arrive here on the wharf and are subjected to another check; making three Excise checks after leaving the receiver, to which the English distiller is not subject.

15225. When is the duty payable on their arrival here?—That depends upon how long the ship is upon the voyage. I believe it is 21 days from the time of shipment in Scotland. I am not certain, but I think it is that, or 21 days after their arrival.

15226. Consequently the distiller in Scotland who sends his spirits here, must pay the duty which is ordinarily paid in Scotland before they leave Scotland; and unless he has sold the spirits previously to the shipment, he must send money to this country to pay the English duty on their arrival here, or very shortly after?—He must.

15227. The same rule obtains with respect to Ireland?—It does.

15228. Does not that operate as a very great disadvantage to the Scotch or Irish distiller in sending his spirits to this market?—Most assuredly.

15229. The value the spirits being possibly about 1 s. 10 d. a gallon, and the duty altogether which he has to advance being equivalent to 7 s. 10 d. a gallon?—Yes; there are statements of the Scotch distillers themselves that they absolutely pay more than that, and they prove it by various and ample means.

15230. But

15230. But at least 7s. 10d. a gallon is the capital they have to advance on consigning their spirits for sale in this market?—Yes.

Mr. W. Betts.

1 April 1848.

15231. Is it not your opinion, that that is a more serious restriction upon the free commercial intercourse in spirits between Scotland, Ireland, and England, than the protective clauses in reference to English distillers?—No; the protective clauses on behalf of the English distillers, I think to be the worst and greatest evil they have to contend with.

15232. Is it your opinion that there would be a very considerable increase in the trade of spirits between Scotland and Ireland and England, if the privilege was given to the manufacturers of spirits in those countries to bond their spirits in this market, and to pay duty only when the spirits were required for use?—Yes.

15233. What advantage do you think that would produce to the spirit trade in this country?—As a rectifier, I mean to say that I should be sure of a supply of spirits.

15234. Which you are not now at all times?—I am not.

15235. You frequently find that the supply of spirits in the market in London is so limited that you have a difficulty in getting what you require for your own trade?—I have sometimes written to my distiller for spirits, and I have not been able to get them, though I never asked his credit.

15236. The rule of your house being invariably to pay cash?—It is so for grain spirits.

15237. Have you been frequently obliged to suspend your works and to suffer material inconvenience, in consequence of your inability to obtain spirits when you wanted them for rectification?—I have postponed orders on that account.

15238. And that more than once?—Yes, frequently; two or three times I have written, and have not been able to get them.

15239. How did it occur that a house extensively engaged in trade like yours, and always paying cash, could not obtain a supply?—The distillers like to know a fortnight beforehand, or a week, what quantity of spirits you may require; and if you have been dealing with Scotch distillers for spirits, the English distiller pleads scarcity; and I dare say his spirits are all engaged to his more intimate or connected rectifier.

15240. Is it your impression that there would be a very large increase in the supply of spirits from Scotland and Ireland in case the privilege were given of their being bonded when they came into this country, and the duty were not required to be paid until they were taken into home consumption?—Yes, I feel quite certain that nothing but those three restrictive clauses has prevented there being abundance of spirits, both Scotch and Irish, in the market.

15241. Then you do not think that a compulsory requirement to pay the duty immediately on their arrival in London does materially restrict the trade?—That is another evil, but those are the three great evils; the three privileges which the English have, are a great injury.

15242. It is very singular that the Scotch distillers whom we have heard examined have not complained of those privileges being given to the English distillers, and have found out no new cause of complaint upon that ground?—The grain distillers have complained of that, it has been their complaint, and it has effectually done away with nine-twelfths of the number of agents that were selling spirits on their behalf in London.

15243. Then do you not deem it a very important thing that there should be a privilege given to the Scotch and Irish distillers to send their spirits here in bond?—I do; very important.

15244. But not so important as the restrictive and prohibitive clauses you speak of?—I deem it to be one of the greatest boons, and one of the greatest securities to the capital that the rectifier has invested now.

Mr. W. Betts.
 1 April 1848.

15245. To give him a full and adequate supply of spirits at all times?—Yes, independent of the English distillers.

15246. Your object would be, I presume, to bring the Scotch and Irish spirits fairly into competition with those of the English distillers?—Yes.

15247. Which, according to your experience, is not the case at the present time?—It is not.

15248. Is there much difference in the market price of spirits in Dublin and in London?—I have not bought spirits in Dublin; I have bought them here upon the quay as coming from Ireland; I cannot tell what the Dublin price is.

15249. The distilling trade of London is, I believe, principally carried on by six houses?—Yes.

15249*. And there are two other houses; one in Worcester, and one in Bristol, I believe?—Yes.

15250. Both of those are small distilleries?—Yes; and there is one in Newcastle.

15251. I think you stated that the distilling and rectifying were distinct businesses; is it within your knowledge whether any of those six extensive and highly respectable firms, who are distillers, are in any way connected with rectifying?—A great many of them have relatives who are rectifiers; one or two, I think, have withdrawn recently.

15252. Is it the fact that out of the six large distillers of London, four of them are connected either directly or indirectly with rectifying houses?—I cannot speak positively upon that: I have generally understood that as between distillers and rectifiers it was so; it was my father's impression. I understood it from him; the rectifiers are of the same name as the distillers in some cases.

15253. Have you heard it mentioned as a subject of grievance and complaint among the Scotch and Irish distillers, that they cannot send their spirits here without sending the money to pay the duty?—I have seen it in writing.

15254. Have you heard that they think it hard that they cannot do so?—I have.

15255. Do you think, from the knowledge which you have, that the trade would be much more extensive between Scotland, Ireland, and England, if they were allowed to put spirits in bond?—Yes, assuredly.

15256. Before we come to the question of rectifying, have you any information to give to the Committee in reference to distilling, so far as your experience as a dealer largely engaged in the trade has enabled you to acquire a knowledge on this subject?—I have made it my business to institute inquiry into the point, and I know the bearings of it to some extent, and I have been assisted by a practical grain distiller from the North.

15257. Have you ever been engaged in distillation in the north of England yourself?—No; only in fitting up a rectifying house in Scotland; I have not been a distiller.

15258. Can you state the number of gallons that have been imported into England from Scotland and Ireland in the last year?—It is 1,000,000 from Ireland, and about 2,000,000 from Scotland.

15259. Are you aware of the quantity made in England?—Between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000.

15260. Consequently one-third of the quantity which is consumed in England is imported from Scotland and Ireland at the present time?—Yes; principally from Scotland.

15261. Would you consider that to be a very small proportion of spirits?—It is as compared with what it used to be; Scotland and Ireland together used to import more than was made in England.

15262. Are you able to state to the Committee what quantity of spirits have been imported into England from Scotland and Ireland in any one year, within the

the last 20 years; state the largest quantity?—In England, in 1826, there were manufactured 2,629,617 gallons; imported from Scotland, 2,969,701 gallons.

Mr. W. Betts.

1 April 1848.

15263. Is that for one year?—Yes.

15264. From Ireland how many?—822,334 gallons.

15265. So that in the year 1826 there were imported from Scotland and Ireland upwards of 3,000,000 of gallons, while the produce of this country was only 2,600,000 gallons?—We imported more than was our home make in that year.

15266. So that we imported as three to two in our consumption in the year 1826; we imported three gallons for every two that we made in England?—I am not so clear that it was exactly so, but it seems to be thereabouts.

15267. Whereas at the present time we manufacture at home two-thirds of what we consume?—Yes, thereabouts.

15268. And you attribute that increase in the home manufacture, and that decrease in the importation from Scotland and Ireland, to these favouring clauses which the English distillers have from time to time obtained?—Yes.

15269. Will you state what those protective clauses are?—First, that the English distiller is allowed, over and above the Scotch, to have worts on any parts of his premises, of any gravity.

15270. Will you explain to the Committee how the distillers, having worts of different gravities on their premises, can check the importation of spirits from Scotland?—It facilitates their work, and the competition is unequal; and in consequence of that they cannot compete with them.

15271. Can you explain to the Committee how it does facilitate the manufacture of spirits?—I could quote, and which I would rather do than quote my own knowledge, for I have none on the matter, except from the reports of the surveyors-general of Excise, who state those advantages to exist, and “that the law ought to be changed,” and “that the law was intended to be uniform,” and “that it is an oversight that it is not so.”

15272. Have you ever heard the Scotch distillers complain of these privileges and pre-emptions in favour of English distillers?—I have seen that they have written and complained of it.

15273. You state that you have been in the habit of buying Scotch and Irish spirits?—Yes.

15274. Have you bought them in Scotland?—I have bought them in Scotland; that is, I have bought them on the quay, and I have also recently bought a parcel in Scotland.

15275. Are you prepared to state to the Committee that in your opinion the trade with Scotland in the purchase of spirits would very considerably increase if the distillers had the privilege of bringing them here, and bonding them in this port?—My trade would increase.

15276. And you would also buy spirits in an increased proportion in the Irish markets?—On the same principle.

15277. Do the rectifiers of London ordinarily coincide with you in this feeling, of the advantage there would be in having the markets thus opened to a fuller competition, by reason of the spirits being allowed to lie here in bond?—I have no doubt that there are many that are of the same opinion, but who would not like to run the risk of coming to say as much.

15278. It has been stated to the Committee on very high authority that the rectifier experiences no loss in his process of manufacture through which he puts the spirit, to render it suitable to the English market; are you of the same opinion?—I am of the contrary opinion.

15279. Your belief is, that in the process of rectification a very considerable loss arises to the rectifier?—To myself, of three and a half per cent. at least.

Mr. W. Betts.

1 April 1848.

15280. How do you estimate that loss of three and a half per cent. : does it arise from the cost of the fuel, and the wear and tear, and materials, or is that three and a half per cent. attributable solely to the various restrictions and regulations under which you are placed by the Excise in the course of your manufacture?—I attribute the loss to the nature of the article itself ; that it will escape even through the pores of the wood. We buy it concentrated at 11 per cent. over proof, and very often 25 per cent. over proof ; and in reducing that to 10 per cent. under proof for rectification, we lose nearly one per cent.

15281. Can you explain how that loss of one per cent. arises?—It loses it in bulk and strength together.

15282. How do you show that it loses one per cent.?—In simply reducing the spirit, we lose one per cent. It is a fact acknowledged by the Excise to be so.

15283. It is admitted by the Excise that you do lose one per cent. in reducing the spirit from the high standard at which you are compelled to take it into your rectifying-house, to the strength at which it is fit for the process of rectification?—I think nearly one per cent. It has then to be re-concentrated, and then afterwards to be again reduced, to send it out at the legal strength of 17 per cent. under proof.

15284. How much does it lose in the second process?—I have put all up to that at two per cent.

15285. Is that loss of two per cent. the result of your experience ; do your own books of account show that there is that loss of two per cent.?—Our books of account with the Excise would show, I think, somewhere about three and a half per cent.

15286. Where is the other one and a half per cent. obtained?—The other one and a half per cent. is lost in compounding ; that is to say, adding the colouring matter to it which masks the hydrometer.

15287. Is colouring matter put to English gin?—No.

15288. Will you be good enough to consider the question put, as applying to gin in the rectification ; you estimate that there is two per cent. loss in rectifying gin ; does the other one and a half per cent., which you attribute to the colouring matter, apply to gin?—No, the colouring matter cannot apply to gin. But then gin is not always sent out immediately that it is made ; and in buying new spirits we are subject to much greater loss, so that you have to average the loss in that way.

15289. But the question you are asked, is, what loss in the process of rectification do you attribute as arising from the excise restrictions in reference to the strength at which you have to take your spirits into your rectifying house ; that I understand you to say is two per cent.?—I said that my losses were two per cent. ; I did not say from excise restrictions.

15290. What part of your losses arise from excise restrictions?—The distiller might say that it was the excise restriction that obliged him to send it out at from 11 to 25 per cent. over proof.

15291. You say that the excise restrictions entail upon you the necessity of reducing the strength when the spirit comes into your rectifying house, which causes a loss of one per cent., and that afterwards you have to increase the strength, which process also causes another loss of one per cent.?—Yes.

15292. Those are strictly losses attributable to the compulsory high strength at which you are compelled to take the spirits into the rectifying house, I apprehend?—I take the first to be an uncontrollable loss, and the latter I view as belonging especially to the art of rectifying.

15293. Would it be a great advantage to the rectifiers of this country if they were allowed to rectify in bond?—I think it would, certainly.

15294. Do you consider that there would be any difficulty in ascertaining the quantity and strength of spirit after the process of rectifying?—No.

15295. It

15295. It is as easily ascertained afterwards as before, is not it?—Quite.

15296. It is as easily ascertained after the sweetening process has gone on?—
No.

Mr. W. Beltr.

1 April 1848.

15297. Would there be any difficulty in rectifying in bond, and letting the gin be sweetened when it went into consumption?—With the consent of the excise the revenue could be made safe under those circumstances; it would be simply an alteration of the law.

15298. You apprehend that there would be a difficulty in accurately charging the duty after the sweetening matter was put into the spirit?—Certainly.

15299. But you see no difficulty in rectifying in bond, and letting the rectified spirits remain in bond, the sweetening process being applied at any subsequent period, after the duty had been paid?—No difficulty to the manufacturer, certainly.

15300. And if that privilege were allowed to the rectifier, is it your impression that there would be any extensive trade with foreign ports?—Yes, very considerable indeed. I think that Englishmen, having been punished so desperately as they have with high duties, have acquired great facility and knowledge in the manipulation of the spirits, so that their power of imitating other spirits is now so great that it would be brought vastly to bear in all foreign markets.

15301. Then your impression is, that we could successfully compete with the Dutch distiller and rectifier, if we were allowed to rectify spirits in bond?—Undoubtedly.

15302. Do you know whether spirits are sent from the country or from Europe in any quantity to the British colonies?—I know that there is a great quantity of gin imported in bottles from Holland here, in imitation of English gin, and sent to our colonies.

15303. Can you state to the Committee about what quantity that is?—About 500,000 gallons, and at a very exorbitant profit.

15304. Is it your belief, that in case this privilege were extended to rectifiers, that trade would come to this country instead of going to Holland?—I really think that spirits might be made so cheaply in this country, that we could compete with all the world. I think we could get spirits at 18*d.* a gallon.

15305. At the present time, the exportation of your gin is prohibited in consequence of there being no drawback allowed?—Yes, there is no exportation.

15306. If you wished to send your gin to Jamaica, you must send it at the duty-paid price?—I believe that is the case.

15307. Would a large trade also spring up in British gin with the Australian colonies?—Yes.

15308. With the British North American colonies also, I believe?—Most likely; nothing could stop it where the English go.

15309. And also with the United States?—With America; there can be no question of it.

15310. Assuming that difficulties occur to the Government which do not occur to you with regard to facilities for rectifying in bond, would it not be practicable that the rectifier should have the privilege, after having rectified the spirit, of placing them in warehouses of special security, and of receiving a drawback of the duty on exportation?—I think it perfectly practicable, and it would be a very great boon to the trade generally, as I think it would not require more than half the capital that is now employed in the trade if such a privilege were granted.

15311. And consequently, by reason of employing a less capital, they would be able to produce a cheaper spirit to the public?—Yes, and of infinitely better quality by that means, foreign spirits being allowed two or three years to ameliorate. The English rectified spirit requires also the same privilege ere it can arrive at perfection.

134. MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

Mr. W. Betts.

1 April 1848.

15312. You state it as the result of your experience, that English spirits do improve very much in quality by age?—It is so, in my experience, most certainly. I notice that the trade themselves even like gin some months old.

15313. Then your belief is, that if the privilege were conceded, it would be a very great boon to the rectifying trade in particular, and advantageous to commerce generally?—One of infinite amount; a great national benefit.

15314. And you are practically shut out now by the existing arrangement, and are entirely excluded from supplying British spirits to the British colonies?—Entirely.

15315. Have you any further information to give to the Committee?—I have nothing further at this late hour.

A P P E N D I X.

COPIES of any LAWS or ORDINANCES now in force in the *West India Colonies* and *Mauritius*, in respect to VAGRANCY.

Colonial Office, Downing-street,
8 March 1848.

HERMAN MERIVALE.

L I S T.

JAMAICA	- - -	5 December 1839	- - -	No. 3315.	
"	- - -	22 December 1840	- - -	No. 3408.	
BAHAMAS	- - -	12 November 1833	- - -	No. 838.	4 Will. 4, c. 11.
"	- - -	26 May 1836	- - -	No. 918.	6 Will. 4, c. 6.
"	- - -	21 June 1839	- - -	No. 975.	3 Vict. c. 3.
"	- - -	9 January 1844	- - -	No. 1101.	7 Vict. c. 3.
"	- - -	3 February 1846	- - -	No. 1152.	9 Vict. c. 12.
BARBADOS	- - -	7 January 1840	- - -	No. 709.	
ST. VINCENT	- - -	6 September 1839	- - -	No. 390.	
TOBAGO	- - -	28 March 1839	- - -	No. 321.	
ANTIGUA	- - -	31 July 1834	- - -	No. 381.	
ST. CHRISTOPHER	- - -	21 October 1847	- - -	No. 370.	
VIRGIN ISLANDS	- - -	9 April 1839	- - -	No. 113.	
DOMINICA	- - -	9 May 1840	- - -	No. 440.	
BRITISH GUIANA	}				
TRINIDAD	- - -	Order in Council, 7 September 1838; Vagrancy.			
ST. LUCIA	- - -	Do, - do. - 6 October 1838; Crown Lands Occupation.			
MAURITIUS	- - -				

COPIES of any LAWS or ORDINANCES now in force in the *West India Colonies* and *Mauritius*, in respect to VAGRANCY.

J A M A I C A.

3 VICT. c. 18.

(No. 3315.)

AN ACT for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, and Incurable Rogues.—[5 December 1839.]

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, and incurable rogues, within this island: May it please your Majesty that it may be enacted; Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Assembly of this your Majesty's island of Jamaica, that every person being able wholly or in part to maintain himself or herself, or his wife, or his or her children or child, by work or other lawful means, and who shall wilfully refuse or neglect so to do, and thereby become burdensome, or render his wife, or his or her children or child burdensome, upon any parochial or other funds set apart for the relief of the poor; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous or indecent manner; and every person who is able to labour, or who is receiving parochial aid, and who shall be found wandering abroad, or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, wharf, highway, lane, court, piazza, or passage, to beg or gather alms, or causing or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person, within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him by his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses to the house of correction, there, or on the public streets and highways, to be kept to hard labour,

o.32.

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for

Appendix.

JAMAICA.

Vagrancy.

Preamble.

Who are to be deemed idle and disorderly persons, and, on conviction, how to be punished.

Proviso. Certain exceptions with regard to beggars.

Who are to be deemed rogues and vagabonds, and, on conviction, how to be punished.

for any time not exceeding one calendar month; provided, nevertheless, that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Act by reason of any such begging or gathering alms as aforesaid, or by reason of his or her causing or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of such justice before whom he or she shall be charged with such offence, that such offender could, by his or her own labour or other means, or by parochial funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life.

2. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that every person committing any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending to be a dealer in obeah or myalism; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device by palmistry, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive or impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wandering abroad and lodging in any outhouse or shed, or in any deserted or unoccupied building, or in any mill, sugar or coffee works, watch-house, trash-house, or other buildings, or within any cane, coffee, provision piece, pasture, or inclosure, not having any visible means of subsistence, and not giving any good account of himself or herself; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public place, or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort; every person wandering abroad and endeavouring, by the exposure of wounds or deformities, to obtain or gather alms; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions of any nature or kind whatsoever, under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person running away and leaving his wife, or his or her child or children chargeable, or whereby she or they, or any of them, shall become chargeable to any parish, or burdensome upon any individual, or any parochial or other fund set apart for the use of the poor; every person playing or betting in any street, road, highway, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming, at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, or out-building, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act; every person being found in or upon any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, outhouse, or lock-up place, in which goods are kept, or in any inclosed yard, pen, garden, or crane, for any unlawful purpose; every suspected person or reputed thief frequenting any wharf, or warehouse near or adjoining thereto, or any street, highway, or avenue leading thereto, or any public place of resort, or any avenue leading thereto, or any street, highway, or place adjacent thereto, with intent to commit felony; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, and being subsequently convicted of the offence for which he or she shall be so apprehended, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him, on his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to the house of correction, there, or on the public streets and highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 60 days; and every such picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty, and the same shall be destroyed or sold by order of the justice, and if sold, the proceeds applied to the use of the parish in which such conviction shall take place.

Instruments used by them to be forfeited and destroyed, or sold for the use of the parish.

Who are to be deemed incorrigible rogues, and, on conviction, how to be punished.

3. And be it further enacted, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined by virtue of this Act, and every person committing any offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be and duly convicted thereof, and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any two justices of the peace to commit such offender to the house of correction, there to remain until the next quarter sessions of the peace, then and there to be tried as hereinafter mentioned.

Constable, police, or peace officer, to apprehend offender, and take him or her before a justice.

Proviso. If no officer near at hand, any other person may apprehend offender, and carry him or her before a justice, or deliver him or her to a constable or peace officer.

Constable or peace officer refusing or neglecting to apprehend

4. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any constable or police or peace officer whatsoever to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some justice of the peace, to be dealt with in such manner as is hereinbefore directed: Provided always, that in case no such constable, peace or police officer, shall be within a reasonable distance of the place where such offender shall be so found, it shall be lawful for any person whomsoever to apprehend such offender, and forthwith thereafter to carry him or her before some justice of the peace, or to deliver him or her to any constable or other peace officer of the place where he or she shall have been apprehended, to be so taken and conveyed as aforesaid; and in case any constable or other peace officer shall refuse, or wilfully neglect, to take such offender into his custody, and to take and convey him or her before any justice of the peace, or shall not use his best endeavours to apprehend and convey before some justice of the peace any person that

that

that he shall find offending against this Act, it shall be deemed a neglect of duty in such constable or other peace officer, and he shall on conviction be punished in such manner as is hereinafter directed.

offender to be punished as directed in clause 8.

5. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon oath being made before him that any person hath committed, or is suspected to have committed, any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him, or some other justice of the peace, the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Act.

Justice to issue warrant to apprehend any person committing, or suspected to have committed, any of the offences against this Act, to be dealt with as therein directed.

6. And be it further enacted, that when any such idle and disorderly person, rogue, or vagabond shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizance, as hereinafter directed, to prosecute such appeal, such justice shall require the person by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to prove the offence and to support such conviction, to become bound in recognizance to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, to appear at the next quarter sessions to give evidence against such offender touching such offence; and the justices of the peace at their said quarter sessions are hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of any person who shall have become bound in any such recognizance, to order the churchwarden of the parish to pay unto such prosecutor, and unto the witness or witnesses on his or her behalf, such sum or sums of money as to the court may seem reasonable and sufficient to reimburse such prosecutor and such witness or witnesses respectively, for the expenses he, she, or they shall have severally been put to, and for his or their trouble and loss of time in and about such prosecution, which order the clerk of the peace is hereby directed and required forthwith to make out and deliver to such prosecutor, or unto such witness or witnesses; and the said churchwarden is hereby authorized and required, upon sight of such order, forthwith to pay unto such prosecutor, or other person or persons authorized to receive the same, such money as aforesaid, and the said churchwarden shall be allowed the same in his account; and in case any such person or persons as aforesaid shall refuse to enter into such recognizance, it shall be lawful for such justice of the peace to commit such person or persons so refusing to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance, or shall be otherwise discharged by due course of law.

When any offender shall give notice of his or her intent to appeal against conviction, justice to bind parties and witnesses to appear at next quarter sessions, and justices at quarter sessions, on application, to order payment of prosecutor and witness' expenses.

Any person refusing to enter into recognizance may be confined until he or she complies, or is otherwise discharged.

7. And be it further enacted, that when any incorrigible rogue shall have been committed to the house of correction, there to remain until the next quarter sessions for trial before the said justices at quarter sessions, it shall be lawful for the court to examine into the circumstances of the case, and on conviction to order, if they think fit, that such offender be imprisoned in the house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.

When any incorrigible rogue is committed to house of correction for trial at quarter sessions, the court to examine into the case, and, on conviction, may order offender to six months' hard labour.

8. And be it further enacted, that in case any constable or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Act, or in case any person shall disturb, hinder, or obstruct any constable or other peace officer in the execution of this Act, or shall be aiding, abetting, or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted before any justice of the peace upon the oath of one or more witnesses, every such offender shall, for every such offence, forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 l.; and in case such offender shall not pay such sum so forfeited, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrant from such justice; and if sufficient distress cannot be found, it shall be lawful to commit the person so offending to any lawful place of confinement, there to be kept for any time not exceeding 30 days, or until such fine be paid; and the said justices shall cause the said fine, when paid, to be paid over to the churchwarden for the use of the parish.

Constable or peace officer neglecting his duty, or any person obstructing either of them in the performance thereof, to forfeit 20 l., and in case of non-payment to be distrained for; in failure of goods, offender to be imprisoned for 30 days, or until fine is paid.

9. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon information on oath before him made that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, by warrant under his hand and seal to authorize any constable or other person or persons to enter at any time into such house or place, and to apprehend and bring before him, or any other justice of the peace, every such idle and disorderly person, rogue, and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue, as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

On information that any offender is suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, justice to issue warrant to a constable to enter and apprehend offender.

10. And be it further enacted, that the justice of the peace before whom any conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue, under this Act, shall take place, shall, and he is hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the next quarter sessions, there to be filed and kept of record, and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the peace, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any justice of the peace acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

Conviction before justice to be transmitted to quarter sessions to be recorded, and a copy may be given as evidence in any court, or before a justice acting under this Act.

11. And be it enacted, that the conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue, under this Act, shall be in the form following, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit; that is to say:

Form of conviction.

JAMAICA, ss.—In the parish of _____, — Be it remembered, that on the day of _____, in the year of our Lord _____ at _____ in the county of _____, is convicted before me _____, for that he the said _____ did (specify the offence, time, and place when and where the same was committed, as the case may be); and I the said _____ adjudge the said _____ for the said offence, to be imprisoned, or to solitary confinement, in the house of correction, and there, or on the streets and highways, kept to hard labour for the space of _____ days ensuing from the date hereof, this day to be accounted one.

Given under my hand and seal, the day and year first above mentioned.

A. B., Justice of the Peace.

When any person is aggrieved by any act or determination of a justice, he may appeal to quarter sessions, giving notice to such justice, and must enter into recognizance, with a surety, to prosecute appeal, and thereupon such person is to be discharged.

If appeal is dismissed, or conviction affirmed, offender is to be apprehended and punished.

Appellant bound to prosecute within a certain time.

12. And be it further enacted, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any justice of the peace, in or concerning the execution of this Act, may appeal to the said quarter sessions, giving to the justice of the peace whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal, and of the ground thereof, and entering within seven days into a recognizance, with sufficient surety, before a justice of the peace, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given, and such recognizance being entered into, such justice is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody; and the said quarter sessions shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet; and in case of the dismissal of the appeal, or the affirmance of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender, according to the conviction: Provided always, that such appellant shall be bound to prosecute his said appeal before the next sitting of the said quarter sessions, in case such sitting shall not happen within the same period, but if such sitting shall be had within such seven days, then at the next succeeding quarter sessions, and not afterwards.

13. And whereas doubts have arisen whether the Act passed in the 35th year of the reign of Charles the Second, intituled "An Act for punishing idle Persons and Vagabonds, and for the Relief of the Poor," and the Act passed in the 32d year of the reign of George the Third, intituled "An Act for establishing Workhouses in the several Parishes of this Island," have been repealed, and it is expedient to remove such doubts: Be it therefore enacted, that from and after the passing of this Act, the said Act intituled "An Act for punishing idle Persons and Vagabonds, and for the Relief of the Poor," passed in the 35th year of the reign of Charles the Second, and also the said Act passed in the 32d year of the reign of his Majesty George the Third, intituled "An Act for establishing public Workhouses in the several Parishes of this Island," be and the same are hereby repealed.

An Act of 35 Ch. 2, "For punishing idle Persons and Vagabonds," and another of 32 Geo. 3, "For establishing Workhouses," repealed.

4 VICT. c. 42.

(No. 3408.)

AN ACT to amend an Act for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, and Incurable Rogues.—[22 December 1840.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Act passed last session, intituled "An Act for the Punishment of idle and disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, and incurable Rogues:" Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly of this island, that the second section of the said Act be and stand repealed.

Second section of last Vagrant Act repealed.

What constitutes rogues and vagabonds,

2. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that every person committing any of the offences in the first section of the said Act mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending to be a dealer in obeh or myalism; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device by palmistry, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive or impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wandering abroad, and lodging in any outhouse or shed, or in any deserted or unoccupied building, or in any mill, sugar, or coffee-works, watch-house, trash-house, or other buildings, or within any cane, coffee, provision-piece, pasture, or inclosure, not having any visible means of subsistence, and not giving any account of himself or herself; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his [or her] person in any street, public place, or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort; every person wandering abroad, and endeavouring, by the exposure of wounds or deformities, to obtain or gather alms; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions of any nature or kind whatsoever under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person running away and leaving his wife, or his or her wife or children, chargeable, or whereby she or they, or any of them, shall become chargeable to any parish, or any parochial or other fund set apart for the use of the poor; every person playing or betting in any street, road, highway, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming, at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any pick-lock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, or out-building, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act; every person being found in or upon any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, outhouse, or lock-up place in which goods are kept, or in any inclosed yard, pen, garden, or crane, for any unlawful purpose; every suspected person or reputed thief frequenting any wharf, or warehouse near or adjoining thereto, or any street, highway, or avenue leading thereto, or any public place of resort, or any avenue leading thereto, or any street, highway, or place adjacent thereto, with intent to commit felony; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, and being subsequently convicted of the offence for which he or she shall be so apprehended, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him on his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to the house of correction, there to be kept

and their punishment.

kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 28 days; and every such pick-lock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty, and the same shall be destroyed or sold by order of the justice, and if sold the proceeds applied to the use of the parish in which such conviction shall take place.

Appendix.
 JAMAICA.
 Vagrancy.

B A H A M A S.

WILL. 4, c. 2.

(No. 838.)

AN ACT to prevent the resort of Rogues, Vagabonds, and other Idle and Disorderly Persons to the Bahama Islands; for the Punishment and Correction of certain Offences therein specified; and for other Purposes therein mentioned.—[12 November 1833.]

BAHAMAS.
 Vagrancy.

WHEREAS it is highly necessary and proper that the resort to these islands of rogues, vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly persons, should be prevented; May it therefore please your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it therefore enacted by his excellency Blayne Townley Balfour, esq., Lieutenant-governor of your Majesty's Bahama Islands, the Council and Assembly of these islands, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, that all persons of idle, drunken, or other disorderly habits, not exercising any regular trade or calling, and without visible means of livelihood, and who, on being examined touching such their habits, and absence of employment, and want of honest means of subsistence, shall not satisfy the magistracy of the correctness of their lives, shall be deemed and taken as vagrants within the meaning of this Act, and liable to be dealt with as such according to the provisions of the same.

Preamble.

Who deemed vagrants.

2. And be it further enacted, that any two magistrates, or any one magistrate in islands on which there shall not be more than three, shall have power to summon, or by warrant of arrest cause to be brought before him or them any person charged with vagrancy, and the party so accused and all others who may give evidence for or against such party in the premises, on oath to examine, and the said party and witnesses, should they refuse to be so sworn and examined, to prison to commit, until purged of such their contempt and contumacy to the satisfaction of the said magistrates or magistrate; and if the said magistrates or magistrate shall after a summary trial of the case, find the accused party guilty of vagrancy within the meaning of this Act as aforesaid, the said magistrates or magistrate shall commit the person so convicted to any gaol, workhouse, house of correction, or other place of confinement, for one calendar month, unless the party so convicted shall at the time of his or her conviction, or before the expiration of the said month, enter into recognizance with one or more sureties, before and to the satisfaction of some magistrate, to be of good behaviour and keep the peace for at least six months; and upon a second conviction for a like offence, the offender may be in like manner committed for two months, and also kept at hard or moderate labour, at the discretion of the magistrates or magistrate as aforesaid; and if, after a second conviction, any offender shall persist in his or her vicious or disorderly courses, the judges of the general court, or the chief or other presiding justice of the same for the time being, shall on complaint to them or him made, proceed in like manner as aforesaid against the party accused, and on conviction commit all delinquents to confinement as aforesaid, at hard labour or otherwise as aforesaid, for not less than three, nor more than 12 calendar months; and upon such second or third conviction, the delinquent shall not be enlarged as a matter of right, as upon a first conviction, on entering into recognizance as aforesaid, unless with the consent and approbation, and at the discretion of the magistrates or magistrate, justices or justice, who shall have committed him or her, or of two other magistrates or justices as aforesaid.

Two magistrates, or one where there shall not be two resident on the island, to take cognizance of vagrancy.

3. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all persons who shall, for hire, gain, or reward, act, represent, or perform, or cause to be acted, represented, or performed, any interlude, tragedy, comedy, opera, farce, play, or other like entertainment, or any part or parts therein, not being authorized by license under the hand and seal of his excellency the Governor or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, and all persons playing or betting at unlawful games or plays, shall be deemed rogues and vagabonds, within the true intent and meaning of this Act.

Who deemed rogues and vagabonds.

4. And whereas, it would greatly conduce to the quiet and comfort of the well-disposed inhabitants of the island of New Providence, if the several places of public resort therein, and the streets and highways in the same, should not be infested by noisy and turbulent persons, idly and offensively assembled in greater or lesser numbers, to the obstruction of passengers and general annoyance of the neighbourhood; be it further enacted, that all assemblages of persons of either or both sexes, and of whatsoever age, by day or night, on the public parade, or in or about the market-house, the vendue-house, or elsewhere, in or near the streets or highways aforesaid, for any lewd, vicious, idle, or disorderly purpose or purposes whatsoever, or otherwise than in the regular performance or in pursuance of some lawful duty, calling, employment or object; all loitering, carousing, or the like, in or about any shop or place where liquors are sold by retail; all loud wrangling, scolding, quarrelling, shouting,

All assemblages of persons in or near the vendue-house, market-house, or elsewhere in or near the streets, &c., for any lewd, vicious, idle, or disorderly purpose, declared to be unlawful. All loitering, carousing, or the like, in or about

Appendix.

any shop or place where liquors are sold by retail, all loud wrangling, scolding, quarrelling, shouting, singing, or whistling, &c., all violent, scurrilous, or highly abusive terms, &c., also declared to be unlawful.

Two magistrates to take cognizance of the offences last mentioned.

Punishment of offenders.

When the offence shall be of an aggravated or peculiar nature, magistrates to proceed in the same manner as if this Act had not been passed.

Duty of masters of vessels arriving in any port within these islands.

£. 10 penalty on masters of vessels neglecting or refusing to make a report to a magistrate.

If it shall appear that any passenger has not any visible means of livelihood, or has been considered in the place whence he last came in the light of an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue, vagabond, or swindler, such magistrate shall immediately report the same to the Governor, who is authorized to direct such magistrate to issue a warrant to the master of such vessel in which such passenger shall have arrived, ordering and requiring him to keep such passenger on board his vessel, and to convey him to the port from whence such vessel shall have departed, or any other port or place without the limits of this government.

On masters of vessels refusing to obey and comply with such order or warrant, the sureties shall forfeit the sum of 200 £.

Rogues confined in gaol, how dealt with.

shouting, singing, or whistling, in or near the streets or highways; all violent, scurrilous, or highly abusive terms of reproach, tending to a breach of the peace, in or near the same; all profane cursing or swearing, obscene or other indecent language, in or near the same; all indecent exposure of the person within view of the same; all wanton discharging of guns, pistols, or other fire-arms, and firing of rockets, squibs, crackers, or other fire-works, in or near the same, or on the public parades as aforesaid; all playing of cricket, or other like game or games, on the said parades, or in or near the said streets or highways; and all flying of kites or other like pastimes in or near the same; be, and the same, and each and every of the same, are hereby declared to be unlawful, and shall subject all those therein offending to such punishment as is hereinafter provided in such cases. And it shall be the duty of all constables, on being credibly informed of the existence of any such disorders as aforesaid, to repair without delay to the place designated, in order to repress or assist in repressing the same; and any person who shall presume to resist, abuse, disturb, or otherwise wilfully impede, or wantonly insult, threaten, or otherwise annoy any constable in the performance of any duty required of him as aforesaid, shall be held guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to punishment as is hereinafter provided.

5. And be it further enacted, that any two magistrates may take cognizance of the several offences in the section last aforesaid enumerated, and try the offenders in a summary way for the same, by summoning or by warrant of arrest causing the party accused to be brought before them, and all necessary witnesses for or against such party in that behalf on oath to examine, and on conviction to punish them by fine, imprisonment, and payment of the costs of prosecution, or any or either of the three, the fine for each offence not to exceed 5 £, nor the term of imprisonment 20 days; provided however, that when any person so convicted shall be an old or hardened offender of general bad character, well known loose and disorderly course, hard labour, solitary confinement, sitting in the stocks once or twice for not more than two hours at a time, or if a male, whipping, but with not more than 39 stripes for one offence, may be added to the sentence; the hard labour or solitary confinement to be limited and regulated by the ordinary regulations of the prison to which the offender may be committed; provided however, that when the offence shall appear to the said magistrates of an aggravated or otherwise of a peculiar nature, by reason of which the purposes of justice would be better promoted by a trial in the general court, the magistrates may proceed in the premises in the same manner as if this Act had not been passed; and provided also, that if, by reason of any of the disorders aforesaid, individuals shall have suffered injury in person or property, no conviction or sentence as aforesaid shall be a bar to any civil action that may be brought for damages touching the premises.

6. And whereas many persons have resorted to the Bahama Islands from parts beyond sea not under the dominion of his Majesty, greatly to the danger of the peace and good order of the same; be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that whenever any vessel shall arrive in the port or harbour of Nassau, or at any other port or place within the government of the Bahamas, from any port or place not under the dominion of his Majesty, that the master or other person having the command thereof shall, within 24 hours after the arrival of such vessel in such port or harbour, report upon oath to the acting magistrate or some other magistrate, the name and description of every passenger being on board the said vessel at the time of her arrival, and of what profession, trade, or occupation every such passenger may be, under penalty of 10 £ for every neglect or refusal to do so, which penalty shall be levied by warrant under the hand and seal of the police or other magistrate as aforesaid, who is hereby authorized to issue such warrant; and in case no goods and chattels of such offender or offenders can be found, and the said penalty shall not be paid, then the said police or other magistrate as aforesaid is hereby authorized and empowered to commit the person or persons so offending to the common gaol for any time not exceeding 30 days; and if it shall appear

by such report or any other authentic information to the said magistrate, that any such passenger hath not any visible means of livelihood, or is or hath been considered in the place or places from whence he or they last came, in the light of an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue, vagabond, or swindler, such magistrate shall immediately thereupon report the same to his Excellency the Governor, who is hereby authorized and empowered to order and direct the said magistrate to issue a warrant under the hand and seal of such magistrate, to be directed to the master or other person having the command of the vessel in which such passenger shall have arrived, thereby ordering and requiring such master or other person to take and keep such passenger on board his said vessel, and to convey him, her, or them either back to the port or place from whence such vessel shall have departed upon the commencement of her voyage, or to any other port or place to which she may be bound without the limits of the Bahama Islands; and every master or other person having the command of such vessel refusing to obey and comply with such order or warrant, the sureties of such vessel shall forfeit and pay the sum of 200 £, to be sued for and recovered in the general court of these islands, by bill, plaint, or information, in the name of the King; all which sums when recovered shall go and be applied in aid and support of this government.

7. And whereas such rogues, vagabonds, and others are frequently of such evil and wicked dispositions as to be callous to shame and indifferent to punishment and correction, and are oftentimes confined in the common gaol for offences not within this Act, to the expense and inconvenience of this government; be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that whenever any such person or persons so confined shall appear to be unable to maintain himself,

self, herself, or themselves in the said gaol, he, she, or they, if not British subjects, may, by order of the Governor or Commander-in-chief for the time being, by and with the advice of his Majesty's Council, upon application to him made by any two or more magistrates, be sent to any port or place without the limits of the Bahama Islands, the passage-money and other necessary expenses of such person or persons to be paid out of the public treasury of these islands, by warrant under the hand and seal of the said Governor or Commander-in-chief.

Appendix.
BAHAMAS.
Vagrancy.

8. And whereas there are sometimes persons who by lunacy or otherwise are furiously mad, or are so far disordered in their senses that it may be dangerous for them to be permitted to go abroad; be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for any two or more justices of the peace, where such lunatic or mad person shall be found, by warrant under their hand and seal, directed to any constable, to cause such person to be apprehended and kept safely locked up in some secure place within the island or district where such lunatic or mad person shall be found, until the care and custody of such lunatic or other mad person shall be demanded by his or her nearest relations or friends, or until he or she shall be removed out of such custody as aforesaid, by legal process out of chancery or otherwise; and the reasonable charges of keeping and maintaining such person during such restraint, by order of the magistrates as aforesaid, shall be paid and satisfied (the charges being first proved upon oath) by order of any two or more justices of the peace, directing the provost marshal or any constable to seize and sell so much of the goods and chattels of such person as is necessary for that purpose, and to account to the general court for what is so seized and sold; and in default of such goods and chattels, the same to be paid for out of the public treasury.

Lunatics, how dealt with.

9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person or persons shall be sued for anything done in pursuance of this Act, he or they may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence; and if judgment shall be given for the defendant or defendants, or if the plaintiff or plaintiffs shall discontinue his or their suit, or be nonsuited, judgment shall be entered up for double costs for such defendant or defendants.

Persons sued for anything done in pursuance of this Act may plead the general issue.

10. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this Act shall be and remain in full force and virtue from and after the passing thereof for and during the term of 10 years, and from thence to the end of the then next session of the General Assembly, and no longer.

Ten years' duration.

6 WILL. 4, c. 6.

(No. 918.)

AN ACT for extending to the Out Islands of this Colony certain provisions of an Act of the General Assembly, passed in the fourth year of his Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to prevent the resort of rogues, vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly persons to the Bahama Islands; for the punishment and correction of certain offences therein specified; and for other purposes."—[26 May 1836.]

WHEREAS the 4th and 5th sections of an Act of the General Assembly of these islands, passed in the fourth year of your Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to prevent the resort of rogues, vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly persons to the Bahama Islands; for the punishment and correction of certain offences therein specified; and for other purposes," provide only for the punishment of offences therein mentioned that may be committed on the island of New Providence; and whereas it is expedient that the provisions of the said 4th and 5th sections of the said Act should be extended to and be in force in the several other islands and districts throughout the colony: May it, &c., that from and after the passing of this Act the whole of the said 4th and 5th sections of the before mentioned Act should be extended to and be in force in the several islands and districts throughout the colony, as fully and effectually as if the said islands and districts had been therein mentioned, anything in the aforesaid Act, or any part thereof, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Certain clauses of 4 Will. 4, c. 11, extended to the out islands.

2. That this Act shall continue and be in force for and during the continuance of the before recited Act of Assembly, and no longer.

Duration.

3 VICT. c. 3.

(No. 975.)

AN ACT for the better Suppression of Vagrancy, and for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, and Rogues, Vagabonds, and other Vagrants.—[21 June 1839.]

WHEREAS it is necessary that further provision should be made for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, and rogues, vagabonds, and other vagrants; May it therefore please your Majesty, that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by his excellency Colonel Francis Cockburn, Lieutenant-governor and Commander-in-chief in and over the Bahama Islands, the Council and Assembly of the said islands, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, that every person being able wholly or in part to maintain himself or herself, or his or her family, by labour, or by other means, and wilfully refusing or neglecting so to do, by which refusal or neglect he or she, or any of his or her family, whom he or she may be legally bound to maintain, shall have become burdensome upon the public funds of this colony; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort within these islands, and behaving

Preamble.

Who shall be deemed idle and disorderly persons.

Appendix.

BAHAMAS.

Vagrancy.

Punishment of same, on conviction.

Proviso.

Who shall be deemed rogues and vagabonds under this Act.

Punishment of such persons on conviction.

Who shall be deemed incorrigible rogues.

Punishment of same.

Police or other constables to apprehend offenders against this Act.

Punishment of same when refusing or neglecting so to do.

behaving in a riotous or indecent manner ; and every person wandering abroad, or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, wharf, highway, court or passage, to beg or gather alms, or causing or procuring or encouraging any child or children to do so, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person, within the true intent and meaning of this Act ; and it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender (being thereof convicted before him by his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence, upon oath, of one or more credible witness or witnesses) to any lawful place of confinement, there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 14 days ; provided nevertheless, that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Act by reason of any such begging or gathering alms as aforesaid, or by reason of his or her causing or procuring or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the stipendiary justice before whom he or she shall be charged with such offence, that the offender, by his or her own labour, or by other lawful means, or from any public funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life.

2. And be it further enacted, that every person committing any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person ; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device, by palmistry, obeah, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive and impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects, or upon any other person ; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibitions ; every person wilfully, openly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public road or highway, or in view thereof, or in any public place of resort ; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions, of any nature or kind, under any false or fraudulent pretence ; every person playing or betting in any street, road or highway, market or wharf, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming whatsoever, at any game or pretended game of chance ; every person having in his or her custody or possession any pick-lock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, office, church, chapel, cellar, coach-house, stable or out building, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument whatsoever, with intent to commit any felonious act ; every person being found in or upon any dwelling house, warehouse, store, shop, office, church, chapel, cellar, coach-house, stable or outhouse, or in any inclosed yard, garden, orchard, plantation or farm, for any felonious purpose ; every suspected person or reputed thief, frequenting any wharf or any warehouse near or adjoining thereto, or any street, highway or avenue leading thereto, or any public auction or sale, or other place of public resort, or any avenue leading thereto, or any street, highway or place adjacent, with intent to commit felony ; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, and being subsequently convicted of the offence for which he or she shall have been so apprehended, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond, within the true intent and meaning of this Act. And it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender (being thereof convicted before him on his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence, on oath, of one or more credible witness or witnesses) to any lawful place of confinement as aforesaid, there, or on the public streets, roads or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 28 days ; and every such pick-lock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty, and shall be forthwith sold, and the proceeds thereof applied towards the expenses of the government of this colony.

3. And be it further enacted, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement, before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined, by virtue of this Act ; every person committing any offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be, and duly convicted thereof ; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, and being subsequently convicted of the offence for which he or she shall have been so apprehended, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue, within the true intent and meaning of this Act ; and it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender (being thereof convicted before him, on his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses) to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next ensuing term of the superior court of criminal justice for the jurisdiction within which the offence shall have been committed, then and there to be dealt with as hereinafter directed ; and every such offender who shall be so committed, shall be kept to hard labour during the period of his or her imprisonment.

4. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any police or other constable or peace officer to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some stipendiary justice of the peace, to be dealt with in such manner as hereinbefore directed ; and in case any police or other constable or peace officer shall refuse or wilfully neglect to take any such offender into his custody, and to take and convey him or her before some stipendiary justice of the peace, or shall not use his best endeavours to apprehend and convey before some such justice any person whom he shall

shall find offending against this Act, it shall be deemed a neglect of duty in such police or other constable or peace officer, and he shall, on conviction, be punished in such manner as hereinafter directed.

5. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon oath being made before him that any person hath committed or is suspected to have committed any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him, or some other stipendiary justice of the peace, the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Act.

Stipendiary justice may issue his warrant for the apprehension of suspicious persons.

6. And be it further enacted, that when any stipendiary justice, as aforesaid, shall commit any such incorrigible rogue to prison as aforesaid, there to remain until the next term of superior court of criminal justice, as aforesaid; or when any such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, or incorrigible rogue, shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizance, as hereinafter directed, to prosecute such appeal, such stipendiary justice shall require the person or persons by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to be material to prove the offence and to support such conviction, to become bound in recognizance to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, to appear at the next session of such court, as the case may be, to give evidence against such offender, touching such offence; and the chief justice or other presiding judge of such court is respectively hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of any person who shall have become bound in any such recognizance, to order the receiver-general and treasurer of the colony, or the receiver of colonial duties at Grand Cay, Turks Islands, to pay unto such prosecutor, and unto the witness or witnesses on his or her behalf, such sum or sums of money as to such chief justice or other judge may seem reasonable and sufficient to reimburse such prosecutor and such witness or witnesses for the expenses he, she, or they have been severally put to, and for his, her, or their trouble and loss of time, in and about such prosecution, which order the clerk of the Crown is hereby directed and required forthwith to make out and deliver to such prosecutor, or unto such witness or witnesses, and the said receiver-general and treasurer, or receiver of colonial duties, as the case may be, is hereby authorized and required, upon sight of such order, with the warrant of the Governor attached thereto, forthwith to pay unto such prosecutor or other person or persons authorized to receive the same, such money as aforesaid; and the said receiver-general and treasurer, or receiver of colonial duties, as the case may be, shall be allowed the same in his account with the public; provided that any such allowance to be made to parties, whether in the capacity of prosecutors or witnesses, shall not exceed that made by the existing laws to witnesses in attendance on the general and other courts of the colony. And in case any such person or persons as aforesaid shall refuse to enter into such recognizance, it shall be lawful for such stipendiary justice to commit such person or persons so refusing, to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance or shall be otherwise discharged by due course of law.

Incorrigible rogues intending to appeal against the decision of the stipendiary justice must enter into recognizance.

Witnesses necessary to prove the offence must also enter into recognizance to give evidence.

Prosecutor and witnesses to be paid for their time and trouble by order from chief justice.

Clerk of the Crown to make out such order.

Money to be paid by receiver-general on sight of such order, with the Governor's warrant attached.

Proviso.

7. And be it further enacted, that when any incorrigible rogue shall be committed to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next term of such superior court as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the justices or justice of such court in term to inquire into the circumstances of the case, and to order, if such justices or justice shall think fit, that such offender be further imprisoned in some lawful place of confinement, and there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.

Imprisonment of incorrigible rogues may, by order of superior court, be extended.

8. And be it further enacted, that in case any constable or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Act; or in case any person shall disturb or hinder any constable or other peace officer in the execution of this Act, or shall be aiding, abetting or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted, upon the oath of one or more witness or witnesses, before one or more stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, every such offender shall, for every such offence, forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 l. sterling; and in case such offender shall not forthwith pay such sum so forfeited, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrant from such stipendiary justice or justices; and if sufficient distress cannot be found, it shall be lawful to commit the person so offending to any lawful place of confinement, there to be kept for any time not exceeding 30 days, or until such fine be sooner paid; and the said stipendiary justice or justices shall cause the said fine, when paid, to be paid over to the receiver-general and treasurer of the colony, to be by him applied towards defraying the contingent expenses of the government of this colony.

Constables refusing or neglecting to perform their duty, and persons disturbing them in the exercise of such duty, how punished.

9. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon information on oath before him made, that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is, or is reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or other place, by warrant under his hand and seal to authorize any constable, or other persons or person, to enter at any time into such house or place, and apprehend and bring before him, or any other stipendiary justice of the peace, every such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

Stipendiary justices to issue their warrant for the apprehension of rogues, when concealed in a house.

10. And be it further enacted, that no proceedings to be had before any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, under the provisions of this Act, shall be quashed for want of form, and every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue, under this Act, shall be in the form or to the effect

No proceedings to be quashed for want of form.

Appendix

Every conviction to be transmitted to the clerk of the Crown. Such conviction to be received as evidence in any court of record, or by any stipendiary justice.

Persons aggrieved may appeal to the general court, where act complained of was performed.

Notice of such appeal to be given stipendiary justices, and within seven days the complainant must enter into recognizance to appear and prosecute. Such notice, &c. being given, the person to be released.

Court to hear and determine on such appeal.

Proviso.

All prosecutions under this Act to be commenced within three months after the fact committed.

Notice in writing of such action to be given the defendant one month before its commencement.

No plaintiff to recover when a sufficient tender of amends has been made.

When defendant shall recover treble costs.

Defendant not chargeable with costs, when cust, except by a certificate from court.

Stipendiary justices may appoint constables, and swear them.

Who only shall act as stipendiary justices.

1st, 2d, and 3d sections of Act 4 Will. 4, c. 11,

5 Will. 4, c. 17, and all other laws repugnant to this Act, repealed.

Where and when this Act shall take effect.

Five years' duration.

set forth in Schedule (A.) hereunto annexed, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit; and the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, before whom any such conviction shall take place, shall, and he and they is and are hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the clerk of the Crown, at his office in the town of Nassau, there to be filed and kept on record; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the Crown, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

11. And be it further enacted, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, in or concerning the execution of this Act, may appeal to the said general court; or when the act or determination complained of was performed in the parishes of St. George or St. Thomas, to any superior court having jurisdiction within the said parishes, giving to the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal, and of the ground thereof, and entering within seven days into a recognizance, with sufficient sureties, before a stipendiary justice of the peace, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given, and such recognizance being entered into, such stipendiary justice is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody; and the court to whom any such appeal shall be made shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet; and in case of the dismissal of the appeal or the affirmance of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender, according to the conviction; provided always, that such appellant shall be bound to prosecute his or her said appeal at the next sitting of the said court, in case such sitting shall not happen within the said period of seven days; but if such sitting shall be had within such seven days, then at the next succeeding term of the said court, and not afterwards.

12. And for the protection of persons acting in the execution of this Act, it is further enacted, that all actions or prosecutions to be commenced against any such person or persons, for anything done in pursuance of this Act, shall be laid and tried in the general court of these islands, and shall be commenced within three calendar months after the fact committed, and not otherwise; and notice in writing of such action, and of the cause thereof, shall be given to the defendant one calendar month at least before the commencement of the action; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such action if tender of sufficient amends shall have been made before such action is brought, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into court after such action brought, by or on behalf of the defendant; and if a verdict shall pass for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become nonsuit or discontinue any such action after issue joined, the defendant shall recover treble costs, and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant hath in law in other cases; and though a verdict be given for the plaintiff in any such action, such plaintiff shall not have costs against the defendant, unless the court before which the trial shall be, shall certify their approbation of the action.

13. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for any two or more stipendiary justices of the peace at any time to nominate and appoint any discreet person or persons to be constables or peace officers, for the purposes of this Act, and to swear him or them to the due execution of his or their office.

14. And be it further enacted, that no person shall act or be considered as a stipendiary justice, within the meaning of this Act, save only such persons as being in the receipt of stipends assigned for their maintenance as such justices, shall be named in any commission issued, or hereafter to be issued, in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, appointing them to act as stipendiary justices for this colony, or for any town, island, or district thereof.

15. And be it further enacted, that the first, second, and third sections of an Act of the General Assembly of these islands, made in the fourth year of the reign of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, to prevent the resort of rogues, vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly persons to the Bahama Islands, for the punishment and correction of certain offences therein specified, and for other purposes therein mentioned; and all that other Act of the said General Assembly, made in the fifth year of his said late Majesty's reign, to amend the said last mentioned Act; and all other laws, or parts of laws, which are in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with this Act, shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

16. And be it further enacted, that this Act shall commence and take effect within the parishes of Christ Church and St. Matthew, from and immediately after the passing thereof; and in all other parishes, islands, and districts of the colony, from and after the first day of September 1839.

17. And be it further enacted, that this Act shall continue and be in force, from the periods aforesaid, for and during the term of five years, and from thence to the end of the then next session of the General Assembly, and no longer.

SCHEDULE (A.)

BAHAMA ISLANDS, } Be it remembered, that on the _____ day of _____
 to wit: } in the year of our Lord _____ at _____ A. B. is
 convicted before me, C. D., one of Her Majesty's stipendiary justices of the peace in and for the Bahama Islands, of being an idle and disorderly person (or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue), within the intent and meaning of the Act of Assembly, made in the _____ year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, intitled "An Act" (here insert

insert the title of this Act); that is to say, for that the said A. B. on the day of
 at in the said Bahama Islands (here state the offence proved before
 the magistrate), and for which said offence the said A. B. is ordered to be committed to
 there (or on the public streets and highways) to be kept to hard labour for
 the space of (or until the next term of the general or other court).
 Given under my hand and seal, the day and year, at the place first above written.

Appendix.
 BAHAMAS.
 Vagrancy.

7 VICT. c. 3.

(No. 1101.)

AN ACT to continue in force Two Acts of Assembly for preventing the Resort of Rogues, Vagabonds, and other Idle and Disorderly Persons to the Bahama Islands, and for the Punishment and Correction of certain Offences therein mentioned.—[9 January 1844.]

WHEREAS an Act of the General Assembly of these islands, passed in the fourth year of the reign of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled "An Act to prevent the resort of rogues, vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly persons to the Bahama Islands, for the punishment and correction of certain offences therein specified, and for other purposes therein mentioned;" as also an Act passed in the sixth year of the reign of his said late Majesty, intituled "An Act for extending to the Out Islands of this Colony certain provisions of an Act of the General Assembly, passed in the fourth year of his Majesty's reign, intituled An Act to prevent the resort of rogues, vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly persons to the Bahama Islands, for the punishment and correction of certain offences therein specified, and for other purposes therein mentioned," will expire with the close of the present session of Assembly; and it is expedient that the said Acts should be further continued in force, save and except such parts of the first recited Act as have been repealed by an Act passed in the third year of your Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the better suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, and rogues and vagabonds, and other vagrants:" May it therefore please your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted, by his excellency Major-general Sir Francis Cockburn, knight, Governor and Commander-in-chief in and over the Bahama Islands, the Legislative Council, and Assembly of the said islands, and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority of the same, that the Acts first and secondly hereinbefore mentioned, save and except such parts of the said first mentioned Act as have been repealed by the Act thirdly hereinbefore mentioned, shall be and continue in force from and after the passing of this Act, for and during the term of 10 years, and from thence to the end of the then next session of Assembly, and no longer.

Preamble.

Acts continued for ten years.

9 VICT. c. 12.

AN ACT to amend an Act, intituled "An Act for the better Prevention of Vagrancy, and for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, and Rogues, Vagabonds, and other Vagrants."—[3 February 1846.]

WHEREAS evil-disposed persons are frequently found at night loitering in and about dwelling and other houses, and in yards and other inclosures, without being able to give any lawful excuse for there being; and it is expedient that some certain punishment should be annexed to the commission of such offence; May it therefore please your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted, by his excellency George Benvenuto Matthew, esq., Governor and Commander-in-chief in and over the Bahama Islands, the Legislative Council, and Assembly of the said islands, and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority of the same, that every person who shall be found in or upon any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, office, church, chapel, or outhouse attached to any dwelling-house, or in any inclosed yard, garden, orchard, plantation, or field, between the setting and rising of the sun (such person not being the owner or occupier, or an inmate or member of the family of the owner or occupier of the premises in question), without being able to give a lawful excuse for being so there, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of the Act to which this Act is an amendment, and shall be liable to be punished as is in and by the said Act directed and provided for.

Preamble.

Penalty on persons being found unlawfully in premises at night time.

2. And be it enacted, that all that Act passed in the seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to amend an Act, intituled An Act for the better prevention of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, and rogues, vagabonds, and other vagrants," shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Former Act repealed.

Appendix
BARBADOS.
 Vagrancy.

BARBADOS.

(No. 709.)

AN ACT for the Suppression and Punishment of Vagrancy.

Preamble.	WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, or other vagrants in this island: and whereas the administration of justice in this colony is conducted by police magistrates, subject to the revision and superintendence of an assistant court of appeal, composed of three stipendiary justices appointed by the Crown:
Clause 1.	Be it therefore enacted by his excellency Major-general Sir Evan John Murray Macgregor, baronet, Governor and Commander-in-chief of this island, the honourable the Members of Her Majesty's Council, and the General Assembly of this island, and by the authority of the same, that every person being able, either by labour or by other lawful means, to maintain himself or herself, or his wife, or his or her children or child, who shall wilfully refuse or neglect so to do, and thereby become burdensome, or render his wife or his or her children or child burdensome upon any parochial or other public funds set apart for the relief of the poor; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous and indecent manner; and every person wandering abroad, or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, wharf, highway, court, or passage, to beg or gather alms, or causing or procuring or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person, within the true intent and meaning of this Act: provided nevertheless that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Act, by reason of any such begging or gathering alms as aforesaid, or by reason of his or her causing or procuring or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear, to the satisfaction of the police magistrate before whom he or she shall be charged with such offence, that the offender could by his or her own labour, or other lawful means, or by parochial or other public funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life. And be it further enacted that it shall be lawful for any police magistrate to commit any such idle and disorderly person, being thereof convicted before him by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of confinement, there, or on the public streets and highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 14 days.
Persons becoming wilfully burdensome, behaving indecently, begging alms, encouraging others in like practices, shall come within this Act. Beggars incapable of obtaining maintenance by other means not amenable.	
Magistrates may commit offenders for 14 days.	
Fortune-tellers, impostors, persons exposing obscene prints, obtaining money under fraudulent pretences, gamblers, house-breakers,	2. And be it further enacted, that any person committing any of the offences herein-before mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device, by palmistry, obehah, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive and impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public road, or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person playing or betting in any street, stelling, or wharf, road, highway, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming, at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, or outbuilding, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument, with intent to commit any felonious act; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any police magistrate to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of imprisonment, there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 28 days; and every such picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty, for the uses of the colony.
possessing implement of housebreaking, being armed with intent to commit any felonious act, or resisting legal authority,	
may be kept at hard labour 28 days, and sentenced to forfeiture of all guns, implements, &c.	
Persons escaping from gaol.	3. And be it further enacted, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement, before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined by virtue of this Act; and every person committing any offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be, and duly convicted thereof; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any police magistrate to commit such offender to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next court of grand sessions, then and there to be dealt with as hereinafter directed.
	4. And

4. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any police officer or constable whatsoever to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some police magistrate, to be dealt with in such manner as hereinbefore directed.

Apprehending offenders.

5. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any police magistrate, upon oath being made before him that any person hath committed, or is suspected to have committed any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him, or some other police magistrate, the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Act.

Apprehending suspected persons.

6. And be it further enacted, that when any such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizances as hereinafter directed to prosecute such appeal, such police magistrate shall require the person by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to prove the offence and to support such conviction, to become bound in recognizance to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, to appear before the assistant court of appeal to give evidence against such offender touching such offence; and in case any such person or persons as aforesaid shall refuse to enter into such recognizance, it shall be lawful for such police magistrate to commit such person or persons so refusing to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance, or shall be otherwise discharged by due course of law.

Vagabonds appealing against conviction.

7. And be it further enacted, that when any person shall be committed for trial before the said court of grand sessions, charged with being an incorrigible rogue, it shall be lawful for the court to examine into the circumstances of the case, and on conviction, to order, if they think fit, that such offender be imprisoned in some lawful place of confinement, and there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.

Incorrigible rogues may be kept to hard labour for six calendar months.

8. And be it further enacted, that in case any constable or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Act, or in case any person shall disturb or hinder any constable or other peace officer in the execution of this Act, or shall be aiding, abetting, or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted upon the oath of one or more witness or witnesses before any police magistrate, every such offender shall, for every such offence, forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 l.; and in case such offender shall not forthwith pay such sum so forfeited, the same shall be levied and raised as in the case of servants' wages.

Constables, &c. neglecting their duty to be fined 20 l.

9. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any police magistrate, upon information on oath before him made, that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, by warrant under his hand and seal to authorize any constable or other person or persons to enter at any time into such house or place, and to apprehend and bring before him or any other police magistrate every such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue, as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

Magistrate may order apprehension of vagabonds.

10. And be it further enacted, that every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue, under this Act, shall be in the form or to the effect set forth in the Schedule (A) hereunto annexed, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit; and the police magistrate before whom any such conviction shall take place, shall, and he and they is and are hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the said court of appeal, there to be filed and kept on record; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the court, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any police magistrate acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

Form of conviction.

Transmission of convictions.

11. And be it further enacted, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any police magistrate in or concerning the execution of this Act, may appeal to the said assistant court of appeal, giving to the police magistrate, whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal, and of the ground thereof, and entering within seven days into a recognizance, with sufficient surety, before a police magistrate, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given, and such recognizance being entered into, such police magistrate is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody; and the said assistant court of appeal shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet; and in case of the dismissal of the appeal or the affirmance of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender according to the conviction: provided always, that such appellant shall be bound to prosecute his said appeal before the said assistant court of appeal, in the manner herein specified, within such seven days, and not otherwise or afterwards, anything in any law to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Aggrieved persons may appeal.

12. And for the protection of persons acting in the execution of this Act, be it further enacted that all actions or prosecutions to be commenced against any such person or persons, for anything done in pursuance of this Act, shall be laid and tried in the precinct wherein the fact alleged to be committed, and shall be commenced within three calendar months after the fact committed, and not otherwise; and notice in writing of such action, and of the cause thereof, shall be given to the defendant one calendar month at least

Prosecutions against persons acting in the execution of this Act to commence within three months after committing the alleged fact, and notice given to the defendant one calendar

month at least prior to commencing the action.

Defendant to recover treble costs.

Former laws at variance with this Act are repealed.

before the commencement of the action; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such action if tender of sufficient amends shall have been made before such action is brought, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into court after such action brought, by or in behalf of the defendant; and if a verdict shall pass for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become nonsuited or discontinued any such action after issue joined, the defendant shall recover treble costs, and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant hath in law in other cases; and though a verdict be given for the plaintiff in any such action, such plaintiff shall not have costs against the defendant, unless the court before which the trial shall be, shall certify its approbation of the action.

13. And be it further enacted, that all laws and ordinances now in force in this island for the prevention or punishment of vagrancy, or which are in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with this present Act, shall be, and the same are repealed.

Read three times, and passed the General Assembly, this 4th day of December 1839, *nemine contradicente.*

John Mayers, Clerk of the General Assembly.

Read three times and passed the Council unanimously, this 31st of December 1839.

Richard Hart, Acting-clerk of the Council.

Government House, Barbados,
7 January 1840.

E. J. Murray Macgregor, Governor.

SCHEDULE (A.)

BARBADOS, } In the parish (or town) of _____ .—Be it remembered, that on the
to wit: } day of _____ in the year of our Lord at
in the said island, _____ is convicted before me _____ for that he the said
did (specify the offence, and time and place when and where the same was committed, as
the case may be); and I, the said _____ adjudge the said _____), for the
said offence, to be imprisoned (or to solitary confinement in the _____), and there
kept to hard labour for the space of _____ days ensuing from the date hereof, this day
to be accounted one. Given under my hand and seal, the day and year first above
mentioned.

A. B., Police Magistrate for the parish of _____

(A true Copy.)

Certified this 15th day of January 1840.

Richard Hart, Acting Colonial Secretary.

SAINT VINCENT.

(No. 390.)

AN ACT for the suppression of Vagrancy, and for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, Incurable Rogues, or other Vagrants.— [6 September 1839.]

Who deemed idle and disorderly persons.

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incurable rogues, or other vagrants in this colony; be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant-governor, Council, and Assembly of Saint Vincent and its dependencies, that every person being able, either by labour or by other lawful means, to maintain himself or herself, or his wife, or his or her children or child, who shall wilfully refuse or neglect so to do, and thereby become burdensome, or render his wife, or his or her children or child, burdensome upon any parochial or other public funds set apart for the relief of the poor; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous and indecent manner; and every person wandering abroad or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, wharf, highway, court, or passage, to beg or gather alms, or causing or procuring or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person, within the true intent and meaning of this Act: provided nevertheless, that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Act, by reason of any such begging or gathering alms as aforesaid, or by reason of his or her causing or procuring or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the stipendiary justice before whom he or she shall be charged with such offence, that the offender could by his or her own labour, or other lawful means, or by parochial or other public funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life; and that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit any such idle or disorderly person, being thereof convicted before him, by his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence

evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of confinement, there, or on the public streets and highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 14 days.

2. And be it enacted, that any person committing any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device, by palmistry, obeah, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive and impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public road, or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person playing or betting in any street or wharf, road, highway, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming, at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coachhouse, stable, or outbuilding, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond, within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him, on his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of imprisonment, there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour, for any time not exceeding 28 days; and every such picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty for the uses of the said island and its dependencies.

Who are rogues and vagabonds.

3. And be it enacted, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement before the expiration of the term for which he or shall have been committed, or ordered to be confined, by virtue of this Act; and every person committing any offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be, and duly convicted thereof; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue, within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next court of grand sessions of the peace, or the next court of special commission of oyer and terminer and gaol delivery, then and there to be dealt with as hereinafter directed.

Who are incorrigible rogues.

4. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for any police officer or constable whatsoever, without warrant, to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some stipendiary justice of the peace, to be dealt with in such manner as hereinbefore directed.

Offender apprehended without a warrant.

5. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon information, on oath, being made before him that any person hath committed, or is suspected to have committed any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him or some other stipendiary justices of the peace the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Act.

Upon oath a warrant may be issued.

6. And be it enacted, that when any such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizance, as hereinafter directed, to prosecute such appeal, such stipendiary justice shall require the person by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to prove the offence and to support such conviction, to become bound in recognizance to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, to appear at the next court of grand sessions of the peace, or at the next court of special commission of oyer and terminer and gaol delivery, to give evidence against such offender touching such offence; and the court of grand sessions of the peace, or the court of special commission of oyer and terminer and gaol delivery, is hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of any person who shall have become bound in such recognizance, to order the treasurer of this colony, or his lawful deputy, to pay unto such prosecutor, and unto the witness or witnesses respectively, for the expenses he, she, or they shall have severally been put to, and for his, her, or their trouble and loss of time, in and about such prosecution; which order the clerk of the Crown is hereby directed and required forthwith to make out and deliver to such prosecutor, or other person or persons authorized to receive such money as aforesaid, and the treasurer, or his lawful deputy, shall be allowed the same in his account; and in case any such person or persons, as aforesaid, shall refuse to enter into such recognizance, it shall be lawful for such stipendiary justice to commit such person or persons so refusing to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance, or shall be otherwise discharged by due course of law.

Proceedings on appeal.

Punishment of offenders.

7. And be it enacted, that when any person shall be committed for trial before the said court of grand sessions of the peace, or the court of oyer and terminer and goal delivery, charged with being an incorrigible rogue, it shall be lawful for such court to examine into the circumstances of the case, and on conviction to order, if they think fit, that such offender be imprisoned in some lawful place of confinement, and there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.

Constables and others neglecting their duty, punishment.

8. And be it enacted, that in case any constable or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Act, or in case any person shall disturb or hinder any constable or other peace officer in the execution of this Act, or shall be aiding, abetting, or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted, upon the oath of one or more witness or witnesses, before the court of grand sessions of the peace, or the court of special commission of oyer and terminer and goal delivery, every such offender shall, for every such offence, forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 l. sterling money; and in case such offender shall not forthwith pay such sum so forfeited, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the goods of the said offender, by warrant from the president of such court; and if sufficient distress cannot be found, it shall be lawful to commit the person so offending to any lawful place of confinement, there to be kept for any time not exceeding 30 days, or until such fine be paid; and such court shall order the said fine, when paid, to be paid over to the said treasurer for the use of this colony.

Search warrants.

9. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon information on oath before him made, that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, by warrant under his hand and seal to authorize any constable or other peace officer, or other person or persons, to enter at any time into such house or place, and to apprehend and bring before him, or any other stipendiary justice of the peace, any such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue, as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

Form of conviction.

10. And be it enacted, that every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue under this Act, shall be in the form or to the effect set forth in Schedule (A) hereunto annexed, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit; and the stipendiary justice before whom any such conviction shall take place shall, and he is hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the clerk of the Crown, there to be filed and kept on record; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the Crown, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any stipendiary justice acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

Sureties to be entered into on appeal.

11. And be it enacted, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, in or concerning the execution of this Act, may appeal to the said court of grand sessions of the peace, or the said court of special commission of oyer and terminer and goal delivery, giving to the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal, and of the ground thereof, and entering within seven days into a recognizance, with sufficient surety, before a stipendiary justice of the peace of this colony, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given and such recognizance being entered into, such stipendiary justice is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody; and the said court of grand sessions of the peace, or the said court of special commission of oyer and terminer and goal delivery, shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet, and in case of the dismissal of the appeal or the affirmance of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender according to the conviction: provided always, that such appellant shall be bound to prosecute his said appeal before the next sitting of the said court of grand sessions of the peace, or the next court of special commission of oyer and terminer and goal delivery, in case such sitting shall not happen within the said period; but if such sitting shall be had within such seven days, then at the next succeeding court of grand sessions of the peace, or at the next court of special commission of oyer and terminer and goal delivery, and not afterwards.

Limitation of prosecutions.

12. And be it enacted, that, for the protection of persons acting in the execution of this Act, all actions or prosecutions to be commenced against any such person or persons for anything done in pursuance of this Act, shall be commenced within three calendar months after the fact committed, and not otherwise; and notice in writing of such action, and of the cause thereof, shall be given to the defendant one calendar month at least before the commencement of the action; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such action if tender of sufficient amends shall have been made before such action is brought, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into court after such action brought, by or in behalf of the defendant; and if a verdict shall pass for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become nonsuit or discontinue any such action after issue joined, the defendant shall recover treble costs, and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant hath in law in other cases; and though a verdict be given for the plaintiff in any such action, such plaintiff shall not have costs against the defendant, unless the court before which the trial shall be, shall certify its approbation of the action.

13. And

13. And be it enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for any two or more stipendiary justices of the peace at any time to nominate and appoint any discreet person or persons to be constables or peace officers for the purposes of this Act, and to swear him or them to the due execution of his or their office. Constables may be appointed.
14. And be it enacted, that no person shall act or be considered as a stipendiary justice, within the meaning of this Act, save only such persons as being in the receipt of stipends assigned for their maintenance as such justices, shall be included within a special commission of the peace to be issued in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, appointing them to act as stipendiary justices for this colony, or for some district or districts thereof. Definition of stipendiary justices.
15. And be it enacted, that all statutes and Acts now in force in this colony for the prevention or punishment of vagrancy, or which are in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with this present Act, shall be and the same are hereby repealed. Repeal of all other Acts.
16. And be it enacted, that this Act shall commence and be in force from the publication thereof, and continue until the 31st day of December 1840. Duration of Act.

SCHEDULE (A.)

SAINT VINCENT, } In the parish [or town] of _____ —Be it remembered, that
 to wit. } on the _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord 18 _____,
 at _____, in the island of St. Vincent, _____ is
 convicted before me _____ for that he the said _____ did
 [specify the offence, and time and place when and where the same was committed, as the
 case may be]; and I the said _____ adjudge the said _____ for
 the said offence to be imprisoned in the _____, and there kept to hard labour
 for the space of _____ days ensuing from the date hereof, this day to be accounted one.

Given under my hand and seal, the day and year first above mentioned.
 A. B., Stipendiary Justice of the Peace.

Passed the Assembly, this 6th June 1839.
 N. Struth, Speaker.
 P. Hobson, Clerk of Assembly.

Passed the Council, this 4th day of September 1839.
 John Beresford, Clerk of Council.

In accordance with my instructions I assent.
 George Tyler, Lieutenant-Governor.

Saint Vincent, 6th September 1839.—Duly published in Kingstown this day.
 Anthony H. Hobson, Pro. Mar. Gen.

T O B A G O.

(No. 321.)

AN ACT for the Suppression of Vagrancy, and for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons.—[28 March 1839.]

TOBAGO.
 Vagrancy.

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, or other vagrants in this island of Tobago and its dependencies: We therefore, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, his Excellency Major-general Henry Charles Darling, Lieutenant-governor in and over the island of Tobago, the Council and General Assembly of the same, in Legislative Session assembled, do humbly pray your most Excellent Majesty that it may be enacted: Preamble.

1. And be it, and it is hereby enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that every person being able, either by labour or by other lawful means, to maintain himself or herself, or his wife, or his or her children or child, who shall wilfully refuse or neglect so to do, and thereby become burdensome, or render his wife, or his or her children or child, burdensome upon any parochial or other public funds set apart for the relief of the poor; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous and indecent manner; and every person wandering abroad or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, wharf, highway, court, or passage, to beg or gather alms, or causing or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person, within the true intent and meaning of this Act. Provided nevertheless, that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Act, by reason of any such begging or gathering of alms as aforesaid, or by reason of

Appendix.
 TOBAGO.
 Vagrancy.

his or her causing or procuring or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the stipendiary justice before whom he or she shall be charged with such an offence, that the offender could by his or her own labour or other lawful means, or by parochial or other public funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life. And it is further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit any such idle and disorderly person, being thereof convicted before him by his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of confinement, there, or on the public streets and highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 14 days.

2. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that any person committing any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device, palmistry, obeah, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive and impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public road, or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person playing or betting in any street, stelling, or wharf, road, or highway, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming, at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, or outbuilding, being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Act: And it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him, on his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witnesses or witness, to any lawful place of imprisonment, there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding twenty-eight days; and every such picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty for the uses of the colony.

3. And it is hereby further enacted, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement, before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined, by virtue of this Act; and every person committing any offence against this Act, which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be, and duly convicted thereof; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue within the true intent and meaning of this Act: and it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next session of the Court of King's Bench, then and there to be dealt with as hereinafter directed.

4. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for any police officer or constable whatsoever to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some stipendiary justice of the peace, to be dealt with in such manner as hereinbefore directed.

5. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon oath being made before him that any person hath committed any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him, or some other stipendiary justice of the peace, the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Act.

6. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that when any such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizance, as hereinafter directed, to prosecute such appeal, such stipendiary justice shall require the person by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to prove the offence and to support such conviction, to become bound in recognizance to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, to appear at the next session of the Court of King's Bench, to give evidence against such offender touching such offence; and the chief justice or presiding judge is hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of any person who shall have become bound in any such recognizance, to order the colonial treasurer to pay unto such prosecutor and unto the witness or witnesses on his or her behalf, such sum or sums of money as to the court may seem reasonable and sufficient to reimburse such prosecutor and such witness or witnesses respectively for the expenses he, she, or they shall have severally been put to, and for his, her, or their trouble and loss of time in and about such prosecution; which order the clerk of the court is hereby directed and required forthwith to make out and deliver to such prosecutor, or unto such witness

or

or witnesses; and the said colonial treasurer is hereby authorized and required, upon sight of such order, forthwith to pay unto such prosecutor, or other person or persons authorized to receive the same, such money as aforesaid, and the said colonial treasurer shall be allowed the same in his account; and in case any such person or persons as aforesaid shall refuse to enter into such recognizance; it shall be lawful for such stipendiary justice to commit such person or persons so refusing to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance, or shall be otherwise discharged by due course of law, any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

7. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that when any person shall be committed for trial before the said Court of King's Bench charged with being an incorrigible rogue, it shall be lawful for the court to examine into the circumstances of the case, and on conviction to order, if they think fit, that such offender be imprisoned in some lawful place of confinement, and there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.

8. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that in case any constable or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Act, or in case any person shall disturb or hinder any constable or other peace officers in the execution of this Act, or shall be aiding, abetting, or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted, upon the oath of one or more witness or witnesses, before the Court of King's Bench, every such offender shall for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding 20*l*. And in case such offender shall not forthwith pay such sum so forfeited, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods by warrant from such court; and if sufficient distress cannot be found, it shall be lawful to commit the person so offending to any lawful place of confinement, there to be kept for any time not exceeding 30 days, or until such fine be paid; and the court shall cause the said fine, when paid, to be paid over to the colonial treasurer for the use of the colony.

9. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon information on oath before him made, that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, by warrant under his hand and seal to authorize any constable or other person or persons to enter at any time into such house or place, and to apprehend and bring before him, or any other stipendiary justice of the peace, every such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue, as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

10. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue, under this Act, shall be in the form or to the effect set forth in Schedule (A.) hereunto annexed, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit. And the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, before whom any such conviction shall take place, shall, and he and they is and are hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the Court of King's Bench, there to be filed and kept on record; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the court, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

11. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace in or concerning the execution of this Act, may appeal to the said Court of King's Bench, giving to the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal, and of the ground thereof, and entering within seven days into a recognizance, with sufficient surety, before a stipendiary justice of the peace of the said colony, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given, and such recognizance being entered into, such stipendiary justice is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody; and the said Court of King's Bench shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet; and in case of the dismissal of the appeal, or the affirmance of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender according to the conviction: Provided always, that such appellant shall be bound to prosecute his said appeal before the next sitting of the Court of King's Bench, in case such sitting shall not happen within the said period; but if such sitting shall be had within such seven days, then at the next succeeding session, and not afterwards.

12. And for the protection of persons acting in the execution of this Act, it is further enacted, that all actions or prosecutions to be commenced against any such person or persons for anything done in pursuance of this Act, shall be laid and tried in the Court of King's Bench of this island, and shall be commenced within three calendar months after the fact committed, and not otherwise; any notice in writing of such action and of the cause thereof shall be given to the defendant one calendar month at least before the commencement of the action; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such action if tender of sufficient amends shall have been made before such action is brought, or if a sufficient sum

Appendix.
 ———
 TOBAGO.
 ———
 Vagrancy.

of money shall have been paid into court after such action brought, by or in behalf of the defendant; and if a verdict shall pass for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become nonsuit or discontinue any such action after issue joined, the defendant shall recover treble costs, and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant hath in law in other cases; and though a verdict be given for the plaintiff in any such action, such plaintiff shall not have costs against the defendant, unless the Court before which the trial shall be, shall certify its approbation of the action.

13. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for any two or more stipendiary justices of the peace at any time to nominate and appoint any discreet person or persons to be constables or peace officer for the purposes of this Act, and to swear him or them to the due execution of his or their office.

14. And it is hereby further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that no person shall act or be considered as a stipendiary justice, within the meaning of this present Act, save only such persons as, being in the receipt of stipends assigned for their maintenance as such justices, shall be included within a special commission of the peace to be issued in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, appointing them to act as stipendiary justices for the said colony of Tobago, or for some parish or other district or districts thereof.

15. And it is further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that all laws now in force in the said colony for the prevention or punishment of vagrancy, or which are in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with this present Act, shall be and the same are repealed.

Passed the Board of Legislative Council this 23d day of March 1839.

(signed) *Jos. Scott*, President.
John Thornton, Clerk of the Council.

Passed the House of General Assembly, this 26th day of March 1839.

(signed) *H. R. Hamilton*,
 Speaker of the House of General Assembly.
James Nicholson,
 Clerk of the Assembly.

28 March 1839. I assent to this Bill.

(signed) *Hen. C. Darling*,
 Lieutenant-governor.

Duly proclaimed, this 28th day of March 1839.

(signed) *C. J. Leplastrier*,
 Provost Marshal General.

GOD save the QUEEN.

SCHEDULE (A.)

TOBAGO, } BE it remembered, that on the day of in the year
 to wit. } of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *A. B.* is convicted
 before me, *C. D.*, one of Her Majesty's stipendiary justices of the peace in and for the
 said island of Tobago, of being an idle and disorderly person (or a rogue and vagabond, or
 an incorrigible rogue) within the intent and meaning of an Act of this island, made in the
 second year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled, "An Act" (here insert
 the title of this Act); that is to say, for that the said *A. B.* on the day of
 (here state the offence proved before the magistrate), and for which said offence the said
A. B. is ordered to be committed to the common gaol in the to be kept
 to hard labour for the space of (or until the next session of the Court of
 King's Bench or general gaol delivery). Given under my hand and seal, the day and year
 first above written.

ANTIGUA.

Appendix.
 ANTIGUA.
 Vagrancy.

(No. 381.)

AN ACT for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, Incurrible Rogues and other Vagrants in this Island.—[31 July 1834.]

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incurrible rogues, or other vagrants in this island. Preamble.

We, therefore, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Your Majesty's islands of Antigua, Montserrat, Barbuda, Saint Christopher's, Nevis, Anguilla, the Virgin Islands and Dominica, and the Council and Assembly of this Your Majesty's island of Antigua, do humbly pray Your most Excellent Majesty, that it may be enacted and ordained; and be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority of Your Majesty's said Governor and Commander-in-Chief, and the Council and Assembly of this Your Majesty's island of Antigua aforesaid, that every person being able wholly or in part to maintain himself or herself, or his or her family, by work or by other means, and wilfully refusing and neglecting so to do; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or public highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous and indecent manner, and every person wandering abroad or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, highway, court or passage, to beg or gather alms, or causing, or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person, within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him by his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to the gaol or house of correction, there or on the public streets and highways to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding one calendar month.

Every person able to work, wilfully refusing to do so, every common prostitute in the public streets or highways behaving riotously, every person wandering abroad to beg alms or encouraging children to do so, deemed an idle and disorderly person; lawful for justice of peace to commit offender to gaol or house of correction, to be worked on streets or public highways for one calendar month, maximum.

2. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that any person committing any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending to be a dealer in obeah; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using any subtle, craft, means or device, by palmistry or otherwise, to deceive and impose on any of his Majesty's subjects; every person wandering abroad and lodging in any out-house or shed, or in any deserted or unoccupied building, or in any mill, sugar-works, watch-house, trash-house, or other plantation buildings, or within any cane or provision piece, or in the open air, or under a tent, or in any cart or waggon, not having any visible means of subsistence, and not giving any good account of himself or herself; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly and obscenely exposing his person in any street, public road or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort, with intent to insult any female or otherwise; every person wandering abroad and endeavouring by the exposure of wounds or deformities to obtain or gather alms; every person going about as a gatherer or collector of alms, or endeavouring to procure charitable contributions of any nature or kind, under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person playing or betting in any street, road, highway, or other open or public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming, at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any pick-lock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable or out-building, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act; every person being found in or upon any dwelling-house, warehouse, coach-house, stable or out-house, or in any way, inclosed yard, garden, or area, for any unlawful purpose; every suspected person or reputed thief, frequenting any quay, or wharf, or warehouse near or adjoining thereto, or any street, highway, or avenue leading thereto, or any place of public resort, or any avenue leading thereto, or any street, highway, or place adjacent, with intent to commit felony; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace-officer, on apprehending him or her, and being subsequently convicted of the offence for which he or she shall have been so apprehended, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to the gaol or house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding three calendar months; and every such pick-lock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon or other offensive weapon, and every such implement as aforesaid, shall by the conviction of the offender become forfeited to his Majesty.

Any person convicted as an idle and disorderly person, pretending to deal in obeah, persons professing to tell fortunes, persons wandering abroad and lodging in out-houses, sheds, &c. not giving good account of himself or herself, persons wilfully exposing to view any obscene print, picture, &c., persons exposing their person to view to insult any female, persons wandering abroad to gather alms, persons playing or betting at any games in the streets, &c., persons having in their possession any pick-lock, key, crow, &c. with intent feloniously to enter into dwelling-house, &c. or armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, &c. with intent to commit any felonious act, every suspected person, or reputed thief, found lurking about any dwelling-house, wharf, &c., every person apprehended as an idle

and disorderly person resisting peace-officer, to be deemed a rogue and vagabond. Justice, on conviction, may commit offender to gaol or house of correction to hard labour for three calendar months, maximum.

Appendix.

Every person breaking or escaping from legal confinement, every person committing offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, having been previously convicted hereof, every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, resisting peace officer, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue. Justice, on conviction, may commit offender to gaol or house of correction until next sessions of the peace; offender to be kept to hard labour during such imprisonment.

Lawful for any person to apprehend offenders against this Act, and to take them before justice to be dealt with as hereinbefore directed, or to deliver offender to constable or peace officer; constable or peace officer refusing, guilty of neglect of duty, and to be punished as hereafter directed.

Justice upon oath made to him that any person has committed or suspected of any offence against this Act, to issue warrant for apprehension of such offender.

If person committed to gaol or house of correction as an incorrigible rogue till next grand sessions, shall give notice of intention to appeal against conviction, and shall enter into recognizance to prosecute appeal, justice to bind over prosecutor and witnesses to appear at sessions; court to order prosecutor and witnesses to be reimbursed for loss of time in attending court. Clerk of the Crown to draw order on treasurer for payment; 3 s. fee to clerk of the Crown.

Persons refusing to enter into recognizances to be committed to common gaol till discharged by due course of law.

If person committed as an incorrigible rogue to gaol or house of correction till next grand sessions, lawful for court to examine into the case, and

3. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined by virtue of this Act; and every person committing any offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be and duly convicted thereof; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, and being subsequently convicted of the offence for which he or she shall have been so apprehended, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to the gaol or house of correction, there to remain until the next Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace; and every such offender who shall be so committed to the gaol or house of correction shall be there kept to hard labour during the period of his or her imprisonment.

4. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for any person whatsoever to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some justice of the peace, to be dealt with in such manner as is hereinbefore directed, or to deliver him or her to any constable or peace officer to be so taken and conveyed as aforesaid; and in case any constable or other peace officer shall refuse, or wilfully neglect to take such offender into his custody, and to take and convey him or her before some justice of the peace, or shall not use his best endeavours to apprehend and convey before some justice of the peace any person that he shall find offending against this Act, it shall be deemed a neglect of duty in any such constable or other peace officer, and he shall, on conviction, be punished in such manner as is hereinafter directed.

5. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon oath being made before him that any person hath committed, or is suspected to have committed any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him, or some other justice of the peace, the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Act.

6. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that when any justice as aforesaid shall commit any such incorrigible rogue to the gaol or house of correction, there to remain till the next Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace, or when any such idle and disorderly person, rogue, and vagabond, or incorrigible rogue shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizance as hereinafter directed, to prosecute such appeal, such justice shall require the person by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to prove the offence, and to support such conviction, to become bound in recognizance to his Majesty, his heirs and successors, to appear at the said Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace, to give evidence against such offender touching such offence; and the said Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace, is hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of any person who shall have become bound in any such recognizance, to order the treasurer of the island to pay unto such prosecutor, and unto the witness or witnesses on his or her behalf, such sum or sums of money as to the court shall seem reasonable and sufficient to reimburse such prosecutor, and such witness or witnesses respectively, for the expenses he, she, or they shall have been severally put to, and for his, her, or their trouble and loss of time in and about such prosecution; which order the clerk of the Crown is hereby directed and required forthwith to make out and deliver to such prosecutor, or unto such witness or witnesses, upon being paid the sum of 3 s. and no more; and the said treasurer is hereby authorized and required, upon sight of such order, forthwith to pay unto such prosecutor, or other person or persons authorized to receive the same, such money as aforesaid, and the said treasurer shall be allowed the same in his account; and in case any such person or persons as aforesaid shall refuse to enter into such recognizance it shall be lawful for such justice to commit such person or persons so refusing to the common gaol, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance, or shall be otherwise discharged by due course of law.

7. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that when any incorrigible rogue shall have been committed to the gaol or house of correction, there to remain until the next Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace, it shall be lawful for the court to examine into the circumstances of the case, and to order, if they think fit, that such offender be further imprisoned in the gaol or house of correction, and there kept to hard labour, for any time not exceeding one year from the time of making such order, and to order farther, if they think fit, that such offender

offender (not being a female) be punished by whipping at such time during his imprisonment, and at such place as, according to the nature of the offence, the said court in its discretion shall deem to be expedient.

if they think fit to order offender to be further committed to hard labour for

one year, maximum; and if a male, to be whipped at such times and places as court shall think fit.

8. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that in case any constable or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Act, or in case any person shall disturb or hinder any constable or other peace officer in the execution of this Act, or shall be aiding, abetting, or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted upon the oath of one or more witness or witnesses, before two or more justices of the peace, every such offender shall for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding 10 l.; and in case such offender shall not forthwith pay such sum so forfeited; the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrant from such justices, and if sufficient distress cannot be found, it shall be lawful to and for one or more such justices to commit the person so offending to the gaol or house of correction, there to be kept for any time not exceeding three calendar months, or until such fine be paid; and the said justices shall cause the said fine, when paid, to be paid over to the treasurer of the island, to be by him carried to the public stock.

Constable or other peace officer neglecting his duty, or persons hindering any constable or peace officer in the execution of his duty, or abetting therein and thereof convicted before any two or more justices.

9. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon information on oath before him made that any person herein before described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house kept or purporting to be kept for the reception, lodging, or entertainment of travellers, by warrant under his hand and seal to authorize any constable, or other person or persons, to enter at any time into such house, and to apprehend and bring before him, or any other justice of the peace, every such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue as shall be found therein, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

Lawful for justice, on oath made before him that any person described as a rogue, vagabond, or incorrigible rogue, is harboured or suspected to be concealed in any house of entertainment, to issue warrant to constable for apprehension of such persons. No proceedings before justices under this Act to be quashed for want of form.

10. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that no proceeding to be had before any justice or justices of the peace, under the provisions of this Act, shall be quashed for want of form; and every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue, under this Act, shall be in the form or to the effect following, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit; that is to say,—

“Antigua. Be it remembered, that on the _____ day of _____, in the year of our Lord _____, A. B. is convicted before me, C. D., one of His Majesty's justices of the peace in and for the said island, of being an idle and disorderly person [or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue], within the intent and meaning of the Act made in the year of the reign of His Majesty King William IV., intituled An Act [here insert the title of this Act]; that is to say, for that the said A. B., on the _____ day of _____ [here state the offence proved before the said magistrate], and for which said offence the said A. B. is ordered to be committed to the gaol or house of correction, there, or on the public streets and highways, to be kept to hard labour for the space of _____ [or until the next Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace, as the case may be]. Given under my hand and seal, the day and year first above written.”

Form of conviction.

And the justice or justices of the peace before whom any such conviction shall take place shall, and he and they is and are hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the next Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace to be holden in and for the said island, there to be filed and kept on record; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the Clerk of the Crown, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any justice or justices of the peace acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

Justices to transmit conviction to next court of grand sessions to be filed and kept of record. Copy thereof under hand of clerk the Crown may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before justices.

11. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any justice or justices of the peace, out of sessions, in or concerning the execution of this Act, may appeal to the next Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace, giving to the justice or justices of the peace, whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal, and of the ground thereof, within seven days after such act or determination, and before the next Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace, and entering within such seven days into a recognizance, with sufficient surety, before a justice of the peace of said island, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given, and such recognizance being entered into, such justice is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody; and the said Court of King's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, or other sessions of the peace, shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet; and in case of the dismissal of the appeal or the affirmation of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender according to the conviction.

Any person aggrieved may appeal to next court of grand sessions, giving notice to justice within 7 days and entering into recognizance to prosecute appeal. Justice in such case to discharge person from custody. Court to hear appeals and make order in case of dismissal or affirmation. Justices to issue warrant for apprehension and punishment of offender.

Appendix.

If action brought against justice or constable on account of this Act, and judgment given in favour of justice or constable, treble costs to be awarded unless judge certify reasonable cause.

Such action to be commenced within 3 calendar months after cause of action. Persons sued under this Act to plead the general issue and give the special matter in evidence.

12. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that in all cases where an action shall be brought against any justice of the peace, constable, or other person for or on account of any matter or thing whatsoever done or commanded by him in the execution of his duty or office under this Act, such justice, constable, or other person, if he shall have judgment in his favour, shall have treble costs awarded to him by the court, unless the judge shall certify that there was a reasonable cause for such action.

13. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that every such action shall be commenced within three calendar months after the cause of action or complaint shall have arisen, and not afterwards; and if any person or persons shall be sued for any matter or thing which he, she, or they shall have done in the execution of this Act, he, she, or they may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence.

Dated at Antigua the 5th day of July, in the year of Our Lord 1834, and in the fifth year of his Majesty's reign.

(signed) *Nicholas Nugent*, Speaker.

Passed the Assembly the 13th day of June 1834.

(signed) *Nathaniel Humphrys*,
Clerk of the Assembly.

Passed the Council the 3d day of July 1834.

(signed) *Thomas Lane*,
Clerk of the Council.

(signed) *E. J. Murray (l.s.) Macgregor*,
Governor.

Duly published the 31st day of July 1834.

(signed) *Henry Berkeley*,
Dep. Prov. Marshal.

ST.
CHRISTOPHER.

Vagrancy.

(No. 370.)

SAINT CHRISTOPHER.

AN ACT for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, and Rogues and Vagabonds, in the Island of St. Christoph. — [21 October 1847.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient that some provision be made for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, and rogues and vagabonds; we therefore, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lieutenant-governor in and over Your Majesty's Islands of St. Christopher and Anguilla, and the Council and Assembly of Your Majesty's said Island of St. Christopher, do pray Your most Excellent Majesty that it may be enacted,

Defined who shall be considered an idle and disorderly person.

And be it and it is hereby enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the passing of this Act, every person being able, either by labour or by other lawful means, to maintain himself or herself, or his or her family, and who shall wilfully neglect or refuse so to do, by which refusal or neglect he or she, or any of his or her family whom he or she may be legally bound to maintain, shall have become chargeable upon any parochial or other public funds set apart for the relief of the poor; every petty chapman or pedlar wandering abroad, and trading without being duly licensed, or otherwise authorized by law; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous and indecent manner; and every person wandering abroad, or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, highway, court, or passage to beg or gather alms, or causing or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person within the true intent and meaning of this Act; provided, nevertheless, that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Act by reason of any such begging or gathering alms as aforesaid, or by reason of his or her causing or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear, to the satisfaction of the two justices of the peace before whom he or she shall be charged with such offence, that the offender could by his or her own labour or other lawful means, or by parochial or other funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life.

Punishment for an idle and disorderly person.

2. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any two justices of the peace to commit any such idle and disorderly person, being thereof convicted before them by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of confinement, there or on the public streets and highways to be kept to hard labour for any term not exceeding 14 days.

3.* And

3. And be it further enacted, that any person committing any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using any subtle craft or device, by palmistry, obeah, or any such like superstitious means to deceive and impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wandering abroad and lodging in any outhouse or in any deserted or unoccupied building, or in the open air, or in any cart or waggon, not having any visible means of subsistence, and not giving a good account of himself or herself; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public road, bay or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place where many persons are assembled together; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person playing or betting in any street, road, highway, or other open and public place at or with any table or instrument of gaming at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any picklock, key, crow, jack, bit or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, boiling-house, curing-house, distill-house, rum cellar, coachhouse, stable or outbuildings, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act, and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any two justices of the peace to commit such offender being thereof convicted before them by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of imprisonment, there or in the public streets or highways to be kept to hard labour for any term not exceeding 28 days; and every such picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall by the conviction of the offender become forfeited to Her Majesty, for the uses of the colony.
4. And be it further enacted, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined by virtue of this Act; and every person committing any offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be, and duly convicted thereof; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, and being subsequently convicted of the offence for which he or she shall have been so apprehended, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any two justices of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before them by the confession of such offender or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next court of quarter sessions or other court of competent jurisdiction, and every such offender who shall be so committed to such lawful place of confinement, shall be there kept to hard labour or on the public streets or highways during the period of his or her imprisonment.
5. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any police officer or constable whatsoever to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before any justice of the peace, to be dealt with according to law.
6. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon oath being made before him that any person hath committed, or is suspected to have committed, any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him or some other justice of the peace the person so charged, to be dealt with according to law.
7. And be it further enacted, that when any incorrigible rogue shall have been committed to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next court of quarter sessions of the peace or other court of competent jurisdiction, it shall be lawful for the justices there assembled to examine into the circumstances of the case, and to order, if they think fit, that such offender be forthwith imprisoned in such lawful place of confinement, and be there kept to hard labour or on the public streets or highways, for any term not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.
8. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon information upon oath before him made, that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, by warrant under his hand and seal to authorize any constable, police officer, or other person or persons to enter at any time into such house or place, and to apprehend and bring before him or any other justice of the peace every such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with according to law.
9. And be it further enacted, that every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue under this Act, shall be in the form or to the effect set forth in schedule (A.) hereunto annexed, or as near thereto

Defines a rogue and vagabond.

Punishment for a rogue and vagabond.

Defines who shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue and vagabond.

Peace officers may apprehend offenders against this Act.

Justices may issue warrants to apprehend offenders against this Act.

Justices in quarter sessions may further imprison incorrigible rogues.

Justice may issue warrant to enter premises for the purpose of apprehending offenders against this Act.

As to form of conviction, &c.

Appendix.
ST.
CHRISTOPHER.
Vagrancy.

as circumstances will permit; and the justices of the peace before whom such conviction shall take place, shall, and they are hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the office of the clerk of the court of sessions, there to be filed and kept on record; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the court, or the original thereof, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any justices of the peace acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

SCHEDULE (A.)

St. Christopher, } Be it remembered, that on the day of in the year
to wit. } of our Lord , at the parish of , in the island
aforesaid, A. B. is convicted before us, two of Her Majesty's justices of the peace
in and for this island, of being a disorderly person [or a rogue or vagabond, or an incor-
rigible rogue] within the intent and meaning of the Act of this island, intituled
; that is to say, for that the said A. B. on the day of , at the
parish , in the island aforesaid, [here state the offence proved before the jus-
tices], and for which said offence the said A. B. is ordered to be committed to the common
gaol or house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour for the space of
or until the next court of quarter sessions, [or other court of competent jurisdiction, as the
case may happen.] Given under our hands and seals this day of 184

(signed) *George Henry Burt,*
Speaker.

Passed the Council this 18th day of March 1847.

(signed) *R. S. Harper,*
Clerk of the Council.

Passed the Assembly this 2d day of September 1847.

(signed) *W. Wharton Rawlins,*
Clerk of Assembly.

Dated at Saint Christopher this 21st day of October, in the year of our Lord 1847, in the
11th year of Her Majesty's reign.

(signed) *R. J. Mackintosh.*

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

VIRGIN
ISLANDS.

Vagrancy.

(No. 113.)

AN ACT for the Suppression of Vagrancy.—[9 April 1839.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, or other vagrants in these islands; we, therefore, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Chief Officer administering the government of the Virgin Islands, and the Council and Assembly of the same, do pray your most Excellent Majesty that it may be enacted and ordained; and be it, and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that every person being able, either by labour or by other lawful means, to maintain himself or herself, or his wife, or his or her children or child, who wilfully refuse or neglect so to do, and thereby become burthensome, or render his wife, or his or her children or child, burthensome upon any parochial or other public funds set apart for the relief of the poor; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous and indecent manner, and every person wandering abroad, or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, wharf, highway, court, or passage, to beg or gather alms, or causing, or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person within the true intent and meaning of this Act; provided nevertheless, that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Act by reason of any such begging or gathering alms as aforesaid, or by reason of his or her causing, or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the stipendiary justice before whom he or she shall be charged with such offence, that the offender could by his or her own labour or other lawful means, or by parochial or other public funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life.

Declaring vagrancy.

Giving power to sti-
pendiary justice to
commit vagrants.

2. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit any such idle and disorderly person, being thereof convicted before him by his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of confinement, there or on the public streets and highways to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 14 days.

2. And

3. And be it further enacted, that any person committing any of the offences herein-before mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device by palmistry, obeah, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive and impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public road or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person playing or betting in any street, stelling or wharf, road, highway, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, or outbuildings, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him on his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of imprisonment, there or on the public streets or highways to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 28 days; and every such picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty for the uses of these islands.

Declaring who shall be deemed rogues and vagabonds.

4. And be it further enacted, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined, by virtue of this Act; and every person committing any offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be and duly convicted thereof; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next sessions of the peace to be held for these islands, then and there to be dealt with as hereinafter directed.

Declaring who shall be deemed incorrigible rogues; how to be dealt with.

5. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any police officer or constable whatsoever to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some stipendiary justice of the peace, to be dealt with in such manner as herein before directed.

Police or constable may apprehend.

6. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon oath being made before him that any person hath committed, or is suspected to have committed any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him, or some other stipendiary justice of the peace, the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Act.

Stipendiary justice may issue warrant to apprehend offenders.

7. And be it further enacted, that when any such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizance as hereinafter directed, to prosecute such appeal, such stipendiary justice shall require the person by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to prove the offence, and to support such conviction, to become bound in recognizance to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, to appear at the next Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions of the peace for these islands, to give evidence against such offender touching such offence; and the justices of the said court are hereby authorized and empowered, at the request of any person who shall have become bound in any such recognizance, to order the colonial treasurer to pay unto such prosecutor, and unto the witness or witnesses on his or her behalf, such sum or sums of money as to the court may seem reasonable and sufficient to reimburse such prosecutor, and such witness or witnesses respectively, for the expense, he, she, or they shall have severally been put to, and for his, her, or their trouble and loss of time in and about such prosecution, which order the clerk of the court is hereby directed and required forthwith to make out and deliver to such prosecutor, or unto such witness or witnesses; and the said colonial treasurer is hereby authorized and required, upon sight of such order, forthwith to pay unto such prosecutor, or other person or persons authorized to receive the same, such money as aforesaid, and the said colonial treasurer shall be allowed the same in his account. And in case any such person or persons as aforesaid shall refuse to enter into such recognizance, it shall be lawful for such stipendiary justice to commit such person or persons so refusing to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance, or shall be otherwise discharged by due course of law.

Persons wishing to appeal, how to proceed.

Prosecutor and witness to be allowed expenses.

Treasurer authorized to pay expenses.

8. And be it further enacted, that when any person shall be committed for trial before the said Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, charged with being an incorrigible

Authority of court to convict offenders.

Appendix.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Vagrancy.

Constable, &c. neglecting duty, and persons obstructing any constable, &c. in the execution thereof, liable to a penalty not exceeding 20*l*.

Stipendiary justice may issue his warrant, authorizing constable to enter any house suspected of harbouring any rogue, vagabond, &c.

Stipendiary justice to lodge conviction in secretary's office. Copy of such conviction so filed to be evidence in court.

Power to appeal.

Time allowed. Power of court on appeal to affirm or quash conviction.

All actions to be commenced within three months, &c.

Stipendiary justice may appoint constables.

rigible rogue, it shall be lawful for the court to examine into the circumstances of the case, and, on conviction, to order, if they think fit, that such offender be imprisoned in some lawful place of confinement, and there or on the public streets or highways to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.

9. And be it further enacted, that in case any constable or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Act, or in case any person shall disturb or hinder any constable or other peace officer in the execution of this Act, or shall be aiding, abetting, or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted upon the oath of one or more witness or witnesses before the said Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions of the peace, every such offender shall for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 *l*.; and in case such offender shall not forthwith pay such sum so forfeited, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods by warrant from such court, and if sufficient distress cannot be found it shall be lawful to commit the person so offending to any lawful place of confinement, there to be kept for any time not exceeding 30 days, or until such fine be paid; and the said court shall cause the said fine, when paid, to be paid over to the treasurer for the use of these islands.

10. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon information on oath before him made, that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, by warrant under his hand and seal, to authorize any constable, or other person or persons, to enter at any time into such house or place, and to apprehend and bring before him, or any other stipendiary justice of the peace, every such idle and disorderly person, rogue, and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

11. And be it further enacted, that every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue under this Act, shall be in the form or to the effect set forth in Schedule (A.) hereunto annexed, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit; and the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace before whom any such conviction shall take place shall, and he and they is and are hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the secretary's office of these islands, there to be filed and kept on record; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the court, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record or before any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

12. And be it further enacted, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace in or concerning the execution of this Act, may appeal to the said Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions of the peace for these islands, giving to the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal and of the ground thereof, and entering within seven days into a recognizance, with sufficient surety, before a stipendiary justice of the peace of the said islands, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given and such recognizance being entered into, such stipendiary justice is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody, and the said justices of the said Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions of the peace shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet; and in case of the dismissal of the appeal on the affirmance of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender according to the conviction: provided always, that such appellant shall be bound to prosecute his said appeal at the next sitting of the said court, in case such sitting shall not happen within the said period, but if such sitting shall be had within such seven days, then at the next succeeding sitting of such court, and not afterwards.

13. And for the protection of persons acting in the execution of this Act, it is further enacted, that all actions or prosecutions to be commenced against any such person or persons for anything done in pursuance of this Act shall be laid and tried in the Court of Common Pleas for these islands, and shall be commenced within three calendar months after the fact committed, and not otherwise; and notice, in writing, of such action and of the cause thereof shall be given to the defendant one calendar month at least before the commencement of the action, and no plaintiff shall recover in any such action if tender of sufficient amends shall have been made before such action is brought, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into court after such action brought by or in behalf of the defendant; and if a verdict shall pass for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become nonsuit or discontinue any such action after issue joined, the defendant shall recover treble costs, and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant hath in law in other cases; and though a verdict be given for the plaintiff in any such action, such plaintiff shall not have costs against the defendant unless the court before which the trial shall be shall certify its approbation of the action.

14. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for any two or more stipendiary justices of the peace at any time to nominate and appoint any discreet person or persons to be constables or peace officers for the purposes of this Act, and to swear him or them to the due execution of his or their office.

15. And be it further enacted, that no person shall act, or be considered as a stipendiary justice within the meaning of this present Act, save only such persons as, being in the receipt of stipends assigned for their maintenance as such justices, shall be included within a special commission of the peace, to be issued in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, appointing them to act as stipendiary justices for the said Virgin Islands or for some district or districts thereof. Who shall be considered stipendiary justices.

16. And be it further enacted, that all laws now in force in these islands for the prevention or punishment of vagrancy, or which are in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with this present Act, shall be and the same are repealed. Repealing all former vagrant Acts.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Virgin Islands, } In the parish of _____, Be it remembered, that on the _____ day _____, in the year of our Lord, _____ Form of conviction.
 to wit. } _____, is convicted before me _____
 at _____, in the Virgin Islands, _____, did [specify the offence, and
 _____, for that he [or she] the said _____, as the case may be.] And
 time and place when and where the same was committed, _____, for the said offence to be
 I the said _____, adjudged the said _____, and there kept to hard labour
 imprisoned or to solitary confinement in the _____, and there kept to hard labour
 for the space of _____ days ensuing from the date hereof, this day to be accounted one.
 Given under my hand and seal the day and year first above mentioned.

(signed) *A. B.*
 Stipendiary Justice of the Peace.

(signed) *Wm. H. Shew,*
 Speaker.

Passed the Assembly this 15th day of December 1838.

(signed) *Thomas Wm. Crooke,*
 Clerk of the Assembly.

Passed the Council this 29th day of December 1838.

By command,

(signed) *John C. Isaacs,*
 Clerk of the Council.

Dated at Tortola this 9th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1839, and in the 2d year of Her Majesty's reign.

DOMINICA.

DOMINICA.

Vagrancy.

(No. 440.)

AN ACT for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, Incurrible Rogues, and other Vagrants in this Island.—[9 May 1840.]

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incurrible rogues, and other vagrants in this island; we therefore, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Governor of this Your Majesty's island of Dominica, and the Council and Assembly of the same, pray your most Excellent Majesty that it may be enacted and ordained, — Preamble.

1. And be it and it is hereby enacted and ordained, by the authority of the same, that from and after the publication of this Act, every person being able, either by labour or by other lawful means, to maintain himself or herself, or his wife, or his or her children or child, who shall wilfully refuse or neglect so to do, and thereby become burthensome, or render his wife, or his or her children or child burthensome upon any of the public funds of this island; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous and indecent manner; every person wandering abroad, or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, wharf, highway, court, or passage to beg or gather alms, or causing, or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person within the true intent and meaning of this Act; provided nevertheless, that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Act by reason of any such begging or gathering alms as aforesaid, or by reason of his or her causing, or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear, to the satisfaction of the justice before whom he or she shall

Appendix.

DOMINICA.

Vagrancy.

Definition and punishment of an idle and disorderly person.

Definition and punishment of a rogue and vagabond.

Definition and punishment of an incorrigible rogue and vagabond.

Court of sessions empowered to commit incorrigible rogues and vagabonds to imprisonment and hard labour, for any time not exceeding six months.

Police officers, constables, or other peace officers empowered to apprehend persons offending against this Act.

Justices of the peace empowered to issue warrants for the apprehension of suspected persons.

Justices of the peace empowered to grant search warrants for the apprehension of idle and disorderly persons, &c.

shall be charged with such offence, that the offender could by his or her labour, or other lawful means, or by any public funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life.

2. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any justice of peace to commit any such idle or disorderly person, being thereof so convicted before him by his own view, by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to the common gaol, there or on the public streets or highways to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 14 days.

3. And be it further enacted, that any person committing any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device, by palmistry, obeah, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive and impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway, or public place, any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public road, or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person playing or betting in any street or wharf, road, highway, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming, at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, or out-building, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him by his own view, by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to the common gaol, there or on the public streets or highways to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 28 days; and every such picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty for the uses of the colony.

4. And be it further enacted, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined by virtue of this Act; every person committing any offence against this Act which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be, and duly convicted thereof; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, and being subsequently convicted of the offence for which he or she shall have been so apprehended, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue within the true intent and meaning of this Act; and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit such offender (being thereof convicted before him by his own view, by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses), to the common gaol until the next Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions, or other court of sessions; and every such offender who shall be so committed to the common gaol, shall be there, or on the public streets or highways, kept to hard labour during the period of his or her imprisonment.

5. And be it further enacted, that when any incorrigible rogue shall have been committed to the common gaol, there to remain until the next Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions, or other court of sessions, it shall be lawful for the said court to examine into the circumstances of the case, and to order, if it thinks fit, that such offender be further imprisoned in the common gaol, and be there or on the public streets or highways kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.

6. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any police officer, constable, or other peace officer whatsoever, to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Act, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some justice of the peace, to be dealt with in such manner as hereinbefore directed.

7. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon oath being made before him that any person hath committed, or is suspected to have committed, any offence against this Act, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him, or some other justice of the peace, the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Act.

8. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon information on oath before him made, that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, by warrant under his hand and seal, to authorize any police officer, constable, or other peace officer, to enter at any time

time into such house or place, and to apprehend and bring before him, or any other justice of the peace, every such idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue, as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

9. And be it further enacted, that every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue, under this Act, shall be in the form or to the effect following, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit; (that is to say),

Dominica. Be it remembered, that on the _____ day of _____ in the year _____ of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and _____, at the parish of _____, in the said island _____, is convicted before _____, justice of the peace in and for the said island, with being an [idle and disorderly person, rogue and vagabond, or incorrigible rogue, as the case may be]; and said justice adjudge the said _____ to be conveyed to and imprisoned in the common gaol, and there, or on the public streets and highways, to be kept to hard labour for the space of _____ days; or in the case of an incorrigible rogue, until he next Court of Queen's Bench or grand sessions, or other sessions.

Given under _____ hand and seal the day and year above written.

And the justice or justices of the peace, before whom any such conviction shall take place shall, and he and they is and are hereby required to transmit the said conviction and evidence thereon to the clerk of the Crown, to be filed and kept with the records of the Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the Crown, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any justice or justices of the peace, acting under the powers and provisions of this Act.

10. And be it further enacted, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any justice or justices of the peace, in or concerning the execution of this Act, may appeal to the said Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions, or other court of sessions, giving to the justice or justices of the peace, whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal, and of the ground thereof, and entering, within seven days after the conviction, into a recognizance, with sufficient surety, before a justice of the peace of the said island, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given, and such recognizance being entered into, such justice is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody; provided always, that such appellant shall be bound to prosecute his said appeal at the next sitting of the said court, in case such sitting shall not happen within seven days of his notice; but if such sitting shall be had within such seven days, then at the next succeeding court, and not afterwards.

11. And be it further enacted, that when any person shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizance as hereinbefore directed, to appear and prosecute such appeal, such justice shall, if necessary, summon and require the person by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to prove the offence and to support such conviction, to become bound to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, to appear at the next Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions, or other court of sessions, to give evidence against such offender, touching such offence; and in case any such person or persons as aforesaid shall refuse to enter into such recognizance, it shall be lawful for such justice to commit such person or persons so refusing to the common gaol, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance, or shall be otherwise discharged by due course of law.

12. And be it further enacted, that the said Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions, or other court of sessions, shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet; and in case of the dismissal of the appeal and the affirmance of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender, according to the conviction.

13. And be it further enacted, that in case any police officer, constable, or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Act, or in case any person shall disturb or hinder any police officer, constable, or other peace officer in the execution of this Act, or shall be aiding, abetting, or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted upon the oath of one or more witness or witnesses before the Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions or other sessions, every such offender shall for every such offence be fined in any sum not exceeding 50 l. current money; and in case such offender shall not forthwith pay such sum so forfeited, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrant from such court, and if sufficient distress cannot be found, it shall be lawful to commit the person so offending to the common gaol, there to be kept for any time not exceeding 30 days, or until such fine be paid, and the said fine when received to be paid over to the public treasury for the use of the said island.

14. And be it further enacted, that for the purposes and within the meaning of this present Act, the officer administering the government of the said island shall be deemed and taken to be the "governor" thereof.

Appendix.
DOMINICA.

Vagrancy.
Form of conviction under this Act.

Persons aggrieved by the determination of any justice can appeal to court of sessions.

Witnesses refusing to enter into recognizance may be sent to gaol until such recognizance be entered into.

Court of sessions to determine matters of appeal.

Police officers or other peace officers neglecting their duty, or persons obstructing them in the discharge of their duty, liable to be fined in any sum not exceeding 50 l., and in default of payment levied on by distress, or imprisoned for any term not exceeding 30 days.

Definition of governor.

Appendix.

Explanation of terms.

15. And be it further enacted, that whenever under this Act or the proceedings under the same, in describing or referring to the offence or the subject matter, on or with respect to which it shall be committed, or the offender or the party affected or intended to be affected by the offence, hath used or shall use words importing the singular number, or the masculine gender only; yet this Act shall be understood to include several matters as well as one matter, and several persons as well as one person, and females as well as males, unless it be otherwise specially provided, or there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction.

Repealing clause.

16. And be it further enacted, that all laws or statutes in force in the said island, which are or shall be in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with this present Act, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

The governor to appoint the justices to execute this Act.

17. And be it further enacted, that except for the Court of Queen's Bench and grand sessions, or other court of sessions, it shall and may be lawful for the Governor to appoint any number of justices of the peace, who shall respectively be authorized to exercise and have exclusive jurisdiction for the enforcement of and carrying into execution the proceedings and purposes of this Act; and from and after such appointments, and so long as the same shall continue in full force and virtue, and the duties under the said Act shall be by such justices performed, the power and authority of any other justice of the peace within the said island, to execute the said Act or any part thereof, shall be suspended and inoperative.

Passed the House of Assembly this 27th day of April 1840.

(signed) *J. Garraway*, Speaker pro. tem.
C. A. Fillan, Clerk of Assembly.

Passed the Board of Council this 29th day of April 1840.

(signed) *D. S. Laidlaw*, President.
James Laidlaw, Clerk of Council.

Passed by the Governor the 9th day of May 1840.

(signed) *A. Reade*, Private Secretary.

Passed the Patent Office this 9th day of May 1840.

(signed) *J. B. Righton*, Clerk of Patents.

Duly published in the town of Roseau this 9th day of May 1840.

(signed) *J. B. Righton*, Provost Marshal General.
(signed) *W. M. G. Colebrooke*.

ORDER in COUNCIL, 7 September 1838.—Vagrancy.

At the Court at Windsor, the 7th day of September 1838.

PRESENT:

The QUEEN's most Excellent MAJESTY in Council.

Order in Council respecting Vagrancy.

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues, and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, or other vagrants, in . . . It is therefore ordered by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, that every person being able, either by labour or by other lawful means, to maintain himself or herself, or his wife, or his or her children or child, who shall wilfully refuse or neglect so to do, and thereby become burthensome, or render his wife, or his or her children or child, burthensome upon any parochial or other public funds set apart for the relief of the poor; every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or highways, or in any place of public resort, and behaving in a riotous and indecent manner; and every person wandering abroad, or placing himself or herself in any public place, street, wharf, highway, court, or passage, to beg or gather alms, or causing, or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person within the true intent and meaning of this Order: Provided nevertheless, that no person shall be deemed to be an offender under this Order, by reason of any such begging or gathering alms as aforesaid, or by reason of his or her causing or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, unless it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the stipendiary justice before whom he or she shall be charged with such offence, that the offender could by his or her own labour, or other lawful means, or by parochial or other public funds appropriated for that purpose, have been provided with the necessaries of life. And it is further ordered that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit any such idle and disorderly person, being thereof convicted before him by his own view

view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of confinement, there, or on the public streets and highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 14 days.

2. And it is hereby further ordered, that any person committing any of the offences hereinbefore mentioned, after having been convicted as an idle and disorderly person; every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using or pretending to use any subtle craft or device, by palmistry, obeah, or any such like superstitious means, to deceive and impose on any of Her Majesty's subjects; every person wilfully exposing to view in any street, road, highway or public place any obscene print, picture, or other indecent exhibition; every person wilfully, openly, lewdly, and obscenely exposing his or her person in any street, public road or highway, or in the view thereof, or in any place of public resort; every person endeavouring to procure charitable contributions under any false or fraudulent pretence; every person playing or betting in any street, stelling or wharf, road, highway, or other open and public place, at or with any table or instrument of gaming, at any game or pretended game of chance; every person having in his or her custody or possession any picklock, key, crow, jack, bit or other implement, with intent feloniously to break into any dwelling-house, warehouse, store, shop, coach-house, stable, or outbuilding, or being armed with any gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, or having upon him or her any instrument with intent to commit any felonious act; and every person apprehended as an idle and disorderly person, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed a rogue and vagabond within the true intent and meaning of this Order: and it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender, being thereof convicted before him, on his own view, or by the confession of such offender, or by the evidence on oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to any lawful place of imprisonment, there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding 28 days; and every such picklock, key, crow, jack, bit, and other implement, and every such gun, pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, or other offensive weapon, and every such instrument as aforesaid, shall, by the conviction of the offender, become forfeited to Her Majesty for the uses of the colony.

3. And it is hereby further ordered, that every person breaking or escaping out of any place of legal confinement, before the expiration of the term for which he or she shall have been committed or ordered to be confined, by virtue of this Order; and every person committing any offence against this Order, which shall subject him or her to be dealt with as a rogue and vagabond, such person having been at some former time adjudged so to be and duly convicted thereof; and every person apprehended as a rogue and vagabond, and violently resisting any constable or other peace officer so apprehending him or her, shall be deemed an incorrigible rogue within the true intent and meaning of this Order. And it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace to commit such offender to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until the next session of the
, then and there to be dealt with as hereinafter directed.

4. And it is hereby further ordered, that it shall be lawful for any police officer or constable whatsoever to apprehend any person who shall be found offending against this Order, and forthwith to take and convey him or her before some stipendiary justice of the peace, to be dealt with in such manner as hereinbefore directed.

5. And it is hereby further ordered, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon oath being made before him, that any person hath committed or is suspected to have committed any offence against this Order, to issue his warrant to apprehend and bring before him, or some other stipendiary justice of the peace, the person so charged, to be dealt with as is directed by this Order.

6. And it is hereby further ordered, that when any such idle and disorderly person, rogue, and vagabond shall give notice of his or her intention to appeal against the conviction of him or her, and shall enter into recognizance as hereinafter directed to prosecute such appeal, such stipendiary justice shall require the person by whom such offender shall be apprehended, and the person or persons whose evidence shall appear to him to prove the offence and to support such conviction, to become bound in recognizance to Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, to appear at the next session of the
, to give evidence against such offender, touching such offence; and

the
is hereby authorised and empowered, at the request of any person who shall have become bound in any such recognizance, to order the colonial
to pay unto such prosecutor, and unto the witness

or witnesses on his or her behalf, such sum or sums of money as to the court may seem reasonable and sufficient to reimburse such prosecutor and such witness or witnesses respectively for the expenses he, she, or they shall have severally been put to, and for his, her, or their trouble and loss of time in and about such prosecution: which order the clerk of the court is hereby directed and required forthwith to make out, and deliver to such prosecutor, or unto such witness or witnesses; and the said colonial hereby authorized and required, upon sight of such order, forthwith to pay unto such prosecutor, or other person or persons authorized to receive the same, such money as aforesaid; and the said colonial shall be allowed the same in their account.

And in case any such person or persons as aforesaid shall refuse to enter into such recognizance, it shall be lawful for such stipendiary justice to commit such person or persons so refusing to any lawful place of confinement, there to remain until he, she, or they shall enter into such recognizance, or shall be otherwise discharged by due course, of law.

Appendix.
Order in Council
respecting Va-
grancy.

7. And it is hereby further ordered, that when any person shall be committed for trial before the said _____, charged with being an incorrigible rogue, it shall be lawful for the court to examine into the circumstances of the case, and on conviction to order, if they think fit, that such offender be imprisoned in some lawful place of confinement, and there, or on the public streets or highways, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding six calendar months from the time of making such order.

8. And it is hereby further ordered, that in case any constable or other peace officer shall neglect his duty in anything required of him by this Order, or in case any person shall disturb or hinder any constable or other peace officer in the execution of this Order, or shall be aiding, abetting, or assisting therein, and shall be thereof convicted upon the oath of one or more witness or witnesses, before the _____, every such offender shall for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding 20 l. And in case such offender shall not forthwith pay such sum so forfeited, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrant from such _____; and if sufficient distress cannot be found, it shall be lawful to commit the person so offending to any lawful place of confinement, there to be kept for any time not exceeding 30 days, or until such fine be paid, and the _____ shall cause the said fine, when paid, to be paid over to the colonial _____ for the use of the colony.

9. And it is hereby further ordered, that it shall be lawful for any stipendiary justice of the peace, upon information on oath before him made, that any person hereinbefore described to be an idle and disorderly person, or a rogue and vagabond, or an incorrigible rogue, is or are reasonably suspected to be harboured or concealed in any house or place, by warrant under his hand and seal to authorize any constable or other person or persons to enter at any time into such house or place, and to apprehend and bring before him, or any other stipendiary justice of the peace, every such idle and disorderly person, rogue, and vagabond, and incorrigible rogue, as shall be then and there found, to be dealt with in the manner hereinbefore directed.

10. And it is hereby further ordered, that every conviction of any offender as an idle and disorderly person, or as a rogue and vagabond, or as an incorrigible rogue, under this Order, shall be in the form or to the effect set forth in schedule (A.), hereunto annexed, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit. And the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, before whom any such conviction shall take place, shall, and he and they is and are hereby required to transmit the said conviction to the _____, there to be filed and kept on record; and a copy of the conviction so filed, duly certified by the clerk of the court, shall and may be read as evidence in any court of record, or before any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace acting under the powers and provisions of this Order.

11. And it is hereby further ordered, that any person aggrieved by any act or determination of any stipendiary justice or justices of the peace in or concerning the execution of this Order, may appeal to the said _____, giving to the stipendiary justice or justices of the peace, whose act or determination shall be appealed against, notice in writing of such appeal, and of the ground thereof, and entering within seven days into a recognizance, with sufficient sureties, before a stipendiary justice of the peace of the said colony, personally to appear and prosecute such appeal; and upon such notice being given, and such recognizance being entered into, such stipendiary justice is hereby empowered to discharge such person out of custody; and the said _____ shall hear and determine the matter of such appeal, and shall make such order therein as shall to the said court seem meet, and in case of the dismissal of the appeal, or the affirmance of the conviction, shall issue the necessary process for the apprehension and punishment of the offender, according to the conviction; provided always, that such appellant shall be bound to prosecute his said appeal before the next sitting of the said _____, in case such sitting shall not happen within the said period, but if such sitting shall be had within such seven days, then at the next succeeding _____, and not afterwards.

12. And for the protection of persons acting in the execution of this Order, it is further ordered that all actions or prosecutions to be commenced against any such person or persons for anything done in pursuance of this Order, shall be laid and tried in the _____, as the case may be, wherein the fact was alleged to be committed, and shall be commenced within three calendar months after the fact committed, and not otherwise, and notice in writing of such action, and of the cause thereof, shall be given to the defendant one calendar month at least before the commencement of the action; and no plaintiff shall recover in any such action, if tender of sufficient amends shall have been made before such action is brought, or if a sufficient sum of money shall have been paid into court, after such action brought by or in behalf of the defendant; and if a verdict shall pass for the defendant, or the plaintiff shall become nonsuit or discontinue any such action, after issue joined, the defendant shall recover treble costs, and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant hath in law in other cases, and though a verdict be given for the plaintiff in any such action, such plaintiff shall not have costs against the defendant, unless the court before which the trial shall be, shall certify its approbation of the action.

13. And it is hereby further ordered, that it shall and may be lawful for any two or more stipendiary justices of the peace at any time to nominate and appoint any discreet person or persons to be constables or peace officers for the purposes of this order, and to swear him or them to the due execution of his or their office.

Appendix.
Order in Council
respecting Va-
grancy.

14. And it is hereby further ordered, that no person shall act or be considered as a stipendiary justice, within the meaning of this present order, save only such persons as, being in the receipt of stipends assigned for their maintenance as such justices, shall be included within a special commission of the peace, to be issued in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty, appointing them to act as stipendiary justices for the said colony of or for some county or counties, or other district or districts thereof.

15. And it is further ordered, that all laws and ordinances now in force in the said colony for the prevention or punishment of vagrancy, or which are in any wise repugnant to or inconsistent with this present Order, shall be and the same are repealed.

And the Right honourable Lord Glenelg, one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, is to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(signed) C. C. Greville.

SCHEDULE (A).

British Guiana } In the parish [or town] of
to wit. } Be it remembered, that on the _____ day _____ in the year of
our Lord _____ at _____ in the colony of British Guiana,
_____ is convicted before me _____ for that he the said
did [specify the offence, and time and place, when and where the same was committed,
as the case may be.] And I the said _____ adjudge the said
for the said offence, to be imprisoned or to solitary confinement in the
and there kept to hard labour for the space of _____ days ensuing from the date
hereof, this day to be accounted one. Given under my hand and seal, the day and year first
above mentioned.

A. B., Stipendiary Justice of the Peace.

ORDER in COUNCIL, 6 October 1838.—Crown Lands Occupation.

At the Court at Windsor, the 6th day of October 1838.

PRESENT :

The QUEEN'S most Excellent MAJESTY in Council.

WHEREAS in the colonies of British Guiana, Trinidad, Saint Lucia, and Mauritius, divers persons, without probable claim or pretence of title, have taken possession of lands therein respectively situate, and it is necessary that provision be made for the prevention of such encroachments ; it is therefore ordered by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, that the stipendiary justices of the peace within the said colonies respectively shall, in manner hereinafter mentioned, exercise a summary jurisdiction for the removal of all persons who have so taken or shall take possession of any lands from the lands of which they may so have taken or shall take possession in such colonies respectively, subject nevertheless to the provisions hereinafter mentioned.

Order in Council
respecting Crown
Lands occupation.

And it is further ordered, that for the purposes and within the meaning of this present Order, such persons only shall be considered and be entitled to act as stipendiary justices of the peace as are entitled to act in that capacity under certain Orders of Her Majesty in Council, bearing date the 7th day of September 1838, for regulating contracts of hired service, and for the prevention and punishment of vagrancy within the colonies aforesaid.

And it is further ordered, that it shall be lawful for every such stipendiary justice of the peace to receive any information which may be laid before him upon oath, charging any person or persons with having, without probable claim or pretence of title, entered upon, or taken possession of, any lands in any of the said respective colonies ; provided, that if the lands mentioned or referred to in any such information shall belong to or be vested in Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, such information shall be preferred by the Surveyor-general of the colony, or by some person acting under his authority and on his behalf, but that if the lands mentioned or referred to in any such information shall belong to or be vested in any body politic or corporate, or in any persons or person other than Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, such information shall be preferred by the owner or owners of such lands, or by some person or persons who, as general or special agent, attorney, trustee, or otherwise, may be authorized to represent and to act for and on the behalf of such owner or owners, or by some person or persons who may be authorized by the supreme court of justice in such colony to prefer such information.

Appendix.
 Order in Council
 respecting Crown
 Lands occupation.

And it is further ordered, that every stipendiary justice before whom any such information shall be preferred, shall issue his summons for the appearance before him of the party or parties alleged to have so illegally entered upon or taken possession of such land, and of any other person or persons whom it may be necessary or proper to examine as a witness or witnesses on the hearing of any such information, and shall proceed in a summary way in the presence of the parties, or, in case of the wilful absence of any person against whom any such information shall have been laid, then in his absence to hear and determine such information; and in case, on the hearing thereof, it shall be made to appear by sufficient evidence to the satisfaction of such justice that the party or parties against whom the same shall have been laid hath or have entered upon or taken possession of the land mentioned or referred to in such information without any probable claim or pretence of title, then such justice is hereby authorized and required to make an order, directing such party or parties to deliver up to Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, or other the owner or owners of such lands, or person preferring the information, as the case may be, to be named in such order, peaceable possession of such lands, together with all crops growing thereon, and all buildings and other immovable property upon and affixed to the said lands; and in case the party or parties against whom any such order shall have been made, shall not within a fortnight after service thereof deliver up possession of the said lands and premises pursuant to the said order, then and in such case it shall be lawful for such justice to adjudge such party or parties to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any time not exceeding 14 days, and to make a further order for the immediate delivery over of the possession of such land and premises to Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, or other the body politic or corporate, or person or persons whom such justice may have found to be entitled to the possession thereof, and who shall be named in such further order; and the governor of the colony in which such lands are situate, shall thereupon cause possession thereof to be delivered to Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, or to such other body politic or corporate, or person or persons accordingly.

Provided always, and it is further ordered, that no such order for the delivery up of possession of any such lands shall be made by any such justice as aforesaid, if it shall appear to such justice that the party or parties against whom any such order is sought, hath or have been by himself, or themselves, or by those under whom he or they claim title, in the quiet possession of the land mentioned or referred to in any such information for one year next before the date thereof, or that such party or parties hath or have any probable claim or pretence of lawful title to such lands, or to the occupation thereof.

And it is further ordered, that for the purpose of any such order to be made by any such justice as aforesaid, the adjudication of such justice shall be conclusive as to the title of the person to whom delivery of the said lands and premises may be directed to be made, but nothing herein contained shall extend to take away or abridge the jurisdiction by law vested in the superior courts of civil justice of the said colonies respectively, in taking cognizance of and adjudicating upon titles to land. And any person against whom any such order as aforesaid may have been made, may, notwithstanding such order, proceed by the ordinary course of law to recover possession of such lands, in case he shall be able to establish a title thereto; and may also, in such case, recover a reasonable compensation for the damage he may have sustained by reason of his having been compelled to deliver up possession of the said premises; and in like manner, in case of the dismissal of any such information, the party having preferred the same may proceed before the ordinary tribunals as if no such information had been preferred.

Provided always, that in case any such information shall be dismissed, it shall be lawful for the said justice, if he shall think fit, to order the person by whom the same may have been preferred, whether such information may have been preferred by the surveyor-general or by any other person, to pay to the party or parties against whom the same may have been preferred, such sum as the said justice may consider to be the amount of costs fairly incurred by such party or parties by reason of such information so dismissed, and the payment of such costs may be enforced in the same way as the payment of other debts may be enforced in such colonies respectively. And for securing method and accuracy in the execution by the stipendiary justices of the jurisdiction hereby invested in them, it is hereby further ordered, that the governor of each of the said colonies shall prepare forms of the proceedings to be observed on lodging complaints, in issuing summonses, in the citation of witnesses, in the making orders, and generally for the complete carrying into execution of the powers hereby vested in the stipendiary justices, which forms shall be submitted by such governor to the chief civil judge of each such colony respectively, and being approved by such judge, the same shall be observed in all proceedings before the said stipendiary justices.

And it is further ordered, that all such forms of proceeding shall from time to time be revised, repealed, or amended, by the authority and in the manner aforesaid, as occasion may require.

And it is further ordered, that no order made by any stipendiary justice, in the execution of the jurisdiction so vested in him, shall be liable to be reversed, set aside, appealed from, or questioned by any court of justice in any of the said colonies, but the same shall, to all intents and purposes, be binding, final, and conclusive; subject, nevertheless, to the rights of the parties to proceed as herein before mentioned before the ordinary tribunals of the said colonies respectively.

And

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 171

And it is further ordered, that for all acts done by any stipendiary justice in the exercise of the jurisdiction hereby vested in him, such justice shall have and be entitled to the same protection and indemnity as, by any law in force in the colony, any magistrate is entitled to claim or to have in respect of any act by him done in execution of the powers vested by law in him.

Appendix.
—
Order in Council
respecting Crown
Lands occupation.

And it is further ordered, that for the purposes and within the meaning of this present Order, the officer lawfully administering the government of any of the said colonies shall be deemed and taken to be the governor thereof, and the words, "chief civil judge," shall be construed and understood to mean, in the colony of British Guiana, the chief justice of the Court of Civil and Criminal Justice of Demerara; and in the colony of Trinidad, the chief judge of the Court of First Instance; and in the colony of St. Lucia, the first president of the Royal Court; and in the colony of Mauritius, the first president of the Court of Appeal.

And it is further ordered, that all laws, statutes, and ordinances in force in the said colonies, or any of them, which are or shall be in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with this present Order shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

And it is further ordered, that the governor of each of the said colonies respectively shall, immediately upon the receipt by him of this present Order, publish, or cause to be published, a proclamation reciting at length the whole of this present Order, and stating the day of the month and year on which the same was so received by him; and from the publication of such proclamation this Order shall take effect, and have the force of law in each of the said colonies respectively.

And the Right honourable the Lord Glenelg, one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, is to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(signed) *Wm. L. Bathurst.*

S E V E N T H
R E P O R T

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING;

TOGETHER WITH THE

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

AND APPENDIX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
6 April 1848.

Veneris, 4° die Februarii, 1848.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Present Condition and Prospects of the Interests connected with, and dependent on, SUGAR and COFFEE PLANTING in Her Majesty's East and West Indian Possessions and the Mauritius, and to consider whether any and what Measures can be adopted by Parliament for their Relief.

Lunæ, 7° die Februarii, 1848,

Committee nominated :

Lord George Bentinck.
Mr. Labouchere.
Mr. Goulburn.
Mr. Milner Gibson.
Mr. Cardwell.
Sir Thomas Birch.
Mr. Henry Hope.
Mr. Charles Villiers.

Mr. Philip Miles.
Mr. James Wilson.
Lord George Manners.
Mr. Ewart.
Sir John Pakington.
Mr. James Matheson.
Sir Edward Buxton.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the said Committee.

Martis, 15° die Februarii, 1848.

Ordered, THAT Mr. Ewart be discharged from further attendance on the Committee, and that Mr. Moffatt be added thereto.

Jovis, 24° die Februarii, 1848.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to Report the Minutes of Evidence taken before them, from time to time, to The House.

REPORT - - - - -	p. iii
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - -	p. 1
APPENDIX - - - - -	p. 152

S E V E N T H R E P O R T .

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the present Condition and Prospects of the Interests connected with and dependent on SUGAR and COFFEE PLANTING in Her Majesty's East and West Indian Possessions and the Mauritius, and to consider whether any and what Measures can be adopted by Parliament for their Relief, and who were empowered to Report the MINUTES of EVIDENCE taken before them, from time to time, to The House;

HAVE made a farther Progress in the Inquiry referred to them.

6 April 1848.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

Lunæ, 3^o die Aprilis, 1848.

Mr. John Harbottle	- - - - -	p. 1
John Utlay Ellis, Esq.	- - - - -	p. 27
Sir Henry Vere Huntley, Commander, R. N.	- - - - -	p. 37
Mr. Henry Crosley	- - - - -	p. 39
Mr. Richard Burn	- - - - -	p. 55

Mercurii, 5^o die Aprilis, 1848.

Mr. William Nicholson	- - - - -	p. 73
Mr. Henry Browning	- - - - -	p. 75
Benjamin Hawes, Esq., M. P.	- - - - -	p. 76
Benjamin Buck Greene, Esq.	- - - - -	p. 110
Philip Anstruther, Esq.	- - - - -	p. 139

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Lunæ, 3^o die Aprilis, 1848.

Lord George Bentinck.
 Sir Thomas Birch.
 Sir Edward Buxton.
 Mr. Cardwell.
 Mr. Milner Gibson.
 Mr. Hope.

Mr. Matheson.
 Mr. Miles.
 Mr. Moffatt.
 Mr. Villiers.
 Mr. Wilson.

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. John Harbottle, called in; and Examined.

15316. Mr. *Moffatt*.] YOU have been in the island of Cuba?—I have.

15317. Have you been there often?—I have been in the habit of going there regularly since 1842.

15318. What has called you to the island of Cuba at those regular periods?—For the purpose of purchasing sugar, principally on account of foreign houses.

15319. You have gone there in the character of supercargo?—Yes, generally speaking for Russia, sometimes for Germany and Austria.

15320. For America?—And for America also.

15321. What is the longest period you have been resident in that island at any one time?—Four months.

15322. Your period of residence there has varied from two to four months, has not it?—Never less than two nor more than four.

15323. Consequently you have some acquaintance with the mode of cultivating sugar in the island?—Yes.

15324. Can you state to the Committee how that process is carried out?—When an estate is first made the cane is planted, and in good land it will last from 25 to 30 years without being re-planted; all that is required is to keep the cane well weeded. The crop season generally commences about the latter end of November, and continues as far as the weather permits, and terminates about the middle of May. The operation then consists in cutting the cane, and carting it to the sugar-house.

15325. In regard to the manufacture of sugar, after it is brought to the sugar-house, how is it done?—It is then passed through the sugar mills, which are generally worked by steam power. The sugar-house is established in such a way as to afford them the facility of having always an abundant supply of juice. They have cisterns sufficient to keep an abundant supply of juice which comes from the mill.

15326. It comes from the mill into tanks?—Yes; it depends upon the size of those tanks, but generally speaking they are constructed upon such a scale as to admit of working the mill from eight to ten hours a day.

15327. When the sugar has found its way into those tanks, what becomes of it?—There are four different cauldrons into which it successively passes, being boiled each time, for the purpose of refining it.

15328. It undergoes four distinct processes in boiling?—Yes, passing from one cauldron every day into the other. After the fourth process of boiling, the juice is then of a fine golden colour, perfectly pure, and it is then let out into conical-shaped vessels, containing about 50 to 55 pounds of juice.

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15329. How

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

15329. How long is the juice allowed to remain in those vessels?—It is allowed to remain 24 hours in those vessels till it crystallizes; then it undergoes the process of claying.

15330. Will you describe what that process is?—The sugar having become sufficiently firm by remaining 24 hours in the cones, they are then passed into what is called the purging-house, the boiling-house being always distinct from the purging-house. They are then arrayed on shelves, which are made to receive them; they are then clayed, by putting about 2½ to three inches of clay and water upon the surface of the inverted cone, and it is allowed to remain in that state for a week; after that the clay is taken off. I should have mentioned that the cones are plugged when they are first taken into the purging-house. The moment the purging operation begins, the plugs are taken out and the molasses are allowed to percolate through the orifice. At the end of the first week another layer of clay and water is put upon the cones, and it is allowed to remain a week longer; but in cases where very fine sugar is required to be made, a third process of claying is adopted, but it is not, generally speaking, usual. After this the sugar is turned out of the cones, the base being perfectly white, the centre forming the yellow sugar, and below them again the browns, and near the orifice are the lowest browns. After that it goes into the drying-house, if the weather is unfavourable, if otherwise, it is put out and exposed to the sun; it is then brought into the packing-house, and the loaves are cut into the different qualities, and it is packed into boxes.

15331. What proportion of each quality is yielded?—The average proportion would be, in twelfths, about three-twelfths white, seven-twelfths yellow, and about two-twelfths low brown and brown. The only extra expense of this is the cost of the cones, which would form an item of 800 l. to 1,000 l. upon good sugar estates, and the additional labour.

15332. From the time of the sugar being placed in the cones, how many men would be employed to produce a ton of it under this process?—I cannot say as to the former part. Suppose an estate produces 600 tons of sugar per annum, it would require 30 labourers in the grinding-house. The claying and the drying would require about 12 labourers.

15333. This stage of the manufacture lasts about 21 days?—Yes.

15334. Will you be good enough to estimate the extent of labour which would be employed in this particular process throughout the crop?—Throughout the cropping season it would employ about 12 men, and the quantity produced per week would be about 35 tons.

15335. This claying process would go on throughout the entire crop time?—Yes; a regular rotation process is always kept up. As it passes from the mill, so it goes on to the boiling vats, and from the vats into the cones, and from 1,200 to 1,400 of those cones become released every week, forming about 35 tons of sugar.

15336. Therefore it would require the continuous labour of 12 labourers for the entire period of crop time, which lasts six months?—Yes.

15337. Are the planters of Cuba generally estimated to be a wealthy body?—That depends upon circumstances; the planters who have commenced planting with capital, and who employ activity and intelligence, generally speaking make a very profitable business; but many others are involved, and are obliged to have recourse to loans of money from a class of people who are termed refactionists. Of the planters in Cuba, I should suppose one-half consists of persons in easy circumstances, who have plenty of money to carry out the operations; the other half are those who are in the hands of the refactionists, in which case the interest charged for money, and commissions for the sale of their produce, as also on the purchase of provisions which the estate requires, are very heavy; it would make a difference to the planter of 12 per cent., at least, in the cost of the sugar produced.

15338. Upon a rough estimate, you believe that one-half the estates in Cuba are free from pecuniary incumbrances?—Yes.

15339. Are those principally the estates of the old settlers in the island?—I have no precise knowledge upon the subject. I should think, if anything, the old settlers are the most independent; but I know there are some of them which are very much involved.

15340. Many of the old settlers you know to be embarrassed, and many of the younger planters?—Yes.

15341. To

15341. To what do you attribute the prosperity of the planters, to the extent which you have stated?—It would be the result of good management on their estates, having plenty of capital to buy everything which is required for cash, and upon the most moderate terms, and also being enabled to sell their sugar at any period when they wish to take advantage of the market.

15342. Do the planters to whom you have alluded generally reside upon their estates?—They or some member of the family.

15343. Some member of the family who has the confidence of the proprietor of the estate, and who may be partly interested in the results of the estate?—Exactly so.

15344. You say that one-half of the planters are in embarrassed circumstances; to what cause do you attribute that general embarrassment?—It would arise from the fact of their having entered upon sugar planting without an adequate capital; in order to stock the estate with labour they would be obliged to pay an advanced price for the negroes, in consequence of the credit they are desirous of obtaining.

15345. Is there a material difference in the Cuban market for slaves between the credit price and the cash price?—It would vary according to the credit of the party himself, but the minimum difference would be at least 12 per cent.

15346. What is the rate of interest in Cuba?—The rate of interest on mortgages is generally 12 per cent. on security of either coffee or sugar plantations.

15347. Are the present proprietors of the sugar plantations Spaniards?—I should say that three-fourths of them are creoles and old Spaniards; the remainder are descendants of the immigrants from St. Domingo, Americans, and some few English.

15348. Can you give the Committee any information in regard to the cost of producing sugar in Cuba?—I have made up a statement from the knowledge I have acquired during my residence in the island and from parties who have been connected with sugar planting.

15349. Your continual visits have enabled you to arrive at an accurate conclusion?—I do not suppose that there would be a difference of 5 per cent. in the cost. I have here an estimate of the cost of a well-appointed and well-conducted sugar estate in Cuba, producing from 500 to 600 tons of sugar per annum: 80 caballerias of land, or 2,800 acres, would be 12,000 dollars; land being comparatively cheap in Cuba, the planter would always buy a considerable quantity, so that he might, in the event of land being worked out, have other land to fall back on.

15350. Can you state to the Committee what portion of that 2,800 acres would be under sugar cultivation?—I should suppose about one-third or one-fourth.

15351. That is about 800 acres; the rest would be pasturage and tillage forest land?—I doubt whether it would require so much land as that; but the planters in Cuba have always a vast abundance of cane, generally more than they have the means of grinding up. It would require about 300 negroes, at the price of 350 dollars each, forming an item of 105,000 dollars. It would require two engines of 14 horse power each, with sugar mills; which would cost 13,000 dollars, laid down from this country. I have been in the habit of ordering machinery from Cuba, and that is the price which I have paid; the sugar pans and cisterns, 1,500 dollars; 4,000 cones for claying the sugar, estimated at 3,000 dollars; 30 pair of oxen, value 40 dollars a pair, 1,200 dollars; then hoes, choppers, ploughshares, and sundry utensils, about 1,000 dollars; making the total capital required to be invested in those sugar estates, 136,700 dollars, or 27,500 *l.* I have not estimated the value of the buildings, because the negroes would be employed in constructing them, and also it is to be inferred that there would be an abundance of timber on the estate for every purpose which might be required.

15352. Mr. Miles.] Is this a statement which you have taken actually from a sugar estate, or is it based upon a mere calculation of your own?—It is based upon my own investigation.

15353. Mr. Moffatt.] You have been continually resident in the houses of various planters when you have been in Cuba?—I have always lived with Spanish families in Cuba.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

15354. 'And you have had a good many opportunities of seeing their books?—Yes.

15355. And the cost of the various items, and of satisfying yourself that the estimate you are now producing to the Committee is essentially correct?—Yes.

15356. Their books have always been open to you?—I have always had access to the books, and I have also had some knowledge respecting estates which have been mortgaged to British houses in this country.

15357. I observe in that calculation that you make no charge for the food of the 300 negroes employed upon the estate?—I have merely given the cost of the estate; I will now proceed to state the cost of working the estate.

13558. Your estimate is, that the plantation costs 27,000 l.?—Yes. The interest upon this capital would represent, at six per cent., 8,200 dollars; the maintenance of the negroes is calculated to cost 40 dollars each, including the poll-tax, making 12,000 dollars; the depreciation of capital upon machinery I calculate to be 15 per cent. on 18,500 dollars, 2,775 dollars; the depreciation on 1,200 dollars, the value of the cattle, would be about eight per cent., 96 dollars; the depreciation and mortality on the negroes, six per cent. on 105,000 dollars, 6,300 dollars. According to the law of Spain there must always be a certain number of whites employed upon an estate, which in no case must be less than four; in many instances they exceed that.

15359. Is that upon any estate of any size?—Yes. The administrator would have about 1,200 dollars salary per annum; the moyordomo would have about 960; the mayoral would receive 480; the engineer, during the seven months of his occupation, would be paid about 700 dollars; the carpenter, who must also be a white man, would get 500 dollars for the twelvemonth; the chief ox-driver, 250 dollars; the doctor, 480 dollars; the infirmary assistant, 280 dollars; chief sugar boiler, 240 dollars; second sugar boiler, 180 dollars; making a total of 5,220 dollars in salaries per annum. The charges upon the estate are as follows: there would be required 2,800 boxes, costing a dollar each; cartage and lighterage from the estate to Matanzas or Havannah would cost two dollars per box, 5,600; oil, tallow, copper implements, &c. would cost about 495 dollars a year; brokerage on sale of sugar would cost the planter 300 dollars; making a total of 43,788 annual charges upon the estate, which in sterling, at the exchange of 4 s. 2 d., would be 9,122 l.; that would bring the price of the three classes of sugar to the planter to about 16 s. 3 d. per cwt.

15360. Sixteen shillings and three pence per cwt. on the quay at Havannah?—Yes, all charges paid, from which you might deduct about 1 s. per cwt., the profit upon the molasses; that would make the net cost of sugar to the planter 15 s. 3 d.

15361. Sir T. Birch.] Do you make any rum?—No.

15362. You have never been, yourself, interested in an estate, or employed in the management of one?—No. According to the proportions I have given, the sugars costing 15 s. 3 d. upon the average, the whites would cost 22 s., and the yellows about 13 s., and the browns about 12 s.

[The Witness delivered in the following Statement:]

ESTIMATE of the Cost of a well-appointed and well-conducted Sugar Estate in Cuba, producing from 500 to 630 Tons of Sugar per Annum on the average, say 560 Tons, or 2,800 Boxes.

80 caballerias of land, at \$ 150	- - - - -	12,000
300 negroes, at \$350	- - - - -	105,000
2 engines, 14 horses power each, with two mills	- - - - -	13,000
Sugar pans, cisterns, &c.	- - - - -	1,500
4,000 cones for claying the sugar	- - - - -	3,000
30 pair of oxen, at \$ 40	- - - - -	1,200
Hoes, choppers, and sundry utensils	- - - - -	1,000
Total Capital	- - - \$	136,700

Interest

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. . 5

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

Interest thereon, at six per cent.		\$	8,202
Maintenance of negroes, at \$ 40 each per annum			12,000
Depreciation of capital on machinery, 15 per cent. on \$ 18,500			2,775
Ditto - on cattle, on \$1,200, at 8 per cent.			96
Ditto - and mortality on negroes, \$ 105,000, at 6 per cent.			6,300
			20,373
MANAGEMENT.			
Administrator	per annum	\$	1,200
Moyordomo	"		960
Mayoral	"		480
Engineer, seven months	"		700
Carpintero	"		500
Bueyero	"		240
Doctor	"		480
Infirmiry assistant	"		240
Sugar boiler	"		240
Second ditto	"		180
			5,220
CHARGES.			
2,800 boxes, at \$ 1 each			2,800
Ditto cartage and lighterage to Havannah or Matanzas, \$ 2			5,600
Oil, tallow, iron, copper, implements, tools, &c. &c.			495
Brokerage on sale of sugar			300
		\$	43,788
		£. Sterling	9,122
		s. d.	
Equal to per cwt.		16	3
Profit on sale of molasses		1	-
Net cost of sugar to the planter on a well-managed estate		15	3

The average proportion of clayed sugars produced would be about

3/12 white, cost to the planter	- 22 s.
7/12 yellow	- 13 s.
2/12 brown	- 12 s.

The demand for muscovado was formerly chiefly confined to the United States, and was produced by planters to a limited extent who could not command the capital requisite for the additional number of negroes or the apparatus necessary for the manufacture of clayed sugars.

Supposing that in the above estate the planter were to make muscovadoes, and there would be abundance of cane, the quantity of sugar produced would be increased probably one-fourth, viz., 560 tons + 140 = 700 tons; costing 13 s. per cwt.

15363. Mr. Moffatt.] The muscovado sugars grown in the same districts where sugar is clayed?—In the same district; only the cultivation of muscovado sugars was formerly confined to poor planters, who had not the means of extending their sugar works, in order to produce the clayed sugar. The demand for muscovadoes was always limited and confined chiefly to the United States till the year 1846.

15364. What proportion of the production of the island of Cuba is sent out as muscovado sugar?—From Havannah no muscovado sugar is exported; it is principally from Trinidad and Matanzas. I observe that last year from the whole island the total export in boxes was 1,115,608, and 46,707 hogsheads of muscovadoes.

15365. That in boxes being always clayed sugar?—Yes.

15366. What would be the weight of a hogshead?—About 14 cwt. A tenth of the whole crop would be muscovado.

15367. What is the cost of making muscovado?—An estate making muscovadoes would probably make one-fourth more of muscovadoes than of clayed sugar. In that case, supposing an estate produced 560 tons of clayed sugar, one-fourth more would bring about 700 tons of muscovadoes; that would be the minimum; that would bring it down to 13s.

15368. So that the production of muscovado sugar would be rendered at the

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

seaboard at considerably less cost per ton than clayed sugar?—Yes; about 3*l.* per ton cheaper.

15369. Can you state to the Committee what have been the prices which have ruled in Havannah during late years, of clayed sugars and muscovado sugars respectively?—I can only furnish the Committee with the cost of clayed sugar during the time I have been in the habit of visiting Havannah. In the year 1843 white sugar, of fair quality, cost, free on board, 23*s.* 2*d.* on the average.

15370. That was the general market price?—It was; yellow sugar cost about 17*s.* 9*d.* In the year 1844 whites cost 23*s.* 9*d.*; yellows cost 15*s.* 4*d.* In the year 1845 whites bore quite an artificial value in consequence of the extreme drought and the very short supply, upon which the Russian market was entirely dependent. The prices rose from 10 rials, or 28*s.* 7*d.*, up to 17 rials, or 38*s.*, and upon the news of crushed lump being admitted, they declined again to 10 rials. The lowest price for yellows at that period was about 25*s.* In the year 1846 the price was 23*s.* 9*d.* for whites and 18*s.* 11*d.* for yellows; last year the price was 26*s.* 2*d.* for whites and 20*s.* 2*d.* for yellows.

15371. Those I understand to have been the prices at which you actually purchased?—Yes, they are.

15372. You had in 1845 a commission to purchase sugar at 10 rials?—Yes.

15373. Were you able to execute those commissions?—No, I did not purchase anything that year.

15374. Can you inform the Committee what has been the price of muscovado sugars within the last few years?—The present price of muscovado is 15*s.* 3*d.* free on board.

15375. Mr. Miles.] What was the price of white and yellow sugar by the last advices?—Whites ranged, according to quality, from 23*s.* 10*d.* to 29*s.* 10*d.*; the yellows from 17*s.* 2*d.* to 18*s.* 5*d.*; and the browns from 13*s.* 7*d.* to 16*s.* 7*d.*

15376. Mr. Moffatt.] Sugar imported into this country at those quotations would leave a considerable loss?—A very heavy loss.

15377. What class of people are employed in the administration of an estate; are they principally English or Spanish?—Generally speaking, the administrator, the mayordomo, and the mayoral are Spanish; the engineers are Americans and Scotchmen.

15378. What do you estimate to be the charges in bringing sugar to Europe?—£. 5. a ton, freight, insurance, and charges.

15379. What do you estimate to be the value of the lower grade of whites?—About 23*l.* 10*s.* a ton on board in Havannah, which, with 5*l.* charges, would be 28*l.* 10*s.* in this market.

15380. What would be the case as to yellows?—Yellows which would cost 17*s.* 2*d.* in Havannah, with 5*l.* charges upon them, would be worth 20*s.*

15381. That is, sugar which costs 22*l.* 5*s.* per ton would be worth 20*l.*?—Yes.

15382. What would be the case as to browns?—The browns would cost about 15*s.* free on board; there would be the same charges, and they may be worth about 17*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.*

15383. Can you inform the Committee what are the charges from the quay of putting the sugar on ship-board, and what are the export charges or dues according to the usage of Havannah?—The charge is about 9½ per cent. upon the cost.

15384. Will you state how those charges arise?—They arise from a duty of three rials per box, or 3*d.* a cwt. The shipping charges, which include carriage from the warehouses to the wharf, are also about 3*d.* a cwt.; commission and brokerage form an item of 5½ per cent. The charges of commission, and brokerage, and bill stamps would be equivalent to about 4*d.* a cwt.

15385. What are the total charges, from the magazine where the sugar is sold to its being put on board?—About 1*s.* 6*d.* upon brown and yellow sugar.

15386. Is sugar planting generally considered profitable in Cuba?—It very frequently happens that it is unprofitable to planters who have not the necessary capital to carry it out. For instance, the years 1843 and 1845 were most fatal; the value of the crops by no means remunerated the planters, and they fell into arrears; and some in process of time will lose their estates.

15387. You have given an estimate of the cost of producing sugar, based upon your own experience, from long residence among the planters, upon an estate which is managed in the best possible manner, with abundance of capital and

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 7

and abundance of labour; are you able to give the Committee a similar statement in reference to any estate which has come within your own observation where there has been a deficiency of capital or a deficiency of labour?—I can state that the difference in that case would be that a party in such a position would be obliged to borrow capital at 12 per cent., whereas I have only charged the capital here at six per cent.; he would also have to pay a commission of 2½ per cent. upon the sales of his crop.

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

15388. And the estimate you have given does not include those charges?—No; and further, the refactionist having the entire management of the monetary affairs of the estate would also furnish it with the provisions, the charge of commission upon which would be five per cent.; all those items would make a difference to the planter in the cost of production of about 12 per cent. I have made an estimate of the two conditions of sugar planting. In the latter case the cost of sugar to the planter would be about 19s. when the estate is embarrassed.

15389. That is, the average cost of white, yellow, and brown would be equivalent to about 19s. ?—Yes.

[The Witness produced the following Statement:]

ESTIMATE of the Cost of Production of SUGAR in Cuba, supposing that the Planter, not possessing an adequate Capital, were obliged to Borrow it of a Refactioniste, on Guarantee of Crops.

80 caballerias of land, at \$ 150	\$	12,000
300 negroes, at \$ 350		105,000
Steam-engines and mill		13,000
Sugar-pans and cisterns		1,500
4,000 cones for claying sugar		3,000
30 pair of oxen, \$ 40		1,200
Hoes, choppers, and sundry utensils and implements		1,000
	\$	136,700

Interest thereon, 12 per cent.	\$	16,404
Maintenance of negroes, \$ 40 each per annum		12,000
Depreciation of capital on machinery, 15 per cent. on \$ 18,500		2,775
Depreciation on cattle, 8 per cent. on \$ 1,200		96
Depreciation and mortality on negroes, 6 per cent.		6,300
Salaries to managers, engineers, &c.		5,220
2,800 boxes, at \$ 1 each		2,800
Cartage and lighterage to Havannah or Matanzas, \$ 2		5,600
Oil, tallow, copper, implements, &c.		495
Brokerage on sale		300
Commission on sale of sugars, \$ 50,000, 2½ per cent.		1,250
Commission on advances to planter to carry on the estate in the purchase of provisions, &c., on \$ 26,000, at 5 per cent.		1,500
	\$	54,740

At 4s. 2d. - - - - - 11,400l.

Average crop, 2,800 boxes, or 560 tons	s. d.	20 4 per cwt.
Profit on molasses		1 -
		19 4 per cwt.

The cost of the production of muscovado, say 700 tons, would be on the same estate	s. d.	16 3 per cwt.
Less, molasses		1 -
		15 3 per cwt.

15390. Are you acquainted with the value of land fit for sugar cultivation in Cuba?—It will depend entirely upon the situation. If the land is favourably situated with regard to railways and water communication, and is a fine loamy soil, it would be worth 150 or 200 dollars a caballeira; in other localities it

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.*

might only be worth 30 dollars a caballeira. I should take a range from 30 up to 200 dollars per caballeira.

15391. What is the value in English?—Eighteen shillings and sixpence to 19 s. an acre.

15392. That is for the fee-simple?—Yes.

15393. Have you been on the south side of the island of Cuba?—Yes.

15394. Do you know the value of land in that locality?—It would be nearly the same.

15395. Is not there a considerable quantity of land belonging to the church on that side of the island?—I am not aware; I do not suppose that there would be any material difference in the value of the land, unless it were under circumstances more or less favourable to transport.

15396. You stated in the previous part of your examination that you estimated the value of negroes at 350 dollars per head?—Yes, purchasing a gang of negroes.

15397. That would apply to the general value of the negroes that are fit for labour?—Yes, that price would apply to them as bought in gangs; some of them might be worth 500 dollars, some might only be worth 250; in stocking a sugar estate, buying 40 or 50 negroes, that would be about the average price.

15398. Has the production of sugar been on the increase or decrease in Havannah of late years?—The estates have become more extensive.

15399. To what extent do you think there has been an increase in the sugar plantations there?—From the official returns within the last 10 years it would appear that there has been an increase of from 30 to 40 per cent.; but I do not think that that holds quite good, because previously when there was a high duty upon the export of sugar a great deal of it was smuggled out, and you never arrived at correct data, whereas now the duty being trifling there is no object in falsifying the returns.

15400. In what year was that alteration made in the duty?—In 1845, I believe.

15401. Subsequent to 1845 your impression is that there has been no material increase in the extent of land brought into sugar cultivation?—I think the production of sugar has increased.

15402. But not to the extent which the official returns of the export would appear to warrant?—Not as compared with the returns of eight or ten years previously.

15403. Coffee planting is carried on to some extent in the island, is not it?—It has been; it is now declining.

15404. They are applying their labour more to the production of sugar?—The coffee estates having become quite unproductive, the planters are giving them up, and either forming sugar estates or selling off their negroes to other sugar estates.

15405. To what cause do you attribute the failure of the coffee plantations?—The trees no longer bear the same quantity which they did when coffee was first introduced into the island. The average production of coffee at that period was calculated at about 3 lbs. a tree; since that it has dwindled down to about 1 lb. a tree, and the prices have declined much in consequence of competition with the Brazils, that the planters now can make no profit.

15406. The Cuban planter feels that he cannot successfully compete with the other coffee producing countries of the world?—He cannot.

15407. That information you acquire from those engaged in coffee plantations?—Yes.

15408. You know of your own knowledge that coffee plantations have been extensively abandoned in Cuba?—Within the last five years no person was considered wise in continuing them.

15409. Can you state to the Committee what used to be the export of coffee from Cuba, and what it is at the present time?—It has diminished by three-fourths from what it formerly was. In 1846 it was about 65,000 cwt., in 1847 it was 106,000 cwt.

15410. You state it as your belief that the export of coffee from Cuba has fallen off three-fourths within the last ten years?—Yes.

15411. Do the planters in Cuba ever complain of any scarcity of labour in the

the island?—The scarcity of labour has been very great of late years, since the almost total cessation of the import of slaves.

15412. Has the price of slaves risen in consequence?—It has not risen materially within the last three or four years.

15413. Is it the practice in Cuba to let out slaves for hire?—It is quite a common practice.

15414. Are there considerable properties invested in slaves merely for the purpose of letting them out for hire?—Many persons hold gangs of slaves for that purpose, some even to the extent of 500 or 600 negroes.

15415. What is the price they ordinarily obtain per diem where they let the slaves out for hire?—During the crop season the price ranges from 17 to 20 dollars a month.

15416. How many days to the month?—During the crop season they would work every day, 30 days a month; that is equivalent to about 3s. a day, because a party engaging the slave has to maintain him.

15417. Therefore you estimate that the hire of slaves per diem, letting them in gangs, costs the planter 3s. a day?—Yes.

15418. Are slaves ever let at other terms for other processes of sugar production?—Not for the purpose of sugar production, because the planter would generally have sufficient hands to keep down the weeds, but they are let for all kinds of labour, for the purpose of digging and making railways, quarrying, and so on.

15419. What is the general price when they are not engaged in crop time?—Slave labour, to be employed in making railways, would cost 15 or 16 dollars per month.

15420. How many days would they work in the month?—They would work only six days a week.

15421. And for that the general price is 16 dollars per month?—Yes.

15422. Many slaveowners keep their slaves exclusively, you say, for the purpose of letting them out for hire?—Yes.

15423. And some hold gangs of 500 or 600 slaves?—Precisely so.

15424. Does that price of 16 dollars include the keep of the slaves?—The party employing them has to keep them.

15425. So that the average daily value of their labour is equivalent to 2s. 10d. per diem?—Yes.

15426. A vast number of the slaves are let in the island of Cuba at that rate?—Yes; it is the common practice.

15427. Do you consider the negro population of Cuba to be on the increase or decrease?—It is on the decrease, considerably.

15428. From what cause?—The population is not kept up by importation, and there is a great disproportion in the sexes.

15429. What is the proportion of the sexes among the slave population?—On a coffee plantation it might be in the proportion of 70 to 80 females to 100 males, but on sugar plantations the average would not be more than 10 per cent., and in many instances not more than five per cent.

15430. What is the population of Cuba?—There are about 500,000 slaves, about 100,000 free blacks, and about 500,000 whites and various shades of colour.

15431. What is the revenue of the island?—The total revenue ranges between thirteen and fourteen million dollars.

15432. How is that revenue obtained?—By customs duties on imports and exports; by a capitation tax upon negroes.

15433. How much is that?—It would average about a dollar per head; a considerable revenue arises also from stamp duties, and the rentals of confiscated church property; seignorage on mining operations.

15434. Are there any duties on property or houses?—That does not enter into the Crown revenue; that is the municipal revenue.

15435. Can you state what the municipal revenue of Havannah is?—No.

15436. Does it form a large ingredient in their taxation?—Not very; it is merely levied for the purpose of keeping up the police and lighting the town.

15437. What is the cost of the civil and military administration of the island?—About eight million dollars per annum to eight and a half millions.

15438. What becomes of the remaining six millions?—That is remitted to

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

Spain. The different members of the royal family have grants of appanage upon the treasury of Havannah.

15439. The island of Cuba is subject to an annual drain for remittance to the mother country?—Yes. Whenever there is a surplus it is always drawn for; it would vary from 800,000 *l.* to a million sterling per annum.

15440. Can you give the Committee any information with regard to the amount of tonnage of the respective flags which is used for the conveyance of the produce of Cuba to Europe?—I have a statement from the mercantile weekly report, which shows the number of vessels and the tonnage, in the years 1846 and 1847.

[The Witness read the same, as follows:]

STATEMENT of the Number and Tonnage of Vessels that entered the Port of *Havannah* in 1846 and 1847.

	1846.		1847.	
	NO.	TONNAGE.	NO.	TONNAGE.
Americans - - - - -	659	125,343	868	151,117
British - - - - -	154	68,206	200	72,275
Spanish - - - - -	536	96,533	538	100,868
Dutch - - - - -	11	1,703	26	10,344
Belgian - - - - -	13	3,440	24	5,683
French - - - - -	35	7,213	41	8,639
Hamburgh - - - - -	17	3,394	13	3,119
Bremen - - - - -	39	8,427	23	3,034
Danish - - - - -	14	2,623	17	3,652
Others - - - - -	59	11,992	67	12,010
TOTAL - - - - -	1,537	328,919	1,810	372,793

15441. From that return it appears that the tonnage employed under the Spanish flag in the trade with Havannah is nearly equal to that of the American, which is the largest tonnage employed in the Havannah trade?—The Spanish tonnage is about one-third less than the American.

15442. It considerably exceeds the British tonnage employed in that trade?—Considerably; it exceeds it by about a third.

15443. *Chairman.*] British ships are excluded from the trade between the Havannah and the United States, are not they?—Yes; that is in consequence of the operation of the English Navigation Laws; the American laws are based upon ours.

15444. Is it true or not that it is by the operation of the Navigation Laws that British ships are excluded from the trade between the United States and Havannah, and between Havannah and Spain?—It is.

15445. By the English Navigation Laws?—In consequence of them.

15446. *Mr. Moffatt.*] Will you be good enough to explain how it is that, in your opinion, the English Navigation Laws does exclude the importation of sugar from Havannah to the United States under a British flag?—The American government goes upon the system of reciprocity in all cases of navigation; if the Americans were allowed to bring sugar in their bottoms from Cuba into Great Britain, our vessels would then be allowed to bring sugar from Cuba into America, which is the case with all Hanseatic vessels, with Russian and Prussian vessels.

15447. Is not it perfectly notorious that the American minister in this country has received instructions to enter into a treaty which would give those privileges to a British vessel employed in the Havannah trade, if we would concede to the Americans the same privilege to this country?—I am not aware of the representation having been made.

15448. But you are aware that the whole system of American legislation, in regard to the Navigation Laws, is based upon the system of reciprocity?—Yes.

15449. A gentleman who appeared and gave evidence before this Committee, stated

stated that he was not allowed to enter Cuba; that the Cuban authorities thought he was too hostile to the slave trade and slavery, and they refused a passport to admit him into the island; do you think that is consistent with the usage of the authorities in Cuba?—I should say not; probably the gentleman arrived without a proper passport, and consequently he would be refused admittance.

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

15450. It has never come within your experience that a gentleman has been refused admission into the island if he came with a regular passport, because he was too hostile to slavery and to the slave trade?—I am not aware of any such circumstance.

15451. Mr. Miles.] Is any foreigner allowed to land in Cuba till he has sent in his name to the authorities?—Any foreigner is allowed to land, provided he is furnished with a passport from the Spanish authorities.

15452. How long has that been the case?—It has always been the case. One formality has been altered within the last three years; viz. previously a party was not allowed to land without giving security for his good behaviour in the island, to enable him to land, besides the passport.

15453. Mr. Moffatt.] Will you be good enough to state whether this is a correct description of the treatment of the slaves: that they are put in a pen; that their food is taken to them; that the strongest generally fares the best; that they are driven out in the morning before the whip; and that if any one runs away he is always shot, to make an example to the rest?—That is not accurate in every respect; it is accurate in some respects; the negroes are driven home from the fields and put into barracoons, or large huts, which consist generally of a long range of buildings, divided off into compartments, each containing from 8 to 15 people; they are fed, and have always abundance of food, which consists of jerked beef, and a porridge made of jerked beef, cassava roots, sweet potatoes, and bananas; they have as much of that as they can eat. They are then locked up, and remain till about half-past four the following morning, when they are awake up; they have their breakfast and are turned out again into the field. If a negro were to run away, it is correct that he would be tracked with bloodhounds; but in no one instance am I aware of any negro having been shot, because the planter by doing so evidently would make himself liable to the criminal jurisprudence of the country.

15454. What would be the consequence of a planter shooting his negro?—I imagine it might cost him the value of the whole of his property.

15455. Can you inform the Committee what is the law of Cuba in regard to the protection of the lives of the slaves?—According to the law, the planter cannot inflict more than 26 lashes upon a negro for any act of insubordination.

15456. The number is limited to 26 lashes?—Yes.

15457. Can you state to the Committee, in case a planter does not deem the extreme number of lashes which he is permitted to inflict a sufficient punishment, what is the course he must take?—Provided he did not wish to take upon himself the responsibility of punishing him to a further extent, he must send to the commissary of the district, and the commissary would have him punished to the extent which the planter thought proper.

15458. He has no power for the punishment of a slave beyond the infliction of 26 lashes?—Not legally.

15459. Consequently he renders himself liable to the penalties of the law if he inflicts any severer punishment than that?—Yes.

15460. For any higher offence he is to bring the slave before the courts of justice in the island?—Before the commissary of the district.

15461. What power has the commissary of the district over the life of a slave?—He has no power over the life of a slave.

15462. The life of a slave is equally protected with the life of a Spaniard?—Yes.

15463. In the eye of the law the life of a slave and the life of a freeman are equal?—They are.

15464. It has been stated to the Committee that when the law was altered in 1846 there was a universal feeling of rejoicing; that the price of land increased, and the price of labour; were you in Havannah at the time when the news arrived?—I was.

15465. Were you cognizant of anything of this universal feeling of rejoicing?

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Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

—I did not observe any ; it might have been some church festival or holiday ; but that there was any feeling of rejoicing on that account I am not aware.

15466. Did the price of slaves increase in consequence of that news?—Not the least.

15467. Did the price of land increase?—No, not immediately. The price of land depending more or less upon the price of sugar, would, from inference, be higher last year than in ordinary years.

15468. That is, whenever there is a great demand for labour, by reason of an increased production, as a matter of course the value of labour rises?—Yes.

15469. *Sir E. Buxton.*] How many hours do those hired gangs work which you mentioned, which are let out at 3 s. a day during crop time?—They are let out at all periods of the year ; but those which are let out during the crop time would be employed about 12 hours a day in the field, and about 16 or 17 if employed in the sugar-house.

15470. How long does crop time last?—From the middle of November till the middle of May, depending upon the weather. If the dry weather continues, sometimes the planter would grind to the end of May.

15471. Are those hired gangs used as well as the slaves which are permanently fixed upon the estate?—They are employed on all kinds of work upon the estate.

15472. Are they as well used as those which are fixed upon the estate?—Just the same ; there is no difference.

15473. Then a master does not take advantage of those people as one would expect he would?—The probability is, that the hired slaves would be put into the sugar-house, where the work is more heavy than it would be in the field ; but their rations and their fare would be the same.

15474. Is the evidence of slaves taken in a court of justice against a white man?—No.

15475. Did you ever know a case in which a planter was fined his whole property for killing a slave?—I am not aware of any case of that kind.

15476. Did you never know a case in which a slave has been murdered by his master?—I never knew a case.

15477. Did you never hear such a case?—No.

15478. Have you lived long in the island?—I have been in the habit of frequenting the island every year for the last seven years.

15479. And have had good opportunities of knowing what was going on there?—I should say so.

15480. You say the masters are confined to 26 lashes ; do they never exceed that?—That is the law, and I dare say frequently the law is exceeded ; but the master does it upon his own responsibility.

15481. Black evidence cannot be taken against the white man?—No.

15482. Therefore, of course, a master on his estate, where all the people are slaves, has great opportunities of committing a breach of the law without any evidence being producible against him?—He has so.

15483. You say any person can be admitted into the island with a passport ; did you never hear of any missionaries from one of the West India islands being refused admittance there?—I never heard of such a case ; but under the old law, provided there were parties on shore to whom those missionaries might have been known, if they would have undertaken to become security to the government for their non-interference, in that case they would have been admitted.

15484. Has it not been the case generally that Englishmen have been refused admittance?—Never, I should suppose, when the specific object of the parties was known to the government.

15485. Has not it practically been frequently the case that Englishmen have been refused?—I have never heard a case where they have been refused, except where their passport has been informal.

15486. Were you likely to have heard of such cases?—I have been in the habit of living in Havannah three or four months during the year, for the last seven years. I am aware of instances where passengers arriving by steamers have been obliged to proceed to the Gulf of Mexico, in consequence of informality of passport.

15487. *Mr. Miles.*] Is it not the fact that a missionary is always denied admittance

admittance into Cuba?—I cannot state that it is the fact; I think it is very probable it might be so. Mr. J. Harbottle.

15488. You never heard of any single case since you have been connected with Havannah?—No; I recollect once going from the United States with certain missionaries and they were admitted. 3 April 1848.

15489. Did you never hear of the case of a merchant from Falmouth, in Jamaica, who, because he put on a black coat and white neckcloth, was put in prison in St. Jago?—No; I have never been on the eastern side of the island.

15490. Have you never read the newspapers?—That fact would not be published in the Spanish papers.

15491. Are the Committee to understand that the island of Cuba is suffering extreme distress at the present moment?—Not distress; I am not aware of any distress.

15492. You stated before that sugars were selling much below the cost price?—Not at present; sugars are selling at a higher price in Cuba than they are selling in this country.

15493. There are a great many sugars shipped here upon commission, are there not?—Scarcely anything is ever shipped upon the planters' account; it is generally shipped on account of orders from this country, or from American houses in Havannah, who take an interest in the cargoes.

15494. It is not on account of the planters at all?—Not one-hundredth part of the crop.

15495. You have stated that the average cost of sugar was about 15s. 3d. per cwt.?—Yes.

15496. Do you apprehend that the planter gets no remuneration from that?—That would be the cost to the planter, I should say, upon an average year; the average price of sugar would be something above that which enables the planter to make a fair profit upon the outlay of his capital; six per cent. could not indemnify him.

15497. Then last year the planters made nothing?—They made a very good business last year; the average price last year exceeded 15s.

15498. How much?—The average for yellows exceeded 15s. last year by 7s. 7d.; the average for whites last year exceeded it by 11s.

15499. The planters of Cuba last year made, on an average, therefore, from 7l. to 11l. per ton?—Yes; last year was one of the most brilliant years that the island of Cuba has ever had.

15500. What was that in consequence of?—It was in consequence of the great demand for sugars in Europe; there was a good deal of excitement in the sugar market in this country in consequence of the supposed demand of sugar for brewing purposes; when that news reached Havannah, and the prices advanced in this country from about 25s. to 29s., the prices had a corresponding advance in the island of Cuba, but afterwards, towards the autumn of the year, there was a great decline; sugars have been losing in this market from 7l. to 8l. a ton upon the prices paid in Cuba.

15501. Upon the prices paid to the grower?—Yes.

15502. Was there a great demand upon the Continent last year?—A fair demand.

15503. Was there any increased demand over previous years?—I should think not.

15504. It was entirely owing to the excitement produced in this market that the rise in price took place in Havannah sugar?—In consequence of the excitement produced by sugar being admitted for brewing purposes.

15505. It was entirely owing to the excitement of the market of this country?—The market in this country having advanced rapidly caused a corresponding advance in the markets of Havannah; but the markets of the Continent also would reciprocate with the market here, because this country is as it were an entrepôt.

15506. The rise in the market of Europe was owing to the rise in this market?—Yes.

15507. Did you hear of no excitement whatever in the market in Havannah when it was known that their sugars were to be admitted into the markets of this country?—Not the slightest; I think it was rather the reverse, because I purchased cargoes of white sugar in the month of July in 1846 at about 10 per

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

cent. lower than I should have been able to have purchased them in the months of April and May.

15508. At what period did you know in Havannah of the admission of slave-grown sugar into this country?—I think in May.

15509. The Bill was not passed till July?—The thing was contemplated; it was in May or June that the news arrived in Havannah of the proposed modification; the qualities of white sugar in the months of June and July had declined.

15510. Did not they rise after that?—Yes.

15511. During what months were you there in 1846?—In April, May, June, and a portion of July.

15512. You stated that you bought sugar in June and July at a cheaper rate than you could buy it in April and May?—White sugar.

15513. How do you account for the fact that the price of foreign sugars rose in the market of this country immediately the Bill passed?—The rise would take place in consequence of the possibility of their being cleared for this market, provided always they came in British or Spanish vessels.

15514. Then it did give a great stimulus to the market in this country?—Not in 1846.

15515. Immediately after the Bill passed?—It would in this country, but the crop would be over in Cuba; it did not affect the crop of 1846 at all.

15516. You have given the Committee an account of a sugar estate, which is entirely an imaginary one; it is not formed from any particular estate, but taken from general returns?—It is taken from general returns, from my knowledge of the prices of land and negroes, and the expenses that are contingent upon the management of an estate.

15517. I gathered from your evidence that you had imagined this estate to be somewhere in the neighbourhood of Matanzas?—Yes.

15518. Why did you state the cartage of sugar to Matanzas or Havannah?—The principal sugar estates are in the neighbourhood of Matanzas; the sugar has sometimes to be brought down to the railways, and then by the railways to Matanzas, then if the planter is not satisfied with the Matanzas prices he has them frequently shipped round to Havannah.

15519. How far should you imagine this estate to be placed from either Matanzas or Havannah?—Taking the average, I should say 15 leagues.

15520. Your calculation is based on the distance of 15 leagues?—Yes.

15521. Did you ever happen to be on the other side of the island?—Not to purchase sugars.

15522. You are not aware of the difference there is in the cost of cultivation on one side and the other?—I am not aware what the difference is. I should imagine there is no great difference; whatever difference there might be in the total charges of the estates would be the cost of transport.

15523. You are not aware that it has been already proved that there is considerable difference between the cost of production on the one side and the other?—No.

15524. Nor are you aware that the land is, generally speaking, of a much more fertile character on the one side than it is on the other?—I do not think the land on the south side of the island is more fertile; the most productive sugar-producing countries now are on the north side of the island.

15525. Those are new situations?—Yes, having been opened out within the last six or eight years.

15526. And they have great superiority over the Matanzas and the Havannah districts?—A decided superiority over the Havannah district, but not over the Matanzas.

15527. Are you prepared to adhere to that opinion?—I know that estates opened up in the neighbourhood of Sagua la Grande are more productive and produce higher qualities of sugar than the old estates in the neighbourhood of Havannah.

15528. More than the old estates in the neighbourhood of Matanzas?—They differ very much; it depends upon whether the estate has been in cultivation 40 years or 10 years; the land becomes exhausted and will not produce cane of the same degree of strength after a certain time.

15529. Matanzas has been in cultivation a considerable time, has not it?—Yes.

15530. Therefore

15530. Therefore it will not produce sugar as luxuriantly as other districts? Not as the new districts.

15531. You think it very possible that they could produce sugar at a much cheaper rate in the new districts than in the neighbourhood of Matanzas and Havannah?—It will depend upon the distance it is from the sea coast.

15532. Do you know what distance those new establishments are from the sea coast, Cardenas, and Sagua la Grande, and Cienfuegos?—The distance of the new estates might be about five to ten leagues; some of them are close upon the coast. Many of the new estates are further inland.

15533. You have also said that the charges upon sugar conveyed from the stores to the ship amount to 1 s. 6 d. per cwt. ?—Upon the average qualities; it would be more, taking the commission, upon the higher grade of sugars; those are the shipping charges, including commission, duty, and wharfage.

15534. In all those new establishments are the sugars sent to one central station, or are they taken to the ship's side direct?—The sugars in every case are forwarded from the plantation either to Matanzas or Havannah for sale.

15535. I am speaking of the new districts?—They all come to Havannah or Matanzas; you will observe by the exports, that although the sugar-producing districts are in the neighbourhood of Cardenas, there is no sugar exported from thence; it all comes coastwise to Havannah or Matanzas.

15536. You cannot speak as to Cienfuegos or Trinidad?—There is only a small production at Cienfuegos.

15537. Are you prepared to say that they cannot grow sugar at a cost of less than 15 s. 3 d. per cwt. upon the average?—They cannot grow box sugar in any part of the island at less than that.

15538. Have you seen any of the evidence taken before this Committee?—No.

15539. Are you aware that the Committee has had returns of several estates sent in to them, in which it is stated that sugar can be grown at from 8 s. to 9 s. ?—I am not aware of any statement of the kind having been sent in; the only observation, if I might be permitted to make it, is this, that the average price of sugar in Havannah might be taken as a fair criterion of the cost of production, making an addition of 10 or 12 per cent. for the profit upon the capital invested in it. In the course of years it will be found that where the average of prices has been about five and nine to six and ten rials for the qualities of yellow and white sugars, the planter would invariably lose money.

15540. Will you state why they would necessarily lose money?—At the free on board price of 16 s. 6 d. for yellows and 26 s. 2 d. for whites, the planter will only cover his expenses, but at 18 s. 10 d. for yellows and 27 s. 10 d. for whites, the planter makes a profitable business.

15541. Those were the prices last year?—Yes.

15542. Up to last year you think the planters have been doing a very unprofitable business?—Not entirely; they did a paying business in 1846, a very unprofitable business in 1845, and a very unprofitable business in 1844, but a profitable business in 1843.

15543. How do you account for the fact, that with all this number of unprofitable years, a large increase has taken place in the cultivation of sugar?—Taking the range of five years, there are two unprofitable years and three profitable years, and that one particularly unprofitable to the planter resulted from the hurricane, which destroyed three-fourths of the crop.

15544. Leaving that out of the question, sugar cultivation at those prices is profitable?—It is a profitable business.

15545. Anything below the price you have stated you do not think profitable?—Not much below that; the planter would pay his way at 16 s. 6 d. and 26 s.

15546. Do you expect the price of white sugar in the Havannah to continue at 28 s. ?—The price of white sugar in the Havannah has been always more or less artificial, owing to the exclusive demand of this sugar for Russia; no other country in the world would take those sugars at the price; they were restricted to the Russian market in consequence of the high rate of duty upon all qualities of sugar indiscriminately, consequently the Russians were obliged to purchase sugar of the highest possible quality they could find. You find, in consequence of this monopoly in the Russian market, white sugars always bore relatively a higher value than the yellows, but when this Russian monopoly

Mr. J. Harbottle.
3 April 1848.

ceased they declined, which was the case in 1845, 1846, and 1847; they will bear an artificial price again, in consequence of the readmission of them into Russia.

15547. The increase of price is not on account of the admission of the sugar into this market, but on account of the monopoly which takes place in Russia?—The position of the Havannah planter is materially ameliorated by the repeal of the Russian edict, which admitted crushed lump into the country. During two years crushed lump was admitted into Russia, the artificiality of the price of white clayed sugar ceased; in the month of January this year crushed lumps were again prohibited, confining the demand for the Russian market solely to Havannah, the consequence of which will be that the white sugar will bear relatively a higher price. With regard to the prospects of this year, the planters, I think, will probably lose money, because the price at present quoted is not high, and in the distressed state of Europe, it is probable that it may decline 25 per cent. below the intrinsic cost.

15548. These questions are in reference to the free estates of the old planters who are allowed to sell their sugar wherever they please?—I have been answering on the subject generally.

15549. Are the Committee to understand that all those estates which are under a refactionist, whose sugar costs them 19 s. a cwt., must be losers, even at the high price of last year?—No; there would be the profit on the molasses.

15550. What is that?—One shilling. The planter who is in the hand of a refactionist generally, in the end, becomes a bankrupt.

15551. Even with the high prices of last year all the estates under the refactionists got nothing, inasmuch as the average of their sugar cost them in 19 s. a cwt.?—Still I think the planter last year might make a good business; it is not only that the price of sugar was high, but the price of molasses was high.

15552. What extra price would you put down for molasses last year?—I should state that I have known instances where molasses have been worth nothing upon an estate, whereas last year the price had risen to 5 ½ rials a keg; molasses are in demand exclusively for the United States; the price in the United States, when molasses are worth little or nothing in Cuba, has been 12 or 13 cents a gallon; last year the price advanced to 30 cents a gallon.

15553. You state that the average price is 1 s. a cwt.; you say that at 19 s. a man would get nothing for his estate, but that if molasses sold at a higher price he would get the difference between that and the 1 s.; what is that difference?—An estate might make nothing by the molasses in some instances, and might make 2 s. in others.

15554. You have stated that estates under the refactionist cannot make their sugar at an average cost of less than 19 s.?—That will always depend upon the amount of capital which is borrowed.

15555. You stated it upon the average before?—Supposing a man to work entirely upon borrowed capital, that would be the cost of his sugar; but if he works upon only one half borrowed capital, supposing he advanced 50,000 dollars himself and were obliged to borrow 50,000 more, that would reduce the average by so much.

15556. You gave an average of the whole just now?—I gave the two extremes; one a clear estate, and the other an embarrassed estate.

15557. Mr. M. Gibson.] Did you ever know any Irish labourers imported into Cuba?—Yes; there was a considerable gang imported, for the purpose of constructing railways.

15558. Was it considered that Irish labourers would be cheaper than slaves?—The contract, I imagine, would imply it to be so, otherwise they would not have brought them from New Orleans. I think there were between 400 and 500 of them.

15559. How did they thrive there?—They continued to work some time; but their habits are not very suitable to the climate, and they were carried off by yellow fever. I do not suppose more than 20 or 25 ever returned.

15560. Do you attribute this mortality amongst the whites when they go into tropical climates, to the climate, or to their intemperate habits?—To the climate.

15561. Do you attribute it entirely to the climate?—Almost every European would

would be liable to yellow fever, without any consideration of his habits; but a person of intemperate habits would be immediately seized with the fever, and there would be very little prospect of his recovery.

15562. Do the habits of those white labourers render them more liable to those diseases, and consequently become one of the principal causes of mortality?—They would be in the habit of drinking bad rum, when they ought to drink nothing but wine and water.

15563. Do you believe if those Irish labourers had pursued a more temperate system they might have lived?—The mortality would still have been heavy among them, from exposure to the sun and the exhalations from the earth.

15564. You appear to have imagined in the month of May 1846, that from the course the Legislature was taking, in all probability the duties would be lowered on foreign sugar?—That information arrived in Cuba.

15565. I suppose you thought that from the course Parliament was taking in reference to corn, there was a prospect that the same policy would be pursued with respect to sugar?—That was the general impression.

15566. With regard to the Navigation Laws, do British ships ever take sugar from Cuba to the Baltic?—British ships can carry sugar to Russia, but they cannot carry it to the other states of the Baltic.

15567. Do they carry to Russia?—They do.

15568. And do there compete directly with foreign ships?—Yes, with Americans and other foreigners.

15569. Without any protection?—Without any protection.

15570. Do they get ruined at it?—If they did I imagine they would not continue it.

15571. Is not the exporting merchant in Cuba in a better position than the exporting merchant in the British West Indies at the present time, in consequence of having open to him a larger choice of ships?—I should say decidedly in a better position, because there are flags of all nations, and all can avail themselves of it. The quoted freights in Havannah are generally much below what the quoted freights are in the British West Indies; the island quoted freights are now 2*l.* 15*s.* for ships of all nations, from Havannah to Cowes, and a market. They are quoted in this paper at 3*l.*, but the rate of freight will always depend upon the size of the vessel.

15572. If I were to go to Cuba with a view of purchasing sugar, in order to send it to the United Kingdom, I should have a larger number of ships to chose from, in order to carry that sugar, than if I went to the British West Indies to purchase sugar to send it to the United Kingdom?—I imagine you would; there are generally 50 or 60 vessels for freight there during the whole period of the shipping season.

15573. I could either send it in British ships or Spanish ships?—Yes.

15574. But I should be compelled to send it in British ships if I sent it from the British West Indies?—Yes.

15575. Therefore I should be in a better position as to freights in Cuba than I should be in the British West Indies?—Yes.

15576. You say you have given up growing coffee to a great extent in Cuba; is that because you cannot compete with free-labour coffee?—The production of coffee is very much on the decline in Cuba, in consequence of the competition with the coffees of Brazil. Cuba coffees were generally exported to the United States; but the price has declined so much that the planters could not make a living by it.

15577. Is it the exclusive competition of the Brazil coffee which has caused that?—I think that has operated more than any other description of coffee.

15578. Is Brazilian coffee a lower quality coffee?—Yes.

15579. Does it come into direct competition with Cuban coffee?—Yes.

15580. Is there anything peculiar about this Brazilian coffee, in its quality, that it is preferred in any way?—It is the lowness of the price.

15581. With respect to the large military establishments in Cuba, they are a heavy charge, are not they, upon the island resources?—Yes; the military establishment is a very heavy charge.

15582. Are these military establishments necessarily large in consequence of the amount of slave population?—It is thought necessary to maintain a large force in order to keep down insurrections, which have occasionally taken place, and also to protect the island from invasion.

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

15583. *Chairman.*] You were asked just now what the freights from Havannah to England would be; you stated 2*l.* 15*s.*?—Yes.

15584. Every one of the trade circulars which you have in your possession states the freights at 3*l.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*?—It depends upon their destination.

15585. To Cowes?—It also depends upon the size of the vessel; a vessel carrying 200 tons of sugar would always get 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* more than a vessel carrying 500 tons.

15586. When you were giving evidence to the Committee, with a paper in your hand, you stated that the freight was 3*l.* Why did you go the length of suppressing the fact that the freight was not 3*l.*, but from 3*l.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*?—I did not wish to suppress any fact; I have letters from Havannah, and I am aware of the tendency of the freights, and I have positive advice of a ship with which I am connected having been chartered to an out-of-the-way port, Venice, where the port charges are very high, at 3*l.* 5*s.* That was a small vessel carrying only 1,200 boxes, the Mediterranean freights being 10*s.* in advance of what the freights are to Cowes. I quoted it at the rate for foreign ships.

15587. Have you that letter to produce to the Committee?—I have not it with me.

15588. You cannot produce the letter?—I can produce it to the Committee to-morrow.

15589. Mr. *Moffatt.*] Consequently if the Mediterranean freight is 3*l.* 5*s.*, the freight to Cowes would be 2*l.* 15*s.*?—Yes; it depends upon the class of vessel; a Spanish vessel would get a higher rate of freight coming to this market, being an exclusive market, than a Russian or a Dane would get, and a higher rate of freight also than an American; she would get 2*s.* 6*d.* more.

15590. Mr. *M. Gibson.*] A Spanish vessel has a certain protection against the Danes and Russians?—Yes.

15591. *Chairman.*] Can a Dane or an American import sugar at all from Havannah to this country?—Not for consumption.

15592. Then what do you mean by stating that a Spanish ship would get a somewhat higher freight to this country than a Dane or a United States ship, when you know that neither a Dane nor a United States ship could bring a freight here at all?—It might come in bond; the sugar must be bonded; but free sugar will always command a higher price than bonded sugar. Sugar brought in a vessel that could be entered for home consumption would be more valuable than sugar which would have to go into bond. An English or Spanish ship would get 2*s.* 6*d.* more for the sugar she brought to this country than sugar brought in a foreign ship.

15593. The Danes do import sugar for bonding in this country, do they?—Any foreign vessel may be taken up for that purpose.

15594. They may import sugar, under the Navigation Laws, for bonding in this country?—Yes.

15595. Of that you are quite certain?—I believe that is the case.

15596. You know of your own knowledge, do you, that the Danes and United States ships bring sugars from Havannah to this country to be bonded?—They are generally shipped for Cowes and a market, but when not sold they may be bonded in this country.

15597. Is the sugar to be bonded at Cowes?—It may be bonded at any British port that the vessel may be ordered to.

15598. Do not you know that under the Navigation Laws, sugar cannot be imported from Havannah either in United States or Danish ships in bond?—For exportation it may be imported; it cannot be cleared for duty, consequently it must be exported.

15599. Is a ship in bond when she comes bound to Cowes and a market?—No, she is not in bond; a foreign vessel may be chartered in Havannah for Cowes and a market; but, provided the cargo is not sold, it may be ordered on to London or Liverpool, or any other British port, and put into bond for exportation.

15600. You mean to say that a United States or a Dane may be chartered for Cowes and a market with Havannah sugar, and that the sugar can then be sent to London or to Liverpool, to be landed and bonded for exportation?—Yes.

15601. And that you know?—Yes.

15602. You were asked by Mr. *Moffatt* whether the Spanish ships engaged in the Havannah trade were not more than British ships; are the Spanish ships

ships engaged in the British sugar trade with the Havannah equal to the British ships so engaged?—No.

15603. How many British ships are there engaged in the carrying of the Spanish sugar between Havannah and Great Britain?—I find last year there were 200.

15604. How many Spanish?—It does not state. I have only the total number of Spanish ships which arrived in the Havannah; all British ships would be engaged exclusively in the trade between Havannah and Great Britain.

15605. What proportion of the sugar-laden ships bound to England from Cuba are British and what are Spanish?—The great majority are British; I should suppose there are not more than 30 to 40 cargoes of sugar in Spanish ships arriving in this country.

15606. And 200 British?—Yes.

15607. So that British ships carrying sugar from the Havannah to Great Britain are something between six and seven to one to Spanish ships?—A Spanish ship would not come here at all with sugar were it not for the purpose of obtaining a return freight, because Spanish ships cannot be sailed at the same rate as British ships can.

15608. Has not a Spanish ship some advantage in the export duty from Havannah?—She has an advantage in the export duty, but the great object of Spanish ships coming to this country is to go from hence with a return cargo of manufactured produce.

15609. Is not a Spanish ship favoured at Havannah in the export duty she pays, and again favoured when she returns there in the import duties upon British goods?—Yes.

15610. As regards the United States ships, Danish ships, and all European ships, there is no competition between the Havannah and Great Britain in the carrying trade of sugar, except, as you state, for sugar to be bonded for export?—The other ships of the world come in competition with the ships of Great Britain in the port of Havannah.

15611. Not to England?—Not for consumption in England.

15612. You stated that you were in Cuba from April to July, and that while you were there the news arrived that Havannah sugars were to be admitted for home consumption in England?—The rumour reached Havannah then.

15613. Do not you know that the fact which did arrive was that Sir Robert Peel, the Prime Minister of this country, in his statement in February had declared that he meant to continue to exclude Havannah sugar?—There was a change of ministry, I believe, which took place in the spring of the year, which brought about a change of policy; but not being connected specially with the trade of this country, I do not always follow the politics of the country.

15614. Are not you a British merchant?—My trade is confined exclusively to Russia, Austria, and the United States.

15615. You are an Englishman?—Yes.

15616. When did you abandon the trade of this country and trade with Austria and the United States?—I never carried on any trade with this country.

15617. Then, after all, you know nothing about the trade of this country?—I have never imported any goods into this country.

15618. When you said that you knew of your own knowledge that sugar was imported into this country in United States and Danish ships, landed and bonded and re-exported, it was a mistake, and you do not know that of your own knowledge?—I know it from the statements.

15619. You know nothing about the fact, because after all, though an Englishman, you are not a British merchant?—My business is not connected with Great Britain.

15620. The ministry in this country you say was changed in the spring of the year, and that was a fact that came to your knowledge in June or July in Havannah?—There was a rumour of either a positive or a contemplated change, which I remember perfectly well.

15621. You incline to think it was a rumour of a positive change which arrived in Havannah?—My impression was that it was positive; it appears, however, to have been only a contemplated change.

15622. The ministry having really been changed on the last day of June or the

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

1st day of July. You have said you are not a British merchant, and you speak with a great deal of authority about the sugar plantations in Cuba; do you know anything of the plantations in Cuba?—I have no interest in any plantations there.

15623. Therefore you do not know anything of your own knowledge of the cost of sugar planting in Cuba?—I simply know from this fact; I am aware of the system of management, and the cost both of land and negroes.

15624. You never were a sugar planter?—No.

15625. And never imported a negro?—And never imported a negro, though the value of them is very well known to every one frequenting that country.

15626. You never possessed a negro?—No.

15627. Therefore you have no practical knowledge whatever of a sugar plantation at all?—I do not know that it is absolutely requisite to be a planter to have a knowledge of the cost of an estate and the charges connected with the conducting of it.

15628. You do not think that it is necessary to have been a sugar planter, or to have had any practical knowledge of a sugar plantation, to be able to give a detailed estimate of a sugar plantation that produces 600 tons of sugar a year?—We all know very well in Cuba what are the expenses connected with an estate, and we also know what is the average produce of those estates; consequently, it is not difficult to arrive at the cost of the sugar to the planter.

15629. Do you mean all in Cuba, or all in Havannah?—In Havannah or in the island.

15630. You all know about as much the cost of a sugar plantation, and the practical business of sugar planting, as a tea-dealer in this country would know about the practical course of cultivating a farm?—I think the case is quite different, inasmuch as the tea-dealer may not be supposed to have much information respecting the management of a tea farm in China, because it is no part of his province; but if a party is interested in any particular trade, he will endeavour to acquire all the information he can connected with it.

15631. Do you think it is necessary that a tea-merchant must know the cost of growing tea in China?—I believe it would be very difficult for him to arrive at that knowledge.

15632. You do not think a London tea-merchant is so intelligent as an English-Austrian merchant living at Havannah; and, consequently, he cannot learn the cost of cultivating tea with the same facility that an Austrian merchant living at Havannah can learn the cost of cultivating sugar?—An English tea-merchant does not make it his practice to go to China; he generally buys the teas brought to him in his own market; whereas, in my case, I have been actually compelled to go to the sugar-producing countries to make my purchases.

15633. Do not you buy your sugar at the port of export?—Yes.

15634. Does not the tea-merchant purchase his tea at Canton?—It is purchased by his correspondent.

15635. Do you think his correspondent necessarily inquires into the cost of cultivating tea?—I should suppose that if the party were desirous of rendering himself conversant with the article, he would endeavour to elicit every information which was connected with it.

15636. Since you are not a sugar planter, do you think the Queen's Commissioners at Havannah are not likely to be as good an authority as you about the profits of the planters at Havannah; and that when they, on the 9th of March 1847, say, that "if the present price of sugar continues, there will be such a strong inducement for extended cultivation, and in consequence such a demand for labour, as will make the slave dealers and others to run all risks whatever to supply it," some confidence may not be placed in their statements?—They do not quote the prices at which sugar may be produced.

15637. They say that if the price continues as it is, it will be a strong inducement to them for extended cultivation, and that the demand for labour will be such as to make the slave dealers run all risks?—My evidence goes to show that the cultivation of sugars has been profitable on the last year; very profitable to the possessor of an unincumbered estate.

15638. You showed that, except for a man with an unincumbered estate, it was not a profitable cultivation, at the present prices at all events. The

Queen's

Queen's Commissioners speak of a plantation of 2,000 acres, valued at 60,000 dollars, with buildings and machinery upon it valued at a like sum, which is stated to be the extreme, and 400 negroes upon it, which two years since were bought, one with another, for 400 dollars a head; though it is stated that if he imports them himself, they do not cost one-fourth of the sum, but which are estimated at 160,000 dollars; together with implements and salaries to white overseers, amounting to 20,000 dollars; such an estate has this year, it is said, a crop amounting to no less than 10,000 boxes, which at 15 dollars a box would give the planter a return of 150,000 dollars; so that in two years he will be reimbursed more than the whole outlay. Do you think that that is not a sufficiently profitable cultivation to pay off some incumbrances?—It is impossible to produce that amount of sugar with the number of negroes which is stated in that report; that is at the rate of five tons of sugar per negro, which is out of the question.

15639. Then you, who know nothing of a sugar plantation, would have this Committee believe that your evidence is to be trusted in preference to that of the Queen's Commissioners at Havannah?—I have had a direct interest in ascertaining and eliciting the cost of the production of sugar, and probably may have had greater advantages and means of acquiring that information than a party who had nothing to do with it.

15640. Will you explain to the Committee what is that direct interest which you had in ascertaining the cost of producing sugar?—Having been connected with the sugar trade of Cuba, it has always been an important point to know what was the cost of producing sugar in the country, and what the qualities were arising from the different plantations. The qualities vary very much; there might be a difference of from eight to ten per cent. in the quality from different locations; therefore it has always been important to make oneself acquainted with the estates which produced the best sugar.

15641. Will you explain to the Committee what interest you have in the cost of the production of the sugar. The Committee can perfectly well understand, as you are an Austrian and a Russian merchant dealing in sugar, that you have an interest in the price at which you could purchase the sugar, but the Committee has yet to learn what interest you have in the cost of its production?—It is desirable information for every one to obtain who is connected with any particular branch of his trade.

15642. Will you explain how it can possibly matter to you what the cost of the production of the sugar is, so long as you get the sugar at a given price?—I can only repeat the answer, that as connected with the sugar trade, it is important that one in that position should be cognizant in some respect with the courses of manufacturing it and the cost at which it is produced.

15643. But you are quite unable to explain why or wherefore I find again in these despatches from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havannah, in April last year, that "the great demand for slaves in the present enormous profits to be derived by the cultivation of sugar, will, of a certainty, induce these parties to encounter every risk to obtain the labourers required; and a continued vigilance will therefore be necessary to defeat their practices, as heretofore." We are to set all this, I suppose, aside upon the confidence in your estimate that the profits of sugar planting in the Havannah are not such as to reimburse any person whose estate is encumbered?—In consequence of the decline of the coffee production in the Havannah all the spare negroes have been either sold to aliment other sugar estates, or new sugar estates have been established.

15644. New sugar estates have been established since when?—Within these last four or five years.

15645. So I see. I read in this trade circular which you place before us that the cultivation of coffee is an "article which may be said to be almost forgotten and forsaken by our commercial community." Is not the fact this, that sugar cultivation is so profitable in Cuba that the coffee planters have abandoned their coffee plantations and taken to the cultivation of sugar?—That is what I state; I do not mean to say that it is in every case so profitable, because it entirely depends upon the management of the estate. A well-managed estate might probably produce from 12 to 15 per cent. per annum profit in the average of years.

15646. Do you mean to say that Hanseatic vessels, Russian, Spanish, and

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

Danish vessels can carry sugar from the Havannah to the United States?—

I do.

15647. Positively?—Positively.

15648. And you know of your own knowledge that they have done so?—
I have sent sugars to the United States in Russians, Hamburgers, and
Lubeckers.

15649. From the Havannah?—Yes.

15650. And on Bremeners and Hanseatic vessels?—Vessels of all the Hanse-
atic ports. I myself have sent sugar to the United States in Russians, Bre-
meners, and Lubeckers.

15651. Sugars from the Havannah?—Yes.

15652. Can they trade between New Orleans and New York?—No, that is a
coasting trade; it is merely from a foreign port to a United States port.

15653. There is not that reciprocity that a foreign ship is permitted to trade
between one port of the United States and another?—No; no coasting trade is
allowed.

15654. Are the United States ships not already permitted to work in our
colonial trade; are they not already permitted to trade straight to our colonies?
—They trade to our colonies with lumber and provisions.

15655. Have they shown us any reciprocity in consideration of that indul-
gence?—None, I believe.

15656. Then when you stated that the United States were governed entirely
by reciprocity, it was not consistent with the fact, inasmuch as we have admitted
them to a share of our colonial trade and they have not reciprocated that indul-
gence?—That is a trade between one country and another. The importation
of United States produce into the British colonies not being prohibited, they
necessarily would carry it there in their own vessels.

15657. Would they necessarily do that; could they do so before the year
1825?—I believe not.

15658. Then your last answer is altogether incorrect. Was not the colonial
trade held as close as the coasting trade of England up to the period of 1824–25,
when that alteration took place?—It probably might be.

15659. And the United States give us nothing in return for that privilege
which we granted them?—I am not aware of any.

15660. Mr. *Moffatt*.] You have been asked by the Chairman, in reference to
the United States tonnage having the privilege of carrying lumber to our colo-
nies, whether they have reciprocated that advantage. What colonies have the
Americans to which they can give us that permission?—They possess no
colonies at all.

15661. But the Americans allow our ships to take our colonial produce to
their shores on the same terms as their own tonnage?—Precisely so.

15662. Consequently they reciprocate to the full those privileges which the
Chairman assumes were conceded to them in 1825?—Precisely so.

15663. *Chairman*.] Could not a colonial ship carry its produce to the
United States before?—There was no exportation of colonial produce from the
British islands to the United States, it being a trade from the United States to
the colonies in the shape of provisions.

15664. There are other colonies besides the North American colonies?—In
the case of the Danish colonies or St. Thomas's, for instance, the trade has
always been free to the United States.

15665. Could a Quebec ship not carry a cargo from the St. Lawrence to
New York before 1825?—I believe she could at any time. I do not state the
case positively.

15666. Mr. *Moffatt*.] Referring to my previous question, is it possible that
the Americans could give a more perfect reciprocity than they do at the present
time in the admission of the produce of our colonies to their shores on the
same terms as though it came direct in a British bottom from Great Britain?
—I do not see in what possible way anything further could be granted, because
the state of the trade is such as not to permit of it.

15667. But, in point of fact, our excluding their vessels taking lumber and
American produce to the colonies prior to 1825 was in bar of that system of
reciprocity which we originally proposed in the treaty with the Americans?—
It was.

15668. Therefore the removal of that exclusion was only carrying out on the
part

part of this country the spirit of the treaty of navigation which had been made with the American government?—Yes.

15669. And there was consequently no reciprocity for them to concede, seeing that the restrictions were exclusively on our side?—Precisely so.

15670. They have granted to the full all the privileges which they could cede to the produce of another country, or its colonies?—Yes.

15671. You have been asked, in reference to your capabilities of acquiring the information which you have given to the Committee; I think I gathered in a previous part of your examination that you had been in the island of Cuba in seven consecutive years?—Yes.

15672. That you had been there for continuous periods in each year, varying from two to four months?—Yes.

15673. That during that time your particular and exclusive business had been to watch the sugar market, to inform yourself of the cost of production, to ascertain as far as you possibly could the whole of the details in regard to the cost of production, and the various charges which constitute the price on the sugar being put on board the vessels in the Havannah?—Yes.

15674. That has always been with you a particular object in the course of each visit to the island?—That has been the sole object for which I went out there.

15675. You going out there representing extensive mercantile interests, felt it to be necessary that you should inform yourself in every possible manner of the cost of production, seeing that that must be a very material guide to you in making the purchases for those interested?—Yes, for those whom I represented.

15676. In your opinion, have not you had far more favourable opportunities of arriving at very accurate information in regard to the cost of production than any colonial proprietor who has visited his estates once or twice for a few months in the course of his life?—It would depend entirely upon the means that any colonial proprietor might take in order to obtain information; I have always been in the habit of living in Spanish houses, and living among planters; and sugar being the general topic of conversation, you must necessarily become fully acquainted with all the details concerning it.

15677. And you have not been content with applying your inquiries to any one or two estates, but you have availed yourself of every opportunity during the last seven years of getting the information from the various estates and the various planters with whom you have become acquainted?—Precisely so.

15678. So that your experience is not gathered from one or two estates, but perhaps from 20 or 30 or 40?—It is the result of general observation and general inquiry which I have made during the course of my residence there, from planters in various districts, and possessing various kinds of land to work in.

15679. Are you aware of any person in this country who is more intimately acquainted with the cost of producing sugar in the Havannah than yourself?—I am not aware of any at the present moment, because persons connected with Cuba at this period of the year are generally in the island, but if the Committee should at a future period require a corroboration of what I have stated I think possibly that I might be able to point out some planter who might then be in this country. At the present moment I am not aware of any one, with the exception of the son of a planter who is now here, I believe.

15680. Has he in his possession any accounts of the cost of the production of sugar?—I am not aware that he has, but his father is a very extensive and wealthy planter in the island; he has been in the habit of living on the estate at various periods of the year, and I should consider him quite competent to form a correct estimate.

15681. Will you be good enough to explain to the Committee the difference of the quotation of freights, which the Chairman could not understand when he asked you the questions before in reference to the variation of the quotation of freights in the Havannah?—The quotation of freights will vary according to the nationality and size of the vessel; generally speaking, 10 s. per ton advance is paid for the Mediterranean and the Baltic in addition to the quoted rates of Cowes in the market.

15682. The freights in the Havannah are governed by the same principle, I presume, as that which governs most other large ports, the freight being rather

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

lower where the voyage is one of great facility, or there is a chance of securing a return freight?—Much depends upon the chance of a return freight; where a return freight is available the rates will be considerably lower.

15683. In your last letters from the Havannah you have received intimation that a vessel has been taken up on your account?—A Russian vessel for the Adriatic, in which I was interested.

15684. At 3 *l.* 5 *s.* per ton?—Yes.

15685. And the general difference between vessels for the Adriatic and for Cowes is 10 *s.* a ton?—Yes.

15686. Upon that statement, based on the experience of several years, you make the quotation that the rates from the Havannah are now about 2 *l.* 15 *s.*?—£ 2. 15 *s.* to 3 *l.* per ton; an English vessel would be worth more; an English vessel would be worth 3 *l.*

15687. That quotation applied to a foreign flag?—Yes.

15688. But a Spanish vessel would be worth more?—Yes.

15689. By reason of the sugar which it brought being admissible for home consumption?—Yes.

15690. You have considerable experience in regard to the mercantile usages of this country, have you not?—I am conversant with them, certainly, although my business has not been connected with Great Britain.

15691. From time to time you have been residing in this country?—For 15 years.

15692. At intervals?—Yes.

15693. Consequently being largely engaged in mercantile pursuits, it has been your business to understand the mercantile usages of this country?—Yes.

15694. Therefore the assumption that you know nothing about the trade of this country would be a very unwarrantable assumption?—I made that observation in allusion to the politics of the country, because it frequently happens, where a person is connected with business, that he does not very closely follow the politics of the country.

15695. But your knowledge of the commercial usages of this country is necessarily and naturally very extensive, by reason of your experience in this country?—Precisely so.

15696. It has been pressed upon you by the Chairman that sugar imported in a Prussian vessel into this country cannot be bonded here for exportation?—It can be bonded.

15697. You know that it can be bonded?—I know that it can be bonded; sugar arriving in this country under any foreign flag can be bonded for exportation.

15698. And further, those sugars from the Havannah which can be bonded in this country for exportation, can be refined in bond in this country, and the sugars so refined can be exported?—Exported to any foreign part.

15699. You have been questioned by the Chairman in reference to the authority of the Queen's Commissioners upon the cost of the production of sugar in the Havannah; will you be good enough to tell the Committee who those Queen's Commissioners are?—Those gentlemen are residing in the Havannah, whose sole business consists, I believe, in the adjudication upon captured vessels; not being persons very popular, they seldom associate with the natives of the island; and consequently have very little means of arriving at the cost of the produce of the island, or anything connected with it.

15700. They are not commercial men?—They are not.

15701. Nor have they any opportunities, so far as your experience goes, of acquiring those facts with regard to the cost of the production of sugar which have occurred to yourself?—I should say not.

15702. How long have they been resident there?—Mr. Dalrymple has been there eight or nine years.

15703. They have been several years there?—Eight or nine years. It is not at all in their province to acquaint themselves on commercial matters. I do not suppose that they, without having made some inquiries, would know anything at all about it.

15704. Is there a feeling amongst the planters to desire not to let them into a knowledge of their concerns any more than they can help?—I do not know that there may be that, but from the position which they hold there as British Commissioners

Commissioners for the Slave Trade, they are looked upon with a considerable degree of suspicion, and they are not in the habit of associating with the natives of the island.

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

15705. Consequently your belief is that they are not able to give as accurate information upon these facts as you would be, from the extent of your experience?—I do not wish to arrogate to myself more knowledge upon the subject than those gentlemen, but my belief is that my statement as to the cost will be found correct, particularly as it approaches within 10 to 15 per cent. of the average prices of sugars ruling in the Havannah.

15706. In answer to a question from the Vice-president of the Board of Trade, you stated that a number of Irish labourers had been imported for the construction of a railway in the Havannah; are there several railways in the Havannah?—There are six, I think, in Cuba, the Havannah being the capital.

15707. What length of mileage is there in railways, do you estimate, in the interior of the island?—I should think 700 or 800 miles.

15708. Worked by locomotives?—Worked by locomotives.

15709. Mr. Miles.] Actually open?—Actually open.

15710. Mr. Moffatt.] By whom have those railways been constructed?—By American engineers.

15711. By whose capital?—Partly by British capital, and partly by the capital of the island.

15712. What proportion do you estimate has been British capital?—I should suppose, probably one-half; it is merely a vague estimate. I know a party who had contracted with the railroad companies for a supply of iron, and he had obtained the loan from some capitalist in London.

15713. Mr. Villiers.] Are you to be understood to say that the sugar cultivation has extended in Cuba during the last four or five years?—Yes, it has been on the increase, principally in consequence of the abandonment of the coffee estates.

15714. But the abandonment of the coffee estates you said had taken place in consequence of its being more profitable to extend the sugar cultivation?—That was not the originating cause; it was caused by the hopeless state of the coffee estates; it had been unprofitable for a series of years, which caused the proprietors of the slaves either to sell them to sugar estates, or re-form sugar estates themselves, abandoning the coffee estates to pasturage.

15715. It was, then, because the coffee ceased to be profitable that they diverted their land to extend the sugar cultivation?—Yes.

15716. And it was not influenced by any policy of this country?—Not in the slightest, because the policy of this country has not had time yet to operate.

15717. Are there a very considerable party who are disposed to give up the system of slavery?—None; the abandonment of slavery would be considered in Cuba as tantamount to the destruction of produce in the island.

15718. How long is it since you first knew Cuba?—Seven years.

15719. Do you believe that there was then any intention, or that it was contemplated seriously to abandon slavery with a view to command our market?—Never.

15720. Not seven years ago?—Certainly not.

15721. Before the change of the differential duties?—Certainly not; it would be tantamount to the destruction of all the produce in the island.

15722. Is there any free labour used in the field?—Not in sugar planting, but there is in coffee and tobacco.

15723. Are you aware of the system which exists in Porto Rico, where the free labourer works in the field?—No, I am not aware of that.

15724. You do not know anything of Porto Rico?—No; I am only aware that there is a great scarcity of slave labour in Porto Rico.

15725. But do you know whether they are extending the sugar cultivation there?—I do not know.

15726. Is it a very severe system which you have observed in Cuba with respect to slave labour; do they work the slaves very long?—It is hard labour during the crop season; the gangs employed in the sugar-houses work from 15 to 16 hours a day, but in other seasons of the year they work only 12 hours; and being well fed, and it being the interest of the planters to keep them in good condition, they are comparatively well off.

Mr. J. Harbottle.

3 April 1848.

15727. You mentioned 15 or 16 hours as the maximum that you suppose they work during the crop time;—That is during the crop time, and that is only a portion of them; there are not more than 40.

15728. You do not know any system of working them 18 or 19 hours out of the 24?—No; they could not do it.

15729. You believe it to be physically impossible?—Entirely so.

15730. What is the duration of the crop time?—From the middle of November to about the middle of May.

15731. Then it is during all that time that they are worked with this severity?—Yes; not the whole gang; only those particularly employed in the sugar-house. The work in the sugar-house is continued throughout the night, and there are two gangs of men working, each for intervals of eight hours.

15732. Did not you say that an individual slave worked 15 out of the 24 hours?—He is worked 15 or 16 out of the 24; they are divided into gangs. Supposing a sugar-house to require 40 labourers, they would be divided into two gangs: the first gang of 20 would work eight hours and then go to rest, and the other would come on, and then be relieved by the first gang; so that alternately they would work 16 hours the one day and eight the next, out of the 24.

15733. It is not 15 or 16 hours continuously?—No.

15734. Is the importation of slaves very large?—It has almost totally subsided within the last three years.

15735. According to what you have heard and observed, what is the ordinary duration of a slave's life under this system?—With regard to the ordinary duration of the life of slaves that have been imported (the great mass of the negro population are imported; there are very few creoles), after a slave has been brought into work, which requires about a twelvemonth, his average duration would be about 16 or 17 years, the average proportion upon an estate of 400.

15736. Should you then suppose that it was inaccurate information that may have been given to this Committee that he is worked out in seven years?—Yes, that is inaccurate.

15737. There is nothing of that sort?—Nothing of that sort; the average mortality upon an estate would be about six per cent. a year.

15738. Mr. Miles.] You stated that there were 800 miles of railroad in Cuba?—Yes.

15739. Will you state what they are?—There is the Havannah and Guines.

15740. How many miles?—There is a branch to Batabanóa; I suppose that would be about 70 miles with the branch.

15741. There is the San Antonio?—Yes.

15742. How long is that?—That is joined by another one which is going on to Matanzas; it goes to San Antonio, and then on to Matanzas.

15743. How many miles is that?—I suppose that railway, at a rough guess, may be about 80 or 90 miles. Then there is a branch again from Matanzas to Cardinos, running into the sugar district.

15744. How long is the Cardinos Railway;—I am speaking without very correct knowledge on the matter, but I imagine there may be, perhaps, 100 miles connected with that line.

15745. There is the Savanillia Railway; how many miles is that?—I do not know.

15746. There is the Jucaro Railway?—That is a line from San Antonio, running into the sugar district.

15747. You have mentioned that already?—I have, in connexion with the Matanzas, the sugar district.

15748. There is the Colliseo Railway; have you mentioned that?—That is another branch.

15749. How long is that?—That branch probably may be 30 or 40 miles.

15750. What other railways are there?—There is one railroad leading to Puerto Principe.

15751. How much of that is opened?—I could not say.

15752. Is there any of it opened?—I believe there is.

15753. You do not know at all what proportion is opened?—No. Then there is another railroad in the mining district of St. Jago de Cuba.

15754. How much of that is opened?—There are different tramways there.
I have

I have not been in St. Jago myself, but I imagine there may be 30 or 40 miles of tram in different districts.

15755. Do you know any other railway?—No, I think not.

15756. How many miles do you make those altogether?—I make them, at a rough guess, from about 470 to 500 or 560, whatever it may be; I do not know the distances.

John Utlay Ellis, Esq., called in; and Examined.

15757. Mr. *Moffatt.*] I BELIEVE you are a partner in the firm of Parry & Company?—Yes.

15758. You have been for some years resident in the Madras presidency?—About nine years.

15759. And were interested in the production and export of sugar?—Yes.

15760. From what parts of the Madras presidency is sugar principally obtained for export?—In North and South Arcot, in Ganjam, and Rajahmundry, and in parts of Mysore I might add, but that is beyond the bounds of the Madras presidency.

15761. What range do those districts include?—I suppose westward from Madras 120 miles; and the whole distance that I have mentioned, from north to south is from about 20 to 12 degrees north latitude, about 500 miles.

15762. Are there many English establishments for the export of sugar in the Madras presidency?—Beginning from the northward, there are Binny & Company's, at a place called Aska, in the Ganjam district; there are establishments on the Godavery, at Bimliapatam, and at Cuddalore, to the south of Madras.

15763. Where is your establishment?—We have a small establishment at Cuddalore.

15764. From what are you in the habit of making the sugar?—From Palmyra jagry.

15765. Will you explain to the Committee the process by which that sugar is made?—We obtain the jagry from the province of Tinnivelly chiefly.

15766. Mr. *Miles.*] From the natives?—From the natives.

15767. Mr. *Moffatt.*] Is there any difficulty in obtaining that jagry?—It is limited, to a certain extent, by the want of labour.

15768. *Chairman.*] In Madras?—In Tinnivelly. This is the juice of the Palmyra tree; a palm; a particular class of people only draw that juice; and in consequence it cannot be increased according to the demand.

15769. We have heard something of the date; is that it?—In some parts of India the date yields a juice of the like kind; but to the south, that of the Palmyra palm is only used.

15770. Mr. *Moffatt.*] Is the general labour of the country not applicable to that Palmyra jagry?—My experience says to the contrary.

15771. Does that apply to the particular district in which your factory is situated, or does it extend over the whole presidency?—My information mainly applies to Tinnivelly. I cannot state it to be general; but I believe it to be general.

15772. That labour is limited in consequence of being done by one particular class of people?—Yes.

15773. You are not aware whether that is local?—I could venture to say that it is general.

15774. Will you be good enough to state the process of making the sugar from the jagry?—I can hardly say that I am able to enter into the details of the manufacture.

15775. Can you state to the Committee what is the cost of the production of the sugar obtained at your manufactory from the Palmyra jagry?—Yes. About 40 rupees a candy of 500 lbs. is the cost; 4½ candies are equal to a ton, as nearly as possible.

15776. Mr. *Miles.*] How much is it per ton or hundredweight in sterling money?—Taking 2s. a rupee, it would be 18l. a ton.

15777. Of what quality is that?—A part, good brown; another part, fine yellow sugar, and the other white sugar; there are generally three sorts.

15778. Mr. *Moffatt.*] Will you be good enough to state what are the proportions to the ton of those sugars which you produce from the juice of the

Mr. *J. Harbottle.*

3 April 1848.

J. U. Ellis, Esq.

J. U. Ellis, Esq.

3 April 1848.

Palmyra tree?—I should say about three-tenths fine, four-tenths fine yellow, and three-tenths inferior; but it would probably give the Committee a better notion if I mentioned that the sugars which I am speaking of, in February last, averaged from 36 s. to 42 s. in this market.

15779. *Mr. Miles.*] Will you tell us the precise price of each?—I really cannot tell you that; I can give you a very near notion; the inferior sugars were worth 36 s., the others were worth 38 s. and 39 s., and the highest was 42 s.

15780. *Mr. Moffatt.*] The Committee understand you to have stated, that that sugar cost 18 l. a ton?—Yes.

15781. Free on board?—Yes.

15782. That is subject to all charges?—Yes.

15783. Has the production of sugar at Madras materially increased of late years?—For exportation; the trade sprang up in the year 1842.

15784. Can you state to the Committee what the increase has been since the commencement of 1842?—The first year the export was about 100 tons.

15785. Will you state the years consecutively?—These are not the entire exports from Madras; but I have put down the exports within my own experience, to show in what manner the trade increased. In 1842 a party shipped 1,244 bags; in 1843 the same party shipped 11,491 bags; in 1844, 34,703; in 1845, 32,722; in 1846, 53,162 bags; 15 bags to the ton.

15786. Have you the return for 1847 of the same party's shipment?—No, I have not; but it was much less. I have an account of the entire shipments from Madras and Cuddalore during last year.

15787. Do they about confirm the shipments of the house which you have mentioned?—They have no relation to that statement which I have just given in.

15788. But do they show the same relative increase?—Last year they were not so large.

15789. In the year 1847 they were not so large?—No.

15790. But from the year 1842 to the year 1846 the exports generally confirm the statement which you have made?—Decidedly so; the increase was rapid and general.

15791. Can you give the Committee any information in regard to the quality of Madras sugar, quoting from the earliest exports to this country up to the present time, as to the respective qualities of these various years' exports?—They were generally strong brown sugars.

15792. Have they shown any material improvement since the year 1842 in the process of their manufacture?—Very little; the native production I am speaking of, of which the major part of the Madras sugar is composed.

15793. Then am I to understand that the bulk of the sugar is not sent home by the large English establishments which you have alluded to?—Certainly not.

15794. The bulk of the sugar is made by the natives?—It is native produce.

15795. And is sent home on the native account?—Latterly partly on native account, but chiefly on European account.

15796. *Mr. Miles.*] Are you interested in this manufacture yourself?—In one small manufactory of the Palmyra jagry.

15797. Do you employ the newest machinery there?—No; we have machinery which we made ourselves at Cuddalore and at Madras.

15798. Is it your intention to send out improved machinery from this country?—Certainly not.

15799. For what reason?—Simply because I do not think the production of sugar will pay; or rather it is doubtful at present.

15800. Then you do not anticipate that in future years, when the duties come to be equalized, sugar from the East Indies will be able to compete with the slave-labour sugar of Cuba and Brazil?—I do not know that it will not compete with the slave-labour sugar of Cuba and Brazil, but as at present informed I certainly should diminish our own engagements in sugar.

15801. You prefer to abandon what you have at present got?—With reference to the present prices.

15802. *Mr. Moffatt.*] You stated that very little sugar was sent to Madras on native account?—The last two years the natives have entered with some spirit into the trade.

15803. That is stimulated by the advanced prices in this country?—Just so.

15804. Consequent

15804. Consequent upon the Bill of 1844?—The advanced prices in this country.

J. U. Ellis, Esq.

15805. But by far the larger proportion of sugar sent to Madras is purchased by English merchants to transmit to this country?—Yes, it is exported by them.

3 April 1848.

15806. So far as your experience extends with regard to the sugar manufactured by the English merchants in Madras, has the quality much improved of late years?—They manufacture very fine sugars; some of the sugars are very fine.

15807. Of fine bright grocery qualities?—Yes; as nice sugars probably as come to this market are sent from Madras.

15808. Have you recently imported any of that quality of sugar?—To some small extent we have.

15809. Have you estimated what the cost of production of that sugar has been?—My estimate includes that; when you produce varieties of sugars you cannot estimate each particular cost.

15810. The prices which you have stated to the Committee are the prices which those sugars have realized in the present year?—I gave the Committee the valuations of the sugars in February last, for I had occasion then to refer to some sugars which we had sold in September, for the purpose of giving information at Madras.

15811. The price at which your fine sugars were valued in February last, a period of extreme depression, ruled from 36*l.* to 42*l.* a ton?—Yes.

15812. Have those sugars since been sold?—They were sugars sold in September and October last; but in order to give information at Madras as to the present value of those sugars, our sugar broker referred to those sugars and valued them in February.

15813. What was the price obtained for them in September last?—I think a higher price; they then fetched 44*l.*

15814. *Chairman.*] The long price?—Yes.

15815. *Mr. Moffatt.*] What proportion of the sugar coming from Madras is the produce of the date tree, the Palmyra tree, and what of the cane?—I believe that the whole of the palm sugar is made from the Palmyra tree, not from the date tree; I do not know of any which has been obtained from the date tree; I suppose about 1,000 tons of that sugar come from the manufacture of the Palmyra juice.

15816. And what proportion is from the cane?—The remainder is from the cane; excepting that I do not know how much sugar the establishments to the northward make from Palmyra jagry; they make some, I believe.

15817. What is the total amount exported from Madras?—I should think about 8,000 tons.

15818. Under this novel manufacture in the presidency of Madras, has much land changed its mode of cultivation from rice to sugar?—A considerable quantity.

15819. And I suppose a considerable extent of uncultivated land has been brought into cultivation for the purpose?—I doubt that, because the rice land has always been favourably situated, under tanks; and it is that class of land which has been turned to the cultivation of sugar.

15820. Can you state to the Committee what is the rent of land in the Madras presidency that is fit for the sugar cultivation?—I have a copy of a paper here, which I obtained in 1846, which will give the Committee information relative to the Government charge on land.

15821. Will you state the rent paid upon the general average of land under sugar cultivation in the Madras presidency; which land is fit for sugar cultivation?—The nunjah, or wet land.

15822. Exclusively?—There must be irrigation for the production of sugar.

15823. *Chairman.*] Sugar or rice?—Sugar or rice; in North Arcot the average per cawney is stated to be 10 rupees 10 annas and 8 pice per annum: about 21*s.* 5*d.*

15824. *Mr. Moffatt.*] How much does that make per English acre?—About 16*s.*

15825. *Mr. Miles.*] How much is a cawney?—Ten cawneys are about 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres; 121 cawneys are 160 acres exactly.

J. U. Ellis, Esq.

3 April 1848.

15826. *Mr. Moffatt.*] That would be, in round numbers, about 18 s. per acre?—You must deduct one-fourth.

15827. *Chairman.*] Does this information go to the government?—Yes.

15828. *Mr. Moffatt.*] Will you just take the extremes of price?—It is from 36 rupees 15 annas and $\frac{3}{4}$ pice to 4 annas and 7 pice. I suppose the 36 rupees must have been for some garden or valuable land; wherever water is supplied, there some extra tax is levied.

15829. *Mr. Miles.*] That includes the cost of irrigation?—Of course it does; this is on irrigated lands.

15830. *Mr. Moffatt.*] In that return the average which you have stated of 10 rupees 10 annas for a cawney, is the average of the whole of the land under cultivation?—Wet land.

15831. In the presidency of Madras?—No, in the province of North Arcot; each province is separately stated here.

15832. North Arcot being the principal province for the production of sugar?—North and South Arcot; I have it for South Arcot also.

15833. What is the average in South Arcot?—Somewhat less; it is 9 rupees 9 annas and 1 pice.

15834. So that from that return the Committee may infer that the rent of land fit for sugar cultivation in the Arcot province is equivalent to about 16 s. per acre?—On the average.

15835. Can you state what weight in English pounds is produced upon that very high-priced land?—My own impression is that you can get four candies of sugar from each cawney, but I have seen lately some statements to the contrary, which make me almost fear to give that evidence.

15836. I believe you are practically engaged in the production of sugar?—Yes.

15837. *Mr. Miles.*] That is a ton, is it not?—Within the ton; it is 2,000 lbs. per cawney, which is about an acre and a third; I am trusting in that statement to my memory; I have seen other statements since, which almost make me doubt it.

15838. What are the other statements?—They are less, I believe.

15839. *Mr. Moffatt.*] Your impression is, that the irrigated lands, such as you have described, produce about 16 cwt. of sugar per cawney, equivalent to about one acre and one-third?—Yes.

15840. Can you give any information to the Committee in regard to the value of labour?—On an average throughout the country the value of labour is from two to three rupees per month, from 4 s. to 6 s.

15841. That includes 30 days' labour to the month, I presume?—Yes.

15842. *Mr. Miles.*] Sundays?—Yes.

15843. *Chairman.*] Sundays like all other days?—Yes.

15844. *Mr. Moffatt.*] That is equivalent to a rate of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2 d. per diem?—About 2 d.

15845. Can you get as much labour as you require at that rate?—No doubt about it.

15846. How many hours per diem do those labourers work?—From about sunrise until sunset, with a cessation of two hours in the middle of the day probably, or an hour and a half.

15847. About what time is between sunrise and sunset?—Say from six o'clock to six o'clock.

15848. It is 10 hours' labour then?—Yes.

15849. You have given evidence as regards the cost of the sugar made from Palmyra juice; can you state the cost of making the sugar from the cane?—I cannot tell you how much it absolutely costs; I can tell you what contracts have been made for throughout the country for a number of years, in reference to the quantities which I have given to the Committee; from 20 to 30 rupees a candy.

15850. What is that?—That is from 9 l. per ton to 13 l. 10 s.

15851. That is the cost of the sugar fit for exportation?—Yes.

15852. That is up the country?—That is in various parts of the country.

15853. What is the average of bringing it to sea-borne?—About 20 rupees a ton.

15854. You state that the sugar costs from 9 l. per ton to 13 l. per ton; the average, we will say, is 11 l. 5 s., to which adding 2 l. a ton for charges, will make

make 13 *l.* 5 *s.*?—On the average that sugar, I think, according to the statement which I have made, would cost on board 14 *l.* a ton.

15855. Can you inform the Committee how many labourers are employed, in proportion to the acreage, to produce those 2,000 lbs. of sugar?—No, I am unable to state.

15856. Have you made any estimate of how far the item of labour enters into the cost of production of your sugars?—No, I cannot speak to that point.

15857. Is it looked upon by the Madras sugar exporters as a very material item?—I doubt whether that particular question has ever been brought before any Madras exporter.

15858. The larger quantity of sugar which is sent from that country is made by the natives, I understand from your previous evidence, and bought by the Madras merchants, and exported on their own account?—Yes; in the first place, and, in fact, until last year, when a change took place, parties advanced very largely to enable the ryots to cultivate the sugar, and of course a bargain was made beforehand as to the price at which it was to be delivered; the prices which I have given to the Committee refer to contracts so made, where advances were given to the ryots.

15859. The quotations which you have lately given allude to the general average quality of Madras sugars, but they have not special reference to the fine quality of sugar?—No, certainly not; I have been speaking lately of the general average of Madras sugars.

15860. Is it your opinion that the cultivation of sugars in Madras, provided those prices would pay for importation, could be very largely extended at the prices you have stated, adding on the duty and freight charges and a fair exchange profit?—I conceive it could; the prices which I have given would induce a very extensive cultivation in the Madras presidency.

15861. Which are, free on board, equivalent to about 13 *l.* 5 *s.*?—Yes, about 14 *l.*; that is the average.

15862. At that rate, your impression is that a very large increase might be effected?—Clearly so.

15863. Do you think that in the next three years they could produce 100,000 tons in Madras at those rates?—No, I do not think so; but I would refer to what has been done in Madras; that in six years, from 100 tons we rose up to between 8,000 and 9,000 tons.

15864. And you think that both the cane and the Palmyra tree would be likely to yield a very large increase of sugar at the present cost of production?—The sugar-cane certainly, I think; the Palmyra sugar is limited, from the causes which I before mentioned. Trees are in abundance throughout the presidency.

15865. The fact of the export of sugar from Madras being limited in the present year is only, I suppose, from the extremely low prices ruling here, and throughout Europe?—The greater part of last year's sugars sold, and are selling now, at a considerable loss.

15866. Do you know any article which you import from Madras that is not selling at a loss at the present time in this market?—The generality of articles are.

15867. Do you import indigo?—Yes.

15868. Is that yielding you a profit?—No, not just now.

15869. Is it not occasioning a very considerable loss?—Yes, it gives a loss.

15870. Have you any reason to anticipate that the sugar will be produced more cheaply than it is at the present time in the Madras presidency, seeing that it is now a new article of production; do you think there is any fair ground for entertaining the hope that it will be produced more cheaply in the course of a few years?—There is room for reduction of price, there is no doubt, to some extent; but whether it will take place or not I really cannot say; there are so many obstacles in the way.

15871. What obstacles are there in the way of production being cheaper?—The mass of the sugar must always be made by the natives: each ryot produces a small quantity; the cultivation is scattered; the method of manufacture is rude and imperfect; the scattered cultivations prevents the establishment of works with improved machinery.

J. U. Ellis, Esq.
3 April 1848.

15872. But if this enormous rent which is paid on the sugar lands were reduced, it forming a very large item in the cost of production, would it not materially stimulate the production of sugar?—It would to the extent of reduction.

15873. Seeing that you pay an equivalent to 20s. per annum for land on which you only grow 16 cwt. of sugar?—Yes.

15874. Are there any difficulties which you would suggest to the Committee, the removal of which might tend to increase the production of sugar in Madras?—I am not aware of anything within the power, I should think, of the Government of this country; probably good roads would have the most immediate effect on the price.

15875. Which I believe are now in course of construction, are they not?—Lord Tweeddale has matured a general plan for the introduction of roads throughout the presidency.

15876. And is that being now carried into operation?—Yes; there is a certain sum applied for the formation of roads.

15877. Do you find that sugar wastes much in its transit from its place of production to sea-borne?—Some of the sugars do.

15878. But not to form a very formidable item in their cost?—No, I do not think so; the loss from the presidency to England is about three per cent.

15879. The roads which Lord Tweeddale is making run mainly into the sugar-producing districts, do they not?—Under Lord Elphinstone's government, an excellent road was made from Arcot to Madras, on which passes a large portion of the sugar produce; the new roads will, I believe, lead through the districts to this road.

15880. Has the cultivation of sugar been of much benefit to the presidency of Madras?—Very great.

15881. Has it improved the condition of the ryots, do you think?—In some places, certainly; to my own knowledge it has done so.

15882. Do you make rum in the presidency of Madras?—Yes, to some small extent it has been made.

15883. At what price can it be produced?—It can be put on board at from eight to nine annas the imperial gallon.

15884. At what strength?—About 30 per cent. over proof.

15885. That is equivalent to 13 *d.*?—From 11 *d.* to 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*

15886. There are no export duties in the presidency of Madras?—None on sugar and rum.

15887. Is there much variation in the quality of the labour employed in the Madras presidency?—No; I should think the coolie has probably the same physical strength in one part of the country as the other.

15888. Have you any material variation in the cost of labour?—No. In the northern districts of the Circars I have understood it is cheaper even than two rupees, but the average of the country, I should say, is from two to three rupees.

15889. For an able-bodied man the average rate of labour rules throughout the presidency at from two to three rupees?—Yes, per mensem.

15890. That is equal to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* or 2 *d.* per diem?—Yes, 2 *d.* on the average.

15891. Does the party employing the labourer find him food?—No.

15892. Has he any care of the man when sick?—None whatever.

15893. He simply engages him for the day or month?—He has no claim upon him beyond the claim of humanity.

15894. And you find abundance of labour at that rate?—Yes, sufficient for our purposes.

15895. Mr. Miles.] Have you any expectation that the East India Company will reduce their rent?—None.

15896. Then you have not much chance of being able to produce sugar more cheaply?—On that score, certainly not.

15897. This sugar which you take it can be sent at about an average of 14 *l.* per ton is entirely manufactured by the natives?—Yes.

15898. Then I apprehend that it would not pay for anybody to set manufactories to improve the quality of it before it is shipped from India?—Not in North and South Arcot, I think.

15899. Do you suppose that that sugar so manufactured by the natives would

would lose much in weight in the voyage?—It loses about three per cent.; I think fair sugar loses about three per cent.

J. U. Ellis, Esq.

3 April 1848.

15900. What description of machinery do the natives employ?—The simplest and most ordinary sort; a common wooden mill, worked by a pair of bullocks; earthenware pots, or shallow iron pans, to boil their juice in; in short, everything of the most ordinary kind.

15901. Do you suppose that the rent of sugar land would be much affected by an extensive demand for sugar in this country?—It might be so, because the rents, under the ryotwary system, are fixed every year, and therefore it is very likely that if profits were increasing much the government would naturally have their share.

15902. Would it not require a large capital to carry on any increased cultivation?—Yes, which the natives at present have not.

15903. And therefore there would not be very much chance of it?—No; you would never increase your cultivation to much extent unless it were under the stimulus of men of large capital.

15904. Supposing this increased cultivation to take place, do you imagine that it would at all affect labour, or would there be plenty to meet any advance?—I should think there would be enough because the rice lands would be turned to the production, and of course the same quantity of labour would be required nearly in one as in the other cultivation.

15905. Then what do you think would be the effect when the duties came to be equalised; would Madras send sugar to this country or not?—My own impression is, that the export of sugar from Madras must materially diminish; but it is a matter of speculation.

15906. Then of course it would be a very great detriment to the province of Madras if such a thing were to take place, especially when such an improved prospect is opening to it?—Undoubtedly.

15907. And you think it would be very desirable, I suppose, also that improved machinery should be sent there, supposing the capitalists in this country could see some remuneration for sending it there?—Yes.

15908. But altogether your opinion is, that that there will be a very small export of sugar, supposing the price to be materially reduced?—At present I think that the export of sugar must diminish.

15909. *Chairman.*] Did I understand you rightly that the brown sugar of which you were speaking sold for about 36 s., the yellow 38 s. and 39 s., and the white 40 s. with the duty on?—Yes.

15910. That would just average 38 s. with the duty; and 24 s. short price?—Yes; but the brown sugar which I spoke of there is the brown sugar made from the Palmyra juice, not brown sugar from the cane juice, of which I afterwards spoke.

15911. This was the sugar after it had come from your manufactory?—Yes.

15912. Very superior in quality?—Yes.

15913. What do you reckon for charges and freight?—In those estimates which I have mentioned I have reckoned that on the average the freight from Madras is 4 l. a ton and the London charge is about 3 l. a ton, but lately these have risen up to about 10 l. a ton, because we have had freights upwards of 6 l. I think on the average it would probably be 7 l. a ton.

15914. Does that include insurance and brokerage?—That would include all the charges here; from 7 l. to 8 l.

15915. Your sugar cost you 18 l. on board?—Yes.

15916. So that you are losing 3 l. a ton?—Yes, we must have lost that.

15917. I suppose you would not think it a very good trade unless you made 3 l. a ton?—No.

15918. No prudent merchant would continue the trade unless he had a fair right to expect to make a profit of 3 l. a ton, would he?—He certainly would not continue it unless he expected a profit.

15919. Three pounds a ton is what it ought to be, in the fair way of trade?—Yes.

15920. With all the risk?—Yes.

15921. With your machinery are not you put to very great risk of being stopped, and having to send to England for new machinery?—No, not with

J. U. Ellis, Esq.
3 April 1848.

regard to our machinery, we have the means of repairing it ourselves; we have no vacuum pan.

15922. Mr. Prideaux laid before us a theoretical estimate, upon the authority of Major Cotton, wherein he set forth that sugar could be manufactured at Madras at 18*l.*, which would sell for 80*l.* to 85*l.* in the English market. Are you aware of that?—In Madras I have seen that statement; I have no faith in it, I must say.

15923. This was in 1844. He calculates that a clear 19*l.* per ton profit is made upon all the sugar that is manufactured at Madras?—Yes.

15924. There is no foundation for it?—I have heard of no facts; I mean no actual experience, which carries out Major Cotton's estimate.

15925. He states that an acre of land in sugar will produce 15*l.* a year; that might be about the mark?—It might be.

15926. He says, "The general introduction of this new source of wealth," that is, the cultivation of sugar, "is therefore calculated to make these districts the richest, as they are now the poorest, in the presidency; the revenue at present paid would then be scarcely felt by the people." I am afraid that, at present prices, there is no hope that the cultivation of sugar will make Madras one of the richest districts in the presidency?—Major Cotton, I fancy, is speaking of the lands on the banks of the Godavery, where he is about to make his anicut.

15927. Reckoning 7*l.* a ton as the average freight, charges, and commission, and 3*l.* as the profit which you ought to receive for a ton of sugar, to encourage the sugar planter or the sugar manufacturer to go on, and 18*l.* as the lowest price at which you put it free on board, I suppose I may hold that at nothing less than 30*l.* a ton will any great export of sugar take place from Madras?—Certainly not, in relation to that particular sugar.

15928. To revert to that inferior sugar which is manufactured by the natives, and of which we have had some laid before us; it has been sold lately as low as 28*s.*, with duty?—Its present value now is from 28*s.* to 34*s.*; the average may be 31*s.* or 32*s.*; 31*s.* probably.

15929. So that, in point of fact, that sugar is also losing?—Very considerably, because freights have been much above the average of late. In the answer which I gave to Mr. Moffatt's question, I assumed an average; but even at the average there has been a considerable loss of late.

15930. Therefore, at the average of 32*s.*, it would leave several pounds short?—On the average, the sugars referred to in my former answer would cost about 14*l.* on board.

15931. And 18*l.* being the price here, even when freights got low again, the loss would be 3*l.* a ton?—If the present prices continued as they are there would be a loss.

15932. I suppose if this law continued, and the duty fell 6*s.* more, the result would be, that the prices would go down rather than rise?—It is a matter of speculation.

15933. You would not be disposed to speculate largely upon a rise?—No.

15934. You have been a great many years connected with India, have you not?—Yes.

15935. You are well acquainted with its history?—Pretty well.

15936. The Madras presidency benefits very largely from its export of rice to the Mauritius, does it not?—It has of late exported rice to some extent to the Mauritius, but mainly in connexion with the export of coolies.

15937. I suppose it would be a great blow to the poor people, the ryots and coolies of Madras, if the cultivation of sugar in the Mauritius were to cease, would it not?—Yes, so far as the exportation of rice is concerned.

15938. And this emigration of coolies affords a great source of money-making to those people, does it not?—It did; but in the time of Lord Ellenborough's government we were prevented from exporting coolies from Madras, and that was a great blow to our trade with the Mauritius; but lately permission has been given again for the export of coolies from that presidency to the Mauritius, though I am not sure that it has yet been acted upon; the regulations were not complete when I left Madras in August last.

15939. There has hardly been time?—Hardly.

15940. Lord Grey cancelled the old ordinance that prohibited the export of coolies?—There was a legislative Act passed in Bengal for the purpose.

15941. But

15941. But the cessation of that export of emigrants to the Mauritius was felt as a great blow?—Undoubtedly it was.

15942. Is not the whole of India more thickly peopled than there is employment to be found for them?—There are always people found who are ready for increased wages to emigrate.

15943. In point of fact, the emigration to the Mauritius was felt to be a great blessing to them?—Indeed it was; it relieved a number of the districts.

15944. I believe you have been long enough acquainted with the Mauritius to know of what great importance the possession of the Mauritius is to this country, as commanding the East India trade?—Yes; rather I have heard and read of what it was.

15945. Your interest in India makes you know that whilst the Mauritius was in the possession of the French, their privateers used to carry into Port Louis, one year with another, British prizes to the value of a million sterling a year?—And upwards, I believe.

15946. The Marquis of Wellesley, I think, in his despatches home in 1801, stated that the prizes of British ships and British property captured by the Mauritian privateers and carried to Port Louis amounted to four million sterling?—I know they were very large during the late war.

15947. Is it not a fact that when the republican government of France declared for the emancipation of the slaves in their colonies, the Mauritius refused to emancipate?—I am not aware of that.

15948. Do you know that when the commissaires of the republican government were sent to the Mauritius, the inhabitants of the Mauritius asserted their independence, sent them back, expelled the troops, 800 strong, and sent them back to France?—No.

15949. You are not acquainted with that fact?—No, I am not acquainted with that part of its history.

15950. I suppose you are almost old enough yourself to remember the expedition which we sent to the Mauritius?—I have met in my life with men who were on that expedition; almost day by day I meet them in fact.

15951. I believe it consisted of 20 ships of war, 50 East Indiamen and transports, and 14,000 men?—Fourteen thousand men, I believe; upwards of 50 transports, and 18 or 20 men-of-war.

15952. Those 14,000 infantry were exclusive of cavalry?—Yes, to capture the Mauritius.

15953. If the French were to get the Mauritius again it would be a terrible thorn in the side of our East Indian trade?—I presume we should be obliged to take possession of it at any cost.

15954. Mr. Moffatt.] The French have possession of the Isle of Bourbon?—Yes; there is no port there.

15955. Chairman.] They have nothing but an open roadstead?—No.

15956. Do you know the Mauritius yourself?—No; I have never been there.

15957. Mr. Moffatt.] You stated in answer to a question from the Chairman, that you consider 3*l.* a ton no more than a fair profit upon the importation of an article worth 13*l.* a ton?—I conceived the Chairman's question to be put in this way; on what difference would I speculate? that was the way in which I understood it; not that I should not be content with a less profit, if I could secure it, but simply the profit on which I could speculate.

15958. Your idea as a merchant is, that 3*l.* a ton, year by year, would be a profit such as would be a reasonable profit to obtain on an article worth 13*l.* or 14*l.* a ton?—I met the noble Lord's question in this way, that I conceived it would require such a sum in order to induce any man to speculate, not that a man would not be satisfied with a less profit than that.

15959. In stating the cost of the sugar to be 18*l.* a ton, how was that arrived at?—The result of experience of our own manufactory at Cuddalore.

15960. You have no statement of the details?—No; I have simply a statement of the result.

15961. That is putting together all charges?—Yes.

15962. Allowing for wear and tear, allowing for interest of capital, and allowing for all costs of management?—The wear and tear was not included in it; interest was included in it.

J. U. Ellis, Esq.

3 April 1848.

15963. And all costs of management?—Yes.
15964. How many years have you been manufacturing on your own account?—Since the latter part of 1843, when we commenced it.
15965. You have an experience of three years?—Yes, of three complete years.
15966. Did you find the cost of production diminish in those three years?—In one or two particulars we did; for instance, in the expense of fire-wood we had a diminution.
15967. Have you found any reduction of cost so as materially to affect the price?—No; on the contrary, we have an increase in the price of our jagry.
15968. You have had a very large increase in the price of jagry, I think?—Yes.
15969. That was caused by the reduction of duties in this country?—It was caused by the stimulus given to the produce of sugar by the high prices here.
15970. Can you explain to the Committee the grounds upon which you form the opinion that Madras cannot compete with the slave-sugar countries where labour, according to evidence which we have received, rules at from 2s. to 3s. per diem, while you contemplate it in Madras at 1½d. to 2d. per diem?—I do not think I have ventured to say whether Madras could compete with the slave-sugar colonies or not, because really I have no knowledge at what rate the slave-labour colonies can produce sugar.
15971. Are you able to give the Committee any evidence as to how far labour enters into the cost of your production?—No.
15972. Have you never made an estimate of that?—I have seen statements that probably might enable you to draw from them what the cost of labour was; for example, I have seen statements which show that the cost of cultivation of a cawney of land for sugar was about 112 rupees.
15973. How much per cent. would that be of the cost of production of a ton of sugar?—You might deduct from that the rent-charge and other charges, and be so enabled to form some notion of how much was the cost of the labour which entered into it; but I doubt whether it would be at all satisfactory.
15974. You have stated that the exportation of rice is of great advantage to Madras; which is more advantageous to Madras, to export sugar or rice?—Sugar, undoubtedly.
15975. As being the more valuable production?—Yes; Madras is not an exporting country for rice, in the ordinary sense of the word.
15976. Then it is not a very great advantage to Madras to export rice?—It is an advantage, so far as it is an advantage to export any produce.
15977. Have you made any estimate of what the consumption of sugar in the presidency of Madras is by the native population?—No, I have no means; it must be very large.
15978. What is the population?—About sixteen millions.
15979. And are they all sugar consumers?—All sugar consumers, in some shape or other.
15980. Can you form any rough estimate of what it would be?—No, I cannot.
15981. But the whole sixteen millions are more or less sugar consumers?—Yes.
15982. Still it is your opinion that you cannot manufacture sugar, with any improvement in machinery, under 18l. a ton?—The superior sugars; I am speaking of the higher class of sugars.
15983. Which sugars, in the present extremely depressed state of this market, do realize 42l. a ton?—Not on the average; about 38l.
15984. If the rice lands were brought into the cultivation of sugar, of course the price of rice would be, to a certain extent, increased thereby?—No; not materially.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Paper :*]

STATEMENT showing the Rates of Poonjah Assessment in the Maritime Districts; prepared with reference to the Settlement of Fusly, 1254.

No.	Districts.	Measurement in Use in Different Villages.	Poonjah Land.	Conversion in	Amount of Survey Assessment.	Average per Cawney.	Rates.	
							Highest.	Lowest.
				<i>Cawnies. as.</i>			<i>Rs. as. p.</i>	<i>Rs. as. p.</i>
1	Ganjam -	zemindary districts.	..	—	—	—	—	—
2	Vizagapatam -							
3	Rajahmundry -							
4	Masulipatam -							
5	Guntoor -							
6	Nellore -	gorroo -	76,853 14 7 ½	1,80,387 15	4,27,172 14 2	2 5 11	—	
7	North Arcot -	cawney -	1,49,689 1 8	1,49,689 1 ½	4,04,354 2 -	2 11 3	8 - 7 ½	- 3 - ½
8	Chingleput -	ditto -	33,444 15 -	33,444 15	69,625 5 9	2 1 4	—	—
9	South Arcot -	ditto -	3,05,846 - 8	3,05,846 - ½	11,02,185 12 3	3 9 8	13 2 6	1 6 5
10	Tanjore (whole)	valies -	24,493 8 59	1,22,467 3	1,90,856 8 8	1 9 -	—	—
	Ditto, field assessed villages	ditto -	11,338 13 61	56,693 7	89,171 13 5	1 7 6	—	—
11	Madura -	cawney -	3,00,882 14 -	3,00,882 14	5,71,494 11 9	1 14 5	4 13 11	- 7 10
12	Tinnivelly -	(jungeer) chains	1,45,608 6 -	4,00,426 15 ½	4,11,144 15 1	1 - 5	—	—
13	Canara.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	Malabar.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

STATEMENT showing the Rates of Nunjah Assessment in the Maritime Districts; prepared with reference to the Settlement of Fusly, 1254.

No.	Districts.	Measurement in Use in Different Districts.	Nunjah Land.	Conversion in	Amount of Survey Assessment.	Average per Cawney.	Rates.	
							Highest.	Lowest.
				<i>Cawnies. as.</i>			<i>Rs. as. p.</i>	<i>Rs. as. p.</i>
1	Ganjam -	zemindary districts.	..	—	—	—	—	—
2	Vizagapatam -							
3	Rajahmundry -							
4	Masulipatam -							
5	Guntoor -							
6	Nellore -	gorroo -	39,671 11 - ½	93,118 4 ½	7,91,018 6 8	8 7 11	—	
7	North Arcot -	cawney -	1,07,920 3 - ½	1,07,920 3 ½	11,50,870 5 8	10 10 8	36 15 - ½	- 4 7 ½
8	Chingleput -	ditto -	1,14,538 10 -	1,14,538 10	7,29,648 11 4	6 5 11	—	—
9	South Arcot -	ditto -	1,15,178 12 -	1,15,178 12	11,01,946 13 10	9 9 1	38 11 - ½	1 5 -
10	Tanjore (whole)	valies -	97,279 10 89	4,86,397 11 ½	31,33,832 - 2	6 7 1	—	—
	Ditto, field assessed villages	ditto -	30,641 16 48	1,53,209 1 ½	9,52,516 5 10	6 3 5	—	—
11	Madura -	cawney -	75,182 13 - ½	75,182 13 ½	4,73,409 2 3	6 4 8	19 1 5	1 8 3
12	Tinnivelly -	cottay -	88,664 10 10	1,08,678 11	11,67,998 9 6	10 11 11	—	—
13	Canara.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	Malabar.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Sir Henry Vere Huntley, Commander, R. N., called in; and Examined.

15985. Sir E. Buxton.] YOU have been on the coast of Africa, I think?— I have.

15986. Had you any official situation there?—I commanded a ship of war from the year 1830, with very little intermission, to the year 1838; afterwards on the coast of Africa, I was engaged to organize an establishment for a company in London, and subsequently to that, till the year 1841, I was employed as Lieutenant-governor of the settlements on the Gambia.

15987. You are therefore well acquainted with the coast of Africa?—I believe so.

15988. Do you think that any large number of emigrants might be obtained from Sierra Leone from the liberated Africans?—I have not made the liberated Africans my study as emigrants, because I think them unfit for it.

15989. Do you think also that a certain number may be obtained from the Kroo coast?—Yes, I think so, a very large number.

15990. Do you think that there are other parts of the coast, in addition to the Kroo coast, from which a supply of labour can be obtained?—I should recommend none but the Kroomen; I think they could not be obtained from

Sir
H. V. Huntley,
Commander, R. N.

3 April 1848.

Sir
H. V. Huntley,
Commander, R.N.

3 April 1848.

any other parts of the coast, unless they were obtained from the chiefs by paying money for them, which I think would virtually be a decided renewal of the internal slave trade in Africa.

15991. You think that we could not go to other parts of the coast of Africa with any hope of obtaining a really free class of emigrants?—No; I do not think you could obtain a voluntary class of emigrants from any other part of the coast of Africa but the Kroo coast.

15992. Are you aware how the slaves that are sold are made slaves?—My impression has always been, that they are taken in war; a powerful chief overruns his neighbour. I know an instance of having prevented a case of the kind when Lieutenant-governor of the settlements on the Gambia.

15993. Have you known any instances where other nations have professed to take free emigrants from any part of the coast of Africa, from Ashantee, or any part?—Yes. When I commanded the *Lynx*, one of Her Majesty's ships, I met a large ship at sea; after chasing her during the whole day, in the afternoon I found her to be a Dutch ship; I boarded her; she had between 300 and 400 negroes on board, and a military officer was in charge of them; he gave the officer the information that those persons he had taken on board at Elmina, a Dutch settlement on the coast; that they had been received from the King of Ashantee, and that a doubloon a head had been paid to the King of Ashantee for them. This money was said to be paid in trust to the King of Ashantee for the support of the wives and children of those men; they were going to Java as recruits for the Dutch army in that colony.

15994. *Chairman.*] In what year was that?—It was either in 1836 or 1837.

15995. Sir *E. Buxton.*] Those people were really slaves?—They were to all intents and purposes slaves. They were passing as recruits to the Dutch military forces in Java; a military officer was in charge of them; but every one of them was purchased from the King of Ashantee, and to all intents and purposes it was a revival of the internal slave trade; the king had sold them as slaves.

15996. Though they professed to be free emigrants?—Professing to be volunteers to the Dutch army.

15997. Do you think that there is a fear that if we were to go to slave countries on the coast of Africa the same effect might be produced with us?—That is my decided opinion. Any person knowing Africa for the length of time that I have known it must be of that opinion; he can entertain no other.

15998. Mr. *Miles.*] Were not there some free people on the Gambia that you formerly said could be obtained as free emigrants?—No; I think not on the Gambia.

15999. They are called Tilliebunkas?—Yes, there are Tilliebunkas; those and the Serawoollies, the Timmanees, the Jaloffe, and the Mandingoes were the principal.

16000. Do you think that any of those could be obtained as emigrants?—I do not think they would be induced to leave their country.

16001. Under what impression was it that you formerly stated that they could be obtained as free emigrants?—I did not state that the Tilliebunkas, or any persons from the Gambia would do so.

16002. You do not think that any of those tribes could be obtained?—I think not; they were employed, and are employed; they come from 400 miles or 500 miles to the eastward; those men come to Bathurst, a town of the Gambia, to work; but I am not aware that they ever leave their country to go to any part to work.

16003. You do not think it probable that they would be induced to emigrate?—I think certainly not; their practice is commonly to return up the river again the same year.

16004. *Chairman.*] Were those negroes to whom you have referred apparently prisoners on board the ship which you state you boarded?—No, they did not appear to be prisoners; they were in charge of a military officer.

16005. Did they appear well satisfied with their condition?—Yes, as far as anything that I saw to the contrary. I did not go on board myself as commanding the vessel; it is not usual for the officer commanding to leave his ship.

16006. You have no reason to think that they were treated as slaves on board?—No, not at all; the deck was crowded with them.

16007. Bat

16007. But they were at liberty?—Yes, they were not chained at all; they were not treated as the slaves in a slave ship.

16008. They were not apparently under more coercion than a regiment of infantry?—No, not at all; they were sitting about perfectly free on the deck, but that they had been purchased from the king, I think there can be no doubt.

16009. Do you know at what price they had been purchased?—One doubloon a head, paid in merchandize, which reduced the expense. The per centage upon English goods would generally, in those cases, amount to 150 per cent., therefore it may be imagined what the doubloon paid in goods would really amount to.

16010. How much is a doubloon?—About 3*l.* 16*s.*

16011. Have you ever been on shore among those African nations?—Yes; in the River Bonny I have been on shore a good deal; I have been on shore both on the coast and in the interior.

16012. Sir *E. Buxton.*] You were Governor of the Gambia?—Yes.

16013. *Chairman.*] What is the character of those people; are they an abject race?—No; some of them decidedly not; the Mandingo is a man capable of great exertion, and not only of exertion, but he is a man of intellect; he is very far superior to that which you generally find on the coast of Africa; indeed as you travel from the southern part of the western coast to the northward, so the intellect is found to increase, until you get up to the Moors.

16014. Do not you think that some of those people might be induced to emigrate?—I do not think the Mandingo would emigrate, or the Jaloffe.

16015. Captain Matson told us that, as far as his experience went, he had reason to think that one-half of the slaves sold were children sold by their putative fathers; that one-fourth were Africans that were emancipated from debt who sold themselves, and that the other fourth were criminal, who were sold by the government; does that accord with your experience?—No; I never heard that before I saw it in Captain Matson's evidence; Captain Matson is decidedly a very good authority in relation to the coast of Africa.

Mr. *Henry Crosley*, called in; and further Examined.

16016. Mr. *Miles.*] I BELIEVE you have concluded your experiments in regard to the pneumatic process of testing sugar?—I have samples in boxes of the sugar tested; and boxes of the products obtained therefrom, and likewise extracts from the material tested; they are in three boxes, which await orders where to put them. They are under lock and key, as Lord George Bentinck desired, in separate boxes, all labelled.

16017. Can you state the result of those experiments?—(*The Witness delivered in eight Papers.*)

16018. By these it appears that you have arrived at a tolerably accurate test of the actual quantity of saccharine matter contained in every cwt. of sugar?—That is the purer part of the raw product operated upon, because that which is extracted is saccharine matter, but the one is impure and the other is pure; the samples of the extracts will show that.

16019. Do those specimens now produced include every species of sugar?—Not every species of sugar, but the species are enumerated in a list of the testings.

16020. You have taken a sufficient number of sugars of every different description in order to arrive at an accurate test?—I have. Of Jamaica I have taken four qualities. I have taken the average of the British West India colonies, Barbadoes excepted; of Barbadoes, two qualities; Antigua, one; Grenada one; the average of Trinidad, Demerara, white crystalline; East India, Benares, denominated brown, but yellow; Benares, denominated middling, but white; East India Khaur, dark brown and clammy; Madras, ordinary brown, but free; Penang, ordinary brown and very clammy; Mauritius, bright yellow; Mauritius, brown; Cuba, Havannah, a little less white than clayed, now admitted at the duty of 14*s.* per cwt., and 6*s.*, making 20*s.*, a supposed protective duty; Havannah, yellow, denominated muscovado, but clayed; yellow muscovado, inferior ditto, all Havannah; Brazil, and Bahia, yellow, denominated

Sir
H. V. Huntley,
Commander, R. N.
3 April 1848.

Mr. *H. Crosley.*

Vide Appendix.

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

minated muscovado, but clayed; Bahia, dark brown muscovado and clammy; Porto Rico, bright yellow; Santa Cruz, bright yellow. In the whole there are 27 different sorts tested.

16021. And those include nearly all the different descriptions of sugars which come to our market?—That would be a fair average; there are sugars from many other islands, &c., but this number I conceive would be quite sufficient to form a correct opinion.

16022. Have you had any difficulty in arriving at this test by the process which you applied to it?—I had some little difficulty with the clammy, because my apparatus was not suitable. I had to change the bottom upon which the sugar was put, and we were then enabled to work with greater facility than the first time. I have repeated the testing on the khaur.

16023. Will you state what difference you made in your apparatus in order to arrive at this more accurate conclusion?—I found that the false bottom upon which the sugar was put, being of hemp, and horse-hair, the passage was not so free; but on substituting wove copper wire, the bottom was then suitable for that particular sort of sugar, the khaur sugar, and for those clammy qualities.

16024. Do you think that this test could be easily established in the different custom-house offices in the kingdom?—I think there could be no difficulty whatever, because any person could be instructed in working the inferior, middling, and fine. There would be a difficulty if it was a day's work of 10, 20, or 30 hogsheads (those difficulties I entirely surmounted); but the testing might be of a pound, or it might be reduced to half a pound, because by having smaller glass vessels or pans, any number of testings might go forward at the same time. Though this apparatus which I have here has been worked by two men, it is not two men's work, it is the constant rotation that tires, but it does not require two men or one man to make the test, because the same apparatus and the same pumps will take, I should say, 20 or 30 tests going at the same time.

16025. Then, with a very small steam-engine put up at the Custom-house, you might have a great number of pans all working at the same time?—With the greatest ease; arranged alongside of each other; it would require an engine of one or two horse-power, but it would not occupy more space than one of the pumps, and would be placed alongside. That would form an engine complete, and by turning on the steam the machine would be put in action.

16026. And at a very moderate cost the whole apparatus could be worked?—Yes.

16027. Can you give a rough estimate of the cost?—I cannot state exactly; it would be a less cost if more were made than two or three, because the same patterns would do for the whole; they could be got up at a less price.

16028. But the cost itself would be really very trifling to the country?—I consider very trifling. It would be completely portable, so much so, that it could be removed. It could be placed on any floor (it is only screwed down), bringing from the steam boiler a pipe, as you would a gas pipe from any other part where it might be convenient and safe to have a fire for the generating of steam; the steam would be brought up to a small steam cylinder, as I term it; it would be a steam-engine.

16029. Do you think that the different Custom-house officers, after they had tried this operation for some little time, would very shortly be able to arrive at a very accurate conclusion in regard to the exact quantity of saccharine matter contained?—Quite as accurate as this; I have paid attention to it, and the results are such as I before anticipated, looking at the sugars. But I consider that the officers would not have occasion to test all the sugars landed, because after the officer had a thorough knowledge of the qualities of sugar, which he would have rapidly by this process, he would by comparing samples know the difference. Suppose he had Jamaica sugar of any quality, if there was not time to test it he could say within what range it should come; I consider that the British plantation sugars should beyond doubt range from 60 lbs. to 80 lbs. of pure product out of the 112.

16030. That would virtually take the great mass of sugars coming to this market?—Those are the sugars principally in consumption. Here are some brown Jamaicas that have yielded only 58. I have commenced the table at 50. The lowest quality which I found, which is scarcely to be called sugar, comes

comes from the Brazils. Many years ago I had some operations to make for a house at Amsterdam upon that Bahia sugar, and the results were much the same as I have found here, 50 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs., while the highest testing that I have is 101 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.; those are both from a cwt. of sugar, and the testings vary 66 $\frac{1}{4}$, 65, 80 $\frac{1}{4}$, 96, 56, and so on. I have regularly placed the amount of pure product against each of the qualities of the sugar tested.

16031. Supposing the Custom-house officer to say that the duty would be so much, in case of any dispute arising between him and the merchant or the buyer, whoever it might be, the sugar could be instantly placed in this apparatus, and the duty accurately ascertained?—Of course that would immediately determine it, excepting in those very low sugars, which might take a longer period.

16032. Would you say how long?—Perhaps with those it might take a couple of hours, for there is a difficulty; I am speaking of this particular process according to what I have done. That Penang sugar is very clammy, but I am quite convinced that in the khaur there is something beyond that of sugar; probably it is from the castor oil used, which is united with the sugar; you may smell it. I have some khaur now in my premises; you may smell the castor oil very strongly. Those are a sort of sugars which are not fit for consumption in this country for domestic uses.

16033. Under no circumstances whatever, do you think that this test would take more than five or six hours, so that under any circumstances it could be ascertained in a day?—It never, under any circumstances, would take that time, I should say the maximum period would not be more than three hours, and we have had to contend with difficulties from the first trials, which would not be the case when everything was arranged properly; in fact, the shape of the glass pan, instead of being bevelled conically for instance, is the other way, and I have been afraid of breaking it. I would have had a better pan, but it was cracked in coming here on the day of removal; the pan must be glass, because everything is then visible, and you may ascertain its working. There is another way of ascertaining whether the sugar tested has been properly worked, viz. by the smell; I could tell any sort of sugar when it is cleansed of the molasses by the smell; that is by practice on a large scale.

16034. Have you any suggestions to make to the Committee with regard to the amount of duty which should be charged on those different products?—I have prepared a table upon those products, table (C) of differential duties. I will read the heading: "Table (C) of Differential Duties proposed to be charged on Sugar of various growths and qualities, according to Statement of Tests," which is Table (B), "made at the House of Commons with Pneumatic Apparatus by Henry Crosley, and by order of the Chairman and Select Committee on Sugar Planting; the said Duties not comprising any additional or protective Duty upon Foreign Sugars of Slave Production." The first column is the "Tested quantity of pure product obtained from 112 lbs. of sugar in its natural state when landed, the pure product varying in quality and colour proportionately to that of the sugar operated upon." Then there is the proposed duty: "Rate of duty on each 112 lbs. of sugar in its natural state when landed, calculated at 70 lbs., the mean purity of British plantation muscovado sugar, the range of pure products therefrom being fixed from 60 lbs. to 80 lbs. from each 112 lbs." I have tried to ascertain whether that mean was just; whether the duty ought to take place either at the minimum or the maximum, either at 60 or 80, and on the mean, fixing that as the standard, both in sugar of low quality and of fine quality, it appears to me that, according to the calculations which I made, it would bring the duties out differential and just. Upon a product, for instance, of 50 lbs. from 112 lbs., I consider that 10 s. per cwt. would be an equivalent duty; as far as 59, 11 s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; from 60 to 80, which is the next standard, 14 s., the present duty, because that I take always as the basis for all the calculations, the present duty of 14 s. per cwt. Then beginning at 81, and progressing, I will take it at every 10; 81 would be 16 s. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 91 would be 18 s. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per cwt., 101 would be 20 s. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; I have taken them as high as 110. All those qualities, from 102 or 103, or thereabouts, may be considered as a species of refined sugar, varying in saccharine quality.

16035. From which, in reality, no impure product is obtainable?—There

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

might be a little, a very trifling quantity, as I can show. Here is the extract obtained from sugar from the Havannah; a little less white than clayed, now admitted at 20s. per cwt. (*producing the same*). I happened to have a sample of a part of a cargo that was landed at one of our out-ports. I have compared it with it; and I have found that it is a little less white than that which pays a duty of 20s. That is all the extract which I got from one pound.

16036. What did that sugar yield?—It yielded 98 lbs. out of the 112 lbs.; but then there would be a product arising from this extract by the evaporation of the pure water which is used with it, and that might be calculated perhaps at six pounds of sugar more, or thereabouts; but this is explained in a separate table. This is the extract from that white crystalline sugar from Demerara, which now sells at a price as high as our refined sugar (*producing another sample*). That is all I got from a pound of crystalline. The sugar is apparently white; but this test shows that there is that colouring matter combined with it.

16037. What did the Demerara sugar yield?—The white crystalline yielded 101½; that is the product from 112 lbs.

16038. Then this adjustment of the duties would practically put the colonial sugar upon a fair advantage with the foreign sugar?—My calculation has been entirely supposing them at par, not entering into the question whether there should be or should not be a protective duty. I have nothing to do with that further than the opinion which I have given in my former evidence, by the letter which I addressed to Lord George Bentinck, and likewise to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. I consider that certainly there ought to be a protective duty. For reasons, knowing something of the workings in Cuba which I will hereafter state, it is impossible for the British West Indian planter to compete with such sugar at the present rate of duty.

16039. All these calculations are made up entirely irrespective of protection?—Quite.

16040. They equally apply to all classes of foreign sugar, as well as to all classes of colonial sugar?—I do not think it would be equitable unless they did; because as fine sugars obtain better prices, they can afford to pay higher duties. It may be said that no encouragement will be afforded to the parties to improve the quality of their sugars; but the party that has laid out 4,000l. or 5,000l. to produce superior sugars, receives an equivalent for his outlay in the extra price which is obtained in every retail shop in London. With respect to the fine crystalline sugar, there is a large house in Bridge-street, Blackfriars, as respectable as any in London, Messrs. North & Co., they sell the brown quality for 6d. a pound. The white crystalline sugar is dearer; it is a beautiful article on the table. The West Indian muscovado sugar made in the ordinary way, in fire-pans, is a sweeter sugar, and more generally consumed than this crystalline sugar.

16041. But the other commands a higher price?—Yes, from its crystalline appearance; the refiners do not like it so much, because the larger the crystal the greater the quantity of water solidified. In making your crystals you must boil low and free, so as to let the crystals strike; and this applies in making sugar candy; if you boil very close you get an article like concrete.

16042. Then the refiner sells a practically better article, as far as saccharine matter is concerned, at a less price than the white crystalline of Demerara?—Decidedly. I have brown crystalline now for my domestic use, which cost 6d. per lb.; also refined, termed tittlers (not coarse lump) for which I paid the same price, 6d. per lb., and you may now buy refined sugar as low as 5d. per lb.

16043. Do you think there would be any difficulty at all in levying the duty upon those different per-centages which you have calculated?—I should consider that it would be very wrong to adhere to that table of duties where the sum gradually increases from 50 to the finest quality. I have made another table, showing the averages: "Table (D). Differential Duties proposed to be charged on Sugar of various growths and qualities, and by averages as follows." The first column is the "Tested quantity of pure product from 112 lbs. of Sugar in its natural state when landed." The next column is, "Rate of Duty on each 112 lbs. of Sugar in its natural state when landed, calculated upon averages as follows." And then there is a column of remarks, which I will now read

read through; it is but a short one. I have put "products ranging from 50 lbs. to 60 lbs. per 112 lbs. (on all less than 60 lbs.)" at 11 s. per cwt. The remark which I make on that is, "Sugars of these qualities are of the very lowest description, and now are unsaleable." The next range is from 60 lbs. to 80 lbs., inclusive 14 s., the present duty: "These are such as are generally imported from the British West India colonies; real muscovado are raw, and in that state consumed extensively in Great Britain." The next average is taken from 80 lbs. to 85 lbs.; that is 16 s. 6 d. "These are superior to muscovado, and in most instances purified by some process, as claying, &c., to discharge the impure or carbonaceous coloured matter." The next average is from 85 lbs. to 90 lbs.; the proposed duty is 17 s. 6 d. "The last remark applies to these qualities." The remark was, "These are superior to muscovado, and in most instances purified by some process, as claying, &c., to discharge the impure or carbonaceous coloured matter." The next range is from 90 lbs. to 95 lbs.; the duty should be 18 s. 6 d. "Approximating to refined sugar," 95 lbs. to 100 lbs., 19 s. 6 d. "Approximating to refined sugar, and more so," 100 lbs. to 105 lbs., 20 s. 6 d. "Approximating to refined sugar, and more so;" the last is from 105 lbs. to 110 lbs., 21 s. 6 d.: now at 110 lbs. you may consider it as refined sugar. I have samples of that, which is white sugar, which has not been tested; I can show this as compared with our refined or lump sugar, which cost 6 d. per lb.

16044. Would the revenue benefit or not by the duties proposed to be charged under the table which you have just read?—No doubt it must. I stated that the bulk of the sugars are ranging from 60 to 80; that is within the range of the British West Indian colonies, but sugars which are above that, ranging from 80 up to the finest, now, you may say, escape those duties, and of course the revenue would be considerably benefited, because most of those sugars which come from the British West Indian colonies are taken for refining or for common domestic purposes; rich persons buy those sugars, which I have described as beautiful to the eye, and pay a higher price for those sugars. It is not pointedly against crystalline sugar that I make that remark, because other sugars would show pure products to a very considerable extent.

16045. Then it is your opinion that, under the duties as charged at present, the revenue does lose considerably, to the disadvantage of the colonial producer?—No doubt of it; it loses, especially on that sugar coming in as clayed sugar, under 20 s. just to escape the duty. It is a common thing to send samples of the sugar which will just pass the Custom-house to the Havannah or Brazil, and say, "You must buy it of this quality, and not better;" the cargo comes, and passes in at 20 s., and it is that sugar, which is a species of refined sugar, as you will perceive, very near to our ordinary lumps. There is very little of what used to be termed brown lump, such as we used to have for crushing, made now.

16046. Practically that operates to the disadvantage of the colonial producer by 2 s. to 3 s. per cwt. by the standard being put too low?—That is decidedly too low. I consider that that sugar ought to be charged 20 s., without reference to any protection at all; because that is as nearly as possible to the intrinsic quality of it.

16047. Then in reality the West Indians do not enjoy the 6 s. protection which apparently they do under the Act of 1846?—So far from protection it is a bounty to the producers of those sugars in Cuba and Brazil to export them to this country. The finer qualities they send to St. Petersburg, to Hamburg, and to other places in Russia and in Prussia. At Berlin there are finer loaves made than any of our refiners make here; I have been there, and have seen them: they take the finest sugars that they can get; fine white Havannahs. Now fine white Havannah sugars will yield better, and make better sugar than ordinary or melting lump sugar would; one, perhaps, would be inferior to the other in colour; but the lump sugar is not so good, because it has been operated upon by the action of heat more than once; the clayed sugar has only one boiling, and it is then clayed, and, of course, it is stronger for re-crystallization. Each time you operate upon a solution of sugar by fire or steam-heat, and at however low a temperature you may boil it, still you

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

engender an uncrystallizable substance. In the completion of your refining, and the running down of the syrups, you will have brown bastard sugar, and also treacle.

16048. Will you proceed with your tables?—I have prepared Table (E.), as a question was raised with respect to what might be the value of the products. Now, I do not consider that I should enter into the question as regards the collecting of the revenue, because the duty should be paid on the article as it appears at the Custom-house when examined by the officers. It is of no consequence to the Government what the parties do with that sugar after they have paid the duty, having ascertained what its quality is; it may be consumed in its raw state as moist sugar for general domestic uses, or may be taken by the refiner, or applied to any other uses for sugar which they have now, which would perhaps increase if the rate of duty were less than 14 s. I should think it would be advisable, if it were possible without injury to the revenue, to reduce the duty to increase the consumption; but not to encourage that sugar coming in, which is so detrimental to the West Indian interest, by taking clayed sugars at 20 s. which ought to pay, according to the table which I have just gone through, a higher rate of duty. Table (E.) is a "Comparison of duties upon separate products, showing, according to the statements of tests by the pneumatic process upon various qualities of sugar, the proportionate rate of duty upon the pure product obtained, and also upon the products that might be obtained from the impure part in a state of solution, by evaporating the aqueous part, thereby obtaining certain variable quantities of regenerated sugar and of uncrystallizable product, molasses or treacle." The duty charged under 9 & 10 Vict. c. 63, on muscovado sugar, is 14 s. per cwt. The duty proposed, calculated upon the pure product, viz., 50 to 60 lbs. pure, the average duty as per tables (C.) and (D.), 11 s. per cwt. Average products, 55 lbs. of pure sugar at 14 s. would be 6 s. 10½ d.; about one-third, or 19 lbs. of bastard at 11 s. would be 1 s. 10½ d.; and two-thirds, or 38 lbs. of molasses, to make up the half, at 5 s. 3 d., the present duty, would be 1 s. 9½ d. That is showing 10 s. 6½ d. against 11 s. In the next average of products the duty charged on 112 lbs. is 14 s.; that is from 60 to 80 lbs.; the mean product is 70 lbs. of pure, estimated from 80 to 85 lbs., at 16 s. 6 d. That is the higher rate of duty, which 80 to 85 lbs. would be, for this reason, that that product is of a superior quality; so in that range I take the whole of them. There would be 28 lbs. of bastard and 14 lbs. of molasses. That would be 13 s. 8½ d. contrasted against 14 s. From 80 to 85 lbs. of pure product, the duty by tables (C.) and (D.) would be 16 s. 6 d., the mean 82½ lbs. pure, estimated from 85 to 95 lbs. at 18 s. 6 d., 13 s. 7½ d.; about two-thirds or 19½ lbs. bastard sugar at 14 s., 2 s. 5 d.; one-third, or 10 lbs. molasses at 5 s. 3 d., 5½ d.; those come precisely to 16 s. 6 d. each. From 85 to 90 lbs. proposed duty 17 s. 6 d. By a separation of the products it will be 17 s. 7½ d. From 90 to 95 lbs., 18 s. 6 d. proposed duty; on separate products 18 s. 10 d. From 95 to 100 lbs. of pure product 19 s. 6 d. proposed duty, and on separate products 19 s. 7½ d. From 100 to 105 lbs. pure product, 20 s. 6 d. duty; on the separate products, 20 s. 1½ d.; and from 105 to 110 lbs. pure product 21 s. 6 d. is the proposed duty, and on separate products 20 s. 8½ d.

16049. Then in reality, according to your calculation, both the pure and the impure products are calculated at an equal rate, as applying to each particular duty?—Yes, the same principle that applies to the first applies to the last.

16050. That which applies to the pure applies to the impure?—Yes; if the article were to come pure sugar, supposing the raw sugar operated upon in the colonies, and they were to send the extract over here, which would be quite impossible, it would be admitted; but if they were to boil the impure extract or solution, and make sugar and treacle, there would be two products; which would then pay an equivalent rate of duty to that under the present Act, that is 5 s. 3 d. the molasses, and the bastard 14 s., because bastard sugar is a species of regenerated raw sugar.

16051. Have you at all estimated what additional amount of revenue might be obtained from having the duties in this way?—I have not done so; for I must confess that as the question does not interest me, I do not know the amount

amount of the consumption of sugar in this country at present; I have heard that it is on the increase, and is likely to be so.

16052. But even under the present consumption of this country, by this adjustment of the duties an additional income would be derived?—Beyond a doubt, because there would be a considerable quantity of those above 60 to 80, and the quantity below from 50 ranging to 60, would be comparatively small, insomuch so, that I see that khaur has been exported from this country to the Continent as not saleable.

16053. Supposing the Government assented to this proposal of yours for levying the duty, how long a time would it take before you could get the apparatus in order to test the sugars in the different ports?—I do not know how many ports there are where sugars are landed.

16054. You may say 15 in round numbers?—I should say in three months the whole would be completed; it would be within six weeks that the first delivery would be made, and then it would follow weekly till the whole was completed.

16055. You could get it in operation in six weeks in the port of London?—Six weeks in London beyond a doubt; and I might say, that perhaps two or three within the period of two months.

16056. Do you think that any frauds might be committed by the samples which were brought to the Custom-house to be tried?—I know not what the routine is at the outports, but taking the regularity at the West India Docks, such as it used to be, nothing can be more regular than the mode of drawing the samples. A suspicion was raised that there was something improper with regard to that white crystalline sugar; when a prohibitive duty of eight guineas was known to be upon it, it could then be found as I found it in Mincing-lane at a sugar broker's there. He knew the steps which I had taken to prevent its coming in, and it was named to me by one of the landing waiters, and the landing waiter asked me whether I thought that it came in through the port of London. I told him I did not think so, because the samples were drawn from the hogsheads in a fair way. They conceived that there was false package, but how it came I cannot say; it must have come from some of the outports. That sugar, for domestic use, had been exposed in the windows of retail grocers, but when that prohibitive duty was put upon it, that of course ceased. It was eight guineas per hundredweight. It was then considered as equal to refined sugar, and refined sugar then, from any British colony, was considered as foreign refined sugar, although not foreign refined; the colonies were looked upon in the same light as any foreign country making refined sugar; but that sugar could then still be obtained, and if you applied to certain grocers they said, "We will try and get it for you," and it was procured; to what extent I cannot say, but I know that that was really the case.

16057. Do you altogether anticipate that any frauds might be committed; your answer went to show that they might be committed in the outports, but that you do not think it very probable in London?—We have before had frauds committed in the Custom-house in London, and of course it is necessary to have some person to look closely that those things are not done. Of course a person might be bribed to change the sample; but if there were proper checks, as there should be, that would not be done. Now the dock servant draws the sample; then there might be a duplicate sample, one for the merchant and the other for the customs; and the customs locker might stand there with his box, and take his sample, and the box be locked up, and carried to the Custom-house; that would secure it.

16058. And when the duty came to be paid, the particular sample might be referred to which was drawn at the same time for the Custom-house officer as for the merchant?—Yes. Supposing there were 50 hogsheads, it would not do to test each hogshead. The plan would be to take them, as I know is customary in the purchasing of sugars in France, to make an average, and take that average. Supposing the sample drawn was 1 lb., to test 50 hogsheads, I would take 50 half-ounces, or 50 ounces, put them together, and mix them well, and then weigh a certain quantity out for the purpose of testing, and that would be a fair way.

16059. If I understand your test rightly, it would not signify at all to the merchant who had to pay the duty; supposing sugar of a high class came from

Mr. H. Croaley.

3 April 1848.

one hogshead, and a low-classed sugar from another hogshead, if they were mixed, he would still get his fair amount of pure product from those two sugars?—That, I think, would be the most business-like manner of taking the range between 60 and 80.

16060. Would it not be the case under your pneumatic process that the good sugar would not be deteriorated by being mixed with the bad, because a fair amount of pure product would come equally from the good sugar as from the low sugar, supposing they were mixed or supposing they were separate?—I will make an exception there if you have clammy sugars below 60.

16061. I am speaking of the range from 60 to 80?—From 60 to 80 there would be no difficulty. But it would be very easy for a party sending sugar from abroad to do this. Supposing he puts two or three hogsheads of fine sugar, that would, by mixing, escape paying the higher duty. But if the officer had any doubt upon looking over the samples (because there should be samples kept by the Custom-house of those considered from 60 to 80), supposing there were five hogsheads of very superior sugar approximating to white, without saying anything to the merchant he would test those, and he would say, "Such and such numbers are thrown out for the higher duty." That would be the just way; otherwise it would be opening the door to continual litigation, and at the same time be injurious to the revenue.

16062. Take 10 hogsheads of good sugar which would be above 80, and 10 hogsheads of sugar which would be below 60; supposing those two to be mixed, would not that process give a mean average of 70 between those two, or whatever would be the mean between the actual amount of saccharine matter contained in the highest and in the lowest?—It would do so, but I conceive that that would be an improper mode; it would be breaking up the very principle.

16063. In whatever way they chose to mix the sugars the actual amount of pure product would be extracted, in proportion to the mixture?—Yes; but I must still except this very clammy sugar, which would be about 50 or 51, because it would be admixing a species like bird-lime with the other, not but that the process can separate it. The testing would show the same result, that is to say, the average result, but with this exception as to sugar of the very lowest quality.

16064. In fact you imagine that the Custom-house officers, if they were acquainted with that process, would very soon ascertain whether there was any fraud attempted in mixing the sugars of a higher quality?—I should think there could be no difficulty whatever; and another thing is, that a few weeks would make them acquainted with the qualities of sugar better than they could be by any casual looking at samples, or being taken to the sugar market, and seeing them there; at present they have certain standard samples of quality, and they refer to those; but in this way, from the varieties that must occasionally occur, they would become better judges of sugar. I used to practise it with a small apparatus, testing the sugar by a small quantity, a pound, to see whether there was as much impure matter in it as I suspected, and I found by practice that grey sugars were far superior to those of bright yellow, and the results by the tests now made confirm this instance; the fine Jamaica sugar (not the finest quality) is in colour like that of Antigua; the Antigua yields less of white product, though it is a sugar beautiful for grocery purposes, and not so good for the refiners; the Jamaica sugar is more suitable.

16065. In short, the state of the atmosphere on a light or dark day would make no difference in levying the duties by the Custom-house officers, which we have heard mentioned before?—I do not consider that it would; I have worked during days that have been foul weather and fair weather, but the state of the atmosphere would not make any difference in the quantity of the product. There might be a tinge a little less white; if it were a very smoky atmosphere the sugar would not look so bright, but the object is not to ascertain whether the product yielded is bright, but to separate the impure part from the superior part; consequently you would have the same results, whether it was night or day, foul weather or fair weather.

16066. Do you think that your process is open to any chemical objection as to the real quantity of pure matter contained in the sugar; have you any
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idea that any chemist would come and deny the truth of your experiment?— If the term “pure” is to apply to that which is quite pure, but it is always relative; you may take the very purest sugar that is prepared, treble refined sugar, and still it is not pure, because upon examination with a compound microscope, you will find it studded with pieces of black; I am speaking of that which has been cleansed from that impure part which is here.

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

16067. You have no reason to anticipate that anybody will come here and attempt to upset your tests, so far as the separation of purity from impurity goes?—Not at all; I am only speaking with respect to testing. I have been tested once most specifically, having been sent for by the landing waiters of the port of London, and not only then, but at other times, I have had sent to me samples. I said, “You have Dr. Ure to test these things.” They said, “We wish your opinion.” One case was a palpable attempt at fraud; I do not know by whom it was, they would not tell me; but it was an attempt to import as foreign molasses part of the product of foreign sugars that had been refined under bond for the exportation of all the products. The parties admitted that it was part of those products; they were bringing it to this country, and willing to pay the duty as foreign molasses, and in that case I explained and said, “It is a solution of good sugar.” How did I know that? By the best test that I could apply, and I gave them the key to it. I made a calculation showing the amount of duty paid as molasses, and the amount of duty that it would pay supposing it was sugar. It was restored on condition of being refined for exportation.

16068. Have you any other suggestions to make with regard to this experiment?—I have put some additional remarks, which I made early this morning, which I should wish to form a part of my papers. I have not quite finished them. “Extract of a communication from Dr. Shier, now in Demerara, dated 3d of February 1848.” It relates to cane-juice; on that I do not consider that it would be possible to make anything like an accurate test.

16069. For the levying of the duties?—Yes. When I was here last, I misunderstood with respect to concrete. I considered that concrete was a semi-crystallized mass, and I stated that I had made it; but it is a solid body, and I have now, I believe, in my pocket, a sample of it (*the Witness produced the same*). It would be impossible to be certain of the duty that that should pay. That piece a gentlemen, Mr. Richardson, gave me.

16070. Then as far as concrete and concentrated cane-juice are concerned, you think it would be difficult to arrive at any test by this process, from which accurately to fix the amount of duty to be paid upon them?—I think so. I think the Government would be liable to very great injury in point of duty.

16071. Would you attempt to levy any fixed duty upon that concrete, a lower amount of duty?—It could not be used in this state, nor the cane-juice, but both perhaps might be beneficially used by the refiners; perhaps they would like this article; but such as this ought to come under the class of being refined in bond. I will not say for exportation, but on payment of duties after it had been ascertained by two, or three, or half a dozen refinements, what the general yieldings were; at least whatever the yieldings might be, to put a certain rate on refined sugar, of all classes, without distinguishing single or double refined. But this is not a new article; it is an article of commerce well known in the United States, from the maple. I have a large lump of maple sugar. I have a sample of sugar made in Canada by a retired West India planter as good as Jamaica sugar; but concrete of maple is made by the settlers in the backwoods of America.

16072. Then you think there would be no difficulty in arriving at a fair duty both for concentrated cane-juice and for concrete after it had been practically tried in this country?—I do not think it would be possible to levy that duty upon landing; I think the only safe way would be to compel all the duties to be levied in bond, just as duty is charged upon spirit made from malt, &c.; the Excise officer superintends the distillation.

16073. Would not that limit the purchasers very much?—The refiner, of course, would not be pleased with having an Excise officer about his premises; no man is pleased at that, whether it is soap, or spirit, or anything else; but still they now work satisfactorily under the revenue officers with respect to the

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

sugars refined in bond for the exportation of all the products: foreign sugars I allude to.

16074. Do not you think that after a short time you might arrive at some fair duty for it?—I cannot conceive that it would be possible, any more than if you attempted to make a differential duty, that is, a variable duty upon the quality of West Indian molasses imported. It is very variable; there may be perhaps 18 per cent. of water; that is the loss by evaporation, and there may be 28. It would not do to take the specific gravity of it on landing, because that which has the greatest specific gravity might yield a quantity of sugar which would not be so advantageous to boil for the production of sugar as that which was lighter.

16075. Will you proceed with the other papers which you have handed in?—The paper which I have prepared this morning is hastily drawn up; I have headed it, "Points submitted by Henry Crosley, in addition to the Documents presented to the Honourable the Select Committee on Sugar Planting." I am now going back to data which will throw some little light upon this subject. In 1817, in the month of November, I was in Paris. I made "application to the French Government for a sealed patent to secure the improvements made by H. Crosley in operating by the pneumatic process;" that is the first point. The second point is: "Sealed or secret specifications to patents not granted to aliens, only to natives of France, on H. C.'s renewed petition, if he submitted the invention to a special committee of scientific members of the Government Board of Arts and Sciences, and they should consider it of sufficient importance to warrant their recommending that H. C. should have a sealed patent, then it would be granted to him, but only for 10, and not 15 years, as petitioned for." The third point is: "Committee appointed, consisting of M. Gay Lussac, professor of chemistry; M. Bardel, chief for determining variable duties chargeable on different articles, and then especially on sugar; M. ——— (name forgotten), also a professor." The fourth point is: "Plan and description of pneumatic process, and samples of product exhibited by H. C. to the said committee; highly approved of by them." The plan I have here, it is the original plan; a copy of the plan, sealed, I left with them. (*The Witness produced the Plan.*) That shows it very clearly; this first pan is domed, and there is a point there which I shall explain, that is not at all applicable on a large scale of business. "Plan herewith and description of pneumatic process and samples of product, exhibited by H. C. to the said committee; highly approved of by them, and particularly by M. Gay Lussac. H. C.'s request acceded to for sealed patent. H. C. interrogated as to his engagements in England with respect to the pneumatic process, who was urgently invited to settle in France and to introduce the pneumatic process and other improvements in manufacturing and refining sugar, as practised in England; promise given that if H. C. did so, all machinery, &c. should be admitted into France free of duty, and also articles for his private and household uses." The fifth point is, "H. C. on that day invited to dine with M. Bardel. Upon H. C.'s arrival at M. Bardel's house that gentleman took from his private repository a small apparatus, and remarked, 'See how very near I have been to your invention. I use this for testing sugars of various qualities in preference to other means, which are (chemical named to H. C.)' The small apparatus shown was a pneumatic machine, and the mode of operating H. C. had embraced in the specification of his French patent, considering as he did when in England, that by such mode a similar effect would be produced on sugar, yet not equal to that other mode, which was suitable, but the other not so for operations on a business scale. The latter," that is the one on a business scale, "is by withdrawing the air from under the false bottom of the open pan," exactly as I have operated upon in the plan which I have produced, "in which the sugar is placed, and it should be in a dry and not moist state. The former, or small testing apparatus of M. Bardel was a domed vessel,"—my first pan in that plan is domed—"the sugar moistened ere put into it, and upon a filtering false bottom somewhat similar to that used by H. C. Into this domed vessel on the top a pipe was connected, which was attached to a small air-pump; and thus in lieu of a vacuum being, as in the other case, created beneath the sugar, by this mode the air was forced and compressed upon it, and thus forced through the moistened sugar, carrying with it and separating the carbonaceous and coloured

coloured matter therefrom, as shown by H. C.'s late operations.—6th. As to testing of sugar, some sorts such as khaur, &c. &c., the syrup from which it, and any other sugar even of finer sorts have been made, the syrups have either not been properly cleansed, or they inherently contain coloured matter, or it is formed naturally by exposing the cane-juice to the influence of the atmosphere, or too much temper or lime has been used, which compound turns vegetable substances of a reddish hue, hence the varied complexions of sugars; pale yellow, bright yellow, greyish hue, orange, brown, dark brown, and if fine double loaves are to be made, or sugar equal in standard whiteness to that quality, then in the solution of the raw sugar or material to be so refined, no lime water is used, as it would cause the refined sugar to have a reddish tinge; yet lime is a necessary evil in making sugar direct from cane-juice. The foregoing remarks, and especially as to colour of various sorts of sugar, are made to account why all descriptions of raw sugar, when operated upon by the pneumatic process, do not yield white sugar. The use of the chemical is not equal to the simple elements, pure air and water for testing sugar, because the former (the chemical) might, and would in some cases, when admixed with the sugar, form new compounds, and therefore such mode of testing would not be so sure nor equal to the latter mode with air and water, which would separate the coloured matter better than the chemical, which might, and would separate, in some instances, one portion of the coloured matter in the sugar, and not attack and separate the other or inherent part, independently perhaps of creating other coloured matter. Possibly by an union of the said two processes, with judicious modifications, a superior test might be effected; but to ascertain whether this surmise is correct or not, a series of experimental testings must be made, which H. C. could effect in the course of a few days, say a week at most; however, the pneumatic test, as exhibited, is simple and sure, and equal fully for the purpose proposed." The 7th is "Comparison of workings of sugar-canes in Cuba. H. C. can, if required, state some facts to show the advantages the Cuban planter has over the British." The 8th point is, "H. C. was instrumental in causing the late Mr. Poulett Thomson, afterwards made Governor of Canada, to change the erroneous views he entertained and advocated in the House of Commons one Session, respecting the admission of foreign clayed sugar, and the next Session changed his view on the subject; which was caused, as H. C. believes, from his having written a somewhat voluminous tract upon the manufacture and refining of sugar, with statement of products, &c. &c."

16076. Have you any other statements to make with regard to this process?—I do not recollect anything else; I believe I have given in the whole of the documents.

16077. Have you anything to state with regard to Cuba?—I should wish to name, as regards Cuba, that their workings there, that is, their hours of working and their mode of working, are very different from those in the British West Indian colonies, and I was likely to have been a very considerable sufferer in consequence of that, which makes me know it intimately; the engines were not strong enough. This is, perhaps, eight, nine, or ten years ago. They worked 18 to 19 hours a day, without any intermission, and Sunday as well; the mill required 12 men to feed it, and they were kept going by the whip; they were working the engine and the mill at double the speed that we should work at in any of our British West Indian colonies; consequently there was always a great risk, and the machine was said to be not good unless it was strong enough to stand this double working.

16078. Mr. Villiers.] You never were in Cuba?—No.

16079. You only know this from hearsay?—I know it from the man that I employed, whose letters I have; I can produce them to corroborate what I have stated, that that was the case with respect to their workings then. I know not what they are now, I have had no communication or orders from Cuba for some years; they get their steam-engines and machinery principally from the United States.

16080. So that that might be quite opposed to the fact?—I do not know how they work now; I only speak of their having worked at that furious rate. In one case they claimed 13,000 *l.* for the loss of crop.

16081. Are you to be understood that they know nothing of these processes of refining the sugar in the West Indian colonies?—I believe they are working

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

it for crystallizing sugar in British Guiana now ; and it was also at New Orleans, and it was, I believe, also at some place in the East Indies ; I do not know whether British or not. In London a species of white sugar called crystalline sugar has been made, which was exhibited in the shops of the grocers.

16082. The reason why it is not adopted in the other islands has nothing to do with slave labour?—It is not used in Cuba ; their process was claying ; Mr. Innes introduced it under a patent that was taken for the colonies only, which there was some litigation about ; he introduced the pneumatic process in the West Indian colonies pretty generally, and it was a failure in all cases, excepting in Demerara, for this reason, that the sugars made in the ordinary way, such as are now made, that is, without the low temperature method of boiling, are the small grain sugars, and there is a difficulty in working them. We will suppose a ton weight of small grain sugar, and we will suppose a ton weight of crystalline ; there interstices between the crystals and those between the grains ; in one case if you get too much pressure upon sugar of small grain, it is jammed, and forms a mass like clay ; but not so if crystalline sugar is operated upon. Working on a scale of business requires experience ; there is some little secret in the manipulation ; no secret as regards the apparatus itself, because the patent has expired and anybody may have it if he only has the judgment to use it ; the patent expired in 1830.

16083. Mr. *Moffatt*.] Are the Committee to understand that your plan is to charge the duty upon the pure product of sugar contained in each cwt. ?—No ; I take that as the basis. I consider that the consumer has nothing to do with the pure product ; it is a matter of indifference to him ; he only looks to such sugar as he is in the habit of using, and that is sugar in the state in which it is landed and taken out of the hogshead. It is for the Government then to ascertain the quality. I have stated it in both ways, so that it might be seen that one approximates very nearly to the other within a fraction.

16084. Will you explain in a few words to the Committee what alteration you propose to introduce in the mode of levying the duty upon sugar from the British colonies ?—I have previously stated it, but I will re-state it.

16085. Is not your plan to assess the duty upon the pure product of the sugar ?—Not so. I take the pure product as the basis to ascertain what the quality of the sugar is that is landed, for the reasons which I named before.

16086. What is your next process towards arriving at a correct assessment of the duty ?—On those pure products obtained according to the statement. I have made averages ; I have put those from 50 up to 60 at a lower duty than those ranging from 60 to 80, which take the generality of sugars from the British West Indian colonies ; then from 80, as one of the tables states, it progresses to 85 ; 85 to 90, and so onwards.

16087. But the principle upon which that table is formed is simply and only the pure product of the sugar which you find in every cwt. imported ?—That must be the basis, certainly.

16088. I find in the table before me that on a cwt. of sugar, in which there are 56 lbs. of pure product, you propose to charge a duty of 11s. 2½d. ?—I propose, I think, 11s. That table, to which the question refers, is merely the dissected part ; that is a table previous. That is only shown in explanation of a question which was put to me before. The table is Table (E).

16089. You have put it at 11s. 2½d. per cwt. ?—This is merely a table showing how it would work out upon each variation of product from pound to pound ; the other table shows how it would apply in a business way ; this certainly would not ; this is merely as a key.

16090. Then you propose to charge on every cwt. of sugar imported, which, according to your process, yields 55 lbs. of pure sugar, 11s. a cwt. ?—Yes, from 50 to 59.

16091. Then in the same table, on every cwt. of sugar which yields 60 lbs. of pure product, you propose to charge 14s. a cwt. ?—Yes, and so it would be up as high as 80.

16092. Do you think that that is a fair discrimination, a difference of nearly 30 per cent., when there is only two lbs. difference in the pure product according to this table ; for sugar of 58 lbs. or even 59 lbs. pure product would only pay 11s., while sugar of 60 lbs. pure product would pay 14s. ?—Yes ; the one takes the range from 50 to 60, the other takes it from 60 to 80. It ought not

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to be looked upon in that light ; the parties may be benefited by it, those that import at 50 and those importing at 60. It is a temptation to them to improve their sugars, instead of being a premium, as might be supposed, because the higher price in the market would be an inducement for them to make the sugar coming within the higher range, though paying a higher duty. They would pay 3s. per cwt. more, but their sugars would fetch more than 3s. a cwt. extra. Take, for instance, the khaur which has been operated upon, and take the Grenada at 65.

16093. *Chairman.*] What weight did the khaur yield?—Fifty-six. I have repeated those testings.

16094. *Mr. Moffatt.*] Is not there a manifest injustice in the cases such as those which appear upon your proposed scale, the sugar which yields 59 lbs. pure product paying 11s. a cwt. duty, while the sugar with 60 lbs. pure product must pay 14s.?—I do not think there is any injustice, because I take the average from 50 up to 59, and just in the same way injustice might be said to apply to the other, from 60 to 80; but the parties have the advantage; the man that made such very low sugar would desire to improve his mode of working. A greater injustice exists with respect to sugars from 50 to 59, and those of fine quality clayed paying the same duty and yielding 98.

16095. You state your belief that the result of the imposition of such a scale of duty as that which I have now lying before me upon your suggestion, would be to induce the producer of sugar to make a finer quality?—I think it would.

16096. We have had it before us in evidence, from parties whose sugar came under the operation of the distinctive duties in reference to the white clay class at the present time, that it has led them always to make an inferior quality to bring it in at the lower rate of duty. Can you offer the Committee any practical information on that point as a sugar producer?—I consider that as to that range from 50 to 60, improvements would to a certain extent be made. If you take the lowest sugar, that yielding 50, it would not be worth perhaps more than the duty. I have heard of returns of khaur that had been sold where 2s. and 3s. per cwt. was all that was netted; consequently, in respect of those lower qualities, it would be an inducement to improve them, and so it would in the case of sugar even of 59, because if it yielded 65 the parties would obtain a price proportionately beneficial for that sugar, on account of its being of a superior quality to that which yielded a product of 59. In making any scale you must draw the line, and drawing that line between 59 and 60, and then taking the range from 60 to 80, is I think fair; but I do not think it would be fair to take the range from 50 to 70. The tables are based upon a calculation of the mean product between 60 and 80, and so proceeding forwards by 5 lbs. up to that of the finest white clayed sugars.

16097. The result of the practical experience which has been obtained since the imposition of a classification of duties, discriminating qualities, has been that the manufacturers have sought in all cases to lower the quality of their sugar, so as to bring it in at the lower rate of duty?—I am quite convinced of this, that from the Act making an alteration with regard to the differential duty as respects clayed sugars are to be dated the misfortunes of the West Indian proprietors. If there had been that differential duty which used to exist as regards clayed sugars, they certainly never would have been in the present state in which they are, that is my opinion; it is only an opinion, but I think that is where the fatal error has been committed. Just as in the case of the white crystalline, the refiners are to a certain extent injured. The extracts from the pamphlet which I presented to the Government in 1830 show clearly how the refiners were being injured; every pound of this white crystalline sugar displaces the home manufacture of refined sugar in lump or loaf.

16098. Would not the plan which you propose introduce the element of uncertainty with regard to the importer, as to the amount of duty which he would have to pay upon his sugar on its arriving in this country?—I think quite the reverse. Immediately the sugars were landed, or on the following day, the importer might know, and no one else would have any reason to know, what duty he would have to pay upon his sugars, which perhaps would be a little guide to selling them, whether to hold them or to sell them immediately.

16099. But will the importer know what duty he has to pay at the time he is buying those sugars in the British colony or other sugar-producing country,

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

for importation to this kingdom?—I did not know that there were purchasers sent out from this country to the West Indian islands.

16100. Would the exporter from the colony, whether a purchaser or not, be able to tell at the time of exporting his sugar what amount of duty he would have to pay?—Very easily, if he had a small apparatus; he would be enabled to test it before he shipped his sugar with the greatest ease; with the same facility as upon its being landed.

16101. It must be of great importance to the producer of sugar to know which is the best market to which to send his goods. If the duty here is likely to vary in the ratio which I have before alluded to, as between 59 lbs. and 60 lbs. of pure product, it is a very important thing for him to be able to ascertain accurately the amount of duty which he will have to pay?—He has not the power of ascertaining accurately what sugars he can make, for this reason: in one crop he will make very good sugars, and in the following crop not so; it depends upon the seasons; there are variations from 1,800 gallons of juice to 3,200; and if I have to evaporate the aqueous part to produce sugar from 3,000 gallons of juice, it is quite clear the sugar will be much better from 1,800 gallons of juice to the hogshead instead of 3,000; the longer the fire acts upon the cane-juice the sugar is of inferior quality.

16102. I gather from your last answer that the producer of sugar could not ascertain with accuracy what amount of duty he would have to pay on sending the sugar to this country?—After he made his sugar and before he shipped it on board the vessel, supposing it to be at Jamaica, he could test the sugar at a very trifling expense, if it were a matter of consequence to him; he could ascertain before the sugars were sent generally, what the drainage on the voyage would be; he could ascertain the quality and quantity of pure sugar, as well as the officer here, from any given quantity of raw sugar.

16103. Are you aware that there is a very large drainage from sugars which come from some of our colonies in the course of the voyage?—I refer to that extract from the pamphlet which I published in 1830, which is a record in the Treasury; I know that there is a loss of from two to three cwt. per hogshead; I pointed that out in the year 1830.

16104. Two to three cwt. per hogshead?—Yes; I have known five cwts. in some cases lost, but that arose from improper management in not curing properly the sugar sent.

16105. Consequently in the case of this loss of two to three cwt. per hogshead, which you have stated as the result of your experience, the exporter of sugar from the island of Barbadoes, from which island I believe the sugars drain more extensively than from any of our colonies, would find, according to your pneumatic process, that the sugar had drained away, and he would be liable to a higher rate of duty?—His sugar would yield so much pure product; it would only be an inducement to him to adopt better means of curing the sugar; the ship's hold is the place where the sugar is generally cured.

16106. Assuming that to be the case, say that a hogshead of sugar has discharged so large a portion of molasses as to have lost two cwt. when that sugar comes here, the quantity remaining in the hogshead will contain a larger proportion of pure product; that of course will come in a higher duty. Take for example this, that the Barbadoes sugar, as originally shipped, contained under the process, as tried in Barbadoes, only 59 lbs. of pure sugar; on its arrival here, in consequence of the drainage, there would be 62 lbs. of pure sugar; therefore the shipper from Barbadoes would have lost his sugar by drainage, and be liable to 3s. more per cwt. for duty, and get no more for his product in Mincing-lane?—That is quite the reverse, because he would not lose the sugar; he would only have drained off the molasses which ought to be drained off in the colony if he cured his sugar properly. The quantity of pure product in a hogshead of sugar in Barbadoes would be the same as when landed in London, the molasses and not the sugar having drained during the voyage; the weight of the hogshead would of course be less by the quantity of molasses drained. If you take a hogshead altogether and mix it up, so as to have the molasses and sugar altogether, I admit that he loses a portion of the molasses, but not the sugar; the sugars are put into a curing-house, and left to remain there a certain period to cure. If they have inefficient means for curing, and when the ship arrives hogsheads are put into the ship, the temperature of the
hold

hold would be about 140° Fahrenheit while crossing the Atlantic, and then out runs the molasses during the voyage.

16107. Prior to the shipment of the hogshead at Barbadoes, the exporter of that hogshead ascertains by your pneumatic process that there are 58 lbs. of pure sugar to the 112 lbs. of gross sugar; in the course of the voyage that sugar drains to the extent of, say, 20 per cent. or 15 per cent., consequently, the impurities having drained off, on its arrival here that hogshead of sugar contains 62 lbs. of pure sugar to the 112 lbs. of gross sugar; therefore the importer will lose his drainage, which he does now, but he will also be subject to 3s. a cwt. higher duty, and get no more for his product when sold in the market in Mincing-lane; is not that correct?—Yes, so far as raw sugar is shipped, but not so if the impure parts were separated by this or any other process, as claying, &c.; but the exporter that was going to test it would take the sugar in its then state, just as he was putting it into the hogshead to be cured, before there was any gravitation of the molasses, which again drains during the voyage; consequently, by taking that sugar just as it was in his sugar-house, and before being cured and putting it to the test, he would find the exact quantity of pure product, and also the impure parts. By this testing process he would draw out that very molasses which would otherwise run into the ship's hold, and it would be an inducement for him to guard against that. He would say, "I find that this sugar will only yield 55." Before the shipment of the sugar at Barbadoes, after being cured, it might show 63; it would show 63 there for this reason; he would only be drawing off in Barbadoes that which would naturally run off in the ship's hold by the voyage; consequently it would come to the same point on each hogshead of sugar.

16108. The shipper from Barbadoes or Jamaica, where the largest drainage occurs, would be subjected to a higher duty by reason of this drainage, which has already inflicted a severe loss upon him on account of the syrups having discharged, and the sugar landed presenting a greater quantity of pure sugar per cwt.—They have put up with this loss, and their attention has been called to it these 30 years, and only few consider that it is most advantageous to cure their sugars well, if they can, or, if not, at least whatever molasses runs from them to keep them a longer period, and boil the molasses for the production of a second quantity of sugar. Some have done it with advantage.

16109. The discharge of molasses, of course, increases the quantity of pure sugar in a cwt. of sugar imported into this country?—No; the total quantity of pure sugar in a hogshead, when landed, would not be greater, it would be the same in the West Indies as in England. The loss by drainage would operate upon the exporter to take better methods to cure his sugar in his own sugar-house, instead of letting it run into the ship's hold. But taking it and testing it in Barbadoes and testing it here, it would yield exactly the same product; it is only the separation of that portion of molasses which goes into the ship; he would have it in his sugar-house in the West Indies.

16110. Shipped as the sugars now are, not on the improved process, but shipped as the sugars now are from Jamaica and Barbadoes, and draining, as they do in the course of their voyage, from 10 to 20 per cent., those sugars, when they come here, have discharged so much of the molasses as is lost, leaving, in every hundredweight of sugar remaining in the hogshead, a so much larger proportion of pure sugar?—But that would be the fault of the manufacturer.

16111. Is not the fact as I have stated?—It is. With all raw sugar there is a mixture of molasses which a good manufacturer ought to take out upon the spot; but if he is so foolish as to let it drain in the ship he must, as he has done for years, submit to that loss. For 50% he might test every hogshead of sugar that is shipped, and ascertain what its real product was, or would be when landed.

16112. Would it not be more beneficial to the planter to apply any plan which you propose in regard to the purification of his sugar in the place of production before sending it over here, and to bring it all in at 14s.?—That has been attempted by Mr. Innes, and failed. The pamphlet of 1830 most particularly applies to the question which has been now put to me.

16113. Are you prepared to state what effect this proposed plan of yours would have upon the revenue; would it increase or decrease it?—It would increase it, in my opinion.

16114. Your general average tax being higher than that at present imposed?

0.32.

H 3

—No;

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

Mr. H. Crosley.
 3 April 1848.

—No; the tax would remain the same; the only difference which would be equitable to the Government, I consider, and likewise equitable to every manufacturer of sugar, would be this, that that manufacturer who made finer sugars above the maximum of 80 would pay a higher duty; so far the revenue would obtain the benefit; and as regards that clayed sugar, of which we have a sample before us, the duty upon that would be something like 20 s., without reference to any protection. Now the Government would be benefited by that, and so it would in all grades of sugar exceeding 80. Below 50 it could not be called sugar.

16115. Then in point of fact it would be an increased amount of tax on the superior production?—It would be an increase, but at the same time it would be very equitable; equitable in fact for the refiners of sugar in this country.

16116. How much per annum do you anticipate the revenue would benefit by this system?—As I said before, I am not acquainted with the quantity of sugar consumed in this country. When I talk of the consumption in this country, I am not speaking of consumption for refining, because I believe there is very little comparatively to that of moist sugar in the state imported.

16117. I understand that you have submitted this process to the principal officers of Her Majesty's customs at some previous period?—I never submitted the process. I have submitted remarks strongly made to the members of the Government; and that extract from the pamphlet of 1830, had the effect of causing the revenue to be protected. Instead of admitting white crystalline sugar, such as I have here, at the then duty of 14 s., it was considered as refined, and it was pronounced refined by the chairman of the sugar bakers' committee; it was then classed as refined sugar, and it is refined sugar, and immediately it was charged the prohibitive duty. As far back as 1815 there was a differential duty. The Government distinguished the sugars; those which were clayed paid 6 s. per cwt. more than muscovado. That to which I have alluded, as regards clayed admitted at the same duty as brown or muscovado, seems to me to have been an addition in that particular Act, which has caused the chief part of the injury the West Indians have been gradually suffering under.

16118. Is it not the fact, that at the present time the bright yellow Jamaica sugars, which have a great deal of impurity in them, command a higher price per hundredweight in the market than other sugars which are far purer sugars?—The very fine Antigua, that bright yellow, yields nearly 9 lb. per cwt. less than the Jamaica sugar.

16119. But it commands a higher price in this market?—Yes; but it is material to the refiner to have strength for recrystallization. This Jamaica sugar, at 78 lbs., he will give a higher price for; he will not touch those that fetch the same price in the market for grocery purposes, that is the bright yellow Antigua or Jamaica, because there are Jamaica sugars beautifully bright, only fit for the table, and not suitable for refinement.

16120. *Chairman.*] As I understand you, you mean to say that upon the differential value of the sugar, the average samples of Cuban and Brazilian are paying very little more duty, or not so much, at 20 s. as the other sugar pays at 14 s.?—Undoubtedly.

16121. What you mean to say is, that if the sugars paid an *ad valorem* duty, instead of being classified, khaur sugar should pay 11 s. 2½ d., the bulk of West Indian sugar, 14 s., the superior qualities of West Indian sugar, 16 s. 2½ d., and the mass of Havannah sugars, 19 s. 7 d.?—This is merely a table of the testings; but there is another table, which shows accurately what the proportions should be. It is pretty nearly that; but making it up altogether, I have classed them from 11 s., I think, up to the fine clayed, equal to, or a species of refined sugar, and I am prepared to prove that it is refined sugar in a variety of ways, not only by the admission of the chairman of the refiners' committee, but also by what the Government have done. I can refer to the Acts, and there show that they were properly classed then, but not so since. In one Act it was "muscovado," and the following Act put in "or clay," and that opened the door to what has occurred. There was another very striking feature regarding the duty with respect to refining foreign sugar, bond being given to export specific quantities of sugar, but they paid the duty on foreign sugar, and the Government lost about 13 s. or 14 s. on every hundredweight. Then it

was

was pointed out, let them refine in bond, but instead of paying duty on the sugar, compel them to export the whole of the products. I was very active in that concern, conjointly with Mr. John Moss, of Liverpool, who has a very large estate in Demerara.

Mr. H. Crosley.

3 April 1848.

16122. If I understand you rightly, if an *ad valorem* duty were now taken, and the bulk of the West Indian sugars paid 14 s., the bulk of Havannah sugars would pay 19 s. 7 d., so that, in point of fact, if an *ad valorem* duty be taken into calculation, Havannah sugar, which is now paying a differential duty of 6 s. apparently, and apparently paying a protective duty of 6 s., is only paying, really and intrinsically, a duty of 5 d.; that is what you mean?—Yes.

16123. If it were an *ad valorem* duty, as the duty is levied in the United States, and your standard of intrinsic value be correct, the bulk of Havannah sugars should pay 19 s. 7 d., and the bulk of West Indian, 14 s.?—Yes.

16124. There is that difference in the intrinsic value of the two articles?—Yes.

16125. Mr. Moffatt.] Can you state what is the market value at the present time in Mincing-lane of Havannah sugars which are lying there, and of Jamaica sugars to which you have referred?—I cannot state that, because I never go into the market now; the only authority which I should give would be that of last Friday's Mincing-lane price current.

Mr. Richard Burn, called in; and Examined.

16126. Chairman.] YOU and your father together, I believe, are the Editors of Burn's Commercial Glance?—We were; my father is dead now.

Mr. R. Burn.

16127. You are the sole editor?—Yes.

16128. I believe it is your business to get the most accurate details of all the statistics connected with the cotton trade?—It is.

16129. And from the highest sources of information you learn not only the price, I might almost say day by day, but week by week, of all the cotton bought and sold, but of all the cotton goods manufactured and exported?—Yes.

16130. Have you prepared a statement showing the export of cotton manufactures of all descriptions to the different sugar growing countries for the 19 months subsequent, and for the 19 months antecedent to the 22d August 1846, when the last Sugar Act passed?—I have.

16131. Can you state what are the results of those calculations?—From the 22d of January 1845 to the 22d of August 1846, the quantity of goods exported to the British West Indies was 1,003,303 l.

16132. This is the money value?—Yes: to the Mauritius, 100,817 l.; Bombay, 1,658,978 l.; Madras, 116,935 l.; Calcutta, 3,108,521 l. Then from August the 22d, 1846, to March 22d, 1848, to the British West Indies, 759,038 l.; to the Mauritius, 53,985 l.; to Bombay, 1,310,267 l.; to Madras, 122,166 l.; and to Calcutta, 2,610,830 l. From August 22d, 1846, to March the 22d, 1848: to Cuba, 273,923 l.; to Porto Rico, 2,019 l.; to the Brazils, 2,670,209 l. From January the 22d, 1845, to August the 22d, 1846: to Cuba, 338,829 l.; Porto Rico, 4,453 l.; the Brazils, 2,147,488. I have a statement of the plain and printed calicoes which have gone; that is the principal article which goes in weight; the others are merely trifling.

[The Witness delivered in the following Papers:]

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

Goods Exported to the following Places, from

	BRITISH WEST INDIES.			MAURITIUS.		
	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.
Yarn - - - - Lbs.	91,757	91,757	4,688	272	272	14
Thread - - - - "	85,839	85,839	6,213	9,749	9,749	706
Calicoes, plain - - Yds.	26,490,408	6,346,682	365,330	3,600,276	862,542	49,638
" printed, &c. - "	31,851,624	4,758,725	588,544	2,529,959	884,008	43,463
Damasks, &c. - - - "	1,216	340	85	-	-	-
Cambrics, &c. - - - "	888,350	133,251	15,256	52,831	7,923	908
Dimities, &c. - - - "	3,600	716	62	-	-	-
Lawns, &c. - - - - "	9,028	1,130	221	-	-	-
Cotton, and linen mixed "	232,168	46,432	861	-	-	-
Ginghams, &c. - - - "	52,609	9,205	1,177	16,490	2,883	153
Cords, velveteens, &c. - "	23,926	9,030	802	3,615	1,365	228
Nankeens, &c. - - - "	4,820	8,194	780	15,074	2,558	123
Quiltings, &c. - - - "	1,239	378	41	661	203	244
Lace, &c. - - - - - "	817,215	8,172	7,245	34,000	340	23
Ticks, &c. - - - - - "	18,373	7,340	356	6,458	2,600	302
Counterpanes - - - No.	42,174	316,305	8,958	-	-	127
Hosiery, &c. - - - Doz.	41,579	103,947	19,208	8,528	21,320	3,944
Shawls, &c. - - - - "	121,547	303,867	22,746	2,423	6,057	444
Tapes, &c. - - - - - "	2,118	2,118	211	-	-	-
Unenumerated - - - £.	10,574	105,740	10,574	500	5,000	500
		12,389,168	1,003,303	-	1,306,820	100,817
Add 1 ½ oz. for loss of weight		1,349,596	-	-	142,933	-
		13,688,764	-	-	1,449,753	-

Goods exported to the following Places, from

	BRITISH WEST INDIES.			MAURITIUS.		
	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.
Yarn - - - - - Lbs.	733,112	733,112	38,946	-	-	-
Thread - - - - - "	40,927	40,927	3,111	6,185	6,185	47
Calicoes, plain - - Yds.	21,464,649	5,142,575	318,872	1,590,352	381,017	23,431
" printed, &c. - "	18,337,407	2,783,354	343,491	1,332,078	202,193	24,955
Damasks, &c. - - - "	1,953	530	101	36	10	1
Cambrics, &c. - - - "	556,440	82,993	10,191	109,526	16,428	2,000
Dimities, &c. - - - "	872	168	16	-	-	-
Lawns, &c. - - - - - "	5,533	692	147	-	-	-
Cotton and linen mixed, &c. "	94,230	18,840	1,236	410	80	5
Ginghams, &c. - - - "	35,930	6,292	854	-	-	-
Cords, velveteens, &c. - "	29,972	11,356	1,072	2,569	962	92
Nankeens, &c. - - - "	1,303	221	22	-	-	-
Quiltings, &c. - - - "	852	259	30	60	18	2
Lace, &c. - - - - - "	381,166	3,811	3,621	56,932	569	540
Ticks, &c. - - - - - "	19,749	7,900	405	5,161	2,063	106
Counterpanes, &c. - - No.	28,750	215,625	6,468	1,516	11,370	341
Hosiery, &c. - - - Doz.	25,953	64,882	12,652	4,215	10,537	2,054
Shawls, &c. - - - - - "	53,543	133,857	10,708	501	1,252	100
Tapes, &c. - - - - - "	1,010	1,010	105	300	300	31
Unenumerated - - - £.	6,990	69,900	6,990	280	2,800	280
		9,318,304	759,038	-	635,784	53,985
		1,019,189	-	-	69,539	-
		10,337,493	-	-	705,323	-

the 22d of January 1845 to the 22d August 1846.

BOMBAY.			MADRAS.			CALCUTTA.		
<i>Yds. &c.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>Yds. &c.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>Yds. &c.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>£.</i>
5,580,038	5,580,038	284,809	1,016,951	1,016,951	51,523	19,099,889	19,099,889	974,065
21,432	21,432	1,585	1,418	1,418	102	24,150	24,150	1,749
87,619,818	20,992,243	1,203,358	2,846,280	681,865	39,257	136,636,564	32,735,847	1,884,319
8,176,699	1,439,344	162,969	489,683	74,324	8,407	13,933,167	2,114,846	239,344
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
44,819	6,723	770	72,750	10,914	1,299	377,160	56,754	6,481
—	—	—	51	12	1	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	480	84	11	—	—	—
9,350	3,549	316	5,187	1,955	173	4,502	2,001	180
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	617	185	21	—	—	—
193,645	1,937	1,718	58,134	581	516	46,000	460	408
2,000	800	38	313	120	6	—	—	—
433	3,427	92	357	2,677	76	—	—	—
5,447	13,617	2,502	2,831	7,077	1,309	1,920	4,800	885
1,700	4,250	301	79,461	198,652	13,661	3,380	8,440	619
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
520	5,200	520	573	5,730	573	471	4,710	471
—	28,073,060	1,658,978	—	2,002,545	116,935	—	54,051,717	3,108,521
—	3,070,491	—	—	219,028	—	—	5,911,906	—
—	31,143,551	—	—	2,221,573	—	—	59,963,623	—

the 22d of August 1846 to the 22d March 1848.

BOMBAY.			MADRAS.			CALCUTTA.		
<i>Yds. &c.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>Yds. &c.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>Yds. &c.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>£.</i>
4,679,407	4,679,407	246,545	799,882	799,882	42,494	16,999,599	16,999,599	902,078
109,447	109,447	9,319	11,652	11,652	886	30,145	30,145	2,292
33,627,829	15,244,163	938,406	3,847,013	921,672	56,788	105,580,172	25,295,243	1,557,167
5,567,064	844,997	104,218	984,929	149,493	18,402	7,384,739	1,120,894	138,238
1,098	800	32	—	—	—	1,405	390	42
292,610	43,890	5,365	121,465	18,219	2,227	196,871	29,529	3,609
—	—	—	—	—	—	655	132	13
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	2,232	841	79	14,271	5,414	490
130	25	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
68,615	686	651	60	18	2	150	40	5
—	—	—	36,441	364	346	385,600	3,856	3,668
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	656	4,920	147
4,936	12,340	2,404	1,208	3,020	589	4,352	10,880	2,121
1,400	3,500	280	861	2,152	172	1,866	4,665	373
650	650	68	—	—	—	30	30	3
976	9,760	976	231	2,310	231	584	5,840	584
—	20,949,165	1,310,267	—	1,909,623	122,166	—	49,511,577	2,610,830
—	2,291,315	—	—	20,886	—	—	4,759,079	—
—	23,240,480	—	—	1,930,509	—	—	48,270,656	—

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

Goods Exported to the following Places, from 22 January 1845 to 22 August 1846.

	CUBA.			PORTO RICO.			BRAZILS.		
	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.
Yarn - - - Lbs.	187	187	14	-	-	-	24,804	24,804	1,266
Thread - - - "	98,711	98,711	7,142	500	500	36	370,956	370,956	26,850
Calicoes, plain - Yds.	6,188,611	1,482,783	85,392	91,317	21,878	1,260	76,208,431	18,258,262	1,051,228
" printed, &c. "	12,791,095	1,941,501	219,786	172,286	26,150	2,961	67,760,117	8,767,150	992,971
Damasks, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambrics, &c. - "	114,373	17,154	1,965	-	-	-	656,526	98,478	11,282
Dimities, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lawns, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cotton and linen, mixed } Yds. }	196,935	39,384	2,430	-	-	-	429,717	85,944	5,304
Ginghams, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cords, &c. - - "	9,280	3,525	314	-	-	-	29,790	11,284	1,006
Nankeens, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quiltings, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, &c. - - "	480,664	4,807	4,262	-	-	-	423,578	4,235	3,754
Ticks, &c. - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Counterpanes, &c. - No.	5,080	38,100	1,079	72	540	15	33,966	254,745	7,218
Hosiery, &c. - - Doz.	10,729	26,822	4,962	30	75	14	28,153	70,482	13,033
Shawls, &c. - - "	49,213	123,042	9,000	910	2,275	167	133,075	332,678	24,374
Tapes, &c. - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unenumerated - - £.	2,483	24,830	2,483	-	-	-	10,102	101,020	10,102
		3,800,846	338,829	-	51,418	4,453	-	28,360,038	2,147,488
		415,718	-	-	5,624	-	-	3,104,069	-
		4,216,564	-	-	57,042	-	-	31,464,107	-

Goods Exported to the following Places, from 22 August 1846 to 22 March 1848.

	CUBA.			PORTO RICO.			BRAZILS.		
	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.	Yds. &c.	Lbs.	£.
Yarn - - - Lbs.	15,376	15,376	817	-	-	-	66,738	66,738	3,545
Thread - - - "	250,132	250,132	19,002	-	-	-	264,364	264,364	20,085
Calicoes, plain, &c. - Yds.	5,441,069	1,308,587	80,252	39,650	9,499	585	91,331,828	21,881,579	1,347,197
" printed, &c. "	7,091,198	1,076,342	132,747	70,181	10,650	1,315	64,022,967	9,717,769	1,197,966
Damasks, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambrics, &c. - "	140,142	21,021	2,548	-	-	-	568,822	85,323	10,407
Dimities, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lawns, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cotton and linen, mixed } Yds. }	91,326	18,256	1,198	-	-	-	243,606	48,712	3,191
Ginghams, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cords, Velveteens, &c. "	7,022	2,661	252	-	-	-	31,870	12,079	1,141
Nankeens, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,184	884	90
Quiltings, &c. - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	309	98	11
Lace, &c. - - "	1,447,767	14,477	13,753	-	-	-	818,714	8,187	7,778
Ticks, &c. - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Counterpanes, &c. - No.	13,474	101,085	3,091	-	-	-	79,150	593,625	17,809
Hosiery, &c. - - Doz.	19,869	49,672	9,686	-	-	-	26,535	66,337	12,935
Shawls, &c. - - "	30,146	75,365	6,029	598	1,495	119	181,439	453,597	36,287
Tapes, &c. - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unenumerated - - £.	4,608	46,080	4,608	-	-	-	11,747	117,470	11,747
		2,974,054	273,923	-	21,644	2,019	-	33,316,757	2,670,209
		325,287	-	-	2,367	-	-	3,644,020	-
		3,299,341	-	-	24,011	-	-	36,960,777	-

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 59

CALICOES, PRINTED and PLAIN, Exported to Colonies.

Mr. R. Burn.

3 April 1848.

	From 22 January 1845 to 22 August 1846.		From 22 August 1846 to 22 March 1848.	
	CALICOES PLAIN.	CALICOES PRINTED.	CALICOES PLAIN.	CALICOES PRINTED.
	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.
British West Indies	26,490,408	31,351,624	21,464,649	18,337,407
Mauritius - - -	3,600,276	2,529,959	1,590,352	1,332,078
Bombay - - - -	87,619,818	8,176,699	63,627,829	5,567,064
Madras - - - -	2,346,280	489,688	3,847,013	964,929
Calcutta - - -	136,636,564	13,933,167	105,580,172	7,384,739
	257,193,346	56,481,132	196,110,015	33,606,217
	196,110,015	33,606,217		
Decrease last 19 months - }	61,083,331	22,874,915		
Cuba - - - - -	6,188,611	12,791,095	5,441,069	7,091,198
Porto Rico - - -	91,317	172,286	39,650	70,181
Brazils - - - -	76,208,431	57,760,117	91,331,828	64,022,967
	82,488,359	70,723,498	96,812,547	71,184,346
			82,488,359	70,723,498
Increase last 19 months - - - - -			14,324,188	460,848

TOTAL DECREASE.

	PLAIN.	PRINTED.
	Yds.	Yds.
British decrease - - - - -	61,083,331	22,874,915
Foreign increase - - - - -	14,324,188	460,848
	46,758,143	22,414,067

Decrease of Calicoes, Printed and Plain, 69,173,210 Yards.

16133. Have you an estimate of the number of persons engaged in the cotton trade?—Yes.

[The Witness delivered in the same, as follows:.]

POPULATION connected with the Cotton Trade, from the Census of 1841.

England, Wales, and Scotland.	Total Persons under each Classification.	Supposed Proportion in Cotton Trade.	England, Wales, and Scotland.	Total Persons under each Classification.	Supposed Proportion in Cotton Trade.
Bleachers (branch not specified)	7,196	4,000	Reed makers - - -	660	400
Bobbin turners - - -	1,036	600	Shuttle makers - - -	400	300
Candle and lampwick makers	60	69	Spindle makers - - -	260	200
Cotton agents and brokers -	190	190	Spinners (not specified) -	13,000	10,000
Cotton manufacturers - - -	280,890	280,890	Thread manufacturers -	1,560	1,200
Cotton merchants and dealers	490	490	Wadding manufacturers -	60	60
Cotton band makers - - -	40	40	Waste dealers - - -	260	260
Dyers and calenderers - - -	14,000	8,000	Weavers (not specified) -	110,031	80,000
Dyers (cotton and calico) -	1,650	1,650			
Dyers (fustian) - - - - -	100	100	IRELAND:		
Engravers (all branches) -	5,220	3,000	Spinners (cotton) - - -	788	788
Factory workers - - - - -	22,430	15,000	Factory workers (not specified).	9,000	3,000
Fustian manufacturers - - -	3,560	3,560	Weavers (cotton) - - -	8,200	8,200
Heald makers - - - - -	341	200	Manufacturers (cotton) -	170	170
Lace manufacturers - - - -	28,470	28,470	Calico printers - - -	350	350
Muslin ditto - - - - -	4,247	4,247			
Packers and pressers - - -	1,620	1,000	TOTAL - - -		472,726
Printers (cotton and calico)	15,300	15,300			
Small ware manufacturers -	-	1,000			

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

Number of persons as above	472,725	Consumption of cotton in 1841: 411,321,304 lbs.;	Lbs.
		average per head	823
Add for operatives, &c. &c., indirectly connected	27,275	Add 10 per cent. for increased speed in machinery, &c.	80
TOTAL	500,000 persons.	TOTAL	900

CONSUMPTION of Cotton and Number of Hands Employed in 1844, 1845, 1846, and 1847.

Date.				Increase.	Decrease.	Stock of Cotton in Great Britain 1st January in each Year.
	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Hands.</i>	<i>Hands.</i>	<i>Hands.</i>	
1844	500,297,520	900 per head	555,886	- - -	- - -	784,752 bags.
1845	555,527,283	900 - -	617,252	61,366	- - -	902,982 -
1846	555,798,592	900 - -	617,554	302	- - -	1,060,530 -
1847	406,554,848	900 - -	451,727	- - -	165,827	548,658 -

In 1844 and 1845 there was an immense quantity of new mills built, and filled with new machinery.

16134. Just explain that paper?—In 1841 the number employed, according to the census of that year, in the cotton trade, amounted altogether to 500,000 persons, and the quantity of cotton consumed that year was 411,321,304 lbs., or an average of 823 lbs. per head; but since that period there has been a little increase in the speed of machinery. I take it at 10 per cent., which is over the mark; but perhaps it is better to put it in that way. Some mills have increased their power perhaps 30 per cent., some 20, some 10, some have not improved it at all; perhaps 10 per cent. will be about the mark, which makes an average of 900 lbs. per head. In 1844 we consumed 500,297,520 lbs., which employed 555,886 hands. In 1845 we consumed 555,527,283 lbs., and that employed 617,252 hands. In 1846 we consumed 555,798,592 lbs., and that employed 617,554 hands; we consumed more that year than ever we did; that is 900 lbs. per head. In 1847 we consumed only 406,554,848 lbs., and that employed 451,727 hands, and left that year unemployed 165,827 hands. I think that proves that the calculation is not very incorrect, for it is about one-third, and we consumed exactly one-third of cotton less last year than we did in 1846.

16135. And as far as the number of people out of employment at Manchester goes, it would be about one-third?—Yes; other trades have been very bad besides the cotton trade; it has been the worst decidedly.

16136. Have you a calculation with respect to the gain and the loss?—The loss to the operatives by the decrease which has gone to our colonies for the last 19 months has been 941,649 *l.*

16137. For wages and profits?—For wages and profits alone. Taking the operatives at the highest amount, which was in 1846, it is 617,554 persons, and averaging those at 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of sugar per head per annum, at a reduction of 1 *d.* a pound it leaves 60,468 *l.*

16138. So that they have gained 60,468 *l.* by the sugar being cheapened 1 *d.* per lb. by the Act of 1846, and they have lost in wages and profits 941,649 *l.* by their diminished trade to the British sugar planting colonies?—Yes.

[The Witness delivered in the following Paper*.]

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 61

COTTON GOODS EXPORTED TO THE COLONIES.

Mr. R. Burn.

3 April 1848.

From 22d January 1845 to 22d August 1846.			From 22d August 1846 to 22d March 1848.	
	Total Weight of all Descriptions of Goods, including Loss in Spinning.	Total Value of Goods Exported.	Total Weight of all Descriptions of Goods, including Loss in Spinning	Total Value of Goods Exported.
	<i>Lbs.</i>	£.	<i>Lbs.</i>	£.
British West Indies -	13,688,764	1,003,303	10,337,493	759,038
Mauritius - - -	1,449,753	100,817	705,323	53,985
Bombay - - -	31,143,551	1,658,978	23,240,480	1,310,267
Madras - - -	2,221,573	116,935	1,930,509	122,166
Calcutta - - -	59,963,623	3,108,521	48,270,656	2,610,830
	108,467,264	5,988,544	84,484,461	4,856,286
	<i>Lbs.</i>	£.	<i>Lbs.</i>	£.
Cuba - - -	4,216,564	338,829	3,299,341	273,923
Porto Rico - - -	57,042	4,453	24,011	2,019
Brazils - - -	31,484,107	2,147,488	36,960,777	2,670,209
	35,757,713	2,490,770	40,284,129	2,946,151

Amount sent to British Colonies, from 22d January 1845 to 22 August 1846 - - - - -	£.	£.
	5,988,554	
Amount sent to British Colonies, from 22d August 1846 to 22 March 1848 - - - - -	4,856,286	
		1,132,268 decrease.
Amount sent to Foreign Colonies, from 22d January 1845 to 22 August 1846 - - - - -	2,490,770	
Amount sent to Foreign Colonies, from 22d August 1846 to 22d March 1848 - - - - -	2,946,151	
		455,381 increase.
	£.	676,887

22 January 1845 to 22 August 1846 :			22 August 1846 to 22 March 1848 :		
	£.	£.		£.	£.
Value of Goods sent to British Colonies - -	5,988,554		Value of Goods sent to British Colonies -	4,856,286	
Value of Goods sent to Foreign Colonies -	2,490,770		Value of Goods sent to Foreign Colonies -	2,946,151	
		8,479,324			7,802,437
Weight of Cotton sent to British Colonies -	108,467,264		Weight of Cotton sent to British Colonies -	84,484,461	
Weight of Cotton sent to Foreign Colonies -	35,757,713		Weight of Cotton sent to Foreign Colonies -	40,284,129	
Weight of Cotton - -	144,224,977, at 4½ d.		Weight of Cotton - -	124,768,590, at 6d.	
		2,854,452			3,119,214
		£. 5,624,872			£. 4,683,223

Left for wages, and profit, and working, 1845-6 -	£.	£.
Ditto ditto 1846-8 -	5,624,872	Gain to 617,554 persons, allowing 23½ lbs. of sugar per head per annum, at a reduction of 1½ d. per lb. - - - - -
	4,683,223	
	£. 941,649	144,702

Mr. R. Burn.

3 April 1848.

16139. Mr. Moffatt.] Are you aware that a law was passed in 1844 in reference to our sugar colonies, which greatly stimulated the trade from this country to those colonies?—No; I did not take notice of that.

16140. A law reducing the duty on sugar from 25 s. 3 d. a cwt. to 14 s. a cwt.; are you aware that that was the fact?—I believe it was.

16141. Have you a similar return for the 19 months prior to the operation of that Act of 1844, of the exports of goods to the British colonies?—I have not; but I have to the British West Indies for perhaps 15 years before. I cannot state it for 19 months, but annually I have it here.

16142. Chairman.] But you can make that return for the Committee?—Certainly; I will furnish it.

16143. Mr. Moffatt.] Then you are not aware that the trade in exports of British manufactures to our sugar-producing colonies, was very largely stimulated by the reduction in the duty on sugar in 1844, and the consequent increase in the price to the importer in the home market?—There was no very great increase in 1844; the great increase took place in 1843; in 1842 we sent out 13,000,000, and in 1843 it got up to nearly 17,000,000. In the calicoes printed, which is a very important item that we ship, in 1845 there was a very great jump; they jumped from 14,000,000 to 20,000,000 to the British West Indies, and then in 1846 again they dropped to 17,000,000.

16144. The result then of the tables in regard to one of the most important articles of export from this country, namely, printed calicoes, to the British West Indies, shows an increase of 30 per cent. in the year 1845 over that of the preceding year?—All places increased the same in 1845; even in the foreign West Indies there is as nearly as can be the same increase from 12 to 22 millions; they nearly doubled themselves.

16145. Seeing that there was this great stimulus given suddenly by so large a reduction in the duty at which their produce was admissible to this market, do you think it exactly a fair criterion to take the 19 months when that stimulus had subsided?—I could not make out the statement in any other way as long as it was 19 months, unless we had been obliged to take 19 months further, and if this had been six months further it would have been a very different statement.

16146. Will you be good enough, in order to complete these statements, to give in a return of the 19 months previous to the 22d of January 1845?—I will.

16147. You have considerable experience with commercial men in Lancashire?—I have.

16148. You are continually in contact with commercial men in Lancashire in getting this valuable information?—I am.

16149. To what do you attribute the general decadence in the exports in the last 19 months as compared with the previous 19 months?—I consider that it has been through the alteration in the duties.

16150. How is it that to Bombay, from whence we get no sugar, there is a material decline in the exports?—In the case of the West Indies it must be sugar, but in the case of the East Indies, it is all sorts of produce.

16151. But there is a considerable decline in the exports to Bombay in the last 19 months as compared with the 19 months immediately preceding?—Yes.

16152. That can hardly be attributable to the further reduction of the sugar duties?—No; that is fall of produce.

16153. Does not the same reason operate to a similar extent in the other cases?—I do not think it does so much with regard to the West Indies; for previously to altering the duties, we were almost dependant upon the West Indies for sugar.

16154. I presume these are the exports of the United Kingdom?—They do not include the Clyde.

16155. They take all England?—Yes.

16156. And there are no exports from Ireland, I think, to Cuba, Porto Rico, and Brazil?—I do not suppose there are any; we never get any returns of any.

16157. Does the return as to the British colonies include, or exclude the Clyde?—The Clyde is not included in any of them. I never include the Clyde.

16158. Chairman.] It is not Scotland; it is England and Wales?—Just so.

16159. Mr.

16159. *Mr. Moffatt.*] Can you inform the Committee as to the extent of the trade carried on between Cuba and Porto Rico and the Clyde?—I could send up a statement of that.

Mr. R. Burn.

3 April 1848.

16160. Are you aware that the trade done between Cuba and Porto Rico and the Clyde is very considerable in proportion to the general foreign trade of the Clyde?—They do something in that, but the returns from Scotland are very bad to get; in fact I never could trust to them so correctly as I can to the others, they not being sufficiently explicit; and that is the reason I do not include them. I will, however, obtain them, but they are not so trustworthy as those which I have given.

16161. Have you no general impression with regard to the quantities?—No; they will just be in the same ratio as those of England. If we took the Board of Trade returns, which are made up from the 5th of January, and we only begin here on the 22d, we might carry it on in that way till the 5th of March, and it would show it almost in the same ratio as these, I feel convinced.

16162. Have you ever turned your attention to the subject of the consumption of our British manufactures in the wealthy and populous island of Cuba?—I have not. In making out the returns generally I include all the foreign West Indies together.

16163. But in this instance you have dissected Cuba and Porto Rico?—I have, and the Mauritius.

16164. You can give no reason to the Committee, why in the case of an island with a population of 1,100,000, and half a million of those not slaves, but people living in comparative affluence, there should have been a decrease in the exports to an island so circumstanced, while we were largely increasing our imports from that island?—I cannot.

16165. It appears by the statement which you have offered to the Committee, in reference to cotton goods exported to the colonies and to Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Brazils, that there has been, in regard to the British possessions, a diminution in value to the extent of 1,100,000*l.* in the last 19 months, but it also appears that the quantity sent decreased from 108,000,000 lbs. of cotton to 84,000,000 lbs. of cotton?—Yes, goods were higher in 1845.

16166. The difference arose from the raw material being in 1845 lower in price, and the goods higher?—Yes.

16167. The goods being higher in price by reason of the increased demand for the British sugar-producing colonies?—It was the case everywhere; there was scarcely a place but what increased.

16168. Your experience goes to the effect that 1845 was a year of extraordinary stimulus, and that the exports from this country generally for the world at large were much above the average of the previous five years?—Yes.

16169. You have made reference to a difference in the cost of cotton, do you attribute any variation in the price of cotton to the alteration in our laws in regard to the duties on sugar?—No, I cannot well do that.

16170. The price of cotton is a thing entirely irrespective of the duty on sugar; the price of cotton is entirely referable to the quantity produced in America and in India?—It was most of it through speculation, and through a demand.

16171. But is not the price of cotton governed by the same rule which governs almost every other article of import, that the price is governed by the supply, and influenced also by the extent of the demand for the article manufactured from that cotton?—I cannot say that it is exactly the same as other articles, for it is an article that is very frequently speculated in; it is a safer article than most other produce.

16172. The price then is occasionally disturbed by speculation?—Yes; and very often.

16173. But the same principle, I presume, in the main, spread over a series of years, governs the price of cotton as of other articles of consumption?—It is more subject to speculation. At the beginning of 1847, nearly all the cotton in Liverpool was held in four hands.

16174. And consequently the price was enhanced?—And consequently the price was enhanced. It was supposed to have been held in about four hands.

Mr. R. Burn.

3 April 1848.

16175. And, as a natural consequence, the exports of the manufactured article, into which the price of the raw material enters to a very large degree, were diminished?—The exports of the manufactured article were diminished, not only in the quantity exported, but in price.

16176. By reason of the high price of cotton in this country?—Yes.

16177. That will account, to a very considerable degree, for the falling off in the exports in the last 19 months, as compared with the previous 19 months?—It will, in some measure.

16178. What was the difference between the price of cotton from August 1845 to January 1846, as compared with the price of cotton from August 1846 to January 1847?—Almost 2 *d.* a pound.

16179. Twopence a pound upon what quotation?—Upon about 4 *d.*

16180. Having an increase of 50 per cent.?—Yes; it averaged 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* for the first 19 months, and 6 *d.* for the latter.

16181. And yet, with this increase of 50 per cent. upon the price of the raw material, your export of cotton to the British colonies only diminished about 20 per cent.?—It is not 50 per cent., it was from 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to 6 *d.* When we say 6 *d.* if we take different periods it would be 8 *d.* sometimes.

16182. Though at some periods the advance was as much as 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, nearly 70 per cent., still, taking the range of the period to which I have alluded, 2 *d.* would about fairly represent the difference of price?—Yes; I should think 2 *d.* a pound.

16183. That would be an increase in cost of 50 per cent., and the diminution in the weight of cotton exported to the British colonies was about 20 per cent.?—Yes.

16184. I find also that the decline in value in the export of cotton goods to the British colonies shows an extent of 1,132,000 *l.*, which is about 18 per cent. as the difference in value as against the last of the two periods which those tables represent?—Yes.

16185. So that the decrease in the quantity of pounds weight of cotton goods exported to the British colonies, and the decrease in the value, have about kept pace; the decrease in the pounds weight being nearly 20 per cent., and the decrease in the money value being about 18 per cent.?—Yes.

16186. How do you arrive at the item which you put, of wages and profits being in the 19 months 5,624,000 *l.*?—We take the average weight of each piece.

16187. Then you assume the average weight of each piece, and you know the quantity of cotton which was consumed in making all those pieces?—Yes.

16188. What allowance do you make for wastage in the course of the manufacture of the cotton?—One ounce and three-quarters, which I show on the table.

16189. The only allowance that you make for wastage is one ounce and a fractional part in every pound of cotton?—Yes.

16190. Beyond that you put down the whole difference between the cost of the cotton and the price at which it is estimated in value when exported, for wages and profit?—Wages and profit, and for working.

16191. Are you not aware that in the manufacture of those goods a great many other costs have to be brought in besides wages?—Yes, there are a great many other costs.

16192. None of which you have included in this statement by which you show a difference of profit and wages exclusively to the extent of 941,000 *l.*? That is profit, wages, and working.

16193. It is put down here “for wages and profit;” if, for example, out of this 941,000 *l.* half of that sum is for other material expended in the manufacture of those cotton goods, it would diminish the amount of loss suffered in wages and profit to the extent of 470,000 *l.*?—But the same loss without the wages would be on each side the same, so that it would still show the same increase or decrease, and it would be impossible to get at it. I do not suppose that any variation has been adopted for some years past in machine printing, and I believe that the cost of printing now is very nearly the same as it was some years since; the total cost per piece, there is very little difference.

16194. Then

16194. Then this statement should be "left for wages, profit, wear and tear of machinery, and total cost of working"?—Yes.

16195. You have stated on the other side the gain to the operatives and people of this country, by the reduction of the duty on sugar; will you favour the Committee with the data by which you arrive at that conclusion?—I have given the numbers employed in the trade in one year; for the 19 months it will be 96,000 *l.*

16196. Will you be good enough to favour the Committee with the quotation of the price of sugar in the first period of 19 months, and the latter period of 19 months?—I cannot do that.

16197. Then by what process have you arrived at the conclusion that the difference in the value of sugar was only 9 *s.* 4 *d.* a cwt.; will you be good enough to state what the price of sugar was in the first period of 19 months and the second period of 19 months; the fair average price which governed in those times?—I am not prepared to do so at present.

16198. Assuming that in the first period the price fluctuated from 50 *s.* to 54 *s.* a cwt., and in the latter period, for the same quality of sugar, from 36 *s.* to 40 *s.* a cwt., making a difference of about 14 *l.* a ton; what effect would that have upon your calculation?—In the latter 19 months it would, I think, average that, by taking the quantities into consideration; it was very low at the end of the year.

16199. And it is very low now?—It is very low now: for instance, if cotton were taken now from 8 *d.* to the price it is now, it would be a less average. I cannot answer as to the price of sugar.

16200. Assuming that the price of sugar has become cheaper to the consumer in the period included in the last 19 months, to the extent of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a lb., then the effect to the consumer would be equivalent to one-half more than that which you originally stated?—Yes, it is 144,702 *l.* instead of 96,000 *l.*

16201. I observe in the last table, with which you have been so good as to furnish the Committee, that there is a very large decrease in the number of hands employed in the year 1847, as compared with the years 1845 and 1846. To what do you attribute that decrease?—It was more particularly, the commencement of it especially, attributable to the rise of the cotton, and the manufacturers not being able to get the price which they had advanced for their goods.

16202. That is really and truly the great cause of the falling off of the number of hands employed in 1847?—Yes.

16203. That was the main cause?—Yes.

16204. There may have been other slightly influencing causes, such as foreign markets not being so favourable, but the main cause was the great advance in the price of the raw material?—Yes, that was the main cause.

16205. And in the latter end of 1847, I apprehend the great monetary difficulties of Lancashire tended to check employment and the operations of commercial parties most seriously?—They did.

16206. To those two great causes then you mainly attribute the falling off in the employment of hands in the year 1847, as compared with the years 1845 and 1846?—I do.

16207. *Chairman.*] There were the greatest possible expectations entertained in Lancashire that the opening of the Brazil trade, by admitting slave-grown sugar to this country for consumption, would add to the cotton trade of Lancashire, were there not?—There were.

16208. There was quite a cry got up of the cheap sugar and the opening of the Brazil trade in 1845 and 1846; that was so, was it not?—I believe it was.

16209. Mr. Milner Gibson, the Member for Manchester, gave all sorts of notices of motions; was not that so?—I do not recollect.

16210. With respect to the Brazil trade, is it not notorious that the Brazil market is terribly glutted just now with cotton goods?—I believe they have heavy stocks at present.

16211. Very heavy stocks indeed?—I believe they have.

16212. A witness has told us that they have more goods now at Rio Janeiro than they can consume in three or four years; do you think that that is so?

o.32.

—I should

Mr. R. Burn.

3 April 1848.

Mr. R. Burn.

3 April 1848.

—I should scarcely credit so much as that. I should scarcely think that they have such a heavy stock as that.

16213. But a very heavy stock?—I do not think that it would be so exceedingly heavy. It is what you may call heavy, but not to last so long as three years.

16214. We have been told that there was not room in the warehouses; that the ships had actually been made warehouses for the cotton goods which they could not discharge. The credits are very long, are they not?—I am not able to answer that question.

16215. You have never known, I think, in the history of Lancashire, a period when, for so very long a time, so many operatives have been out of employment, and working short time, as now?—I never recollect so many.

16216. Not in 1840 nor 1841?—It is decidedly worse now than it was then. In 1847 we decreased in quantity more cotton than we consumed altogether in 1826.

16217. The decrease in 1847 was greater than the whole manufacture of the kingdom in 1826?—Yes; we fell from 1,561,000 bags, in 1846, to 1,120,000 in 1847.

16218. Mr. Moffatt.] And what was the quantity entered for home consumption in 1826?—Three hundred and seventy-six thousand seven hundred and thirty-three bags.

16219. Chairman.] Have you the number for any years subsequent to 1826?—I have, 1836, 1837, 1838, and up to 1842.

[The Witness delivered in the following Paper:]

CONSUMPTION of COTTON, calculated at the present Average Weight.

	was	Bags.		Bags.		was	Bags.		Bags.
In 1824		398,548		—	In 1845		1,577,617		—
" 1825	"	396,558	Decrease	1,990	" 1846	"	1,561,232	Decrease	16,385
" 1826	"	376,733	"	19,825	" 1847	"	1,120,179	"	441,053

Decrease in 1847 more than the whole consumption of 1826.

	was	Bags.		Bags.		was	Bags.		Bags.
In 1836		1,031,904		—	In 1838		1,265,116		—
" 1837	"	1,064,931	Increase	33,027	" 1839	"	1,043,511	Decrease	221,605
" 1838	"	1,265,116	"	200,185	" 1840	"	1,274,729	Increase	231,218
					" 1841	"	1,118,717	Decrease	156,012
					" 1842	"	1,221,693	Increase	102,976

Average of 1839 to 1842 is 1,164,662 bags, being 100,454 bags less than 1838.

16220. Have you any statement of the bankruptcies which have taken place in the cotton trade?—I have.

16221. Are those in the cotton trade alone?—No; they are in all trades. I have not completed the list; I will fill it up and send it to the Committee. I have also a statement of the rates for the relief of the poor in the town of Manchester for the years 1825 and 1826, and 1846 and 1847. In looking at that, it would be found that in 1825, the assessment was only at about one-half the rent, and now it is at nearly the whole.

16222. Mr. Moffatt.] It is now taken at the rack rent?—Yes, as nearly as can be.

[The Witness delivered in the following Paper:]

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 67

POOR RATES in Manchester.

Mr. R. Burn.

3 April 1848.

1825:			1846:		
	Persons.	£.		Persons.	£. s. d.
Casual poor	34,583	4,876	Casual poor Irish	48,471	19,243 4 4
Irish	6,940	939			
	41,523	5,815			
1826:			1847:		
	Persons.	£.		Persons.	£. s. d.
Casual poor	42,992	6,293	Casual poor Irish	149,504	45,218 11 2
Irish	29,370	4,182			
	72,362	10,475			

1825: Poor Rate, 2 s. 6 d. in the Pound.

1826: " 5 s. " "

Assessment, about $\frac{1}{16}$ of rental.

1846: Poor rate 5 s. in the Pound.

1847: " 4 s. 6 d. " "

Assessment, $\frac{1}{8}$ of rental.

Four shillings and sixpence has raised 120,000 *l.*, which the guardians have had, the corporation have had 37,000 *l.*, which the overseers have borrowed, and it will require a 1 s. 6 d. rate to pay it back, which will make something like 10 s. 6 d.

16223. *Chairman.*] With respect to the time that the English sugar trade was open to the East Indies, since the equalization of the duty on East and West Indian sugars, can you give us a return of the exports of cotton manufactures for the 10 years previous to 1836, and the 10 years subsequent to 1836, taking Bengal and Madras?—I will furnish the Committee with it.

[The Witness subsequently furnished the following Papers:]

BANKRUPTS.

	Wool.	Cotton.	Silk.	Linen.	Bankers.	Merchants.	Drapers.	Brokers.	TOTAL.
1825:									
January	4	—	—	—	—	4	10	2	86
February	—	3	1	—	—	7	9	1	80
March	3	1	1	—	—	3	3	2	72
April	2	1	1	1	—	9	7	—	84
May	1	1	1	—	—	11	5	—	84
June	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	—	83
July	—	3	1	—	—	1	8	—	55
August	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	—	67
September	2	1	1	—	—	2	9	1	52
October	2	5	—	—	2	10	4	3	86
November	2	3	—	—	3	17	11	2	176
December	6	4	5	—	18	14	5	5	211
	22	22	11	1	23	88	84	16	1,118
1826:									
January	7	6	7	3	11	13	10	4	247
February	15	8	2	2	9	27	16	9	294
March	17	12	5	4	7	23	8	4	252
April	9	11	11	2	6	24	20	2	320
May	15	3	4	2	1	26	15	4	266
June	10	15	4	1	3	22	10	3	210
July	—	6	3	—	—	9	5	—	109
August	9	7	2	2	—	14	7	—	132
September	2	2	—	—	—	8	4	2	105
October	2	4	1	1	2	8	9	2	120
November	10	3	1	2	2	17	14	5	237
December	7	5	3	5	—	7	12	1	217
	103	82	43	23	41	198	130	36	2,509

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING.

	Wool.	Cotton.	Silk.	Linen.	Bankers.	Merchants.	Drapers.	Brokers.	Total.
1842:									
January	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	97
February	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	109
March	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	126
April	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	160
May	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	121
June	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	109
July	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	104
August	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	86
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
October	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
November	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	129
December	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	125
	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,298
1845:									
January	7	2	1	2	1	9	8	9	135
February	8	4	2	2	3	4	10	6	123
March	6	4	-	3	-	7	15	8	122
April	6	-	1	-	1	7	8	5	104
May	9	4	1	-	-	5	10	9	149
June	5	5	1	1	-	3	12	6	142
July	5	1	-	2	-	5	6	6	124
August	4	2	-	-	-	4	7	4	105
September	1	2	-	-	1	5	6	3	79
October	1	1	1	-	-	1	2	2	67
November	1	1	-	-	-	5	11	3	123
December	2	4	2	-	-	4	8	5	139
	55	30	9	10	6	59	103	66	1,412
1847:									
January	2	2	-	-	-	5	9	8	93
February	3	1	-	-	-	2	3	1	92
March	7	5	-	1	-	6	8	3	123
April	1	2	1	-	-	1	13	1	98
May	6	5	-	1	1	5	4	5	154
June	8	2	1	1	-	4	7	2	231
July	6	6	1	-	1	2	3	1	134
August	3	1	1	-	1	2	8	2	120
September	1	1	1	-	-	3	7	4	116
October	4	5	5	1	1	4	7	3	134
November	5	11	1	-	5	9	20	2	255
December	4	3	1	-	1	10	14	6	216
	50	44	12	4	10	53	103	38	1,766
1848:									
January	2	3	1	1	1	2	13	-	201
February	2	3	-	-	4	3	14	4	194
March	3	4	1	-	1	8	16	5	223
April	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
August	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

AVERAGE Number of BANKRUPTS.

1791, 1792, and 1793	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	816
1801, 1802, and 1803	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,168
1811, 1812, and 1813	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,228
1821, 1822, and 1823	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,184

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

SEQUESTRATIONS.

	1825.	1826.	1837.	1839.	1840.	1841.	1842.	1846.	1847.	1848.
January - - -	3	27	4	7	38	27	42	14	30	87
February - - -	-	40	4	4	27	33	52	23	26	71
March - - -	-	62	8	8	33	39	62	29	32	51
April - - -	3	30	4	6	41	35	46	31	42	-
May - - -	5	55	8	6	33	37	47	22	40	-
June - - -	4	23	7	5	28	35	45	33	34	-
July - - -	5	46	15	9	23	43	43	34	32	-
August - - -	4	31	7	9	30	38	53	33	44	-
September - - -	10	12	8	9	33	31	41	31	40	-
October - - -	9	2	9	27	24	33	39	32	57	-
November - - -	3	15	7	26	27	36	38	15	76	-
December - - -	5	25	8	28	29	40	38	18	94	-
	51	368	89	144	366	427	546	316	547	-

STATE of TRADE and LABOUR in Cotton Manufacturing Districts, 1826.

January 21.—The cotton spinners of Blackburn and other manufacturing towns came to the resolution of only working six hours per day.

February 25.—Several mills at Preston are already put upon short hours, and it is feared that this will shortly have to go to two or three days a week.

March 11.—Bank of England: The Governor and Company of the Bank of England, have authorized the Board of Directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, either to receive applications themselves from persons resident in and connected with the manufacturing districts of Manchester for loans of money in sums of from 500 *l.* to 10,000 *l.*, on the deposit of goods, or on personal security, or to appoint a district committee for that purpose.

April 15.—Paper rate raised from 2 *s.* 6 *d.* to 5 *s.*

20.—Trade much depressed.

29.—Disturbances and riots in the manufacturing districts.

May 6.—Leipsic Fair, all British manufactured goods have been eagerly bought up.

June 10.—The town and neighbourhood of Manchester never enjoyed at any time more satisfactory repose than at present; all excitement appears to have ceased, and employment is slowly becoming more general, many factories having extended their time of labour.

August 4.—The state of trade at Manchester, Preston, and Blackburn is rapidly improving.

25.—Trade is now active.

COTTON GOODS EXPORTED to Colonies from 22 June 1843 to 22 January 1845.

	TOTAL Weight of all descriptions of Goods, including loss in Spinning, &c.	TOTAL Value of Goods Exported.	Lbs.		£	
			Weight of goods sent to British Colonies -	105,774,632	Value of goods sent to British Colonies	5,663,636
			Weight of goods sent to Foreign Colonies	30,756,863	Value of goods sent to Foreign Colonies	2,111,074
			Weight of Cotton, <i>lbs.</i>	136,531,495 at 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ <i>d.</i>	TOTAL - -	7,774,710
British West Indies -	12,099,107	890,903				
Mauritius - - -	1,437,266	90,385				
Bombay - - -	37,906,712	1,967,608				
Madras - - -	2,399,723	123,910				
Calcutta - - -	51,871,824	2,581,830				
	105,774,632	5,663,636	Value of goods Exported	- - - - -	- - - - -	7,774,710
			Cost of Cotton, &c.	- - - - -	- - - - -	2,702,185
			Left for Wages, Profits and Working	- - - - -	- - - - -	5,072,525
Cuba - - -	2,994,554	255,429				
Porto Rico - - -	152,337	11,961				
Brazils - - -	27,609,972	1,843,684				
	30,756,863	2,111,074				

COTTON GOODS EXPORTED TO BRITISH COLONIES, from 22 June 1843 to 22 January 1845.

32.

	BRITISH WEST INDIES.			MAURITIUS.			BOMBAY.			MADRAS.			CALCUTTA.		
	Yards.	Lbs.	£.	Yards.	Lbs.	£.	Yards.	Lbs.	£.	Yards.	Lbs.	£.	Yards.	Lbs.	£.
Yarn - - Lbs.	334,575	334,575	15,334	-	-	-	6,082,556	6,082,556	278,783	1,253,236	1,253,236	57,489	15,792,348	15,792,348	723,815
Thread - - "	70,599	70,599	4,706	1,242	1,242	82	48,860	48,860	3,257	6,900	6,900	400	47,066	47,066	3,137
Calicoes, Plain, Yds.	24,106,940	5,775,622	326,448	3,479,852	833,712	47,123	110,151,813	26,390,531	1,491,638	2,945,860	705,778	39,891	121,544,919	29,120,132	1,645,920
Ditto, Printed "	25,540,203	8,834,137	428,521	2,631,363	399,402	44,639	10,180,257	1,545,215	172,700	750,628	113,934	12,734	10,403,039	1,592,892	178,006
Damasks - - "	2,080	580	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambrics - - "	720,911	108,135	12,165	128,848	18,576	2,090	108,457	16,269	1,830	169,325	25,398	2,857	359,490	55,922	6,066
Dimities - - "	6,857	2,508	120	-	-	-	62	12	1	-	-	-	827	286	14
Lawns - - "	4,824	602	116	1,750	217	42	-	-	-	9,180	1,147	219	-	-	-
Cotton and Linen, Mixed - Yds.	236,423	47,840	23,818	1,800	360	22	1,798	360	22	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ginghams - - "	99,605	17,430	2,199	19,696	3,447	431	-	-	-	158	28	3	11,200	2,060	245
Cords, Velveteens "	42,216	15,992	1,406	2,690	1,023	90	3,966	1,501	192	3,275	1,228	108	73,240	27,777	2,442
Nankeens - - "	2,133	865	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quiltings - - "	7,472	2,294	248	300	92	10	-	-	-	321	100	10	44	18	2
Lace - - "	1,002,198	10,027	8,769	92,937	929	813	120,568	1,205	1,053	321,396	3,214	2,812	752,949	7,528	6,587
Ticks - - "	29,190	11,680	562	10,698	4,280	206	-	-	-	578	220	11	6,300	2,480	118
Counterpanes, No.	21,152	158,640	4,406	18	135	4	158	1,147	31	296	2,220	61	1,405	10,537	292
Hosiery - Doz.	60,869	152,172	27,645	4,737	11,842	2,146	23,783	59,457	10,801	12,086	30,215	5,488	27,030	67,575	12,276
Shawls - - "	98,115	245,287	17,578	4,847	12,117	868	4,429	11,072	825	1,824	4,560	323	4,632	11,580	830
Tapes - - "	9,473	9,473	947	990	990	99	5,000	5,000	500	363	363	36	-	-	-
Unenumerated, £.	10,828	108,280	10,828	720	7,200	720	6,033	60,330	6,033	1,459	14,590	1,459	2,080	20,800	2,080
		10,006,236	890,908		1,205,564	99,385		34,223,515	1,967,608		2,163,131	123,910		46,757,701	2,681,830
Loss in Spin-ning, 1 1/4 oz.		1,192,869			141,702			3,743,197			236,592			5,114,128	
		12,099,107			1,437,266			37,966,712			2,399,723			51,871,824	

British West Indies	£. 890,908
Mauritius	99,385
Bombay	1,967,608
Madras	123,910
Calcutta	2,581,830
	£. 5,663,636

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING.

COTTON GOODS EXPORTED to FOREIGN COLONIES, from 22 June 1843 to 22 January 1845.

	CUBA.			PORTO RICO.			BRAZILS.		
	Yards.	Lbs.	£.	Yards.	Lbs.	£.	Yards.	Lbs.	£.
Yarn - - - - - Lbs.	100	100	5	-	-	-	53,068	53,068	2,440
Thread - - - - - "	73,116	73,116	4,874	250	250	16	826,575	826,575	21,771
Calicoes, Plain - - - - - Yds.	4,335,431	1,088,696	58,709	252,000	60,376	3,412	68,258,870	16,352,487	924,271
Ditto, Printed - - - - - "	8,901,281	1,851,088	151,004	496,150	75,305	8,416	49,020,835	7,440,585	831,594
Damasks - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambrics - - - - - "	90,423	13,563	1,526	-	-	-	284,133	42,618	4,794
Dimities - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lawns - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cotton and Linen, Mixed - - - - - "	70,522	14,104	859	-	-	-	744,918	148,976	9,078
Ginghams - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cords, Velveteens - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,480	268	60
Nankeens - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quiltings - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace - - - - - "	2,436,746	24,367	21,321	-	-	-	910,002	9,100	7,962
Ticks - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Counterpanes - - - - - No.	4,684	35,180	975	-	-	-	12,891	96,682	2,085
Hosiery - - - - - Doz.	15,005	37,512	6,814	65	162	29	25,391	68,477	11,531
Shawls - - - - - "	25,724	64,310	4,609	490	1,225	88	111,443	278,607	19,966
Tapes - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unenumerated - - - - - £.	4,738	47,380	4,738	-	-	-	7,542	75,420	7,542
		2,699,316*	255,429		137,318	11,961		24,867,868	1,848,684
Loss in Spinning, 1½ oz. - - - - -		295,288			15,019			2,722,109	
		2,994,554			152,337			27,609,972	

	£.
Cuba - - - - -	255,429
Porto Rico - - - - -	11,961
Brasilis - - - - -	1,848,684
	<u>2,111,074</u>

	£.
British - - - - -	5,668,636
Foreign - - - - -	2,111,074
	<u>£. 7,774,710</u>

72 MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

Mercurii, 5^o die Aprilis, 1848.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Lord George Bentinck.
Sir Thomas Birch.
Sir Edward Buxton.
Mr. Cardwell.

Mr. Milner Gibson.
Mr. Goulburn.
Mr. Hope.

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *William Nicholson*, called in ; and Examined.

16224. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are the most extensive Rectifier in England, converting raw spirit into gin and other compounds?—I believe I am.

Mr. *W. Nicholson.*

5 April 1848.

16225. You rectify spirits to the amount of about a million gallons and upwards in a year?—I have done so in one year, but that was one particular year; nearly so for many years. The reason I did so that year was, that a large house in our trade was suspended by a prosecution; that was the year I did make a million.

16226. You purchase your spirits at the best markets for cash, irrespective of their being made in England, Scotland, and Ireland?—I do.

16227. Mr. Betts gave evidence to the Committee on Saturday last, that from the monopoly of the distillers, he could not always get a supply of spirits, and that if he dealt with the Scotch distillers, the English distillers were disinclined to sell to him; did you ever hear of anything of that sort?—I never experienced it; I always find that I buy Scotch or Irish, or anything that I see comes to market suitable to trade. I am not at all in conjunction with any maker whatever; I am perfectly free to buy where I can obtain the best article at the lowest price.

16228. You would imagine that every rectifier is in the same position?—I believe he has the same privilege.

16229. Practically would it be in the power of the English distillers to endeavour to hold their spirits, as they pay 7s. 10d. duty upon that which is worth about 2s.?—It is perfectly impracticable; it would be ruinous to them.

16230. Do you think the general bonding of spirits would increase your facilities of supply?—I cannot say that in my opinion it would.

16231. The very nature of the trade as it is now carried on, is this, that the distillers are obliged to work from hand to mouth?—I do not know that they are obliged, but they find it profitable to do so.

16232. The duty of 7s. 10d. upon that which is worth 2s. virtually obliges them to bring their goods to market as soon as they are manufactured?—It is to their profit to do so, but with respect to any difficulty in getting a supply of spirits, I never had any in my life.

16233. Do you conceive that a compulsory bonding of spirits would tend to increase the cost of the raw spirit, and would therefore not benefit you and the rectifiers at large?—I consider it would increase the cost, and therefore be against our interest.

16234. You find practically in your trade, that whether you purchase Scotch
O.32. L. and

Mr. W. Nicholson.
5 April 1848.

and Irish spirits or not, the English distillers are always pressing their sales upon the market?—I always find that I have been pressed by them on all occasions to buy; I have never had any difficulty; the parties I have been in the habit of dealing with have always had plenty to supply me with, and have been very ready to supply me.

16235. You never heard of the Scotch or Irish distillers having a large quantity of spirits in bond?—Not in England.

16236. Of course it is the surplus supply from Scotland and Ireland which regulates the English market?—When a large supply of Scotch and Irish spirit comes in, they cannot come to us at a higher price than the English are ready to take, and we buy where we buy cheapest, and that will regulate the price of spirits, of course.

16237. Mr. Wood stated in his evidence, that he did not think that the making two manufactories of raw corn spirits and of rectifying being combined in one concern, would save much expense in the joint cost of the two manufactures?—I believe that if parties were allowed to carry on both operations upon the same premises, or premises adjoining, it would very materially lessen the expense; it would reduce the expense of making gin nearly half.

16238. Do not you conceive that one steam-engine, and one set of boilers, and one supply of fuel, and one set of workmen to work the steam-engine, and look after the boilers and the stills, would suffice, if a man could be at the same time a distiller and a rectifier?—I do, certainly; it would be a great saving.

16239. And of course there would be the rent and taxes upon one set of buildings, instead of upon two?—Certainly.

16240. Mr. Wood said that the rectifiers at one time had stated that the cost of rectifying was from 6*d.* to 8*d.* a gallon, and at another time, when it suited their purpose, that it was a mere trifle; is that consistent with your experience?—I believe it is perfectly incorrect; and I believe the question was not put fairly. I think the question arose in this way: lately it has been proposed that the distillers should be allowed to send out spirit as high as 60 per cent. over proof; the rectifiers of course concluded from that that it would deprive them of a great branch of their trade; that is, it would interfere with their sale of spirit of wine, because we now receive it from the distiller at no higher strength than 25, and it has to be converted from that up to 54 and to 60, to be sold as spirit of wine. The question that was asked in that respect merely applied to that particular point, the converting of spirit 25 per cent. over proof to spirit 54 per cent. over proof; the answer that was given as to the cost being inconsiderable applied to that point only, not to the general expenses.

16241. To which has to be added all the cost of labour and ingredients, and rent and taxes, and deficiency and loss of duty in conversion, and interest upon capital for machinery, and water rate, which is a very considerable item of expense?—Yes.

16242. You pay by the quantity, do not you?—Yes; if we receive it from a water company, we pay a guinea for every 1,000 hogsheads.

16243. And cartage?—Yes.

16244. Wear and tear?—Yes.

16245. Amounting in the whole to 7*d.* or 8*d.* per gallon?—Yes.

16246. And all those items have nothing to do with the calculation given in by Mr. Wood, which he presented to this Committee as being the representation of the rectifiers as to the whole expense of rectifying?—By no means; it had nothing to do with the question; the question arose out of this very circumstance of receiving at 25 and raising it up to 54 or 60; it had nothing to do with the general expenses.

16247. Mr. Wood put forward this statement, of the deficiencies in a rectifying establishment being only 91 hundredths of a gallon per cent.?—Which was from our stock. The Excise, in taking our stock, cannot take it correctly, because there is a considerable part of our stock in a state of cordialization ready for consumption, and that we declare; they cannot ascertain the strength,

strength, they take it by declaration : as long as we declare it, so that we have not an increase, we are quite safe ; we save ourselves from any increase, because, if we had an increase, we should have a seizure : but we keep it up as high as we can, so long as we know we are not subject to a seizure, because, at some periods of the year, when the temperature alters, our stock will expand or contract ; consequently we take pains, if possible, to counteract that in our stock, for if they found an increase, they would take it away and impose a penalty.

Mr. W. Nicholson.

5 April 1848.

16248. Mr. Wood put in a statement of the expenses to which a rectifier is subject in England, as one delivered in to the Chancellor of the Exchequer by a deputation on the 11th of February 1847, to which he has added the money value of such expenses upon a million of gallons ; those estimates are put in as amounting to 5 *d.* upon a gallon ; the Committee understood that it was a proof gallon ?—That is a mistake, it was a calculation upon a sent out gallon by the rectifier.

16249. The sent out gallon averages 25 per cent. under proof?—We send out some gins as low as 40 per cent. under proof ; we are only allowed to send out the highest, at 17 per cent. under proof.

16250. Therefore when Mr. Wood put in this as a correct estimate of the rectifier's expense, he should have added 25 per cent. to the 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* ?—Yes, to have made the calculation upon proof gallons.

16251. That would make the real expense 7 *d.* ?—Nearly 7 *d.* I might observe that my trade being larger than the general run of trades, the expenses to me are perhaps less per gallon than they would be to people in a smaller way ; but if the average of the whole trade were taken, the expenses of converting raw spirit into gin would not be less than from 7 *d.* to 8 *d.* per gallon.

Mr. Henry Browning, called in ; and Examined.

16252. *Chairman.*] MR. WOOD put in a statement the other day of the decreases, which were represented to amount to a sum equal to 51-100ths per cent., which was a farthing and 42-100ths of a farthing, upon spirits imported from Ireland and Scotland ; you have put into my hands a statement of the real deficiencies, which, if I understand you rightly, are the deficiencies as they were gauged by the Excise officers : is that so ?—Yes.

Mr. H. Browning.

16253. And this shows that the deficiencies upon 540·38 gallons were 6·19 gallons ?—Yes, that is the deficiency which would appear if the duty were chargeable upon the landed quantity and strength, in lieu of the shipped quantity and strength. I have taken the bung and the wet off the casks as marked on by the Excise, which shows a certain ullage in the casks, but still the Excise called the casks full. If they had been full, there could be no ullage ; therefore so far the deficiency, as shown by the Excise books, is erroneous ; the Excise having no interest in calling these casks anything less than the shipped quantity, the duty having been paid upon that quantity.

16254. That paper is a true copy of the gauges taken by the Excise officers ?—Yes, as marked upon the casks by their gauging officer.

16255. Instead of being a farthing and 42-100ths, what is the deficiency ?—The actual deficiency would be one penny and 7-100ths. I may state that that is rather a favourable view of the case ; the average would be rather more.

[*The following Paper was delivered in :*]

FOUR PUNCHEONS SCOTCH SPIRITS, IMPORTED FROM SCOTLAND.

SCOTCH EXCISE ACCOUNT.					ENGLISH EXCISE LANDING ACCOUNT.							OUGHT TO BE.					
Numbers.	Content.	Ullage.	Strength.	Proof Gallons, Decimals.	Bung.	Wet.	Content.	Ullage.	Strength.	Proof Gallons, Decimals.	Deficiency on Transit.	Content.	Ullage.	Strength.	Proof Gallons, Decimals.	Deficiency on Transit.	
1011	Full	131	11·2	145·67	36·7	35·6	Full	131	10·8	145·14	·53	131	130	10·8	144·04	1·63	
1037	"	130	11·5	144·95	36·6	35·5	"	130	11·1	144·43	·52	130	129	11·1	143·31	1·64	
100	"	122	11·5	136·03	36·7	35·5	"	122	11·1	135·54	·49	122	121	11·1	134·43	1·60	
234	"	102	11·5	113·73	33·4	32·4	"	102	11·3	113·52	·21	102	101	11·3	112·41	1·32	
		485						485					481			6·19	
Quantity Charged with Duty -				540·38								1·75					
												538·63					
					Transit Deficiency shown by Excise - - - - -							1·75					
												540·38					
															534·19		
															6·19		
															540·38		

Mr. Wood states the deficiency on transit from Ireland and Scotland to be $\frac{1}{100}$ per cent. = $0 \frac{1}{100} d.$

The actual deficiency is, according to the above Statement, $1 \frac{1}{100}$ per cent. = $1 \frac{1}{100} d.$

N. B.—The fractional parts of gallons on foreign and colonial spirits are not charged with duty, unless they amount to $\frac{2}{100}$ of a gallon, and then a whole gallon is charged. If, therefore, the above referred to four puncheons spirits had been rum imported from the colonies, the quantity charged with duty would have stood thus—

	Gallons.
Liquid gallons - - - - -	481
Overproof (discarding fractions) - - - - -	52
	533
Quantity and overproof charged as above - - - - -	540·38
In favour of Rum - - - - -	7·98

Benjamin Hawes, Esq., a Member of The House; Examined.

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

16256. Mr. *M. Gibson.*] YOU are Under Secretary of State for the Colonies?
—I am.

16257. Some evidence has been given to the Committee, in reference to the colonies, more especially to the Mauritius, upon which I wish to ask you to give some information. The evidence to which I refer is that given by Mr. Raymond, in which he speaks of the poverty of the Mauritius having arisen to a great extent from the following causes; the limited knowledge which the present Governor has of the actual state of the island, the corruption of many of its magistrates and public officers, and the corruption and utter worthlessness of its police and inferior Customhouse servants, and some other remarks of the same character, are made by him. Will you give the Committee some explanation upon these points?—I have no explanation to give to the Committee on those points; I merely wish to remark with reference to the evidence of Mr. Raymond, that I think the Committee should receive it with considerable caution. Mr. Raymond was, I think, an officer in the Custom's department or in the Excise department, and was dismissed for misconduct. He remained some time without complaining of his dismissal. He applied to be re-employed, and he was refused. Upon that he came home and appealed to

to the Secretary of State against his dismissal; the case is now under consideration, and no report has been received from the Governor, in answer to an inquiry which has been addressed to him upon the subject. I therefore think under all the circumstances, as Mr. Raymond is a dismissed servant of the government of the Mauritius, his statements must be received at the present moment with considerable caution.

16258. Mr. Hunter was also examined, and he made certain statements with reference to the disadvantages under which the colonists labour in respect to the importation of immigrants. He stated that they were only allowed to charter ships freighted in a particular way, or under particular regulations; can you give the Committee some information upon that point?—There have been various applications made to the Colonial Office by Mauritius merchants, to be allowed to import coolies into the Mauritius in rice and other ships. It has been thought necessary, however, to secure for the immigrant ample space on board the ship in which he was imported. For that purpose a recent order, I think, has been promulgated, that any ships having six feet space between the decks, provided the number is limited to one immigrant for every 20 superficial feet of deck or compartments of the deck allotted to their use, may be employed for that purpose. There is no more indisposition, to facilitate the importation of labour into the Mauritius, than that which is absolutely necessary for the fair protection of the immigrant. At the same time, I must add that the importation of labour into the Mauritius is not governed wholly by the Colonial Office, but depends a good deal upon the consent to any arrangement which may be made by the East India Company, and it is only in connexion with the Company that any regulations can be made for that purpose. I believe the alterations lately made will facilitate the importation of labour, and I know of no indisposition to consider any practical improvement which may be suggested for the purpose of doing so. I know of no impediment, and no colony has in fact received so large an amount of labour at so low a rate of cost, as the Mauritius.

16259. Mr. Hunter, in his evidence, proceeded to make some statements in reference to the expenditure in the Mauritius, and he said that the whole of the enormous expenditure of 300,000 *l.* a year was at the disposal of the Colonial Office, except the immigration tax of 1 *l.* a ton; can you inform the Committee as to whether the whole control over the expenditure of the island is vested in the Colonial Office, or what share the colony has in the management of it?—I do not think that that statement of Mr. Hunter quite correctly states the control, as it is called, of the Colonial Office over the expenditure. It should be recollected that the revenue of the Mauritius is expended upon public works, roads, and bridges, emigration, and upon civil and judicial establishments; it comprises the whole expenditure of the government, which necessarily swells its amount very largely; there are no municipalities raising local rates for local purposes, but the whole revenue is expended upon all the objects of a Government expenditure. But with regard to the Mauritius, the expenditure is examined upon the spot by a finance committee, who report to the Council, and the Council adopt or not the finance committee's report. An ordinance is then passed by the Governor in Council upon the subject, to which the Secretary of State signifies his consent. Really, therefore, the expenditure of the Mauritius is in the hands of the Mauritius Government itself. It could reduce it if it pleased, and nothing would, I believe, be more acceptable than to see a serious effort made for the reduction of the cost of the government in that colony; certainly no impediment would be placed in the way of any well-considered reductions which should proceed from the Governor in Council.

16260. There were complaints made also in respect of the heavy duties upon the registration and transfer of land by mortgage and sale?—That has long, I think, been made a subject of very just complaint by merchants and others connected with the Mauritius, and what are called "registration fees" were exceedingly high. At this moment the subject is under the consideration of the Council, and a partial reduction has, in fact, already taken place. For instance, the "transcription fee," as it is called, which was 1 *l.* per cent., is now reduced to 1 *s.* per cent.; but I may add that that is a subject which is at this moment seriously occupying the attention of Lord Grey, and he has very strongly represented to the Government the necessity of making considerable

B. Hawes, Esq.

M. P.

5 April 1848.

reductions on the transfer and sale of land in that colony, believing it to be in accordance with the opinion of merchants here, of great information and respectability, a very serious obstacle in the way of the prosperity of the colony. I am not without hope, indeed I believe that we may reasonably expect, that those very strong and urgent recommendations of Lord Grey will be attended with success; but I entirely concur in the general opinion expressed by Mr. Hunter, that those fees are large, and ought to be reduced.

16261. There is another subject of complaint which Mr. Hunter mentions, namely, the export duty upon sugar, as being a heavy burden upon the planters in the Mauritius; what have you to say upon that subject?—With regard to the export duty upon sugar, I can state that Lord Grey has expressed his opinion that it is a duty extremely prejudicial, and one which nothing but revenue considerations alone would induce him to maintain. The Committee is aware, I imagine, from the evidence given, that it yields, about 60,000 *l.* a year at the present moment. It has for some time been pressed upon the attention of the Governor in Council; and before this Committee sat, very strong opinions were expressed by Lord Grey in favour of that duty being reduced at the earliest practicable moment; and, indeed, very recently despatches have gone out with reference to the forthcoming financial year, and the prospects which lead us to hope that the state of the revenue will permit the reduction of it, if upon inquiry it be thought the most eligible tax to be reduced.

16262. There have been applications from the Mauritius, Mr. Hunter informed the Committee, to the Colonial Office in reference to the Vagrancy Laws; he was asked, “Do you know if any remonstrances have been made to the Colonial Office upon the subjects of vagrancy and police?” He replied: “There have been petitions sent home upon the subject from the colony.” There has been a good deal said upon that subject in reference to the vagrancy laws; what information can you give the Committee upon it?—The subject is a very large one, and not without its difficulties. Objections were taken, I think, so far back as the year 1841, to the operation of the Order in Council of 1838, and it was objected that its provisions were not suitable to the colony. The only objection taken then to the ordinance passed by the colony was a purely technical one; the Order in Council could not be repealed or amended by a local ordinance, which is of superior authority. It also contained some objectionable provisions; for instance, the offence of vagrancy was not complete unless it was accompanied by some act of mendicancy, according to the Order in Council. In the local ordinance that test was dispensed with, and the colony complained of that, and referred, if I recollect right, to a Vagrancy Act in Jamaica. Lord Stanley then stated, that he had no objection at all to adopt the model of the Jamaica Act as the Vagrancy Act of the Mauritius. This suggestion was adopted, but the ordinance was rendered rather more stringent, to which Lord Stanley made no objection; and I may add, that the colonies generally were enabled at that time by Lord Stanley to alter or amend that Order in Council so far as they should think fit; the local Legislature were, in point of fact, therefore at liberty to amend that Order in Council which had been a matter of some complaint.

16263. *Chairman.*] After what delay?—I am not able to say. The time is not long, because I think some alterations have been made, and certainly a Vagrancy Act in the Mauritius was in force within a year and a half or two years from that time.

16264. Will you furnish the Committee with the exact dates?—The Ordinance was passed on the 10th June 1844, and came into immediate operation. It was received here on the 5th October, and Her Majesty’s confirmation of it was conveyed to the Governor, by Lord Stanley, on the 23d October 1844.

16265. Mr. Chapman was asked in reference to that point, whether laws had been sent home to successive colonial governments here, and had been rejected; he said he could only answer for one case of the kind?—I believe that is the case to which I have referred. That ended in a Vagrancy Act being passed upon the model of the Jamaica Act, but rather more stringent.

16266. He speaks of it as one that was passed by the Legislative Council in 1842?—It may have been 1842.

16267. Mr. Hankey was examined before the Committee, and in his evidence he

he made some remarks respecting contracts; he speaks of the contracts having been broken through, and he is asked "how were they broken through?" he says, "the people would not keep to their contracts, and Government did not give us the means of enforcing them." What course was taken by the Government on that subject?—That evidence relates to Grenada. That is a colony which has a legislature of its own. I am not aware; and I am not aware of any information upon the point, viz: that the Government refused any power which the legislature sought for; I am not aware that they sought for any power; nor am I aware that the Government at that time would have been indisposed to give them any reasonable power for the enforcement of those contracts, but as they have a legislature of their own and magistrates of their own, they are competent to pass acts, and those acts, if passed, would be enforced by their own local magistrates. I apprehend, therefore, blame in that case cannot attach to the Government, but that it must apply to the legislature and to the magistracy of the island, if there be any blame at all.

16267*. Mr. Barkly, in his evidence, stated that various colonial Acts had been disallowed; he says, speaking of several years, that during all those years they were crying out for immigration, passing Immigration Ordinances and Acts for raising immigration loans, which were never consented to by the Home Government; he says their entreaties were disregarded, and the loss upon his estate amounted to 4,639 *l. 8s. 7d.*?—I think Mr. Barkly in that portion of his evidence (and I think Mr. Barkly's evidence deserves every attention, and great consideration), must allude to ordinances passed by the combined court. Now in British Guiana, the Court of Policy is really the legislature of the colony; those ordinances were not therefore allowed, because they had not the authority of law, and could not have the force of law, inasmuch as they were not passed by a competent legislative body, which was the ground on which those ordinances were disallowed.

16268. Mr. Barkly gives some further evidence with reference to the contract question; and in No. 10914, he says, "Some years ago we took a great deal of trouble to get Chinese, and I think we should have got them, but it was thought necessary by the Colonial Office to draw up a series of regulations, which amounted to a positive prohibition, one of them being, that no money advanced to the labourers in Singapore should be recoverable by the importers of the labourers in British Guiana, therefore throwing the whole cost of introducing the labourers upon the importer. That was also coupled with a stipulation, that though the Chinaman was to have the option of the highest rate of wages current in the colony, the planter should not be entitled to any contract for his services. I had written out to Singapore, thinking they would be a very valuable class of labourers, but the answer was, that it was impossible to import them upon those terms; that an advance was necessary to the Chinaman; and that he insisted upon having a longer contract, because he would not leave his own country without some security that he should have a contract for a certain period of labour"?—With regard to the importation of Chinese labourers, the papers which have been laid before Parliament contain so fully all the particulars relating to that subject, that I need hardly do more than refer the Committee to them. There was a great deal of correspondence, and some propositions were made by merchants in Liverpool, and others, and ultimately certain regulations were laid down by the Liverpool Association, as will be seen upon reference to the Parliamentary papers, and certain ships were sent out under them to obtain Chinese labourers. I believe those ships found a better freight before they arrived in China, and never went to China to make the attempt. I am not aware, that from that time to this there have been any representations made to amend those regulations, or to alter them. I should wish to observe, upon a question put to Mr. Barkly, 10916, implying, that in 1844 there were some impediments thrown in the way of importation of immigrants; to which Mr. Barkly replies, "The great impediment to the importation of immigrants has always been the Order in Council of the 7th of September 1838, which was passed simultaneously with the declaration of perfect freedom," that I agree with Mr. Barkly, that the Order in Council has been an impediment; but I think, with deference to him, he has overlooked the fact, that the local legislature had full power to alter and amend that Order in Council, and that that has been formally communicated to them.

16268*. Mr. Goulburn.] When was that?—10 June 1843.

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

16269. Mr. *M. Gibson*.] With regard to a statement made by Mr. Barkly, to the effect that through the intervention of the Government here, the United States Government had required the appointment of officers, in order to permit contracts to be entered into with the free blacks; have you any information to give the Committee?—All the information I could give would be this, that the American Government objected, upon general grounds, to any attempt to obtain any portion of the free black population; they appear to have been apprehensive that slaves might be taken instead of free men, and they made this a general objection, which it was impossible for the Government to overlook; it was the subject of a long communication, which I have referred to, and the objections taken by the United States Government would have rendered any attempt of the sort quite impracticable; it was quite impossible to avoid consulting the United States Government upon such a subject.

16270. They did not seem to wish to co-operate in any project for transferring free black labourers from the United States to the colonies?—I apprehend they objected generally to any attempt of the sort being made; they seemed to apprehend that a portion of their slave population would be taken away with the free population; at least that is the statement made in the official letter from the American Minister.

16271. Mr. Barkly was asked whether he did not think if there were to be a reduction of 25 or 30 per cent. from the salaries of all civil officers, including judicial and ecclesiastical officers, in British Guiana, it would have a great moral effect in leading to a reduction of the wages of the lower classes. Mr. Barkly stated that it was the expectation of the inhabitants of the colony themselves, directly it was resolved by them to reduce the wages to that extent, the Court of Policy, which happened to meet at that time, came to the resolution that the Governor should be requested to petition the Queen to allow that reduction. The matter is in the hands of the Colonial Office, because the civil list of the colony has been voted for a period of seven years beyond the present time; it was continued by one Act up to December of last year, and at the time when the planters were very desirous of obtaining immigrants, it was made a condition by the Colonial Office that they would consent to an Immigration Act and to a Loan Ordinance for effecting immigration, provided the civil list was continued for a further period of seven years beyond the time to which it had been previously continued?—I think in one statement that Mr. Barkly has accidentally fallen into error; the statement I alluded to is, that it was made a condition by the Colonial Office that an Immigration Act, and a Loan Ordinance, for effecting immigration, would be consented to provided a civil list were continued for a further period of seven years; I do not find that any such condition was made, or that any trace of such a condition exists; I must therefore, altogether negative that statement; perhaps I may add that the Governor and the Court of Policy of their own accord, without any suggestion from home, passed an Immigration Loan Ordinance, and a Civil List Ordinance; the motives were explained in a very long despatch on the subject from the Governor, which can be laid before the Committee.

16272. In Question 13521, Mr. Miles was asked by the Chairman, "Have you seen a statement with respect to Trinidad, in which it was set forth that so long as the industrial regulations with respect to the employment of coolies were in force, drawn up by Major Fagan, with the sanction of Lord Harris, the coolies proved very advantageous to the island?" He says, "I have, and I believe that statement, as far as my knowledge goes, confirmed by letters received at the time, is substantially correct; I have no reason to doubt it"?—The regulations referred to in that question, as Major Fagan's regulations, were regulations drawn up by Major Fagan, who had the superintendence of the immigrants, but which regulations had not the force of law; they were not embodied in an Ordinance; they could not be enforced, therefore, unless they were embodied in some legislative enactment, which was one great objection, considering the very great stringency of those regulations; that, therefore, formed one strong objection to the sanctioning of those regulations; but there were other objections to them, which I think would have led to great opposition to them, even had they taken the shape of an Ordinance; for instance, a portion of the regulations was this, that the employers were to charge the labour account with all the expenses of apprehending him, if he became a vagrant, or was found wandering without a pass, and with any expense "on any just account," which

which charges were to be considered a debt, and to be discharged by the daily labour of the coolie. In fact they placed the labourer, by the very vague wording of the regulations, so thoroughly and entirely in the hands of the master, as to reduce him almost to a state of servitude, not to say of slavery. Upon that, if I recollect rightly, the Governor was informed that there were objections to many parts of the regulations, but that, inasmuch as they were regulations not having the force of law, it was quite impossible that they could be sanctioned from home.

16273. The Chairman, in Question 13533, said, "It appears, according to this statement, that Lord Grey in 1837 disallowed this Ordinance," alluding to the industrial regulations of Major Fagan, "and that the result has been, that there has been a revival of the disturbance and irregularity which caused so many remonstrances in the years 1841 and 1842 as regards the conduct of the coolies?" Mr. Miles said, in his answer to the question, "I believe that is perfectly true"—I have already stated to the Committee that those regulations were objected to because they had not the authority of law, and therefore could not be enforced; it was quite in the power of the colony by any legislative act to introduce fresh regulations in the shape of a local ordinance, which, after the communication which was made to the Governor upon the subject, it was quite open to them to do.

16274. Is there anything further which you wish to communicate to the Committee?—No, I am not aware that I have anything further to state; my simple object was to explain one or two points where I thought the witnesses had fallen into an error, in order that the evidence might go forth to The House correctly.

16275. Mr. *Goulburn*.] Do you remember when Major Fagan's regulations were first brought into operation?—It must have been in 1845, I think; I am speaking from recollection.

16276. That was under the government of Lord Harris?—It was, and while Lord Grey was at the Colonial Office.

16277. They were made known to the Colonial Office shortly afterwards, probably?—Immediately; and very fully considered.

16278. They met at the time they were proposed with the approbation of the Governor, did not they?—I apprehend they did.

16279. You say that they were too stringent, and that there was considerable ambiguity in the words which imposed the penalties, and that upon that account they were unfit to receive sanction; was any suggestion made to the Governor of those difficulties and ambiguities, and was any suggestion made to him that the regulations in themselves would be good if those errors were corrected?—Nothing could have made the regulations good but a local ordinance, that is to say, would have enabled the local magistrates to enforce them; but the objections to them were pointed out to the Governor at the time.

16280. Was the Governor recommended to pass a local ordinance to give effect to them in an improved shape?—I do not think I can state that the Governor was so recommended; but, speaking from recollection, I think Lord Grey stated his objections to the regulations, and his intention generally to communicate to Lord Harris his views upon a law for regulating the duties of master and servant, and a vagrancy law.

16281. Were those views communicated at the time when those regulations were disallowed?—The despatch to which I refer related entirely to those regulations, and contained the objections, and it expressed Lord Grey's general willingness to entertain any improved regulations, and also his intention to communicate to the Governor his own opinions upon the subject.

16282. But the regulations were disallowed, and an interval permitted to elapse before any other regulations were substituted in their place?—But a interval, I think, was allowed to elapse, as far as I recollect, between the reception of those regulations and the communication of their disallowance. If any time elapsed in enacting new ones, of course the delay rested with the colony.

16283. Did the Government, when they disallowed the regulation which had been found effective, though it was in some points objectionable, at the same time that they disallowed it introduce another system to give equal control over the labourers?—No; nor am I aware that the Government has ever done so, except in some special cases, perhaps because all regulations of that kind, involving much local detail, and demanding much local knowledge, have generally

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.
5 April 1848.

rally proceeded from the colony; and it has been the wish, and the publicly expressed wish, of more than one Secretary of State, that the colonies themselves should suggest those regulations, rather than that they should proceed from home; and it was with that view the colonies had power to alter the Order in Council.

16284. In this case you had the expressed wish of the colony as to the regulations, but you say those regulations of Major Fagan's were defective on account of particular objections which were taken to them at home?—And that they had not the force of law.

16285. Did the regulations continue in force, or did you recommend the continuance in force of the regulations which you knew the Governor approved at the time you pointed out to him those parts in them which it was necessary to remove on account of the objections which you have stated?—I am not aware that any such recommendation was made; but inasmuch as special objections were stated in the despatch, it was obviously imperative on the part of the local authorities to amend those regulations with respect to those objections so pointed out, and to transmit fresh regulations.

16286. Has any code of regulations been since sent home for approval by the Governor of Trinidad upon those points?—I think not.

16287. Have you any account of the reasons which have induced the Governor who had sanctioned those previous regulations to have altogether foregone making any other regulations with respect to the conduct to be pursued towards those people?—Upon referring to Lord Grey's despatch in which the objections to the coolie regulations were made, I now find that his Lordship led Lord Harris to expect that suggestions would be made from home as to the regulations by which the industry of the coolies might be secured. Those suggestions were sent out very soon after in the form of heads of an ordinance, previously transmitted to the Governor of Mauritius, and they were acted upon by Lord Harris and the council of Government, by whom an ordinance was passed for the purpose of giving effect to them.

16288. You adverted to the measures which have been taken by the Government to communicate with the United States upon the subject of the removal of free blacks from the United States to our colonial possessions, and you stated that the Government so applied to had objections to our interference on the part of our Government; are you cognizant whether there had not been an immigration of that sort going on without any regulations whatever for some time previously?—I am perfectly aware that free blacks had left the United States, and gone to some of our colonies, but I believe to a very limited extent; of course with that the Government here would not be called upon in the least degree to interfere.

16289. Did not the intervention of the United States, and the prohibition which was laid upon that intercourse, arise from a communication first made to them by the Government here?—Undoubtedly; because it was intended, if I recollect right, that there should be parties visiting the United States for the purpose of making contracts or agreements with the labourers, who were to leave the United States. It was necessary, therefore, to communicate with the United States Government, and that elicited, as I have already stated, great objections to the measure.

16290. What necessity could there have been for any communication with the United States, as to making contracts with the free citizens of the United States of America?—It is a point upon which I should hardly venture to offer an opinion; it was considered necessary by the Secretary of State both for the Colonies and for Foreign Affairs.

16291. The effect of that has been in a great degree to cut off the supply, limited as it was, of free blacks, from North America, which had previously gone on without any interruption on the part of the government?—I think the question assumes rather too much, if I may be permitted to say so; it assumes, in the first place, that it is a practical immigration. I entertain some doubts of that from what little experience I have had; I rather doubt the fact, whether it would have ended in a practical scheme of immigration.

16292. But it had begun in a certain number of emigrants having gone from the United States into the colonies?—It had begun; but inasmuch as that was a perfectly free action of individuals one upon another, if it had gone on, no government interference, either on the one side or the other, could have stopped

stopped it, and there is nothing now to prevent such a species of emigration going on.

16293. When the attention of the United States had been called to it by our Government, it made them rather more jealous upon the subject, from the effect it might have upon their slaves?—I think the case is not quite so. A formal scheme submitted by the colonies to the Colonial Office, authorizing agents to make arrangements with the labourers of the United States is one thing; a scheme of simple emigration on the part of any number of citizens of the United States is another.

16294. You do not apprehend if a planter in Jamaica were to make a contract with the free blacks of America to come to a particular island to serve them for a certain number of years, as far as our Government is concerned, that there would be any objection?—I have no reason to say that there would be any objection to it, as far as our Government is concerned. I am of course giving rather an individual opinion; it involves questions of policy upon which I hardly wish to speak.

16295. So far as relates to contracting for the services of American free blacks for five years to be worked in the West Indies, in your opinion the Government would not object?—I know of no ground upon which they would object to a matter of that kind being entirely the act of individuals.

16296. The British Consul under those circumstances would not be instructed to do otherwise than place his signature to any such contract?—I should hardly venture to offer an opinion upon that subject, because the conduct of the British Consuls is under the superintendence and direction of the Foreign Office.

16297. You stated that there was an Order in Council in 1838 which went out simultaneously, or very soon after the general declaration of freedom, when the apprenticeship was put an end to; you stated that the colonies had the power of altering or changing the regulations of that Order in Council; that applied in the examination to Demerara?—The colonies certainly had that power offered them.

16298. Is not that power, when it is given to Demerara, in fact a power which must be exercised by the Government, or the representatives of the Government?—It must be exercised by the local legislature in the colony.

16299. Is it not the fact that no measure could be brought forward, or could be carried in the Court of Policy at Demerara, unless on the recommendation of those members of the court who are also members of the government?—No, the Court of Policy in Demerara is an elective court. I do not wish to give any opinion upon the constitution which exists in Demerara, which is a very singular one; but there is nothing to prevent the most perfect freedom in that respect on the part of either the members of the Court of Policy or the Governor.

16300. But the majority of that court are members of the government, are not they?—There is an equal number of unofficial persons.

16301. And the Governor has the originating of any proceeding?—Undoubtedly that is the case, wherever there is a Governor and Council; I do not deal with the question of the constitution of the colonial government; but that is the general constitution of colonial councils.

16302. Was not it nugatory to give to such a court the power of altering an Order in Council made by the Crown, unless the Crown had at the same time intimated what were the alterations to which it would be willing to assent?—I think not; it conferred full power to make such alterations as their local experience and knowledge would suggest, and the very fact of communicating to a Governor and Council the willingness on the part of the Crown to admit of alterations, invited those alterations.

16303. Were not there some Bills offered to the Court of Policy, by an unofficial member, which the Attorney-general refused to accept, and which the official members and the Governor would not accede to?—I am not aware of the fact; it has not occurred since I have been at the Colonial Office; if I had been aware that the question would have been asked me, I would have directed my attention to it. I dare say it is frequently the case that a measure is proposed by an unofficial member, which the Governor and official members reject, and from the very nature of the constitution of those colonial governments I know it must be so; but upon this I wish to offer no opinion.

B. Hawes, Esq.
M.P.

5 April 1848.

16304. You can hardly say that the colony did not exercise a power committed to them of altering the order, when the influence of the government was exerted to prevent the alteration which the unofficial members had recommended?—I do not admit the fact.

16305. If the fact were so, that would be the inference?—Not admitting the fact, I had rather not deal with the inference.

16306. You were asked respecting Mr. Barkly's evidence, in which he spoke of a loan ordinance having been passed by the combined court, and disallowed on account of that court not having the power to pass an ordinance of that kind; did not you speak of a proceeding which took place in 1844, when you made that observation?—Upon that point I will just state this: we consider, and I believe correctly, the Court of Policy to be the only legislative body; there have been conflicting claims set up by the Combined Court. I imagine in a case of that sort, the Government at home can only be bound by the best legal advice it can obtain; that legal advice has been, to the effect that ordinances proceeding from the Court of Policy alone can have the force and validity of law. I am quite aware that there were conflicting opinions by the officers in the colony, but on the other hand, the Colonial Office can only act upon legal opinions obtained from the best authorities at home.

16307. Have not the law officers of the Crown, on a former occasion, given their opinion that the Combined Court had the power of joining with the Court of Policy in questions which might be called Money Bills?—I am not aware of the fact. Those cases of conflict of authorities are most difficult to deal with.

16308. Is not it the fact that the Legislature of British Guiana have from time to time voted premiums for improvements in agriculture and machinery?—Certainly; and I must say that the colony has distinguished itself by various improvements; by the employment, for example, of an agricultural chemist, whose abilities and time are devoted entirely to the improvement of agriculture, and very valuable reports have proceeded from Dr. Sheir. The last report we received, which is before this Committee, or will be before the Committee, clearly shows that improvements which are pointed out by him are within the power of the colonies, in order to make more productive the quantity of sugar from any given quantity of juice.

16309. They gave a large salary to Dr. Sheir, for the purpose of having the benefit of his services?—Undoubtedly.

16310. Have they also spent a considerable sum for machines for clearing out the drains, and other works of that kind?—I am not aware of the amount, but I am bound to say that the most enlightened efforts have been made by the colony, and very valuable results have followed from them.

16311. Is not it probable that under the present state of circumstances all those benefits which the colony expected to gain from the expenditure will be transferred to Cuba and to Brazil?—I imagine whenever improvements are made public, all parties may benefit by them, if they have the ability and the capital necessary; there is nothing to prevent the communications made public by Dr. Sheir finding their way into Cuba.

16312. By the encouragement which has been given to the production of sugar in slave countries, the expenditure made by Demerara for the purpose of cultivating sugar profitably by free men, has become an advantage to those who carry on the cultivation by means of slaves?—No doubt that is the fact. As I said before, all public improvement may be rendered available throughout the world; at the same time, from what I have heard, I am inclined to think that in Cuba itself they have made improvements which even our colonies might benefit by.

16313. Could you enumerate any of those improvements?—The improvement to which I refer is the introduction of the most improved apparatus for making sugar; a greater number of those apparatuses are at work in Cuba, I believe, than in all our colonies put together.

16314. Has not that machinery been, in a great degree, derived from this country since the year 1846?—I should think not.

16315. Have you any knowledge upon the subject?—No accurate knowledge; I allude to the French apparatus, which was certainly known before that time I think.

16316. Are you aware that any quantity of this machinery has been removed to Cuba from Jamaica?—I am not.

16317. With

16317. With respect to Grenada, it having been stated in the evidence that Government had interfered with the execution of the contracts for labour, you have said that Grenada had asked for no power to alter the decisions of the Government; was not there considerable communication going on between the Government and the stipendiary magistrates?—I have no doubt there was, because the stipendiary magistrates are obliged to make quarterly reports.

16318. Would the stipendiary magistrates have to pronounce upon the validity of contracts entered into between masters and persons in their service?—So far as cases in connexion with those contracts came before them in the discharge of their duty.

16319. Was not the general tenor of the proceedings of the stipendiary magistrates, regulated by instructions from home, rather more adverse to the planter, who was then in great disfavour with the people of this country, than of the negro?—I am not aware of the fact individually, that any instructions went out of that character or in that spirit. I am perfectly free to confess that a good deal of legislation has been influenced by considerations which no longer, I think, prevail. The well-established character of freedom in the West Indies renders a great deal of that kind of supervision over the local legislation unnecessary, which at that time was thought necessary. It was thought as much necessary by the public as by the Government of the day, and though with our present better experience we may look back with regret to some impediments which were thrown in the way, both of the cultivation of property in the West Indies, and the supply of labour, we must admit that public opinion at that day prevailed in all quarters, and no doubt it influenced the policy of the mother country towards the colonists, and I think rather, as I am bound to say, now speaking from my personal experience, prejudicially.

16320. Did not that early course of proceeding very much prejudice the future interests of the planters?—I think it very probable.

16321. Did not it interfere with many courses which they might have taken for the protection of their property, and for improvement of their manufacture, which being deferred to a later period lost much of their efficacy?—With regard to the protection of their property, I cannot say that I think so. With regard to the improvement of the manufacture, or the cultivation of sugar, I am not aware of any part of the policy of the mother country which has impeded it, except one upon which I do not wish to offer any opinion in this Committee; I refer to the general question of the exorbitant protection which has been given to the producers of sugar in the colonies.

16322. You do not think the want of regulations respecting labour, at the moment when you entirely changed the character of the labourers, could have any effect upon the production of what those labourers raised?—Quite the contrary; I concur in what I understand to be the opinion conveyed in that question.

16323. How do you reconcile that with your statement, that the property of the planters has not been affected by those changes?—I quite admit that the past policy of the country has been prejudicial to the cultivation of estates in the West Indies; I think it has narrowed the supply of labour, and, looking back to the time of emancipation, I think precautions were not taken at that time which might have been taken, in order to insure a greater amount of industry, and more continuous industry, on the part of the labouring population.

16324. And perhaps, therefore, you are of opinion that, owing to the want of those measures, the colonies at a subsequent period may be less able to compete with foreign competitors than they would have been if those regulations had been better considered and more properly arranged?—In so far as the policy of the country may have injured those who were engaged in sugar cultivation and weakened their general power to cultivate and to improve, I am disposed to admit it.

16325. You stated, if I understood you, that there have been no conditions made respecting the grant of the Civil List as the price of the Immigration and Loan Ordinances in Demerara?—Distinctly.

16326. There is a letter from Governor M'Leod to Lord John Russell, in 1841, in which, speaking of the Immigration Ordinance, he says, "It was your Lordship's own promised boon to the colony, so soon as they should have agreed to the Civil List; the alterations which have been made in your Lordship's draft are not many; they were adopted after considerable discussion," and so

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

on?—I do not think that makes one measure a condition of the other; I admit that the two things are connected in that despatch, but I do not think that any condition was distinctly prescribed, at least so I am informed. I merely ascertained that fact from reference to the papers relating to Guiana at the time, and I repeat that I do not think any distinct condition was insisted on.

16327. *Mr. Hope.*] You stated that the expenditure of the Mauritius was submitted to a finance committee; are you aware how that finance committee is constituted?—The estimates have been submitted annually since 1833 by the Governor, under instructions from the Home Government, to be examined and passed by the Legislative Council, composed of half official and half unofficial members, selected from the inhabitants, the most influential from their talents and interests; the finance committee consisting of two official members, the auditor-general and the paymaster-general, and three or four unofficial members of the Council, is appointed, and open to all the other members, who are requested to attend the meeting; the estimates are examined by them, and a report made to the Governor in Council.

16328. When you mentioned the unofficial members of the Council, those members are elected by the Governor; are they not?—They are selected by the Governor.

16329. So that in point of fact, the payers of the taxes have no opportunity of influencing the selection of the non-official members?—Certainly not; in all our colonies, whenever the colony is governed by a governor and council, that is the fact.

16330. So that the constitution of this Council consists of a certain number of official members, in receipt of Government salaries, and a certain number of other gentlemen selected to the office by the Governor?—Yes.

16331. But in the selection of whom the tax-payers have no voice or influence?—Certainly that is the fact.

16332. Are you aware that one of the complaints coming from the Mauritius, has been the large amount of expenditure made on public works?—Certainly; I have heard complaints. On the other hand, there are public works, I have reason to believe, in that colony, which demand a very large outlay.

16333. Is not it the fact, that the public works, the utility of which is not contested, are believed by the colony to be carried on on a much greater scale than the resources or the necessities of the colony require?—I have no doubt opinions of that sort are entertained, opinions which are not confined to the colony of the Mauritius.

16334. Does not that form one of the grievances of the Mauritius, and one of the reasons why they state that a considerable reduction might be made in their expenditure?—Undoubtedly that complaint is made. On the other hand, a very large sum which was under the control of the Governor, and applicable to public works, has in that colony been devoted to immigration, a sum to the amount of 250,000 *l.*, I think.

16335. Generally there appears to be a feeling in the Mauritius that too much money is laid out in salaries. It has been stated as one of their grievances that 7,000 *l.* a year is paid to the Governor; is that the case?—That is the salary of the Governor.

16336. So that if that salary were capable of any reduction, the colony would be relieved to the extent of the reduction which might be effected?—No doubt.

16337. And they think that the business might be done possibly, and equally well, for less money?—That is part of their statement undoubtedly.

16338. And another grievance they complain of is, that the Seychel's Islands are in no way necessary or useful to them; that they are essential to the purposes of the mother country; but that the expense of them is thrown upon them?—That is the fact.

16339. Is not there some ground for that complaint?—It is a point I should wish to investigate more before I offer my opinion to the Committee. I will not express an opinion upon that point now.

16340. A portion of the grievances of the colony of the Mauritius is stated to be the expenditure which the general policy of the country entails upon the resources of the island?—I will not venture to offer any reply to a question of so general a nature. Undoubtedly there are complaints of the general expenditure

diture of the island; and, as I have stated to the Committee, we are very anxiously looking to the reduction of that expenditure, and we shall be very glad to receive from the colony, or from any one, practical suggestions for the purpose of reducing the expenditure of that colony; at the same time, as I stated in the early part of my examination, the whole expenses of the public works, roads, and bridges, and emigration, are very great, and are embraced in what is called the expenditure of the colony. There are no municipalities nor any local rates, therefore the whole cost of carrying on the government in all its details is comprised in the general expenditure.

16341. The complaint is, that the payers of those taxes have not what they consider to be a due control over the amount of the expenditure?—Certainly.

16342. And that a portion of it is employed for Imperial purposes rather than for island purposes?—That is part of their complaint.

16343. *Sir E. Buxton.*] There has been a very large immigration to the island of the Mauritius, has not there?—Very large.

16344. Can you inform the Committee what sum has been spent in the last few years upon immigration to the Mauritius?—I cannot undertake to say off-hand what sum has been spent, but a very large sum, both by merchants upon their own account and out of the proceeds of taxation.

16345. A very large part of the expenditure of the colony of the Mauritius has been in immigration from India?—Very large.

16346. Does not it appear to you, that so long as this large immigration into the Mauritius continued, it being rather for the benefit of the planters, the tax of 1*l.* upon the sugar which was produced by those labourers, was rather a reasonable tax?—That question involves a good deal; if labour is to be imported into the colony, and paid for out of the revenue of the colony, the question then which arises is this, what is the best mode of levying the tax? and I have already said that I very much doubt whether an export duty upon sugar is the best mode of levying the tax.

16347. Could you suggest any better mode of levying taxation for the purpose of immigration?—At the present moment I am not prepared to do so.

16348. There is a good deal of vagrancy in the Mauritius, is not there?—There is.

16349. A good deal of changing from master to master among the labourers?—Yes; and there is a great deal of competition for labour among the masters, which leads to that result.

16350. Has not competition among the masters been one main cause of the inconstant habits of the labourers in the Mauritius?—It is one of many causes, I believe. It is very natural that there should be that competition for labour, where labour is essential to cultivation.

16351. Can you suggest any law which would put an end to the evil, so far as the population in the Mauritius is concerned?—I am not prepared to suggest any law at this moment; the present ordinance I take to be upon the whole the best. The heads of that ordinance, before it was submitted to the local government, were considered by the gentlemen connected with the Mauritius here, and generally received their approbation. They suggested many amendments, some of which were introduced at their instance, and those amendments so introduced were transmitted to the Governor, in order to be introduced into any ordinance which might be passed upon the subject. The ordinance which exists is the result of a good deal of communication between the Mauritius merchants and the East India Company and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and it is one upon the whole better calculated than any preceding ordinance to insure industry on the part of the labourers, and to prevent vagrancy.

16352. In spite of the existence of those laws, it is exceedingly difficult, is not it, to exact continuous labour where maintenance is so cheap, and the competition to obtain labourers so great?—It is difficult.

16353. That is found to be the case in all colonies, is not it?—It is found in all tropical colonies.

16354. The labourers in all our colonies have the command of the market for labour, have not they?—Generally that is the case.

16355. In consequence of their having that command over the labour market, is not it very difficult to enforce such laws, even if those laws exist?—

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

I do not exactly see the difficulty as to the enforcement of the laws, if there be sufficient power and willingness to do so.

16356. With respect to Jamaica, where the labourers possess land, and where they can obtain a maintenance very cheaply, can you suggest any law which would induce them to give continuous labour?—I am not prepared at this moment to suggest any such law.

16357. Do not you think it is exceeding difficult to frame any such law?—I think it is difficult, undoubtedly, to frame any law which shall ensure continuous labour where the means of sustaining life can be so easily obtained, and where the supply of labour is unequal to the demand.

16358. Is not one of the greatest difficulties at present in the West Indies the want of continuous labour?—It is a very great difficulty.

16359. It is a great evil, and a most difficult evil to remedy?—It is a very great evil; but I am not confident that measures may not be suggested capable of meeting that evil to a certain extent.

16360. You have said that the colonies have had permission from the Home Government to make any regulations they may deem fit in order to enforce continuous labour?—I do not know whether the honourable Baronet refers to what I stated in reference to the Order in Council of 1838. As far as that Order in Council is concerned, the colonies generally had the power to amend it.

16361. Any regulations which they make are still under the power of the Colonial Office?—All ordinances passed in the colony must be sanctioned by the Queen.

16362. Do you think, from the information you have received from the colonies, that the supply of sugar in our colonies will continue as large as it has been?—I should rather abstain from entering into that part of the inquiry before the Committee; it involves questions of general policy; it may be my duty to express opinions upon the point elsewhere, where they may be more fitly expressed than before the Committee.

16363. Have you received any information as to the power there is of obtaining a really free immigration from the coast of Africa?—There has been a good deal of information collected on that point from time to time, and speaking from the perusal of a great many communications upon the subject, I think there is reason to hope that a considerable amount of free immigration may be obtained, but I do not speak positively upon the point. I speak chiefly of the Kroo Coast, where slavery does not prevail, and where slave-trading is unknown. I think that is a populous district, and that a large number may be obtained; but I think it will be a work of time.

16364. Have you any evidence that free emigrants might be obtained from the Gold Coast?—I imagine the honourable Baronet can only refer to our establishment at Cape Coast Castle; the subject has been under the consideration of Lord Grey, but I have no precise or accurate information which I could offer to the Committee; we should be very glad if we could, by the dissemination of information, or in any way bring about emigration from that part of the coast where we have establishments, and where it could be conducted under the requisite securities.

16365. In that case they would chiefly come from the Ashantee country, would not they?—I cannot undertake to say from what district they would come. They might come from the Ashantee country, or countries rather more to the southward. There is a large population in that district, and a very good labouring population.

16366. *Chairman.*] The last time I had the pleasure of meeting you on the subject of the West Indies, on the 23d July last, I presented a petition from the British West Indies, and you stated, "If the noble Lord would turn to the Mauritius, he would find that there the greatest prosperity was manifest, and the production of sugar had immensely increased." Are you still under the impression that the greatest prosperity exists in the Mauritius?—What I then stated, speaking at that time, I should repeat. An enormous increase in the production of sugar, a large importation of labour, an increased produce per acre from the land of the Mauritius, certainly would justify one in supposing that these are solid indications of prosperity. I am quite aware of the reverses which have
fallen

fallen upon the island of the Mauritius; into the causes of those I do not now feel it necessary to enter.

16367. Is it not the fall in the price of sugar, notwithstanding the greatly increased production, which has brought about those reverses in the Mauritius?—I am not aware that the reverses which have been brought about in the Mauritius are solely attributable to the fall in the price.

16368. Did not Sir William Gomm, some time in the course of the spring, write home a despatch, showing that the value of the exports from the Mauritius would exceed the importations by something like half a million sterling?—It is very probable. The Mauritius is a large exporting country of a very valuable commodity.

16369. And that calculation was based upon the supposition that the prices of sugar would not fall below the point at which they stood when he addressed himself to Lord Grey?—With regard to prices generally, I can only say they are subject to great fluctuations from supply and demand, and from various causes. The price of sugar has fallen very low from causes which I do not think it necessary now to enter into. I think it will rise again, from causes which I cannot now foresee.

16370. You still think that the declaration you made on the 23d of July last, that the greatest prosperity was manifested in the Mauritius, was justified by the circumstances and prospects of that time?—The noble Lord is referring to a report of a speech in the House of Commons; whether that speech is accurately reported or not I cannot undertake to say, but I again repeat that a very large increase in the production of sugar, the acreage of the cultivation of sugar not having increased in proportion, was an indication of prosperity; a very large supply of labour, and the facility with which funds had been found to pay for its importation, was also an indication of prosperity. If I were therefore now speaking under similar circumstances, I should be tempted to rely on such indications as proving prosperity.

16371. The conclusion to be drawn from that is, that you think the price has nothing to do with the prosperity of a trade, that the prosperity of a trade depends entirely upon the production, and not at all upon the price?—It is impossible to say that the price has not something to do with every trade; commercial prosperity rests generally, however, upon economy and cheapness of production; no legislation can guard against the fluctuation of prices.

16372. You said in answer to Mr. Goulburn that the only injury which had been inflicted by the mother country upon the colonies was the inordinate protection she had so long afforded to the colonies?—I certainly do think that the very large protection given up to the year 1844, for instance, was prejudicial to the cultivation and production of sugar in the West Indies, an opinion which is borne out by very high authorities.

16373. I presume I may understand that you are now of the same opinion that you were on the 23d of July, that the system of free trade and open competition will still be most beneficial to all the parties concerned in the Mauritius and in the West Indies. You still think it will lead to greater economy of production and better means of embarking more capital in the growth and manufacture of sugar, and tend to the general prosperity of the whole population?—Speaking generally, I consider free trade and general competition the only solid foundation of commercial prosperity.

16374. As Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, as far as your information goes, does it lead you to suppose that this greater competition has conduced to the embarking of more capital in the British West Indies and the Mauritius in the growth and manufacture of sugar?—It is very recently, I think, that anything like free trade has been introduced into our sugar producing colonies. What may be the ultimate effect is one thing, and what is the present effect of a sudden change of system is quite another.

16375. You think when competition has gone a little further, it will have the effect of introducing this great economy in production, and of tempting persons to embark more capital in the growth and manufacture of sugar?—I think generally the removal of commercial restrictions is wise and beneficial, but I can quite understand that a sudden transition from a system of almost monopoly to one of free trade may be attended with great distress.

16376. You admit that it has so far been a cause of very great disturbance

B. Hawes, Esq.
M.P.

5 April 1848.

in the cultivation of sugar?—I cannot attribute the present state of the West Indies wholly to that.

16377. How do you account for the difference in the prices of British colonial sugar and of Cuban and Brazilian sugar?—It is hardly part, I think, of my duty to go into an explanation of my own individual opinions upon matters of that kind; at this moment I should rather confine my examination, as far as I can do it with propriety, to matters of fact in which I can aid the Committee in obtaining accurate information as to any portion of the policy of Government in reference to the colonies since I have had the honour of having anything to do with it.

16378. The object of this Committee is to inquire into the causes of the commercial distress in the British West Indies, and in the Mauritius; as Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, are you able to tell us that it is not from the reduced protection that the distress has arisen?—These are questions involving individual opinions upon the general policy of the country which I do not feel myself under the necessity, at the present moment, of expressing any opinion upon. I think, for many reasons, it is right that I should reserve that expression of opinion till an occasion when I can fully indicate the views or opinions I entertain in common with those with whom I have the honour to act.

16379. You have warned the Committee against trusting to the evidence of Mr. Raymond without great caution; can you state to the Committee what was the cause of his dismissal?—I can state the causes of his dismissal, but I should much rather not do so; and I think the Committee will perhaps concur with me, that it would be well that I should not go into it while the case is under consideration.

16380. Was there any allegation of dishonesty against him?—I think there was not; I think it was general misconduct and unfitness for his office; but I again state that it is a case I have not gone accurately into, because we wait for further information, and I should not wish to imply any opinion upon it.

16381. You set out in your evidence by cautioning the Committee not to attach any credit to Mr. Raymond's evidence?—What I took the liberty to state to the Committee was, that I thought, inasmuch as Mr. Raymond had been dismissed from his situation, it would be right that the Committee should receive his evidence with some caution, inasmuch as Mr. Raymond impeached every authority in the colony, from the highest to the lowest, imputing the grossest corruption to them. I did think that, having been dismissed himself from his situation, his evidence was not to be implicitly relied on. I wish to avoid expressing any opinion, but I did think it right to state the fact that he had been dismissed, and to suggest that a man who, under those circumstances, impeached the conduct of everybody, both above him and below him, should have his evidence received with some caution.

16382. Mr. Raymond has given very important evidence to this Committee; it is very necessary that they should understand whether the causes of his dismissal were of that character which would induce the Committee to distrust the truth of his general evidence; if he were dismissed for intemperance or disrespect towards his superior, the Committee might not consider that a reason for discrediting his general testimony; but if there is any charge of dishonesty, or roguery of any kind against him, the Committee probably would receive his evidence with the caution which you advise them to entertain; therefore I ask you what is the general character of the offence for which he has been dismissed?—I have stated that I am not aware of any imputation of dishonesty, nor upon his moral conduct at all; but the whole case was some time ago referred to the Governor, and we shall have a fuller account of the causes of his dismissal. I wish to guard myself against implying any opinion one way or the other upon that case; but according to the statements which have come under my eye, I should say there is nothing which affects his moral character.

16383. He came home, and immediately called for an investigation into his conduct, did not he?—He did.

16384. He was formerly an officer in the army, was not he?—That I do not know.

16385. With respect to the Mauritius, you said that all that the Colonial Office

Office had required was, that there should be 20 superficial feet for every coolie passenger, and six feet between the decks?—Yes.

16386. Is that the regulation as regards Irish emigrants?—The Noble Lord is aware that the regulations as regards Irish emigrants are embodied in several Acts of Parliament, but I think also he must be aware that in a tropical climate a different allowance may be reasonably be made, from what is thought reasonable and proper in a voyage across the Atlantic.

16387. What is the allowance for an Irish emigrant going to Canada?—Fourteen feet.

16388. And two children under 14 rank as one?—As an adult.

16389. Are not you aware that in a tropical climate, where the seasons are not variable, where the weather is warm, and the emigrants can remain upon deck; where there are trade winds, and they are not liable to be driven down below, and the ports shut, and the hatches battened down, nothing like the space is required that is required in a passage through some of the roughest seas with which the British merchant may have to contend?—I think it must be a matter which experience must decide. There may very rough weather in the voyage from Calcutta to the Mauritius, and it may be necessary in framing general regulations, to secure an ample space in a tropical voyage of that kind, which, as I again state, is not necessary to be secured in a voyage across the Atlantic.

16390. Practically, is not it the case that the very reverse is the fact, and that much more accommodation is required between Great Britain and all the North American Colonies than would be required between Madras or Calcutta and the Mauritius?—If by “accommodation” the noble Lord means the space allotted to the emigrant, I am inclined to think, speaking upon the authority of those who have attended to the subject, that a larger space is requisite to be provided for each emigrant in a voyage across the Indian seas than is necessary for an emigrant in a voyage across the Atlantic.

16391. Do not you know that that is contrary to the general opinion of all seafaring men?—I am not aware of the fact, but I wish this to be remembered that those regulations have to be framed with the concurrence of the East India Company, who insist upon certain regulations for the comfort and protection of their people being made. The Government at home, and the Mauritius government, are not quite free agents in the matter. If experience should show that a less space is desirable, with a view to enable a vessel to carry a larger quantity, there is no objection to be offered to it at all; on the contrary, it is the interest of the Government at home to facilitate in every way the importation of the labourers required for profitable cultivation in the Mauritius at the lowest rate.

16392. Are not the regulations which are restricted to the passage of coolies from the East India Company's territories, regulations framed at the Colonial Office, and which apply to Chinese going to the East Indies, or to Africans going from the coast of Africa?—No, they are not. With respect to regulations applicable to Chinese emigrants, I apprehend China, being a perfectly independent country, regulations might be made by Government here, always supposing that they would be unobjectionable to the Chinese Government; but with regard to the emigration of the coolies or East Indian labourers, who are placed under the authority and government of the East India Company, those regulations are subject to the control of the Company, and they can amend them if they think necessary.

16393. Were those restrictions drawn up in the Colonial Office, or were they drawn up at the East India House, or the Board of Control?—A direct answer to that question would not furnish the noble Lord with the information he wishes. As far as regards the mere drawing up of the regulations it would be the work of the Colonial Office; but those regulations are the result of correspondence and communications with the East India Company, and framed in conformity with their views; therefore, though in fact the actual drawing up of the such regulations may be the duty of the Colonial Office, they are not regulations altogether proceeding from them solely and singly.

16394. Can you produce any correspondence which has taken place upon this subject between the India House and the colonial government?—Undoubtedly;

B. Hawes. Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

a very large correspondence is already on the table of The House upon coolie emigration.

16395. Does it appear from that correspondence that the East India Company's servants are responsible for having required this inordinate accommodation for the cooly emigrants?—In the first place I do not think it is inordinate, and in the next place I believe that all regulations relating to the immigration of coolies in the Mauritius are framed with the concurrence of the East India Company, and that the Land and Emigration Commissioners are mainly responsible for framing such regulations as will meet the concurrence both of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and of the East India Company.

16396. Concurrence is one thing, and advice is another; I wish to know by whose advice were those unwise restrictions as to the Mauritius framed?—I am not able to state who originated those suggestions; I can only say that they are the result of a good deal of communication and consultation with all the parties who ought to be consulted.

16397. It appears, at all events, that you require something like 6-20ths more room for a cooly emigrant than for an Irish or Scotch emigrant to Canada?—That is the fact; and, considering the nature of the climate, that is the justification.

16398. Do you know that the length of voyage from Madras to the Mauritius is considerably shorter than the average length of voyage from Great Britain to Quebec?—Undoubtedly; but hitherto very few emigrants have gone from Madras; it is only quite recently that the port of Madras has been opened to the Mauritius for the importation of labourers.

16399. Is not that one of the grievances which the Mauritius people have to complain of?—Yes, and that is now removed.

16400. That while you carry out your free trade measures against them you do not allow them to have free trade as regards the importation of labourers?—I do not admit the fact at all. As I said, Madras has been opened to the Mauritius, but those who are acquainted with the subject are very doubtful whether the importation of labourers from Madras will succeed.

16401. Are not you aware that there are trade winds between Calcutta and the Mauritius, and between Madras and the Mauritius?—Certainly.

16402. And that the voyage is a very easy voyage, and one which is not fraught with any great dangers at the periods of the year when immigrants are usually imported?—Certainly.

16403. Among your restrictions there is one which requires that there should be six feet between the decks, and that no ship should be allowed to import emigrants which is not of 300 tons burden. Can you explain to the Committee the good sense of a regulation of that description?—I will not undertake to explain or defend all those regulations which have been framed by parties who have looked very closely into the subject. I will only state generally, that any practicable improvement, any alteration or suggestion which can facilitate the supply of Mauritius with labour at a low rate for profitable cultivation, will always be attended to, and attended to immediately.

16404. Do you think there is any more necessity for requiring that there should be a surgeon on board every such emigrant ship, than that there should be a surgeon on board every Canada emigrant ship?—That is a point upon which I cannot venture to form an opinion. I can only state that those are regulations which have been framed with a good deal of care, and I presume the provision of a surgeon has been thought necessary.

16405. Do not you know that remonstrances have been made by the colonies against the prohibition to import immigrants in the rice ships?—Yes.

16406. Do not you know that the colonists of the Mauritius all say, that if you did not interfere with them, but would leave them to get their labourers where they pleased, not only would they get a superior class, but that they would be able to get them at half the cost?—I have no doubt coolies might be imported more cheaply by taking any class of vessels, and by the removal of all restrictions. I believe that in the earliest period of coolie immigration, very great abuses were found to exist, which led to more stringent regulations, and I should be very much afraid if those restrictions were removed, objections would be raised again by the East India Company to such a system, and therefore again I have to state these regulations must be framed with the general concurrence

concurrence of the East India Company, who are parties to the permission of their people to emigrate.

16407. Is not the East India Company very willing, generally speaking, to be prevailed on by any energetic application made to them by the Colonial Office?—Really I think not; I think they have a very independent will of their own.

16408. Have any propositions ever been made to them to allow those immigrants to be imported in a less costly mode, which they have remonstrated against and successfully resisted?—I am not aware whether any remonstrances specially of that kind have been addressed to the Company, but when there was quite an unrestricted immigration, abuses prevailed, which are described in papers before Parliament, and various restrictive regulations were the consequence. We know pretty well upon certain points it would be rather unavailing to attempt to induce the East India Company to abate many of their regulations and restrictions which are framed for the benefit of the coolies; therefore it is possible that representations may not have been made, but the subject is one which has been well considered.

16409. You have thrown some of this responsibility upon the East India Company, as far as the coolies are concerned; with respect to immigrants from Madagascar, are the East India Company fairly chargeable with your prohibitions to import labourers from Madagascar?—In Madagascar, I believe, slavery prevails, which does interpose very considerable difficulty; moreover the Committee is aware, I dare say, that the relations between Madagascar and the Mauritius have been interrupted, and that again has interposed very considerable difficulties; but with regard to the importation of labourers, whether from the east coast of Africa, or from the north-eastern portion of Africa, I have had many communications with gentlemen connected with the Mauritius, and I think they will do me the justice to say that as far as regards attention to those representations, I have shown it. I can answer for Lord Grey being as anxious as possible to promote the supply of labour generally.

16410. Has he taken any steps to promote a supply of labourers from Madagascar?—I do not think it has been possible, under the circumstances, to take any steps; there are communications going on, which I hope may lead to a restoration of peaceful and profitable relations between the Mauritius and Madagascar; but as I have said, slavery prevails in Madagascar, and therefore great difficulty exists in the way of promoting the importation of labourers from that island.

16411. Madagascar is about 50 hours' sail from the Mauritius?—A very short distance.

16412. If labourers are free men when they get across that narrow channel, what is the objection which arises out of the circumstance that there is slavery in Madagascar to emancipating a great number of the inhabitants of Madagascar from that slavery, and making freemen of them in the Mauritius?—Precisely the same objection which exists to a free access to the slave coast of Africa; it would promote a species of slave trade, or it is apprehended that it would promote a species of slave trade, which has generally been considered a contravention of the policy of this country.

16413. You say there is slavery now in Madagascar?—Yes.

16414. If they are slaves, supposing you take them to the Mauritius you diminish the amount of slavery to that extent?—Those are questions involving considerations of general policy, which I feel that I may be spared from entering upon.

16415. At present it rests with the Colonial Office to permit or forbid such an immigration?—I have no doubt it would be a subject which would properly come within the province of the Secretary of State for the Colonies; but as I have said, the relations between the Mauritius and Madagascar are not such as to enable us to consider the subject practically at present.

16416. The relations between the Mauritius and Madagascar have only been interrupted for a short period, have they?—Only a short period. It has been very prejudicial to the Mauritius, and any attempt to promote the importation of labour from Madagascar just now would not be politic. Whenever a friendly feeling exists between the Mauritius and Madagascar, it may be the subject of

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

consideration, provided we find there are no objections on the score of general policy.

16417. Until the period when those friendly relations were interrupted there was no restriction, except that which the Colonial Office placed upon the planters of the Mauritius, from obtaining free labourers from Madagascar, as they say, of a very superior class, at from 2 *l.* to 3 *l.* a head, instead of paying 7 *l.* and 8 *l.* a head for the inferior labourers which they were obliged to take from Madras and Calcutta?—I am not aware that the subject has ever come under practical consideration.

16418. Have not the colonists asked to be allowed to get labourers where they liked?—I dare say they may have asked to get them where they liked, in common with others.

16419. You said that the vagrancy laws were objected to on the ground that it was not proper to consider a man a vagrant unless he were guilty of mendicancy?—That does not accurately describe what I stated. I spoke with reference to the Order in Council of 1838; that Order in Council decreed that in certain cases the offence of vagrancy should not be complete unless accompanied by some act of mendicancy.

16420. Is not the vagrancy in the Mauritius a description of vagrancy which is not accompanied by mendicancy, and yet of the utmost injury to the planters?—I think, to a certain extent, that is so; that there may be vagrancy without mendicancy, and that vagrancy may be injurious.

16421. Have not the planters repeatedly made great complaints of the mode in which the vagrant laws, such as they are, and the industrial laws are administered by the stipendiary magistrates?—I think it has been a subject of complaint, but it is a very controverted question, and opens a good deal of disputed matter. The Committee is aware that the stipendiary magistrates were appointed more immediately to superintend the interests of the labouring population.

16422. Were not their appointments limited to the period of apprenticeship?—They were so limited, but they have been continued; and I apprehend the same feelings which led to their appointment led to their continuance. I do not think it can answer any good purpose to refer to the causes, and to the feelings which led to the appointment of the stipendiary magistrates. There has been a desire to reduce them; and, on the other hand, there have been representations made for their maintenance.

16423. This Committee take a very different view upon that subject. They think that the conduct of those stipendiary magistrates, and the mode in which the laws as between masters and servants have been administered, is the very root of half the evil; the stipendiary magistrates were employed as protectors to the negroes, while the negroes were apprentices, and for three-fourths of their time still practically the slaves of the planters, and when the planters might act the part of tyrants towards them; but the complaint which is made on all hands is, that those stipendiary magistrates, knowing they had the sympathy of successive colonial officers, have invariably administered the laws in a spirit favourable to the labourer, and inimical to the planter, and thus instead of assisting the labourer in getting his right, which is a fair day's work for a good day's wages, they have encouraged the labourer to become the master and a tyrant over the planter?—I do not concur in that view of the case; any special case which was alleged, I should be able to meet; but I have no reason to believe from anything I have seen in the proceedings of the stipendiary magistrates as a body, that that would convey a just idea of the mode in which they perform the duties they have to discharge, and in our colonies there are other magistrates wholly distinct from the stipendiary magistrates, who take an active part in the administration of justice. I am bound to say that I think they are not justly described as a body by the statement.

16424. The Committee have had the vagrancy laws in the Mauritius described to them by Mr. Chapman, and they have had the general conduct of those magistrates described in this way, that he has known cases where a planter, having given a coolie a box upon the ear, a fine of 10 *l.* has been inflicted upon the planter, and half of it given to the Indian, the labourer complaining, in the presence of the planter; that the Indians have often gone to the

the master and said, "I should be obliged to you for another box upon the ear upon the same terms;" that those are occurrences which happen every day in principle, though on a small scale; while if the master has to complain of the labourer not fulfilling his contract, all the redress he gets is that the labourer is sentenced to lose the half day or the whole day's wages for which he has not worked, or at most he is sentenced to two days' labour, when he has been already under contract to his master to work for him six days in a week, and he cannot work on Sunday, the penalty coming therefore to be no penalty at all, while it may cost the master some 10*l.* at least to bring up five or ten witnesses, and the loss of two or three days in proving his case before the stipendiary magistrate, so that any redress, as far as the master is concerned, against the labourers, is perfectly nugatory; do you believe that not to be a true statement of the state of things?—If that is to be taken as a general statement applying to the stipendiary magistrates, I think it is not correct; nor do I think it describes correctly the mode in which justice is administered in the Mauritius; if there are any special cases to which reference is made, I dare say I shall be able to explain or meet those special cases; but those broad and generalized descriptions of the stipendiary magistrates I do not think to be just or correct.

B. Hawes, Esq.

M. P.

5 April 1848.

16425. Do you dispute that that is the general character of the law, that the penalty upon the labourer is one which it is never worth the while of the master to enforce, while the penalty upon the master for any small misdemeanour is, on the contrary, very heavy?—I entirely dispute that it is a correct statement of the law, and I think the evidence will bear me out. I am speaking now from a cursory perusal of the evidence to which the Noble Lord refers; the time to which that evidence refers was one anterior to the recent legislation on the subject; and I believe the present state of the law of vagrancy, the law regulating the duties of master and servant in the Mauritius, is upon a much better footing than it ever was before.

16426. The Committee have it in evidence that there are 20,000 vagabonds in the Mauritius; do you think that the law of vagrancy, and that the general laws for the good government of the Mauritius, are in a state to be endured, when it is possible that there should be 20,000 vagrants in the Mauritius, which is no larger than the county of Sussex?—I do not know what may be the number of labourers who are not regularly employed, all of whom are called vagabonds and vagrants; but I have a feeling for the liberty of the subject, which I think ought to be respected, and I do not think that unjust and severe compulsory labour should be inflicted upon the labourers generally, simply because they are out of employment; I repeat that the law at present is very much amended compared with what it was at the time to which the witness refers.

16427. It is not one witness; it is all the witnesses; every witness who has any personal acquaintance with the island has given evidence to the same effect?—I do not wish to enter into any controversy upon the point at all. I merely wish to state that the law has been materially improved, and that the evidence in question referred to a time which was anterior to the amended law to which I refer.

16428. To which law do you refer?—I allude to the law which was passed in the Mauritius upon this very subject.

16429. The Committee have had it in evidence that from the year 1834 to the year 1838, as long as contracts for five years were permitted, and the coolies and masters were allowed to contract for continuous labour, the colony prospered to the greatest possible degree; that its production increased, and everything went on satisfactorily; then came this Order in Council in 1838, which Order in Council also enacted that those regulations should be put in force, and that immigration should be discontinued, except upon those terms; from that day the property of the Mauritius diminished; the produce fell off something like 10,000 or 12,000 tons, and the estates were going to decay; do not you think it of the utmost importance that that law which has been proved to be good should be re-enacted?—I do not quite understand the noble Lord's question; the Order in Council of 1838, as I have already stated, has been made subject to any amendments which the Colonial Legislature may think fit to introduce since 1838; quite recently a new ordinance has been passed after

B. Hawes, Esq.

M. P.

5 April 1848.

a good deal of communication both with merchants on the one hand interested in the colony, and with my noble friend at the head of the Colonial Department, and with the Colony; and that ordinance, I believe I may state, is a considerable improvement in the law, both as regards the enforcement of contracts, and as regards vagrants; and I believe that the law now is upon a much better footing upon those points.

16430. You spoke of it as if it were a mere trifle; you stated that this impediment arising from the Order in Council, only lasted from 1838, you did not know whether it was till 1842 or 1843; does not it make all the difference whether the impediment lasted for two or three, or five or six years?—I spoke in no way trifling upon the subject. I used the word that I found in the evidence, and I do not think that the word implies any trifling, either on the part of the witness who used it, or of myself; I should be sorry to be supposed to speak lightly upon a subject of so much importance as this; really all that related to the subject matter of that Order in Council may be altogether forgotten, because the new ordinance is a great improvement, and meets with general concurrence. I do not mean to say that it may not be subject to further improvement, but we must not enact coercion in the form of law; we must take care that the just rights of the labourers are respected if we wish to have willing and cheerful labourers in the colonies.

16431. If you put the Mauritius back five years, not only do you arrest that course of improvement for five years, but you put her in a far worse condition in 1843 than she was in 1838. Does not that give a great claim to the Mauritius for consideration at the hands of the Home Government?—I hope that the Mauritius will always receive consideration at the hands of the Home Government; so important a colony (and that applies to every colony) can never be neglected with impunity, and I believe it never will be neglected.

16432. When the French revolutionary government sought to emancipate the slaves of the Mauritius, the Mauritius expelled the commissaires and the 800 troops, and declared herself independent, and retained her slaves, when those in St. Domingo were liberated?—It may be so. I am imperfectly acquainted with those circumstances.

16433. No doubt you are aware that while it was in this independent state, not acknowledging any allegiance to the republican government of France, it carried on a privateering trade against our East India Company's ships, and that the Marquis of Wellesley in 1801 wrote home to say that those privateers had, since the commencement of the war, carried prizes to the value of three millions sterling into Porto Rico?—The noble Lord has the same sources of information open to him that everybody else has upon that subject.

16434. And that we never were able to capture her till 1810, and then it required that we should send 20 ships of war, 50 transports, with 14,000 infantry, besides cavalry, and light and heavy trains of artillery. You have already laid upon the table of the House the terms of capitulation by which we guaranteed to the Mauritius all her rights in private property?—I have no doubt that was the case with all our conquests at the time.

16435. But we have not respected those rights; we valued their slaves at 70*l.* a piece, and only paid them 30*l.*, upon the understanding that they were to enjoy seven years' apprenticeship, and that there was to be an exclusion of slave-grown sugar?—Those are all matters connected with the general policy of the country, into which I do not feel it necessary to enter.

16436. Can you state to the Committee what proportion the French inhabitants bear to the British?—Not the exact proportion numerically; it is larger.

16437. Twenty to one, is not it?—It is considerably larger.

16438. The Committee have heard it stated that there are about 20,000 French to something like 1,000 British, exclusive of the military?—It may be so. I should decline, upon prudential grounds, going into any comparative enumeration of the French and English population.

16439. Especially after having said that the colony cannot be neglected with impunity?—As to which, I repeat, that I do not think that the colony has been neglected, or ever will be.

16440. It is made one of the subjects of complaints by this colony, that no less than 30,000 *l.* a year has been expended upon the police?—I am aware that

that there has been a large sum expended upon the police, and that the police system is very imperfect, but that is connected with the enforcement of those very vagrancy laws which are said to be so inoperative; very recent representations, relating to the imperfect condition of the police of the Mauritius, were made to Lord Grey, and the result was, that a member of the metropolitan police force was sent out to the colony, with some constables, with a view to organize and improve the system; it has not turned out so successful as we could wish, but I should hope that the system may be improved. At all events, I must state again, that I think the expense must, in a large degree, fall upon the local government, and that any representations of theirs, upon a subject of so much importance, will meet with ready attention on the part of Lord Grey.

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

16441. Is not this a grievance which has been going on for the two years during which Lord Grey has been in office?—Since Lord Grey has been in office, the first effort has been made for the improvement of the system of police, and that improvement was made at the instigation of those connected with the island of the Mauritius itself.

16442. Has there been any reduction in the cost of the system?—I think not; but the demand clearly has rather been for a much more efficient police. Whether the same sum might be so spent as to produce a more efficient police, I cannot state; but I think that the local government should exert itself.

16443. The local government is completely under the influence of the Governor, is not it, and the Governor is also under the authority of the Colonial Office; are not the Colonial Office and the Crown entirely responsible for the misgovernment of a Crown colony?—No doubt the Colonial Minister for the time is responsible for the misgovernment of any colony during his administration; but there is nothing, with the present relations subsisting between the Colonial Minister and the Government of the colony, to prevent the Governor and his Council recommending improvements and alterations, and suggesting them, and clearly alterations with reference to the police are all local matters which require local knowledge, which must in a great degree be found in the colony itself. I have already stated that the representations which were made have been attended to; an attempt has been made and is now making to improve that force.

16444. In two years that attempt has come to nothing?—I cannot say that it has come to nothing; it is in progress.

16445. Is not it a manifest proof of misgovernment that, in a Crown colony which is of no greater extent than the county of Sussex, there should be an expenditure of 30,000 *l.* on the police, at the same time that it is represented that there are 20,000 vagabonds wandering about the island without any apparent mode of getting their livelihood?—I stated to the noble Lord that I do not think it is such a proof.

16446. Do you know of any county in England, or even in Ireland, of that extent, where 30,000 *l.* is spent upon the police, where it can be said that there are 20,000 vagabonds?—I cannot quite agree in one element of the question. The 20,000 vagabonds, as they are called, are not 20,000 thieves or pick-pockets; under that head is comprised, I dare say, many an honest man who is not actually at work. With respect to the cost, all I can say is, that I do think it is a question which the local government ought seriously to look to; that they ought to search into the necessity for an expenditure of that kind. I do not think everything that is done ought to proceed by the dictation of the Colonial Minister; I rather look to see some independent party in the colony take the lead in such improvements.

16447. You think that a local government, would be a much better thing than an expensive government under the Colonial Office?—I think while there are colonies, we must have some ascendancy over the colonies. I do not understand it to be suggested to make the colonies perfectly independent, and not in any way subject to the Crown; but as respects any improvement of the local government, either by the establishment of municipal institutions, or the introduction, where it is safe and prudent, of a representative principle, there is no objection to that. On the contrary, it has been encouraged in the island of Trinidad, at the suggestion of Lord Harris, and sanctioned by Lord Grey, and municipal institutions may be there established. I hope and trust that in the course of time they will work well, and lay the foundation of a good system of local government. So with regard to the other colonies, efforts have

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

been made to introduce local self government, consistent with the assertion of the authority of the Crown.

16448. We have it in evidence that the squatting which takes place in the Mauritius has taken place upon the Crown lands, and in the most favourable spots of the Crown lands, and that it would have been quite competent to the Governor and to the Crown to have prevented that squatting. Do not you think the Government is responsible for the squatting of that description which has taken place?—The system of squatting is one extremely difficult to deal with, and in many of the colonies it has crept on to an extent that is highly objectionable.

16449. I am directing your attention to the Mauritius?—Taking the case of the Mauritius, it does not seem to me that the squatting has been so extensive there as in many colonies of the West Indies; but if it do exist, it is an evil though not easy of remedy, where the parties have had possession for some time; but I should not imagine it was a great evil in the Mauritius.

16450. Has not this evil grown up in the Mauritius entirely since 1834?—It may have done so. Circumstances will account for that; the very large increase of population and the large importation of labour would lead to a certain extent to the increase of the squatting. But I think it is an evil that ought to be dealt with vigorously and promptly, as I think it is full of mischief.

16451. Do not you think that, if that evil had by former governments been dealt with vigorously and promptly, it might have been prevented altogether?—I think if the evil consequences of it had been altogether foreseen, it is probable that measures would have been taken, which, if they had been taken in time, would have remedied it. But the fact is, that that evil was not felt so keenly as it is in the present day; so extensive and accurate a knowledge of our colonial possessions certainly was not possessed in those days, compared with what is now possessed, and therefore the evil has grown up, and having grown up, it is not a very easy thing to deal with it in many colonies; but in the Mauritius I do not think it is so great an evil as in many others, and not therefore so difficult to deal with.

16452. Is not the fact this, that nothing would have been more easy than to have prevented it in the Mauritius?—I do not know the extent of it in the Mauritius, nor enough of the circumstances to give an opinion.

16453. The Mauritius is 60 miles long and 30 broad?—Are you speaking of the extent of the island?

16454. Yes. I think we also have it in evidence that all the centre of the island is a forest, to which there is no desire, and never could be any desire on the part of those vagabonds to go and squat, so that the extent of the territory that is convenient for squatting is extremely limited, whilst I think we have had it in evidence that there are military stations which are nowhere much above 7 or 14 miles apart, and 3,000 *l.* a year is expended on police. What I want to know is this; is it possible, that if the government of the island had had been efficient, 30,000 *l.* a year could have been spent in police, and 300,000 *l.* a year upon the general expenses of the Government, and that such a state of things could have arisen, or could exist as that which now exists in the Mauritius?—I am not prepared to give any answer to that, but with regard to the 30,000 *l.* a year for police, I should like to examine the items of that, and to know what really is spent upon what is called the active police force. I do not think that squatting in the Mauritius has gone to a great extent.

16455. As to the stipendiary police magistrates, in the charges for the police there is a sum of 1,606 *l.* charged for 48 guards for the stipendiary magistrates; and here is an item for the clothing of the police 1,800 *l.* a year. Artillery 240 *l.* a year. Rewards for killing dogs 140 *l.* a year. It would seem that this unfortunate colony was subjected to all manner of expenses without any sort of limit or check whatever; virtually, I apprehend that this 300,000 *l.* a year is a charge that must come directly or indirectly out of the produce exported from the island, which consists of little but sugar, which amounts to 6 *l.* a ton;—*£.* 6 a ton would be 360,000 *l.* a year, taking only 60,000 tons as the export.

16456. That is for last year; but take the average at 50,000 tons. We have heard that very nearly one-third of the plantations are likely to be thrown out of cultivation; would it not be very possible in your opinion to reduce all those expenses at least one-half?—I cannot give any opinion as to a reduction of

of that kind, but I should hope and trust that more economy would be introduced, and that measures for that purpose would be taken.

16457. It appears by this return that the Governor receives 7,228 *l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* a year, besides, I believe, some other allowances; a house free I imagine?—Yes, I believe so.

16458. And coals, I suppose, and various other things?—I do not know.

16459. There appear to be a number of small items which have something to do with that?—I dare say there are allowances of that kind in addition.

16460. For cleaning government privies there is 2 *l.* a year, and jobbing of every description, high and low; we have had it in evidence that the governor of the sister colony of Bourbon receives but 2,400 *l.* a year; do not you think that the same salary would suffice for the Governor of the Mauritius that suffices for the Governor of the Island of Bourbon?—I do not think the cases are quite parallel; the Mauritius is a very important station, and must be considered so in an imperial point of view; it is an island of extreme value from its position, and must be regarded in some degree as a position of importance to protect our general interests in those seas.

16461. It is the Dardanelles of the East, in fact?—Yes; and I think that comparison between Bourbon and the Mauritius could hardly hold good.

16462. I quite agree with you that the importance of the island is above all estimate; but is not the answer you have just given me a complete justification of the claim of the planters, that all those extra expenses should be charged to the Imperial Government, and not charged upon them as sugar planters?—I think there are reciprocal advantages in it.

16463. What are the reciprocal advantages?—The general protection which the empire gives to its trade at large; each colony shares in that; and each colony, therefore, should pay some proportion towards the expense.

16464. But has not this colony of Mauritius, which was a French colony, great reason to complain that whilst in the terms of the regulation which you have laid before us, she was guaranteed the enjoyment of all her property, and also, though I do not know whether that is in the terms of the regulation, or in the proclamation which preceded the terms of the regulation, she was to enjoy all the rights of British colonies, yet she was excluded from those rights British colonies to the year 1825?—I am not aware to what that alludes.

16465. Up to the year 1825 the Mauritius was rated as a colony, and as a part of the East India Company's territories with respect to the fiscal laws?—Yes.

16466. So that her whole trade was destroyed; the trade she enjoyed under French rule was destroyed, and yet she had not, until the year 1825, opened a market for her sugar; I wish to ask you a question about that 200,000 *l.*; the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his statement to the House of Commons, declared that 200,000 *l.* would be granted to Guiana and Trinidad for the encouragement of African immigration?—No, not strictly for African immigration.

16467. Yes, he so stated; and it continues so in his corrected speech?—It was not strictly for African immigration; the colonies raised loans for the purposes of immigration; the loans included at that time the importation of labour from the East Indies; that is to say, the importation of coolies; therefore, when the colonies fell into pecuniary difficulty, the Government placed 200,000 *l.* at the disposal of those colonies, in discharge of all existing liabilities: it was as well for coolie immigration as for African immigration. Whatever is the amount the existing contracts will have to be paid out of that 200,000 *l.*, before the remainder can be applied to other purposes; those other purposes, however, being exclusively immigration purposes.

16468. Is not the real state of the case this, that when the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated to the House of Commons that 200,000 *l.* was to be devoted to African emigration to Guiana and Trinidad, 160,000 *l.* of that was already forestalled?—I cannot state from memory what the Chancellor of the Exchequer said, but I should think that he stated it correctly, and undoubtedly it must have been known to the parties interested, because, as they could not raise the money to meet the existing liabilities they had come under, they were perfectly aware that the Government intended to meet those liabilities, and to meet them out of that advance; at least I imagine there could be no misunderstanding upon that point.

16469. Was not the Government responsible for the original 160,000 *l.*, sup-

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

posing the colony was unable to meet it?—No, I think not; the colony was liable.

16470. Suppose the colony could not pay?—Then in that case the benefit would not have been derived, and difficulty would have ensued to the colony, and great evil would have resulted to the colony, for then the immigration would have been stopped.

16471. If those bills had been dishonoured, would not the Government have been obliged to pay them?—No, certainly not.

16472. But the effect of it, so far as any prospect exists that the British colonies should be benefited by this advance of 200,000 *l.* is, that there is but 40,000 *l.* to be expended in African immigration?—Yes, but the 200,000 *l.* was not to be spent exclusively upon African immigration; it was for immigration only, and to meet the liabilities under which the colonies had come at that time, when it was inconvenient to meet them.

16473. But that was not the statement made to the House of Commons?—I should think it must have been to that effect.

16474. It was announced as one of the boons to the West Indies?—When the 200,000 *l.* was advanced, I think I state correctly what was said on that occasion, I did not hear it, for I was not in The House, but I think the word “advance” was used, and of course that implied a loan, and the parties interested knew perfectly well that it had reference to those liabilities, under existing contracts for the importation of labour, which they were unable to meet.

16475. I believe that the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s speech was published by authority, was not it?—I cannot say.

16476. Was not it circulated from the Colonial Office?—No, certainly not; whatever may have proceeded from the Colonial Office may have proceeded from a few copies which I had at my own disposal, and that may have originated the idea.

16477. It was a corrected copy, and I collect from you that those copies were distributed from the Colonial Office, not officially, but still they were sent to you, and you did distribute them?—Not in that sense, certainly. I do not think half a dozen copies proceeded from my hands, and those were to personal friends, or those I knew; but in the sense of their being sent to the Office and distributed by the Office, unquestionably it would be incorrect to convey that notion.

16478. They were not printed by the Office?—Certainly not.

16479. But a considerable number of copies were sent out; a good many more than half a dozen, I believe?—A number were sent to me personally; I will not undertake to say whether it was half a dozen or one dozen. I do not know at this moment how many, but a few were sent to me individually, and I believe I have the major part of them even now. I know I have some now, but I meant to state distinctly that they were not sent to the Colonial Office, or distributed by the Colonial Office at all.

16480. We have had evidence before us, that two ships have been freighted for free labourers from Sierra Leone, but as yet we have no information that a single African has been carried from the Kroo coast, as was proposed by the Government; have there been any Africans conveyed from that part?—They have not been obtained from the Kroo coast, because at present the number of liberated Africans at Sierra Leone have been large enough to supply the vessels that have gone there, and therefore they have preferred taking them at once from thence to going to any other place.

16481. I believe that has been confined to the “Growler” and two merchant ships?—No, I think not; there must have been several other ships, but however, any number of ships could apply for a licence and obtain it at once, if they wished.

16482. Is it free for any West India planter who chooses to apply for a licence to send a ship to get Africans?—Any shipowner who applied for a licence might obtain it.

16483. And he might go to the Kroo coast?—He might go to the Kroo coast. I think you will see the whole explained in the papers before Parliament. A bounty is payable by the colony, and a certain sum is paid by Government with a view to encourage it.

16484. We have had the evidence of Commander Hall and Captain Lecray, that

that when the "Growler" was fitted out she was very expensively furnished with berths; under whose regulation was the "Growler" provided with those expensive berths?—I imagine, under the directions of the Admiralty.

16485. Not in obedience to any instructions from the Colonial Office?—No, I am not aware of it; it would be altogether a matter for the Admiralty to determine upon.

16486. We have had it also in evidence that nothing could be worse contrived, or worse calculated for the health of the emigrants, than that arrangement, and that the first thing that Commander Hall did with a view of purifying the ship and making her healthy, was to take down those berths and burn them for firewood?—I know nothing of the fact of burning for firewood, but the removal of the berths I believe to have been quite correct, and experience has sanctioned it; it was done in more cases than one, I think.

16487. But those regulations, you think, were the Admiralty's regulations?—Yes. I think that all those regulations would be made by the Admiralty; probably they might call upon the Land and Emigration Commissioners for information upon the subject, but I am not aware of that fact. With regard to the provision of berths, as I have said, some private ships went out with berths, but they were found unnecessary, and they were removed, and removed under the sanction of the Government.

16488. Had they originally been instructed to put up those berths?—I do not know; I am not aware of that.

16489. There is no doubt, I suppose, that the other regulations with regard to the immigrants were not Admiralty regulations, but were Colonial-office regulations, that the immigrants should not be permitted, for example, to expose themselves to the danger of falling overboard?—I do not know what regulations you allude to, but the original regulations made with reference to the conveyance of labourers from Sierra Leone to Trinidad, I imagine, would be properly required to be under the sanction of the Colonial Office.

16490. Are those regulations still in force, signed by Lord Grey, which require that the immigrants should be daily exercised with dancing and singing; are they still part of the code of colonial legislation?—They are very wise regulations, and anything that promotes health on board I should take to be proper and judicious; exercise, and anything that promotes health, I think can hardly meet with objection on the part of any one. If you are to give instructions you must be precise.

16491. You still think that it was a very wise regulation that the surgeon should be qualified to teach dancing and singing on board the emigrant vessels?—I do not think that was the regulation; that the surgeon might be instructed to promote exercise on board, I think, was extremely probable, and very wise.

16492. Is not promoting dancing and singing something like teaching dancing and singing?—I think not.

16493. We have learnt that in these slave ships, in a cargo of slaves, there are generally found six or seven different nations, who do not understand each other's language?—It may be so; I do not know the fact.

16494. Do not you think it would be much better if all those minute regulations and restrictions were very much modified, and that the West Indian planters desiring to obtain emigrants should be allowed to obtain them in their own way?—I do not know what is meant by obtaining them in their own way.

16495. That a planter who wants emigrants should go and find them himself, get such a description of people as he wants, and make his own terms with them, and enter into such contracts as he and the labourers can agree upon?—That is, to go to the slave coast and purchase slaves.

16496. Not purchase slaves; he cannot do that, I believe, under the law; that would be an act of felony?—Quite so; but I understood the question to propose that all those restrictions should be abolished.

16497. I am speaking of the colonial restrictions, and though I am quite aware that the Colonial Office is despotic in the Mauritius, and Trinidad, and Guiana, the Colonial Office cannot alter the laws of the land; I apprehend that under the laws as they stand now slave dealing by British subjects would be an act of felony?—No doubt of it.

16498. That is not a Colonial Office restriction?—Just so; then I understand the question to apply only to the Colonial Office regulations.

16499. Subject to the laws of the land?—Anything that unnecessarily impedes emigration, I think, should be reconsidered and removed.

B. Hawes, Esq.

M. P.

5 April 1848.

16500. Do you not consider, inasmuch as the Mauritius is charged with all those very heavy expenses that are unnecessarily put upon her by the Colonial Government, that she is entitled to some protection as a set-off against those enormous charges?—Protection in what way?

16501. In the way of a differential duty?—No, I do not; and I do not think it would be for her benefit; but that is a part of the subject I do not feel it necessary to go into at this point, because, of course, it is a controversial point.

16502. How do you conceive it would be possible for the Mauritius, for example, so long as she has to pay at the rate of 6*l.* a ton upon her produce, and remains subject to those other restrictions in getting labour, to compete with other colonies that are not subject to any such burdens as those?—I hardly know of any sugar-producing countries that have not been subject to very great burdens; I hardly know any instance in which they have not been equal to those of the Mauritius.

16503. Do you know any sugar-growing country that is burdened to the same extent as the Mauritius?—I can refer the Committee to Cuba, as very nearly burdened to the same amount of taxation, with many further disadvantages.

16504. What do you understand to be the taxation of Cuba?—I should think that the annual taxation of Cuba must be little short of 800,000*l.*, or a million; she supports a considerable body of troops, and a considerable naval force, and she makes considerable remittances to Spain, exclusive of the expenses of her government.

16505. Is not her sugar admitted into Spain at 3*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. duty, instead of 14*s.*?—That is quite another branch of the subject; I admit that such may be the fact, though I do not know exactly what is the duty upon Spanish sugar in Spain.

16506. You said something about the West India colonies having legislatures of their own, and that they had permission to legislate for themselves; but is not there a despotic power in the Colonial Office to disallow any law that any colonial legislature may propose?—I do not think there is a despotic power lodged anywhere in any department of the Government in this country. I imagine that any ordinance, which has for its purpose any useful object, may be proposed with perfect freedom by the colonial legislatures, and would be received here with a full desire to adopt it.

16507. It has been stated before, that the civil list of British Guiana was agreed to as part of the condition of being permitted to import emigrants?—On condition of passing the Loan Immigration Ordinance is, I suppose, meant.

16508. Can you say if Lord Grey has assented to the petition of the Court of Policy of British Guiana to have the salaries or charge on the civil list, reduced by 20 per cent.?—I think Lord Grey has not consented to that; I beg to say there is no ordinance to that effect, no formal Act of the Guiana government has been transmitted here to that effect.

16509. Is it not asked for in a petition?—Not by a petition from the Court of Policy, but by a minute from that body, forwarding a series of resolutions to that effect.

16510. There has been a petition from British Guiana, has not there, to that effect?—There may have been; I do not speak with certainty on that.

16511. There was a memorial to Lord Grey, was there not?—There was a petition to the Governor and Court of Policy, a copy of which was transmitted to Lord Grey by the Governor, at the request of the Court.

16512. Do you think that the Court of Policy would ever have consented to that enormous civil list, for British Guiana if they had conceived that the Imperial Parliament contemplated the admission of slave-grown produce at the present differential duties?—I have no opinion to offer upon that point; but I think the progress of opinion in this country indicated to all the world that a very great change in our commercial policy was likely to take place sooner or later, and for many years before it actually took place.

16513. Do you think that the general policy of this country in 1841 indicated that, that being the period, I believe, when this civil list was granted?—In 1841, I think, it was tolerably clearly indicated that the Government intended to alter the duties on sugar.

16514. Was not the alteration then proposed, a fixed duty of 12*s.* a cwt. as a protection against slave-grown sugar?—It was.

16515. And upon foreign sugar?—Yes. In 1841 the duty upon foreign sugar

sugar was three guineas. It was then proposed to reduce it to 12 s. differential duty, which of course implied the admission of foreign sugar to a very considerable extent.

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

16516. Was not the result of that attempt on the part of the Government to let in slave-grown sugar, defeated by a majority of 34?—It was. I do not recollect the majority, but undoubtedly that project was defeated.

16517. Was not the announcement of that entirely new policy on the part of the Whig Government, followed up by an appeal to the people, with a view to know the opinion of the country upon it?—It was followed by the dissolution of Parliament certainly.

16518. Did not the country mark their opinion upon the general policy of the Government, of which the admission of slave-grown sugar was a leading feature, by returning a majority of 90 against the very Government that had had a majority in the previous Parliament?—It was undoubtedly the election of the most liberal commercial Parliament ever known in the history of this country.

16519. It is not what the elected did, but did not the people return a Parliament, with a majority of 90, pledged amongst other things, to the line of policy adopted by those who were the majority on the sugar question in 1841?—Upon that I can offer no opinion; but I cannot suppose that Parliament was pledged to any special course. All I can state upon this is, that the Parliament elected in 1841, produced the most liberal commercial measures ever known to the history of this country.

16520. In breach of the profession of all those who got their seats in it?—Not of all, I hope.

16521. This is a question of good faith; as to whether good faith has been kept with British Guiana. Did not the Queen in Her speech on the prorogation of Parliament, previous to the dissolution, call upon the people to express their opinion upon the mode of taxation?—I do not remember the Queen's speech at that time.

16522. You do not remember the speech of your own Government?—I was not then connected with the Government.

16523. The answer of the country to the Queen's speech was a majority of 90, apparently in favour of the policy of excluding slave-grown sugar. Has not British Guiana under those circumstances some right to complain of a breach of faith, when she agreed for seven years to the civil list, based upon the supposition that slave-grown sugar was to be excluded during the life of that Parliament?—I would rather abstain from expressing any opinion upon that subject.

16524. With respect to the expenses of British Guiana, can you tell the Committee you were to have laid before the Committee returns which they asked for, relative to the expenses of those governments; are you in a condition to supply them?—No, I am not at present; they are all preparing.

16525. Because as the Committee is concluding their inquiry, it is very desirable for them to have those returns?—I do not know how soon they will be prepared; I know they are actually preparing, but it is a work of very considerable labour to give the expenses in the detail, which I understood the Committee wished.

16526. Are you able to state to the Committee the degree in which the expenses of the government of British Guiana have increased between the year 1823 and the present time?—No, I am not able to state off-hand the increase. There are Parliamentary Papers, I think, already published which would enable me to state it, but I cannot at this moment.

16527. Have they not increased from something like 30,000 l. a year to 225,000 l. a year?—I know the increase has been very large, but the circumstances of the colony, I think, account for that; the increase of population, and the consequent extension of the affairs generally of the colony, have of course increased the expenses of the government.

16528. The expenses of government have increased eight-fold, is not that so?—As I do not know the sums, I cannot state the proportions.

16529. And during the same period, I suppose, we may assume that the incomes of the planters have fallen off in something like the same proportion?—Upon that I cannot offer any opinion.

16530. Has not the Colonial Office any information as to the state and prospects

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.
5 April 1848.

prospects of the planters in the British West Indies?—The Colonial Office have had information as to the state of the West Indies, and I should think that as this Committee has had very large contributions from the Colonial Office upon that subject, they could judge as well as any one there.

16531. I observed that there is a very great difference between the laws of squatting in the different colonies: in the Mauritius it appears to be very easy to prevent squatting; and in British Guiana the Crown, I apprehend, has considerable facilities in preventing squatting upon the Crown land?—Yes, I imagine the Crown has considerable power in conjunction with the local legislature.

16532. With the Court of Policy?—With the Court of Policy.

16533. Has the Crown taken any steps to prevent squatting in British Guiana, by refusing to sell plots of land in small quantities?—I know that there has been some correspondence upon that subject, but I am not able to state accurately to the Committee the purport of it. If I had been at all aware that that particular subject would have been mentioned, I would have been prepared to have given the Committee every information.

16534. Does the Governor possess any discretionary power of making a grant of land when it has been applied for; is he bound to advertise it at the upset price of 1*l.*?—Certainly, I imagine that the lands in British Guiana, as in other colonies, would be subject to the provisions of the Land Sales Act, which requires, of course, that the land should be sold by auction, and that the upset price should be 20*s.*

16535. Do not you think that in British Guiana, under the circumstances, it would be very desirable to raise that price?—I do.

16536. Does Lord Grey contemplate raising it?—I think a correspondence has taken place upon the subject, but I am not prepared at this moment to state it.

16537. There have been, I believe, also brought under the notice of the Colonial Office several instances in which lots have been sold of 100 acres, with a view of partition amongst a number of parties?—Yes, that has been done; and I believe done by private individuals in several colonies.

16538. Have not the Crown lands been sold in that way?—I think there was an instance; and, if I recollect rightly, the correspondence upon that subject was with the Honourable Member for Leominster, and my impression is, but I am speaking entirely from recollection, that his statements were referred to the colony, and there was a very great discrepancy between the statements forwarded to us and those which he directly made to the Colonial Office; but as I am speaking entirely from recollection of what took place before I had anything to do with the Colonial Office, I am not able to state accurately what did pass.

16539. Did not Lord Glenelg, as far back as 1838, either write a despatch, or issue an Ordinance of some kind, putting a restriction upon it?—I think there was some such Ordinance as that, and which, in spirit if not in letter, is revived, I think, by Lord Grey; but I again say that I am quite speaking from recollection of a matter which occurred before I had anything to do with the Colonial Office.

16540. Do not you think that if when the emancipation took place, stringent laws had been been passed with regard to sales of land, and with regard to squatting, and also with regard to contracts, the British West Indies and the Mauritius would have stood in a very different position from what they do now?—I think it very probable that the British West Indies would have been in a different position. I do not think it applies so much to the Mauritius; but still, in whatever extent it does apply, the observation may be made, and I think there are papers before this Committee which will show that it was urged upon the attention both of the Government and West India body, and urged by Lord Grey himself at that time; but, from whatever cause, his views did not prevail, and those measures were not taken.

16541. Do you think, upon the whole, that the British West Indies, as far as your knowledge goes, are in as good a position now to contend against the slave-holding colonies as they were in 1838?—I do not think I can make any comparison as to their power of competing with slave-holding colonies, though I freely admit the present state of everybody and everything connected with the West India colonies at this moment is that of distress.

16542. What

16542. What I am asking is this, is not it within your knowledge that the negroes upon their first emancipation did not demand those high wages that they did subsequently; and if those laws had been carried out, and emancipation had been met with immigration, would the planters ever have had to contend with these high wages, which it is now so difficult to pull down?—I do not know whether that result would have followed, but I freely admit, as I have already stated, that I think there might have been many useful measures accompanying emancipation, which would have prevented a good deal of the mischief which has arisen. The rate of wages must depend, of course, upon the supply of labour; whether that would have been increased or not, I am not prepared to say; but I think it would have been wise at that time to have looked to an increase of labour, because, of course, upon the termination of slavery, females and children, and even the male labourers, would not labour to the same extent as they had done.

16543. From the evidence given before this Committee, if you have glanced at it at all, you must be aware that at the first outset of freedom the negroes did not ask those high wages which they afterwards demanded, and that it was only by degrees that they discovered how completely they were the masters of their former masters, and that the sugar planters were at the mercy of the labourers. Therefore, what you are asked is this: the labourers having now learned their power, and having enjoyed those high wages for so long a period of time, and having got possession of so much wealth as they have generally, a great many of them having become possessed of land, and I presume you do not think it would be possible to take any steps to dispossess the labourers of their lands, or to put any exclusive tax upon the creoles or negroes, do you think that the planters are in as good a position now to start afresh as they would have been in 1834, had they then been at once assisted by permission to get free labour where they could, and if they had also been assisted with good vagrant labour and industrial laws of various kinds?—I can hardly add more than what I have already stated. I think many measures might have been, and were suggested at that time, which, if adopted, would have tended to prevent some of the evils that have arisen. The rate of the wages, one source of evil, is, I hope, likely to lessen, but I am inclined to say, that I think it has been one of the evil consequences of high protection to lead to a high rate of wages. I do not wish to enter into a controversy on that point, but I state it rather as a matter of fact, which I find recorded in the evidence taken before this Committee.

16544. Did not that protection exist equally before emancipation?—Yes, but under very different circumstances; there was no such thing as a rate of wages then. Of course you must consider that part of the cost of production under very different circumstances.

16545. Then your opinion is, that when those creoles see that the planter cannot afford to grow sugar at a profit with those high wages, they will consent to a reduction of wages?—I think that in some cases the reduction has already commenced, and I believe that it must go on.

16546. It was the statement of Lord Grey, I believe, on the 7th of February, that a reduction had taken place in wages in British Guiana, which was equivalent in itself to the importation of 25,000 emigrants?—I do not recollect that particular statement. I think he stated then, and I have no doubt upon good authority, that there was beginning then a very considerable reduction of wages, and I have no doubt there must be a very considerable reduction.

16547. The last despatches you have laid before us go to show that with the exception of a few of the immigrants, none of the labourers have returned to their employment?—The statement I think that was read was founded upon representations then made to Lord Grey, and there certainly was a hope and expectation that the reduction recommended and suggested, suggested by parties connected with sugar cultivation, and supported by the Governor, would have been peacefully and quietly submitted to. I do not think, however, that events have shown that that has been the case. On the contrary, the question is left, I think, in a very unsettled state; still a little reduction has taken place, and to a certain extent it will continue.

16548. Lord Grey stated on the 7th of February that a contemplated reduction of 25 per cent. in wages had taken place, and that it had been met cheerfully and in perfectly good humour by the negroes, who would submit to the reduction of wages when they saw it was necessary; but who, when they saw

B. Hawes, Esq.

M.P.

5 April 1848.

B. Hawes, Esq.

M. P.

5 April 1848.

the planters anxiously competing for their labour, would endeavour to get the last farthing they could obtain, and he goes on to say that this is equal to the immigration of 25,000 labourers; but it is not the fact that all those expectations have been entirely disappointed?—No. I do not think that they have been entirely disappointed. I do not think the whole reduction has been realized at present; I think the question is in an unsettled state, but I am still of opinion that reduction has begun and will continue.

16549. Lord Grey lays great stress upon, and we have heard in this Committee that great mischief has arisen from the system of one planter seducing the labourers of his neighbour; do not you think that if those contracts, monthly contracts or six weekly contracts for wages were to be encouraged instead of discouraged, and that they were to be accompanied by some law making it penal in the planters to seduce their neighbours' labourers from them, it would go a long way to secure to the planters continuous labour?—I have no faith in contracts for labour; I think it tends to engender a bad relation between the employer and the labourer. It is an opinion which I submit with deference, but I confess I would much rather see wages take their natural level. I think they never will take their natural level while any artificial stimulus is given to prices through protective duties.

16550. We have had it given in evidence that the stipendiary magistrates among others had discouraged the system of contracts, and that they did so from the first period of the emancipation of the slaves. Do you not think that without forcing the labourers to enter into contracts, which would be out of the question so far as regarded the old labourers, if a system of entering into contracts were encouraged, and the labourers were paid monthly, by which means the planters would have the whole of a month's wages hanging over the labourers, that would secure to the planters more continuous labour?—No contract will make a labourer an efficient, cheerful, and willing labourer, and therefore I have no faith in contracts entered into for that purpose. It was conceded, I think, by Mr. Gladstone, when he was in office, that contracts might be entered into, I believe, for two or three years, I forget which; but I am not aware that that has been adopted, and I repeat that I do not think it would be found so beneficial as many suppose.

16551. Is there any objection on the part of the Colonial Office to encourage the making of such contracts and such laws?—I have already stated that Mr. Gladstone conceded that point, and Lord Grey has also concurred in his views whenever the question has come before him. I do not imagine that either Mr. Gladstone or Lord Grey, from what I know of their opinions, would think it necessary to encourage the system of entering into contracts; they have rather yielded to it as the general wish that was entertained by the colonies, I think, than acceded to it from any opinion of its efficacy or utility.

16552. Lord Grey, in his speech in Parliament, laid great stress upon central manufactories; do you know whether he is satisfied now that central manufactories are not practicable?—I am not able to state Lord Grey's opinions upon that subject; I think it is a matter entirely of commercial enterprise to decide; there is no doubt that central factories might be the means of improving the sugar manufacture, but whether it would answer, in a commercial point of view, I do not pretend to give an opinion.

16553. To revert to those Orders in Council, when the stipendiary magistrates were imposed upon the colonies, was not there a circular from the Secretary of State to all the Governors of the colonies, instructing them to disallow any legislation which was inconsistent with the Orders of Council imposed upon all the colonies?—I am not able to answer that question; it refers to matters which occurred many years ago. I cannot give any precise information to the Committee on that point.

16554. That I believe has never been revoked; and if so, in point of fact, is it not altogether annulling the whole of the charter of the colonies?—I think your Lordship labours under some mistake. If you refer to the Order in Council of 1838, as I have already stated, the colonial legislature had full power to alter and amend it.

16555. That Order in Council still remains in full force as regards Africa, does not it?—It has no practical application to any of our establishments in Africa, I think.

16556. Not to our establishments; but the Order in Council forbids the entering

entering into any contracts except where the British flag flies, or where there are British authorities?—I think it goes further than that, but I should not like to speak without referring to the Order itself; but, generally speaking, contracts have been permitted when they have been made in the colony in which the labourers arrived; the only other limitation as to contracts is the time for which they may be entered into.

16557. That is the mischievous part of the regulation, that the planter cannot go to the country where he finds the emigrant, and enter into a contract for a period of years?—I believe that that still, to a certain extent, remains; how far it has been modified by ordinances passed since by various colonies, I cannot say; but I think, on broad grounds of general policy, certainly long contracts have not been permitted to be made in the colony in which the labourer is to be employed.

16558. The effect of that is, that the importer of the emigrants has no security that he will ever be repaid for the risk and cost of importing them?—I have no doubt that it does interfere with the importation of labour. There are many other considerations, however, which influenced that policy, which I do not think it necessary at all to go into.

16559. That is one of the great questions of inquiry before the Committee?—Yes; but I cannot do more than admit the fact, that I think it is an impediment; whether it would be wise to remove that impediment with reference to the protection which you should throw round that class of labourers who are likely to become labourers in our colonies, imported from distant possessions, is a matter upon which I do not give any opinion at this moment. But you must always remember this, that if you seek to acquire too much power over the class of labourers whom you import from distant possessions in the world, you may create a strong feeling against emigration itself.

16560. Is not it better to have no emigration at all, than an emigration which will not pay the cost of carrying out its execution?—I can hardly answer that without going into the whole of the question. I take it that emigration is still found to answer to a certain extent, and that that is not the cause of its being a failure; many other causes operate, and not that alone.

16561. Is there not proof in every one of the colonies, both as regards the coolies, the Africans, and the Portuguese, that all the vagabondage, and most of the immorality, has dated its commencement from the expiration of the first period of the contracts?—I think it has; but I am not sure whether from the longer contracts which you have adverted to.

16562. As far as the coolies and Africans are concerned, we have it in evidence that a coolie the first year can only dig 40 cane-holes; the second year, 60 cane-holes; the third year he makes 80 cane-holes; does not it appear to be consistent only with equity that the man who is at the risk and at the cost of importing him, and of educating him, should also have the full advantage of the compensation which his perfect labour would give?—No doubt it is so, but it is not very easy to enforce and secure all those advantages; because, even though you had the power of making contracts in Madeira, for example, it does not follow that having made your contracts you could ensure efficient and willing labourers under them. It involves the making of such very stringent regulations as I think would tend to defeat the very object in view; and therefore it must not be looked at singly and simply; all the circumstances must be taken into consideration. I do not think that contracts afford generally that security which you want to obtain for the efficient performance of labour; but that is an opinion that I am perfectly ready to modify and alter; it is merely an individual opinion.

16563. All your evidence goes to this, as far as it does go, that those who have been under contract have worked well as long as they have been under contract; have you any information to give to the Committee contrary to that?—Yes; I think there is information of a contrary character, though I have not at this moment very accurate knowledge of it. I think in Australia, where the same in principle was acted on, that evidence might be found in support of this view.

16564. Not referring to Australia, but strictly confining yourself to the sugar and coffee planting colonies and possessions, is there, as far as your knowledge goes, any example of the long contracts having failed to procure the continuous work for which the planters so much yearn?—No; nor do I think there is sufficient evidence that those long contracts have secured those results.

B. Hawes, Esq.
M. P.

5 April 1848.

16565. That is the result of the evidence before us?—I do not think there is sufficient evidence of that.

16566. Do not you place any faith, for example, in Lord Harris's despatches?—I should place great faith in Lord Harris's despatches.

16567. We have had laid before this Committee copies not only of Lord Grey's correspondence with Lord Harris, but Lord Harris's despatches on the subject of those regulations?—Yes; I must just repeat what I said, that I still think the subject is open to doubt; I do not think the evidence is sufficient to justify the general conclusion which you draw.

16568. It is stated here that the greatest immorality prevailed, and that the coolies were wandering about in a state of obscene nudity till those regulations suggested by Major Fagan, and confirmed by Lord Harris, were carried into effect, and that the benefits accruing from them were most extensive?—Yes; and there was great discontent, I think, at the same time.

16569. They seem to have answered perfectly in making the coolies perform their duties, and in doing away with the vagrancy that had grown out of the contrary system?—With great submission, I think not; they were not in operation long enough, and I do not think the evidence would justify any such general conclusion.

16570. Does Lord Harris give any statement confirming what you are now saying?—I do not recall it to my memory; but the fact is obvious enough that we have not had the contract system tried sufficiently to justify any opinion upon its failure; I think on general principles it is unsound, and probably would not succeed.

16571. In the course of to-morrow I presume you will be able to lay before this Committee copies of those despatches?—Yes; if you will refer me to any particular despatches that you want.

16572. They are the despatches which passed between Lord Grey and Lord Harris upon the subject of those regulations; I wish to ask you, has it come about that those despatches which were moved for on the 26th of November were not laid upon the table of the House of Commons till, I think, the 7th of February?—All that I have to say upon the subject is this; that the despatches which were moved for were prepared for Parliament, and ready to be laid on the table, but just before the meeting of Parliament fresh despatches of very great importance came, and a great effort was made to print them in time to deliver them with the others; but a delay arose over which we had no control at all, and that was the only cause of their being delivered the day but one after Parliament met.

16573. I had given a very long notice of motion on the subject of the West Indies and the Mauritius for the 3d of February, a notice of motion having also been given in the House of Lords; was not it of the utmost importance that we should be put in possession of those despatches before the debate, instead of five hours after it?—As I have stated, further despatches arrived just before the meeting of Parliament, and I attached so much importance to them that I made an effort to lay the despatches for which you had moved, along with those fresh papers, on the table of the House, and I hoped to have done it, but I was disappointed by parties over whom I had no control; I mean by those engaged in the copying and printing.

16574. But, however, those despatches in many points contradict the statement that Lord Grey made in the House of Lords, the day before or on that same day?—I do not admit that they did that.

16575. Lord Grey stated in the House of Lords that nobody abhorred slavery more than he did; and that if he considered that the measure of 1846 would in any way stimulate slavery, no one should be more opposed to it; is not Lord Grey in possession now of despatches proving that the slave trade has been very much stimulated, and very much increased?—I have no doubt that the slave trade has increased, but to what extent I do not know; and to what extent it is due to the Act of 1846 may be a matter of doubt.

16576. Will you lay before this Committee Governor M'Donald's despatch, of October the 1st, 1847?—Yes; I will ascertain whether it can be laid before the Committee; I dare say it can.

16577. It is the despatch in which he concludes by stating with respect to the suppression of the slave trade, that it must be taken, he is afraid, as proving that the trade itself is no way diminished, but on the contrary that it has been prosecuted

prosecuted, if possible, with more vigour than ever. Do you know whether Lord Grey is still of the same opinion as he was on the 7th of February, when he stated that instead of the prospects of Jamaica being bad, there was no part of the British dominions in which there were so favourable prospects for the investment of capital as there were in Jamaica at that moment?—No doubt Lord Grey is quite able to explain and defend his own opinions, without relying on aid so feeble as mine.

16578-9. Lord Grey says, he believes that a man going to Jamaica would have a greater prospect of realizing a fortune in Jamaica than in any other field of investment; you cannot express any opinion on that?—I decline to pronounce any opinion on the point; the grounds on which Lord Grey formed that opinion he is quite able to maintain and defend.

16580. Do you know what space the East India Company prescribe for sepoys in the Company's transport ships?—No, I am not aware.

16581. Mr. *M. Gibson*.] You have been asked about the restriction on the immigration ships; with regard to the other ships that you employ in carrying produce, have there been any statements from the colonies that the restrictions of the Navigation Laws are injurious to the interest of the colonies?—I believe papers have been laid before Parliament, showing that from various colonies representations have been made that the restrictions imposed by the Navigation Laws are prejudicial to their trade.

16582. Sir *E. Burton*.] With respect to the coolie immigration, was not it the fact that at first, after the emancipation, there were very great abuses connected with the immigration of coolies into the Mauritius?—There were not any coolies, I think, imported into the Mauritius at that early period, but I do not remember any of the circumstances connected with that.

16583. Do you happen to remember that a motion was made, I think, by Dr. Lushington, in the House of Commons, and that the immigration of coolies was stopped by the House of Commons, against the wish of the Government, in consequence of the abuses that had taken place in the introduction of coolies into the Mauritius?—I thought you said into the West Indies.

16584. I am speaking of the Mauritius; that this immigration was prevented by the House of Commons, I believe in opposition to the wishes of the Government, in consequence of the abuses that had taken place?—It was.

16585. And that the five years' contracts which had existed up to that time were stopped, in consequence of the great complaints that were made that those people were very much ill-used?—So far as I recollect there were very great abuses, which were subsequently inquired into by the East India Company; the result of the inquiry was laid before Parliament, and certainly it tended to show very great abuses and sufferings on the part of the coolies.

16586. And great complaints were made at that time by parties at home, and also by the East India Company, of those abuses?—Certainly.

16587. With respect to the supply of labour, while Lord Grey is willing to secure it, I suppose the Committee may understand that the Government are quite determined that whatever immigration is permitted it shall be considered as entirely free?—There are already stated, I think, in the papers before Parliament, the opinions of the Government upon that point, and I think they are explicit upon that point.

16588. Mr. *Goulburn*.] Can you explain the reason why we have no accounts in the papers laid before Parliament, for Jamaica, of the character of those from other colonies?—I imagine you allude to the blue book, to the annual account from Jamaica.

16589. There is no account of the state of the island, and in the other cases?—That is generally comprised in the annual report called the blue book. The fact is, that we have not received it.

16590. Does not the Governor write despatches to the Colonial Office on the subject of the state of the island, besides that one particular paper, in the course of the year?—Yes certainly; but I am not aware of any despatches from him of any importance which have been withheld from this Committee.

16591. We have received from other colonies very considerable details as to the state of those colonies, and as to the prospects of agriculture; but from Jamaica I can find nothing of the kind?—Until very recently, I think there has been no such general despatch received; that despatch is now printing for this Committee; I ought to add that the Governor has been in the island a very short time.

B. Hawes, Esq.

M. P.

5 April 1848.

16592. *Chairman.*] That is preparing, is it?—There is a despatch, but still not of the nature to which the Right honourable Gentleman alludes; however, whatever we have will be furnished.

16593. Do you know anything of Mr. Pickwoad, a witness, whom we had here?—I do not know him; I have seen him.

16594. He stated that he was at the head of the police in Antigua; is that so?—I really do not know anything about him.

16595. You have seen him at the Colonial Office?—I have seen him, I think, twice; I forget upon what occasions he came; but I have seen him twice, I think.

Benjamin Buck Greene, Esquire, called in; and further Examined.

B. B. Greene, Esq.

16596. *Chairman.*] WE had Mr. Pickwoad before us on Friday last; and referring to your last examination, Mr. Pickwoad in his evidence states that he supposes the increased expenses in 1837, as compared with 1836, upon the Nicola Town estate, which you managed, arose from your successor, Mr. Davy, being a bad manager. Is that your opinion of the case?—In the first place Mr. Davy was not my successor; I was succeeded by my brother, Mr. Henry Charles Greene, in the management of that estate, and he continued in the management of it until his death in August 1840. Mr. Davy acted as his overseer, for about five months, I think, of 1837; my brother then promoted him to the management of the Farm estate, upon the other side of the island. As to the increased expenses of 1837, as compared with 1836, they are to be accounted for by the hurricane which occurred on the 2d of August 1837. I will read to the Committee my brother's letter, informing us of the occurrence. It is dated, St. Kitts, 4th of August 1837. "My dear Benjamin,—It is with feelings which I cannot describe that I sit down to write this letter; since writing to you on the first instant, we have experienced a most destructive gale; it commenced about 10 o'clock, a. m., on the 2d, and continued until three o'clock in the afternoon. I am truly sorry to inform you that the 'Michael' went on shore, and she now is stranded off the Pond estate; she parted both cables, and Captain Kidson, to prevent her from going on the rocks and being broken to pieces, hoisted the fore-topmast stay-sail; she is lying now in a bed of sand. Captain Kidson has appointed Mr. Barnes, the agent, to do the best he can for all parties concerned; she was surveyed yesterday by Captains Striker, Moffat, and Carter, who recommended that she should be lightened, as they could not report the condition of the ship, or whether it was practicable to get her off until that was done, which of course will be proceeded with as speedily as possible. She had three feet water in her hold at 10 o'clock, but it was reduced by the pumps to 27 inches at three o'clock in the afternoon. The surveyors reported the ground tier to be damaged; I sincerely hope the ship, freight, and produce are fully insured. There were on board at the time she went on shore, $\frac{B}{N} \frac{C}{T}$ 71 hogsheads, and four tierces sugar, and 28 puncheons molasses, $\frac{B}{S} \frac{C}{F}$ 20 hogsheads, 16 puncheons molasses, $\frac{S}{P}$ 51 hogsheads sugar, 22 puncheons molasses, $\frac{B}{T} \frac{O}{H}$ 2 puncheons molasses; 45 barrels one puncheon molasses. The 'Helen Jane' is safe; she is reported as having been seen with her bow-sprit carried away. The 'Julius' went on the rocks at Rawlin's Bay, and in less than 10 minutes after she struck was all in fragments, all hands saved. This estate (Nicola Town), has suffered severely, more than any other that I have heard of in the island; we have lost part of the roof of the lower work boiling-house, stripped part of the boarding and shingles at the upper works, two trash-houses, a pen, shed, and a great many shingles stripped off Molineux's works; the windows were barred up, but the wind broke the bars and forced open the shutters. The canes have suffered very much indeed, more so than in the gale of 1835, although the wind was not so strong; every thing looks in a deplorable condition. The other estates have not suffered materially."

16597. In point of fact, when Mr. Pickwoad stated that the increased expense was owing to a bad manager, Mr. Davy, that fact was incorrect altogether?—That is incorrect. Mr. Davy did not manage the estate until the end of 1840.

16598. He did not succeed you, and the increased expenditure arose entirely out

out of the circumstance of the hurricane, instead of the bad management?—*B. B. Greene, Esq.*
Precisely so. I beg leave to state to the Committee that I was in hopes Mr. Pickwoad would have been here. The honourable Member for Westbury, Mr. Wilson, was kind enough to send me a copy of Mr. Pickwoad's evidence on Saturday last, and when I returned it to him I wrote a note requesting that he would inform Mr. Pickwoad that I should probably be re-examined, for that his statement contains several inaccuracies. I again wrote to Mr. Wilson yesterday, to tell him that I was to be re-examined to-day, and requested him, as Mr. Pickwoad was his witness (or rather, I believe, that of the Colonial Office), to acquaint him with the fact. I do not see him in the room, otherwise I should have asked your Lordship to have allowed him to have been near to me, to hear what I have to say, as I regret to say I shall have to contradict much of his evidence.

5 April 1848.

16599. *Mr. Goulburn.*] The hurricane was in August 1837?—The hurricane was in August 1837.

16600. *Chairman.*] As it is not true that Mr. Davy was the manager at all, I ask you whether it is true that your brother was?—Until he died in 1840 he was. Up to that period he conducted the estate with very great ability. On my brother's death Mr. Diggins took charge of that estate in August 1840. But we had such confidence in Mr. Davy as a manager, (he was then on one of the estates under our charge), that we sent out a power of attorney to Mr. Davy to take possession of the Nicola Town estate, and to manage it from that time.

16601. He had been engaged under your brother, and you had been acquainted with him in the island?—Yes; previously, when I resided in the island, Mr. Davy was for about a year or a year and a half one of my managers, and I therefore placed him under my brother; I intended to promote him as soon as an opportunity occurred, because I considered he was a very good manager and an industrious man.

16602. Mr. Pickwoad stated that he was a notoriously bad manager throughout the island; you, on the contrary, found him to be one of the best managers you had?—I did so. Mr. Pickwoad stated that my brother was recalled; that is not the case, for he died upon the estate; but I have another brother, William, who had nothing whatever to do with that estate; he was living with my brother at the time of his death; soon after which he came to England, but went out again, and was only on the estate as a mere looker-on for a few months, until he took the management of another property, but in consequence of his health failing him he took his departure for England.

16603. Your father had a dispute afterwards with Mr. Davy?—Yes; the fact was, that about that period all the West India estates with which we were connected (and everybody else too), were doing remarkably badly; the free-labour system was working exceedingly ill; and engendered a good deal of dissatisfaction; we therefore thought changing the management rather desirable; but we might have been wrong in dismissing Mr. Davy. I do not believe that we got a better manager afterwards; in confirmation of the opinion that he was not a notoriously bad manager, I would mention that Messrs. Manning & Anderdon, soon after his dismissal, purchased an estate expressly to give Mr. Davy the management of it. With your permission I will read my authority for that, signed by those gentlemen themselves. "April 1st, 1848. Dear Sir,—In answer to your note of this morning, we have the pleasure to say, that after the late John Davy left the management of your estates in Nicola Town parish, in St. Kitts, we purchased a property in Basseterre parish, principally because from our long acquaintance with him, we felt confidence in his skill and experience as a planter. He died shortly after he assumed the management, and therefore we cannot speak very decidedly of his system; but his correspondence in detail, on every point of plantership, is a convincing proof of his zealous attention to our interests, and of his general knowledge of chemical agriculture, &c., for which his early education had particularly fitted him." I will read another portion of that letter presently, when I come to the part of the evidence upon which it treats.

16604. Can you account for the great increase of expenditure of the Nicola Town estate, in 1843, as compared with 1842?—Yes; in 1843 the island was visited by a very severe earthquake; and with the permission of the Committee

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

I will read Mr. Davy's letter on that awful occasion. It is an extract from a letter, dated St. Kitts, 21st February 1843. He says, "I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your last letter, dated January 16th, which arrived here on the 11th instant. You will no doubt have received intelligence by the Actæon (of which opportunity I was not aware until too late), of the frightful visitation which we have lately experienced. To attempt a description of the late earthquake will defy any pen to form even a sketch. You will easily imagine the horror we all experienced for full three minutes when the earth was like the troubled sea, and we could not keep our feet; the buildings tossing to and fro, the falling chimnies and walls, the subterraneous and unnatural noises from the earth, animals, &c., were sufficient to strike the most sacred awe into the mind, together with the expected moment of being swallowed up and lost for ever. It began at about a quarter past 10 in the forenoon of the 8th of February, and, what is singular, exactly 10 years to the day since we had these then considered awful shocks." I was in the island at the time of the former earthquake. "The only difference being that the last earthquake was at a quarter past 10 forenoon, and the latter half past eight in the evening. As you will naturally suppose, great injury has been inflicted on all estates, but particularly Nicola Town and Cayon parishes; the other parts of the island, except Basseterre, have suffered but slightly. You will perceive that the Nicola Town estates, Mansion and Hope, have all suffered severely; and what is worse, mason labour is so scarce that some time will elapse before we can refit. Building lime is not to be obtained, except creole, and that at a tremendous price, which is quite unfit for chimnies; we are therefore in a very serious state. There will be, I am afraid, little chance of the 'Actæon' meeting the 'B. Greene,' but if she does we will require at least 40 hogsheads of lime at Nicola Town directly; if gone, it will be almost necessary for you to ship by any vessel passing this port a supply to serve all your estates, for there will be no chance of obtaining a supply in the West Indies, as nearly all the Leeward Islands may be said to be in ruins. I shall now begin with the injuries sustained on the Nicola Town estate, from which you will be able to form some idea of the repairs that must be immediately undertaken. Phillipps' upper works: coppers and engine chimney in a very shattered state from the foundation; about 15 feet down, may serve for two or three months; indeed it is a God-send it is standing, as otherwise we could not make a hogshead of sugar for months; it takes, however, extra fuel. A new chimney can be built at leisure in a more convenient spot, so as to be in a line with the coppers, especially with the new boiler, which would then receive the copper fire with full effect, and proceed in a direct line with the chimney; so far here we are lucky. The boiling-house is uninjured, which I only attribute to the repairs I made to the walls when I raised it three feet, and to the strong and beautiful new roof over it. The airing-house wall to the north partially down inside, and little rent; this, however, is not of much consequence. The liquor loft was repaired last year, and luckily it was, for the three (wooden) horses, with 15 butts of liquor, were thrown down and lost. If the old floors had been standing, all must have went into the rum cellar. The horses were quite new except one: this is a loss of four puncheons rum. The horse stable is much cracked, and will require repairs directly. The horse-pen walls part thrown down, and remainder much shattered. The dwelling-house uninjured. Plowman's oven and kitchen down; Phillipps' lower works; this beautiful chimney is no more; there is a small portion still standing in a tottering state. I shall begin to clear away to-day. A new chimney must be immediately built, as I shall want to grind here in about six weeks; however, I must grind as much as I can above until this is ready. The back wall is projecting over, and must be pulled down from top to bottom: part of the roof broken in by the chimney; engine shade a little injured. As this accident has happened, I shall embrace the chance of making a great alteration, which will I have no doubt cause a great saving of fuel, by hanging the boiler in a line with the copper, in fact, putting it where the old chimney stood, and carry the chimney out in a direct line where it will meet a solid foundation, which the old one had not got. This will be indeed a long and expensive job, but it must be done. I cannot think of building the chimney with creole lime, as it would not last long; it may answer for the back wall and other jobs, which I shall begin instantly about.—Molyneux." That is another part of the same estate. "The chimney here is nearly down, but

but it is not required. The pen walls are in a very dangerous state. The pond here, within a foot of being full, was as it were lifted up on one end, and a large flood of water poured out, so as to overflow the house yard. The stone walls much injured; house escaped. The stone store on the bay fell in, and is a mass of ruins. The old upper works partially thrown down. Spooner's old windmill at Upper Works entirely thrown down; Spooner's low windmill cracked in two, and other serious injuries; the chimneys partially down, and works otherwise injured. This, however, although a loss, will not inconvenience us for the present." The rest of the letter relates to other matters. I have the Island account with me, which has been sworn to by the agent in the island as being correct, and he assigns to the account a separate expenditure on account of the earthquake. It is headed, "Expenses incurred in repair of the buildings, &c. from the earthquake, amounting to 726 *l.* 16 *s.* 11 *d.*; expenses incurred in repair of Molineux House, 175 *l.* 15 *s.* 10 *d.*; expense incurred in repair of windmill, 94 *l.* 13 *s.*; making a total of 996 *l.* 14 *s.* 1 *d.*," in the year 1843. I beg to state that in 1844 the earthquake caused an additional expense in the building of a stone store, which was built in that year at the cost of 365 *l.*, or 1,285 dollars. I ought to mention that the increased expenditure in 1842 is accounted for by the manager in consequence of his having to put a new roof to the boiling-house, and adding three feet to the height of the walls, when so good an opportunity occurred.

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

16605. Are you still of opinion that the returns from this estate exhibit a fair comparison as to the cost of producing sugar under the various changes that have taken place, and have you compared that with Mr. Pickwood's statement?—Yes; and I consider that this estate does form a very good comparison for the rest of the island, where the estates were properly managed; but not where they were mismanaged as the estate of Mr. Pickwood was.

16606. Mr. Pickwood states that the maintenance of slaves costs about 1,000 *l.* a year, and he thinks with that sum the Godwin estate could be worked so as to produce 140 hogsheads a year. Mr. Pickwood did manage his own estate, I believe?—Mr. Edwin Pickwood managed the estate for his mother, which he calls "our large family estate". We shall see what our large family estate makes. I have got returns during Mr. Pickwood's management, and I may just as well say that I have his original accounts in my pocket, signed by himself, from which this statement that I am now going to put in has been extracted. Beginning with 1838. His total expenses in that year were 2,085 *l.*; the quantity of sugar made was 50 hogsheads, equal to 37 tons. In 1839 the expenses were 2,216 *l.*, and the total make was 74 hogsheads, or 54 tons. In 1840 the expenses were 2,447 *l.* and he made 49 hogsheads of sugar, or 36 tons. The average expenses of those three years amount to 2,249 *l.* I may state that the crop which we found on the ground for 1841, which Mr. Pickwood planted, (we took possession on the 21st of September 1840, consequently the entire crop of 1841 was upon the ground, and a portion of the crop for 1842 ought to have been also,) made 25 hogsheads, or 18 tons, leaving on the average, during Mr. Edwin Pickwood's management, a crop of 50 hogsheads, or 36 tons, at an average cost of 2,249 *l.*

16607. How much a hundredweight does that make, or a ton?—I have not by me a return for his molasses and rum; but I estimate them at 4 *l.* 10 *s.* a ton upon the sugar. After deducting at the rate of 4 *l.* 10 *s.* a ton from the expenditure, I make the expenses 1,983 *l.*; the average production of sugar, 36 tons, would be 55 *l.* 3 *s.* a ton on the island of St. Kitts, as the cost during Mr. Edwin Pickwood's management.

[The Witness delivered in the Statement, which is as follows:]

ST. KITTS.

GODWIN ESTATE.

STATEMENT of CULTIVATION, EXPENSES, and CROPS, during the Management of the Estate by Mr. Edwin Pickwood.

	Labour.	Other Island Expenses.	Total Island Expenses.	Supplies from England.	Total Expenses.	Old Cattle, and Sundries Sold in the Island.	Net Expenses.	Sugar Made.	Equal to, in Tons Weight.	Poncheons Molasses.	Poncheons Rum.						
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	Hhds.	Tons.	Puns.	Puns.						
1838 - - - - -	331	1,534	1,865	220	2,085	267	1,818	50	37	18	15						
1839 - - - - -	750	1,106	1,856	360	2,216	19	2,197	74	54	31	17						
1840 - - - - -	744	1,287	2,031	416	2,447	26	2,421	49	36	19	12						
Average of Three Years of Expenses - - - - }	-	1,309	1,917	392	2,249	-	2,145										
Crop for the year 1841, planted under Mr. Pickwood's management - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	19	13	6						
Average of Four Years Crops - - - - - }	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	36	20	13						
<p>Allowing 4 l. 10 s. per ton upon the sugar for the rum and molasses, the average cost of production was 55 s. 2 d. per cwt.</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Average expenses of three years</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£. 2,145</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">£. 4. 10 s. per ton on 36 tons</td> <td style="text-align: right;">162</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">1,983</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Average production of sugar, 36 tons, or 55 l. 3 s. a ton.</p>												Average expenses of three years	£. 2,145	£. 4. 10 s. per ton on 36 tons	162		1,983
Average expenses of three years	£. 2,145																
£. 4. 10 s. per ton on 36 tons	162																
	1,983																
From 12 August to 31 December 1837 - - - - -	-	420	420	1,368	1,788	13	1,775	45	33	22	24						

16608. Taking Mr. Pickwood's own estimate of the expenses, he would be enabled to produce sugar, he said, in competition with slave-grown sugar?—I have made a calculation from his own figures of the rate which it would cost Mr. Pickwood. He stated that with 1,000 l. a year spent upon labour on that estate, he could produce at the present moment at the rate of 140 hogsheads of sugar per annum; although, when he managed it before, he did not produce 50.

16609. Those were hogsheads of 14 cwt?—His hogsheads averaged 14½; his father's averaged 12; therefore, the 140 hogsheads will weigh in round numbers 100 tons; the labour would cost 10 l. per ton. Other island expenses, which averaged during Mr. Pickwood's management 1,309 l. per annum, I allow him a reduction to 1,200 l., although it is a much larger crop; that will be 12 l. per ton. Supplies from England upon a moderate calculation, for such a crop, for coals, &c., I put at 250 l. a year, which is 2 l. 10 s. a ton, making the cost in Saint Kitts 24 l. 10 s. per ton; add thereto for freight, insurance, and sale charges 7 l. 10 s. per ton, that will bring it to 32 l. a ton in bond—but from that we must deduct the value of the rum and molasses which are obtained from that crop, which I also estimate at 4 l. 10 s. per ton. That leaves a net cost for the sugar laid down in London of 27 l. 10 s., without one farthing of interest or profit to compete against slave-labour sugar (which you will have to do if this Act of 1846 stands), put down in London at a great profit to the Brazilian and Cuban at 18 l. a ton. I will take Mr. Pickwood's own figures; he says, that for 1,000 l. a year expended in labour, he could produce 140 hogsheads of sugar per annum, upon the Godwin estate; although, when he managed it before he did not produce 50. The weight of the hogsheads during Mr. Pickwood's management, averaged in England 14½ cwt.; therefore, 140 hogsheads will weigh 101 tons. Call it in round numbers 100 tons.

Labour

	£.	s.	d.
Labour will therefore cost, per ton	10	-	-
Other Island expenses, which averaged during Mr. P's management 1,309 l., say 1,200 l. a year, or - - - - - } per ton	12	-	-
Supplies from England at a moderate calculation for such a crop, for coals, &c., say 250 l. a year, or }	2	10	-
Cost in St. Kitts - - - - - } £.	24	10	-
Add for freight, insurance, and sale charges - - - - - }	7	10	-
	32	-	-
Less for rum and molasses - - - - -	4	10	-
Total cost laid down in London - - - - - £.	27	10	-

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

16610. Not in London at 18 l. per ton?—Yes; we have the evidence of the four years, when sugar was 18 l. a ton.

16611. What is it now?—Foreign sugar is very little more than that at the present moment.

16612. Now I come to the hogsheads; Mr. Pickwood distinctly speaks of his hogsheads as being equal to tons of 20 cwt.?—Yes, but they are not of that weight.

16613. Have you got an absolute statement upon that head?—I have.

16614. Is that the fact?—Certainly not, for during Mr. E. Pickwood's management the hogsheads did not average more than 14½ cwts. each, and in his father's time I find the average weight of the hogsheads about 12 cwt. and a quarter. As Mr. E. Pickwood instanced his father's management of the Godwin estate as a proof of the success attending upon resident proprietors (which rather surprised me), I wrote to Messrs. Evan Bailie, Sons & Co., of Bristol, who were his merchants from 1827 to 1834, and they kindly favoured me with the following letters and statement of crops annexed; one being dated 31st March, and the other 3d April instant. With permission of the Committee I will read the last first. I regret very much having to bring the private affairs of any individual before the public, but as a great principle is involved in this question, I feel obliged to do so. "Bristol, 3 April 1848.—" In reply to your favour of the 1st instant we have the pleasure of handing you enclosed an extract from Mr. Pickwood's letter to us, written upon the subject of his assuming the management of the Godwin estate, in consequence of the manager's death; and on the other side we have given you the amount of the two crops consigned to us previous to his superintendence, and the results of his exertions and engagements to us up to May 1834, after which we received no produce from him; indeed the sugars for the last year were consigned to Messrs. Reid, Irving & Company, of which we received only the net proceeds. We cannot therefore say positively whether the estate made more than 65 hogsheads of sugar that year or not, but we perfectly recollect our annual disappointments from the late Mr. Pickwood." The enclosure referred to is the copy of an extract of a letter from the late Mr. Pickwood to them, dated St. Christopher, 15 July 1829, and is as follows: "The death of my manager (whose services were invaluable to me) and the failure in my efforts to supply his place by any one in whom I can repose the necessary confidence, have thrown the immediate direction of the estate for the present at least upon myself. I have very reluctantly assumed this duty, inasmuch as it imposes a severer task upon me than I wished to undertake, but when difficulties are to be surmounted personal sacrifices must be disregarded, and I already feel my reward in the diminished expenditure, and in the increased comforts of the people. As to what may be reasonably expected from this property, I can only say that if from its extent, its high condition, the efficiency of its labourers, and the facility with which it may be worked, it cannot meet its engagements, there is not an estate in the island that can; and if I am allowed

B. B. Greene, Esq.
5 April 1848.

to give effect to my own system, I speak confidently of very auspicious results. The whole crop to be consigned to you, as at present, by the decretal order." I find that the crop averaged from the year 1827 to the year 1834, 50 tons per annum; that is the Godwin estate. With regard to the late Mr. Pickwoad I have another letter from Messrs. Evan Baillie, Sons, & Co., dated "Bristol, 31st March 1848:—Sir, In reply to your favour of yesterday, we beg to inform you that during our connexion with the late Mr. Pickwoad, we considered his management of the Godwin estate far from satisfactory, and had we time (this being our packet day), we have no doubt we could find some letters in confirmation of our opinion. The subjoined state of the account, however, which was closed by Mr. Paull's acceptances, will, we trust, be sufficient evidence that the estate did not prosper, and that we are glad to submit to considerable loss in order to close the account.

	£.	s.	d.
On 1st May 1827, the Godwin Estate was indebted to us in the sum of - - - - -	9,053	19	3
Which was increased up to 6th November 1837 to - - -	1,289	17	10
And for this we received Compensation Money - - - - - 4,957 l. 2 s. 3 d.			
And Mr. Paull's acceptances at one, two, three, and four years, amounting together to - - - - - 5,082 l. 14 s. 6 d.			
	10,039	16	9
Leaving a loss to ourselves of - - - - - £.	2,250	1	1

STATEMENT of CROPS at Godwin, from 1827 to 1834, consigned to Messrs. Evan, Baillie, Sons, & Co., from the Godwin Estate, St. Kitts.

	Hogsheads.	Net Average Weight per Hogshead.			Tons.
		Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	
1827-28 - - - - -	136	11	3	28	82
1828-29 - - - - -	140	11	2	11	80
1829-30 - - - - -	107	12	1	10	66
1830-31 - - - - -	30	12	0	20	19
1831-32 - - - - -	28	12	3	21	18
1832-33 - - - - -	70	12	1	20	43
1833-34 - - - - -	65	12	2	13	41
Average per Annum - - - - -	82	12	1	4	50

As Mr. Edwin Pickwoad thought his father (and perhaps it is natural a son should think well of his father) so good a manager, I have obtained the evidence of others besides myself. I had the direction of an estate adjoining Mr. Pickwoad's, and therefore had ample opportunities of informing myself as to the management of the Godwin estate; and from my experience as a planter, I should say most distinctly, that no estate in the island was managed worse, if so badly, as the late Mr. Pickwoad's, during his lifetime. This is what Mr. Charles Adamson says, "My dear Sir,—In reply to your favour, I beg to say that I had frequent opportunities of judging of Mr. Edwin Pickwoad's late father's management of his estates in St. Kitts; I always considered them very badly managed. I also considered the resident proprietors, with few exceptions, conducted their estates much worse than the agents for the absentees. I consider the proprietors of estates in St. Kitts are fortunate in having so many good agents who are doing all that can be done; but it is impossible, without protection, to go on much longer, and I for one must give up the cultivation of my estates, as I am now sinking money very fast." I may state, that this Mr. Charles Adamson went out

out in the year 1819, at which time he introduced ploughs for the first time, and continued to use them thereafter with great success; he was engaged by Mr. Wildman, to manage the very estate which afterwards became my father's, and he was a very successful planter for a number of years, till at length he purchased an estate for himself; he is now living in England retired, having managed his own property for some little time, and that of others, very successfully. Mr. Swindell states, "The late Mr. Pickwoad was not considered a good planter, and I believe was not successful with the Godwin; he was suspended from his offices as Chief Justice and Master in Chancery, I believe, on complaint of the Governor (Colonel Maxwell), and was never reinstated." The rest relates to other matters. As I have used Mr. Swindell's letter, I may state who he is: he was the agent of Lord Combermere for a great number of years, in the island of Barbadoes, and he also was the attorney for a great many absent proprietors, in the island of St. Kitts, and was a very successful one; he afterwards purchased two estates, from which he retired a few years ago, and is now living in England upon his fortune. This gentleman was the first to introduce the cultivation of potatoes into St. Kitts, about 25 years ago, which was attended with immense benefit to the island, first by supplying at a cheap rate food for the negroes, and next in the great improvement afforded by a rotation of crops.

16615. Mr. Pickwoad stated that his father was not indebted a shilling to Messrs. Reid, Irving & Co., have you anything to say upon that?—Yes; I have a letter from Messrs. Reid, Irving & Co., in which they state, "Tokenhouseyard, 4 April 1848. Dear Sir,—In reply to your inquiry, we have to state that the late Mr. R. W. Pickwoad, of St. Kitts, kept an account with us in 1833–34, which resulted in a balance against him of 576 *l.* 18 *s.*; that his son, Mr. Edwin Pickwoad had an account with us, in 1834, which ended with a balance against him of 253 *l.* 9 *s.*; that by agreement both these balances were merged in an account opened in 1835 for Mrs. Pickwoad and Miss Posson (the widow and her sister), on which there came to be a balance due in January 1837, of 951 *l.* 1 *s.* 2 *d.*, when a settlement took place, and part of it consisted in the joint note of those ladies and Mr. Edwin Pickwoad, for 450 *l.*, out of which 310 *l.* 11 *s.* 9 *d.* still remains unpaid." The question was asked Mr. Pickwoad whether his father was not indebted to Messrs. Reid, Irving & Co. 16,000 *l.* or 17,000 *l.*; that appears to have been an error; it should have been his father-in-law. Reid, Irving & Co., further state in their letter, "We were also the agents of Mr. Walter Williamson; he is the father-in-law of Mr. Edwin Pickwoad, who rented the estate called Wingfield Manor from parties in England. Our connexion began by our taking over a debt that he owed to other parties for about 2,500 *l.*, and this increased from 1836 till his death in 1847, when it amounted to 16,966 *l.* 15 *s.* 4 *d.* With the exception of two short visits to England, he resided and managed the estate, and combined with it the cultivation of a small property of his own. We are, &c. Reid, Irving & Co."

16616. Can you put in a comparative statement of what Mr. Pickwoad's estate produced under your management?—I can. The Godwin estate came into the possession of Benjamin Greene & Son, on the 21st September 1840, as having the management of the property. Mr. Davy managed that estate for the first three or four months. Late in 1840 or early in 1841, I cannot recollect which, Mr. Diggins took charge of the property, and has had it ever since. I will put in a statement showing the expense incurred upon the Godwin estate from 1841 to 1847, both inclusive, from which it appears that the total net expenses averaged 1,607 *l.*, producing 67 hogsheads of sugar, or 49 tons upon the average; I deduct from that the value of the rum and molasses, at the rate of 4 *l.* 10 *s.* a ton upon the sugar, in the same way that I did upon Mr. Pickwoad's crop, leaving a net cost upon the average of six crops of 1,387 *l.*, which divided over 49 tons, give 28 *l.* 6 *s.* per ton.

[The following Statement was delivered in:]

S T. K I T T S.

G O D W I N E S T A T E.

STATEMENT of CULTIVATION EXPENSES, and CROPS, since the Estate has been in the hands of Benjamin Greene & Son.

	Labour.	Salaries.	Lumbar.	Animal Stock.	Fodder.	Taxes.	Sundries.	Total Island Expenses.	Supplies from England.	Total Expenses.	Old Cattle, &c., Sold in the Island.	Net Expenses.	Sugar.	Sugar, Net Weight delivered.	Molasses.	Rum.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	Hhd.	Tons.	Punch.	Punch.
1841 - - -	824	260	85	37	44	32	288	1,410	294	1,704	18	1,686	—	—	—	—
1842 - - -	843	260	58	56	25	71	106	1,416	488	1,904	29	1,875	68	49	21	12
1843 - - -	857	259	44	-	7	54	117	1,338	351	1,689	44	1,645	64	47	35	5
1844 - - -	921	260	62	-	13	65	90	1,401	351	1,752	34	1,718	61	44	29	6
1845 - - -	796	233	32	18	8	11	54	1,147	281	1,428	62	1,376	59	44	20	8
1846 - - -	759	235	46	98	8	11	56	1,218	193	1,406	36	1,370	62	44	19	19
1847 - - -	718	285	142	87	12	47	64	1,305	328	1,633	57	1,576	97	66	31	20
Average of the 7 Years of Expense - - -	817	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,319	327	1,645	-	1,607	—	—	—	—
Average of the 6 Years' Crops - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67	49	26	18

Average Expenditure (Net) for 7 Years - - - - -	£	1,607
Less estimated value of Rum and Molasses - - - - -		220
	£.	1,387

Average of 6 Crops - - - - - 49 tons, or 28 1/2 c. per ton.

118 MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE

16617. The result of that is, that even with free labour, under your management, when the estate fell into the hands of a non-resident proprietor, it produced more sugar at a less cost than it did during slavery, under the management of Mr. Pickwoad, the resident proprietor?—Undoubtedly, owing to the notoriously bad management of the late Mr. Pickwoad; because I cannot have it stated without contradiction, that free labour is cheaper than slave labour, unless it is explained in what instance it is so, and how it arises. I am not surprised that it was so on Mr. Pickwoad's estate. I think Mr. E. Pickwoad stated, that there were 15 resident proprietors in the island, which formed an eighth part of the whole. He considered that the great evil with which St. Kitts had to contend, was that of absenteeism, and described the resident planters as doing much better than the agents of absentees. If Mr. Pickwoad had been here, I could have refreshed his memory upon that point, and therefore I am very sorry he is not, because I have brought with me a list of all the resident planters, with the number of estates which they own; I believe every one of those individuals whom I am now about to name, are still resident upon the island; there may be one or two others whom I am not acquainted with, but I have put down on this list that which I know, almost of my own knowledge, at least I am so much in correspondence with St. Kitts, and with the parties coming to and fro, that I know pretty well what is going on. I do not see that there would be any objection whatever to my putting in this list; I have got the names of the proprietors, and the names of the estates, distinguishing those which belong to them, and those which are hired.* From this list, it will appear that there are 22 resident proprietors owning 30 estates; there are also two who are not owners of estates, but rent two, making in all nine estates that are hired by residents. That will be 22 proprietors who are proprietors and renters, and two who are not proprietors, but are renters, making 24 persons who reside and manage 39 properties. I find that he also estimates that 15 form one-eighth part of the island; there are 94 estates now in cultivation in the island of St. Kitts, consequently the residents hold two-fifths of the estates, and the absentees about three-fifths of the estates, and the production of the residents amounts to two-ninths only of the whole produce of the island, taken upon an average of the last five years, while the absentees' estates produce seven-ninths of the whole produce of the island, taken upon an average of the last five years: Mr. Edwin Pickwoad stated that he believed that all the proprietors resident in the island had survived every crisis since 1830. Had that gentleman been here, I would have shown him a list of about 21 names, who did not survive every crisis; because those 21 individuals are now either in a state of considerable poverty and wretchedness, or they have been turned off their estates.

16618. Is that 21 out of the 24?—No, the 24 are still existing. Included in those 21 are some of those whom I have mentioned as being still resident upon their property, but in a very wretched condition. I should first of all ask him if his father, Mr. R. W. Pickwoad, could have been said to have survived every crisis. He died in 1834 greatly in debt. I have mentioned that he was in debt to Messrs. Evan Baillie & Co., and he was in debt to Messrs. Reid, Irving & Co. Now, I will show that he was in debt to Messrs. Manning & Anderdon, which is stated in the concluding part of their letter. They say: "In reply to your question, whether the late Mr. Pickwoad was successful in the management of his estate in St. Kitts, called Godwin, we have too much reason to know that he was not, as he pleaded this as an excuse for his not being able to fulfil a very solemn promise of repaying a considerable sum for plantation supplies, which we were induced to procure for him, on his strong representation that without them he could not realize his next crop; nor have we ever been able to obtain payment from the estate, or his family, who retain possession of it. We are, dear sir, yours faithfully, Manning & Anderdon."

16619. Mr. Pickwoad distinctly states that the cause of the ruin of the island of St. Kitts is, that not one-eighth of all the plantations in the island are cultivated by resident proprietors; is that the fact?—I have already stated that
that

* This list and the proportions will be found at page 121 to be slightly altered.

B. B. Greene, Esq.
5 April 1848.

that is not the fact; that the residents hold two-fifths of the estates of the island in number, and that the absentees hold three-fifths of the estates, and that the sugar produced by the residents only amounts to two-ninths from their two-fifths of the whole island, and the absentees' estates produce seven-ninths of the whole produce of the island, taken upon the average of the last five years. I may state that I cannot give you accurately perhaps what the estates in the possession of the resident proprietors did make; but being acquainted with every one of them, and having had opportunities of hearing of them from day to day, and so forth, I venture to say that that statement is within the mark.

16620. Then the result of this is, that the estates of the non-resident proprietors, in proportion to their size, produce nearly double as much as those of resident proprietors?—Yes.

16621. Is your statement founded upon the acreage of land?—No; mine is calculated numerically.

16622. But you have got the number of acres, have not you?—I have.

16623. When you are speaking of comparing two-fifths with three-fifths, what is it that you mean?—I mean in the number of estates.

16624. Can you give the acreage?—I have the number of acres belonging to each estate, but it would be the work of half an hour or more to get them out so as to show you the result.

16625. But if the acreage of the non-residents is double that of the others; though they are as three-fifths to two-fifths numerically, or if the acreage is four-fifths of the whole, that alters the case?—My opinion is that it is not so; my opinion is that it will be found that those estates, though not so productive, have as much land in proportion as the other estates. I can furnish the Committee with that statement.

Since giving my evidence I have gone carefully over this question, which alters the fractional proportions a little; but the force of my argument is rather increased. The corrected list of residents, showing the acreage, is as follows.

[*The Witness subsequently furnished the following Papers:*]

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING.

ESTATES Owned and Hired by RESIDENTS of the Island of St. Kitts, in 1847; (number of Acres taken from Mr. M'Mahon's Map.)

NAMES of Resident Proprietors or Lessees.	NAMES of Own Estates.	NAMES of Hired Estates.	Cane Land.		Pasture, Mountain, and Waste Land.		TOTAL.		Estimated Annual Average Hogsheads for last Five Years.	
			A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.		
1. Robt Claxton, esq.	Golden Rock, 1	-	130	2 23	18	2 2	149	0 25	100	
Ditto	-	Penitenny 1	126	3 4	59	0 11	185	3 15		
2. J. S. Berridge, esq.	Helden	-	134	1 8	44	3 35	179	1 3	150	
Ditto	-	Greenland 1	135	0 20	28	2 1	163	2 21		
Ditto	-	Dewar's	173	2 23	31	2 24	205	1 7		
Ditto	-	ditto, P. P. - } 1	-	-	43	3 18	43	3 18		
Ditto	-	ditto, M. I. - }	25	3 6	2	0 4	27	3 10		
3. Mrs. Walwyn	Whitegate	-	116	0 11	15	3 30	132	0 1	80	
Ditto	Mount Pleasant } 1	-	180	0 15	86	0 0	266	0 15		
4. H.J. Woodcock, esq.	Pogson's, D. B., 1	-	123	0 11	56	3 2	179	3 13	45	
5. Mrs. Harper	Clay Hill - 1	-	102	2 0	30	1 8	132	3 8	50	
6. G. H. Burt, esq.	Brotherson's	-	205	2 8	70	0 26	275	2 34	70	
Ditto	Leigh	-	82	2 13	5	0 33	87	3 6		
Ditto	-	Nesbitt's -	72	3 20	8	1 19	81	0 39		
Ditto	-	Tullibody -	50	3 8	2	1 35	53	1 3		
7. S. Davis, esq.	Belmont - 1	-	93	0 22	4	0 38	97	1 20	70	
Ditto	Vaughan - 1	-	189	2 23	77	3 34	267	2 17		
8. A. L. French, esq.	Lynch - 1	-	55	3 8	17	2 13	73	1 21	70	
9. Thomas Turner, esq.	Pogson's Cayon 1	-	124	2 39	60	0 28	184	3 27	120	
Ditto	Johnson & Farm, 1	-	76	1 25	26	0 35	102	2 20		
Ditto	-	Lambert's 1	165	0 8	82	0 33	247	1 1	60	
10. C. O. H. Neate, esq.	Goldfrap - } 1	-	161	2 37	123	1 17	285	0 14	50	
Ditto	Camp - } 1	-	139	2 3	37	1 12	176	3 15		
11. George Parsons, esq.	Parsons, D. B., 1	-	13	1 9	6	2 25	19	3 34	50	
12. A. Davoran, esq.	Canada - 1	-	210	1 11	131	1 32	341	3 3	105	
13. Thos. Swanston, esq.	West Farm - 1	-	329	3 9	279	0 32	609	0 1	250	
Ditto	-	Dupny - 1	110	3 32	97	2 25	208	2 17		
Ditto	-	Lavington 1	168	3 3	57	3 38	226	3 1		
Ditto	-	Garvey's - } 1	84	3 1	16	1 6	51	0 7		
Ditto	-	Hart - } 1	97	1 1	16	3 15	114	0 16		
14. Messrs. Wigley & Burt	Otley's, Cayon 1	-	51	1 5	6	2 13	57	3 17	110	
Ditto	Dieppe Bay - } 1	-	111	0 30	93	0 25	204	1 15		
Ditto	Gibbon's - } 1	-	126	2 7	36	1 28	162	3 35		
Ditto	Jerrold's - } 1	-	135	2 36	29	2 6	164	1 2		
Ditto	Browae's - } 1	-	57	0 14	16	3 14	73	3 28		
15. J. E. Tudor, esq.	Baker's - 1	-	71	3 36	13	2 36	85	2 32	90	
Ditto	Conyers' - 1	-	104	0 31	24	3 15	129	0 6		
16. Dr. Cains	Belle Vue - } 1	-	102	2 11	40	0 20	142	2 31	60	
Ditto	Geagan's - } 1	-	88	0 5	24	3 25	112	3 30		
17. J. K. Edmead, esq.	Somersall's - 1	-	120	3 18	17	2 34	138	2 12	15	
18. — Roon, Esq.	Thewald's - 1	-	214	0 33	46	3 8	261	0 1		
Ditto	Frigate Bay - } 1	-	73	1 34	45	2 10	119	0 4	80	
Ditto	- ditto - } 1	-	129	0 37	52	3 26	182	0 23		
19. Dr. Rawlins	Bourke's - 1	-	27	1 8	46	1 34	73	3 2	60	
Ditto	Pump - 1	-	140	0 0	30	2 1	170	2 1		
20. — Osborne, esq.	Convent - 1	-	63	3 21	8	2 16	72	1 37	30	
21. W. Williamson, esq.	Williams' - } 1	-	49	1 39	14	0 4	63	2 3		
Ditto	- - } 1	Wingfield Manor	208	0 15	245	2 4	453	2 19	75	
Ditto	- - } 1	Romey's - 1	139	2 32	57 1/2	1 20	714	0 12		
22. Mrs. Rawlins, now Evelyn, or West India Bank.	Verchild - 1	-	77	3 20	34	2 16	112	1 36	25	
23. T. Tyson's family or Mr. Matthews	Conares - } 1	-	216	0 18	168	2 38	384	3 16	60	
Ditto	Muddy Pont - } 1	-	95	3 7	200	2 35	296	2 2		
Ditto	Greathead's - } 1	-	44	0 38	116	1 15	159	2 13		
G. Amory, esq.	-	Orton - } 1	178	0 22	181	3 8	359	3 30	30	
Ditto	-	Fahie or Wells - } 1	49	2 33	28	2 12	78	1 6		
— Udall, esq.	-	Bayford - } 1	151	2 20	96	3 1	248	1 21	25	
Ditto	-	Blois - } 1	72	3 4	11	2 21	84	1 25		
— Henry, esq.	-	Honston's - 1	38	2 39	49	2 32	88	1 31	20	
Mess. Abbott & Foster	-	Hutchinson's - } 1	133	0 28	33	3 26	167	0 14		
Ditto	-	Karey's - } 1	96	2 6	227	3 22	324	1 28	40	
Ditto	-	-	19	3 26	13	3 4	33	2 30		
			7,003	1 3	4,176	1 5	11,179	2 8	1,990	
									Equal in Tons - - -	1,492

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

S. T. K I T T S.

A LIST of ESTATES cultivated by Agents on Account of Absentee Proprietors.

NAMES OF ESTATES.	Worked as	Cane Land.			Pasture, Mountain, and Waste Land.			TOTAL.		
		A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
The Parish of St. George, Basseterre :										
Shadwell - - - - -	1	107	3	11	52	2	0	160	1	11
Westhorpe - - - - -		87	1	6	15	2	8	52	3	9
Diamond - - - - -	1	113	2	10	11	0	9	124	2	19
Olivees - - - - -		151	3	2	133	0	9	284	3	11
Buckley's - - - - -	1	163	0	20	23	2	31	186	3	11
College - - - - -		164	0	33	35	3	38	200	0	31
Douglas - - - - -	1	182	2	16	18	3	1	201	1	17
La Guaritte - - - - -		95	1	15	23	3	13	119	0	28
Mornes - - - - -	1	30	0	34	17	1	25	47	2	19
Pond - - - - -		131	2	38	34	2	33	166	1	31
Fancy - - - - -	1	51	2	1	80	1	38	181	3	39
Losack - - - - -		68	3	6	5	0	11	73	3	17
Taylor's - - - - -	1	149	0	32	8	1	1	157	1	33
Lucas - - - - -		118	0	28	80	1	7	198	1	35
Ditto - - - - -	1	97	1	23	26	2	35	124	0	18
Mornes, R. - - - - -		128	1	6	104	1	30	232	2	36
		1,791	0	1	671	3	4	2,462	3	5
The Parish of St. Peter, Basseterre :										
Fountainr - - - - -	1	109	3	36	74	1	39	184	1	35
Stapleton - - - - -		166	1	36	75	0	24	241	2	20
Worthington - - - - -	1	23	2	21	88	0	22	111	3	3
Parry - - - - -		174	0	20	34	2	39	208	3	19
O. G. - - - - -	1	68	0	33	32	3	5	100	3	38
Watkin Island - - - - -		217	3	22	67	0	36	95	0	18
Mornes, P. - - - - -	1	136	1	6	9	2	1	145	3	7
Milliken - - - - -		154	1	32	111	1	0	265	2	32
Needsmust - - - - -	1	166	1	19	59	0	8	225	1	27
		1,027	1	25	552	1	14	1,579	2	39
The Parish of St. Paul, Capesterre :										
Redgate - - - - -	1	273	1	7	107	2	35	381	0	2
Johnston's - - - - -		110	3	2	19	1	3	130	0	5
		384	0	9	126	3	38	511	0	7
The Parish of St. Thomas, Middle Island :										
Conn Phipps - - - - -	1	135	3	36	38	0	33	174	0	29
Dry Hill - - - - -		121	2	13	65	3	39	187	2	12
Walk - - - - -	1	288	0	9	54	1	30	342	1	39
Godwin - - - - -		217	0	9	295	1	15	512	1	24
		762	2	27	453	3	37	1,216	2	24
The Parish of St. Mary, Cayon :										
Spring - - - - -	1	94	0	10	127	3	31	222	0	1
Lodge - - - - -		103	2	21	40	3	21	144	2	2
Ditto - - - - -	1	21	3	24	7	2	10	29	1	34
Grange - - - - -		108	2	26	55	0	33	163	3	19
White - - - - -	1	108	3	33	95	0	19	204	0	12
Cunningham - - - - -		223	0	36	212	2	10	435	3	6
Matthews - - - - -	1	455	0	7	158	2	2	613	2	9
Spooner - - - - -		144	1	13	87	3	24	232	0	37
John D. Wilson - - - - -	1	259	0	4	143	3	38	403	0	2
		1,518	3	14	929	2	28	2,448	2	2

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 123

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

NAMES OF ESTATES.	Worked as	Cane Land.			Pasture, Mountain, and Waste Land.			TOTAL.		
		A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
The Parish of Christ's Church, Nicola Town:										
Bourryan, Upper	1	118	3	9	70	3	25	189	2	34
Ditto	1	136	3	13	44	2	33	181	2	6
Mills	1	162	1	18	62	2	24	225	0	2
Rosehill	1	75	0	0	102	1	15	177	1	15
Mansion	1	106	1	1	73	2	25	179	3	26
Estridge	1	328	0	17	173	1	25	501	2	2
Phillips	1	129	1	20	196	2	15	325	3	35
Molineaux	1	108	0	9	126	1	15	234	1	24
Spooner	1	111	2	27	287	3	14	399	2	1
Hope	1	107	3	8	179	2	13	287	1	21
Colquhoun's	1	106	1	27	20	0	0	126	1	27
Woodley	1	249	1	22	85	3	8	335	0	30
		1,740	0	11	1,423	3	12	3,163	3	23
The Parish of St. Ann, Sandy Point:										
Pennel	1	140	1	10	57	1	11	197	2	21
Farm	1	212	2	21	183	0	31	395	3	12
Burt's	1	192	2	15	81	3	28	274	2	3
Cranstoun	1	367	0	17	79	1	31	446	2	8
Garnier's	1	40	1	33	3	0	37	43	2	30
Belle Tête	1	76	3	2	35	0	11	111	3	13
Bottom	1	126	2	11	16	3	12	143	1	23
Sir Gillies	1	183	2	21	53	2	16	237	0	37
Payne	1	88	2	0	34	3	15	123	1	15
		1,428	2	10	545	1	32	1,974	0	2
The Parish of St. John, Cappesterre:										
Harris	1	128	2	20	110	3	12	239	1	32
Profit	1	137	0	15	64	2	7	201	2	22
Stone Castle	1	146	3	5	62	3	37	209	3	2
Feuilleteaus	1	91	1	37	5	3	31	97	1	28
Little Estridge	1	109	1	25	37	0	24	146	2	9
		613	1	22	281	1	31	894	3	13
The Parish of Trinity, Palmetto Point:										
Boyd	1	192	0	15	179	1	34	371	2	9
Ottley	1	162	1	6	245	3	34	408	1	0
Stone's Fort	1	151	2	30	166	0	38	317	3	28
		506	0	11	591	2	26	1,097	2	37

S U M M A R Y.

St. George	8	1,791	0	1	671	3	4	2,462	3	5
St. Peter	7	1,027	1	25	552	1	14	1,579	2	39
St. Paul	1	384	0	9	126	3	38	511	0	7
St. Thomas	2	762	2	27	453	3	37	1,216	2	24
St. Mary	7	1,518	3	14	929	2	28	2,448	2	2
Christ's Church	7	1,740	0	11	1,423	3	12	3,163	3	23
St. Ann	7	1,428	2	10	545	1	32	1,974	0	2
St. John	4	613	1	22	281	1	31	894	3	13
Trinity	3	506	0	11	591	2	26	1,097	2	37
TOTALS	46	9,772	0	10	5,577	0	22	15,349	0	32

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

ESTATES not in CANE CULTIVATION in the Island of St. Kitts.

ESTATES put out of CANE CULTIVATION by Resident Proprietors since 1837.

ESTATES.	Cane Land.			Pasture, Mountain, and Waste Land.			TOTAL.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Newton's - - - - -	92	2	22	7	1	1	99	3	23
Monkey Hill - - - - -	67	2	4	19	2	39	87	1	3
Van Ball - - - - -	184	1	23	250	0	36	384	2	19
Sadler - - - - -	176	0	8	170	1	3	346	1	11
Bevan Island - - - - -	52	3	19	30	0	7	82	3	26
Mrs. Thompson's, Dalzells - - - - -	92	1	20	99	2	28	192	0	8
Clifton - - - - -	109	1	5	20	2	6	129	3	11
TOTAL - - - - -	725	0	21	597	3	6	1,322	3	21

PROPERTY of Resident Proprietors when last cultivated in Cane.

J. S. Berridge, Limekiln - - - - -	42	0	26	3	0	15	45	1	1
Henry, Monkey Hill - - - - -	47	3	3	88	2	16	136	1	19
Dr. Franks - - - - -	27	3	3	9	3	14	37	2	17
S. Rawlins, Phipps - - - - -	-	-	-	112	1	10	112	1	10
Ditto, New Guinea - - - - -	-	-	-	58	3	31	58	3	31
Guichard - - - - -	28	2	7	0	3	26	29	1	33
Bramble - - - - -	89	2	21	152	0	34	241	3	15
J. Hazell - - - - -	59	1	14	59	1	34	118	3	8
Mount Pleasant - - - - -	100	1	16	65	3	35	166	1	11
Mercer's - - - - -	-	-	-	149	2	27	149	2	27
TOTAL - - - - -	395	2	10	701	0	2	1,096	2	12

PROPERTY of Absentees long since Uncultivated.

Romney, Mornes - - - - -	87	1	22	6	2	32	94	0	14
Fenton - - - - -	-	-	-	108	3	8	108	3	8
Mills - - - - -	126	3	16	26	1	37	153	1	13
D. Trant - - - - -	-	-	-	111	0	28	111	0	28
J. Swindell, Key - - - - -	104	1	8	8	3	31	113	0	39
TOTAL - - - - -	318	2	6	262	0	16	580	2	22

PROPERTY of Absentees only lately put out of Cane Cultivation.

Priddies and Salt Ponds - - - - -	249	3	2	2,065	0	16	2,314	3	18
TOTAL of the whole - - - - -	1,688	3	39	3,625	3	34	5,314	3	33

WASTE LANDS, &c.

Parish of St. George - - - - -	2,149	1	30
Parish of St. Paul - - - - -	767	0	10
Parish of St. Peter - - - - -	383	0	16
Parish of St. Thomas - - - - -	1,781	3	0
Parish of St. Mary - - - - -	242	3	31
Parish of Christ Church - - - - -	1,088	3	38
Parish of St. Ann - - - - -	465	3	34
Parish of St. John - - - - -	1,916	0	37
Parish of Trinity - - - - -	1,212	1	28
TOTAL - - - - -	10,007	3	24

SUMMARY of the Ownership of Estates in the Island of St. Kitts, distinguishing the Estates of Residents and Absentees, and those out of Sugar Cultivation.

	Total Number of Estates.	By Amalgamation worked as	Cane Land.		Pasture, Waste, and Mountain.		Total.		Annual Average Produce for Last Five Years in Tons.
			A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	
owned by 23 resident proprietors	37	29	6,440	3 7	3,714	0 7	10,154	3 14	1,492
hired by 23 resident proprietors	15	8							
hired by 4 residents who are not owners	7	4							
TOTAL occupied by Residents	59	41	7,002	1 3	4,176	1 5	11,179	2 8	—
owned and hired by absentees	67	46	9,772	0 10	5,577	0 22	15,349	0 32	4,107
TOTAL Estates under Sugar Cultivation	126	87	16,775	1 13	9,753	1 27	26,528	3 0	* 5,599
not in cane cultivation (as per statement.)	Residents 17	-	1,120	2 31	1,298	3 2	2,419	1 33	—
		Absentees 6							
waste lands in the towns and several parishes of the island (as per statement)	-	-	-	-	10,007	3 24	10,007	3 24	—
TOTAL Estates and Acres of Land in St. Kitts (per M^cMahon's Map)	149	87	18,464	1 12	23,387	1 5	41,851	2 17	—

From the foregoing, it appears that the Residents hold nearly half the Estates, with more than two-fifths of the Cane Land, producing four-fifteenths of the Sugar made in the Island. The Absentees hold rather more than half the Estates, with less than three-fifths of the Cane Land, but making eleven-fifteenths of the entire Produce.

QUANTITY of Sugar imported from St. Kitts into United Kingdom.

	Tons.
1843	3,868
1844	5,985
1845	6,138
1846	4,551
1847	7,454
	27,996

Average of the Five Years,
* 5,599 Tons.

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

16626. It all turns upon the acreage under cane cultivation?—I can furnish that to the Committee to-morrow. If Mr. Pickwood had been here, I should have repeated all those names over; but requesting the Committee that they should not be published, because one hardly likes to publish the names of those who have not gone through every crisis which Mr. Pickwood says every resident planter has done since 1830; but I could go through them.

16627. State how many you could give?—Twenty-one; and I am prepared to prove with a great many of them that my statement is true; I have brought documents here to prove it. Of these are, first, his father and father-in-law, who neither can be said to have survived every crisis since 1830, they both having been ruined by their own mismanagement. Six other resident proprietors have been dispossessed of their estates by their creditors within the last four or five years. Four others have died within the last five years deeply involved; and the remainder have either been obliged to suspend their cane cultivation altogether, or are carrying it on in a very profitless manner.

16628. Mr. Pickwood states that they have reduced the charges upon their estates, and paid off family claims; is that so?—I do not believe that they have; I am not aware of a single instance except to the extent of the compensation-money, which he thought, very unhappily, was paid to the mortgagees instead of the proprietors. Many have compromised with their creditors, which Mr. Pickwood calls payment, and to do this they have borrowed the money from a new merchant. I think I have pretty well proved that the resident proprietors have not been very successful; but I could prove that many of the non-resident proprietors have.

16629. Your father was one?—My father owes the greater part of his fortune to his West India properties. He first commenced to own this Nicola Town estate in the year 1826; and he afterwards purchased other estates which he now holds; and I can show that while those very residents were increasing their debts to their merchants every year, my father's estates were prosperous. Now he was never out of this kingdom in his life. As I was in the West Indies prior to 1838, I cannot give the actual profits of my father's estate prior to that period, because those accounts he kept himself, and I have not seen them. In fact he did not preserve them; but his Nicola Town estate from 1838 to 1846 inclusive, produced him a profit, without calculating interest, of 13,721*l.* His Cranston estate gave him during that period 12,678*l.* Another estate which does not belong to him, but which we then had charge of, gave 11,038*l.*, all managed by the agents of non-residents. I could give a long list of others. Mr. Adamson, whose letter I have read, expresses the same opinion, that the agents for the absentees manage the estates better than the residents do themselves, and that is the result of my experience in St. Kitts. I could also confirm this opinion by that of Messrs. Boddington and Davis, and several other merchants whose letters I have now with me.

16630. In point of fact Mr. Pickwood acknowledged that all the estates under your management were better managed than others; he admitted that you were a singular instance, but that they were better managed than any other estates ever had been managed in St. Kitts, and that you managed the estates of three-fifths of the island?—I managed from 16 to 18 estates, which produced for one or two years one-third of the whole of the crop of the island, from one-third to one-fourth, and I was the agent for seven or eight absentees.

16631. And you yourself never possessed more land in the island than sufficient to qualify you as a member of the House of Assembly?—I was not, nor am I now, nor have I ever been, the proprietor of any land in the West Indies, except 20 acres which my father transferred to me for the purpose of giving me a qualification to sit in the House of Assembly, which I did, from the latter end of the year 1830 till I left the island in 1837.

16632. You were a magistrate also?—I was, and also a special magistrate soon after the first emancipation, till the stipendiary magistrates came out; I acted in that capacity for 6 or 8 months.

16633. Do not you think that plenty of magistrates might be found to do the business gratuitously, without the aid of those stipendiary magistrates?—I think so; stipendiary magistrates were a great impediment in the way of the good working of the system.

16634. You think that they made mischief between the labourers and the masters?—I think so.

16635. That

16635. That they encouraged the labourers to make the complaints and exact exorbitant wages?—I think so. *B. B. Greene, Esq.*

16636. And they discouraged the labourers from entering into contracts with their employers?—They did; when I say they did, I speak of one by whom I had to get my contracts sanctioned; he did sanction them, he was bound by law to do it. *5 April 1848.*

16637. He could not help himself, but threw obstacles in the way?—He did. It certainly may appear strange that the estates of absentees are worked so much better than they are by the resident planters to those who are unacquainted with it. But I think the owner of an estate living in this country has so many opportunities of seeing what is going on here in the improvement of agriculture and implements, that he sends out from time to time those implements and improvements that the times render necessary. He also has an opportunity of sending out from time to time fresh managers selected from the intelligent sons of farmers of this country; they carry out their knowledge there, and have more vigour and activity than those who have long resided in that country, or who are born there; and of course being in fear of dismissal in the event of their not being successful, keeps them to their work. The resident proprietor has perhaps his family about him, and he naturally goes into society, if he can, and that takes him from his estate; but the fact is, he is not successful, except in a very few instances. I will not say that there is not an instance of a successful resident planter, because there are several; but these are principally gentlemen who had for many years previously to their becoming proprietors, been the attorneys of absentees, whose estates they managed very successfully and satisfactorily. I do not wish to be understood as speaking disparagingly of the resident proprietors, for there are many among them though not very prosperous as planters, are very honourable and worthy men, and for whom I entertain great esteem; but on so important a question as is now before this Committee I am bound to bring out the fact, that these gentlemen do not manage their estates so well as do the agents for absentees, and therefore I must deny that so far as the cultivation of sugar is concerned, absenteeism in St. Kitts is the reverse of being an evil. May I ask, must not every merchant who conducts a foreign business be necessarily absent from one part of his business? As well might it be said that the shipowner should command his own ship; he is obliged to send her on a trading voyage, or a whaling voyage, for two or three years. Who has the charge of his property in his absence? Upon whom does he depend for the success of the voyage? Must not he depend upon his captain? Are those who are shipowners, who do not command their own vessels, to be told that they cannot manage their properties so well as if they did?

16638. Mr. Pickwood states, that the resident proprietors go further than others in the use of implements?—I entirely deny that, unless he may refer to Doctor Swanston, who is the proprietor of one estate, but, who also is agent of a great many others.

16639. And originally commenced as the agent for others?—And originally commenced as the agent for others. I believe Dr. Swanston has carried the use of implements to a very great extent; I do not know whether to a greater extent than the other agent of ours, Mr. Diggins.

16640. But it was originally as the agent of absentee proprietors that he introduced those implements, was not it?—I think so.

16641. Was he originally a proprietor, who afterwards became an owner?—He has hired an estate for some time, which I look upon in the light of a proprietorship for this particular purpose. Mr. Pickwood states, that he is only stopping now in this country for the purpose of paying off his father-in-law's incumbrances upon two estates. I think Messrs. Reid, Irving & Company will be very glad to hear that he is going to pay some 16,000 *l.* or 17,000 *l.* for estates that are not now worth 1,000 *l.*

16642. With respect to the use of ploughs, did not in the first instance many of the resident proprietors object to the use of ploughs?—Yes. I recollect very well having a discussion with a resident proprietor on one of the estates, and he declared to me that he thought the plough a great injury to the land, by exposing it to the sun. That gentleman is one of those who did not survive the crisis of 1830, for he has since been turned off his estate, and that is now managed by another. On my arrival in the island in 1829, I found ploughs extensively

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

used. Ploughing matches took place, even during slavery, in the promotion of which, I together with other agents of absentees, took an active part. Weeding implements have been successfully introduced within the last three or four years.

16643. Mr. Pickwood distinctly stated, with respect to freights, that from 4s. 6d. to 5s. a cwt., or from 4l. 10s. to 5l. a ton, were the usual charges from St. Kitts; what is the fact with regard to that?—I have never known an instance myself of freights being 5l. since 1832, until probably the last year, by what is called transient ships; those are seeking ships; the regular traders never charged during last year more than 4l. 10s.; when I say 4l. 10s., they charged 4l. 10s. for sugar in hogsheads, 4l. for sugar in barrels, and rum at 4½d. per gallon, which is equal to 3l. 7s. 6d. per ton. Mr. Pickwood also stated that he did not believe any bill of lading had ever been filled up for less than 4s. 6d. per cwt. Had he been here I would have presented to him bills of lading which would have convinced him that he was wrong: here are some bills of lading of sugar consigned to Mr. Liggins, at 4s. I have brought several bills of lading to other ships. But that is not all: I would have indulged him with the sight of a bill of lading for 26 puncheons of molasses, shipped in the "Daphne," at 3s. per cwt. freight. I would have shown him another, in the "Diamond," of 60 puncheons of molasses, one puncheon of rum, and 15 barrels of sugar, at 3s. per cwt., consigned to Benjamin Greene & Son.

[The Bills of Lading were delivered in, and are as follow:]

XXXB 1 a' 38.

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by Frederic W. Mallalieu, in and upon the good ship called the "Benjamin Greene," whereof is master for this present voyage Henry Laws, and now riding in the Road of Basseterre, and bound for London, to say, 38 barrels muscovado sugar, being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order, and well conditioned, at the aforesaid port of London (the act of God, the Queen's enemies, fire, and all and every other dangers and accidents of the seas, rivers, and navigation of whatever nature or kind soever excepted), unto the shipper's order, or to his or their assigns. Freight for the said goods to be paid at the rate of 4s. per cwt. net weight, primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the master or purser of the said ship hath affirmed to three bills of lading, all of this tenor and date; one of which bills being accomplished, the others to stand void. Dated in St. Kitts, 28th July 1847. Contents unknown.

XXXB 1 a' 10.

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by Frederic W. Mallalieu, in and upon the good ship called the "Catherine Greene," whereof is master for this present voyage William Holmes, and now riding in the Road of Basseterre, and bound for London, to say, 10 puncheons of rum, being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order, and well conditioned, at the aforesaid port of London (the act of God, the Queen's enemies, fire, and all and every other dangers and accidents of the seas, rivers, and navigation of whatever nature or kind soever excepted), unto the shipper's order, or to his or their assigns. Freight for the said goods to be paid at the rate of 4½d. per gallon, primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the master or purser of the said ship hath affirmed to three bills of lading, all of this tenor and date; one of which bills being accomplished, the others to stand void. Dated in St. Kitts, September 1847. Contents unknown.

XXXB 1 a' 125.

Shipped, in good order and well conditioned, by Frederic W. Mallalieu, in and upon the good ship called the "Benjamin Greene," whereof is master for this present voyage Henry Laws, and now riding in the Road of Basseterre, and bound for London, to say, 125 barrels muscovado sugar, being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and well conditioned, at the aforesaid port of London (the act of God, the Queen's enemies, fire, and all and every other dangers and accidents of the seas, rivers, and navigation of whatever nature or kind soever excepted), unto the shipper's order, or to his or their assigns. Freight for the said goods to be paid at the rate of 4s. per cwt. net weight, primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the master or purser of the said ship hath affirmed to three bills of lading, all of this tenor or date; one of which bills being accomplished, the others to stand void. Dated in St. Kitts, March 1847. Contents unknown.

XXXXB 126 to 187.

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by Frederic W. Mallalieu, in and upon the good ship called the "Benjamin Greene," whereof is master for this present voyage Henry Laws, and now riding at anchor in the Road of Basseterre, and bound for London, to say, 62 barrels muscovado sugar, being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and well conditioned, at the aforesaid port of London (the Queen's enemies, fire, all and every the dangers and accidents of the seas, rivers, and navigation of whatever nature or kind soever excepted), unto the shipper's order, or to his or their assigns, he or they paying freight for the said goods 4s. per cwt. net weight, with primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the master or purser of the said ship hath affirmed to three bills of lading, all of this tenor and date; the one of which bills being accomplished, the others to stand void. Dated in St. Kitts, April 1847.

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by James S. Berridge, in and upon the good ship

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 129

ship called the "Daphne," whereof is master for this present voyage John M'Millan, and now riding in the Road of Basseterre and bound for London, to say 26 puncheons of molasses, being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and well-conditioned, at the aforesaid port of London (the act of God, the Queen's enemies, fire, and all and every other dangers and accidents of the seas, rivers, and navigation of whatever nature or kind soever excepted), unto Messrs. Benjamin Greene & Son, or to their assigns. Freight for the said goods to be paid to A. Dalrymple, esq., at the rate of 3s. sterling per cwt. net, primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the master or purser of the said ship hath affirmed to four bills of lading, all of this tenor and date; one of which bills being accomplished, the others to stand void. Dated in St. Christopher, 26th March 1844. Contents unknown. *John M' Millan.*

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

I S B
Nos. 1 a' 26 ps.
Molasses. 1

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by Solomon A. Wade, in and upon the good ship called the "Diamond," whereof is master for this present voyage James Wenham, and now riding at anchor in the port of Basseterre and bound for London, to say, 60 puncheons molasses, one puncheon rum, 15 barrels muscovado sugar, four hogsheads, and two quarter casks of West India pickles, being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and well conditioned at the aforesaid port of London (the act of God, the King's enemies, fire, and all and every other dangers and accidents of the seas, rivers, and navigation of whatever nature and kind soever excepted), unto Messrs. Benjamin Greene & Son, or to their assigns, he or they paying freight for the said goods 3s. per cwt. net weight for sugar and molasses, and 4d. per gallon for rum and pickles, with primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the master or purser of the said ship hath affirmed to three bills of lading, all of this tenor and date; the one of which three bills being accomplished, the other two to stand void. Dated in Basseterre, St. Kitts, June 1844. Contents unknown to *James Wenham.*

[W]
1 Rum.
1 a' 60 Molasses.
1 a' 15 Sugar.
1 a' 6 Pickles.

Witness.] No doubt, when seeking ships go there, having taken out a good freight to some other colony, and are in difficulty to find a cargo, they are glad to take anything; but it seldom falls to the lot of a planter to be able to take up an entire vessel himself, seeing that he cannot ship in that island above from 10 to 15 tons at a time. I will show the Committee a list; and taking the very last ship that we had come home; here is an abstract of the manifest. The consignment to ourselves amounted to about half; for the remainder there are 23 shippers, 21 consignees; and the sugar is shipped from 46 different estates. You have to drogher them from all parts of the island.

ABSTRACT of MANIFEST; Shippers from 46 Estates; Consignees, 22.

CARGO of the Barque "Houghton-le-Spring," reported in London, 18th December 1847, from St. Kitts.

NAMES OF CONSIGNEES.	Number of Estates from which Shipped.	To ns of Produce.	Amount of Freight.
H. D. and Js. Blyth & Greene	14	224	£. 954
Boddington & Davis	2	76	326
Henry Blanchard	1	14	59
Alexander Dalrymple	1	9	39
Manning & Anderson	2	7	28
Robert Chuter	1	4	16
N. & H. Mayo	6	29	121
Charles Adamson	1	5	17
Philip Harden	1	5	18
Archd. Paul & Co.	1	8	36
Thomson, Hankey & Co.	3	14	61
William Fraser, Neilson & Co.	1	3	16
Davidson & Peter	1	8	33
Henry Sterry	3	6	28
W. A. Hankey	1	3	11
Nelson & Adam	1	3	11
Cotlam & Mortan	1	4	12
Blook & Grey	1	7	24
Kensington & Co.	1	1	5
Thomas Daniell & Co.	1	3	14
R. & T. Neave	2	10	45
Teighe & Smith	1	1	3
TOTAL	46	443	1,877

23 Shippers Free } Average about 10 tons each.
21 Consignees - }

B. B. Greene, Esq.
5 April 1848.

16644. Will you state to the Committee what the expense of their drogherage is?—Mr. Pickwoad stated that the drogherage in St. Kitts was very light; that the charge for it was only 4s. 2d. per hogshead. Now Mr. Pickwoad, if he knew anything at all about it, must have known that no sugar is droghered in the island for less than 8s. 4d. per hogshead; and those planters who like to bring their sugars to the shipping place are allowed that 8s. 4d. themselves, which goes in reduction of their freight.

16645. But Mr. Pickwoad distinctly stated that it was quite usual for planters to receive a guinea a hogshead in reduction of their freight?—It does sometimes happen, as I have already stated, when a seeking ship goes in and cannot get a freight, that the captain will, for a portion of her cargo, which is taken up probably by merchants in the town, give the planters a guinea a hogshead, perhaps for 50, 60, or 70 hogsheads, as the case may be, just to make her a going ship; and then, when the ship is filling up, he charges the same as other people. We have never given any premium whatever for sugar. St. Kitts is open to every British ship that floats. If any British shipowners choose to send their ships there, they can; there is no monopoly; it is perfectly open to all.

16646. Mr. Pickwoad states that he has received a guinea per hogshead 20 times for shipping his own sugar?—I should say with respect to that, that he did not do so within the last four years of his management: because I have in my possession in this room his own accounts, where, if he had received such a sum, it ought to have been credited in these accounts. I have examined those accounts myself, and there is no such credit given.

16647. Unless he was guilty, then, of an act of dishonesty in defrauding his principal of the guinea, he cannot have received it?—I think not; unless he has made a special remittance of that particular amount so received, it ought to have gone into his accounts. When I resided in the island I have received premiums upon sugar occasionally, but very seldom; and that has always been credited at once. My own managers credit everything they receive; if they did not, I should at once proceed against them for the misappropriation.

16648. Whenever you received that, it has been in abatement of the freight?—Yes; and what right has Mr. Pickwoad to complain of the high rate of freight when he has been receiving 20 times a guinea per hogshead in reduction of that freight; does not that prove that he is receiving cheap freight from St. Kitts?

16649. Can you explain to the Committee how this freight is made up, and what are the constituent parts of the freight; you have told us what the drogherage is; there is also the export duty, which though it is a debt against the shipper, is paid by the shipowner?—There is an export tax of 2s. 3d. sterling per hogshead, in proportion for other packages, amounting together to about 3s. a ton; this is legally chargeable upon the exporter, but the shipowner pays it; it is called the package tax, for which the shipper himself is not liable. It often happens that our ships are a very long time detained in the island for loading, having to seek the freight from those various parties. I have a letter here from one of our captains, Captain Holmes, of the ship "Catherine Greene;" he says, "I have the pleasure to inform you of the safe arrival of your good ship 'Catherine Greene' at St. Kitts on the 19th February, after a passage of 41 days from London. The ship, I am afraid, will not get away until the 10th June." The "Benjamin Greene" arrived there on the 18th of December, and on the 1st March, the date of my last letter, she had not taken in a single package of her homeward cargo. The "Parrock Hall" arrived there on the 13th of November, and she would not sail till the 4th of March; she had not sailed at the time we received our last letters. We shall hear of her to-day most likely, by the mail which has arrived.

16650. Can you put in a comparative statement of the freight of a ship from St. Kitts and Demerara?—Yes.

STATEMENT of the COMPARATIVE EARNINGS of Ships loading at *St. Kitts* and *Demerara*.

The Ship "Houghton-le-Spring," 353 tons, o. m.; 405 Tons, n.m.; carries about 450 tons West India Cargo; 540 Tons Coals; 520 Tons Sugar from Mauritius or Pernambuco, in Bags.

ST. KITTS.	Reported 18 December 1847.		DEMERARA.	
	Tons.	£.		£.
Freight outward; average - - -	- - -	250	Outward freight - - -	500
Freight homeward, 334 hogsheads } 18 tierces } sugar - - -	290 at 4 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>	1,304	Homeward freight, 443 tons at 3 <i>l.</i> - - -	1,329
35 puncheons molasses - - -				
21 barrels sugar - - -				
341 barrels sugar - - -	33 at 4 <i>l.</i> - - -	132	Primage - - - - -	33
227 puncheons - - -	120 at 67 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	405		
5 pipes - - -				
11 hogsheads - - -				
10 quarter casks } rum - - -				
Primage and pierage - - -	443 - - -	33		
	Total Earnings - - - £.		£.	1,862
Expenses in St. Kitts - - - - -	£. 337		Less expenses in Demerara	90
Insurance, provisions, sails, wear and tear of droghers and beaching boats, per voyage - - - - -	70			
	407			
	TOTAL - - £.		TOTAL - - £.	1,772
	1,717			

16651. Mr. Pickwood stated, that generally freights were so much higher in St. Kitts than in Demerara?—He did so.

1652. Nominally I believe they are so, but practically is it not rather otherwise?—I think I can show that a freight from St. Kitts at 4*l.* 10*s.* per ton is not better, if so good as a freight from Demerara at 3*l.* per ton. I will take the last vessel we had from St. Kitts, the "Houghton-le-Spring;" she reported here on the 18th of December 1847; I have taken the earnings of the outward freight, not at what she actually made, because she made very little out; I put down the freight outward on the average of the amount of her tonnage to St. Kitts at 250*l.*; she received homeward freight, upon 334 hogsheads, 18 tierces of sugar, 35 puncheons of molasses, 21 barrels of sugar, making together 290 tons, at 4*l.* 10*s.* per ton, 1,304*l.* Then there were 341 barrels weighing 33 tons, at 4*l.* a ton, 132*l.* Then there were 227 puncheons, 5 pipes, 11 hogsheads, and 10 quarter casks of rum, occupying in room 120 tons, at 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* a ton, amounting to 405*l.* Primage and pierage on 443 tons, 33*l.*; making the total earnings 2,124*l.* upon 443 tons. From that must be deducted the expenses in St. Kitts, 337*l.*; I have the agent's account here showing the items of it, if it is necessary to put it in. Then there is the insurance, provisions, sales, wear and tear of droghers and beaching boats for the voyage, 70*l.*; deducting those items from the 2,124*l.* leaves 1,717*l.* Now I take Demerara: the outward freight averages 500*l.* the voyage; homeward freight for 443 tons at 3*l.* a ton, 1,329*l.*; primage 33*l.*; making a total of 1,862*l.*; from which must be deducted the expenses of the ship in Demerara, 90*l.*; leaving a net of 1,772*l.* against 1,717*l.* on the St. Kitts voyage; she having there no drogherage to pay, and no package tax to pay. Now let us see how the planter stands. In St. Kitts the planter pays a freight of 4*l.* 10*s.*, from which we must deduct the package tax paid by the ship instead of the

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

shipper, 3 s. In Demerara it is the practice for the owner of an estate to send schooners for the purpose of taking his supplies from the ship when she arrives, and carrying alongside that ship her sugars for her homeward voyage; that cannot be estimated at less than 9 d. a cwt., or 15 s. a ton, and the additional cost of freight for his supplies at 10 s. a ton. The homeward freight of 3 l. leaves the Demerara planter really a charge of 4 l. 5 s. against the St. Kitts of 4 l. 4 s.

COMPARISON between the *Demerara* and *St. Kitts* Planters.

ST. KITTS PLANTER.		DEMERARA PLANTER.	
Pays freight on an average as shown by "Houghton-le-Spring" cargo 4 l. 3 s. per ton; but as rum is not usually shipped in such large proportions, I will take the general average to be 4 l. 7 s. though 4 l. 5 s. would be nearer the sum - - - -	£. s. d.	Schooner and punts for landing his supplies and carrying off produce to ship - - - -	£. s. d.
Less package tax, paid by ship belonging to shipper - - - -	4 7 -	Additional cost of freight on his supplies - - - -	- 15 -
	- 3 -	Homeward freight - - - -	- 10 -
Per Ton - - - £.	4 4 -		3 - -
		Per Ton - - - £.	4 5 -

16653. Deducting from the St. Kitts freight the same charges that in Demerara are paid by the shipper, how would the freights stand, deducting drogherage, export duty, additional freight for his supplies 10 s., and the package tax 3 s.?— It would leave the St. Kitts man 2 l. 19 s. against 3 l. in Demerara. The freight upon coals charged to St. Kitts is only 8 s. a hogshead; the hogshead occupies a ton and a half of room; that is to the estate which ships sugars in return. But we decline to take coals at such a freight, unless we are to have sugars in return; in confirmation of which I will read to the Committee two letters which I have received from parties with whom I have entered into an arrangement here, to take their coals and bring back their sugars. Now those gentlemen would not make such an arrangement with me if they could obtain their freight on easier terms. I will not say that they might not give me the preference on the same terms, but they certainly would not give me more than they could get their sugars home for from any one else. Here is a letter from Messrs. Thomson, Hankey & Company, Mincing-lane, dated April the 4th, 1848. "Dear Sir,—The best answer to your letter of yesterday, is perhaps our letter of the 30th September 1843, to Mr. Harper, on whose behalf we entered into an arrangement with you, to take out the coals he might require for making his sugar, freight free, on his shipping his sugar on board your vessels at the usual freight. It does not, however, quite show the transaction, inasmuch as he requiring about 70 hogsheads of coals for 60 hogsheads of sugar, you really took out one-sixth more casks than he sent home by your ships." This is an extract from the letter alluded to, from Messrs. Thomson, Hankey & Co. to Thomas Harper, esq. at St. Kitts, dated 30th September 1843: "We have made an arrangement with the firm of Benjamin Greene & Son, in accordance with the suggestion made in your letter of 5th of April to Mr. Estridge, and of the 20th of June to ourselves. We have stipulated that the coals should be delivered by their vessels in Basseterre, freight free, and the other stores at half the printed rates, and that you should ship the whole of your sugar at Basseterre, free of cartage, or any gratuity or charge on their vessels; if an exchange be made by which they get a return for any you may send in other vessels, of course the engagement would be equally fulfilled; if they do not obtain the produce, they are to be paid outward freight at two-thirds the printed rates." I have also a letter from Mr. Dalrymple, with whom we also have a similar arrangement. His letter is dated "11, Lime-street, 4th April 1848. Dear Sir,—The arrangement made between us in June 1847 was, that your ships were to carry out as many coals as my estates required, and land them at the nearest landing place to the estates at 8 s. per hogshead; in return for which you were to take my sugars at 4 l. 10 s. per ton, without paying any premium or cartage in the island; this agreement to continue in force 12 months from the arrival

arrival of the 'Houghton-le-Spring' in St. Kitts, in July last year. I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully, *Alexander Dalrymple.* *B. B. Greene, Esq.*

5 April 1848.

16654. The result of all this is that you do not think the repeal of the Navigation Laws would be any advantage to the West Indies?—Most decidedly not.

16655. Do you know anything of the freights to Cuba?—I do.

16656. I believe you sent a ship there yourself?—We sent the "Scourfield" to Cuba; not succeeding in getting a cargo in Jamaica, we directed her to go to Cuba; we wrote to our agents, Messrs. T. C. Burnham & Company, to purchase for our house a cargo of sugar at certain limits; if not obtainable at those limits, she was to be let out on freight for London, on the best terms they could procure. It so happened that they could buy sugar within our limits, and therefore she did not accept a charter. But I will put in a letter from the captain of the ship, stating what the rate of freight was at that time. It is dated "Barque 'Scourfield,' Havannah, 10th March 1847. Messrs. H. D. & Js. Blyth & Greene: Gentlemen,—Having arrived here on the 7th March, as yet I have not been able arrange what is to be done. The consignees have proposed for me to go to the Matanzas, saying they have sugars already purchased; which I think is an extra expense, as freights are rising. Yesterday the 'Diadem,' of Dundee, was chartered for 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton, and 5*l.* was refused by a Spanish vessel, and accepted by the 'Zenobia,' of Liverpool; there has been some losses lately." I may also say, in addition to the 5*l.* freight, there is a primage of 5 per cent.; that makes five guineas; I believe there are instances of shippers having paid 6*l.* from the Havannah.

16657. Last year?—Last year.

16658. You might have had five guineas freightage from Havannah, when you did bring home sugar at what freight?—The whole cargo was purchased on our account, because the price was within our own limits; otherwise she could have obtained 5*l.* 5*s.* freight, cargo put alongside.

16659. Was that purchased at Havannah?—Yes. I have Messrs. Burnham's letter of the same date, confirming the advices, if it is necessary to put it in.

16660. At what prices were you at the very self-same time bringing sugars home from St. Kitts?—It was 4*l.* 10*s.* for sugar per ton in hhds., and the rum was 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton. We are obliged to bring a portion of rum, otherwise they will not send the sugar.

16661. Have you vessels engaged in the Brazilian trade?—Yes, we have two vessels now on their way there; this very "Houghton-le-Spring" is on her way to Pernambuco. We shall be very well pleased indeed if we get 3*l.* for her, although she has gone out in ballast, because at Pernambuco she will load with bags: Instead of receiving her freight upon 443 tons, as she does from St. Kitts, she will receive it upon about 520 tons, and will be loaded in two or three weeks. "The "Houghton-le-Spring," 353 tons o. m., 405 tons n. m., loading at Pernambuco or Bahia, would carry, in bags,—

	£.
520 tons, at 3 <i>l.</i> - - - - -	1,560
Primage 5 per cent. - - - - -	78
	1,638
Port charges, and expenses at Pernambuco or Bahia - - - - -	120
	£. 1,518

As the ship would not be detained more than two or three weeks in loading, her voyage from London to Brazil and back to London would not occupy more than three to four months, while a West Indian voyage averages five or six months.

16662. And all that difference is occasioned by the practice of the West Indians of exporting their sugar in hogsheads instead of bags?—Yes. In the first place, we carry a greater weight of tare in the West India ships for nothing; for we only get our freight upon the net weight landed; the tare amounts to upwards of 10 per cent. upon the whole cargo she has got in her.

16663. Hogsheads do not pack so well?—No, not so well as bags.

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

16664. Or as boxes?—Or as boxes. With hogsheads a ship becomes full, and you cannot do more than quite fill her up, but with bags you may load a ship to any depth you please; you can fill her full and load her with as much as she can carry, but with hogsheads you cannot, because it is a very large package, and therefore we cannot get on board so large an amount of dead weight.

16665. There are interstices between?—Yes, of course, very considerable; rum requires very considerable care, and we have very great liability of loss from rum; because if we have not a deck laid for it, it is called bad stowage, and the leakage falls upon the ship:

16666. When we sometimes hear of the bad stowage of a British ship, if there is loss it falls upon the ship?—Yes; I have had to pay in one instance 100 *l.* from deficiency said to be occasioned by bad stowage; I cannot say that it was carelessness on the part of the captain, but there was a loss of rum, and some wine which he had on board.

16667. Why do the West Indians prefer to send their sugar in hogsheads; is it from the facility of getting coals back in them?—No, it has been the custom from time immemorial; there is a convenience perhaps in hogsheads over boxes, because you can roll a hogshead; it is so much more easily moved, more easily handled, considering its great weight, than boxes would be. Some of the Brazilian boxes are very unwieldy things, weighing 17 cwt.; and when they come here the purchasers will not give so much by 2*s.* a cwt. for them in boxes as they will in bags.

16668. Then, in point of fact, as between the hogshead and the chest, what the exporter loses in the extra freight he gains on this side of the water?—No; he gets a less price for his sugar if he ships it in those large cases.

16669. The West Indian loses by exporting his sugar from the British colonies in hogsheads, because he has to pay a higher freight than if he exported it in boxes; but on the other hand, if he exported in boxes, though he would pay less freight, he would get less for his sugar on this side of the water?—If they were large boxes, similar to the Brazilian, it would be so; but if the West Indian shipped his sugar in bags, he would undoubtedly get his freight cheaper.

16670. How are bags as compared with hogsheads?—Much more favourable to the ship; the ship carries a much larger weight.

16671. Is the bag or the hogshead the dearer?—I think the bag is the cheaper package.

16672. Then the bag could not be turned to account to carry back coals, could it?—No; but I think that makes no difference.

16673. Then, in point of fact, it would be much better for the West Indians if they would follow the example of the Brazilians, and export in bags?—I doubt that very much; it must undergo the drying process, and that in the present state of our labour we could not spare. I should also state that there is great drainage in the ship on the homeward voyage from the West Indies. I think there would be loss of weight by evaporation in drying the sugar there, instead of on board by drainage. We chartered the "Scourfield" last year to go to Demerara; we got for her first a freight of 50*l.* out. We were to call at Madeira for immigrants, by which we expected to make 150*l.* more; and we were to have 4*l.* for her cargo home, brought alongside. The merchant who chartered the ship of us (it was a ship of 328 tons) loaded her only to her beams. We had space for water, and there were 60 puncheons below the beams also; yet he made upwards of 400 *l.* of outward freight.

16674. The result of all this is, that when the West Indians and others imagine that they are paying so much higher freight than is being paid in Cuba and Demerara, they do not understand the question in its details?—It is quite clear that they do not. I am sure a repeal of the Navigation Laws would not benefit them; inasmuch as if freights were thereby reduced, the reduction would apply equally to Cuba and Brazil as to the British West Indies, and then the West Indies would derive no advantage. I omitted to mention that in St. Kitts there is neither a quay nor a wharf. The ships lay a mile and a half from the shore at anchor in the open roadstead; St. Kitts has not even a harbour.

16675. And the ship has to find her own droghers?—She finds her own droghers, or hires them; we have our own.

16676. I believe they are frequently vessels of a class that can themselves cross the Atlantic?—The present drogher that we have now at St. Kitts we purchased in this country, and she sailed across the Atlantic; our drogher that we have in Jamaica we also built here, and sailed her out.

16677. Mr.

16677. Mr. Pickwoad and others have given evidence that the West Indians could afford perfectly well to compete against the Cubans; have you any accounts of the activity of the sugar trade in Cuba at this time?—Yes, I have an account dated Havannah, 27th February, that came by the last packet, the “Dee;” I believe it is the latest date from Havannah in this country. It says, “The merchants here are in the midst of business, shipping sugar day and night, and labour was in great demand; the harbour is crowded with shipping. The contrast to our own colonies is great indeed. Exchange on London, 11 per cent. premium.”

B. B. Greene, Esq.

5 April 1848.

16678. I think you have already got a statement of the expected crop in the United States this year?—Yes, I have. This is the account, extracted from the New Orleans Delta, headed, “The Sugar Crop.” It says, “It is estimated by competent judges that the sugar crop of Louisiana will exceed the crop of last year by at least 100,000 hogsheads; and the increase in molasses will exceed that of sugar. The total yield of sugar this year is estimated at 240,000 hogsheads, which at 50 dollars per hogshead (lower than a fair average), amounts in value to 12,000,000 dollars. It is said that the molasses pays the expenses of the crop; if so, the above is a very handsome net profit.” I should state that the American hogshead weighs about 10 cwt. But the result altogether will be a great increase.

16679. Then 100 hogsheads represent 50 tons, do not they?—Yes.

16680. Is not the result of this very great increase of the United States crops, to the amount of 50,000 tons, this, that there will be more of the Cuba and Brazilian sugar at liberty to come to Europe?—Unquestionably.

16681. Again, do not you expect, from the disturbed state of Europe, that the Brazilian and Cuba sugars will come to this country and hang over the market for British sugar, instead of going straight to the Continent?—I am sorry to say that that is my opinion.

16682. There is every reason to fear that the prices of British sugars, instead of rising, are likely to fall?—I am afraid so.

16683. And that ultimately the importation of foreign sugar will be very much larger this year than it was even last year?—I think it will.

16684. We have had a great many statements in the course of this evidence to the effect that the British West Indies have always been complaining, and have always alleged that they were in a state of ruin. Have you not got a comparative statement of the value of the sugars imported from the British West Indies in the year 1814, in the year 1830, and in the year 1847, and an estimate of what the value will be in the year 1848?—I find from Marshall’s Digest of Parliamentary Returns, that while the value of the sugar alone imported from the West Indies, in 1814, amounted to 12,484,714 l.; the entire produce in 1830 was as follows:—

1830.

STATEMENT of the Value of West India Imports.

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.			AMOUNT.
		£.	s.	d.	
Sugar - - - - - tons	195,631	25	-	-	4,890,786
Coffee - - - - - "	12,259	46	13	4	586,924
Cocoa - - - - - "	328	-	2	4	787,827
Rum - - - - - gals.	752,799	12	-	-	149,652
Molasses - - - - - tons	12,471	-	-	8 ½	107,880
Cotton - - - - - lbs.	3,429,247	51	6	8	79,963
Pimento - - - - - tons	1,558	3	10	-	14,367
Ginger - - - - - cwt.	4,105	9/8	per lb.	-	51,682
Cochineal - - - - - lbs.	111,745	5/8	"	-	24,003
Indigo - - - - - "	87,285	-	-	-	65,000
Ten other articles - - - - - "	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL for 1830		-	-	£.	6,758,084
" 1829		-	-	£.	8,212,593
" 1828		-	-	£.	8,907,756
" 1827		-	-	£.	9,428,209

But in 1847 the value of the West India produce was as follows:—

TOTAL VALUE of West India Produce Imported into the United Kingdom in 1847.

ARTICLES.	Quantity.	Value in Bond.	Amount.	OF WHICH IS				DUTY.
				Freight.		Insurance; Sundry and Sale Charges.		
				Rate.	Amount.	—	Amount.	
		£. s. d.	£.	£. s. d.	£.	£. s. d.	£.	£. s. d.
Sugar - - Tons	159,557 (as per Statement)	27 3 7	4,336,930	4 - -	638,228	3 - -	478,671	24 - -
Molasses - - "	28,000	12 - -	336,000	4 - -	112,000	1 8 4	39,700	5 5 -
Coffee - - "	3,325	45 - -	149,625	5 - -	16,625	3 - -	9,975	38 6 8
Cocoa - - "	1,500	44 - -	66,000	4 - -	6,000	3 - -	4,500	18 18 4
Pimento - - "	500	42 - -	21,000	7 - -	3,500	3 - -	1,500	5 - -
Rum, Jamaica - gals.	1,800,000 (average 30% O.P.)	- 4 -	360,000	- - 5	37,500	- - 2	15,000	- 8 10
„ Leeward Islands „	1,800,000 (average 10% O.P.)	- 2 6	225,000	- - 4½	33,750	- - 2	15,000	- 8 10
TOTAL		- - - £.	5,494,555	- - -	846,613	- - -	564,346	

Freight	- - - - -	£.	846,613
Insurance, &c.	- - - - -	£.	564,346
			1,410,959
TOTAL Net Produce	- - - - -	£.	4,083,596

STATEMENT of Monthly IMPORTS of West India SUGAR in the United Kingdom; Gazette Average Price in Bond, and Total Value for the Year 1847.

MONTH ENDING	IMPORTS.	GAZETTE AVERAGE PER TON.	VALUE IN BOND.	FOR THE QUARTER:	
				IMPORTS.	VALUE.
	Tons.	£. s. d.	£.	Tons.	£.
5th February 1847	2,946	34 3 4	100,655		
5th March	3,211	35 17 -	115,115		
5th April	6,688	33 7 6	223,212		
5th May	10,800	32 2 6	346,950	12,845	438,982
5th June	18,193	30 3 4	548,822		
5th July	22,569	28 2 -	634,188	51,562	1,529,960
5th August	18,983	25 16 -	489,762		
5th September	10,228	26 2 -	266,950		
5th October	28,042	26 5 -	736,102	57,253	1,492,814
5th November	14,170	23 6 8	330,630		
5th December	11,890	23 3 -	275,253		
5th January 1848	11,847	22 15 -	269,291	37,897	875,174
	159,557		4,336,930		

And

And my estimate for 1848 is as under:—

ESTIMATE, 1848.

TOTAL VALUE of WEST INDIA PRODUCE imported into the United Kingdom, 1848.

ARTICLES.	Quantity.	Value in Bond.	Amount.	OF WHICH IS			
				Freight.		Insurance, Sundry, and Sale Charges.	
				Rate.	Amount.	—	Amount.
		£. s. d.	£.	£. s. d.	£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Sugar - - tons	135,000	23 - -	3,105,000	4 - -	540,000	3 - -	405,000
Molasses - - „	24,000	12 - -	288,000	4 - -	96,000	1 8 4	34,000
Coffee - - „	2,800	2 4 -	122,200	5 - -	14,000	3 - -	8,400
Cocoa - - „	1,200	2 4 -	52,800	4 - -	4,800	3 - -	3,600
Pimento, Ginger, &c. -	- - -	- - -	50,000	- - -	5,000	- - -	3,500
Rum, Jamaica - gals.	1,300,000 (aver. 30 % O. P.)	- 4 -	260,000	- - 5	27,083	- - 2	10,833
„ Leeward Islands „	1,700,000 (aver. 10 % O. P.)	- 1 10	155,880	- - 4 ½	31,875	- - 2	14,166
	TOTAL - - -	£.	4,083,880	- - -	718,758	- - -	479,499

	£.	£.
Freight - - - - -	- - - - -	718,758
Insurance, &c. - - - - -	- - - - -	479,499
		<u>1,198,257</u>
TOTAL Net Produce - - -	£.	<u>2,885,573</u>

16685. Do not you think that that affords a most conclusive answer to the doubts of those who think that the cry of ruin now is only a false cry?—I am quite sure of it.

16686. Have you got any statement of the proportion of refined and raw sugars exported to foreign countries during the existence of slavery?—I have some with me.

16687. It is alleged that the exportation of sugar by England during slavery arose from the circumstance entirely that there was a bounty upon refined sugar, and that it was only refined sugar that was exported. Can you state the quantity of raw sugar which was exported during a certain number of years, at the time of the existence of slavery?—Unfortunately my return does not distinguish between that which was exported raw, and that which was exported in a refined state; but I have no doubt that I can ascertain that fact, and put it in.

[The Witness subsequently furnished the following Returns:]

B. B. Greene, Esq.*

5 April 1848.

QUANTITY of SUGAR Re-exported from the *United Kingdom*, distinguishing West India Raw from Foreign and Refined, from 1807 to 1831.

Years.	British Plantation or West India, Raw.	East India.	Foreign.	Refined.	Equivalent of Refined in Raw (34 cwt. of Raw to 20 cwt. Refined.)	Total Exported.	Deducting East India and Foreign, leaves Total Quantity of West India as Under.
	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
1807	29,842	1,020	2,133	20,698	35,186	68,182	65,029
1808	12,216	2,453	3,049	16,362	27,815	45,533	40,031
1809	13,816	844	21,011	23,036	39,162	74,833	71,878
1810	4,524	354	25,966	20,660	35,122	65,967	39,647
1811	13,799	202	11,958	5,050	8,584	34,543	22,383
1812	15,540	348	17,827	14,230	24,192	57,909	39,734
1813	21,525	500	20,500	22,500	38,250	80,775	59,775
1814	27,685	2,065	23,148	27,766	47,203	100,105	74,892
1815	24,558	3,421	15,571	30,462	51,786	95,335	76,343
1816	18,857	5,103	9,565	29,209	49,655	83,180	68,512
1817	12,913	4,774	6,646	34,854	59,252	83,587	72,167
1818	13,380	5,516	5,434	35,559	60,450	84,781	73,331
1819	10,919	4,410	5,135	26,261	44,643	65,109	55,564
1820	8,973	9,330	6,915	33,978	57,762	82,978	66,733
1821	7,460	7,364	9,316	32,268	54,855	78,996	62,316
1822	8,549	5,123	6,885	18,739	31,856	52,415	40,407
1823	7,168	5,267	8,335	22,908	38,945	60,216	46,114
1824	4,495	7,354	10,699	21,769	36,997	59,546	41,493
1825	4,256	2,968	8,653	19,489	33,132	49,010	37,389
1826	5,115	4,610	5,294	17,178	29,202	44,218	34,314
1827	2,046	5,528	5,198	20,453	34,770	47,542	36,816
1828	2,529	8,026	8,016	22,842	38,831	57,403	41,361
1829	810	2,809	8,648	23,777	40,421	55,303	43,846
1830	668	6,589	8,315	30,379	51,644	67,217	52,313
1831	540	6,114	14,382	29,092	49,456	70,492	49,996

STATEMENT of the MONTHLY CONSUMPTION of *West India* SUGAR in the *United Kingdom*, Gazette Average Price in Bond, and Total Value, for the Year 1847.

MONTH ENDING	Consumption.	Gazette Average, Per Ton.	VALUE IN BOND.	Consumption of the Quarter.	Value of the Quarter.
	<i>Tons.</i>	£. s. d.	£.	<i>Tons.</i>	£.
1847:					
February 5	8,275	34 3 4	282,729	17,843	614,272
March "	4,935	35 17 -	176,920		
April "	4,633	38 7 6	154,623		
May "	7,392	32 2 6	237,468	31,865	948,271
June "	11,183	30 3 4	337,354		
July "	13,290	28 2 -	373,449		
August "	15,182	25 16 -	391,695	43,390	1,130,361
Sept. "	11,955	26 2 -	312,025		
October "	16,253	26 5 -	426,641		
Nov. "	10,509	23 6 8	245,210	36,032	831,419
Dec. "	13,151	28 3 -	304,446		
1848:					
Jan. 5	12,372	22 15 -	281,763		
	129,130		£. 3,524,323		£. 3,524,323

Philip Anstruther, Esq., called in; and Examined.

16688. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you were Colonial Secretary in Ceylon?—Yes, for 15 years.

16689. When did you return?—In 1845.

16690. So that you went to Ceylon in the year 1830?—I went originally in the year 1820 in the civil service, and rose in the service to be Colonial Secretary 15 years ago.

16691. Are you also a proprietor?—I am the proprietor of a coffee estate.

16692. When did you become the proprietor of a coffee estate?—In 1840; I was then in this country on leave of absence.

16693. What number of acres of coffee plantation have you?—A little more than 300 acres.

16694. How much coffee does it produce?—It is not yet in full bearing; it is calculated to give about 2,400 cwt.

16695. I presume that you were tempted into the speculation by the high prices of coffee at that time, in consequence of the falling off of the coffee cultivation in the British West Indies which followed upon the emancipation of the slaves?—I was; I have here a statement, which was sent home to me in this country, which was the chief temptation to embark in the speculation, otherwise I should, perhaps, never have gone back to Ceylon. I had come to this country with the intention of retiring from the service; but I was tempted to go back in consequence of this statement. This is a statement of the produce of the estate of a Mr. Turnour, who was afterwards the colonial secretary; he was the first coffee cultivator in Ceylon. In 1837 the produce was 39 cwt., which yielded 192 *l.* net in London, after paying all expenses in this country, which is about 10 *s.* In 1838, 311 cwt. yielded 1,424 *l.*; in 1839, 765 cwt. yielded 2,500 *l.*; and in 1840 I returned to Ceylon in consequence of seeing this. At this moment 765 cwt., instead of yielding 2,500 *l.*, would yield about 1,400 *l.*; not more, certainly.

16696. That is not a price which even would remunerate the planter for the cost of cultivation?—No, not within 8 *s.* or 10 *s.* a cwt., inclusive of the interest on capital laid out, and compensation for the eventual failure of the estate. I consider that the best estate, under the most favourable circumstances, at this moment must lose about 10 *s.* a cwt., or 4 *l.* an acre; the best possible estate, in the most favourable circumstances.

16697. A protection of 2 *d.* a pound is equal to 18 *s.* 8 *d.* per cwt.?—Yes.

16698. If you get 2 *d.* a pound more for your coffee, long price, you would be still making a very good profit instead of a great loss?—Yes, we should then make a sufficient profit.

16699. Then, in point of fact, it is the last reduction of the protecting duty from 4 *d.* to 2 *d.* that has just made the difference of your estate being very profitable or very ruinous?—Very much that; but also the anticipation of further reductions, which prevents any one buying more than enough to go on from hand to mouth, and also the over-cultivation which has ensued; all three causes operate.

16700. But up to the present time I think we have had it in the evidence of Mr. Christian, that notwithstanding the enormously increased production of Ceylon, the production of all the British possessions put together does not yet come up to the consumption of this country?—Not by about 4,000 tons.

16701. Then, in point of fact, it is these 4,000 or 5,000 tons of foreign coffee that elbow and push you out, and prevent your still getting a full remunerating price?—To a great extent it is so.

16702. And if there were an extra protection of 2 *d.* a pound upon coffee, that would give the Ceylon coffee planters the enjoyment of the British market for the whole of their produce in preference to the foreign, instead of being pushed out by foreigners?—It would at present; but it could not last long, the production is going on so very rapidly.

16703. But if I understand you correctly, for the last two or three years there has been no great increase in the planting?—There has been none; and now, in consequence of the low prices, there will be a great diminution.

16704. Are there still more plantations to come into full bearing that during the high prices were planted; or are they pretty much now in full bearing?—There are a great many to come into full bearing yet; but I think a great many more will be totally destroyed by abandonment in the course of this year; I should

P. Anstruther,
Esq.

5 April 1848.

think that in the course of this year and the next, at least two-thirds of all the plantations in Ceylon, which have cost about two millions of money, must be abandoned; and the production ceases immediately on abandonment.

16705. If those plantations, of which the preparation and the cultivation have cost two millions sterling, are thrown out of cultivation, what will be the effect upon the revenue of the island?—It must be totally ruined; in fact, the colony I know is at this moment bankrupt.

16706. You know that the colony is at this moment bankrupt?—I know that it is bankrupt. There was a report, I believe, that they had not quite the means of paying the public servants in January; but I have a memorandum here, which I know to be true, of the state of the revenue and expenditure up to September 1847; it shows that their expenditure was very large, but the deficit was also very large. Up to September 1847, the revenue was 327,199 *l.*, the expenditure was 366,525 *l.*, leaving a deficit of 39,326 *l.* on nine months.

16707. That must be paid by the British Government, must not it?—The British Government must either pay it, or the colony must be put in the Gazette. The British Government have said hitherto that they will not pay; I do not know whether they will.

16708. Two-pence a pound I think in round figures is something like 18*s.* 8*d.* a cwt.?—I think it is.

16709. That is about 9 *l.* a ton, is not it?—It would be 18 *l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* a ton.

16710. What is the number of tons of coffee that are consumed in this country?—About 17,000 tons.

16711. There are imported 34,000,000 lbs.; that would be in round numbers about 16,000 tons?—Yes.

16712. If the duty were to be reduced 2*d.* a pound upon British colonial coffee, and the present duty on foreign coffee were to remain where it is, the effect would be at once to set up the colony of Ceylon?—It would very likely do so.

16713. Instead of being bankrupt, all the plantations would continue in full cultivation: and as long as there was that full cultivation, bring a profit that was quite equal to paying its whole revenue?—When I left Ceylon in 1845, when coffee was very flourishing, there was a surplus of revenue of from 50,000 *l.* to 70,000 *l.* a year; and I left in the cash chest when I came away about a quarter of a million.

16714. Was the expenditure equal to what it is now?—The expenditure was not quite so great, but it was sufficient. I do not know how the expenditure is so great as it is; but we then spent a very large sum upon roads. I think less in salaries than they now spend, but more upon roads.

16715. The expenditure is now 420,000 *l.* a year, I think?—More than that. It is 366,000 *l.* for nine months. This account of the expenditure for 1847 would be at the rate of 488,000 *l.* a year; this being 366,000 *l.* for nine months, you would add a third to make the 12 months. The expenditure in 1841 was 361,000 *l.*

16716. How has it got up so high since then?—I cannot account for it; I know that few roads are made now, and at that time there were roads; in 1845.

16717. Then is this an increase in the salaries, or an increase in the army?—There is no increased military expenditure, I believe; I cannot account for it, though I know the fact; I have no doubt of the accuracy of my numbers.

16718. I think Mr. Christian gave us 420,000 *l.*?—Mr. Christian's last year was 1845; that he gave an account of. As to 1846, I have no means of knowing; I only know that in 1846 there was a very large deficit; I think upwards of 36,000 *l.*

16719. Mr. Christian reckoned that the loss this year in the colony on coffee would be equivalent to 186,000 *l.*; do you make out that it would be something to that amount?—The loss to the European cultivators; I think the European cultivators will send this year about 7,000 tons, and the loss would be very great supposing the estates were all in full bearing, which they are not; for instance, I lost last year myself 2,000 *l.* on my estate.

16720. How was that?—It is not quite in full bearing; the majority are not in full bearing, and they will be abandoned before they are in full bearing. I saw a merchant this morning, who began an estate at the same time that I did, and it is in the same condition, I believe, as my own. He has sent out orders to diminish his expenditure to a mere trifle, with a view of saving this year's crop, and then letting it go wild.

16721. That

16721. Then a man who saves in expenditure, really saves by ceasing to weed his plantations?—Yes, it must go to total ruin.

16722. The result being that in about six months up gets the jungle, and the convolvulus, and the trees die?—Yes. I am going out this mail with a view of deciding whether I shall not totally abandon my estates as soon as the crop comes in; that will be a loss to me of about 15,000*l.* I do not wish to abandon them till I am on the spot; but my belief is, that I must abandon them next February.

16723. Then, as you have said before, the island must either go into the Gazette for 488,000*l.* a year, or the Imperial Government must pay its own charges?—If it chooses to keep the colony it must pay; but that it may reduce its expenditure very much, I have no doubt at all.

16724. To what extent do you think the expenditure could be reduced?—It is impossible to say to what extent the expenditure may not be reduced; if you are determined to cut your coat according to your cloth, there is hardly a limit. I do not know that the colony would be worse administered at half the cost; but the fault of all our colonies, as far as we know, is that every colony is a miniature of the Imperial Government; we must have a treasury, and we must have an audit office, and all those are highly paid.

16725. Indeed it is more a caricature?—It is very much so; but the Colonial Office might change its system entirely.

16726. Do not you think that if the Commander-in-chief of the Forces in Ceylon had an addition of 1,000*l.* a year to his military pay as Commander-in-chief, he would be very glad to administer its Government?—I have no doubt that he would; I think he is overpaid as it is. I believe he has 2,500*l.* a year for commanding 12 companies of Europeans, and half a native regiment; the other half is at Hong Kong.

16727. Do not you think there might be plenty of British officers found perfectly competent to command all the forces, and to administer all the affairs of the colony, who would be glad to do so for 2,500*l.* a year?—I should say that the great value of a Governor, and the best quality as a Governor, was that he should do no harm; some have not been so good as that. My father-in-law was one of the Governors, but he was a very good Governor; and then the Colonial Secretary was useless.

16728. Does not it come to this, so far as the colony is concerned, that if these coffee plantations are to be abandoned the expense of the colony will be thrown back upon the Imperial Government in some shape, either upon the East India Company or upon the Imperial Government, and the country will lose, on the one hand, something like, or at all events will have to pay, which is the same thing as losing, one half the expense which the colony now bears itself?—Just so.

16729. And therefore if the country were, instead of that, to reduce the duty on coffee 2*d.* a lb., if it did lose 306,000*l.* a year it would have a right to credit itself with half the expenditure of the colony of Ceylon, which it would save?—Certainly. If the coffee planters are ruined, the revenue must fall to very much less than it is now. I think the revenue must fall under 300,000*l.* a year; but by reducing the duty it will not by any means be all loss. Not only will there be the increased consumption in this country, where the duty is 120 per cent. on the coffee used by the lower orders; it is 37*s.* a cwt. on coffee which costs 32*s.*; but for every additional pound of coffee that is used there must be an additional consumption of sugar, which would pay a high duty.

16730. For every additional pound of coffee there must be more sugar used?—Yes.

16731. I do not know what the exact estimate is, but you have taken half a pound of sugar to a pound of coffee; is that correct?—I believe that every pound of coffee requires two pounds of sugar; there must be a great additional consumption of sugar for the additional consumption of coffee. That would yield a great deal of money.

16732. The price of coffee, ex duty, being now 4*d.* a pound, supposing the duty, which is 4*d.* a pound, that is 100 per cent., were reduced to 2*d.*, that would be one-fourth of the long price to the consumer; and if the effect of reducing the duty one-fourth were to increase the consumption one-fourth, that would be an addition of one-fourth of the duty surrendered, which would amount to about 75,000*l.*, to which would be added the duty on that increased consumption of sugar,

P. Anstruther,
Esq.

5 April 1848.

which is 14*s.* per cwt., and allowing two pounds of sugar for each additional pound of coffee consumed, would add — pounds to the consumption of sugar, and consequently add 14*s.* per cwt., —*l.*, to the revenue on sugar?—If the duty were reduced to 2*d.* per lb., and the consumption of coffee increased one-fourth, the result would be as follows: every additional cwt. of coffee consumed would give at 2*d.* per lb. 18*s.* 8*d.*, and 28*s.* for duty on the sugar consumed with it; the revenue would lose 224,000*l.* by reducing the duty on 12,000 tons of coffee, but if the consumption were increased by 80,000 cwt. that would give 180,000*l.* for duty on the increased consumption of coffee and sugar.

16733. Then the general result would be that the first apparent loss of 306,000*l.* a year on the reduction of the duty on coffee, would practically prove only a loss of —*l.*; against which would have to be set a gain, that which may be called a gain, in saving the burden of the colony, which otherwise would be thrown upon the Imperial Government?—Yes; I would also ask permission to notice that coffee has been quoted by every writer on such subjects as an evidence of the great advantage of reducing duties by increasing consumption.

16734. The injury by the abandonment of the cultivation of coffee in Ceylon, I believe, would be by no means limited to Ceylon; because if the coffee plantations go out of cultivation, the East India Company's territories will lose their exportation of rice, and lose the employment of something like 50,000 or 60,000 Coolies that come over every year to cultivate the estates?—Not only that, but the East India Company would lose the advantage arising from the enormous influx of specie into their territories. The Coolies on my own estate are paid 18*s.* a month; they can save very well indeed about 10*s.* out of that, which they take home and spend in their own country, or pay in taxes to the East India Company; most likely the whole of that would be lost to them.

16735. I think Mr. Christian made out that Ceylon pays something like 300,000*l.* a year for rice to India?—Yes.

16736. The money paid for that rice, virtually in the shape of coffee, comes home as part of the remittances from India for paying their annual tribute of 4,000,000*l.* sterling, including private tribute, to this country?—No doubt the greater part of the Ceylon silver goes into the Company's treasury in the end.

16737. Therefore the ruin of Ceylon would not only bring upon this country an immense burden for the support of the colony, if it is not to be abandoned as a colony, but would also strike a greivous blow at India itself?—Yes. And there is another supply which the East India Company's territories furnish, as well as rice. Before the coffee estates made any progress in Ceylon, such a thing as the importation of one head of cattle was unknown; now many thousands are imported, and are to be seen upon the roads every day in droves of 200 or 300, imported from India for employment on the estates; the whole of this market, to the subjects of the East India Company, would equally be lost.

16738. I believe that up to this last year Ceylon presented a singular instance of a British colony bearing her own expenses?—I believe a singular instance.

16739. Excepting always the territories of the East India Company, which not only bear their own expenses, but contribute 4,000,000*l.* in tribute to this country?—Yes.

16740. I believe that of the military establishment, by far the larger portion is not maintained for the security of Ceylon, or to keep the people in order, but as a military post at once commanding China, and being considered a healthy situation for the troops ready to be employed on any service for which the East India Company might require them?—Troops have been taken for that purpose, but certainly the troops kept in Ceylon are not kept for any police purpose. It may be because this country chooses to retain dominion over Ceylon, but not for any local purpose.

16741. But for the sake of maintaining her dominion she would not need that great number of troops?—So long as it is well administered, one-third of the present number of troops would amply suffice.

16742. I suppose so long as Ceylon was prosperous three or four companies would be quite sufficient for all the military purposes of maintaining the civil peace of the island?—I should think so, certainly.

16743. During the war in Afghanistan, and also during the China war, Ceylon spared the greater part of her troops for those services, did she not?—Ceylon

sent

sent the 18th Regiment to Hong Kong principally on my recommendation, for the purpose of getting rid of the expense of one regiment. I wished to get rid of a second, but Sir Colin Campbell, the Commander-in-chief, was of a different opinion; he was afraid to part with them.

*P. Anstruther,
Esq.*

5 April 1848.

16744. Is not the mode of taxation in Ceylon held to be very grievous, especially the tax on rice?—The rice tax is most injurious; there is a tax of 7*d.* a bushel, which is entirely taken out of the pocket of the coffee planter.

16745. You pay there cent. per cent. upon the value of the article itself?—The value of rice in Ceylon, from various reasons, is greater than it is in London. On my estate the Coolies pay me for their rice 6*s.* 9*d.* a bushel.

16746. The duty is only 7*d.*?—The duty is only 7*d.*, but from the bad roads and the aggravated expenses, the charge is considerably increased; there must be a profit on this duty to every man through whose hands it passes till it comes to mine. I am obliged to purchase rice for my men if they wish it; they may get it elsewhere if they please, but I am obliged to provide it at 6*s.* 9*d.* per bushel if they wish it.

16747. Do they generally come to you?—Sometimes they do, and sometimes not; but it costs more than it would do in London.

16748. Is not there a heavy land tax upon rice?—There is a heavy land tax upon rice; sometimes one-tenth, sometimes a fourteenth; it varies according to peculiar circumstances.

16749. One-tenth of the value of the produce?—Yes; and in other parts of the country, one-fourteenth of the produce.

16750. I suppose your estates are a very long way inland, are they not?—They are about 60 miles in a straight line from Columbo.

16751. We are told that there are very good roads in some parts of the island, the lower part?—Some of the roads are very good indeed.

16752. Have those roads gone to decay since you were there?—My estate is 60 miles from Columbo in a direct line, but the only road by which I can send carts is 96 miles; and I hear that part of it has become utterly impassable whenever it rains.

16753. Is anybody in fault for that, or is the trade of the island not sufficient to afford the repair of the roads?—I suppose it is from want of funds; the colony is evidently bankrupt.

16754. Are there any turnpikes?—The government levy tolls, which they take into the general revenue. The tolls in Ceylon yield, I believe, about 25,000*l.* a year.

16755. The tolls on roads?—The tolls on roads.

16756. Would that 25,000*l.* a year keep the roads in repair, if it was all devoted to that purpose?—It would not be sufficient; it would perhaps keep the best roads in repair, but it would not keep the half-made roads passable, and would not extend them.

16757. Then is the Committee to conclude that money could not be raised by tolls sufficient to keep the roads in repair?—Scarcely yet. The tolls on the great road to Candy are more than sufficient to keep it in repair; but I may mention a whole district in which a great many planters have established themselves under the firm belief that the Government would make roads; they have not made them, I suppose from want of funds, and consequently the whole outlay there must be lost. They are 70 or 80 miles from the sea, without a road.

16758. In which quarter of the island is that?—The district called Ouvah.

16759. There is now, we understand, scarcely any profitable cultivation in the island; the cocoa-nut is very small indeed, is not it?—There is a good deal of cocoa-nut cultivation in the northern part of the isle; very distant from the coffee cultivation. Whether that will answer or not remains to be seen; I confess I entertain great doubts of Europeans succeeding in planting cocoa-nuts, in opposition to the natives.

16760. But if I understand rightly, not only the Europeans but the natives too will be ruined, as far as the coffee cultivation is concerned?—The natives are suffering most enormously at this moment; the export of native coffee, however, still exceeds the export of European coffee.

16761. But the European coffee sells very much higher than the native coffee?—Yes.

16762. Then the native coffees will fall first, will not they?—They have fallen.

P. Ansruther,
Esq.

5 April 1848.

16763. And the European coffee will drive the native coffee out of the market?—No, it will not; I think the European coffee will be driven out. The native values his labour at very little; the native does not cultivate his land as we do; he plants a few trees about his house, and lets them grow, paying very little attention to them.

16764. What is the native; whence is he bred?—He is an aboriginal of the island.

16765. Are the Dutch all gone?—Very few of the Dutch remain, and all the European descendants appear rapidly to decline, and to die off. The natives are an aboriginal race of Cingalese, peculiar in appearance, having a language of their own.

16766. They are not a fine race, are they?—They are not so handsome as some of the Indian races, but they are a very intelligent, mild race of people.

16767. Not powerful?—Not strong.

16768. Not equal to Europeans?—No.

16769. And still less to the Africans?—No; they are totally unfit for soldiers. We once had a native regiment, but nothing could make them into soldiers.

16770. Were they wanting in courage?—Wanting in courage entirely.

16771. Were they not able to bear the fatigue?—They were able enough to bear the fatigue, but they seemed totally wanting in courage; it was impossible to drill them as soldiers must be drilled; you never could rely upon their not firing the ramrods at you.

16772. Then there is no fear of a rebellion in the island?—Very little fear of a rebellion from their courage. The former rebellion cost a prodigious sacrifice of life, but that was from the unhealthiness of the country.

16773. A sacrifice of European life?—Of European and native life.

16774. What was the occasion of that rebellion?—In 1815, Sir Robert Brownrigg invaded a kingdom which existed in the centre of Ceylon (the kingdom of Candy), deposed the king, and took possession of it for this country. Two years after, the chiefs rose in insurrection and set up a pretender; that cost us a prodigious sacrifice of life and of money to put them down, and we were very nearly beaten; so nearly beaten that I know Sir Robert Brownrigg had given orders to withdraw the troops, but he was disobeyed; however it was from the climate, and their cutting off our parties by firing from behind the trees.

16775. But then they must have fought pretty well to succeed so far?—They never faced us in the open field; they stood behind the trees and fired.

16776. A guerilla sort of warfare?—Entirely so.

16777. If, however, they should be all ruined and suffer together, do you think there is any fear that, from their discontent, they will again rise?—I think not; as long as the government is ordinarily well administered, there is not the least probability of any resistance or of any insurrection; there is no common feeling between the chiefs and the people.

16778. Are you acquainted with the particulars of the story about the verandahs?—I believe it is a story very much got up by some parties, from personal dislike to Sir James Emerson Tennent.

16779. Was not there some injustice on that occasion?—I think perhaps he may have carried it through a little more harshly than he need have done, but I have no belief that he did it with any view to putting money in his own pocket, as they said he did. In fact, the project was commenced when I was secretary; I do not think I would have carried it through to the extent that he did.

16780. They dispossessed those who had been very long in the possession?—I think so.

16781. They did not limit themselves to dispossessing those who had committed nuisances upon the public ways and roads, but carried out the rights of the Crown to the full extent?—They did, to the full extent.

16782. Indiscriminately?—Indiscriminately, where there had been very long possession.

16783. Where that long possession undisturbed had given to the possessors the notion that it was their freehold?—Yes; I think they carried it through too harshly, but not illegally, nor by any means corruptly.

16784. But

16784. But it was a mistake in policy to dispossess those people, was not it?—I think in many cases it was; in others, in different parts of the town, I think it was quite right; they were injuring the highway; in others again there were squatters for a whole house perhaps. But in some of the principal streets the verandahs were notoriously on government ground with the knowledge and consent of the Dutch government, and they were so despotic that they would have removed them at once if they had had any objection. The Dutch never hesitated to take the strongest measures against any encroachments they disapproved of.

16785. Therefore where they had not built, in point of fact there had been practically sanction given to them?—To some extent I think there was a want of conciliation in carrying the measure through, though it was in the abstract just.

16786. There was what might be considered a sort of silent consent?—No doubt in many cases it was so.

16787. Would not the proper course have been to have given them notice?—They had long notice.

16788. But the question refers to a period before they built their verandahs?—That was before we had possession of the island.

16789. Were those verandahs that had been in existence before the British got possession of the island removed?—I presume the people paid for them in most cases; in some, from obstinacy, rather than pay if they thought they ought not to pay, they suffered them to be pulled down; but in the principal streets in Columbo I have no doubt the verandahs existed prior to 1796.

16790. Did we take Ceylon in 1796?—Yes. I think it impossible to attribute more blame to Sir James Emerson Tennent than some want of conciliation in carrying it through.

16791. Is there any other point upon which you desire to be questioned?—In reference to the removal of protection, I would observe that the Government under protection sold the land for 20s. an acre; in common honesty, if they withdraw the protection, they should give back that 20s.

16792. They originally sold their lands for 6s.?—For 5s.

16793. And then upon the rise in the price of coffee, they raised that price to 20s.?—Yes; 20s. was very cheap for the land under the former circumstances; it sold by auction for a great deal more.

16794. Then, in good faith, you are of opinion that for all the lands that they have sold for 20s., 15s. should be paid back again?—I think so in common honesty, for some of the land never would have sold for 5s. if there had been no protection.

16795. You think that some would not have sold even for 5s.?—Prior to that the Government not only gave the land for nothing, but they gave it free of all duties for a certain number of years, to encourage people to accept it. When, however, coffee was brought into cultivation under the influence of protection, then a demand arose for the land, and it was sold at those prices; for 20 or 30 years before people had been encouraged to accept it for nothing. I could, or any man could, have got a grant of 10,000 acres of it, and the thanks of the Government for accepting it, if he would only engage to cultivate it.

16796. How many acres did you purchase?—I have altogether about 1,800 acres of land.

16797. Which is not all in cultivation, I presume?—A great portion of it is grass land, pasture, which is not susceptible of cultivation.

16798. If your coffee plantations are thrown up, the whole will be valueless?—It will be a total loss.

16799. And you would be very glad to get your 1,800 l. back again?—I did not buy much of mine from the Government; part was bought from the Government while I was in this country, and a great part I bought from a private person who had previously purchased it from the Crown. I gave him about 25s. an acre.

16800. Which you never would have done if you had imagined that this protection was to be withdrawn from you?—Certainly not.

P. Anstruther,
Esq.

5 April 1848.

16831. But there is an immense quantity of forest, is not there?—There is still a very large quantity of forest which now is valueless.

16832. What timber is it; teak?—They are all timbers peculiar to the country, but from the want of roads they are totally useless.

16833. Is it fine timber?—Very fine timber, indeed; heavy and hard, but very fine, durable timber. I will, with the permission of the Committee; deliver in the estimates of expenditure to which I referred.

[The Witness delivered in the same, which are as follow:]

ESTIMATE of EXPENDITURE on the Estate of *Weraloo*, from 1st January to 31st December 1848.

		£.	s.	d.
13,000	Coolies—Weeding 130 acres 10 times, at 10 Coolies per acre, at 11 <i>d.</i>	595	16	8
939	” Pruning and taking off suckers (three daily) - - -	43	-	9
313	” Attending buffaloes and cutting badding (one daily) - - -	14	6	11
313	” Manuring with buffalo dung (one daily) - - -	14	6	11
313	” Planting failures (one daily) - - -	14	6	11
6,000	” Picking, pulping, drying, and washing coffee, say 800 cwt.	275	-	-
20,878	or about 66 Coolies daily.	956	18	2
	For carriage of coffee to Colombo, say 800 cwt. at 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> - - -	140	-	-
	For drying, peeling, picking, and sorting 800 cwt. at about 3 <i>s.</i> - - -	120	-	-
	Cartage to wharf, from Anakanda, at 4 ½ <i>d.</i> per cwt. - - -	15	-	-
	For contingency: mats, baskets, and bags, &c. - - -	30	-	-
	TOTAL - - - £.	1,261	18	2

Expenses of produce per cwt. about 1 *l.* 11 *s.* 6 ½ *d.*

ESTIMATE of EXPENDITURE on the Estate of *Hyndford*, from 1st January to 31st December 1848.

		£.	s.	d.
11,000	Coolies—Weeding 110 acres, 10 weedings, at 10 Coolies per acre, at 11 <i>d.</i> , including agent, sup. canganies, servants, and Sundays - - -	504	3	4
939	” Pruning and taking off water sprouts, 11 <i>d.</i> (three daily) - - -	43	-	9
939	” Attending cattle, cutting litter, and cleaning shed, 11 <i>d.</i> (three daily) - - -	43	-	9
626	” Manuring with cattle dung, &c. (two daily) - - -	23	13	10
626	” Replacing failures with dung (two daily) - - -	23	13	10
5,000	” Picking, pulping, washing, and drying coffee, supposing 600 cwt. - - -	229	3	4
19,130	or 61 average daily, required to keep estate in proper order - - -	866	15	10
	Bandy here from Navillapittia to Colombo, with coffee, say 600 cwt. at 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per cwt. - - -	105	-	-
	For drying, peeling, and picking 600 cwt., at 3 <i>s.</i> per cwt. - - -	90	-	-
	Cartage from store to Colombo, at 4 ½ <i>d.</i> per cwt. - - -	11	5	-
	For contingencies, such as baskets, mats, and quanny bags - - -	20	-	-
	A set of lines for Coolie - - -	10	-	-
	Kintail will be nearly a transcript of the foregoing, only that no lines are required to be erected - - -	1,103	-	10
		1,093	-	10
	TOTAL - - - £.	2,196	1	8

Note.—The Coolies calculated for weeding are supposed to make estate roads and other minor works, which in the meantime cannot be foreseen. It will not be easy to make a proper estimate of the coffee which we may have. Though the estates look well, it greatly depends on the weather and other causes if we can bring to maturity the quantity which the bloom promises. Last year the estate of Kintail lost by the blight fully half of its crop, and this year Hyndford about the third; hence the quantity must, in a great measure, very much depend upon circumstances.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 149

ABSTRACT of the RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS of the Government of Ceylon, for the Year ended 30 June 1847.

P. Anstruther,
Esq.

5 April 1848.

RECEIPTS:

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Outstanding balances of former years -	-	-	-	27,885	8	7
Revenue of the Current Year:						
Taxes, duties, monopolies, and proceeds of Crown Lands	335,184	-	6			
Casual revenue and incidental receipts -	44,815	19	4			
				379,999	19	10
Receipts in Aid:						
Subscriptions to the Civil Fund -	231	1	8			
Ditto -- Widows' Pensions -	236	-	-			
Abatements from salaries -	2,489	1	6			
Surcharges recovered -	3,497	8	7			
Paper currency issued -	13,723	-	-			
				20,176	11	9
Drafts on Her Majesty's Treasury, &c. -	-	-	-	58,754	18	4
Repayments of Advances and Receipts on Account:						
Civil and military departments; advances -	91,586	17	8			
Queen's pay department -	76,201	6	8			
Ordnance department -	4,533	2	9			
East India Company - receipts -	30,775	19	1			
Hong Kong Government -	995	10	4			
Agents for the colony -	20,705	8	9			
				224,798	5	3
				711,564	18	9
Applied from balance in hand on 1st July 1846 -	-	-	-	84,742	4	9
				796,307	3	6

DISBURSEMENTS:

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Arrears of former Years:						
Civil -	48,329	13	8			
Military -	269	14	5			
Commissariat -	1,768	13	9			
				50,368	1	5
Expenditure of the Current Year:						
Ordinary, civil -	161,736	16	2			
-- military -	62,028	3	9			
				223,764	19	11
Extraordinary, civil -	119,356	-	-			
-- military -	3,290	18	6			
-- commissariat -	55,296	6	11			
				177,943	5	5
Special charges -	-	-	-	1,265	9	6
Repayments of Receipts in Aid:						
Abatements on salaries -	26	5	-			
Surcharges refunded -	647	9	6			
Paper currency cancelled -	13,723	-	-			
				14,396	14	5
Remittances to Her Majesty's Treasury -	-	-	-	56,345	9	11
Advances and Remittances to Agents:						
Civil and military departments -	97,304	2	3			
Queen's pay department -	74,860	14	1			
Ordnance department -	6,488	19	4			
East India Company -	18,505	12	4			
Hong Kong Government -	1,254	17	7			
Agents for the colony -	54,216	6	9			
				252,630	12	4
Drafts and remittances in transit -	-	-	-	19,592	10	7
				796,307	3	6

LIST OF APPENDIX.

- No. 1.—Jamaica.—Copy of the Report of the Jamaica Assembly Committee, relating to the Costs of Sugar Cultivation - - - - - p. 152
- No. 2.—Copies of Despatches addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies by any of the Governors of Her Majesty's Possessions in the West Indies or Mauritius, relative to the present State or Prospects of the Cultivation of Sugar or Coffee in those Possessions, or containing Representations of the Distressed State of the Planters, or containing Information relative to any attempted Reduction of Wages, and the Spirit with which such Attempts have been met by the Native and Immigrant Labouring Population, p. 235
- | | |
|----------------|--------|
| Jamaica | p. 237 |
| British Guiana | p. 241 |
| Trinidad | p. 263 |
| Barbadoes | p. 277 |
| Mauritius | p. 292 |
| St. Vincent | p. 347 |
| Antigua | p. 349 |
- No. 3.—Sierra Leone.—Copies of the Charter-Parties or other Instruments under which the Colonial Governments had contracted with certain Merchants, Shipowners, for the Conveyance of Africans to the British West Indies, together with any Rules and Regulations framed in the Colonial Office in relation to such Immigration and such Conveyance, p. 349
- No. 4.—Havana.—Copies of the Communications from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, to Viscount Palmerston - - - - - p. 364
- No. 5.—Statement of Mr. Overmann, a Planter, Resident in Porto Rico, as to the Growth of Sugar in that Island - - - - - p. 373
- No. 6.—Official Regulations respecting Lands by the Dutch Government in the Island of Java, p. 376
- No. 7.—The System and Regulations for the holding of Lands, Directing of Labour, and Cultivation of Sugar in the Dutch East India Colonies - - - - - p. 381
- No. 8.—Papers Delivered in by H. Crosley, Esq., and Referred to in his Evidence, 3 April 1848:
- Report of Henry Crosley, as to the Result of Testing Sugars of various Descriptions, for the Purpose of ascertaining their Intrinsic Qualities, or the Quantity of Pure Saccharine Matter thereof, and Charging Proportionate Duties thereon, when Imported for Home Consumption - - - - - p. 391
- (A.) Extracts from Henry Crosley's Pamphlet, Published July 1830, and Presented to the Right Hon. the Lords of the Treasury (a Recorded Document) - - - - - p. 394
- (B.) Statement of Results of H. Crosley's Testing, with Pneumatic Apparatus, various Qualities of Sugar, as follows: the Samples of the Sugar Tested, and the Products therefrom of Pure Sugar and of Impure, in a state of Solution, accompanying the present, and Delivered to the Honourable Committee on Sugar Planting, viz.: Sugars Denominated Muscovado or Raw, and also White, of the British Plantations and Dominions in the West and East Indies, and also those of Foreign Production - p. 398
- (C.) Table

(C.) Table of Differential Duties proposed to be charged on Sugar of various Growths and Qualities, according to the Statement of Tests made at the House of Commons with Pneumatic Apparatus, by Henry Crosley, and by Order of the Chairman and Select Committee on Sugar Planting; the said Duties not comprising any Additional or Protective Duty upon Foreign Sugars of Slave Production - - - - - p. 399

(D.) Table of Differential Duties proposed to be charged on Sugars of various Growth and Qualities, and by Averages - - - - - p. 400

(E.) Table showing, according to the Statements of Tests by the Pneumatic Process upon various Qualities of Sugar, the proportionate Rate of Duty upon the Pure Product obtained, and also upon the Products that might be obtained from the Impure Part in a state of solution, by evaporating the Aqueous part, and thereby obtaining certain variable Quantities of regenerated Sugar, and of uncrystallizable product, Molasses or Treacle - - - - - p. 400

(F.) Extract of a Communication from Dr. Shier, now in Demerara, dated 8 February 1848 - - - - - p. 402

Points submitted by Henry Crosley in addition to the Documents already presented - - - - - p. 402

No. 9.—Suggestions to the Proprietors of Estates in the British West Indies - - - - - p. 403

APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

COPY of the REPORT of the Jamaica Assembly Committee, relating to the Costs of
Sugar Cultivation.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report;
Sugar Cultivation.

Colonial Office, Downing-street, }
24 March 1848. }

B. HAWES.

LIST.

Names.	Parish.	Date.	Page.
Brockett, Henry	Hanover	18 November	200
Burke, Hon. Richard Cussen	Metcalf	3 December	220
Clachar, Hon. John Shea	Portland	16 November	179
Chisholm, Colin	Port Royal	16 November	195
Carson, James	St. Andrew	25 November	218
Coffee Properties, List of, abandoned			229
Draseke, Charles	St. Mary	11 November	169
Estates, Sugar, List of, abandoned			226
Garrigues, Henry Lord	Vere	17 November	184
Gow, George R.	Westmoreland	18 November	194
Groves, Henry	St. James	18 November	196
Gladstone, Alexander	St. Elizabeth	19 November	202
Halliburton, Gilbert	St. Thomas-in-the-East	10 November	165
Hannaford, Stephen	St. Dorothy	18 November	197
Hosack, William	St. George	11 November	173
Hinshelwood, John	Portland	12 November	176
Hislop, Lawrence	St. James	24 November	214
Isaacs, Isaac	St. Elizabeth	16 November	181
Jopp, Charles M.	St. Andrew	9 November	160
Jones, John P.	Portland	12 November	178
Jump, John	St. James	17 November	188
Johns, William	Westmoreland	18 November	192
Jackson, Isaac	Hanover	19 November	205
King, Paul	Trelawny	17 November	187
Knott, William Henry	St. James	24 November	211
Lewis, Rudolph	Manchester	5 November	159
Lowe, William George	Port Royal	9 November	163
Leslie, Hugh Fraser	St. David	10 November	166
Lowe, Thomas	Metcalf	12 November	177
Logan, Alexander C.	Manchester	24 November	211
List of Sugar Estates abandoned			226
List of Coffee Properties abandoned			229
M'Kinnon, Louis	Clarendon	3 November	154
M'Lean, David	St. David	10 November	164
M'Culloch, Thomas	St. Mary	11 November	168
Morrish, Thomas	Trelawny	17 November	190
M'Cornock, Hon. Thomas	St. Thomas-in-the-East	19 November	209
Nockells, Charles	St. Thomas-in-the-East	11 November	171
Pierce, John W.	Trelawny	16 November	182
Peryer, John	Trelawny	16 November	183
Properties, List of Coffee, abandoned			229
Robertson, William	St. Andrew	9 November	162
Stewart, Charles	St. Ann	4 November	157
Simpson, Andrew	St. Andrew	9 November	162
Stirk, John	Vere	16 November	180
Shaw, Hon. Gilbert	Vere	19 November	207
Sugar Estates abandoned, List of			226
Westmoreland, Henry	Metcalf	12 November	174

COPY of the REPORT of the Jamaica Assembly Committee, relating to the Costs of Sugar Cultivation.

REPORT from the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island of Jamaica, and the Cause of such Depression.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 18 December 1847.

MR BARCLAY, from the Committee appointed to inquire into the depressed state of agriculture in this island, and the cause of such depression, reported as follows,—

Mr. Speaker,

Your committee, appointed to inquire into the depressed state of agriculture in this island, the cause of such depression, the extent of abandonment of cultivation, and breaking up of sugar and coffee factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832,

Report, That they have taken the evidence of persons interested as proprietors and managers of property, from nearly every parish in the island, from which evidence, and from the parochial and island records, the following results are established, as will more fully appear by reference to the examinations hereunto annexed.

1. That since the passing of the British Slave Emancipation Act, of the 653 sugar estates then in cultivation in this island, 140 have been abandoned, and the works broken up, containing 168,032 acres of land, and having then employed in their cultivation 22,553 labourers.

2. That those properties, now extinct, produced, in the year 1832, 14,178 hogsheads of sugar and 5,903 puncheons of rum.

3. That during the same period, 465 coffee plantations have been abandoned, and their works broken up, containing 188,400 acres of land, and having employed, in their cultivation, in the year 1832, 26,830 labourers.

4. That of 138 sugar estates, given in evidence, the crops made were,—

In 1832 - - 25,928 hhd. of sugar, and 10,008 pns. of rum.

In 1847 - - 17,359 hhd. of sugar, and 8,331 pns. of rum,

showing a decrease of 8,569 hhd. of sugar, and 1,677 pns. of rum.

5. That upon certain estates, shown to have had attached to them, and engaged in their cultivation, in the year 1832, 41,820 labourers, there now remain resident on those properties only 13,973, the others, amounting to 27,847, having generally become independent settlers.

6. That the sum of 1,405,887 l. 14 s. 11 d. was expended in the cultivation and manufacture of 57,006 hogsheads of sugar and 26,711 puncheons of rum, giving this result; that after deducting proceeds of rum, averaged at 14 l. per puncheon, the actual cost of sugar averaged 1 l. 2 s. 7 ½ d. per cwt.; consequently, that as its value is now, by slave competition, reduced in the British market to about 15 s. exclusive of charges, it is self-evident sugar cultivation cannot be continued; that there is an actual loss on every cwt. of 7 s. 7 ½ d., without taking into account interest on capital and money expended, equal at the least to 4 s. 6 d. more per cwt.; while, as regards coffee, the evidence is conclusive that it is, if possible, even in a worse condition.

7. That it is shown by the evidence, that up to the present year funds have been regularly at command to pay for labour.

8. That the plough and other implements of husbandry have been used in all cases where practicable.

9. That except it might be about factories, machinery cannot be made more available as a substitute for labour.

10. That in respect to immigration the Asiatic labourers have not been found to answer the purposes of the country; while, on the other hand, the Africans have proved eminently useful, as shown especially in St. Thomas-in-the-East, where, from their numbers, the estates on which they are located have been able to keep their factories at work during Saturdays, and to have their general labour better performed.

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

11. That from the now independent condition of the mass of the people the command of labour has become exceedingly precarious, often not to be had at all when most wanted; that hardly in any case will the people work on estates for more than five days in the week; that in several districts they refuse to work more than four days in the week; that the average time of field labour is from five to six hours a day; that the labour given for the wages is not only inadequate in quantity, but generally ill performed; that on the anniversary of freedom, and at Christmas, the entire agricultural population spend from one to two weeks in idleness; that in some districts this is also the case at Easter; that at all these periods, even if the canes are rotting on the ground, and the coffee falling from the trees, no rate of wages will induce the people to work, and that labour continues to become more scarce every year by the people withdrawing from the plantations.

Your committee submit, that the question now left for the British Government to decide is, whether, putting the ruin of the colonists altogether out of view, the national interests will be promoted by annihilating sugar and coffee cultivation in its own colonies, the inevitable effect of which must be, and that speedily, to transfer to foreigners a high-priced monopoly of those articles in the British markets.

Assuming that such cannot be the wish of the Government, or people of England, it is matter of deep interest how the impending calamity is to be averted.

It has been shown that, even with protection, many of the properties have been ruined by the emancipation measure, and that all have been most seriously injured; that sugar cannot be produced in Jamaica under 27 s. per cwt. to give common interest on capital, while in Cuba, your committee are well informed that 12 s. per cwt. is a remunerative price.

In this state of things, it is self-evident, that whatever palliatives may be applied, nothing but protection in the home market can avert the immediate abandonment of sugar and coffee cultivation in the British colonies. In a ratio as the means of labour are provided, the amount of protection may be safely withdrawn, until, at no distant period, these valuable possessions shall again contribute, as they formerly did, to the national wealth and prosperity. In the meantime, the only alternatives are, protection or destruction.

Your committee recommend that the substance of this report be embodied in a memorial to Her Majesty.

Note.—The substance of this report will be found embodied in the memorial enclosed in a despatch from the Governor of Jamaica, dated the 7th February 1848, already laid before the West India Committee.

EXAMINATIONS taken before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

COMMITTEE.

Mr. Barclay.
 Mr. Whitelock.
 Mr. Porteous.
 Mr. Rose.
 Mr. Spalding.
 Mr. Jordon.
 Mr. Moncrieffe.

Mr. Magnus.
 Mr. Brown.
 Mr. Joseph Gordon.
 Mr. Carr.
 Mr. Johnston and
 Mr. Osborn.

WEDNESDAY, 3 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Louis M'Kinnon*, of the parish of Clarendon, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am engaged in sugar cultivation, and have been so for 23 years, in the parishes of Clarendon and Vere chiefly, and for the last few years I have been interested in the management of about 10 estates.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing those articles for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—The following statement will give those particulars, distinguishing the estates by figures. I do not think myself at liberty to name them.

RETURN

RETURN of Cost of Manufacturing Produce on Ten Estates.

Year.	Estate.	Account of Wages.			Amount of all Contingencies, including Supplies.			TOTAL Contingencies.			Sugar in Hhds.	Sugar in Cwts.	Rum in Pns.	Sales of Rum.			Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of Rum.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1844	1	1,355	6	7	743	13	3	2,098	19	10	8 ½	130	1	12	10	16	-	11	
1845	-	1,127	1	8	1,320	17	6	2,447	19	2	57 ½	943	27 ½	190	-	2	7	11	
1846	-	1,138	-	9	1,289	17	5	2,427	18	2	34 ½	569	16 ½	206	-	3	18	3	
1847	-	1,400	-	-	1,250	-	-	2,650	-	-	171	2,831	80	1,280	-	-	9	7	
1844	2	1,000	13	9	1,628	12	9	2,629	6	6	55 ½	888	23	288	10	-	2	12	7 ½
1845	-	1,066	19	3 ½	821	4	- ½	1,883	3	4	120	1,980	40	460	-	-	14	5 ½	
1846	-	1,195	4	1 ½	1,471	10	7	2,666	14	8 ½	115	1,897	60	750	-	-	1	-	2 ½
1847	-	1,300	-	-	1,690	-	-	2,999	-	-	91	1,456	41	656	-	-	1	12	- ½
1844	3	769	14	3	376	9	3	1,146	3	6	18	270	8	100	-	-	3	17	6
1845	-	753	17	1 ½	245	2	10 ½	990	-	-	34	510	14	175	-	-	1	12	3
1846	-	895	14	5	604	18	1	1,500	12	6	23	345	14	163	12	5	3	17	5
1847	-	800	-	-	1,075	-	-	1,875	-	-	55	885	27	337	10	-	1	14	11
1844	4	894	14	8 ½	2,145	16	9 ½	3,040	11	6	14	231	6	75	-	-	12	18	5
1845	-	1,227	9	11 ½	1,258	1	7	2,485	11	6 ½	120	1,980	60	690	-	-	-	18	1
1846	-	1,250	19	1	1,391	15	9	2,642	14	10	48	992	23	575	-	-	2	5	3
1847	-	1,500	-	-	1,500	-	-	3,000	-	-	167	2,755	112	1,792	-	-	-	8	9 ½
1844	5	902	1	- 3 ½	1,746	8	1	2,648	9	1	13	214	3	37	10	-	12	4	-
1845	-	1,056	15	6	934	14	- ½	1,991	9	6 ½	68	1,122	29	334	-	-	1	8	6
1846	-	848	13	10	1,169	5	7	2,017	19	5	16 ½	267	12	150	-	-	6	19	10
1847	-	1,250	-	-	1,383	3	7	2,633	3	7	104	1,716	41	655	-	-	1	3	-
1846	6	833	11	6 ½	864	4	7 ½	1,697	16	2	82	1,353	36	463	-	-	-	18	4 ½
1846	-	937	12	7 ½	1,271	8	8 ½	2,209	1	4	25	412	10	125	-	-	5	1	2
1847	-	1,150	-	-	1,250	-	-	2,400	-	-	82	1,353	33	528	-	-	1	6	2
1843	7	1,384	1	-	1,246	12	1	2,630	14	1	153	2,601	71	781	-	-	-	14	2 ½
1844	-	917	15	4	1,616	2	8	2,533	18	-	12 ½	212	5 ½	82	10	-	11	10	3 ½
1845	-	1,049	5	6	1,356	8	8 ½	2,405	14	2 ½	145	2,416	57	655	10	-	-	14	4 ½
1846	-	1,055	4	1 ½	1,393	5	7	2,448	9	8 ½	62 ½	1,003	38	475	-	-	1	19	5
1847	-	1,500	-	-	1,852	10	-	3,352	10	-	176	2,904	88	1,408	-	-	-	13	4 ½
1845	8	1,318	17	9	1,355	18	11	2,674	16	8	127	2,095	34	421	-	-	1	1	6
1846	-	1,386	-	11	1,928	11	3 ½	3,314	12	2 ½	133	2,194	47	587	10	-	1	4	6
1847	-	1,750	-	-	2,855	-	-	4,605	-	-	231	3,811	100	1,600	-	-	-	16	3
1846	9	1,355	12	8 ½	908	13	9 ½	2,264	6	6 ½	17	280	8	100	-	-	7	14	7
1847	-	1,750	-	-	1,250	-	-	3,000	-	-	132	2,180	71	1,136	-	-	-	17	1
1844	10	1,585	8	4 ½	1,549	19	11	3,135	8	3 ½	40	660	19	237	10	-	4	9	9
1845	-	1,883	10	6 ½	633	1	10	2,516	12	4 ½	152	2,508	67	655	10	-	-	14	10
1846	-	1,957	6	2 ½	1,641	4	4 ½	3,598	10	7	114	1,881	72	900	-	-	1	8	8
1847	-	2,200	-	-	2,170	-	-	4,370	-	-	239	3,943	90	1,440	-	-	-	14	10
-	-	45,747	12	9	49,189	14	8	94,913	7	5 ½	3,256 ½	53,787	1,624 ½	20,479	2	-	120	3	4

No. 2 is a mountain estate, and the crops are more regular.

In St. Andrew's.

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt?—A. The above statement shows that, after deducting the value of the rum, the average cost of the sugar per cwt. on the whole has amounted to 3 l. 4 s. 11 d. Two of the years included in that average, 1844 and 1846, were very dry; and the crops, in a great measure, failed in consequence. Taking the most favourable year of the whole, 1847, and on eight of the best estates, the average cost of sugar was 16 s. per cwt.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832; and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—As nearly as I can state, the extent of cultivation, and the crop, in 1832, compared with 1846 and 1847, is as follows:—

	Acres.	Hhds.		Acres.	Hhds.
Salt Savanna, 1832	180	109	Average of 1846 and 1847	230	102
Low Ground	120	100	Ditto - ditto	91	103
Papine	100	60	Ditto - ditto	80	89
Hill Side	290	287	Ditto - ditto	265	107
Brazaletto	240	166	Ditto - ditto	170	60
Dry River	196	158	Ditto - ditto	150	54
Halse Hall	230	280	Ditto - ditto	200	119
Amity Hall	300	230	Ditto - ditto	280	182
Ashley Hall	250	200	Ditto - ditto	215	75
Moreland	639	430	Ditto - ditto	400	176
	-	2,020		-	1,017

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832; and what number now remains?—A. On Moreland there were—

	600 labourers.	600 fully as many are now on the property, land in lots having been sold to the people.
On Hill Side - 409	—	only 100 now remain.
On Brazaletto - 220	—	" 100 —
On Amity Hall - 247	—	" 80 —
On Salt Savanna - 254	—	" 20 —
On Ashley Hall - 254	—	" 40 —
On Dry River - 210	—	" 30 —
On Halse Hill - 195	—	" 195 —
On Low Ground - 172	—	" 80 —
On Papine - 120	—	" 100 —
	<u>2,601</u>	<u>1,345</u>

Q. Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—A. We mostly rely on the labourers settled on the estates; but they are not themselves nearly sufficient to carry on the cultivation.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation; and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—The general rate of wages is from 1 s. to 1 s. 6 d. for six or eight hours of labour; but most of our work is done by task. I conceive we receive, in general, a fair day's work.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Until within the last twelve months we have generally had sufficient capital to pay our labourers; but of late the crops have been so bad, and prices so depreciated, that on three estates out of the ten I am connected with, I have found it very difficult to procure money to pay the wages; in fact, I have had often to advance money for that purpose myself; by which means the labourers have been regularly paid.

Do you use the plough, in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—In one part of the country, with which I am chiefly connected, the use of the plough is general. We also use the harrow. No other implements are in common use.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I am not aware that machinery could be made more available, to any extent, than it is at present, except in respect to tramways; one of which, I believe, is in use in Clarendon.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—A considerable number have been abandoned; the list put into my hands from the clerk of the vestry is substantially correct.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—Two sugar estates have, namely:

Estimate.	Estimated Value of Works.	Grinding.	Former Crops.		Labourers.
			Hhds.	Pns.	
Kellett's - 3,000 acres	£. 20,000	Water	250	120	464
Lucky Valley - 1,000 —	5,000	Ditto	130	60	245
<u>4,000 acres</u>	<u>£. 25,000</u>		<u>380</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>709</u>

Besides the foregoing, about six other estates, in Clarendon, must speedily fall at present prices.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I think labour is much more attainable than it was in the first years of freedom. In our part of the country the people work much more cheerfully, and better than they did at first. In Vere the people are almost entirely dependent on estates' labour, from the dryness of the seasons and being a bad provision district.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I know one estate from which the proprietor cleared 20,000 l. in about 10 years ending in 1834; the present advance he gets

gets upon that estate is 3,500 £; that property is now accumulating debt, and will only be allowed to go to the extent of 3,500 £, when it must be sold. I have been the agent to the proprietor of the estate for the last two years, but I do not feel myself justified in naming the property or the proprietor.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. or 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I conceive that a very large portion of the properties in Jamaica must be abandoned.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

THURSDAY, 4 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Charles Stewart*, of the Parish of St. Ann, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for the last 29 years on the north-east side of the island, particularly in St. Ann and St. Mary; I have had at different times about 15 properties under my management.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can produce a statement which will show these particulars with respect to three estates, as follows:—

ESTATE.	Amount of Contingencies.	C R O P.		
		Hogsheads of Sugar.	Puncheons of Rum.	
St. MARY:	£.			
Tryall - - - -	16,692	513	259	N. B.— I am not aware of the amount of contingencies and extent of crops for 1845 and 1846, only the latter I know to be small.
Trinity - - - -	25,853	999	438	
Brimmer Hall - - - -	21,827	819	341	
	64,372	2,331	1,038	
Deduct Rum - - - -	13,494			
	50,878			

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. This question is answered by the above statement, at 1 l. 5 s. 8 d. per cwt.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—On Tryall, in 1832—

	Hhds.	Trcs.	Pns.	Brls.
Tryall - - - -	190	5	100	—
Trinity - - - -	270	0	97	—
Brimmer Hall - - - -	271	0	120	19
Roslin - - - -	122	10	65	—
	853		391	

In 1840 to 1844:

	Hhds.	Pns.
On Tryall - - - -	513	259
Trinity - - - -	999	438
Brimmer Hall - - - -	819	341
	2,331	1,038

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—

0.32.

x 3

A. On

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report :
 Sugar Cultivation.

A. On Llandoverly, in St. Ann's, in 1832	-	370	-	185	now remain.
On Trinity, St. Mary	-	220	-	60	remained when I gave up possession in 1845, the rest having purchased lots of land.
On Brimmer Hall, St. Mary	-	286	-	-	none remain on the property now, having purchased lots of land.
On Tryall, St. Mary	-	263	-	-	none remain, for the same reason.
On Roslin, in St. Mary	-	124	-	-	none remained when I gave up in 1846.
On Llanrumney, in St. Mary	-	351	-	-	I cannot state how many now remain.
On Pemberton Valley, St. Mary	-	282	-	141	remain as settlers.
		<u>1,896</u>		<u>386</u>	

Q. Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—A. Those on the estates are most available for labour.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—In St. Ann's I pay 1 s. per day for field labour, no rent charged; in St. Mary's I pay 1 s. 6 d. per day for the same field labour; I do not receive one-half the labour, particularly in St. Mary's, which they ought to give for the wages, but when checked they leave the field, and perhaps do not return again for some time; indeed, in the parish of St. Mary, the planter is entirely at the mercy of the labourers.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had sufficient capital to pay the labourers.

Do you use the plough in opening your lands, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough and the harrow wherever the land will admit.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—Tram-roads, where the canes are distant, would answer very well on some properties, and would be the saving of manual labour. I know of no other but the plough and harrow.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I believe a great number of properties have been thrown up; the following are those that were immediately under my charge:

Decoy sugar estate, in St. Mary	}	-	-	3,247	acres.
Hazard estate, in St. Mary					
Towerhill estate, in St. Mary	-	-	-	549	acres.
Roslin estate, in St. Mary	-	-	-	447	acres. It must have cost from 4,000 l. to 5,000 l. to put up the works on each of these estates.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I am not aware of any.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I think the people understand their present condition better than at the commencement of freedom, but I do not think they work any better than they used to do; labour is not more attainable than formerly, and never will be until we receive immigration on a large scale from Africa.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot. I offered a few years ago, by the instructions of my constituents, a number of properties for sale, but received no offer for them.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I think the result will be, that at least two-thirds of the estates in the island must be immediately abandoned, and the remainder, favourably situated, by getting an acquisition of labour at a much reduced rate, may continue for a trial.

FRIDAY, 5 November 1847.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Rudolph Lewis*, of the Parish of Manchester, Esq. before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in this Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am engaged in coffee cultivation, and have been so for 28 years. I am the proprietor of Pleasant Hill and Windsor Forest plantations, and I have managed several other properties in the parishes of Manchester and St. Elizabeth.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing that article for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I am not prepared with those particulars, but I will furnish the committee with a statement.

COPY STATEMENT FURNISHED BY WITNESS.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	C R O P.		Sales of Coffee.	Cost of Coffee per Cwt.
					Coffee. Trs.	Coffee.		
1842	Pleasant Hill	£. s. d. 476 16 3	£. s. d. 152 16 -	£. s. d. 629 12 3	50	340	£. s. d. 1,107 3 5	£. s. d. 1 17 -
1843	- - -	535 14 -	140 - -	675 14 -	46	323	1,093 7 2	2 1 10
1844	- - -	539 - -	95 2 6	634 2 6	30	213	674 13 3	2 19 6
1845	- - -	475 19 8	124 17 1	600 16 9	55	382	787 - 4	1 11 5
1846	- - -	259 15 9	72 16 -	332 11 9	25 ½	175	382 2 3	1 18 -
1842	{ Windsor Forest* }	159 18 5	59 6 6	219 4 11	12	77	226 8 2	2 16 11
1843	- - -	477 8 1	121 6 -	598 14 1	23	147	453 15 11	4 1 5
1844	- - -	501 13 10	222 5 10	723 19 8	24 ½	172	494 1 5	4 4 2
1845	- - -	582 16 10	212 5 6	795 2 4	12	88	230 3 9	9 - 8
1846	- - -	293 12 10	128 11 -	422 3 10	28 ½	205	398 5 7	2 1 2
		—	—	5,632 2 1	306 ½	—	5,847 1 3	—

The average Cost of Coffee for the five years is £.2 0s. 1d. per cwt.

* The Contingencies of Windsor Forest for 1843, 1844, and 1845, are high, in consequence of having put in new Coffee, and erected a new Pulper and Peeling Mill; and those for 1846 are now, in consequence of many jobs which should have been done, were it not owing to the low prices of Coffee; and as it appears that although every economy has been used, yet the Expenditure exceeds the Proceeds by £.23 18s. 3d., and no interest for the investment of the capital of £.3,500.

Q. What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1845 and 1846?—A. The crop of Pleasant Hill in 1834, when I purchased it, was only 10 tierces, the property having been neglected for some time previously; I have put in new land, and the crops have in consequence since then been increased. I purchased Windsor Forest in 1842; it made then 13 tierces, having also been neglected; I have also put in new fields, and the crop of 1846 was 28 tierces.

You have extended the cultivation and the crops on your own properties?—I have.

Have you done so also on other properties under your management?—No, I have not; in consequence of the land being worn out.

What have been the crops on those properties?—Albion, in the parish of Manchester, produced in 1832, 150,000 lbs.; in 1840 it made about 60,000 lbs.; and in 1846 it made about 15,000 lbs.; the other properties I took possession of in 1836, and relinquished them in 1841; I believe the crops have materially decreased.

Can you state what number of labourers were attached to the properties in your parish, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—The number of labourers attached to plantations in 1832, engaged in coffee cultivation, were from 6,000 to 7,000, or thereabouts; the number now remaining are very few, and on most plantations none, they having become small freeholders. I would add that the difficulties in carrying on coffee plantations are chiefly attributable to the low prices obtained in the British market for the produce, and the actual deficiency of available labour, as they are, comparatively speaking, but a small number of properly called labourers. The majority of the people who formerly were employed in agricultural labour are now small freeholders, and possessors

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

of stock, and follow various other occupations, consequently they are independent of work as day labourers, and only work when it suits their convenience. The failure of crops since 1832, is in some measure owing to the adverse seasons, but in a greater degree to the want of continuous labour; for at the season when the planter most requires labour to plant or to weed the young plants, the so-called labourers are engaged in the cultivation of their own lands; and when they have completed their own jobs, to use their language, they say "I will come to work to oblige master." The coffee lands of Manchester are fast wearing out, but there is an abundance of land in this and the adjoining parishes fit for the growth of coffee, which could be cultivated to any extent. I beg to add, that I do not blame the people for first attending to their own work; it is quite natural that every one will look first to his interest; the consequence is, that the proper season is frequently lost at the time the work should have been performed. This, I am of opinion, is the chief cause of the failure of our crops. I deem it necessary for the welfare of the country that the labouring population should be increased, and I think that Africans are best suited to perform agricultural labour here.

Have you always been able to command labour to gather in your crop when ready in the field?—When there is an abundant crop we have no difficulty, because at the usual price for picking, which is 9d. per bushel, an able labourer can earn in a day 3s.; but when the crop is scanty the labourer is disinclined to the work, as it is tedious, and he cannot pick more than one bushel per day, for which I frequently pay 1s.; the general loss from this difficulty is from 15 to 20 per cent.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—I have already said that very few remain on the plantations.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—We generally do our work by the job; when we employ day labourers the pay is 1s. per day, but we do not get what might fairly be considered more than a half-day's work, and that is performed in a very slovenly and unsatisfactory manner.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, plenty.

Have there been any inventions for improving the manufacture of coffee and economising labour, and have you adopted any such improved process?—Yes, Mr. Augustus F. Butler has invented a machine for grinding, fanning, and separating coffee by one process; by which there is a saving of manual labour from the old process; it also improves the quality of the coffee; I have adopted them on both my properties.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832 please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I cannot name them, but a great many coffee plantations have been abandoned since that time.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—No, I cannot state any.

Are you of opinion that the abandonment of coffee cultivation in Manchester will continue to take place if the price of the article should remain at its present market value?—Certainly it must.

Do the people work better, is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—Yes; in consequence of a great many properties having been abandoned, thereby casting the labourers on the remaining properties, the labour is more readily obtained, but they do not perform better work.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I know there has been great depreciation in the value of coffee properties in Manchester; there have been few actual sales; at the present moment coffee properties bear no actual value, they are unsaleable at almost any price; many have been publicly advertized for a length of time for sale, and no offers whatever have been made for them.

TUESDAY, 9 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Charles M. Jopp*, of the Parish of St. Andrew, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am engaged in coffee cultivation, and I have been so for the last 19 years; I inherited three properties, and I purchased three others in the parish of St. Andrew.

Please to state to the Committee what was the condition of your properties in 1832, and what it is now?—They were in the highest state of cultivation and very valuable properties in 1832; they are now very nearly abandoned and valueless. They have been advertized for sale,

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 161

sale, but I have had no inquiry or offer for them. On two of my properties, Mount Sinai and Andover, the works have been abandoned, and the other four are going on with two sets of works.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

What was the extent of cultivation on those properties in 1832, and what is it now?—The extent of cultivation in 1832 was about 400 acres in coffee; it is now about 220 acres, and that in very bad order.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I am prepared to produce a statement showing what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property since the year 1830.

Year	Mark.	No. of Trs.	Weighing Lbs.	Sales Net Proceeds.			Amount of Contingencies of Production.		
				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1830	J	221	164,016	3,074	19	7	1,500	16	3
1831	K J	167	127,118	3,695	16	4	1,574	19	4
1832		99	77,439	2,978	13	11	1,364	18	8
1833		140	106,993	3,436	14	4	1,356	18	-
TOTAL - - -		627	475,566	13,186	4	2	5,797	12	3
From 1 January 1830 to 1 January 1834. Average nett price during those four years 6 ½ d. per lb. Cost of producing during those four years, 2 ¾ d. per lb.									
1834	J	123 ½	96,520	3,824	15	11	1,438	5	-
	K J	31 ½	27,450	1,194	6	5	529	7	1
1835	J	66	43,319	1,925	9	1	1,344	2	-
	B A	46 1 brl.	35,538	1,290	15	6	481	16	2
1836	J	132	103,306	4,573	14	6	1,086	3	5
	K J	40 3 brls.	31,785	1,293	14	6	446	-	-
1837	J	127 ½	152,000	4,573	-	-	1,312	19	3
	K J	76		2,534	18	8	644	14	6
	B A								
TOTAL - - -		641 4 brls.	489,918	21,210	14	7	7,283	7	5
From 1 January 1834 to 1 January 1838. Average nett price during those four years, 10 ½ d. per lb. Cost of producing during those four years, 3 ½ d. per lb.									
1838	J	129 5 brls.	95,937	5,031	6	10	2,505	17	3 ½
	K J & B A	79	59,561	2,662	15	7	3,025	9	10
1839		142	104,468	4,459	9	-	3,100	7	2
1840		115 5 brls.	88,843	3,520	7	9	3,041	8	6
1841		90	71,090	2,823	10	2	2,315	-	9
1842		135	100,815	3,344	14	7	2,762	3	2
1843									
TOTAL - - -		690 10 brls.	520,714	21,842	3	11	17,250	6	8 ½
From 1 January 1838 to 1 January 1844. Average nett price during those six years, 10 ½ d. per lb. Ditto cost of producing during those six years, 7 ¾ d. per lb.									
1844	J	56 31 brls.	47,140	1,425	11	8	2,753	9	2
	K J & B A	86 25 do.	67,200	1,727	15	4	2,524	-	-
1845		99 28 do.	78,320	2,164	13	1	2,360	5	5
1846									
TOTAL - - -		241 84 brls.	192,660	5,316	-	1	7,637	14	7
Sales to the amount of 1,964 l. 13 s. 1d. Fifteen tierces unsold, valued at 200 l. From 1 January 1844 to 1 January 1847. Average nett price during those three years, 7 d. per lb. Ditto cost of producing during those 3 years, 9 ½ d. per lb.									

Q. What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—A. I pay from 1 s. 3 d. to 1 s. 6 d. per day, but I cannot say that I get a fair day's work. I do a good deal of work by the job, but it is generally very badly done, and one great cause to which I attribute the falling off of the crops is the want of hands to gather in the coffee when ripe on the trees; I pay by the bushel. When the berries are thick on the trees, and the people can make high wages, they work; but it is almost impossible to get them to pick the trees when the fruit is thin, and a great deal is in consequence lost.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have had, up to a very late period, when the properties ceased to be remunerative.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I am not aware of any actual sales; in fact no sales can be made. I have already said I offered my own for sale, but had no offers for them.

Appendix, No. 1.

TUESDAY, 9 November 1847.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation,

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Andrew Simpson*, of the Parish of St. Andrew, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in coffee cultivation for nearly 20 years, and I have had the management of Dublin Castle, in St. Andrew; Mount Hybla and Hopewell, in Port Royal, and Trafalgar, in St. George's.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can show the amount of outlay, and the crops made by those properties, but I am not able to give the account of sales, as they are not furnished to me from England.

Can you state what was the amount of contingencies in 1832, and what now?—I cannot, as supplies were frequently sent from England, the amount of which was not stated to me.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay at the rate of 1 s. per day for labour. For picking coffee from the trees I pay 9 d. per bushel, at which rate the people can earn 2 s. 3 d. per day. They perform the work very badly, and, I may say, that in consequence three cleanings are required instead of two; and, after all, the fields and pastures are not in the same good order as they used to be in former times.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, I have; and I pay them regularly every fortnight, with which they are perfectly satisfied.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—Having a redundant population, labour continues to be much the same with me, but it is within my knowledge that properties generally find increased difficulty in procuring labour in the mountains, and that they pay more.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No, I have not known of any sales.

TUESDAY, 9 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Wm. Robertson*, of the Parish of St. Andrew, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am not now, but I have been engaged in sugar and coffee cultivation since the year 1800, principally in the parish of St. Andrew; but I may say that I gave up the active management of properties about sixteen years past, and sold my own property (a coffee plantation) in 1842 for one-fourth of what it cost me.

Have you been resident in St. Andrew during the last 20 years, and can you speak to its present condition?—Yes, I can.

What was the extent of cultivation in the parish in 1832, and what is it now?—I can give the committee a statement, showing the number of sugar and coffee properties that were in cultivation in the year 1832, but which are now entirely abandoned.

Sugar Estates that have been Abandoned.

Names.	No. of Labourers.	Names.	No. of Labourers.
Hope Estate - - - -	374	Pembroke Hall - - - -	98
Barbican and Somerset - -	216	Airy Castle - - - -	204

Sugar Estates in partial Cultivation.

Names.	No. of Labourers.
Chancery-hall and Swallowfield - - - -	168

Coffee Plantations that have been Abandoned.

Estate.	Number of Labourers.	Estate.	Number of Labourers.
Unity Mountain - - -	20	Hall Green - - -	145
Mount Habnal - - -	12	Happy Retreat - - -	9
Campbell's Mountain and Norwich Castle - - -	70	Goulburn's Mountain - - -	15
Mount George - - -	28	Cavalier's - - -	10
Juniper Grove - - -	23	Pleasant Spring - - -	33
Botanic Garden - - -	33	Mount Olive - - -	15
Ross's Vue - - -	25	Peter's Retreat - - -	20
Constitution Hill - - -	65	Belmont - - -	16
Industry and Fair Hill - - -	31	Cottage - - -	40
Mount Ossa - - -	21	King's Weston - - -	20
Content Mountain - - -	50	Retreat - - -	20
Mount Olive - - -	58	Langton Hill - - -	10
Cuba Mount - - -	41	Mount Tirza - - -	14
Thornhill - - -	26	Burntfoot Mountain - - -	19
Middleton - - -	212	Providence Settlement - - -	20
Clifton Hill - - -	20	Merryman's Hall - - -	40
Mount Pleasant - - -	19	Golden Hill - - -	19
Mount Prospect - - -	21	Fern Hill - - -	34
Mount Reserve - - -	14	Rock Castle - - -	30
Struan Castle - - -	49	Mount Cheerful - - -	29
Sterling Castle - - -	88	Mount Horeb - - -	15
Happy Grove - - -	76	Good Hope - - -	43
Bagatelle - - -	17	Happy Hut - - -	20
Westminster Cottage - - -	34	Mount Content - - -	38
Bromley Hill - - -	25	Mount Charles - - -	19
Flaena Hill - - -	35	Lassy Green - - -	20
Belmont - - -	24	Waterhouse Mountain - - -	40
Rock Castle - - -	10	Happy Hut - - -	20
Pleasant Hall - - -	17	Content - - -	20
Mount Atlas - - -	86	Casehorton - - -	40
Brandon Hill - - -	18	Pigeon Valley - - -	14

JAMAICA.
Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

TUESDAY, 9 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *William George Lowe*, of the Parish of Port-Royal, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in this Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in coffee cultivation for 31 years. I have one small property of my own in the parish of Port-Royal, and another in St. George's, and I managed two other extensive properties, one partly in Port-Royal, St. Andrew's, and St. George's, and the other wholly in St. George's.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I have not come prepared with those particulars in respect to my own properties; and the entire contingencies of the other properties, which I managed, did not pass through my hands.

What has been the result of your own properties for some years past?—My property, Green Hill, in St. George's, I have been obliged to abandon for want of labour. When the coffee was ripe on the trees, I was unable to find labourers to gather it in. In 1833 there were 52 labourers attached to the property; more than two-thirds of them have purchased or leased lands, and become independent settlers; the other property, Violet Bank, I continue to cultivate, but not now to advantage. In 1842 my coffee sold for 138s. per cwt.; in 1844 the price went down to 106s. per cwt., and this year it is down to 68s. per cwt., though the quality of the coffee was superior to that of 1844. I calculate the cost of cultivation at 40*l.* per thousand pounds, consequently the price received this year does not cover the cost of cultivation.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work

Appendix, No. 1.
 ———
 JAMAICA.
 ———
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.
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work for a fair day's pay?—On Violet Bank I have never paid more than 1 s. 3 d. per day, but my general rate of wages is 1 s. per day, when the people work by the day. The principal part of my work is done by task, but often not done to my satisfaction. I gather in my coffee by the bushel. When the berries are thick on the trees, so that they can pick two bushels and upwards, there is no difficulty, but when the trees are thin the people shirk the work, and a great deal of coffee is consequently lost, fully to the extent of 15 per cent.; this relates to my own property, but I know other cases where the loss is over 20 per cent. on the crop.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I do not think that the people work better, rather the contrary; labour is difficult to be procured, particularly in certain months in the year, from February to May, when the people occupy themselves in the cultivation of their own provision grounds.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I am not aware of any actual sales; properties are, in fact, unsaleable; Silver Hill was recently advertised, but the proprietor informed me that there have been no offers for it.

WEDNESDAY, 10 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *David McLean*, of the Parish of St. David, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in coffee cultivation since the year 1817; I have a property of my own in St. David's, called Middleton; and I am in charge of Sheffield and Manheim.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee for the last five years. Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay; what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—On Middleton, where I attend to the cultivation myself, my outlay has been about 350 l. a year, for the last five years; the crop has dwindled down, since 1836, from 18,000 lbs. to 9,000 lbs., and from the high rate of wages, and the low prices received, I have considerably sunk money. The cost of cultivation has been at the rate of 7 l. per 1,000 lbs. for cleaning; for pruning, 4 l.; picking from the fields, 5 l.; picking for market, 12 s.; grinding and pulping, &c. on barbicues, 1 l. 10 s.; mule carriage, 4 l. 10 s.; cartage to town, 16 s., and cost of tierces, 12 s.; making a total of 19 l. 18 s. per 1,000 lbs.; this does not include merchants' commissions or repairs of buildings and barbicues. In 1842 the crop brought from 92 s. to 94 s.; and in 1847, only 54 s. The crop of Manheim, in 1832, was 70,000 lbs.; and in 1847, it made 9,000 lbs.; Sheffield made in 1832, about 70,000 lbs.; and in 1847, 10,000 lbs.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay at the rate of 1 s. to 1 s. 6 d. for day labour, and at the rate of 12 s. per acre for cleaning, and 14 s. per acre for pruning; for picking from the field, 1 s. per bushel, and 1 s. per 100 lbs. for picking for the market. I do not receive half of a fair day's work for the money paid; the people work only four days in the week, even when the coffee is ripe in the fields, and at Christmas time, when the coffee is falling from the trees, they will not work on any terms, even if I offer them a guinea a bushel; and I am satisfied that one-sixth of the crop is lost in consequence of these difficulties of labour.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes; I have always had.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned, and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I know that Burness, containing 300 acres, Friendship Hall, containing 150 acres, and Lowden Hill, containing 500 acres, all coffee properties, have been thrown up.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I cannot say that it is.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I do not know of any actual sales, but I am aware that Sheffield was offered for sale about three years ago, and that 1,500 l. sterling was offered for it at that time; it has lately been again brought into the market, and only 600 l. offered. Several other properties are in the market, but no offers made for them.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of coffee in the English market to its present price?—It must be the ruin of all persons engaged in coffee cultivation.

WEDNESDAY, 10 November 1847.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Gilbert Halliburton*, of the Parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—I am, and have been engaged in both sugar and coffee cultivation for the last 28 years, in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East. I am the proprietor of Mount Lebanon sugar estate, House Hill, Greenfield, and Glanovy coffee plantations, and I am the lessee of Wakefield coffee plantation, all in the same parish.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing those articles for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can give the committee these particulars in respect to Wakefield, and they are as follow:—

Year.	Acres in Coffee.	CROP.		Expenditure.	Net Proceeds.	REMARKS.
		Trs.	Brls.			
1843	70	20	4	£. s. d. 1,550 15 5½	£. s. d. 513 18 9	- - In the expenditure for 1843 here noted, it must be understood that it was incurred for a period of 19 months, the lease having commenced on 1 June 1842, showing a total loss sustained during the four years of 1,373 l. 10s. 3d.
1844	70	29	2	908 11 2	796 8 3	
1845	70	39	0	745 15 4½	1,048 4 11	
1846	70	11	0	725 10 7	198 7 5	
—	—	—	—	3,930 10 7	2,556 19 4	

The expenditure of 1843 was increased by an outlay in re-establishing the cultivation which had been neglected, and also in erecting cottages for the labourers then resident on the property, with the view of retaining them there, but they have all left, except five families. My actual loss during those four years, including the rent of 200 l., has amounted to 1,373 l. 10s. 3d. With respect to Mount Lebanon, I have prepared a statement of the outlay for 1844 and 1845, showing the average cost of sugar, for those two years, to be 36s. 9d. per cwt., but I must say, that the outlay was greatly increased by various repairs to the buildings, fences, and roads, and purchase of stock.

Independent of such unusual outlays, at what rate per cwt. do you consider that you can send sugar to market?—I have made various calculations as to the rate at which sugar can be cultivated per cwt., and I find that I cannot cultivate it under 20s. per cwt., assuming that rum will maintain its present price. My opinion is, that nine-tenths of the estates cannot be cultivated for less than Mount Lebanon, where we have water power, and generally favourable seasons.

Please to inform the Committee of the cultivation of your other properties?—House Hill and Glanovy I have ceased to cultivate, from the impossibility of procuring labour at a remunerative rate. They are entirely abandoned. Greenfield, in 1832, made 30 tierces of coffee; in 1838 it cleared 1,100 l. sterling; it is now all but abandoned, last year's crop being only three tierces; and, taking the expenditure and the returns for the last eight years, I have sustained a loss of 800 l. by that property. House Hill I would be glad to sell at a nominal price, if merely to save the payment of taxes. The works on that property, when erected in 1808, cost 8,400 l. sterling. In 1832, 140 labourers were attached to it, and the freehold consisted of 680 acres. Glanovy works cost 2,040 l. sterling. In 1832, there were attached to it 34 labourers, and the freehold consisted of 500 acres.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. for day labourers, but my work is generally done by the task, at which they can earn from 1s. 3d. to 2s. per day, working from six to eight hours. I, however, often find difficulty in getting the people to undertake task work, as it is not unusual for them to go away when sent to task work. I can mention the fact of labourers working by the day, doing only five or six chains, and afterwards completing a task of 20 chains by 11 o'clock, in the same field.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Not at all times; but I have never had any complaints.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I do not think so; at any rate, to no material extent. Manual labour must continue the principal available instrument in the cultivation of canes; but the

Appendix, No. 1. use of the plough, and, in some cases, the hoe-harrow, is certainly some saving of expense and labour.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—Many coffee properties have been abandoned in St. Thomas-in-the-East, viz.—

Coffee Plantations.	Labourers.	Acres.	Coffee Plantations.	Labourers.	Acres.
House Hill	- 140	680	Sun Flower	- 59	100
Glanovy	- 34	500	Spring Bank	- 66	—
Mount Felix	- 23	457	Ross Isle	- 39	163
Roaring River	- 42	261	Woodside	- 25	138
Lady Field	- 58	400	Sugar Estates.		
Thornton	- 114	300	Golden Valley	- 190	1,040

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I believe that many of the properties are in such a condition that they cannot any longer be cultivated. I submit to the committee the following statement, showing the reductions which have taken place in the crops of several of the best coffee properties in the parish; viz.—

	Crop in 1832.		Crop in 1846.			Crop in 1832.		Crop in 1846.	
	Trs.	Brls.	Trs.	Bls.		Trs.	Brls.	Trs.	Brls.
Monklands	- 367	82	118	32	Wakefield	- 84	—	11	—
Duckworth	- 151	—	27	—	Mount Vernon	- 149	—	33	—
Newington	- 62	—	5	—	Green Field	- 32	—	3	—
Newfield	- 45	—	13	—					
Island Head	- 36	—	15	—	TOTAL	- 991	82	234	32
Ben Lomond	- 46	—	9	—					

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—Generally speaking only a few work steadily; but labour is now more attainable than in the first years of freedom.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I do not know of any actual sales; landed property is almost unsaleable.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. or 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—Sugar cultivation cannot be carried on at that price, unless on a few large estates favourably circumstanced as to soil, climate, water power, and plenty of available labour.

WEDNESDAY, 10 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Hugh Fraser Leslie*, of the Parish of St. David, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been interested in the cultivation of coffee since the year 1830, and I have had the management of a sugar estate in the parish of Westmoreland since 1836, called the Delve, belonging to Colonel Forbes.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing those articles for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I am of opinion that on estates making crops under 100 hogsheads sugar cannot be produced for less than 22s. per cwt. For the last four years the sugar and rum made on the Delve estate have been sold in this island; the price of the sugar has ranged from 19s. to 24s. per cwt., and the rum has averaged 5s. per gallon, including island duty of 1s. 6d. I find, at these prices, that the contingencies of the estate have exceeded the amount realized from the sales of the sugar and rum, and that the cultivation of this estate for the last four years has resulted in a loss to the proprietor of 161l. 16s. 11d. I may add that this estate was valued by the public assessors in 1841, for the purpose of taxation, at 9,000l., and the taxes have been paid on that amount, although the estate has actually sunk money, irrespective of any return for the capital invested.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on that property in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—My connexion with the property commenced in 1836, and I am not competent to answer this question; I know, however, that the crops have decreased very considerably.

What

What has been your experience with regard to coffee cultivation for the last five years ?—With regard to the cost of producing coffee, I am of opinion that it cannot be done for less than 75 s. per cwt., even in a seasonable year; but in unfavourable years, such as the last, it appears from the account sales of ninety-five tierces of coffee, the produce of Sherwood, Petersfield, and Newfield, which I submit to the committee, that the cost of producing it was 80 s., inasmuch as the contingencies amounted to 2,700 l., and the proceeds, as per the account sales produced, were only 2,274 l. 4 s. 6 d., or, in other words, the cost of production was 28 l. 8 s. 4 d. per tierce (a tierce containing about seven cwt.), and the sales amounted to only 29 l. 18 s. 9 d. per tierce. With regard to the great depreciation, which has taken place within the last two years in the value of coffee, I submit account sales of coffee from the Grove plantation, in St. David's, from which it appears that for the three years ending December 1845, the value of coffee was 35 l. per tierce, whereas in 1846 the value was reduced to 21 l. per tierce in consequence, I believe, of the admission into the British market of foreign coffee at a reduced rate of duty. At present rates of coffee properties are carried on at such a ruinous loss as must lead to the discontinuance of their cultivation.

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains ?—I submit the following statement, showing the number attached in 1832 to certain properties now in my possession. Petersfield, 175; Newfield, 107; Ambully, 90; Sherwood, 127; Brook Lodor, 100; Eccleston, 99; Munts, 86; Belle Clave, 68; Grove, 61; Delve estate, 195; Leith Hall, 160; making an aggregate number of 1,268. I cannot say the exact number now remaining on those properties, but I am quite satisfied there are not 400.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay ?—The rate of wages is usually 1 s. 6 d. to the able men, and 1 s. to the women; the work is principally done by the job, and which enables the labourer to obtain 1 s. 6 d. for about five hours' labour. From the indisposition of the people to work during Christmas holidays, a great sacrifice of property takes place from the loss of coffee, which falls to the ground from want of hands to pick it during a period of two or three weeks, when no wages, however extravagant, can obtain their labour, this too being the period when the ripening of the coffee is the most general. A further loss takes place in not being able to pick off what is termed the *one* coffee at the commencement and close of each crop. Another difficulty is the refusal of the people to work on Fridays and Saturdays, even when the coffee is ripe on the field.

Have you had, at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers ?—I have always had sufficient capital to pay my labourers.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour ?—On the Delve sugar estate the plough has been invariably used in opening the land since I had charge of it, and I have reason to know had been used for 20 years previously; I am not aware of any other agricultural implements available to economise labour, with the exception of Edie's hoe-harrow, which has been found an entire failure, as applied to stiff soils, though I believe it may have partially succeeded in such light soils as the plains of Liguanea.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour ?—I am aware of no machinery that can be of any avail as a substitute for manual labour.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds ?—The sugar estates in St. David's were originally 12 in number, of which four, namely, *Ceolus Valley*, *Swamps*, *River Head*, and *Windsor Forest*, have been abandoned; the extent of these properties is as follows,—

<i>Ceolus Valley</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,056	acres.
<i>Swamps</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	666	"
<i>River Head</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	620	"
<i>Windsor Forest</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,900	"

Of coffee properties those as yet abandoned are few and of little value.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freehold, &c. ?—I have no decided information as to the intention of parties to abandon other properties; but, if I am to form an opinion from their present state and the ruinous depression in the value of our staples, I should say that all the other sugar properties, with the exception of *Albion* estate, must be thrown out of cultivation.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom ?—I am not aware of any improvement that has taken place in the work performed by the labourers; labour continues as costly as ever.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales ?—I can state that *Mount Sinai* sugar estate, in my immediate neighbourhood, was sold for 1,250 l. about two years ago, a sum not exceeding the value of the live and dead stock on the property, and which property, even so recently as 1841, was valued by the assessors, for the purposes of taxation, at 5,076 l.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

I can also state, with regard to the depreciation in the value of landed property, circumstances connected with a coffee property in Manchester, called Stone's Hope. I took possession of that property at the end of 1831, or beginning of 1832, having claims against it to the amount of 7,800 *l.* sterling; that sum was paid off in five years; this property was sometime after sold for 13,200 *l.* sterling, but in consequence of its having been deprived of its labouring population, at the expiration of the apprenticeship, it rapidly went to ruin, and ceased to be of any value as a coffee plantation. I am quite satisfied at this day it would not realize 1,500 *l.*, if, indeed, a purchaser could be found at all.

What do you think will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar, in the English market, to about 14 *s.* or 16 *s.*, by competition with the slave cultivators?—I am satisfied that such prices must lead to the abandonment of the cultivation of estates generally.

THURSDAY, 11 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Thomas M'Culloch* of the Parish of St. Mary, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am engaged in sugar cultivation, and have been so for the last 16 years; I am at present lessee of Heywood Hall, in the parish of St. Mary, and I have been in possession of that property since April 1844.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for?—I can; and the following statement will show the particulars:—

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	CROP.		Pos. Rum.	Sales of the Rum.	Cost of Sugar per cwt., after deducting Sales of the Rum.
					Sugar in hhds.	Cwt. of Sugar.			
1844	Heywood Hall	£. s. d. 840 - -	£. s. d. 693 - -	£. s. d. 1,533 - -	31	496	11	£. s. d. 220 - -	£. s. d. 2 3 8
1845	From 1 August	1,326 - -	970 9 9	2,296 9 9	64	1,024	28½	456 9 9	1 10 1
1846	From 1 Jan.	1,612 - -	1,459 3 6	3,071 3 6	66	1,056	32½	638 3 6	2 - 2
1847	- - -	1,450 - -	1,390 - -	2,840 - -	120	1,920	63½	1,190 3 8	- 14 -¾
-	-	-	-	9,740 13 8	281	4,496	135½	2,504 16 11	1 11 11¾

In the above statement I have given credit for 1,200 *l.*, derived from rent, wainage, &c., during the four years. The sugar costs the rate above shown; but I must remark that I was put to additional amount of outlay from the bad condition in which I bought the estate; and in 1846 my crop was very much injured by the drought.

Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—The above statement will give the amount, 1 *l.* 11 *s.* 11½ *d.*

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832; and what number now remains?—The number of labourers attached to Heywood Hall, in 1832, was 193; there are now none remaining on their former location; on very few of the estates in St. Mary do the labourers continue on their former locations; they have generally purchased or rented patches of the back lands, where a great portion of their time is spent in building houses, fencing, and cultivating their land; but where the labourers do remain located on the estates, their services can be by far most relied on.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—The rate of wages for able people, in St. Mary's, is 1 *s.* 6 *d.* per day; we certainly do not receive from them a fair day's work for the money; and when asked to perform a reasonable task, they walk off and leave it.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, generally speaking; and I have had no complaints.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I do, on all the lands where the plough can be used.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I have considered the matter attentively, and I am of opinion that it cannot be so to any extent.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I know that many sugar and coffee properties have been abandoned in St. Mary, but I am not prepared with the particulars.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—When the labourers are at work, it is my opinion they do better than during the first years of freedom; but labour in St. Mary is becoming more scarce for the reason stated in my answer to the fifth question.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar, in the English market, to about 14s. or 16s., by competition with the slave cultivators?—I consider it quite impossible to produce sugar at that rate; consequently a great portion of the sugar estates in the island must be abandoned.

Appendix. No. 1.
JAMAICA.
Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

THURSDAY, 11 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Charles Draseke*, of the Parish of St. Mary, Esq., before the Committee appointed to inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. Are you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for the last 16 years, in several parishes, but chiefly in the parish of St. Mary, where I now reside. I am proprietor of Spring Valley sugar estate, and lessee of Russell Hall estate; I have another estate, Bagnold's Spring, under my management as attorney.

How long have you been the proprietor of Spring Valley, and how long have you been in possession of Russell Hall, as lessee?—I have been in possession of Spring Valley for two years, and of Russell Hall for five years.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for?—I can state, with respect to Russell Hall, of which I am the lessee, as follows:—

YEAR.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	CROP.		Pns. of Rum.	Sales of the Rum.	Cost per cwt. after de Sales Ru
				Sugar in hhds.	Cwt. of Sugar.			
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.				£. s. d.	£. s.
1843	1,392 1 4	1,780 12 8	3,172 13 7	61	976	25½	373 7 3	2 10
1844	1,161 17 7½	1,302 7 7½	2,464 5 3	73	1,168	37	737 2 -	1 5
1845	1,252 2 1½	1,343 1 9½	2,595 3 11	95½	1,528	51	677 3 2½	1 -
1846	1,167 8 8	1,320 18 6	2,488 7 2	59	944	37½	705 - -	1 -
	—	—	10,720 9 11	288½	4,616	151	2,492 5 5½	6 -
								1 1-

In the above statement, along with credit for the rum, I have included, for 1843, 321l. 1s. 4½d.; 1844, 222l. 4s. 1d.; 1845, 314l. 0s. 6d.; and in 1846, 389l. 11s. 9d.; in all, 1,246l. 17s. 8d.; which makes the average cost of the sugar, 31s. 8½d.

APPENDIX TO SEVENTH REPORT FROM THE

16

Appendix, No. 1. LIST of ESTATES in the Parish of St. Mary, distinguishing their Value prior to Mr. Canning's Resolutions of 1823, the Amount Received, their Assessed Value for Taxation in 1841, Crops made in 1822, 1832, 1846, and their Value, by the Act of 1838.

Report: Sugar Cultivatio: Estate	Value of, Prior to Mr. Canning's Resolutions in 1823.		Amount of the so-called Compensation Awarded.		Number of Slaves.	Assessed Value for Taxation in 1841.		1822.		1832.		1846.		Actual Sales since the Year 1840, or Value.	No. of Acres.
	£.	s.	d.	£.		s.	d.	Crops.		Crops.		Crops.			
								Hhds. Sugar.	Pns. Rum.	Hhds. Sugar.	Pns. Rum.	Hhds. Sugar.	Pns. Rum.		
				5,705	2	2	325	15,700							1,407
				4,588	15	11	241	18,157							1,799
				3,723	15	5	222	6,927						3,750	823
	42,000			3,723	15	5	222	5,970							1,000
				5,295	17		294	12,654							1,300
				4,938			272	23,069							2,227
th	65,265			3,817	6	11	196	10,305						8,400	1,450
all				2,936	10	11	153	14,034							1,564
				5,649		7	331	15,600							1,040
lley				5,215	7	1	296	24,796							1,178
a	25,000			3,544	9	10	190	6,313							887
d	46,000			3,059	18	8	169	7,920					6,000		930
mer Hall				5,151	3	10	277	11,802							986
yal				4,278	17	8	242	6,961							497
15 Trinity				4,278	17	8	211	13,237							859
16 Wentworth				2,662	16	3	141	6,429							940
17 Albion				6,108	18	10	348	9,651							1,310
8 Eden				2,032	5		156	13,755					7,500		1,630
Fontabelle				2,094	1		110	11,040							660
Crescent				3,979	11	8	253	16,857							2,388
Pemberton Valley				4,580	8	3	256	12,730							1,487
New Ramble				6,234	6	3	342	23,702							1,654
Union				2,736	17	1	153	6,346							385
184* y Hill				3,396	10	2	190	11,383							1,289
18				5,199	12	6	274	10,485							903
abroke Hall				4,932	10	6	260	9,843							1,130
184 r tonnington				3,499	8	2	176	16,381							1,771
agnold Spring				3,344	15	11	178	8,590							601
184 Russell Hall				4,246	17	8	215	7,974							1,000
ambkin Hill				3,965	19		208	10,599							724
184 pping				3,702	13	10	192	7,336							700
4 Warwick Castle				4,537	19	8	245	16,006							2,131
Industry				6,121	10	10	324	11,428							1,110
Halifax				3,702	13	10	173	16,087							1,200
Spring Valley	18,000			2,170		4	116	7,131					1,000		1,244
Derry				1,945	19	9	107	3,147							303
Sugar Estates.															

The works and other buildings could not have cost less, on an average, than 6,000 l. sterling on each estate.

SUGAR ESTATES ABANDONED FOR THE WANT OF LABOUR SINCE THE YEAR 1836.

Cardiff				2,489	14	5	137	6,976							861
Carlton				4,245	2	6	218	4,435							940
Lower Hill				3,537	10		179	5,666							551
Almetto Grove				3,863	14	6	205	6,015							1,040
Spring Garden				3,077		6	157	6,000							1,023
Blowship Hall				3,238	14	7	189	9,874							903
Jecoy				5,024	8	6	258								
8 Hazard				2,861	4	10	165	28,422							3,737
9 Langley				2,489	14	5	138	8,127							950
10 Roslin				1,924	8	10	109	3,278							648
11 Greenwood				2,309	16	9	135	4,822							571

What

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 171

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the year last past, 1846?—On Russell Hall, in 1832, 142 acres, 184 hogsheads, 91 puncheons; in 1846, 76 acres, 62 hogsheads, 37 puncheons.

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—On Russell Hall, in 1832, 225; none now remains.

Does the removal of the labourers from their former locations increase your difficulty in procuring labour?—Decidedly.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation; and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay 1 s. 6 d. per day for field cultivation, but we do not get by any means what I consider a fair day's work; on an average the people do not work over seven hours for that money.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, generally.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I have used the plough a good deal, but not to the extent I could wish, from a deficiency of pastures to maintain stock.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—About the works, perhaps it might, to some extent; but of course not for field cultivation.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I know that many sugar and coffee properties have been abandoned, but I am not prepared with particulars.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I think they do work better; but labour is not more attainable, and is becoming more difficult every day, from the people having removed into the back lands to cultivate provisions.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can state that Spring Valley estate was sold by the late James Lang, some years ago, for 18,000 l. sterling, to Mr. Shackland. The cultivation was discontinued by the proprietor in 1842, and the live and dead stock sold off; in 1845 I purchased the freehold, works, machinery, and plantation utensils for 1,000 l. The estate has a water power, and the extent of the freehold is 1,244 acres.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar, in the English market, to about 14 s. or 16 s., by competition with the slave cultivators?—That a great part of the sugar cultivation must inevitably be abandoned.

THURSDAY, 11 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of Charles Nockells, of the Parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, Esq., before the Committee appointed to inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. Are you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for upwards of 20 years; I am the proprietor of Mount Pleasant estate, and I have the management of three other sugar estates in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I tender a statement of these particulars, in regard to my own estate; I cannot give them as to the others:—

Years.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			C R O P.			Sales of Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt., after deducting Sales of the Rum.							
								Total Contingencies.	Sugar in Hhds.	Sugar in Cwts.			Rum in Phns.						
£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.				d.	£.		s.	d.				
1843	Mount Pleasant	1,332	9	4	1,251	14	5	2,584	3	9	59	944	22	585	-	-	2	2	4
1844	- - -	1,138	3	6	1,147	3	2	2,285	6	8	91	1,456	21	580	-	-	1	3	5
1845	- - -	1,314	4	2	1,014	11	2	2,328	15	4	81	1,454	56	1,314	17	7	-	14	-
1846	- - -	1,155	8	4	1,530	4	4	2,685	12	8	108	1,728	47	847	15	3	1	1	3
1847	- - -	989	12	2	1,027	17	-	2,017	9	2	90	1,440	38	525	14	11	1	-	8
		-	-	-	-	-	-	11,901	7	7	439	7,022	184	-	-	-	1	2	10

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt. ?—A. That is shown by the above statement, amounting to an average of 1*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* per cwt.

What was the extent of the crops on those properties in 1832, and what in the year last past, 1846 ?—The crops were as follows :—

	Sugar in Hbds.	Rum in Pns.	Average.	Hogs- heads.	Pun- cheons.
Mount Pleasant made, in 1832 - - -	137	87	{ In 1846 and 1847 }	99	42
Estate No. 1 - - - - -	221	102	- " -	98	59
Estate No. 2 - - - - -	276	111	- " -	114	56
Estate No. 3 - - - - -	209	110	- " -	126	77
	843	410	- -	437	234

What number of labourers were attached on the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains ?—

On Mount Pleasant, in 1832, there were 203 labourers, about 40 now remain.

Estate No. 1 - - - - - 214 - - - 0 not one remain.

Estate No. 2 - - - - - 259 - - - 130 now remain.

Estate No. 3 - - - - - 294 - - - 175 now remain.

970

345

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land ?—I rely most on those who remain on the estates.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay ?—I pay 1*s.* 3*d.*, and 1*s.* per day, for task work, which occupies about five hours to complete it; they complete this work within that time, and go home to their breakfast; they could easily do a great deal more work.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers ?—Yes; I have always had on all the estates, and the labourers are regularly paid every week.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour ?—We use the plough on all the properties; the harrow, and the bramber scythe; the bramber scythe for mowing guinea grass.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour ?—No, I don't think it could.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds ?—I know that many sugar and coffee properties have been abandoned in St. Thomas-in-the-East, but I am not prepared to give the particulars.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c. ?—Buckingham sugar estate, close to my neighbourhood, has ceased paying wages and no person is working there at present; Garbrand Hall has also ceased paying wages. I am not aware of any other in the parish.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom ?—I think the people do work better. I have the benefit of some African and Cooly immigrants, which has had a salutary effect on the other labourers.

You mention that you have the services of African and Asiatic immigrants; please to say how far you have found these useful in your cultivation ?—I have found the captured African immigrants, located on the four estates under my charge, of the greatest service, performing their work well; and, being mostly young people, they have induced the Creole children, by their good example, to come out to work, which was not the case formerly; they have enabled me to extend the cultivation. The Cooly immigrants, though partially working, are quite inefficient, and incapable of rendering any equivalent for the wages they receive. During the time they have been in my service, now nine months, at least one-third of them have been either laid up with ulcers, or sickness, or have been wandering about the country. I do not consider these people, under any circumstances, adapted to our wants.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales ?—The only actual sale of a sugar estate which has taken place in St. Thomas-in-the-East within the last 12 months is Golden Valley; it was sold for 620*l.*; that is, for the machinery, works, and freehold, containing about 1,200 acres.

What do you consider will be the result of prematurely reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14*s.* or 16*s.* by competition with the slave cultivators ?—I do not think it possible for us to continue cultivation at that price.

THURSDAY, 11 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *William Hosack*, of the Parish of St. George, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been actively engaged in the cultivation of sugar since 1829. I am proprietor of Woodstock, in the parish of St. George, and I have also had under my charge for some years several sugar estates in the parishes of St. George and Metcalfe, and lately in St. Mary, belonging to absentees. I have now under my management what was formerly a good coffee property, but which has lately been converted into a pen, in consequence of the depreciation in the value of coffee, caused by the introduction of foreign coffee into England.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can show the particulars in regard to my own estate, and also with respect to the other properties, but, acting as an agent, I do not feel myself justified in stating the names of the estates, viz. :—

YEARLY AVERAGE.

NAMES.	Year.	Amount of Wages actually Paid to Labourers.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			Total Contingencies.		CROP.		Pns. Ram	Sales of the Rum averaged 3s. per Gall. per Cwt.			Crop of Sugar per Cwt., deducting Sales of the Rum.			REMARKS.
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	Sugar in Hhds.		Cwt. of Sugar.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	
Woodstock estate, in St. George	1842	1,863	14	2	Accounts incomplete, but averaged (not charging for my own services) at 1,000L. per annum.	2,863	14	2	139	2,065	75	-	9	8½	-	17	9	Dry. Dry. Seasonable. Seasonable. Very dry.	
	1843	1,904	16	5½		2,904	16	5½	147	2,205	68	-	8	3½	-	18	¾		
	1844	1,903	14	-		2,903	14	-	174	2,610	75	-	7	9	-	14	6		
	1845	1,982	1	3		2,982	1	3	218	3,488	113	-	8	6½	-	8	4½		
	1846	2,087	7	5		3,087	7	5	113	1,808	69	-	8	9½	1	5	2½		
Estate A., in St. George	1844	2,216	11	3	1,351	11	1	3,568	2	4	200	3,200	104	-	8	3	-	14	½
	1845	2,417	3	2	1,896	4	11	4,313	8	1	250	4,000	138	-	9	-	-	12	6½
	1846	2,725	1	10	2,257	15	3	4,982	17	1	251	4,016	127	8	8	3	-	16	6½
Estate B., Metcalfe	1846	1,408	1	10	776	14	8	2,184	16	6	81	1,174	33	-	7	6	1	9	8½
Estate C., Metcalfe	1843	1,838	7	6	1,366	10	3	3,204	17	9	172	2,580	52	-	5	3	-	19	7
	1846	2,211	6	11	2,509	2	6	4,720	9	6	97	1,455	44	-	7	6	2	17	4½
N.B.—In -	1844	A considerable portion of this crop having been shipped in the form of syrup, the return cannot be filled in.																	
1845																			
Total Average	- - -	22,568	5	9½	15,157	18	8	37,716	4	5½	1,842	28,621	888	-	8	7	-	17	9½

Q. What benefit, or otherwise, did you find from shipping syrup, and what was the state of the syrup?—A. It was boiled to specific gravity, about 1,301, or about 34 of Baume. It sold for 7 l. 10 s. to 10 l. per puncheon, but great difficulty arose in deciding the specific gravity of it in England, so as to ascertain the duty. Delays thereby ensued, which injured the quality; and eventually, from those causes, the proprietors directed me to discontinue shipping it. There was also a considerable loss by leakage, and by the bursting of the puncheons. Had custom-house difficulties not existed, and it could have been sold immediately upon its arrival, I think it would have been very advantageous, particularly on estates which make inferior quality sugar, and where there is a scarcity of fuel.

What was the extent of the crops made in 1832, and what in the year last past, 1846, on the properties under your management?—

	Hhds.	Trs.	Pns.	Rum.	Hhds.	Pns.
On Woodstock, in 1832, about	300	-	87	-	140	-
and in 1846	-	-	113	-	59	-
„ Estate A. in „	320	-	-	-	160	-
and in „	-	-	251	-	127	-
„ Estate C. in „	222	-	-	-	129	-
and in „	-	-	97	-	44	-
Total	900	-	429	-	461	230

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—The number now remains is much the same as in 1832, which I ascribe to my not having generally charged rent.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report :
Sugar Cultivation.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought lands?—I find that strangers commonly do a better day's work than the people residing on the estates, but, upon the whole, I prefer having labourers close at hand, and I have done all in my power to encourage a resident population.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—The rate of wages given in my neighbourhood is generally 1 s. 3 d. to 1 s. 6 d. per diem, according to the work performed; in cases where the labourer lives upon the property, then the rate is usually 3 d. a day less; and when it is considered that a field labourer's day's work does not average more than five or six hours, the rate is one-half too high; nine years of freedom have proved it to be so: the abandonment of eight sugar estates out of 17 in the parish of St. George proves it, as I know to my cost, one of the abandoned estates (Buff Bay River) being my own; yet the surrounding labour market has not been eased, though the population of those eight estates, besides thirteen coffee properties, were thrown into it, the people choosing, in most cases, either to purchase their own lands or remain prowling on the lands of the deserted estates.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes; I have always had.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I do, where practicable.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I am not aware that machinery could be carried much further than it is at present, as a substitute for field labour, but I think machinery might be improved in the factories.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned, and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—These particulars are given in a return from the clerk of the vestry of the parish, which I have seen, and believe to be correct.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—From the declining appearance of several properties in the parish, and the now greatly increased depreciation in the value of sugar, I presume their cultivation cannot be longer carried on.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I think the labourers work better now than they did in the first years of freedom, but I do not think that they do more work for the money they receive; the profits which they derive from the cultivation of ground provisions, render them in a great measure independent of wages from estates.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can state, with regard to Caen Wood sugar estate, in my neighbourhood, that Mr. John Oldham paid for it in 1838, as he informed me, 7,500 l. sterling; about two years ago, I was asked by the present owners, if I would give 1,500 l. for it, which I declined; it remains abandoned and unsold; this property was formerly sold for upwards of 18,000 l.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—If emancipation, as already experienced, under a protective system, has resulted in the ruin of a great many sugar and coffee planters, it appears quite clear that a permanent reduction in the price of sugar to about 14 s. to 16 s. by open competition with the slave cultivators, must accelerate the abandonment of sugar cultivation in this island with a rapidity little expected in England.

FRIDAY, 12 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Henry Westmoreland*, of the Parish of Metcalfe, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged between eight and nine years in sugar cultivation in the parishes of Metcalfe, St. Mary, and St. George's principally. I have the sole management of 14 estates, and three pens, and the joint management of four other estates, and one pen.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—Acting as an agent, I do not feel myself justified in naming the properties, but I can give those particulars with respect to six estates, which I have had under my management for three years, and of two other estates for one and two years.

Years.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	CROP.		Puns. Rum.	Sales of Rum per Puncheon.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt., after deducting Sales of the Rum.
					Sugar, Hhds. and Tierces.	Cwt. of Sugar.			
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Hhds.	Cwt.		At 12l.	£. s. d.
1844	1	2,752 13 -	2,077 7 4	4,830 - 4	180	2,860	80	At 12l.	1 6 -
1845	-	2,913 1 1	2,193 10 -	5,106 11 1	185	2,960	79	"	1 7 3
1846	-	3,227 3 10	1,592 10 10	4,819 14 8	112	1,792	46	"	2 5 11
					Trs.				
1844	2	1,125 19 4	841 1 5	1,967 - 9	106	1,060	38	At 12l.	1 8 6
1845	-	1,411 2 6	1,314 14 11	2,725 17 5	127	1,270	34	"	1 16 6
1846	-	1,435 10 5	1,147 4 4	2,582 14 9	61 ½	615	17 ½	"	3 7 9
					Hhds.				
1844	3	1,103 14 1	560 5 8	1,663 19 9	97 ½	1,462	23 ½	At 12l.	- 18 11
1845	-	1,379 4 8	741 4 10	2,120 9 6	84	1,260	29	"	1 8 3
1846	-	1,396 5 1	801 - 1	2,197 5 2	69	1,035	22	"	1 17 4
1844	4	1,406 16 -	674 - 2	2,080 16 2	80	1,200	38	At 12l.	1 7 -
1845	-	1,456 18 6	974 4 4	2,431 2 10	82	1,230	39 ½	"	1 11 10
1846	-	1,473 13 11	1,163 11 8	2,637 5 7	68	1,020	30	"	2 4 7
1844	5	1,055 12 9	909 7 7	1,965 - 4	53	848	16	At 12l.	2 - 6
1845	-	1,382 7 1	364 4 11	1,746 12 -	57	912	29	"	1 9 6
1846	-	1,273 11 4	977 5 6	2,250 16 10	66	1,056	34 ½	"	1 8 3
1844	6	942 8 4	711 9 1	1,653 17 5	48	720	19	At 13l. 10s.	1 18 9
1845	-	952 16 3	978 18 9	1,931 15 -	70	1,060	42	"	1 5 11
1846	-	901 17 6	914 18 2	1,816 15 8	43	646	22 ½	"	2 6 11
1846	7	1,818 11 8	1,215 16 2	3,034 9 10	118	1,695	59	At 12l.	1 6 7
1846	8	1,314 13 3	1,644 17 1	2,959 10 4	78	1,248	35 ½	At 13l. 10s.	1 18 6
1847	-	1,241 13 9	1,540 7 9	2,782 1 6	103	1,648	52	"	1 4 5

* Dry weather and very short crop.

Average rate of manufacturing sugar, per cwt. in 1844	-	-	-	-	1	9	11 ½
in 1845	-	-	-	-	1	9	9 ½
in 1846	-	-	-	-	2	1	11
in 1847	-	-	-	-	1	4	5

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. The cost per cwt. will be shown by the above statement.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the year last past?—I cannot give the extent of cultivation, but upon five estates the crops in 1832 were 876 hogsheads sugar and 355 puncheons rum; the average crops of same estates for the last three years, has been 442 hogsheads sugar and 187 puncheons rum. Could I arrive at the crops of the other properties, I fear they would show a somewhat similar result.

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—As far as I can ascertain, there were in 1832, 5,778 labourers living on the properties I am now concerned for; there are now about 1,923.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—On those located on the estates, certainly.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay 1s. 6d. to able people for a task which they can perform in about five hours. Some of the work is done by the job, at rates for cleaning canes from 9s. to 12s. per acre; the work done by the people is not at all adequate to the money paid to them.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had at my disposal ample means to pay them.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough and harrow where it is practicable to do so; I have not found any other implements to answer the stiff soil of the north side; I have used the hoe harrow with success in the parish of St. Andrew, where the soil is light.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—Except about the works I do not think that machinery could be made available; the people are exceedingly averse to work any machinery that tends to economise labour. Another great objection is the want of proper mechanics to keep the machinery in order.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned, and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I know that many sugar and coffee estates in my district have been abandoned, but I cannot give the names.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I can only answer this as I have done to the last question, and I know that many estates are carrying on cultivation with great difficulties.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I find labour becoming more scarce every year, and more expensive; this arises from the people leaving the estates, and becoming settlers on their own freeholds, and extending the cultivation of ground provisions.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No, I cannot. I have advertised two sugar estates since July, for sale, one making 200 hogsheads of sugar this year, the other making 120, both having good water power, and I have not had even an inquiry respecting them. I have also been requested, by other parties, to effect private sales of their properties, but I have been unable to do so.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market, to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—My opinion is that a very limited number of estates will be able to continue cultivation.

FRIDAY, 12 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *John Hinshelwood*, of the Parish of Portland, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for seven years, in St. Thomas-in-the-East, as the proprietor of three properties, now converted into one called Mulatto River.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I am not come prepared to furnish those particulars. Two years ago, finding difficulty in carrying on the cultivation, from want of labour, the people working only two or three days in the week, I resorted to the Metairie system, and placed it into the hands of five head men, to give them one half of the produce in sugar and rum. They formed a company, promising to bring the estate up to 80 hogsheads. They started very fairly, and I was under the impression the system would do well. The result, however, has been, that I have been compelled to call the witnesses and umpires to the agreement together, the clergyman of the district being one. They inspected the cultivation, and decided that unless I resumed the management myself, the cultivation must altogether cease. This was on the 16th September last. When I gave the property to the people there were, as nearly as I could judge, 40 casks on the ground, and when I got it back there were only 30 instead of the 80 that had been promised, and the cultivation was going on in such a manner as must soon have annihilated the cane fields altogether. The reason which the people assigned for not going on with the cultivation was, that the produce was inadequate to pay them. This arose from their neglecting the canes, and, in consequence, getting bad returns. The people worked reluctantly, although for themselves, and very often not more than three or four hours a day. I have had to incur heavy expense in restoring the cultivation, and I am satisfied the Metairie system cannot succeed with the labourers of this country.

What was the extent of the crop on Mulatto River in 1832, and what in the year last past, 1846?—In 1832, it produced 94 tons of sugar and 35 puncheons of rum; in 1846 it was under the Metairie system.

What number of labourers were attached to the property, and available for its cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—In 1832, there were 165 labourers. Only one family now remain, in consequence of a great number of the people having bought lots of the outskirts of the estate.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation; and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay 1 s. per day, for which they never give half a day's work.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have had, inasmuch as they are all paid; but I have been compelled to reduce my fields to meet my means.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I have had a ploughman for many years, but I have been seldom able to use the plough for want of a tradesman to keep it in order.

Is.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—No; not in our district.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—Orange Hill, Waybridge, Windsor Castle, and William's Field.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—Several properties in my district have been reduced to a low ebb. The Metairie system has been resorted to on Elmwood, Rose Ground, and Rural Vale. On Heartford and Reach, I believe, very little cultivation remains.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—Having been two years under the Metairie system, I cannot speak confidently; but since I have resumed the cultivation on my own account, I have found an abundance of labour, and rather cheaper.

Can you state to the Committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot state any such facts, as shown by actual sales, but I can state a fact within my own knowledge, that Mr. Cameron, my neighbour, who, for nine years, received 120 l. per annum, as overseer of Friendship Valley, in my neighbourhood, is now offered the whole freehold and the buildings of that property for 120 l.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I am of opinion that sugar cultivation must be entirely abandoned in my district.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation,

FRIDAY, 12 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Thomas Lowe*, of the Parish of Metcalfe, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in coffee cultivation for seven years, and in sugar cultivation for five years; I am proprietor of Williamsfield coffee plantation, in the parish of Metcalfe, and was lessee of Hall's Delight, in St. Andrew's, for three years, but I have been compelled to give it up.

State what was your experience of sugar cultivation during the time you were lessee of Hall's Delight?—I paid 240 l. sterling for rent, which, with the other necessary contingencies of cultivation, although superintended by myself, so far exceeded the returns I obtained, that I found myself a loser every year, and was compelled to give it up; I cannot give the particulars of the expenditure and of the crop, but my loss, during the three years, was about 400 l.; this was during the years 1839, 1840, and 1841.

What has been the result of your experience in coffee cultivation, as shown by the expenditure and the returns?—In 1843 the net proceeds exceeded the expenditure by 28 s. 18 s. 7 d.; but since then the expenditure has exceeded the net proceeds to a considerable amount every year. The crop of 1846 is not disposed of in consequence of the depressed state of the market. I am my own manager.

What was the extent of the crops made in 1832, and what in the year last past, 1846?—The crop of Williamsfield, in 1832, was 16,000 l., and in 1846, 8,000 l.

What number of labourers were attached to the property and available for its cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—In 1832 there were 52 labourers, only 12 of them now remain; I can also speak from my own knowledge of the following properties:

	Labourers in 1832.	In 1846.	It Cultivated in 1832,	In 1846,
Thomasfield -	82	4	45 acres -	6 acres.
Mamsee Hill -	60	10	84 „ -	60 „
Hermitage -	165	6	180 „ -	Totally abandoned.
Goodhope -	57	4	70 „ -	31 acres.

Q. What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—A. I pay at the rate of 1 s. per day for day labour; by the job, 0.32. A A 11 s.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

11s. per acre for cleaning; pruning, on an average, from 12s. to 16s. per acre; and for picking, 1s. per bushel. I have no reason to complain of not getting a reasonable quantity of work, but labour at times is very scarce.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—From the few sales of property which have been effected lately, I am of opinion that the same has fallen one-half, if not more, in value, within a short space of time.

FRIDAY, 12 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *John P. Jones*, of the Parish of Portland, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation since 1830; I am the proprietor of three estates, Boston, Castle Comfort, Fair Prospect, and I am the lessee of Zion Hill, in the parish of Portland.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay; what the crops made; and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I submit the following statement, which will give those particulars:

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	C R O P.		Pns. Rum.	Sales of the Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt., after deducting Sales of the Rum.
					Hhds.	Cwt. Sugar.			
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.				£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1842	Boston	3,600 - -	750 9 -	4,350 9 -	254	4,291	90	1,059 15 3	1 - 3
	Castle-Comfort								
	Fair-Prospect								
	Zion-Hill								
1843	Same Estates	3,260 - -	850 - -	4,110 - -	248	3,968	86	1,016 10 -	1 - 5
1844	Ditto - -	3,425 - -	550 - -	3,975 - -	218	3,270	71	924 6 11	1 3 -
1845	Ditto - -	2,550 - -	360 - -	2,910 - -	145	2,175	35	385 8 9	1 6 4
1846	Ditto - -	1,640 - -	478 - -	2,118 - -	116	1,675	21	211 13 2	1 5 3
	—	—	—	17,463 9 -	981	15,379	303	3,597 14 1	5 15 3
									1 8 - $\frac{1}{2}$

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising the sugar by the cwt.?—A. The above statement will show the cost.

What was the extent of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the year last past, 1846?—Boston estate made in 1832, 128 hogsheads and 33 puncheons, and in 1846, 75 hogsheads and 15 puncheons; I cannot answer the question as to the other properties.

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—

On Boston estate, in 1832, there were 240 labourers; 60 now remain.

On Castle-Comfort " " 215 " none of them now remain.

On Fair-Prospect " " 260 " ditto ditto.

On Zion-Hill " " 105 " ditto ditto.

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On the first three properties the people have bought back lands on the estates, and become settlers. On Zion-Hill they have bought land from other properties.

What

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay generally at the rate of 1s. per day for able people; they do not give a fair day's work for the money; the work is usually done by the job; three or four of the labourers generally undertake the cleaning of a cane-piece, and they take a very long time to it; they turn out very late, and do not work more than four or five hours during the day; they never work on Fridays and Saturdays unless when the mill is about. Our great difficulty arises from the cost and the inefficiency of the labourers.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Not always, but I have had no complaints on that head from the people; they have always been satisfied.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—No; I have not used the plough.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I do not think so.

With respect to the sugar and coffee plantations, which have been abandoned in Portland since 1832, is this return from the clerk of the vestry correct?—Yes, it is.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I cannot name any such, but a continuance of the present prices must speedily lead to the abandonment of the whole of them.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I see very little difference; the people are very capricious; they will work at one time, and will not at another.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot state any such facts. I purchased Fair Prospect in 1841, which in former years has made 500 hogsheads of sugar, and was worth 40,000 l., for 4,000 l.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—Ruin.

• TUESDAY, 16 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of the Honourable *John Shea Clachar*, of the Parish of Portland, before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—I am not engaged in either at present; I was engaged in sugar cultivation until about two years ago, but not extensively.

From your experience, did you find sugar cultivation to be profitable, or otherwise?—I found it unprofitable, so much so, that I was compelled to give it up.

To what circumstance did you attribute your difficulty?—The soil was not of a productive nature; the expenses of labour were high, and the returns not commensurate with the outlay. I had the command of capital to carry on the estate if I had been able to make it productive.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—The return put into my hand from the clerk of the vestry of Portland is correct, showing 12 sugar estates and two coffee properties, the only two in the parish, to have been abandoned since 1832.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—Fifteen estates now remain in cultivation, two of which have ceased to plant, and five others seem to be approaching to immediate abandonment.

From this abandonment of estates which has taken place in Portland, has labour become more cheap or abundant on the remaining properties?—It has neither become cheaper nor more abundant; the labourers cultivate ground provisions extensively for shipment, principally to Falmouth, and great numbers seek employment in St. George's and Metcalfe. On many of the estates that have been abandoned and are not looked after, the labourers find subsistence from the fruit trees, and they keep large numbers of horsekind, and pigs.

What is the usual current value of provision woodland in the parish of Portland per acre?—From 1 l. to 3 l. per acre, and I have known provision lands about the Rio Grande sold for one dollar per acre; the lands are in virgin soil, never having been opened, and very productive.

Can you inform the committee what crops were made by the sugar estates of Portland, which remained in cultivation in 1846?—I am not come prepared to furnish this information.

Can you tell the committee how many ships loaded in Port Antonio, for the United Kingdom,

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Kingdom, in 1832, and how many have loaded and departed during the year 1847?—Five to six ships loaded regularly at Port Antonio about the year 1832, but not one in 1846 or 1847.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—There have been no sales to my knowledge, and I do not think that any sales could be effected in the present state of things. Many persons would be glad to sell, but nobody will buy.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I consider that sugar cultivation must soon altogether cease in Portland, if permanently reduced to that low price.

TUESDAY, 16 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *John Stirk*, of the Parish of Vere, Esq. before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation since 1809, and I am now the manager of New Yarmouth, in Vere.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—The following statement, which I submit to the committee, will give those particulars of New Yarmouth, for the years 1841 and 1846 inclusive.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	CROP.			Sales of the Rum, averaged at	Cost of Sugar per Cwt., after deducting Sales of the Rum.	
					Sugar in Hhds.	Cwt. of Sugar.	Pns. of Rum.			
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1841	New Yarmouth	1,156 18 11	1,160 4 1	2,316 18 -	No crop made this year.					
1842		1,068 7 7½	468 7 2	1,531 14 9½	119	2,142	46	598 - -	- 8 8½	
1843		Vere - -	1,610 8 5	2,441 7 10	4,051 16 3	137	2,466	46	598 - -	1 8 -
1844		Cattle Mill -	929 5 2½	1,148 18 8½	2,078 3 11	19	342	5	65 - -	5 17 8½
1845		Steam-engine since the year 1844 - -	1,030 5 2	1,555 3 -	2,585 8 2	168	3,024	62	806 - -	- 11 9½
1846		934 10 4½	991 6 4½	1,925 16 9	57	1,083	25	325 - -	1 9 8½	
				14,489 17 10½	500	9,057	184	2,392 - -	9 15 11½	
									1 19 2½	

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. The above statement will show the cost by the cwt.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832; and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—

1832. Extent of Cultivation.			Crop.		1846. Extent of Cultivation.			Crop.		1847. Extent of Cultivation.			Crop.	
A.	D.	P.	Hhds.	Pns.	A.	R.	P.	Hhds.	Pns.	A.	R.	P.	Hhds.	Pns.
265	0	18	163	80	180	0	0	57	25	180	0	0	165	81

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832; and what number now remains?—In 1832, there were 232 labourers; from 12 to 20 now remain.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation and do you receive a fair day's

work for a fair day's pay?—We generally work by task, at 1 s. per task. We do not get fair work for the money paid, and the labourers generally earn the shilling in about five hours, and draw off from work about 11 o'clock.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, plenty; and I have never missed a week in paying the people.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—We use the plough, but do not make use of any other implement.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I am not aware it could, except it may be in the use of tramways, and that very doubtful.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I am not able to answer this question.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—The labourers have been more abundant of late, in my district, on account of the dry weather, but I do not think they do more work for the money they receive.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No, I cannot.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s., by competition with the slave cultivators?—I think the result will be the abandonment, to a great extent, of sugar cultivation in the island.

TUESDAY, 16 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Isaac Isaacs*, of the Parish of St. Elizabeth, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression, the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in coffee cultivation for 27 years, in the parishes of Manchester and St. Elizabeth. I have the management of Potsdam and Corby Castle coffee properties, and I have also had the management of other properties, which have been partly disposed of and partly abandoned.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I am not able to state those particulars, as the accounts of sales are not sent me from England. That Potsdam and Corby Castle have been unproductive is evident by a letter received from the proprietors, dated London, 1st October last, of which I read an abstract:—"Such, however, is the prospect of coffee properties, that we hardly think present prices, even if we have average seasons, will pay to carry on cultivation. The properties have, of late years, brought us into debt, and it is a matter of serious consideration whether they ought to be continued in cultivation or thrown up at once. We shall be glad of your opinion on the subject." My own opinion is that they should be abandoned, unless something is done by the home government favourable to cultivation, and I have so written to the proprietors.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the year last past, 1846?—I cannot state the extent of cultivation, but the crops were as follow,—

	Tierces.	Barrels.		Tierces.
On Potsdam, in 1832 -	- 326	76	1846 -	- 20
On Corby Castle ,, -	- 105	22	,, -	- 8

What number of labourers were attached to the properties and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?

	Labourers.	
On Potsdam, in 1832 -	- 270	- About 80 now remain.
On Corby Castle -	- 100	- None now remain.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—Those on the properties are always more available, but there is no scarcity of labour.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—Our labour is generally performed by the job, and we pay for weeding 4 s. per acre; for pruning, 7 s. per acre; and for gathering and manufacturing, 12 s. per 100 lbs. To day labourers we pay 1 s. per day, but they do not give a fair day's work. We pay 6 d. per bushel for picking coffee on Potsdam, and 9 d. on Corby Castle.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had; and I pay them weekly in silver.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Kingdom, in 1832, and how many have loaded and departed during the year 1847?—Five to six ships loaded regularly at Port Antonio about the year 1832, but not one in 1846 or 1847.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—There have been no sales to my knowledge, and I do not think that any sales could be effected in the present state of things. Many persons would be glad to sell, but nobody will buy.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I consider that sugar cultivation must soon altogether cease in Portland, if permanently reduced to that low price.

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What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—The following statement, which I submit to the committee, will give those particulars of New Yarmouth, for the years 1841 and 1846 inclusive.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	CROP.			Sales of the Rum, averaged at	Cost of Sugar per Cwt., after deducting Sales of the Rum.	
					Sugar in Hhds.	Cwt. of Sugar.	Pns. of Rum.			
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
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1844		Cattle Mill -	929 5 2½	1,148 18 8½	2,078 3 11	19	342	5	65 - -	5 17 8½
1845		Steam-engine since the year 1844 - -	1,030 5 2	1,555 3 -	2,585 8 2	168	3,024	62	806 - -	- 11 9½
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				14,489 17 10½	500	9,057	184	2,392 - -	9 15 11½	
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Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. The above statement will show the cost by the cwt.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832; and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—

1832. Extent of Cultivation.			Crop.		1846. Extent of Cultivation.			Crop.		1847. Extent of Cultivation.			Crop.	
A.	B.	P.	Hhds.	Pns.	A.	B.	P.	Hhds.	Pns.	A.	B.	P.	Hhds.	Pns.
265	0	18	163	80	180	0	0	57	25	180	0	0	165	81

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832; and what number now remains?—In 1832, there were 232 labourers; from 12 to 20 now remain.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation and do you receive a fair day's work

work for a fair day's pay?—We generally work by task, at 1 s. per task. We do not get fair work for the money paid, and the labourers generally earn the shilling in about five hours, and draw off from work about 11 o'clock.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, plenty; and I have never missed a week in paying the people.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—We use the plough, but do not make use of any other implement.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I am not aware it could, except it may be in the use of tramways, and that very doubtful.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I am not able to answer this question.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—The labourers have been more abundant of late, in my district, on account of the dry weather, but I do not think they do more work for the money they receive.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No, I cannot.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s., by competition with the slave cultivators?—I think the result will be the abandonment, to a great extent, of sugar cultivation in the island.

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What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I am not able to state those particulars, as the accounts of sales are not sent me from England. That Potsdam and Corby Castle have been unproductive is evident by a letter received from the proprietors, dated London, 1st October last, of which I read an abstract:—"Such, however, is the prospect of coffee properties, that we hardly think present prices, even if we have average seasons, will pay to carry on cultivation. The properties have, of late years, brought us into debt, and it is a matter of serious consideration whether they ought to be continued in cultivation or thrown up at once. We shall be glad of your opinion on the subject." My own opinion is that they should be abandoned, unless something is done by the home government favourable to cultivation, and I have so written to the proprietors.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the year last past, 1846?—I cannot state the extent of cultivation, but the crops were as follow,—

	Tierces.	Barrels.		Tierces.
On Potsdam, in 1832 -	- 326	76	1846 -	- 20
On Corby Castle „ -	- 105	22	„ -	- 8

What number of labourers were attached to the properties and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?

	Labourers.	
On Potsdam, in 1832 -	- 270	- About 80 now remain.
On Corby Castle -	- 100	- None now remain.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—Those on the properties are always more available, but there is no scarcity of labour.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—Our labour is generally performed by the job, and we pay for weeding 4 s. per acre; for pruning, 7 s. per acre; and for gathering and manufacturing, 12 s. per 100 lbs. To day labourers we pay 1 s. per day, but they do not give a fair day's work. We pay 6 d. per bushel for picking coffee on Potsdam, and 9 d. on Corby Castle.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had; and I pay them weekly in silver.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned or broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I know that the list of abandoned properties made out by the clerk of the vestry, and now presented to me, is correct.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can state that land, which sold for 12 *l.* sterling per acre, is now being sold for 3 *l.* I have sold a mortgage debt of 12,000 *l.* sterling, on a coffee plantation in St. Elizabeth, for 600 *l.* I also know that Berlin, containing a freehold of 1,700 acres, is offered in the market for 800 *l.* or 1,000 *l.*, but no purchaser has offered.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of coffee in the English market to its present rate?—I am of opinion that coffee cultivation must be altogether abandoned, unless there be a reduction of the duty.

TUESDAY, 16 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *John W. Pierce*, of the Parish of Trelawny, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression, the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am engaged in sugar cultivation, and I have been so for upwards of 13 years. I have the management of Hampton estate in Trelawny and St. James; the Spring estate, in Trelawny; Midgham, in Westmoreland; and Spring, in Hanover. I am also lessee of Phoenix estate, in Trelawny; of Southfield estate, in St. Ann, and proprietor of Dromilly estate, in Trelawny.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I submit to the committee the following statement, showing those particulars, for two years, of two estates,—

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	C R O P.		Pns. Rum.	Sales of Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of Rum.
					Sugar Hhds.	Cwt. Sugar.			
1845	Spring -	£. s. d. 1,135 - -	£. s. d. 1,046 15 3	£. s. d. 2,181 15 3	16 Cwt. 101	1,616	53	£. s. d. 742 - -	
1846	Ditto -	992 - -	808 16 2	1,800 16 2	55	880	27	378 - -	
1845	Hampden -	1,483 - -	1,760 15 11	3,243 15 11	17 Cwt. 101	1,717	40	560 - -	
1846	Ditto -	1,535 3 2	879 8 8	2,414 11 10	32	544	15	210 - -	
			9,640 19 2	9,640 19 2	289	4,757	185	1,890 - -	1 12 7

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. I have not any actual sales of the rum from Hampden and Spring, but, assuming the nett proceeds at 20 *l.* per puncheon, would give an average, for the years 1845 and 1846, for Hampden estate, of 2 *l.* 18 *s.* per cwt. as the cost of manufacturing, and 1 *l.* 4 *s.* for Spring estate, within the same period. From the experience I have had on eight or nine estates under my charge during the last five years, the average cost of the production of sugar has exceeded 28 *s.* per cwt. on the average. Another estate under my management is Phoenix, which I leased in 1845. I am in a position to state to the committee the result of the first year's cultivation, viz., my total contingencies, as taken from my books, amount to 1,881 *l.* 14 *s.* 5 *d.* The crop consisted of 30 hogsheads of 42-inch truss sugar, and 14 puncheons rum, which, with rents, netted 1,021 *l.* 9 *s.* 8 *d.*, showing a loss of 860 *l.* 4 *s.* 7 *d.* I pay 180 *l.* sterling per annum for it.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those two properties, in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—I cannot state the extent of cultivation in 1832, but the crop on Hampden in 1832 was,—

1832.					1846.			1847.	
	Hds.	Trs.	Pns.	Acres.	Hhds.	Pns.	About	Hhds.	Pns.
Hampden -	196	45	76	170	32	15	180 acres.	116	55
Spring -	120	0	0	120	55	26	130 „	120	64
TOTAL -	316	45	76	290	87	42	310 „	236	119

With respect to the crop of 1845, I must remark, it suffered much from dry weather.

Q. What

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?—

On Hampden in 1832, 334 labourers	- - -	120 only now remain.
On Spring - - -	163	103 ditto.
On Phoenix - - -	117	30 ditto.
On Dromily - - -	77	0 ditto.
On Midgham - - -	234	101 ditto.
On Spring (Hanover) - - -	93	10 ditto.
<hr/>		
TOTAL - - -	1018 labourers.	364 now remain.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report :
Sugar Cultivation.

Have the people who have left these estates settled in the quarter, and are they now available as labourers for the respective properties?—Some have, but the greater part of them have not. Some of the labourers occasionally work for the estate, but the greater number do not.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—The rate of wages varies very much. I pay principally by the task, when it is possible to do so. When I am obliged to pay by the day, I rarely can get an honest day's work for my money. The rate is 1 s. per the task, or by the day labour. At task-work, they frequently accomplish in the day three or four tasks; and being so dependent upon them for labour, I am glad when they do accomplish that, although I pay as many shillings.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—Most decidedly on those who remain located on the estates.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had, and they are paid regularly.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I do, where it is practicable.

Are you able to keep your pastures in as good order as previous to emancipation, and to the same extent as formerly?—Not by any means, for the want of labour, having to devote nearly all I can procure to the cultivation of sugar.

Does this circumstance entail a loss to you, by preventing your keeping up a sufficient number of stock?—It does; a very serious loss.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—Certainly; on many estates the substitution of steam-engines for cattle mills would be advantageous if the expense could be afforded.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—The list sent up by the clerk of the vestry, and submitted to me, is correct.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I cannot state any from my own knowledge.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—No; they do not work better, and labour is becoming more difficult to be obtained.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can state one fact bearing on this question. The present proprietor of an estate, with which I am connected, paid 12,000 l. for it. He has since sunk 5,000 l. in carrying it on, and I have his authority to accept 9,000 l. for it.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—That out of the 83 estates now existing in Trelawny, 73 of them will have to be abandoned.

On your estate, Phoenix, which sunk 860 l. 4 s. 7 d. in 1846, what were you assessed for taxes?—To the best of my recollection, I was assessed at an annual value of 450 l. Dromily sugar estate, purchased in May 1846, has, up to the present period, sunk me fully 800 l., and, at the present price of produce, must be abandoned, is assessed for taxes at a large annual value; I cannot state exactly the amount.

TUESDAY, 16 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *John Peryer*, of the Parish of Trelawny, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for 32 years; I have had several properties under my management, but at present I am joint attorney and manager of Green Park sugar estate, in the parish of Trelawny.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for?—The average

Appendix, No. 1. crop for the last five years is 240 hogsheads, and 120 puncheons of rum; I am only able to state what the expenditure was for the last two years, within which period I have had the management of the estate. In 1846 the expenditure amounted to 4,236 *l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* from August to August, and the crop 115 hogsheads 57 puncheons; in 1847 the expenditure amounted to 5,003 *l.* 15*s.* 1½*d.*, the crop 360 hogsheads 186 puncheons. The average weight of the hogsheads 1,600 cwt., and the rum 100 gallons to the puncheon.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

What are the circumstances of Green Park estate?—It is the largest estate in Trelawny except Orange Valley, but liable to be affected by dry weather. I plant only 8 or 10 acres annually, and depend upon ratoon canes.

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains, and what was the crop in that year?—In 1832 there were 560 labourers; about 150 now remain; in 1832 the crop was 396 hogsheads; and in 1846 and 1847, on an average, 237 hogsheads and 121 puncheons.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—Decidedly on those who remain on the estate; those who have their own lands cannot be depended on, they come and go.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay at the rate of 1*s.* per day for labour, but most of the work is done by the job. I do not receive a fair equivalent in labour for the money paid; and when working by the acre, the people do the work in a very careless and negligent manner.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had, and the labourers are paid weekly.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—We do not use the plough or harrow, so little of our land requiring to be turned up; another reason is, the difficulty of establishing plant.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—It is my opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour.

Please to state in what way?—By the use of tramways.

Do you think the estates can afford the expense of laying down tramways?—At the present price of sugar they cannot afford to do so.

Are you aware what would be the cost for laying down tramways?—I have no idea.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I can confirm the return sent in by the clerk of the vestry as being correct; there are no coffee properties in Trelawny.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I am only aware of Bounty Hall, containing 640 acres, and Colchis, containing 400 acres.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I think labour is somewhat more easily attainable in the low district of the parish, but in the upper district it is the contrary; the people prefer to cultivate provision grounds for themselves unless they can get high wages on the estates, and will not work for less than 1*s.* 6*d.*

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot state any facts.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14*s.* or 16*s.* by competition with the slave cultivator?—I am satisfied that 14*s.* to 16*s.* will never compensate the Jamaica growers of sugar.

WEDNESDAY, 17 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Henry Lord Garrigues*, of the Parish of Vere, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in this Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation, how long have you been so, to what extent, and in what part of the island?—I have been engaged in both sugar and coffee cultivation; for the last four years my attention has been entirely given to that of sugar. I am acting as agent for some estates, and joint proprietor of one. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for 30 years, during which time I have had from 8 to 10 sugar estates, and three or four coffee plantations in the parishes of St. Mary, Clarendon, Manchester, Vere, St. David's, and St. Thomas-in-the-East, under my charge. With respect to coffee, I can furnish no information.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—With reference to this question I have prepared the following statement, which I now beg to present to the committee, showing the cost of cultivation and manufacture on four estates, one of them extending to six years, one to five years, one for four years, and one for two years.

Year.	E S T A T E.	Amount of			Total Contingencies.	Extent of Cane Cultivation.	Size of Truss Hoops.	C R O P.			Rum in Phns.	Sales of Rum.	Cost of Sugar p' Cwt., after deducting Sales of Rum.	Average Cost of Sugar per Cwt.											
		Wages.						Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.							Sugar in										
		£.	s.	d.				£.	s.	d.					Hbds.	Tierces	Cwts.								
1842	Friendship, St. Thomas-in-the-East, Water Mill.	1,440	4	2	622	-	3	1,962	4	5	129	-- Hogsheads	133	-	-	2,194	54	814	16	9	-	10	5 1/2	-- Average 14s. 3 1/2 for four years.	
1843		1,335	8	2	474	7	8	1,809	15	10	118	39 inches, & Tierces 36.	65	-	-	1,072	25	375	18	9	1	6	9		
1844		-	-	-	761	1	9	1,887	9	6	112	-	-	90	18	-	1,683	46	604	10	6	-	15		2 1/2
1846		-	-	-	594	2	10	1,680	5	6	108	-	-	97	12	-	1,722	51	604	14	7	-	12		5
		-	-	-	-	-	7,389	15	3	467	-	-	-	406	-	-	6,071	176	2,399	15	9				
1842	Creighton Hall, St. David, Water Mill.	1,115	17	3	805	1	8	1,920	8	11	From 95 to 105 yearly.	-- Hogsheads	86	-	4	1,502	35	398	16	6	1	-	3	£. 1 average for five years.	
1843		994	5	11	409	2	10	1,403	8	9	40 inches, & Tierces 36.	76	-	-	-	1,202	25	290	8	6	-	17	2 1/2		
1844		-	-	-	638	2	7	1,432	4	9	-	-	-	71	-	-	1,207	23	320	8	-	-	18		3 1/4
1845		-	-	-	488	9	-	1,277	1	10	-	-	-	71	-	-	1,207	20	239	11	6	-	17		2 1/2
1846	-	-	-	676	15	2	1,209	-	-	-	-	-	38	-	-	612	13	197	15	9	1	15	-		
		-	-	-	-	-	7,302	4	3	-	-	-	342	-	-	5,820	116	1,456	-	3					
1842	Yarmouth, Vere, Cattle Mill -	1,477	5	1	1,513	4	11	2,990	10	-	164	-- Hogsheads	110	39	-	2,747	51	981	14	9	-	14	7 1/2	-- For six years 18s. 9 1/2 d., which, added to duty 14s., and other charges 8s., would amount to 35s. 9 1/2 d. per cwt.	
1843		1,351	0	11	1,116	10	5	2,467	17	4	172	42 inches, & Tierces 38.	127	15	-	2,729	60	758	12	3	-	12	6 1/4		
1844		-	-	-	619	9	7	1,546	10	5	162	-	-	5	39	-	674	13	217	18	4	1	19		5 1/4
1845		-	-	-	1,604	5	8	2,789	15	2	133	-	-	145	34	-	3,365	72	1,085	8	10	-	10		1 1/2
1846	-	-	-	1,202	5	8	2,189	17	11	131	-	-	65	12	-	1,460	40	605	19	-	1	1	8 1/4		
1847	-	-	-	1,617	-	-	2,767	-	-	124	-	-	166	-	-	3,278	83	1,245	-	-	-	9	2 1/2		
		-	-	-	-	-	14,741	10	10	-	-	-	710	-	-	14,253	302	4,894	13	2					
1842	River Side, Vere, Cattle Mill	970	10	-	1,044	1	6	2,014	11	6	104	-- Hogsheads	52	-	-	1,027	21	203	7	6	1	13	3 1/2		
1843		-	999	0	-	528	11	4	1,527	17	4	104	52 inches.	58	-	-	1,145	21	270	17	4	1	1		1
		-	-	-	-	-	8,542	8	10	-	-	-	110	-	-	2,173	42	574	1	10					

N.B.—This estate has since passed into the hands of the owner; and is, I believe, about to be thrown up.

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

Q. Are the estates of which you have furnished particulars favourably circumstanced, or otherwise?—A. Friendship is particularly situated in a favourable situation with regard to seasons and a productive soil, the great drawback is the want of labour. Yarmouth is also favourably circumstanced with regard to soil, in a parish known for its productiveness; liable however, of late years, to dry weather: the return of that estate shows its liability to fluctuations. Creighton Hall is unfavourably situated, being extremely hilly and subject to dry weather, and a very bad road to the barquadier. River Side has been lately subject to very severe dry weather, otherwise I should regard it as a favoured property.

Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—This question will be found answered by the foregoing statement, showing the cost to vary according to the price received for rum, the seasons, the absence of continuous labour, from locality, or otherwise.

What was the extent of cultivation, the crops, and the number of labourers on those properties in 1832; and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—In the following statement, which I tender to the committee, I have answered this question to the best of my ability, not having the records of all the estates at hand to enable me to give accurate statements of some of them.

ESTATE.	1832.						1846.						1847.						No. or Labourers.
	Extent of Freehold	Extent in Canes.	CROP.			No. of Labourers.	Extent of Freehold	Extent in Canes.	CROP.			Extent of Freehold	Extent in Canes.	CROP.					
			Sugar.		Rum.				Sugar.		Rum.			Sugar.		Rum.			
			Hds.	Trs.	Pns.				Hds.	Trs.	Pns.			Hds.	Trs.	Pns.			
Friendship, St. Thomas in the East.	acres. 1,112	acres. 130	118	—	53	179	acres. 1,112	acres. 115	64	—	34	acres. 1,112	acres. 110	60	—	37	about 80.		
Creighton Hall, St. David's.	1,580	250	180	—	70	270	1,580	97	36	—	18	1,580	90	80	—	15	{ between 30 to 35.		
Yarmouth, Vere.	1,300	186	183	—	95	167	1,300	131	65	12	40	1,300	124	186	—	83	{ about 25, including children.		
River Side, Vere.	720	140	122	29	74	181	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	25	not known.		
			623	—	292	797			169					306		160			

Q. Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—A. On my own estate I can pretty confidently rely on the services of the labourers located thereon, and I have seldom seriously felt the want of labour, unless at periods when the rains occur, and when the people naturally retire to cultivate their own lands and grounds. On the other estates under my charge, a feeling generally prevails to the contrary; labour is not only difficult to be obtained from the people residing on the estates, but the settlers in that quarter are equally backward in affording their services, and cultivation is retarded, and injury sustained to some extent by such conduct.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—The rates of wages differ according to circumstances. In Vere, the adult labourers earn 1 s. to 1 s. 6 d. per day, and those of the junior class 4 ½ d. to 7 ½ d. performing task work, and finishing the task between two and three of the clock. Day labour is always a source of annoyance, for a proper quantity of work is never done, consequently disputes ensue, and I always avoid it as much as possible. On the other estates under my charge, the managers are so much at the mercy of the labourers they are obliged to pursue a different course, giving job work and day labour; the former being tedious, and often injurious, and the latter imperfectly, inadequately, and discontentedly performed, for 1 s. a day.

Have you had, at your command, sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—The labourers on Yarmouth, in Vere, are paid on Friday evening, as they rely chiefly on the mountain settlers for provisions, and are, of necessity, obliged to attend the markets on Saturday. In St. Thomas-in-the-East, the reverse is the case, and from having an ample supply of provisions, the labourers on Friendship, when I had the entire controul, were paid every two weeks, and, until within the last 18 months, at Creighton Hall, the same system was pursued; latterly, however, there has been a want of funds on the estate to pay punctually.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—The plough is used wherever the situation of the land will permit, for opening it into cane holes, as well as moulding canes. I also use the harrow, but I have found the hoe harrow useless in Vere, from the quantity of trash necessarily kept on the land for protection to the young canes; it is in use, however, in other parishes, and, I believe

I believe, successfully; indeed, there is every desire on the part of the planters to supersede manual labour by the use of machinery, and, if I may be permitted to express myself, I aver that a gross libel is charged to the agriculturists of the island, when they are denounced for want of energy, system, and economy.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—Tramways for taking away the green trash from the mill are in use on many estates, but how far effective in the saving of labour will be better explained by those using them for the purpose of carrying canes from the fields. I consider the expence would more than counterbalance the efficacy; the loading of carts in the field, and transfer from thence to the trams, would prove a heavier charge than that incurred at present. It is true that the cattle would not suffer so much, and a smaller number answer, and this might be adduced as strong reasons for advocating the use of tramways, and particularly where the canes are to be conveyed from a distance.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—It is natural to infer that labour is more generally attainable now than during the first years of freedom, because the people are becoming more open to conviction and sensible of their position in society; still, from having acquired a footing in the soil, in favoured situations, great irregularity prevails, and a deficiency of continuous labour is still generally and seriously felt in many places. With respect to the people working better; this is a subject on which differences of opinion arise, for in some places an improvement is visible, while in others every advantage is taken by the labourers, unless most strictly looked after; and it is most questionable, whether nearly all are not still prone to deceive, were it not for fear of detection and exposure.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—In 1837 Stretton-hall estate, in the parish of Vere, comprising 3,173 acres of land, with the works and buildings, were valued at 4,500*l.*, including about 80 head of cattle and 200 sheep; since then, the freehold, with the works and great house have been sold for 1,000*l.* This property was 14 years under my management, from 1822 to 1836, during which time it supported the proprietor's family, receiving 200*l.* per annum, and paid off a debt of 8,000*l.* sterling.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14*s.* or 16*s.* by competition with the slave cultivators?—It has been surmised that a few favourably circumstanced estates might stand such competition, as labour would become abundant; but this is an illusion, for labour can only become so by the destruction of other estates; and when this shall occur, the remaining few will find the exigencies of the country too onerous to be sustained by them alone; the reasons, therefore, to be drawn are obvious; the annihilation of the sugar colonies, thereby sapping the foundation of the British empire,—encouragement to slavery,—monopoly of the English market in sugar by slave countries, causing that necessary of life, now accessible to all classes, to be attainable only by the opulent.

WEDNESDAY, 17 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Paul King*, of the Parish of Trelawny, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, and which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so, to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in the cultivation of sugar since January 1826, in the parish of Trelawny, and I have charge of five sugar estates.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I submit the following statement, showing those particulars:

Year.	Estate.	Total Amount of Contingencies.		C R O P.			Sales of Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of Rum.					
				Sugar in Hhds.	Sugar in Cwts.	Rum in Phns.							
		£.	s.	d.			£.	s.	d.				
1843 to 1847	Arcadia -	16,977	-	8	678	11,526	327	} at 12 <i>l.</i>					
1843 to 1847	Brampton												
	Bryan -	12,988	-	-	581	9,877	304						
1843 to 1847	Bryan Castle	14,740	-	-	696	11,832	867						
1843 to 1847	Nightingale Grove -	7,150	-	-	230	3,910	135						
*1845 to 1847	Bounty Hall	1,875	5	4½	60	1,020	34						
		53,725	6	-	2,245	38,165	1,167	14,004	-	-	1	-	10

* This property has been kept in cultivation, to abide the issue of a Chancery suit, pending in England.

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report :
 Sugar Cultivation.

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. This question is answered by the foregoing statement. What was the extent of cultivation, and the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—

	1832.			1846.		1847.	
	Acres.	Hhds.	Pns.	Hhds.	Pns.	Hhds.	Pns.
On Arcadia - -	216	206	130	100	48	231	104
On Bryan Castle -	220	280	159	116	58	210	116
On Brampton Bryan	230	289	127	94	50	160	95
On Nightingale Grove	unknown	127	63	33	28	74	42
* TOTALS - -	-	902	479	343	184	675	357

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remain?—

A. On Arcadia, in 1832, 299 labourers, 313 are now settled on the property.

On Bryan Castle,	235	130	now remain.
On Brampton Bryan,	281	175	now remain.
On Nightengale Grove,	169	47	now remain.
On Bounty Hall,	141	40	now remain.
	<u>1,125</u>	<u>705</u>	

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—Decidedly on those who remain on the properties.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay from 1s. to 1s. 3d. for day labour, but I employ as little day labour as I possibly can, as I do not get a fair day's work. I do the most of the work by the job, paying from 7s. to 9s. for cleaning canes, 12s. to 16s. for planting, and 9d. to 1s. per cart load for cutting.

How many days in the week do the people labour?—On some estates four days and on others five.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had abundant for Arcadia, Bryan Castle, and Brampton Bryan; on the others I have sometimes been unable to pay regularly.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough occasionally in light soil, but the greater part of the land I cultivate is very rocky, and unfit for its use.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I do not know how machinery could be substituted for labour in the cultivation of the fields; about the works, perhaps, it might, to some limited extent.

Do the people work better, is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—They do understand their situation better, but labour is not cheaper or better than it used to be.

Can you state to the Committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can state this fact; I lately sold a prior mortgage debt on Bunker's Hill estate, in the parish of Trelawny, amounting to about 30,000 l., for 2,500 l.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. or 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—The almost total abandonment of sugar cultivation in Jamaica.

WEDNESDAY, 17 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *John Jump*, of the Parish of St. James, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. Are you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation, how long have you been so, to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation upwards of 30 years, in the parishes of Hanover, St. James, and Trelawny; I have under my management four properties two of them in St. James's one in Trelawny, and one in Hanover.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can give those particulars for the last three years. Acting as an agent, I do not feel myself justified in naming the properties. I therefore distinguish them by letters. The following are the particulars:—

Year.	Name or Number of Estate.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			Total Contingencies.			C R O P.		Pns. Rum.	Sales of Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt., after Deducting Sales of Rum.	
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	Sugar in Hhds.	Cwt. of Sugar.				
1845	- A. -	2,486	16	1	1,688	14	-	4,125	10	1	269	4,573	120			
1846	- - -	2,276	3	8	1,953	1	1	4,229	4	9	176	2,992	79			
1847	- - -	3,450	-	-	1,950	-	-	4,400	-	-	279	4,743	107			
1845	- B. -	1,514	3	1	1,365	7	-	2,879	10	1	176	2,992	90			
1846	- - -	1,631	7	5	1,486	19	8	3,118	7	1	78	1,326	51			
1847	- - -	1,591	15	2	1,081	17	3	2,673	12	5	140	2,380	91			
1845	- C. -	1,293	8	-	862	5	11	2,155	13	11	129	2,193	53			
1846	- - -	899	17	4	665	14	9	1,565	12	1	70	1,190	26			
1847	- - -	1,090	16	4	778	5	2	1,869	1	6	109	1,853	44			
1845	- D. -	513	7	-	285	10	-	698	17	-	45	765	22			
1846	- - -	431	9	-	342	19	-	774	8	-	28	476	17			
1847	- - -	411	11	-	184	10	-	596	1	-	25	425	13	at 13l.		
		—			—			29,185	17	11	1,524	25,908	713	8,456	- -	16s. p' cwt.

I would remark that the estates A. and B. derive some advantages from rent, sale of stock, and pimento, not included in the above; A. is one of the best properties in St. James's.

What class of properties are those of which you have furnished the particulars?—A. and B. are properties of the first class, having two sets of works on each, under the management of one overseer, commanding a water power on one of each; C. is also a good property, with water power; D. is a property altogether of an inferior description, only having the advantage of good seasons.

Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—The above statement will show what has been the cost of a cwt. of sugar, deducting the rum, at 13 l. per puncheon.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties, in 1832; and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847; and what number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832; and what number now remains?—

Estate.	Crop, 1832.		Crop, 1846.		Crop, 1847.		Population in 1832.	Present Population.
	Hhds.	Pns.	Hhds.	Pns.	Hhds.	Pns.		
A. - - -	299	140	176	79	279	107	480	480
B. - - -	436	197	78	51	140	91	395	220
C. - - -	175	82	70	26	109	44	295	140
D. - - -	unknown	—	28	17	25	13	114	50
TOTALS - -	910	419	352	173	553	255	1,234	890

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—It varies in different localities, according to circumstances.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—One shilling in some places, and 1 s. 3 d. in others; I have the work done as much as possible by job and by task, but I do not get a fair day's work for a shilling. In most description of work by the task, the people finish and go home between 12 and 1 o'clock; they could easily do a great deal more work if they liked.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, and they have been paid with the utmost regularity.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough where available; some of the land is rocky, and it cannot be used.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report :
Sugar Cultivation.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—In some cases it might about the works, but not to any great extent, as a substitute for labour.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them, and so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—I can hand in a statement similar to that sent in by the clerk of the vestry.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I know that in my district there are properties struggling with difficulties, but I cannot speak as to the abandonment, or proposed abandonment of any in particular.

Do the people work better, is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I do not think that the people are working better, nor is labour more easily attainable.

Can you state to the Committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot speak as to actual sales.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. to 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—The gradual but certain abandonment of a large portion of sugar estates.

WEDNESDAY, 17 November 1847.

EXAMINATION ON Oath, of *Thomas Morrish*, of the Parish of Trelawny, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. Are you engaged in sugar and coffee cultivation, how long have you been so, to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation in the parish of Trelawny, for about 29 years. I am in possession, as manager, of seven sugar estates in that parish.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years. Can you show the Committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I submit the following statement which will give those particulars. Sharp's estates in Trelawny, viz.: Covey, Good Hope, Merrywood, Lansquinnett, Potosi, Pantrepant, and Wales.

YEARS.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	C R O P.		Rum in Puncheons.
				Sugar in Hhds. of 18½ Cwts.	Sugar in Cwts.	
1842	£. s. d. 9,086 19 5	£. s. d. 5,527 1 -	£. s. d. 14,614 - 5	512	9,216	268
1843	9,422 11 6	5,575 11 3	15,008 - 9	547	9,846	236
1844	8,175 17 -	4,789 7 10	12,965 4 10	412	7,416	168
1845	9,325 10 -	4,423 3 7	13,748 13 7	774	13,932	363
1846	8,826 18 -	4,274 19 7	13,101 17 7	444	7,992	220
1847	9,169 6 1	4,282 10 -	13,451 16 1	760	13,680	376
	44,920 2 7	23,345 12 3 44,920 2 7	68,275 12 10	2,937	52,866 1,468	1,363
		68,265 14 10	Total weight - - -		54,334*	

* Total Cost 1 l. 5s. 1½ d. per Cwt.

Taking

Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt. ?—The above statement gives the necessary information.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847 ?—I cannot answer as to the cultivation of 1832, but I give a statement of the crops.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

ESTATE.	1832.		1846.						1847.							
	Extent of Cultivation.		Crop.		Cultivation.			Crop.			Cultivation.			Crop.		
	H.	P.	A.	R.	P.	H.	P.	A.	R.	P.	H.	P.				
Good Hope	Not in charge of the estates this year, and cannot consequently ascertain the extent of cultivation, but the crops are taken from wharf books of this year.		150	96	213	2	21	108	50	204	0	7	178	91		
Covey			182	76												
Pantrepant			197	83	142	3	12	100	52	136	2	25	151	72		
Lansquinett			156	72	99	3	20	66	34	99	1	2	107	55		
Wales			227	168	128	1	31	99	48	128	2	22	140	77		
Potosi			127	63	122	2	1	52	25	121	3	39	114	44		
Merrywood			144	86	150	2	31	19	11	120	0	0	70	37		
			1,183	684	—			444	220	—			760	376		

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains ?—

A. On Covey	-	-	439	-	-	Remaining in 1847	-	-	179
Good Hope	-	-	389	-	-	"	-	-	179
Lansquinett	-	-	340	-	-	"	-	-	152
Merrywood	-	-	168	-	-	"	-	-	88
Pantrepant	-	-	281	-	-	"	-	-	203
Potosi	-	-	235	-	-	"	-	-	150
Wales	-	-	272	-	-	"	-	-	190
			<u>2,124</u>						<u>1,141</u>

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land ?—Principally on the people who remain on the estate ; but we receive great additional labour from those who have bought or rented lands in the neighbourhood, particularly from those who formerly were attached to the estates.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay ?—Our average rate is 1 s. per day for day labour, but we do most of the work by the acre ; we get the value of our money in this way, and the work is well performed ; they sometimes take longer with their jobs than there is any necessity for, but in such case they are the losers. The day labour we do not get a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. The cost of cleaning canes varies from 6 s. to 12 s. per acre.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers ?—Yes ; they are paid every week.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour ?—We use the plough in every instance where practicable ; we are now using the subsoil plough and the hoe harrow ; I do not know of any other implements that could be used.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour ?—I do not know of any sort of machinery that can be used as a substitute for labour ?—If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c. ?—I confirm the return shown me from the clerk of the vestry of Trelawny, except that Acton, instead of being altogether abandoned, is in the way of abandonment.

Do the people work better ; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom ?—The people understand their situation better, but I do not think that the labour is more easily attainable, or cheaper ; they work at one time and refuse to do so at another time.

Have you had any experience of African or Asiatic immigrants ?—I have no Africans, but I have had about 100 Coolies since April.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report :
Sugar Cultivation.

How have you found the Coolies to answer as labourers?—Not satisfactorily; a large number have been laid up by sickness and ulcers; out of the whole I have about an average of 40 only at work; the work they perform is fully one-fourth less than the value, and I have found them very expensive.

In the management of your estates have you been able to do justice to your pastures, as was the case during slavery, for the maintenance of your stock?—On some estates we have. We have cleaned the pastures annually, and on others we have not been able, from want of labour and the heavy cost.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot; I have not known any such sales.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. or 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I should think it must be nearly the total abandonment of sugar estates in the island, and I do not think that even the largest and most favoured estates can long maintain the unequal contest.

THURSDAY, 18 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on oath, of *William Johns*, of the Parish of Westmoreland, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for 29 years, in the parishes of St. Elizabeth, Trelawny, and Westmoreland; I am now in the management of Mesopotamia sugar estate, in the parish of Westmoreland.

You state that you have had the management of sugar estates in St. Elizabeth's and Trelawny; please say what has been your experience in respect to the estates which you then managed?—Elim, Lancaster, and Two-Mile-Wood sugar estates, in St. Elizabeth's, upon which I formerly resided, have been abandoned.

What crops did those estates then make?—Elim used to make upwards of 200 hogsheads; Two-Mile-Wood about 140 hogsheads; and Lancaster 120 hogsheads. These properties, when yielding nothing, but, on the contrary, involving an actual loss, were assessed as being of an annual value of 1,433 £, and taxes levied thereon.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I am prepared to show, by the following statement, those particulars with respect to Mesopotamia estate:

ABSTRACT of Cost for Cultivating and Manufacturing PRODUCE from 1843 to 1847.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			Total Contingencies.		CROP.		CROP.		Sales of the Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of the Rum.								
										Sugar.		Rum.											
										Hbds.	Cwt.	Pns.	Gals.										
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.			£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.					
1843	Mesopotamia	2,283	15	9½	1,905	7	—½	4,189	2	10	109	1,744	50	4,500	787	10	—	1	9	2½			
1844		2,267	1	1½	1,451	5	—½	3,718	6	2	142	2,272	69	6,210	1,242	—	—	—	13	—			
1845		2,078	16	5	1,838	5	6½	3,915	1	11½	201	3,216	121	10,890	2,687	5	—	—	7	11½			
1846		2,599	13	10½	2,348	10	—½	4,948	3	11	167	2,672	92	8,280	1,552	10	—	1	—	5½			
1847		2,764	9	1	2,198	18	3	4,963	7	4	188	3,008	114	10,260	2,180	5	—	—	15	8½			
		—	—	—	—	—	21,734	2	2½	807	12,912	446	—	8,449	10	—	—	4	6	3½			
																					—	17	3

In this statement is not included certain credits derived from sales of stock, rents, &c.

Q. Taking

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. The statement which I have already put in will show this.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on that property in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847; and what number of labourers were attached to the property and available for its cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?—Extent of cultivation in 1832 was 254 acres; crop, 230 hogsheads, 105 puncheons; in 1846, 204 acres; crop, 167 hogsheads, 92 puncheons; in 1847, 211 acres; crop, 188 hogsheads, 114 puncheons. The extent of the population in 1832 was 331, and 122 now remain on the property, 97 having purchased land of their own.

Is sugar cultivation on Elim, Lancaster, and Two Mile Wood altogether abandoned, and how long ago?—Yes, they are altogether abandoned, and have been so since the year 1842.

Can you mostly rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—I rely more on those settled on the estates, but it is very difficult to get sufficient labour from any quarter just now, the labour in my vicinity being very much abstracted by the Land Company on Cornwall estate, who pay a rate of wages beyond what I have been in the habit of paying, or which I consider that any estate can afford.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—Our work is principally done by the task; and we pay for cane-holes, on unploughed land, from 55 s. to 70 s.; planting at 13 s. 9 d. per acre; cleaning and banking young canes, from 20 s. to 27 s.; for turning trash and moulding canes, from 13 s. 9 d. to 17 s. 6 d.; cutting and tying canes, from 20 s. to 25 s. per acre. I have always found the people desirous to slur over the work, in order that they might leave off by twelve and one o'clock, and I believe they seldom work later; they usually earn 1 s. 6 d. in about five hours.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had sufficient capital to pay the labourers and for all other purposes.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough wherever it can be used with advantage; I know of no other agricultural implements, except the harrow, that can be used with effect in the stiff soils of Westmoreland.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I think tramroads might be laid down with great advantage, but I do not know how machinery could be applied to the purposes of cultivation as a substitute for manual labour. I have no knowledge of the cost of tramways.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such cultivation?—I am only aware of one sugar estate, Blackness, in Westmoreland. I have no doubt of the correctness of the return sent in by the clerk of the vestry of St. Elizabeth's.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—Not to my knowledge.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—They certainly do not work better in our district; labour is not more easily attainable on account of what I have before stated with respect to the Land Company; and as a proof of this I may mention that I paid 628 l. 1 s. 7 d. for wages for the quarter ending 1st October 1845, and only paid 478 l. 12 s. 7 d. for the same period in 1847. I have not been able to obtain all the labour I required, and I have been unable to put the extent of land in canes I intended.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot state any facts as to actual sales, but there has been great depreciation in the value of landed property.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. to 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—The abandonment of two-thirds of the sugar estates in the island.

Have you had any experience with regard to Asiatic labourers, and how have you found them to answer?—Yes; I had 40 of them on Mesopotamia; for the first 12 months, during which time they received rations, they did tolerable well; after the expiration of that period most of them left. I entered into arrangement with the sub-agent for 80 others; those however, from the unwillingness of the sub-agent to enforce the laws, were allowed to go wandering about the country without any power on my part to prevent it; I consider they were encouraged to leave the estate by the sub-agent of immigration. The coolies in Westmoreland are now in a most pitiable state, wandering about the country, and many of them in the poor-house. The failure of cooly immigration in Westmoreland is mainly attributable to the apathy and mismanagement of the sub-agent.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

How have you found the Coolies to answer as labourers?—Not satisfactorily; a large number have been laid up by sickness and ulcers; out of the whole I have about an average of 40 only at work; the work they perform is fully one-fourth less than the value, and I have found them very expensive.

In the management of your estates have you been able to do justice to your pastures, as was the case during slavery, for the maintenance of your stock?—On some estates we have. We have cleaned the pastures annually, and on others we have not been able, from want of labour and the heavy cost.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot; I have not known any such sales.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. or 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I should think it must be nearly the total abandonment of sugar estates in the island, and I do not think that even the largest and most favoured estates can long maintain the unequal contest.

THURSDAY, 18 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on oath, of *William Johns*, of the Parish of Westmoreland, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for 29 years, in the parishes of St. Elizabeth, Trelawny, and Westmoreland; I am now in the management of Mesopotamia sugar estate, in the parish of Westmoreland.

You state that you have had the management of sugar estates in St. Elizabeth's and Trelawny; please say what has been your experience in respect to the estates which you then managed?—Elim, Lancaster, and Two-Mile-Wood sugar estates, in St. Elizabeth's, upon which I formerly resided, have been abandoned.

What crops did those estates then make?—Elim used to make upwards of 200 hogsheads; Two-Mile-Wood about 140 hogsheads; and Lancaster 120 hogsheads. These properties, when yielding nothing, but, on the contrary, involving an actual loss, were assessed as being of an annual value of 1,433 l., and taxes levied thereon.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I am prepared to show, by the following statement, those particulars with respect to Mesopotamia estate:

ABSTRACT of Cost for Cultivating and Manufacturing PRODUCE from 1843 to 1847.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			CROP.			Sales of the Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of the Rum.											
								Sugar.		Rum.													
								Hbds.	Cwt.	Pns.					Gals.								
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.										
1843	Mesopotamia	2,283	15	9 ½	1,905	7	— ½	4,189	2	10	109	1,744	50	4,500	787	10	—	1	9	2 ½			
1844		2,267	1	1 ½	1,451	5	— ½	3,718	6	2	142	2,272	69	6,210	1,242	—	—	—	13	—			
1845		2,076	16	5	1,838	5	6 ½	3,915	1	11 ½	201	3,216	121	10,890	2,687	5	—	—	7	11 ½			
1846		2,599	13	10 ½	2,348	10	— ½	4,948	3	11	167	2,672	92	8,280	1,552	10	—	—	1	—	5 ½		
1847		2,764	9	1	2,198	18	3	4,963	7	4	188	3,008	114	10,260	2,180	5	—	—	—	15	8 ½		
		—	—	—	—	—	21,734	2	2 ½	807	12,912	446	—	8,449	10	—	—	—	4	6	3 ½		
																					—	17	3

In this statement is not included certain credits derived from sales of stock, rents, &c.

Q. Taking

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. The statement which I have already put in will show this.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on that property in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847; and what number of labourers were attached to the property and available for its cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?—Extent of cultivation in 1832 was 254 acres; crop, 230 hogsheads, 105 puncheons; in 1846, 204 acres; crop, 167 hogsheads, 92 puncheons; in 1847, 211 acres; crop, 188 hogsheads, 114 puncheons. The extent of the population in 1832 was 331, and 122 now remain on the property, 97 having purchased land of their own.

Is sugar cultivation on Elim, Lancaster, and Two Mile Wood altogether abandoned, and how long ago?—Yes, they are altogether abandoned, and have been so since the year 1842.

Can you mostly rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—I rely more on those settled on the estates, but it is very difficult to get sufficient labour from any quarter just now, the labour in my vicinity being very much abstracted by the Land Company on Cornwall estate, who pay a rate of wages beyond what I have been in the habit of paying, or which I consider that any estate can afford.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—Our work is principally done by the task; and we pay for cane-holes, on unploughed land, from 55 s. to 70 s.; planting at 13 s. 9 d. per acre; cleaning and banking young canes, from 20 s. to 27 s.; for turning trash and moulding canes, from 13 s. 9 d. to 17 s. 6 d.; cutting and tying canes, from 20 s. to 25 s. per acre. I have always found the people desirous to slur over the work, in order that they might leave off by twelve and one o'clock, and I believe they seldom work later; they usually earn 1 s. 6 d. in about five hours.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had sufficient capital to pay the labourers and for all other purposes.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough wherever it can be used with advantage; I know of no other agricultural implements, except the harrow, that can be used with effect in the stiff soils of Westmoreland.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I think tramroads might be laid down with great advantage, but I do not know how machinery could be applied to the purposes of cultivation as a substitute for manual labour. I have no knowledge of the cost of tramways.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such cultivation?—I am only aware of one sugar estate, Blackness, in Westmoreland. I have no doubt of the correctness of the return sent in by the clerk of the vestry of St. Elizabeth's.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—Not to my knowledge.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—They certainly do not work better in our district; labour is not more easily attainable on account of what I have before stated with respect to the Land Company; and as a proof of this I may mention that I paid 628 l. 1 s. 7 d. for wages for the quarter ending 1st October 1845, and only paid 478 l. 12 s. 7 d. for the same period in 1847. I have not been able to obtain all the labour I required, and I have been unable to put the extent of land in canes I intended.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot state any facts as to actual sales, but there has been great depreciation in the value of landed property.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. to 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—The abandonment of two-thirds of the sugar estates in the island.

Have you had any experience with regard to Asiatic labourers, and how have you found them to answer?—Yes; I had 40 of them on Mesopotamia; for the first 12 months, during which time they received rations, they did tolerable well; after the expiration of that period most of them left. I entered into arrangement with the sub-agent for 80 others; those however, from the unwillingness of the sub-agent to enforce the laws, were allowed to go wandering about the country without any power on my part to prevent it; I consider they were encouraged to leave the estate by the sub-agent of immigration. The coolies in Westmoreland are now in a most pitiable state, wandering about the country, and many of them in the poor-house. The failure of cooly immigration in Westmoreland is mainly attributable to the apathy and mismanagement of the sub-agent.

Appendix, No. 1.

THURSDAY, 18 November 1847.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *George R. Gow*, of the Parish of Westmoreland, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for 18 years, in the parish of Westmoreland; I have the management of Friendship and Greenwich sugar estates in that parish; they were formerly two estates, but are now united in one.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can show a statement, with those particulars, with respect to the property I have mentioned.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of Contingencies and English Supplies.			Total Contingencies.			Cost of Sugar per Cwt., with Wages alone.			C R O P.		C R O P.		Sales of the Rum.							
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	Sugar in Hhds.	Sugar in Cwts.	Rum in Pns.	Rum in Gallons.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.		
1843	Friendship and Greenwich.	2,366	8	3	706	16	7	3,073	4	10	1	9	—	102	1,632	37	3,330	666	—	—	1	9	—		
1844		2,160	18	8½	886	3	9½	3,027	2	6	1	—	5½	132	2,112	53	4,770	1,073	5	—	—	18	6		
1845		1,868	19	7	1,226	15	10½	3,095	15	5½	—	17	3½	135	2,160	67	6,030	1,206	—	—	—	17	6		
1846		1,979	15	—½	1,467	3	1½	3,446	18	1½	—	19	9½	125	2,000	65	5,580	1,116	—	—	—	1	3	3	
1847		2,236	19	9	1,201	16	2	3,438	15	11	1	3	3½	120	1,920	70	6,300	1,417	10	—	—	1	1	1	
		—	—	—	—	—	16,081	16	10½	—	—	—	614	9,824	289	—	5,478	15	—	—	5	9	5		
																							1	1	16

N. B.—I obtained the weights of some of the above from England.

In the above statement is not included credits of about 150*l.* a year for rent, old stock, &c.

Q. Is the estate, of which you have furnished particulars, considered to be favourably situated or otherwise?—*A.* It is so far favourably situated, having 125 acres of good alluvial cane land, on the bank of the Cabaritta river.

Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—My statement will show this.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years past, 1846 and 1847?—In 1832: 319 acres, 225 hogsheads, 86 puncheons. In 1846: 198 acres, 125 hogsheads, 65 puncheons. In 1847: 194 acres, 120 hogsheads, 75 puncheons.

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for the cultivation in 1832; and what number now remains?—In 1832 there were 325 labourers; about 170 only now remain.

Can you mostly rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—I rely mostly on those who remain on the estate; we have also to depend on labourers located in the neighbourhood.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay from 16*s.* to 24*s.* per acre for cleaning and banking young canes; for digging cane-holes, 2*s.* for 100; the other canes, according to their state, from 12*s.* to 20*s.* per acre for cleaning and trashing; for cutting canes we pay 1*s.* 6*d.* for 15 chains of plants, 20 chains for first ratoons, and 25 chains for all others. If the people are not closely watched they do the work very slovenly, and complete their work in four or five hours; they could easily do double the work. I have often seen them leave the neighbouring estates at breakfast time, eight o'clock, having earned their 2*s.*; the people will not undertake a task beyond what they can accomplish in four or five hours.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have had, and paid them very regularly every Friday.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—On the banks of the Cabaritta river, where the soil is alluvial, I use the plough and harrow; in some of the other lands the plough cannot be used.

Is it your opinion that machinery can be made more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I don't think so.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—No, they do not work better; labour is becoming more difficult to be obtained. I never turned away a labourer since freedom. I have been unable to procure the extent I wished; this difficulty has been increased by the high wages given by the Land Company, who cultivate the next property, Cornwall.

Have you been able to keep your pastures in that condition which you could wish for the support of your stock?—I have been unable to clean the pastures at all, from the impossibility of procuring labour.

What rate of wages do the Land Company pay?—I understand from our headman, that they pay from 2 s. to 3 s. per day for falling wood.

Can you state to the Committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No such facts have come within my knowledge.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English markets to about 14 s. to 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—Ruin.

Have you had any experience with regard to African or Asiatic labourers, and how have you found them to answer?—I employed forty Coolies, and went to the expense of 100 l. to build a place for them; they remained for 12 months, and at the expiration of that time brought the estate 285 l. in debt, calculating their labour at the same rate as the other creole labourers. I renewed the contract, they broke it; I had them apprehended, tried, and sentenced to 30 days' imprisonment in the Lucea gaol; they again returned to the estate, but soon afterwards all but abandoned it, and have since been wandering over the parish. I attribute the blame to the sub-agent, for not enforcing the law to compel them to carry out their engagement. I consider also that the heavy tax imposed on them increases the difficulty, and is a great grievance. I have had 12 captured Africans, for upwards of four years, who work to my entire satisfaction.

THURSDAY, 18 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Colin Chisholm*, of the Parish of Port Royal, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am engaged in coffee cultivation, in the parish of St. Andrew, and I have been so about 42 years. I have been a proprietor for 40 years in the parish of Port Royal; my properties are Mount Lebanon and Hampton Court, in the parish of St. Andrew, and Ginger Hall, in the parish of St. Thomas in the Vale. I have declined being concerned in the management of other persons' properties for a length of time, seeing that no good was likely to result from it.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I cannot give the actual amount of outlay. Two of my properties, Mount Lebanon and Hampton Court, are remunerative; the other, Ginger Hall, which I purchased about two years and a half ago, is not; the cost of cultivation for last year was 280 l., and the proceeds of the crop 136 l.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation; and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay 1 s. 3 d. per day, but I do not get a fair day's labour; the people seldom turn out before eight o'clock, and they leave off work at two o'clock; when I follow them myself they will not work at all, but stand up on their hoes. For gathering in coffee I pay 1 s. per bushel, and they seldom gather in more than one bushel; they work only four days in the week, and very frequently not so many, even when the coffee is ripe in the field. I have often had difficulty in getting a person on a Friday or Saturday to turn over the coffee on the barbecues.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can only say that I purchased Ginger Hall two years and a half ago for 1,400 l., and that the former proprietor assured me it had yielded him for 20 years an income of 1,200 l. sterling per annum.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

THURSDAY, 18 November 1847.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Henry Groves*, of the Parish of St. James, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; and to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation since 1825, and I have been in the management of Hazelymth estate, St. James, since 1830, as overseer, and since 1834 as attorney. I took the management of Belvidere, in Hanover, in 1843; Friendship, in Trelawny, and Seven Rivers, in St. James, in 1844.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—Acting as an agent, I do not feel myself justified in giving the names of the estates; but I can state those particulars, distinguishing the estates by letters, as follow:—

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	C R O P.		Rum in Phas.	Sales of Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt., after deducting Sales of the Rum.
					Sugar in Hhds.	Sugar in Cwts.			
1842	- A -	£. s. d. 1,009 17 10	£. s. d. 1,832 18 10½	£. s. d. 2,642 16 8	127	- -	58	at £. 12.	—
1843	- -	981 12 -	2,093 4 8½	3,074 16 8	96	- -	50	"	—
1844	- -	978 12 8	2,056 13 9	3,035 6 5	117	- -	56	"	—
1845	- -	1,038 16 -	2,103 17 4½	3,137 13 4	130	- -	67	"	—
1846	- -	1,287 8 5	2,942 5 10½	4,229 14 3	161	- -	82	"	—
		—	—	16,120 7 4	630	10,710	313	3,768 - -	1 3 1
1845	- B -	1,102 16 9½	- - -	1,884 12 6½	104	- -	56·4	at £. 12.	—
1846	- -	1,179 2 9	- - -	2,126 5 2½	98	- -	48·3	"	—
1847	- -	1,146 8 -	- - -	2,116 5 4½	107	- {	51·2 6	"	—
		—	—	6,127 3 1½	308	5,236	161	1,932 - -	- 16 -
1844	- C -	785 4 2	- - -	1,580 - 6	32	- -	8	at £. 12.	—
1845	- -	624 17 2	- - -	1,716 - 3	36	- -	16	"	—
		—	—	3,246 - 9	68	1,156	24	288 - -	2 11 2

Q. With reference to the above return, have you included any cash credits for rents or otherwise, or have the properties had any such to any extent?—A. They are not included; but very trifling in amount.

Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—This has been answered by the statement put in.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years past, 1846 and 1847?—I cannot give those particulars.

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?—

In

In 1832, on Estate	- A	- 262	- about	35	remain at the present time.
"	- B	- 242	- about	70	"
"	- C	- 197	- about	20	"
		<u>701</u>		<u>125</u>	

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report :
 Sugar Cultivation.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—Having very few on the estates, I am compelled to rely upon those who have bought or rented lots of land; facility has been afforded them to purchase lands by the breaking up of several estates in the immediate neighbourhood; viz. Greenwich, Cambridge, Ducketts, York, and Richmond Hill.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—1s. 6d. per day is the average rate; but I do the work principally by task. I get from 18 to 24 chains cleaning and cutting canes done for 1s. 6d.; I do not consider that a fair day's work is done for the money. The people generally finish their task, cutting ratoon canes, between 10 and 11 o'clock, and about an hour later when cleaning or cutting plants; they also do the work in a very slovenly and indifferent manner unless closely looked after.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Always.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough and other implements, and I have done so for some years to some extent; but I find the wear and tear of stock, with the customary avocation in and out of crop, with a ten miles barquadier, has obliged my limiting their use lately.

Have you had sufficient labour and means to keep your pastures in the same condition they used formerly to be?—No, I have not.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—No, it is not; but I think that central factories would tend much to lessen the expense.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—The return sent up from the clerk of the vestry appears to be correct.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I cannot name any particulars from my own knowledge.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—The people are working worse, and labour is becoming more difficult now, from the reasons I have already assigned, of facility in purchasing lands.

Have you had any experience of African or Asiatic labourers; and how have you found them to answer?—The difficulty of obtaining native labour compelled me to take some Coolies, in which I have been much disappointed; they were a very indifferent set; they have done and are doing very little work. I shall be very glad to get rid of them; they have suffered much from sickness and ulcers, and have been expensive. I do not consider them a people suited for this country, and the selection of them must have been bad.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No, I cannot; but it is generally admitted that property has depreciated to one-fourth of its value.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. to 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—The general abandonment of sugar estates.

THURSDAY, 18 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Stephen Hannaford*, of the Parish of St. Dorothy, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation in the parish of St. Dorothy for upwards of 30 years in the management of several estates, and I am now in the management of Bushy Park, Whim, Colbecks, and Masters sugar estates.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each estate?—The following statement, which I submit to the committee, will give those particulars:

YEAR.	ESTATE.	Amount of Wages.		Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.		Total Contingencies.		C R O P.			Sales of Rum, and other Cash Credits.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of Rum, and Cash Credits.		REMARKS.			
								Sugar.		Rum.							
								Hhds.	Cwts.	Phns.							
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.				£.	s.	d.				
1843	A	3,036	-	-	2,900	-	-	5,945	-	-	136	2,312	78	1,336	-	-	
1844		1,385	-	-	1,879	-	-	3,264	-	-	11	187	4	625	-	-	Severe drought.
1845		2,466	-	-	1,991	-	-	4,447	-	-	256	4,352	123	2,079	-	-	
1846		1,403	-	-	2,373	-	-	3,776	-	-	22	860	10	1,943	-	-	Drought.
1841	B	1,560	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	364	10	725	-	-	Drought.
1842		1,856	-	-	2,205	-	-	4,061	-	-	172	2,924	59	1,534	-	-	
1843		1,770	-	-	2,281	-	-	4,051	-	-	142	1,414	67	1,102	-	-	
1844		1,021	-	-	2,051	-	-	3,072	-	-	11	187	5½	473	-	-	Drought.
1845		1,119	-	-	1,987	-	-	3,106	-	-	118	1,920	68	1,284	-	-	
1846		883	-	-	1,385	-	-	2,268	-	-	4	68	6	756	-	-	Drought.
1841	C	1,422	-	-	1,385	-	-	2,807	-	-	35	595	14	498	-	-	Drought.
1842		1,565	-	-	1,971	-	-	3,536	-	-	109	1,853	45	735	-	-	
1843		1,677	-	-	1,517	-	-	3,194	-	-	122	1,830	55	946	-	-	
1844		1,134	-	-	1,731	-	-	2,865	-	-	83	1,175	43	658	-	-	Drought partial.
1845		1,133	-	-	1,286	-	-	2,419	-	-	166	2,653	69	990	-	-	
1846		1,292	-	-	1,686	-	-	2,978	-	-	54	773	22	668	-	-	Drought.
1842	D	778	-	-	843	-	-	1,621	-	-	62	1,054	18	422	-	-	
1843		856	-	-	940	-	-	1,796	-	-	48	815	18	395	-	-	
1844		678	-	-	1,153	-	-	1,831	-	-	56	952	12	853	-	-	
1845		826	-	-	1,297	-	-	2,123	-	-	70	1,090	15	374	-	-	
1846		857	-	-	1,006	-	-	1,863	-	-	51	867	7	372	-	-	Drought.
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,916	-	-	

N.B.—On estate A, a considerable portion of the contingent supplies (exclusive of the pay bills) consisted of copper, still, syphons, and machinery, besides the erection of extensive buildings, tanks, &c. The like remark holds good with reference to B, C, D.

On estate C, a steam-engine and sugar mill have been imported, the invoice cost of which is not included in the other contingencies herein set forth.

The above Return includes all cash credits to the estate for rents, stock sold, &c.

Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt. ?—The above statement will show the cost.

Appendix, No. 1

JAMAICA.

Report :
Sugar Cultivation

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847; and what number of labourers were attached to them and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?—I submit the following statement, which will show those particulars with respect to properties which have come within my knowledge.

ESTATE.	1832.		1847.	Extent of Cane Cultivation in			Comparative Crops made in the Years						
	Total Land per In-Givings.	Labourers.		1832.	1846.	1847.	1832.		1846.		1847.		
				Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Hhds.	Phns.	Hhds.	Phns.	Hhds.	Phns.	
Woodhall - - -	1,046	167	Unknown.	160									
Cherry Garden - -	762	235	50	200			155	75	95½	52			
Lodge - - -	996	429	100	320			227	63	8½	1			
Whim - - -	2,486	303	100	230	145	160	251	105	4	6	94	50	
Masters - - -		187	20	120	60	65	105	39	51	7	59	16	
Nightingale Grove -	534	110	50	120			88	29	33	28			
Colbecks - - -	5,586	236	30	180	120	135			54	22	90	40	
Bushy Park - - -	2,578	706	400	650	325	325	554	195	22	10	173	114	
Cocoa Walk - - -	2,784	172	50	140			170						
Kellys - - -		118	50	120									
Amity Hall - - -	1,705	328	20	200			254	111½	4	23			
TOTAL - - -	—	2,991	876	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Q. Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—A. On Bushy-park estate we depend principally on those located on it; on the other properties we rely chiefly on strangers, there being but a small number of persons remaining located thereon.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation; do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—The rate of wages for field labour is one shilling per day; I do not think that we get a fair day's work; I should say the work done is fully 30 per cent. less than was done in a day formerly.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use nothing but the plough and the harrow in opening the lands.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be much more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I have done everything on the estates that could be done by machinery; I do not see how anything further can be done as a substitute for labour to any extent.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned, and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I can confirm the list sent up by the clerk of the vestry.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—For some time past, the operations of the estates in my district have been limited to mere protection, or to complete jobs already begun, without attempting anything more.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—The people understand their situation better; but the work is not done better or cheaper; labour has latterly been more plentiful, from the dry weather affect-

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

ing their other means; but about ten days ago, when we had rain, they withdrew to the cultivation of their own grounds.

Have you had any experience of African or Asiatic labourers, and how have you found them to answer?—I have no Africans, but I have had some Asiatic labourers located on each of the properties I have named; upon one property they are behaving very ill; on the other properties they are better, but still very inefficient; there has been a great deal of sickness among them, and comparatively a very small number at work; I have incurred heavy expenses in maintaining them; I do not think the people suitable for our work, cane cultivation.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No such sales to any extent have taken place in my district; in fact, no sales can be made at the present moment, unless at a ruinous sacrifice.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. or 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—Abandonment of estates generally.

THURSDAY, 18 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Henry Brockett*, of the Parish of Hanover, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation since 1824; I am now the manager of several estates, and I am also the proprietor of one estate, and the lessee of another, all situated in the parish of Hanover.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can furnish those particulars with respect to four estates in 1845, and seven in 1846 and 1847. Acting as an agent, I do not feel myself justified in naming the properties, but will distinguish them by number.

RETURN OF SEVEN ESTATES IN THE PARISH OF HANOVER.

Year.	Estate.	Total Contingencies, including Wages and English Supplies.		CROP.			RUM.		Sales of Rum.	Cost of Sugar, per Cwt. after deducting Sales of Rum.	REMARKS.					
				SUGAR.			RUM.									
				Hhds.	Average Weights.	Cwts.	Pn.	Average Value.								
1845	Nos.	£.	s.	d.		Cwts.		£.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.		
	1	2,757	19	4	126	15	1,890	60	15	900	-	-	-	19	7½	
	2	1,738	8	5	64	-	960	35	-	525	-	-	-	1	5	3
	3	2,167	12	10½	77	16	1,232	33	-	345	-	-	-	1	7	1½
	4	2,190	17	10	73	-	1,168	37	-	555	-	-	-	1	8	-
		8,854	18	5	340	-	5,250	165	-	2,235	-	-	-	5	-	¼
														1	5	average.
1846	1	3,200	14	2	141	15	2,115	65	-	975	-	-	-	1	1	¼
	2	1,620	11	11	70½	-	1,055	25½	-	300	-	-	-	1	5	-
	3	2,383	2	4	79	16	1,264	31	-	465	-	-	-	1	10	4
	4	2,672	-	5	70	-	1,120	32	-	480	-	-	-	1	10	1
	5	2,597	1	2	63	17	1,071	26	-	390	-	-	-	2	1	2
	6	2,780	1	5½	105	Real weight	1,688	47	-	718	1	5	-	1	4	5
	7	1,907	3	7½	65	ditto	1,040	29	-	463	-	1	-	1	7	9½
		17,160	15	1	593½	-	9,363	265½	-	3,789	-	-	-	10	8	11
														1	9	1 average.
1847	1	3,062	16	8	118	15	1,695	63	-	945	-	-	-	1	4	11½
	2	1,745	-	3	58	-	870	31	-	423	10	-	-	1	10	7
	3	2,295	7	9	85	16	1,360	29	-	480	-	-	-	1	5	2½
	4	2,278	17	6	76	-	1,216	29	-	435	-	-	-	1	10	4
	5	2,935	19	10	96	17	1,632	50	-	750	-	-	-	1	6	9
	6	2,746	8	5	142	16	2,272	77	-	1,232	-	-	-	-	14	-
	7	1,968	-	3	74	16	1,184	41½	-	622	10	-	-	1	2	7½
		17,032	10	10	644	80	10,239	320½	-	4,888	-	-	-	8	14	5½
														1	4	11 average.

Q. In this statement have you included any credits to which the estates were entitled for rents, stock, or otherwise?—A. Yes, I have credited the rents and old cattle sold; there were none others.

Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—The foregoing statement shows that.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

[The Witness delivered in the following Statement:]

RETURN of the Crops of Seven Estates for the Years 1832, 1846, and 1847.

Estate.	1832.			1846.			1847.		
	Extent of Cultivation.	CROP.		Extent of Cultivation.	CROP.		Extent of Cultivation.	CROP.	
		Hhds.	Pns.		Hhds.	Pns.		Hhds.	Pns.
1	Acres of Canes. 270	181	56	124	141	65	130	118	68
2	Unknown -	Unknown.		78	70½	35½	65	58	31
3	Unknown -	286	132	154	79	81	150	85	29
4	Unknown -	199	102	138	70	32	133	76	29
5	Unknown -	191	103	140	63	26	134	96	50
6	Unknown -	282	123	216	105	47	211	142	77
7	Unknown -	110	55	132	65	29	124	74	41½
		1,199	571		593½	265½		644	320½

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—The following will show the number of labourers attached to seven estates in the parish of Hanover in 1832, with those now remaining.

No. of Estates.	No. of Labourers attached in 1832.	No. of Labourers now remaining.	REMARKS.
1	327	40	{ -- Chiefly cultivated by Coolies and strangers. -- Cultivated by Coolies and strangers. Ditto ditto. Ditto ditto. Ditto ditto. -- Chiefly cultivated by strangers settled in the neighbourhood. Ditto ditto.
2	200	8	
3	348	About 20	
4	274	About 15	
5	168	None	
6	416	About 50	
7	192	About 15	
	1,925	148	

Q. Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—Those who remain on the properties, but from their small number I am compelled to depend for labour chiefly on strangers and Coolies.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—We pay from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. per day, and in crop time about 2s. to those who are employed about the works and wains, but my cultivation is chiefly carried on by task work. When employed by the day I consider that a fair day's work is by no means obtained. When working by the task, they generally turn out between seven and eight, and finish between one and two.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—We do use the plough and other implements where the land is suitable, but in many portions of the parish it is hilly and stony, in which parts the implements cannot be used.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I do not see how it could.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned or broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c. ?—The return sent up by the clerk of the vestry of Hanover, and now handed to me by the committee, appears correct.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and; so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c. ?—I can mention one estate, Bachelor's Hall, which will be thrown up as soon as the crop on the ground has been gathered in; I can also mention Richmond, which will be thrown up as soon as the present lease expires and the parties can get rid of it; also Eardley estate, which I lease myself, will be abandoned as soon as the lease expires. I am satisfied that many more must speedily follow.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I do not think they work better; labour is becoming more scarce in general. On some estates, near which villages have been settled, labour is, on the other hand, more plentiful.

Have you had any experience with regard to African and Asiatic labourers, and how have you found them to answer?—I have had experience of both; the Africans do more work than the Coolies, but, on the other hand, are fond of changing about; the Coolies on some properties are doing well, on others quite the reverse. I do not consider them, at least the majority of such as have been sent here, to be a suitable people for this country.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can state, that in 1836 Hordley and Content estates were bought in by Mr. Miles, out of the Court of Chancery, for the amount of his debt, 78,600*l.*; Content, after having a new engine put on it and other improvements, has this year been sold for 5,000*l.*, and 3,000*l.* would be gladly taken for Hordley.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14*s.* to 16*s.*, by competition with the slave cultivators?—The result in Hanover will be, that the estates will soon be few in number, and that those will only be carried on for a limited time, unless labour, by the abandonment of the other properties, should become more abundant and cheap. At present it is merely the cane fields that are attended to on the estates now under cultivation, as the pastures, fences, and in many cases the works and stock, are not properly kept up.

FRIDAY, 19 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Alexander Gladstone*, of the Parish of St. Elizabeth, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged for 11 years in the cultivation of sugar, have been lessee of Holland and Lacovia estates since 1 June 1841, and attorney of several other properties in the parish of St. Elizabeth.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I submit a statement, which will show these particulars.

{The Witness delivered in the following Statement:}

ESTATE	Years.	Labour.	Management.	Attorney, Discounts, Commissions, Stamps, Post, &c. &c.	English Supplies.	Country Supplies.	Island Duties.	Wharf Accounts.	Pasturage Accounts.	Tradesmen's Bills.	Rum Duties.	Law Bills.	Taxes.	TOTAL.	Hogsheads weighing cwt. q. lb. Nett 19 - 14 here.	Punchons at 14l.	Sales of Rum.	Crediting	Ditto	
																		Rum at 14l. per Punchon.	Ditto Rate per Cwt.	
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		£.	£.	Rate per Hogshead.	s. d.	
Y S Estate	1843	992 13 2½	288 - -	161 - -	130 6 4	125 11 -	8 - -	24 18 6	- - -	55 17 6	4 - -	- - -	- - -	130 - -	1,918 6 6½	82	31	- - -	- - -	- - -
	1844	901 9 9	288 - -	159 - -	108 6 8	54 10 6	6 - -	18 8 -	- - -	22 17 6	4 - -	- - -	- - -	81 9 8	1,643 15 7	89	- - -	- - -	- - -	
	1845	994 2 7	288 - -	176 - -	180 3 8	49 - -	- - -	3 - -	- - -	18 10 -	4 - -	- - -	- - -	103 18 9	1,848 5 -	102	- - -	13 7 6	- - -	
	1846	1,047 15 6½	288 - -	206 - -	274 16 4	4 14 9	- - -	9 - -	- - -	12 15 -	4 - -	- - -	- - -	111 1 9	1,993 9 10½	109	55	- - -	- - -	
	1847	1,311 10 7	288 - -	160 - -	360 7 11½	157 13 11	- - -	12 - -	- - -	30 - -	4 - -	- - -	- - -	60 4 4	2,310 15 9½	114	52	- - -	- - -	
														9,714 12 9½	490 or 9,310 cwt.	225	3,150	- - -	13 11½	
D D 2 Ipswich	1843	422 9 -	76 - -	81 - -	65 9 2	63 - -	2 5 4	12 9 3	- - -	28 18 6	2 10 -	- - -	- - -	65 5 6	813 11 9	28	10	- - -	- - -	
	1844	503 16 5	76 - -	79 - -	54 3 4	26 - -	2 - -	9 4 -	- - -	12 - -	2 10 -	- - -	- - -	41 - -	805 13 9	50	21	- - -	- - -	
	1845	454 12 10½	76 - -	88 - -	80 1 10	24 - -	- - -	1 16 -	- - -	17 7 6	2 10 -	- - -	- - -	38 18 6	794 10 1	53	22	14 13 -	- - -	
	1846	712 15 5	76 - -	102 - -	137 8 2	102 7 6	- - -	4 19 6	- - -	13 16 -	2 10 -	- - -	- - -	54 - -	1,330 16 7	52	21	- - -	- - -	
	1847	660 11 10	76 - -	75 - -	112 1 4½	64 11 3	- - -	6 4 6	- - -	14 - -	2 10 -	- - -	- - -	23 16 -	1,034 15 -	58	26	- - -	- - -	
														4,784 7 3	241 or 4,579 cwt.	100	1,400	- - -	15 3¼	
Holland	1843	1,265 4 9	523 - -	- - -	155 12 9	152 17 8	9 5 5	12 10 -	- - -	14 - -	4 - -	- - -	- - -	144 2 11	2,261 8 1	98	32	- - -	- - -	
	1844	1,181 16 3½	429 - -	- - -	177 4 5	101 19 3	10 - -	43 13 5½	- - -	8 - -	4 - -	- - -	- - -	93 4 5	2,058 3 3	112	35	- - -	- - -	
	1845	1,146 14 4	334 - -	- - -	215 12 7	184 10 11	16 18 9	29 1 2	- - -	39 10 -	4 - -	- - -	- - -	109 3 -	2,079 10 9	183	60	11 7 2½	- - -	
	1846	1,308 18 10	361 - -	- - -	157 17 3	176 8 5	6 10 -	20 - -	- - -	37 1 -	4 - -	- - -	- - -	125 7 -	2,197 2 6	120	40	- - -	- - -	
	1847	1,364 14 9½	410 - -	- - -	140 6 2	164 2 8	5 10 -	12 - -	- - -	17 10 6	4 - -	- - -	- - -	63 10 5	2,181 14 6½	185	75	- - -	- - -	
														10,777 19 1½	693 or 11,088 cwt.	242	3,388	- - -	13 6	
Lacovia	1843	879 17 9	314 11 10	- - -	185 2 -	264 - 9	- - -	8 - -	- - -	3 - -	3 - -	- - -	- - -	79 8 2	1,737 - 6	52	19	- - -	- - -	
	1844	822 11 5	223 10 1	- - -	127 18 1	54 18 7	7 5 5	16 16 7	- - -	- - -	3 - -	- - -	- - -	47 9 1	1,303 7 3	72	30	- - -	- - -	
	1845	802 4 1	234 19 -	- - -	115 3 1	143 17 7	10 - -	16 19 3	- - -	12 - -	3 - -	- - -	- - -	62 13 1	1,400 16 1	134	73	1 17 7½	- - -	
	1846	1,006 1 3	248 3 -	- - -	150 - -	257 7 1	5 2 7	15 - -	- - -	10 18 6	3 - -	- - -	- - -	73 8 6	1,769 - 11	76	38	- - -	- - -	
	1847	1,029 13 2½	310 - -	- - -	138 - -	143 6 1	5 10 -	8 10 1½	- - -	32 18 -	3 - -	- - -	- - -	30 2 3	1,700 19 8	135	74	- - -	- - -	
														7,911 4 5	469 or 7,504 cwt.	234	3,276	- - -	12 11	

Appendix, No. 1.
JAMAICA.
Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. This question is answered in the statement. What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—

	1832.			1846.			1847.		
	Acres.	Hhds.	Pns.	Acres.	Hhds.	Pns.	Acres.	Hhds.	Pns.
Holland - - -	268	234	80	135	120	40	187	185	85
YS - - - - -	283	234	78	121	109	55	124	114	52
Ipswich - - -	-	107	—	43	52	21	48	58	26
		575	158		281	116		357	163

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?—

A. In 1832, on Holland	-	-	320	-	-	120	now remain.
" Lacovia	-	-	308	-	-	280	"
" YS	-	-	218	-	-	120	"
" Ipswich	-	-	125	-	-	40	"
			971			560	

What is the character of those properties; are they favourably circumstanced?—Yes; Holland and Lacovia join each other; I manage them myself; they possess the advantages of affording abundant feeding for stock, whereby I am enabled to keep up the number; the soil also is good; the former has a water power, the latter a steam-engine, and they have an easy transit of their produce down the Black River to the shipping place; YS has a water power, and Ipswich a cattle mill; both possess equal advantages with the former properties, except as to the extent of pasturage for stock, and distance from shipping place.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—On those on the estates; there is no reliance on other labour, although often obtained during crop.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—The rate of wages by the day is 1s., but all work is usually done by the task, based upon the principle of 1s. a day; the cleaning of canes is generally performed from 10s. to 13s. 4d. per acre, or about sixteen chains for 1s.; cutting and tying canes 20s. per acre or about 2s. 6d. for 20 chains; I do not consider that a fair day's work is got from the people employed as day labourers; when employed by task, they finish in about six hours; they work only four days in each week, except in crop time.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had sufficient capital.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use nothing but the plough in opening the lands, and I have not found any other agricultural implement to be useful.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I do not see how machinery could be made more available as a substitute for labour.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—I can confirm the report sent in by the clerk of the vestry.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I cannot particularize any properties in my district.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—The people understand their situation better, and labour is more easily attainable, but there is no reduction in the price.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No, I cannot state any facts with regard to actual sales.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. to 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I consider the result will be the abandonment, to a very large extent, of sugar cultivation.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 205

FRIDAY, 19 November 1847.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Isaac Jackson*, of the Parish of Hanover, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been; so to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation since the year 1823, and as attorney since 1832. I have seventeen estates at present under my management in Hanover, St. James, and Trelawny.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—Acting as an agent, I do not feel myself justified in putting forward the names of the properties, but I can give those particulars for the last three years, distinguishing the estates by numbers.

ESTATE	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies.			TOTAL.			CROP.			Pos. Rum.	Value of the Rum, and other Receipts in the Island.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting the Value of the Rum, and other Receipts.						
										SUGAR.											
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	Hhds.	Tns.	Cwt.									
Year 1845.	1	745	14	3	645	9	6	1,391	3	9	55	16	1,040	29	515	8	-	-	19	2	
	2	1,268	3	8	849	1	9	2,117	5	5	77	2	1,252	37	804	16	7	1	-	11	
	3	997	5	9	834	5	7	1,831	11	4	-	94	940	30	510	10	7	1	8	-	
	4	1,192	17	8	1,400	14	2	2,593	11	10	120	11	1,910	79	1,232	18	6	-	14	2	
	5	933	10	7	659	12	7	1,593	3	2	70	10	1,150	40	722	2	-	-	15	1	
	6	898	3	8	783	9	-	1,681	12	8	75	-	1,125	38	489	15	2	1	1	2	
	7	1,920	2	10	1,180	14	4	3,100	17	2	148	-	2,240	90	1,608	1	9	-	-	13	3
	8	2,148	7	2	1,797	19	7	3,946	6	9	196	-	2,940	148	1,527	8	4	-	-	16	7
	9	1,286	1	5	863	6	10	2,149	8	9	98	-	1,470	58	882	8	-	-	-	17	1
	10	1,072	13	11	520	19	6	1,593	13	6	61	1	925	46	600	4	8	1	-	2	
	11	779	15	10	596	14	10	1,316	10	8	35	-	525	16	329	19	10	2	17	-	
	12	2,029	10	1	1,696	8	1	4,325	18	2	150	-	2,250	89	2,001	13	7	-	-	11	10
	13	1,292	-	10	1,099	4	9	2,391	5	7	71	-	1,065	-	603	6	10	1	13	11	
	14	1,510	17	7	1,490	1	3	3,000	18	10	193	-	2,235	100	1,490	1	3	-	-	19	6
	15	1,226	18	6	1,461	7	1	2,688	5	7	131	-	1,965	57	1,040	18	3	-	-	16	2
												1,569		23,092	858	14,419	13	4	14	18	-
															Average	-	-	-	19	10	½
Year 1846.	1	827	15	2	853	7	1	1,681	2	3	68	15	1,326	33	575	9	-	-	13	7	
	2	1,309	12	2	850	15	-	2,160	7	2	77	-	1,309	41	596	7	-	1	3	10	
	3	1,088	17	2	789	1	9	1,877	18	11	-	99	990	30	531	17	1	1	7	2	
	4	1,097	10	9	1,022	18	2	2,120	8	11	77	10	1,255	49	777	12	-	1	1	4	
	5	955	-	1	589	6	4	1,544	6	5	50	15	900	28	478	1	9	1	3	8	
	6	799	3	11	641	14	6	1,440	17	6	37	1	565	26	400	8	9	1	16	9	
	7	2,179	13	7	1,188	19	3	3,368	12	10	178	2	2,690	77	1,255	15	-	-	15	8	
	8	2,615	14	3	1,702	3	10	4,317	18	1	294	-	3,740	141	2,073	13	9	-	-	12	-
	9	1,458	9	10	945	18	8	2,404	8	6	127	1	1,915	73	1,262	3	9	-	-	11	10
	10	1,208	12	9	625	13	10	1,734	6	7	83	-	1,245	55	987	7	3	-	-	11	11
	11	959	8	1	520	14	7	1,480	2	8	53	-	795	16	900	17	7	1	12	2	
	12	3,394	7	10	2,017	12	6	5,412	-	4	200	-	3,000	118	2,269	10	10	1	-	10	
	13	1,391	9	2	657	8	10	2,246	18	-	80	-	1,200	40	957	18	11	1	1	6	
	14	1,506	2	1	1,371	1	6	2,876	3	7	113	-	1,695	47	716	10	-	1	5	6	
	15	1,103	5	8	610	8	10	1,713	14	6	63	49	945	35	826	16	1	-	18	8	
	16	1,933	14	1	1,025	-	3	2,058	14	4	41	4	623	24	982	15	4	1	14	1	
											1,573		24,193	831	15,393	4	1	17	10	6	
															Average	-	-	-	1	10	½
Year 1847.	1	805	8	6½	770	19	6½	1,576	8	1	56	8	854	28.1	648	19	6	1	1	8½	
	2	1,197	10	1	837	3	9	2,034	14	10	63	-	882	35	741	17	10	1	9	3½	
	3	1,151	19	11½	739	12	3½	1,891	12	3	-	125	1,162	23	443	19	-	1	4	-	
	4	1,321	15	2	1,025	4	10	2,347	-	-	160	10	2,500	85	1,422	14	9	-	8	-	
	5	1,030	-	6½	655	10	9½	1,685	11	4	63	20	1,064	51	965	18	-	-	13	5	
	6	807	17	9½	739	10	7½	1,547	8	5	79	-	1,106	44	761	7	-	-	14	2½	
	7	2,005	12	9½	1,015	6	10½	3,020	19	8	192	1	1,858	55	1,054	1	-	1	1	3½	
	8	2,457	3	4	1,781	2	10	4,238	6	3	224	-	3,136	127.4	2,138	16	2	-	12	8½	
	9	1,558	5	4	905	3	7	2,463	8	11	122	-	1,708	63	1,201	1	-	-	14	9½	
	10	1,118	14	-	562	12	2	1,681	6	2	68	-	952	44	888	19	6	-	16	7½	
	11	950	8	11½	490	19	1½	1,441	8	1	42	-	688	14	233	6	6	2	-	4	
	12	3,450	-	10½	2,179	13	6½	5,629	14	5	276	-	3,864	163	3,399	19	8	-	11	6½	
	13	1,299	19	5	806	14	4	2,106	13	9	81	-	1,215	37	580	-	3	1	8	7	
	16†	1,395	13	1½	1,231	-	10½	2,626	14	-	147	-	2,058	83	1,950	-	-	-	6	6½	
												1,623	164	22,947	854	16,431	-	2	13	3	-½
																Average	-	-	-	18	9½

* Credits included, not connected with the cultivation, 315 l. 17 s. 5 d.

† Credits included, not connected with the cultivation, 50 l. 8 s. 7½ d.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Please state to what reason you assign the diversity of cost of a hundred weight of sugar on some properties, as compared with others?—No. 3 is a large estate, with a good deal of grass land attached to it, on which horses and cattle are reared and fattened; and it invariably makes a large rum crop; it is a seasonable property, with good land, and more favourably circumstanced as to labour. No. 4 is a very seasonable and easily worked property, the soil excellent, and few weeds; the rum is of a superior quality, and sells high. Nos. 9 and 10, belonging to the same proprietor, are under one establishment, and managed by one overseer. No. 16, a large sum derived from sale of stock, &c., and included in the credits stated. No. 12 is one of the finest and most productive estates in the district; it has great water power, the land is of superior quality, and capable of being ploughed and cleaned with implements; indeed it is one with which very few properties in the island can compete.

Taking credit for the value of the rum, at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the hundred weight?—This is shown by the statement put in.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years 1846 and 1847?—I cannot state the extent of cultivation in 1832, but I tender the following statement, which will give the particulars, as far as I know.

ESTATE.	1832.					1846.					1847.				
	Sugar.			Rum.		Sugar.			Rum.		Sugar.			Rum.	
	Hbds.	Trs.	Brls.	Pns.	Hds.	Hbds.	Trs.	Brls.	Pns.	Hds.	Hbds.	Trs.	Brls.	Pns.	Hds.
1	161	1	3	22	72	68	15	—	33	—	56	8	—	28	—
2	103	—	—	44	—	77	—	—	41	—	63	—	—	35	—
3	60	24	2	19	—	—	99	—	30	—	—	125	—	23	—
4	257	14	—	180	—	77	10	—	49	—	160	10	—	87	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	50	15	—	26	—	63	20	—	61	—
6	94	—	—	41	—	37	1	—	26	—	79	—	—	44	—
7	268	13	4	102	—	178	2	—	77	—	132	1	—	55	—
8	320	—	1	143	4	224	—	—	141	—	224	—	—	129	—
9	179	108	—	54	20	127	1	—	73	—	122	1	—	63	—
10						83	—	—	55	—	68	—	—	44	—
11	71	16	—	39	3	53	—	—	16	1	42	—	—	14	—
12	551	—	—	278	—	200	—	—	118	—	270	7	—	164	—
13	217	61	1	99	2	80	1	32	40	2	81	1	7	37	2
14	167	15	—	78	—	118	—	—	47	—	170	—	2	81	—
15	132	24	—	94	2	63	—	49	35	1	87	—	—	38	—
16	150	30	—	70	40	41	—	4	24	—	147	—	—	91	—
	2,935	—	—	1,284	143	1,579	—	—	833	—	1,881	—	—	985	—

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—

Estate.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.	Present Number.
1	164	About 70 now remain.
2	182	„ 100 „
3	189	„ 70 „
4	164	„ 20 „
5	224	„ 80 „
6	256	„ 50 „
7	329	„ 100 „
8	389	„ 300 „
9	400	„ 50 „
10	197	„ 50 „
11	104	„ 104 „
12	286	„ 70 „
13	233	„ 30 „
14	112	„ 120 „
15	83	„ 20 „
16	290	Unknown, but very few remaining.
	3,591	1,234

Q. Can you mostly rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—A. On those located on the estates.

What

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—In Trelawny and St. James, from 1s. to 1s. 3d. per day, for field labour. In crop time, from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. In Hanover, and the interior of St. James, from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d., and 2s. in crop time to people about the works, but the field work is principally done by job, for the rate of wages which I have mentioned; the people do from 18 to 24 chains, cleaning and thrashing canes, and much at the same rate for cutting. On one estate I have the arrangement that all description of field labour is done for 1s 6d., the extent of work all round being 24 chains. In very few instances do I get a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. The task is usually performed on an average of six hours in the day, and the people might do more work if they were so disposed; the great difficulty to the more successful cultivation of sugar, arises from a want of labour, and not being able to command it at the time required.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have had on all occasions.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough, and other implements, as far as practicable.

Are you able to command labour, and the means to keep your pastures in the same order as they formerly were, for the support of your cattle?—Not without neglecting the cane fields.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I think it could, to a limited extent, about the works on large properties, but not to field labour.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned, and broken up, in your district, since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c. ?—I can confirm the return of the clerk of the vestry for Hanover, now shown me.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds?—I can name two sugar estates, Bachelor's Hall, in Hanover, and Barnstable, in Trelawny, recently purchased, and which will be broken up as soon as the crop on the ground can be taken off.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—Generally speaking, I do not think so.

Have you had any experience with respect to African and Asiatic immigrants, and how have you found them to answer?—I have had some experience of both; on the property on which I reside, I have 15 Africans, and 48 Coolies; the Africans are better labourers, but more given to changing about the country. I consider this lot of Coolies from Calcutta superior to any I have seen, with the exception of those located on an adjoining property. On another estate, where I have some more Coolies, they have not done so well; I do not consider them a description of labourers suited to our wants, or at all equal to the Africans.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot state any actual sales; the value of such property is now very greatly reduced.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. to 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I think the result will be the abandonment of a very large portion of the sugar estates.

FRIDAY, 19 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of the Honourable *Gilbert Shaw*, of the Parish of Vere, before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for about 17 years; and for the last seven years I have been concerned for a number of properties in the parishes of Clarendon and Vere.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—Acting as an agent, I do not feel myself at liberty to put forward the names of the properties; but I can give these particulars with regard to 10 properties, distinguishing them by numbers.

Taking credit for the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—This will be shown by the statement put in, to be 1l. 13s. 1½d.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties, in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?

[The Witness delivered in the following Statement:]

Appendix, No. 1.
JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

ESTATE.	1832.				1846.				1847.			
	Extent of Cultivation.	C R O P.			Culti- vation.	C R O P.			Culti- vation.	C R O P.		
		H.	T.	P.		H.	T.	P.		H.	T.	P.
1	623	420	—	149	400	219	1	123	410	330	—	150
2	161	161	—	65	106	48	—	16	106	61	1	25
3	99	93	—	25	99	—	41	13	99	—	74	13
4	300	322	—	122	295	70	9	39	295	280	30	150
5	190	183	—	79	184	72	1	36	184	162	1	73
6	220	379	—	123	276	111	—	84	288	280	—	124
7	104	169	—	75	110	57	—	50	110	107	—	62
8	160	196	—	93	120	118	—	64	120	123	—	70
9	140	128	—	41	110	80	—	35	110	121	—	52
10	250	193	20	76	207	37	—	12	216	176	16	81
—	—	2,258	—	848	—	847	—	472	—	1,722	—	800

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?

A. On estate No. 1, in 1832, 502 About 500 now remain.
 " " 2 & 3 " 404 " none now remain.
 " " 4 " 310 About 90 now remain.
 " " 5 " 165 " none.
 " " 6 " 535 " 200.
 " " 7 " 149 " none.
 " " 8 " 230 " "
 " " 9 " 131 " "
 " " 10 " 224 " "
 " " 11 " 230 " "
 " " 12 " 168 " "

3,048 790

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estate, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—Decidedly, upon those who remain on the estates, but on many of the properties there are none remaining.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—The standard rate for day labour is 1s., but the work is chiefly done by task and job; we do not receive a fair day's work, inasmuch as the task is generally finished within five or six hours, and the people will not take anything that they cannot complete in that time.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had sufficient capital to pay the labourers regularly.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough always in opening the land; other implements have been used, but have not been found to answer well in the lowlands of Vere and Clarendon.

Are you able to command labour and means to keep the estates' pastures in the same state as formerly, for the maintenance of your cattle?—In the lowlands we are now getting our pastures put into better order, but in the mountains of Clarendon a sufficient amount of labour for this purpose has never been obtained since freedom.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I do not think it could, except in a very limited way, about the works.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned, and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—I confirm the return sent in by the clerk of the vestry.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I cannot particularize any; but I know that many are hanging on, and cannot continue cultivation at the present prices.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—Labour is more attainable on some estates in Vere, on account of the dry weather, which prevents the people from cultivating provisions, and obliges them to resort to the estates for money to purchase them. On one estate, where a large number of people are located, they work better; but, generally speaking, I do not consider the people work better or cheaper, particularly in the mountains, where labour is every day becoming less attainable. One great difficulty we have to contend against in carrying on sugar cultivation, is the irregular command of labour; at the very time we stand most in need of it, it is impossible to procure it at any reasonable rate of wages that can be offered, on account of the people occupying themselves with the cultivation of their own provision grounds. They afford us their labour as suits themselves, not as suits us. Another difficulty arises from

from the people absenting themselves from labour for several weeks at Easter, first of August, and Christmas; no rate of wages will induce them to turn out at those periods, and the consequence is, that the work of the estate is greatly thrown back.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I have not known of such sales, they cannot be made; I have myself advertised estates for sale this year, but have had no offer for them. At the present moment I consider property altogether unsaleable, and of no appreciable value whatever.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14s. to 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I consider that sugar cultivation must be generally abandoned throughout the island.

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

FRIDAY, 19 November 1847.

Examination, on Oath, of the Hon. *Thomas M' Cornock*, of the Parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for 24 years, and I have been in possession of several estates as attorney, and as proprietor of one in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay; what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—Acting as an agent, I do not feel myself authorized to give the names of the estates, but I can give those particulars for three of the properties for the last four years, distinguishing them by numbers, and for my own property, Stanton, for two years, giving the actual sales.

	YEAR.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	SUGAR.		Phns. Rum.	Sales of Rum, at 14l.	Cost of Sugar per cwt. after deducting Sales of Rum.	
						Hhds. of 17 Cwt. at Home.	Cwt.				
This Return does not include rents received for sales of old Stock, or any other credits. The rents on Estate, No. 1, on an average, is 560 l. per annum. Estate, No. 2, has very little in the shape of credits.	1843	No. 1.	£. s. d. 4,407 -- --	£. s. d. 3,456 -- --	£. s. d. 7,863 -- --	398	6,766	228	£. s. d. 3,192 -- --	£. s. d. -- --	
	1844		4,722 -- --	4,294 -- --	9,016 -- --	438	7,446	257	3,598 -- --	-- --	
	1845		5,847 -- --	4,189 -- --	9,845 -- --	604	10,268	299	4,186 -- --	-- --	
	1846		5,185 -- --	4,113 -- --	9,298 -- --	418	7,106	218	3,052 -- --	-- --	
				18,961 -- --	16,061 -- --	36,022 -- --	1,858	31,586	1,002	14,028 -- --	-- 13 11
	There are no credits worth noticing for this Estate.	1845	Stanton				Hhd. at 18 Cwt.				
		1844		2,218 -- --	1,753 -- --	3,971 -- --	169	3,042	76	1,064 -- --	-- --
		1845		1,912 -- --	2,039 -- --	3,951 -- --	156	2,803	79	1,106 -- --	-- --
		1846		2,169 -- --	2,624 -- --	4,793 -- --	240	4,320	119	1,606 -- --	-- --
		1846		1,980 -- --	2,439 -- --	4,419 -- --	182	3,276	103	1,442 -- --	-- --
			8,279 -- --	8,855 -- --	17,134 -- --	747	13,446	377	5,278 -- --	-- 17 7½	
	1845	Stanton				Hhds.	Cwt.				
	1846		1,366 -- --	1,259 -- --	2,625 -- --	140	2,310	57	798 -- --	-- --	
			1,225 -- --	975 -- --	2,200 -- --	118	1,947	47	658 -- --	-- --	
			2,591 -- --	2,234 -- --	4,825 -- --	258	4,257	104	1,456 -- --	-- 15 9½	

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. The above statement will answer this question.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties, in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?

Estate.	1832.		1846.		1847.	
	Extent of Cultivation.	Crop.	Cultivation.	Crop.	Cultivation.	Crop.
	Acres.	Hhds.	Acres.	Hhds.	Acres.	Hhds.
1	540	483	522	418	538	473
2	355	462	225	182	236	203
Stanton	197	180	145	118	149	150
		1,125		718		826

Appendix, No. 1.	Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains ?	
JAMAICA.	A. In 1832, on estate 1,	600 labourers, about the same now remain.
Report :	" 2,	250 " about the same now remain.
Sugar Cultivation.	" Stanton, 160	" about the same now remain.
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
	1,010	

With regard to the above estates, the numbers have been kept up by an accession of Africans.

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—I can most depend on those located on the estates.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—By the day, for field labour, I pay 9*d.* to young people, and 1*s.* 6*d.* for able hands; most of the work is done by job or task; cleaning canes from 4*s.* to 10*s.* per acre; for banking and cleaning plants about 14*s.*; for cutting canes, twenty chains of plants, for one 1*s.* 6*d.*; and twenty-six chains ratoons for same money. The task which they undertake is generally finished by 12 or one o'clock, consequently they might do a great deal more work, and do not give a fair day's work for their money.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have had at all times, since freedom, and paid them regularly.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—Yes, I open all the land by the plough. I have tried the hoe harrow for cleaning canes, but I have not found it to answer, nor has it been found to answer by others in the district.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I do not see how it could be made more available as a substitute for labour, except in a limited way about the works.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned, and broken up in you district, since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—The return submitted to me from the clerk of the vestry of St. Thomas-in-the-East is correct.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—The condition of the whole of them is so bad, that it is impossible to say how many may be able to go on.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—The people in our district do work better, which I attribute to the large number of Africans located in it, particularly in keeping the mill about on a Saturday, which could not have been accomplished otherwise. The benefit derived from Africans in the district of Plantain-Garden River is conclusive, as to the great advantage of having them introduced into other parts of the island. The first of them I had was in 1841; they have made themselves very comfortable in their houses and families; they are regular attendants at church, and bestow great attention on the education of their children at the school provided for them.

Have you had any experience with regard to Asiatic labourers?—I have had none in my own employ, but a good many are located in the parish, and I can speak from my own knowledge, that they have turned out very badly; I don't think them well adapted in bodily strength, or otherwise, for the labour of this country. They are not at all to be compared to Africans.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can state one fact with regard to the depressed value of landed property. I advertized, in the early part of this year, a sugar estate for sale; it was put up at the Commercial Hotel, in Kingston, but not a single bidder appeared; I was afterwards compelled to dispose of it for 620*l.* The freehold consisted of one thousand acres, and with a good dwelling-house, works, machinery, coppers, stills, and all other fixtures.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14*s.* to 16*s.* by competition with the slave cultivators?—I consider it will be impossible for sugar cultivation to be continued at those prices; the labouring population of this country will never be induced to work at such a low rate of wages as could enable the proprietors to continue the cultivation. It is only by a reduction of the duties, and the introduction of a large number of Africans, the cultivation can be maintained in this island to remunerate the proprietors at moderate prices.

WEDNESDAY, 24 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Alexander C. Logan*, of the Parish of Manchester, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have had the management of sugar estates, but I am now engaged in the management of my own property, Great Valley, and as receiver in Chancery of Woodlands, Scotia, and Caledonia, all coffee plantations, in the parish of Manchester.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—On Great Valley, I depend more upon the sale of cattle than upon the cultivation of coffee; and, as the expenses of carrying on the property are necessarily mixed up, I cannot give the specific information which you require. With respect to the amount of outlay for coffee, the return which I receive from the limited field of coffee which I cultivate, would not repay me for devoting my time to it alone. With respect to the other properties under my management as receiver in the Court of Chancery, I was authorized by the Chancellor to obtain a loan about 1840, to enable me to carry on the cultivation of the properties, but no loan could be obtained, and the consequence has been a deficiency of means to put in fields of coffee, and to carry on the general management. The properties are now nearly abandoned, being unable to pay the cost of cultivation. Caledonia has a very valuable run of woodland, well adapted for the cultivation of coffee, if means and labour could be found to make it available; in another year these properties must be altogether abandoned.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made, on those properties, in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—

Caledonia made in 1832	31	tierces,	and in 1846	1	tierce and 2 barrels.
Scotia made in "	34	"	"	5	"
Woodlands made in "	53	"	"	11	"
Great Valley made in "	210	"	"	21	"

What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—On Caledonia, Scotia, and Woodlands, there were, in 1832, 200 labourers; none of them now remain: on Great Valley, 400; about six old invalids now remain.

From your knowledge of Manchester, are you able to inform the committee with regard to the general state of coffee cultivation in that parish?—I am able to show the quantity of coffee shipped at Alligator Pond, the principal shipping port of Manchester, in 1832, 1838, and 1846, as follows: In 1832, six thousand six hundred and thirty tierces, of seven and a half cwt. each; in 1838, four thousand five hundred and ninety tierces; and in 1846, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two tierces, showing that in six years, from 1832 to 1838, the crops fell two thousand and forty tierces, and from 1838 to 1846 two thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight tierces; making a total falling off of four thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight tierces out of six thousand six hundred and thirty, leaving only one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two tierces.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I have perused the return sent in by the clerk of the vestry of Manchester, and can confirm the same.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can only state one such case, with respect to Smithfield, a coffee plantation, that it was sold about 1833 or 1834, for 3,000 l., and again resold in 1844 for 800 l.

What do you consider will be the result of coffee continuing for any length of time at its present price?—I consider that there can be no new fields opened, nor any cultivation beyond the keeping up of the present fields, until they become exhausted; consequently, the cultivation of coffee must soon cease, unless relief is afforded by taking off the duties in England.

WEDNESDAY, 24 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *William Henry Knott*, of the Parish of St. James, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am engaged in sugar cultivation, and I have been so for twenty-one years. I have under my management, as attorney, twelve sugar estates, in the parishes of St. James, Hanover, Westmoreland, and Trelawny. I am also the lessee of three estates, and the owner of one, in the parish of St. James.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing those

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

those articles for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—Acting as an agent, I do not like to name the properties, but I can give those particulars for eight properties, distinguishing them by numbers, varying in the number of years, from 1832 to the present time. I am not prepared to give the particulars with respect to my own property, or those I have leased. With regard to my own property, I have had to renew the works upon it, and made other improvements, therefore the outlay would not be a fair criterion of the cost of production; the same remarks apply to Fairfield.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	CROP.			Sales of Rum.	Cost of Sugar, per Cwt., after deducting Sales of the Rum.
					SUGAR.		RUM.		
					Hds.	Cwt.	Phns.		
1846	1*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.				£ s. d.	Average.
1847	"	1,095 4 11	1,956 5 9	3,051 10 8	172	2,580	84	1,344 - -	- 13 2
				3,051 10 8	172	2,580	84	1,344 - -	
1843	2	1,125 10 1	751 3 10	1,876 13 11	65	975	24	386 - -	1 11 -
1844	"	1,101 6 6	737 18 3	1,839 4 9	74½	1,117	29½	413 - -	1 5 6
1845	"	1,315 6 2	885 9 6	2,200 15 8	102	1,580	48	672 - -	- 19 11
1846	"	1,401 14 1	1,430 1 6	2,831 15 7	91	1,350	43	502 - -	1 14 5
1847	"	1,388 18 5	862 16 -	2,251 14 5	104	1,560	48	672 - -	1 - 1
				11,000 4 4	436½	6,532	192½	2,595 - -	1 6 2
1843	3	919 3 4	952 15 5	1,871 18 5	40	600	20½	266 - -	2 13 4
1844	"	826 12 11	725 11 4	1,552 4 3	54	810	24½	312 - -	1 10 7
1845	"	709 16 8	915 18 1	1,625 14 9	68	1,020	36	468 - -	1 2 8
1846	"	803 7 9	910 18 10	1,714 6 7	56	840	25	325 - -	1 13 -
1847	"	851 4 5	706 5 -	1,557 9 5	93	1,300	35	490 - -	- 16 4
				8,321 13 5	311	4,570	141	1,861 - -	1 12 11
1843	4	638 9 8	649 16 5	1,288 6 1	46	690	21	273 - -	1 9 5
1844	"	652 6 8	820 6 4	1,472 13 -	57	855	26	416 - -	1 4 8
1845	"	462 10 10	539 2 6	1,001 13 4	67	1,005	35	560 - -	- 10 9
1846	"	784 17 7	970 2 3	1,754 19 10	73	1,095	39	624 - -	1 - 8
1847	"	719 6 9	925 10 4	1,644 17 1	65	975	30	450 - -	1 8 6
				7,162 9 4	308	4,620	151	2,323 - -	1 2 5
1843	5	1,075 11 9	834 4 9	1,909 16 6	61	915	27½	330 - -	1 14 6
1844	"	823 10 6	1,099 8 -	1,922 18 6	67	1,005	33½	438 - -	1 8 4
1845	"	858 9 6	1,060 11 4	1,919 - 10	85	1,275	40½	528 - -	1 1 10
1846	"	910 12 7	1,039 18 9	1,950 11 4	68	1,020	40	504 - -	1 8 4
1847	"	951 18 1	918 19 7	1,870 17 8	76	1,140	44½	623 - -	1 1 10
				9,513 4 10	357	5,355	186	2,421 - -	1 6 11
1843	6	1,417 15 3	1,255 2 -	2,672 17 3	68	1,088	42	630 - -	1 17 8
1844	"	1,206 6 8	967 13 9	2,164 - 5	73	1,168	41	635 - -	1 6 2
1845	"	1,248 13 2	1,076 2 11	2,324 16 1	102	1,632	58	824 - 11	- 18 4
1846	"	1,580 2 7	1,112 - 9	2,692 3 4	122	1,952	66	886 7 10	- 18 6
1847	"	1,658 19 6	1,228 2 6	2,887 2 -	120	2,016	66	1,000 - 3	- 18 8
				12,740 19 1	485	7,856	273	3,975 9 -	1 3 10
1831	7	- - -	3,324 - -	3,324 - -	211	3,165	124	1,057 - 3	- 14 4
1832	"	- - -	3,032 17 7	3,032 17 7	130	1,950	60	515 1 -	1 6 3
1843	"	1,329 15 7	970 6 -	2,300 1 7	77½	1,162	37	561 1 -	1 10 -
1844	"	1,341 11 4	865 13 11	2,207 5 3	92	1,380	49	732 - -	1 1 4
1845	"	1,045 9 1	984 14 11	2,030 3 -	73	1,095	41½	592 10 -	1 6 3
1846	"	1,389 12 7	976 5 9	2,365 18 4	99	1,485	45	630 - -	1 3 1
1847	"	1,347 3 6	1,036 8 4	2,383 11 10	98	1,470	52½	787 - -	1 1 8
				17,698 17 7	780½	11,707	409	4,875 2 3	1 4 5
1843	8	1,253 14 5	953 7 -	2,207 1 5	89	1,424	53	448 - -	- 19 -
1844	"	1,312 5 4	914 12 1	2,226 17 5	76	1,216	48	708 - -	1 4 2
1845	"	1,310 19 10	1,074 3 -	2,385 2 10	130	2,080	84	1,206 - -	- 10 5
1846	"	1,330 17 1	984 13 3	2,315 10 4	57	912	33	528 - -	1 18 -
1847	"	1,299 9 6	985 12 6	2,285 2 -	115	1,840	57	1,016 - -	- 13 9
				11,419 14 -	467	7,472	275	3,066 - -	1 1 1

The above Statements include all Credits for Rents, &c.
 * I did not get possession of this Estate until April 1846, and the Accounts for 1845, and this year, being blended together, I can give no detailed account with accuracy for 1846.

Q. What

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—The cost per cwt. will be shown by the foregoing statement.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—The following statement will give those particulars.

Report :
Sugar Cultivation.

Estate.	Extent of Cultivation.	1832.		1846.		1847.	
		Crop.		Cultivation.	Crop.	Cultivation.	Crop.
		Hhds.	Pns.	Acres.	Hhds.	Acres.	Hhds.
1	-- The works were destroyed in the rebellion.	140	1	155	102	145	172
2	- - - - -	143	50	165	91	172	104
3	No record of the crop - - -	—	—	68	56	81	98
4	-- No record, the canes were not converted into sugar, the works having been destroyed in the rebellion.	—	—	66	73	96	65
5	-- The works were destroyed in the rebellion.	100	31	101	68	112	76
6	-- The whole of the works destroyed in the rebellion.	134	12	123	122	131	120
7	138	130	—	113	99	115	98
8	200	164 or	103	147	57	140	115
		811	197	668	- -	- -	843

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation, in 1832, and what number now remains?—A. I can give the number of labourers that were attached to the estates in 1832, and, as nearly as I can, the number remaining, without being able to speak accurately.

On estate No. 1, in 1832 there were about 350, about 20 now remain, with 36 Portuguese.

"	2	"	"	300	"	150	now remain.
"	3	"	"	180	"	80	"
"	4	"	"	180	"	30	"
"	5	"	"	400	"	100	"
"	6	"	"	350	"	200	"
"	7	"	"	200	"	150	"
"	8	"	"	233	"	200	now remain, of whom only 100 work.
				2,193		930	

Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—In situations where there are villages adjacent, I prefer to depend upon strangers, but I should still more prefer a well conducted resident peasantry.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay from 1s. to 1s. 6d. for day labour, but the work is chiefly done by job or task, which is usually performed in from four to six hours, therefore we do not get a fair day's work for a fair day's pay.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, I have always had.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I use the plough and harrow whenever I can, but I have not found much saving of labour by any other agricultural implement, the land being generally too stiff or too stony.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report :
Sugar Cultivation.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—Not to any great extent in the cultivation, but in some situations I incline to think that central factories may be established to advantage.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—I can confirm the return sent in by the clerk of the vestry, and I hand in to the committee a statement, giving more full information relative to those properties.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—None, that I am aware of.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—They work better on the whole than they did at the commencement of freedom, but the labourers are annually becoming settlers, and more independent of estates; and therefore labour will every year be more difficult to be obtained, unless the deficiency can be otherwise supplied.

Have you had any experience of immigrants, and if so, which class have you found to answer best?—I have had 40 Coolies settled on two estates, 20 on each, some from Calcutta and some from Madras; the former are very much to be preferred to the latter. I don't consider them a class of people well adapted for Jamaica. I have also had 68 Portuguese located on two estates; I have had them only for a few months, but so far they have done well. I should much prefer Africans to either of the others.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I sold Childermass estate, in St. James, in August last, for 2,300*l.*; it would have brought formerly about 8,000*l.*, exclusive of the slaves.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14*s.* to 16*s.* by competition with the slave cultivators?—My returns show that we are making sugar rather cheaper than we did in 1843; but taking an average of years and an average of estates, I do not think sugar can be made, after giving credit for the rum, under 24*s.* per cwt. If the estates' works and general cultivation are maintained, the result will be ruinous, as the loss would be from 6*l.* 8*s.* to 8*l.* per hogshead, on an average.

WEDNESDAY, 24 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *Lawrence Hislop*, of the Parish of St. James, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I am engaged in sugar cultivation, and have been so for upwards of 36 years. I have the management of nine sugar estates in the parish of St. James, one in the parish of Westmoreland, and five in the parish of Trelawny; three of which in the last-named parish belong to myself.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—This question will be best answered by reference to the statement herewith, containing amount paid to the labourers for wages, the amount of supplies from England, together with the total amount of the other contingencies, and crops produced. Acting as an agent, I do not feel myself authorized to name the properties, but I have distinguished them by numbers; my own properties are named.

[The Witness delivered in the following Statement:]

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING.

215

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			Total Contingencies.		C R O P.		Rum. Pns.	Sales of the Rum.			Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of the Rum.			
										Sugar in									
										Hhds.	Cwt.								
1847	1. - -	£. 1,417	s. -	d. -	£. 1,761	s. 7	d. 5	£. 3,178	s. 7	d. 5	110	1,870	60	£. 1,200	s. -	d. -	£. -	s. 10	d. 5
1846	" - -	1,293	-	-	1,146	13	-	2,539	12	-	46	782	22	440	-	-	2	8	7
1845	" - -	1,440	7	6	1,300	12	9	2,741	-	3	104	1,768	77	1,540	-	-	-	13	7
1844	" - -	982	10	-	939	5	-	1,921	15	-	38	646	14	280	-	-	2	10	9
1843	" - -	1,567	-	9	1,147	8	6	2,714	9	3	80	1,300	41	890	-	-	1	8	10
								12,805	3	11	378	6,426	214	4,280	-	-	7	12	2
																	1	10	5
1847	2. - -	£. 1,426	s. 3	d. -	£. 1,187	s. 16	d. -	£. 2,613	s. 19	d. -	168	2,356	85	£. 1,530	s. -	d. -	-	8	-
1846	" - -	1,176	15	7	1,327	4	7	2,504	10	2	60	1,020	35	455	-	-	2	-	2
1845	" - -	1,158	13	-	831	12	10	1,990	5	10	152	2,584	58	754	-	-	-	9	6
1844	" - -	972	8	8	757	3	-	1,729	11	8	68	1,156	28	364	-	-	1	3	7
1843	" - -	1,348	-	-	1,165	4	5	2,518	4	5	152	2,584	62	806	-	-	-	13	2
								11,351	11	1	600	10,200	268	3,909	-	-	4	14	5
																	-	19	1
1847	3. - -	£. 1,275	s. 4	d. 5	£. 1,095	s. 7	d. 9	£. 2,370	s. 12	d. 2	136	2,040	54	£. 792	s. -	d. -	-	13	8
1846	" - -	1,108	14	-	914	14	5	2,023	8	5	90	1,350	38	494	-	-	1	2	7
1845	" - -	1,020	13	6	769	-	9	1,789	14	3	99	1,485	35	455	-	-	-	17	11
1844	" - -	989	-	-	797	15	9	1,786	15	9	64	960	29	377	-	-	1	9	4
1843	" - -	1,184	10	-	749	3	1	1,933	13	1	88	1,320	35	455	-	-	1	1	7
								9,904	3	8	477	7,155	191	2,573	-	-	5	5	1
																	1	1	-
1847	4. - -	£. 1,163	s. 7	d. 4	£. 1,326	s. 4	d. 8	£. 2,489	s. 12	d. -	143	2,288	67	£. 871	s. -	d. -	-	14	1
1846	" - -	1,039	17	-	1,073	19	6	2,113	16	6	58	928	24	312	-	-	1	18	9
1845	" - -	1,045	10	-	876	8	-	1,921	18	-	147	2,352	66	928	-	-	-	9	-
1844	" - -	916	6	8	1,001	10	1	1,917	16	9	50	800	17	221	-	-	2	2	5
1843	" - -	1,224	10	-	867	8	2	2,093	18	2	119	1,904	41	593	-	-	-	16	4
								10,537	1	5	517	8,272	215	2,865	-	-	6	-	7
																	1	4	1
1847	5. - -	£. 2,299	s. 15	d. 8	£. 1,680	s. 8	d. 7	£. 3,980	s. 4	d. 1	208	3,248	86	£. 1,200	s. -	d. -	-	16	10
1846	" - -	2,056	1	7	1,588	19	6	3,645	1	1	201	3,216	88	1,144	-	-	-	15	6
1845	" - -	1,698	1	5	1,261	-	2	2,959	1	7	153	2,448	51	663	-	-	-	18	9
1844	" - -	1,621	13	8	1,182	8	9	2,804	2	5	155	2,480	50	650	-	-	-	17	-
1843	" - -	1,635	3	6	1,057	9	5	2,692	12	11	115	1,840	38	494	-	-	1	3	10
								16,081	2	1	827	13,232	313	4,241	-	-	4	11	11
																	-	18	4
1847	6. - -	£. 1,175	s. -	d. -	£. 1,505	s. 14	d. 8	£. 2,680	s. 14	d. 8	176	2,810	85	£. 1,275	s. -	d. -	-	10	-
1846	" - -	1,099	-	-	1,301	18	10	2,400	18	10	111	1,776	52	676	-	-	-	18	4
1845	" - -	1,155	-	-	1,131	8	7	2,286	8	7	135	2,160	73	949	-	-	-	12	4
1844	" - -	1,000	-	-	1,141	3	3	2,141	3	3	80	1,280	45	585	-	-	1	5	9
1843	" - -	1,135	-	-	1,164	18	5	2,299	18	5	95	1,620	37	481	-	-	1	3	3
								11,309	3	9	597	9,552	292	3,966	-	-	4	9	8
																	-	17	11
1847	7. - -	£. 1,221	s. -	d. -	£. 1,043	s. 11	d. 8	£. 2,264	s. 11	d. 6	105	1,680	58	£. 870	s. -	d. -	-	12	3
1846	" - -	1,094	-	-	790	-	-	1,884	-	-	37	592	20	260	-	-	2	15	3
1845	" - -	1,024	-	-	588	5	4	1,612	5	4	80	1,280	40	420	-	-	-	18	9
1844	" - -	935	9	5	724	15	6	1,660	4	11	54	864	28	304	-	-	1	10	-
1843	" - -	1,069	14	2	738	8	8	1,808	2	10	54	864	24	312	-	-	1	14	8
								9,229	3	11	330	5,280	170	2,226	-	-	7	10	6
																	1	10	1
1847	8. - -	£. 1,160	s. -	d. -	£. 623	s. 1	d. 3	£. 1,783	s. 1	d. 3	72	1,224	39	£. 409	s. -	d. -	1	1	-
1846	" - -	1,049	-	-	578	11	2	1,627	11	2	50	850	27	300	-	9	1	11	3
1845	" - -	1,026	1	6	501	9	9	1,527	11	3	76	1,292	43	491	4	-	-	16	-
1844	" - -	877	-	-	419	8	8	1,296	8	8	45	765	26	361	16	-	1	4	5
1843	" - -	1,355	2	7	901	4	8	2,256	7	3	43	731	21	279	12	-	2	14	1
								8,400	19	7	286	4,362	156	1,031	12	9	7	6	9
																	1	9	4
1847	9. - -	£. 1,086	s. 2	d. 4	£. 923	s. 5	d. 4	£. 1,961	s. 7	d. 8	82	1,994	53	£. 609	s. 15	d. -	-	18	6
1846	" - -	1,073	8	2	631	19	5	1,705	7	7	38	646	28	334	13	-	2	2	3
1845	" - -	1,049	2	-	674	1	3	1,723	3	3	100	1,700	72	853	10	9	-	10	2 1/2
1844	" - -	836	5	-	552	19	10	1,359	4	10	36	612	18	220	18	-	1	17	2
1843	" - -	1,452	12	-	721	5	11	2,173	17	11	88	1,406	50	594	8	-	1	1	1 1/2
								8,923	1	3	344	5,848	221	-	-	-	6	9	3
																	1	5	10

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

 Report :
Sugar Cultivation.

Appendix, No. 1.
JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			C R O P.		Rum Pns.	Sales of the Rum.			Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of the Rum.			
								Sugar in									
								Hhds.	Cwt.								
1847	10	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
1848	"	2,588	-	-	2,415	15	2	5,008	15	2	364	5,824	187	3,366	-	-	- 5 7
1845	"	2,174	7	6	2,497	13	2	4,672	-	8	116	1,856	58	1,044	-	-	1 19 1
1844	"	1,899	19	7	2,382	-	3	4,181	19	10	270	4,320	137	2,466	-	-	- 7 11
1843	"	1,440	11	2	1,508	2	6	2,948	13	8	37	592	18	324	-	-	4 8 8
								16,805	9	4	787	12,592	400	7,200	-	-	7 1 3
																	1 15 4
1847	11	1,327	10	4	758	15	3	2,086	5	7	115	1,840	43	645	-	-	- 15 8
1846	"	977	8	2	588	19	7	1,566	7	9	25	400	12	180	-	-	3 9 3
1845	"	1,250	7	11	589	16	1	1,840	4	-	109	1,744	42	690	-	-	- 13 10
1844	"	799	16	3	531	17	8	1,331	13	11	98	608	15	225	-	-	1 18 4
1843	"	1,121	-	-	750	9	10	1,871	3	10	67	1,072	22	550	-	-	1 4 7
								8,695	15	1	354	5,664	134	2,230	-	-	8 1 8
																	1 12 4
1845	12	420	-	-	364	19	7	784	19	7	47	705	21	420	-	-	- 7 6
1844	"	728	16	7	624	12	10	1,353	9	5	56	795	18	300	-	-	1 5 -
1843	"	951	6	3	543	16	3	1,495	2	6	39	585	14	280	-	-	2 1 6
								3,633	11	6	139	2,085	53	1,060	-	-	1 4 6
1847	Weston Favel	1,627	5	9	1,455	5	5	3,082	11	2	100	1,700	67	1,186	6	-	1 2 3½
1846	"	1,778	17	6	1,386	13	7	3,165	11	1	53	901	32	522	16	-	2 18 8
1845	"	1,848	18	1	1,307	17	9	3,156	15	10	110	1,370	70	1,147	7	-	1 1 6
1844	"	1,452	8	9	1,061	15	7	2,514	4	4	78	1,326	53	562	12	-	1 9 5
1843	"	1,637	2	9	1,140	18	9	2,828	1	6	58	986	46	522	18	8	2 6 9
								14,747	3	11	399	6,783	208	3,941	19	8	Average. 1 15 9
1847	Water Valley	1,615	12	6	1,424	16	11	3,040	9	5	122	2,074	65	1,136	-	-	- 18 4
1846	"	974	9	9	1,543	11	4	2,518	1	1	47	846	35	400	10	3	2 10 1
								5,558	10	6	169	2,920	100	1,536	10	3	3 8 5
																	1 14 2½
1847	Dry Valley	736	4	5	417	4	5	1,153	8	10	82	1,394	49	865	11	-	- 4 4½
1846	"	418	14	10	265	1	5	683	16	3	27	459	22	254	4	-	- 18 8½
								1,837	5	1	109	1,853	71	1,119	15	-	1 3 1
																	- 11 6½

In the above statement, have you included all the credits for rents, old stock, or otherwise?—I have.

Please to state the circumstances under which you made sugar at Dry Valley at 4s. 4d.?
 —It is a sea-side estate, managed by the overseer of Water Valley, my neighbouring property. It is well provided with pastures, where I fatten stock, the proceeds of which go against the cost of the sugar; there was no outlay for doing anything this year to the buildings or machinery. The property is easily worked, and requires very little plant put in; it yields well also in favourable seasons, but is much subject to be injured by dry weather.

Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar per cwt.?—This question is answered by the foregoing statement.

What was the extent of cultivation, and of the crops made on those properties, in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—

[The Witness delivered in the following Statement:]

ESTATE.	1832.		1846.		1847.	
	Hhds.	Pns.	Hhds.	Pns.	Hhds.	Pns.
1	137	71	47	22	110	60
2	213	110	60	35	168	85
3	153	33	90	38	136	54
4	200	96	58	24	143	67
5	-	-	201	88	203	86
6	143	66	111	52	176	85
7	-	-	37	20	105	58
8	89	56	50	27	72	39
9	167	92	38	28	82	53
10	409	207	116	58	364	187
11	39	17	26	12	115	43
12	138	55	50	26	-	-
Water Valley	305	106	47	35	122	65
Weston Favel	190	103	53	32	100	67
Dry Valley	142	57	27	22	82	49
	2,325	1,074	1,011	519	1,978	998

Appendix, No. 1.
JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?—A. The following statement will show the number:—

ESTATE.	Number of Labourers in 1832.	The Number now remaining, 1847.
1	172	70
2	243	100
3	131	50
4	191	60
5	283	120
6	273	120
7	162	50
8	339	80
9	173	70
10	553	150
11	117	40
12	223	none
Weston Favel	296	80
Water Valley	345	100
Dry Valley	200	60
	3,701	1,150

Q. Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—A. Most decidedly on those who remain located on the estates.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per day, when working at day labour; but I prefer job work, when I can get the people to take it; but in no instance do I get a fair day's work for the pay when working at day labour. When working by the job, I pay them at the same rate as per day labour; they generally finish their task by 10 or 11 o'clock, and on an average I don't consider they work more than five hours a day.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had sufficient capital to pay the labourers weekly.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I always use the plough, wrought by cattle, where it can be used. I have had horses and ploughmen imported from England, but they did not stand the climate; some of the horses died, and finding it very expensive to keep them, I disposed of the rest; I have also used the hoe harrow, when it can be used on land free of stones.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present, as a substitute for labour?—I am not aware that it could to any greater extent than it is at present.

Appendix, No. 1.
JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

Year.	Estate.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			Total Contingencies.		CROP.		Rum Pns.	Sales of the Rum.			Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of the Rum.													
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	Hhds.		Cwt.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.										
1847	10	-	-	2,588	-	-	2,415	15	2	5,008	15	2	364	5,824	187	3,366	-	-	-	5	7								
1846	"	-	-	2,174	7	6	2,497	13	2	4,672	-	8	116	1,856	58	1,044	-	-	1	19	1								
1845	"	-	-	1,899	19	7	2,382	-	3	4,181	19	10	270	4,320	137	2,466	-	-	-	7	11								
1844	"	-	-	1,440	11	2	1,508	2	6	2,948	13	8	37	592	16	324	-	-	-	4	8	8							
1843	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							
										16,805	9	4	787	12,592	400	7,200	-	-	-	7	1	3							
																							1	15	4				
1847	11	-	-	1,327	10	4	758	15	3	2,086	5	7	115	1,840	43	645	-	-	-	15	8								
1846	"	-	-	977	8	2	588	19	7	1,566	7	9	25	400	12	180	-	-	-	3	9	3							
1845	"	-	-	1,250	7	11	589	16	1	1,840	4	-	109	1,744	42	630	-	-	-	-	19	10							
1844	"	-	-	799	16	3	531	17	8	1,331	13	11	38	608	15	225	-	-	-	1	16	4							
1843	"	-	-	1,121	-	-	750	3	10	1,871	3	10	67	1,072	22	550	-	-	-	1	4	7							
										8,695	15	1	354	5,664	134	2,230	-	-	-	6	1	8							
																									1	12	4		
1845	12	-	-	420	-	-	364	19	7	784	19	7	47	705	21	420	-	-	-	7	6								
1844	"	-	-	728	16	7	624	12	10	1,353	9	5	56	795	18	300	-	-	-	1	5	-							
1843	"	-	-	951	6	3	543	16	3	1,495	2	6	39	585	14	280	-	-	-	2	1	6							
										3,693	11	6	139	2,085	53	1,060	-	-	-	1	4	6							
1847	Weston Favel			1,627	5	9	1,455	5	5	3,082	11	2	100	1,700	67	1,186	6	-	-	1	2	3½							
1846	"			1,778	17	6	1,386	13	7	3,165	11	1	53	901	32	522	16	-	-	2	18	8							
1845	"			1,848	18	1	1,307	17	9	3,156	15	10	110	1,870	70	1,147	7	-	-	1	1	6							
1844	"			1,452	8	9	1,061	15	7	2,514	4	4	78	1,326	53	562	12	-	-	1	9	5							
1843	"			1,637	2	9	1,140	18	9	2,828	1	6	58	986	46	522	18	8	-	2	6	9							
										14,747	3	11	399	6,783	208	3,941	19	8	-	Average.	1	15	9						
1847	Water Valley			1,615	12	6	1,424	16	11	3,040	9	5	122	2,074	65	1,136	-	-	-	-	18	4							
1846	"			974	9	9	1,543	11	4	2,518	1	1	47	846	35	400	10	3	-	2	10	1							
										5,558	10	6	169	2,920	100	1,536	10	3	-	3	8	5							
																									1	14	2½		
1847	Dry Valley			736	4	5	417	4	5	1,153	8	10	82	1,394	49	865	11	-	-	-	4	4½							
1846	"			418	14	10	265	1	5	683	16	3	27	459	22	254	4	-	-	-	18	8½							
										1,837	5	1	109	1,853	71	1,119	15	-	-	1	3	1							
																											-	11	6½

In the above statement, have you included all the credits for rents, old stock, or otherwise?—I have.

Please to state the circumstances under which you made sugar at Dry Valley at 4s. 4d.?—It is a sea-side estate, managed by the overseer of Water Valley, my neighbouring property. It is well provided with pastures, where I fatten stock, the proceeds of which go against the cost of the sugar; there was no outlay for doing anything this year to the buildings or machinery. The property is easily worked, and requires very little plant put in; it yields well also in favourable seasons, but is much subject to be injured by dry weather.

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2 - - - - -	213	110	60	35	168	85
3 - - - - -	153	39	90	38	136	54
4 - - - - -	200	96	58	24	143	67
5 - - - - -	-	-	201	88	208	86
6 - - - - -	143	66	111	52	176	85
7 - - - - -	-	-	37	20	105	58
8 - - - - -	89	56	50	27	72	39
9 - - - - -	167	92	38	28	82	53
10 - - - - -	409	207	116	58	364	187
11 - - - - -	39	17	26	12	115	43
12 - - - - -	138	55	50	26	-	-
Water Valley - - - - -	305	106	47	35	122	65
Weston Favel - - - - -	190	108	53	32	100	67
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Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

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7 - - - - -	162	50
8 - - - - -	339	80
9 - - - - -	173	70
10 - - - - -	553	150
11 - - - - -	117	40
12 - - - - -	223	none
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Water Valley - - - - -	345	100
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	3,701	1,150

Q. Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—A. Most decidedly on those who remain located on the estates.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—I pay from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per day, when working at day labour; but I prefer job work, when I can get the people to take it; but in no instance do I get a fair day's work for the pay when working at day labour. When working by the job, I pay them at the same rate as per day labour; they generally finish their task by 10 or 11 o'clock, and on an average I don't consider they work more than five hours a day.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—I have always had sufficient capital to pay the labourers weekly.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—I always use the plough, wrought by cattle, where it can be used. I have had horses and ploughmen imported from England, but they did not stand the climate; some of the horses died, and finding it very expensive to keep them, I disposed of the rest; I have also used the hoe harrow, when it can be used on land free of stones.

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Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—I confirm the report shown me from the clerk of the vestry for St. James, and I hand in a more full statement for the information of the committee.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I am not aware of any.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—A great number of the people having withdrawn their labour from the estates, and purchased lands on which they are cultivating provisions, labour is becoming every day more scarce; those that we can get to work are working better than they did in the first years of freedom, but do not work cheaper.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I can state the following facts: I purchased Weston Favel in 1841, for 6,500*l.*; it would have valued in 1832, exclusive of the slaves, at from 15,000*l.* to 20,000*l.* sterling. I purchased Water Valley and Dry Valley in 1845, for 8,000*l.*; they would have valued in 1832, exclusive of the slaves, for about 23,000*l.* On the 19th instant, I sold Irving Tower estate for 4,500*l.* sterling; it would have valued in 1832, exclusive of the slaves, from 15,000*l.* to 18,000*l.*; I have had the management of this property for the last 18 years, as well as Leogan, Ironshire, and Hartfield, referred to in my answer to questions two and three.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14*s.* to 16*s.*, by competition with the slave cultivators?—Actual ruin, with the exception of a very few large and favourably situated properties. I am satisfied that, speaking generally, there has been this year a loss of from 6*l.* to 8*l.* upon every hogshead of sugar made; at even the smaller sum, there could not have been less than 300,000*l.* sunk in sugar cultivation this year.

THURSDAY, 25 November 1847.

EXAMINATION, on Oath, of *James Carson*, of the Parish of Saint Andrew, Esq., before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in the Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act, in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation; how long have you been so; to what extent, and in what part of the island?—Q. I have been engaged in both coffee and sugar cultivation for several years; I am joint proprietor of Constant Spring sugar estate, and also of Rose Hill coffee plantation; I am in the management of other coffee properties, viz., Cedar Valley, in St. George; Sheldon, in St. David's; and Green Valley, in Port Royal.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing those articles for the last five years; can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can give those particulars with respect to Constant Spring sugar estate for the last three years, when I became the proprietor. I can also give those particulars with respect to Sheldon and Green Valley coffee properties.

ESTATE.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.	Total Contingencies.	CROP.			Sales of the Rum.	Cost of Sugar per Cwt. after deducting Sales of the Rum.
				Hhds.	Cwt. of Sugar.	Pns. Rum.		
1845 Constant Spring	£. s. d. 1,302 18 3	£. s. d. 1,394 11 9	£. s. d. 2,715 10 -	122	2,196	68	£. s. d. 1,034 13 10	£. s. d. - 15 4
1846 - - -	1,302 19 10	1,076 14 6	2,379 14 4	105	1,890	58	886 11 3	- 15 9
1847 - - -	1,294 - -	1,021 - -	2,315 - -	98½	1,746	50	951 15 2	- 16 -
			7,410 4 4	325½	5,882	176	2,873 - 3	2 7 1
								- 15 8½

The above statement does not include any credits for rents or otherwise, but they are not of an amount to affect the calculation; probably about 150*l.* per annum.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 219

Year.	ESTATE.	Amount of Wages.			Amount of all other Contingencies, including English Supplies.			Total Contingencies.			Crop. Lbs. Coffee.	Cost per 100 lbs. Coffee.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
1843	Sheldon - -	859	17	6	409	5	4	1,269	2	10	56,233	2	5	-
1844	- - -	746	16	1	419	17	2	1,166	18	3	20,896	2	18	-
1845	- - -	973	12	2	478	19	4	1,452	11	6	43,650	3	6	8
1846	- - -	980	4	4	414	1	4	1,394	5	8	40,798	3	8	3
1847	- - -	1,180	-	-	531	-	-	1,711	-	-	59,088	2	18	-
								6,993	13	3	229,665	14	15	11
1843	Green Valley	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,701	18	-	74,057	2	6	-
1844	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,886	17	9	26,371	7	-	-
1845	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,692	12	7	47,078	3	12	-
1846	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,322	15	6	52,779	2	10	-
1847	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,913	-	-	79,264	2	8	3
								8,517	3	10	279,549	17	16	3

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report :
 Sugar Cultivation.

Q. What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing coffee?—A. About 58s. per 100 lbs. or about 20l. per tierce, including all charges, to put the coffee on board ship; this I consider to be as near as possible the general average, varying, of course, in some degree, according to seasons, and according to the different circumstances of different properties; whilst, during an average of five years preceding slavery, the cost of production was only 12l. 14s. sterling per tierce, of the same weight.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—In the district of these coffee properties, labour, at the commencement of freedom, was much more abundant than it is at present; we then paid 6d. per bushel for picking coffee, whereas we now pay 1s. per bushel; 1s. was then the current rate of labour per day for able hands, and it is now 1s. 6d. This is attributable to the fact that a large number of the people of this district have migrated to other parts of the country, bought their own lands, and become independent settlers. On the sugar estate the work is principally done by the acre.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, ample; they have been paid regularly every week.

Do you use the plough in opening your lands, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economise labour?—Yes, I use the plough, and a variety of other agricultural implements, drawn by horses as well as oxen, for cultivating the canes.

What is the character of the soil on Constant Spring estate?—Very light and pliable, and yields immediately to the operation of the hoe-harrow and small plough between the cane rows; but for this circumstance I should not be able to cultivate the estate, giving the small return it does.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I do not think so; I have done all that I possibly could in that way. I have had out Scotch agriculturists, and given them the means of using all appliances they could contrive for lessening manual labour.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—I have seen the return sent in by the clerk of the vestry for St. Andrew, and can confirm the same.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment so soon as the crops now on the ground can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I cannot name any in particular: I know that Papine estate is to be abandoned when the crop is taken off, and that it is impossible for many others to go on.

Do the people work better; is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I have already stated that labour is now more difficult to be obtained than in the first years of freedom. We should scarcely be able to continue cultivation on our estates but for the assistance we receive from Africans, principally Emancipados from Cuba.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—I cannot state any such actual sales; property is so very much depreciated in value, it is impossible to make sales at almost any price.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar in the English market to about 14 s. to 16 s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I consider it must be the ruin of sugar cultivation in this island, except upon a few favoured estates.

FRIDAY, 3 December 1847.

Examination, on Oath, of the Honourable *Richard Cussen Burke*, of the Parish of Metcalfe, before the Committee appointed to Inquire into the Depressed State of Agriculture in this Island; the Cause of such Depression; the Extent of Abandonment of Cultivation, and Breaking up of Sugar and Coffee Factories, which has taken place since the passing of the British Emancipation Act in 1832.

Q. ARE you engaged in sugar or coffee cultivation, how long have you been so, to what extent, and in what part of the island?—A. I have been engaged in sugar cultivation for 27 years, principally in Vere, St. Mary, and St. Thomas-in-the-Vale. I am the manager of several sugar estates, and am the lessee of one.

What, according to your experience, has been the cost of cultivating and manufacturing sugar for the last five years? Can you show the committee what has been the actual amount of outlay, what the crops made, and what the produce sold for, distinguishing the particulars of each property?—I can give those particulars with respect to ten estates; acting as an agent, I decline naming them, but I have distinguished them by letters.

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
				£.
A. -	1842	302	143	4,686
" -	1843	209	69	3,440
" -	1844	232	97	3,847
" -	1845	280	142	4,503
" -	1846	221	113	3,971
		1,244	591	20,247
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	2,500
				22,747
	Less value of rum	-	-	5,910
				£. 16,837

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 18 s. per cwt.

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
				£.
B. -	1842	226	77	4,690
" -	1843	202	68	3,920
" -	1844	265	129	4,270
" -	1845	205	90	4,384
" -	1846	139	56	3,936
		1,037	420	21,200
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	3,000
				24,200
	Less value of rum	-	-	4,200
				£. 20,000

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 25 s. per cwt.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 221

Appendix, No. 1.
 JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
				£.
C. - -	1842	228	68	3,900
" - -	1843	300	117	5,280
" - -	1844	296	110	5,070
" - -	1845	256	86	4,520
" - -	1846	128	59	4,470
		1,208	440	23,240
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	1,000
				24,240
	Less value of rum	-	-	4,400
			£.	19,840

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 21 s. per cwt.

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
				£.
D. - -	1842	100	40	3,316
" - -	1843	72	28	2,800
" - -	1844	88	32	2,588
" - -	1845	90	38	2,770
" - -	1846	72	39	2,464
		422	177	13,236
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	600
				14,536
	Less value of rum	-	-	1,770
			£.	12,766

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 40 s. 4 d. per cwt.

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
				£.
E. - -	1843	58	21	4,042
" - -	1844	130	52	2,844
" - -	1845	172	66	3,669
" - -	1846	121	68	3,878
		481	207	14,433
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	1,400
				15,833
	Less value of rum	-	-	2,070
			£.	13,763

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 38 s. per cwt.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
				£.
F. - -	1843	45	8	2,880
" - -	1844	100	28	2,625
" - -	1845	138	51	3,054
" - -	1846	100	29	3,074
		383	116	11,633
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	730
				12,363
	Less value of rum	-	-	1,160
				£. 11,203

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 39 s. per cwt.

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
				£.
- -	1843	170	53	3,523
- -	1844	150	72	3,580
" -	1845	200	99	4,125
" -	1846	204	86	4,291
		664	310	15,519
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	2,000
				17,519
	Less value of rum	-	-	3,100
				£. 14,419

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 28 s. 10 d. per cwt.

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
				£.
H. - -	1843	40	24	2,006
" - -	1844	98	43	2,555
" - -	1845	82	39	3,112
" - -	1846	49	17	2,074
		269	123	9,747
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	600
				10,347
	Less value of rum	-	-	1,230
				£. 9,117

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 45 s. per cwt.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 223

Estate.	Years.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Expended.
I. - -	1843	36	14	£. 2,940
" - -	1844	118	59	2,249
" - -	1845	116	46	3,030
" - -	1846	31	10	2,114
		301	129	10,333
	Cost of English supplies	-	-	600
				10,933
	Less value of rum	-	-	1,290
				£. 9,643

Appendix, No. 1.
JAMAICA.
Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

Sugar averaged at 15 cwt. per hogshead.

Cost of sugar, 42 s. 8 d. per cwt.

Estate.	Years.	—	Weight.	Puncheons.	Expended.
		H. T. Brls.	Lbs.		£.
K. - -	1845	11 10 36	39,729	4	1,353
" - -	1846	- - 197	49,207	7	1,263
" - -	1847	- - 359	88,624	15	1,740
			177,560	26	4,356
	Less sales of rum	-	-	-	537
					£. 2,819

Cost of sugar, 43 s. per 100 lbs.

Q. Taking credit for the value of the rum at the price obtained for it, what has been the cost of raising sugar by the cwt.?—A. The statement I have put in, in reply to the second question, will show this, and it will be seen that the cost varies considerably on different properties, according to season and other circumstances.

Have you given credits in the above statement for rents, or any other means of income?—I have.

What was the extent of cultivation and of the crops made on those properties in 1832, and what in the years last past, 1846 and 1847?—I can give the particulars with respect to the crops, as follow :

Estate.	Year.	1846.					1847.
		Hhds.	Pns.	Hhds.	Pns.	Brls.	
A.	1832	331	159	221	113	-	359 Brls.
B.	"	371	147	139	56	-	
C.	"	324	163	128	59	-	
D.	"	169	87	72	39	-	
E.	"	330	159	121	68	-	
F.	"	170	78	100	29	-	
G.	"	310	172	204	86	-	
H.	"	255	137	49	17	-	
I.	"	148	68	31	10	-	
K.	"	116	46	-	-	197	
		2,524	1,216	1,065	477	197	

Appendix, No. 1.		Q. What number of labourers were attached to the properties under your charge, and available for their cultivation in 1832, and what number now remains?—		
JAMAICA.		A. In 1832, on Estate	About	100 now remain.
Report: Sugar Cultivation.		A.	345	
		B.	314	70
		C.	273	150
		D.	270	none
		E.	351	70
		F.	167	20
		G.	225	70
		H.	290	20
		I.	214	70
		K.	189	10
			<u>2,638</u>	<u>580</u>

Q. Can you most rely for labour on the persons who remain located on the estates, or on those who have bought their own lots of land?—A. I have found that we have principally to depend on strangers, the estates people being more difficult to satisfy. There is no doubt that their remaining on the estates would be very advantageous, if they had a more correct view of their position, as they look for many privileges to which they are not entitled, and which the stranger will not claim, and I have known many instances where the estates' people have intimidated strangers, and prevented their coming on the properties to compete with them for the wages given.

What rate of wages do you pay for field cultivation, and do you receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?—Our rate of wages generally, in Metcalfe and Saint Mary, has been based upon 1s. 6d. per day, the labourers paying rent for their holdings, but the task which they mostly undertake for this sum is performed and completed in five or six hours; in a few instances the labourers will complete two such tasks in the day, consequently, I consider they do not give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay.

Have you had at your command sufficient capital to pay regularly your labourers?—Yes, in all cases they have been regularly paid.

Do you use the plough in opening your land, and such other agricultural implements as would tend to economize labour?—We do, but not to the extent we might; the pressure of the times renders it difficult to provide the extent of capital necessary for many useful purposes, and this amongst others.

Is it your opinion that machinery could be made more available than it is at present as a substitute for labour?—I would say it certainly could, but there are two very serious hindrances in this country; the one is, the difficulty of procuring first-class tradesmen to conduct the machinery; the second, the delay in getting the machinery repaired, when accidentally broken.

Do you mean that machinery could be made more available as a substitute for labour in field cultivation, or as applied to the manufacturing of produce?—I allude principally to the manufacturing of produce; but my previous answer applies also to the use of the plough and the hoe-harrow.

If any sugar or coffee properties have been abandoned and broken up in your district, since 1832, please to name them; and, so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of such freeholds, &c.?—I confirm the statement sent in by the clerk of the vestry.

Have any sugar or coffee properties in your district ceased cultivation, preparatory to abandonment, so soon as the crops, now on the ground, can be gathered in; if so, please name them, and so far as comes within your knowledge, the extent of the freeholds, &c.?—I cannot give any such particulars.

Do the people work better, is labour becoming more easily attainable than it was in the first years of freedom?—I consider the people are more regular in their conduct during working hours, but labour is becoming more scarce every year in my district; this I consider, in some measure, owing to the labourers becoming small farmers.

Have you had any experience in African or Coolie immigrants; and if so, how have you found them to answer?—I have had ninety Coolies on estates under my charge, and they did not answer the expectations which I anticipated from their labour. I found many of them laid up with sickness, or small ulcers, and destitute of any desire to relieve themselves; they were costly, and gave little return of labour. I do not consider them a fit description of people for this country, more particularly in the wet districts; I have only had 30 Africans in my immediate employ, but I have seen them working on other estates also, and can say with confidence, that they are in every respect the people best suited to our climate and cultivation; being of the same race as our labouring population, they amalgamate freely.

Can you state to the committee any facts with regard to the former, and the present value of landed property in this island, as shown by actual sales?—No; I have not known of any actual sales.

What do you consider will be the result of permanently reducing the value of sugar, in the English market, to about 14s. to 16s. by competition with the slave cultivators?—I consider that five-sixths of the sugar estates in the island will cease to cultivate at a profit.

ABSTRACT of LIST of PROPERTIES abandoned in Jamaica since 1832, when the British Emancipation Act passed.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

MIDDLESEX.

ESTATE.	SUGAR.					COFFEE.		
	No. of Estates.	Extent of Freeholds.	No. of Labourers attached in 1832.	Crop, 1832.		Number of Properties.	Extent of Freeholds.	No. of Labourers attached in 1832.
				Hhds.	Pns.			
St. Catherine - - -	None.	None.	None.	None.	None.	14	6,087	668
St. Thomas-in-the-Vale	None.	None.	None.	None.	None.	70	16,781	2,854
St. Ann - - -	8	10,339	1,280	483	228½	12	12,367	950
St. Mary - - -	12	13,236	2,223	1,541	624	6	1,618	423
St. Dorothy - - -	1	1,406	167	128	52	7	2,313	520
St. John - - -	2	2,960	590	-	-	21	10,149	1,465
Vere - - -	2	3,860	168	56	32	None.	None.	None.
Clarendon - - -	17	23,737	2,660	1,378	572	38	18,852	2,924
Manchester - - -	None.	None.	None.	None.	None.	109	61,887	7,324
	42	55,538	7,088	3,586	1,508½	277	130,054	17,128

SURREY.

Port Royal - - -	1	1,780	225	38	15	1	174	38
St. David's - - -	2	3,662	424	121	26	4	1,318	313
St. Thomas-in-the-East	13	11,682	1,750	859	373	9	5,200	630
Portland - - -	12	12,170	1,802	455	131½	2	1,535	174
St. George - - -	8	7,225	1,174	81	25	13	7,696	780
Metcalfe - - -	7	6,612	1,331	703	346	21	5,283	1,285
St. Andrew - - -	10	9,509	1,579	413	196	111	23,981	4,535
	53	52,640	8,285	2,670	1,112½	161	45,187	7,705

CORNWALL.

Trelawny - - -	8	6,844	990	520	216	None.	None.	None.
St. James - - -	18	22,244	2,697	893	349	None.	None.	None.
Hanover - - -	11	8,867	1,696	803	405	None.	None.	None.
St. Elizabeth - - -	6	18,010	1,414	631	200	14	9,464	1,376
Westmoreland - - -	2	3,889	383	216	88	13	3,695	621
	53	59,854	7,180	3,063	1,258	27	13,159	1,997

SUMMARY.

Estate.	Extent of Freeholds.	No. of Labourers attached in 1832.	Crop, 1832.		Number of Coffee Properties.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers in 1832.	
			Hhds.	Pns.				
Middlesex - - -	42	55,538	7,088	3,586	1,508½	277	130,054	17,128
Surrey - - -	53	52,640	8,285	2,670	1,112½	161	45,187	7,705
Cornwall - - -	45	59,854	7,180	3,063	1,258	27	13,159	1,997
TOTAL - - -	140	168,032	22,553	9,319	3,879	465	188,400	26,830

Sugar Estates - - - 140 = 168,032 Acres 22,553 Labourers.

Coffee Plantations - 465 188,400 „ 26,830

505 356,432 49,383

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.

Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

LIST of SUGAR ESTATES abandoned in *Jamaica* since 1832, when the British Emancipation Act passed, the Extent and Population shown by Returns from the Clerks of the Vestries, and the Crops, by the Island Secretary.

* PARISH.	ESTATE.	Extent of Freehold.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.	Crops made in 1832.	
				Hhds.	Pns.
St. Ann	Great Pond	911	207	70	38
	Shaw Park	564	145	—	—
	Roaring River	3,124	212	100	32
	Retirement	1,819	100	66	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Granbrook	1,111	122	91	48
	Hiattsfield	889	258	88	45
	Hampstead	1,100	78	—	—
	Pedro River	821	163	68	43
		10,339	1,280	483	226 $\frac{1}{2}$
St. Mary	Carlton Woodhouse	940	234	264	138
	Palmetto Grove	1,040	223	126	52
	Langley	1,250	137	72	5
	Greenwood	571	159	131	55
	Tower-hill	723	180	—	—
	Fellowship Hall	903	186	250	82
	Cardiff	861	138	93	42
	Decoy	2,080	287	207	80
	Hazard	1,657	177	100	45
	Spring Garden	1,475	166	—	—
	Roslin	447	132	128	65
	Lucky-hill	1,289	195	170	65
		13,236	2,223	1,541	624
St. Dorothy	Woodhall	1,406	167	128	52
		1,406	167	128	52
St. John	Cliffords	960	190	—	—
	Lemon Hall	2,000	400	—	—
		2,960	590	—	—
Vere	Grimmett	690	82	—	—
	Stretton Hall	3,170	86	56	32
		3,860	168	56	32
Clarendon	Bryan's Hill	405	114	40	17
	Friendship	1,001	156	119	45
	Logie Green	5,001	57	—	—
	Mullett Hall	1,004	218	72	26
	Cumberland	1,441	189	114	44
	Ballard's River	500	151	124	48
	Frankfield	2,159	214	168	83
	Ashley's	537	142	113	44
	St. Toolies	3,064	197	82 $\frac{1}{2}$	39 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Four Paths	541	87	94	42
	Main Savannah	800	180	—	—
	Oaks	1,297	202	127 $\frac{1}{2}$	56
	Orange River	490	140	119	46
	Cliffords	317	85	—	—
	Prevorts Rock River	827	115	—	—
	Leisterfield	4,053	318	44	17
Pinder's Valley	300	100	161	65	
		23,737	2,660	1,378	572

PARISH.	ESTATE.	Extent of Freehold.	Number of Labourers attached in 1892.	Crops made in 1892.	
				Hhds.	Pns.
Port Royal - - -	Dallas Castle - - -	Acres. 1,780	225	38	15
		1,780	225	38	15
St. David - - -	Elus Valley Swamps - - -	3,056	248	121	26
		606	176	—	—
		3,662	424	121	26
St. Thomas-in-the-East -	Airy Castle - - -	1,139	99	—	—
	Palmetto River - - -	450	128	54	13
	York and Mount Prosperous.	900	71	35	3
	Middleton - - -	1,321	188	53	23
	Spring - - -	1,543	131	80	34
	Orange Hill - - -	395	106	40	10
	Spring Garden - - -	984	135	156	68
	Arcadia - - -	1,213	95	77	33
	Williamsfield - - -	940	149	98	58
	Windsor Castle - - -	867	196	105	46
	Barking Lodge - - -	350	149	67	36
	Weybridge - - -	600	162	—	—
Golden Valley - - -	1,000	191	94	49	
		11,682	1,750	859	373
Portland - - -	Fairfield - - -	742	129	40	10
	Darley - - -	1,259	96	23	7
	Cambridge - - -	1,600	150	47	10
	Egg Hill - - -	490	44	—	—
	Norwich - - -	700	188	59	5
	Stanton Harcourt - - -	820	150	27	9
	Hope - - -	2,092	104	27	12½
	Burlington - - -	864	179	—	—
	Passley Garden - - -	407	124	—	—
	Mount Pleasant - - -	672	223	70	20
	Seaman's Valley - - -	2,029	262	162	58
	Whitehall - - -	495	153	—	—
		12,170	1,802	465	131½
St. George - - -	Buff Bay River - - -	920	137	—	—
	Bybrook - - -	480	66	—	—
	Caenwood - - -	1,022	244	—	—
	Craigmill - - -	460	114	81	25
	Eden - - -	1,145	193	—	—
	Harthill - - -	1,540	136	—	—
	Hope - - -	821	64	—	—
	Skibo - - -	937	220	—	—
		7,225	1,174	81	25
Metcalf - - -	Lewisberg - - -	1,211	264	152	79
	Aleppo - - -	707	216	102	56
	Albany - - -	545	63	—	—
	Moor Hall - - -	800	154	150	61
	Osborne - - -	1,281	169	—	—
	Golden Grove - - -	831	194	50	31
	Belfield - - -	1,237	271	249	119
		6,612	1,331	703	346
St. Andrew - - -	Airy Castle - - -	870	204	50	20
	Barbican and Somerset - - -	1,010	136	—	—
	Hope - - -	2,239	374	171	80
	Maverley - - -	1,005	239	41	18
	Pembroke Hall - - -	394	98	60	28
	Swallowfield - - -	1,000	48	—	—
White Hall - - -	480	76	—	—	

Appendix, No. 1.
JAMAICA.
 Report:
 Sugar Cultivation.

PARISH.	ESTATE.	Extent of Freehold.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.	Crops made in 1832.	
				Hhds.	Pns.
St. Andrew— <i>continued.</i>	Green Glebe - - -	688	77	—	—
	Cherry Garden - - -	1,071	171	—	—
	Shortwood - - -	752	156	91	50
		9,509	1,579	413	196
Trelawny - - -	Carrickfoyle - - -	432	86	58	31
	Clifton - - -	514	85	88	40
	Grange - - -	565	139	106	47
	Gravesend - - -	96	33	—	—
	Greenside - - -	1,266	227	—	—
	Peru - - -	1,550	116	118	36
	Southfield - - -	1,000	164	104	40
	Wakefield - - -	1,421	140	46	22
	6,844	990	520	216	
St. James - - -	Belfont - - -	2,001	50	—	—
	Cambridge - - -	750	196	254	127
	Ducketts' Spring - - -	1,540	198	38	5
	Dumfries - - -	942	197	92	46
	Industry - - -	1,001	96	—	—
	John's Hall - - -	1,150	85	—	—
	Lapland - - -	1,113	105	—	—
	Leydon - - -	2,018	393	42	16
	Newman Hall - - -	703	132	107	27
	Old Montpelier - - -	4,759	386	138	66
	Orange - - -	927	99	83	13
	Potosi - - -	1,850	203	67	26
	Richmond-Hill - - -	796	94	—	—
	Somerton - - -	497	131	—	—
	Virgin Valley - - -	1,040	149	77	21
	22,244	2,697	893	349	
Hanover - - -	Greenwich - - -	1,138	79	—	26
	Welcome - - -	1,200	217	—	—
	Haddington - - -	780	143	—	—
	Bamboo - - -	700	235	27	21
	Hopewell - - -	709	118	77	27
	Fat Hog Quarter - - -	600	237	136	84
	Williamsfield - - -	717	100	82	40
	Mount Pleasant - - -	1,029	120	148	71
	Newfound River - - -	950	179	206	86
	Dundee - - -	639	208	125	50
	Montpelier - - -	405	60	—	—
	8,867	1,696	803	405	
St. Elizabeth - - -	Elin - - -	4,650	375	274	81
	Two-Mile-Wood - - -	2,230	223	151	50
	Lancaster - - -	3,046	368	122	40
	Biscany - - -	2,701	202	—	—
	Vauxhall - - -	1,899	107	84	29
	Cashew - - -	3,490	139	—	—
	18,010	1,414	631	200	
Westmoreland - - -	Blackness - - -	2,140	256	138	55
	Nonpareil - - -	1,749	125	79	33
		3,889	383	216	88

SUMMARY.

Appendix, No. 1.

JAMAICA.
Report:
Sugar Cultivation.

PARISHES.	Extent: Acres.	Labourers.	Hhds.	Pns.
St. Ann - - - -	10,339	1,260	483	228 ½
St. Mary - - - -	13,236	2,223	1,541	624
St. Dorothy - - -	1,406	167	128	52
St. John - - - -	2,960	590	-	-
Vere - - - -	3,860	168	56	32
Clarendon - - - -	26,737	2,680	1,378	572
Port Royal - - - -	1,780	225	38	15
St. David - - - -	3,662	424	121	26
St. Thomas-in-the-East	11,682	1,750	859	373
Portland - - - -	12,170	1,802	455	131 ½
St. George - - - -	7,225	1,174	81	25
Metcalfe - - - -	6,612	1,331	708	346
St. Andrew - - - -	9,509	1,579	413	196
Trelawny - - - -	6,844	990	520	216
St. James - - - -	22,244	2,697	893	347
Hanover - - - -	8,867	1,696	803	405
St. Elizabeth - - -	18,010	1,414	631	200
Westmoreland - - -	3,889	333	216	88
	168,082	22,553	9,319	3,879

ABSTRACT.

	Hhds. Sugar.	Pns. Rum.
Crops of 92 Estates, as recorded in the Secretary's-office, give -	9,319	3,879
Taking the same average of the 48 Estates not recorded - - -	4,859	2,024
Total Crop of the year 1832 of Sugar Estates now abandoned -	14,178	5,903

LIST OF COFFEE PROPERTIES abandoned in Jamaica in 1832, when the British Emancipation Act passed, as shown by Returns from the Clerks of the Vestries.

PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.	PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.
Catherine	Mount Dawson - - -	Acres. 430	20	St. Thomas in the Vale—continued}	Belle Vue - - - -	Acres. 23	6
	Ratcliffe Park & Peckham	190	6		Bennett, Francis - - -	40	4
	Orange-Grove (Corovants)	514	37		Wookey and Woodside -	231	83
	Orange-Grove (Evans) -	600	56		Campbell, Rose and Mary	42	23
	Kensington - - - -	362	23		Carr, Anthony - - - -	55	13
	Mountpelier - - - -	200	15		Cheesefield - - - -	110	56
	Healthful-hill or Drysdale	425	103		Newport - - - -	250	52
	Hampstead - - - -	361	45		Mount-Recovery - - -	110	16
	Mount-Pleasant - - -	791	108		Mills-Hall - - - -	55	10
	Everton - - - -	360	1		Highgate - - - -	158	17
	Tarentum - - - -	215	20		Peter's Retreat - - - -	88	10
	Keith-Hall - - - -	586	92		Vauxhall - - - -	109	21
	Cedar-Valley - - - -	653	162		Retirement - - - -	151	46
	Cocoa-Walk - - - -	400	-		Holy Mount - - - -	762	34
		6,087	688		Berry-Hill - - - -	450	38
	St. Thomas in the Vale	Happy Retreat - - -	80		19	Bennett - - - -	750
Springfield - - - -		300	54	Dunveryan - - - -	47	44	
Louisiana - - - -		384	135	Mango-Grove - - - -	51	48	
Mount Matthews - - -		257	76	Spring-Farm - - - -	205	49	
Bralins, William - - -		200	29	Grandison, Adeline - -	41	16	
Hertford - - - -		380	24	Caledonia - - - -	130	2	
Bennett, E. & M. - - -		180	13	Hamman, Samuel - - -	40	11	
Boosey-Ridge - - - -		190	47	Labour-Rest - - - -	52	3	
Grantham - - - -		75	15	Waterford - - - -	64	2	
Berwick, Douglass - -		524	10	London Ridge - - - -	304	34	
Burke, Eleanor - - -		20	6	Pimento-Grove - - -	190	5	
				Mount-Pleasant - - -	500	61	
				Lewis, James - - - -	83	11	
			Celdingham - - - -	132	55		
			Cottage - - - -	332	103		

(continued)

APPENDIX TO SEVENTH REPORT FROM THE

PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1882.	PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	
St. Thomas in the Vale—continued	Law's, Charlotte	100	6	St. John	Saint Clair	512	
	Cottswald	170	186		Mount Idalia	600	
	Razamont	825	148		Mount Success	400	
	Airy Mount	780	169		Swansea	500	
	Springfield	448	59		Cedar Mount	300	
	M'Gregor, John	100	17		Mendes	1,300	
	Golden Grove	335	69		Giblatore	1,000	
	Bunker's	40	55		Mount-Pleasant (Garvey's)	300	
	Muse	322	30		Mount-Pleasant (Gray's)	1,580	
	Richmond-Hill	382	77		Mount-Pleasant (Pottin-ger's)	200	
	Macen, Estate of	93	7		Pleasant-Hill	300	
	Lucky Valley	357	32		Juan de Bolas	500	
	Carew-Castle	400	107		Spring Mount	100	
	Tenby	80	18		Retirement	700	
	Triall	34	4		Bachelor's Hall	60	
	Ragville	320	65		Blue Mountain	300	
	Rose, Johanna	222	28		Camperdown	72	
	Casava River	579	39		Fairfield	450	
	Mount-Florence	70	11		Comfort Hall	125	
	Falkland	331	20		Mount-Olive	300	
	Rentcombe	550	38		Orange Brook	800	
	Content	172	31				
	Mount-Industry	300	63				10,149
	Harmony-Hall	378	75				
	Thomas, Henry	100	7				
	Beggar's Bush	117	12				
	Roselle	104	10				
	Llangibby	489	80				
Hillside	486	84					
		16,781	2,854				
St. Ann	Little River	1,600	171	Clarendon	Redlands	300	
	York Castle	1,565	127		Mount Moses	630	
	New York	1,196	26		Gloster	400	
	Cyprus	586	111		Berrydale	700	
	Muirhouse	960	145		Drummond's Mocho	766	
	Schwalenburgh	2,255	108		Mountain Spring	296	
	Concord	986	50		Fearon's Orange-Hill	296	
	Resource	1,390	73		Russell's ditto	328	
	Alves	235	12		Ferguson's Retreat	120	
	Doune Lodge	235	31		Wisbeach	300	
	Somerset	1,040	53		Fellowship-Hall	300	
	Chew Mango	319	43		Green-Park	416	
			12,367		950	Corn-Hill	277
						Coffee-Grove	200
						Belle Mount	348
				Rock Hill	74		
				Alexandria	530		
				Mount-Regale	200		
				Lanark	1,058		
				Hampton-Court	250		
				Elgin	200		
				Richmond-Park	1,544		
				Sunbury	1,070		
				Wiltshire-Park	500		
				Bank	321		
				Blackwood's	258		
				The Burn	146		
				Wanstead	506		
				Brandon-Hill	1,151		
				Macknill	700		
				Stanhope	380		
				Cool-Spring	570		
				Mountpelier	300		
				Ethick-Hall	271		
				Peace-River	600		
				Reed's Mocho	540		
				Santa Maria	Unknown		
				Unity	5		
						18,852	
St. Dorothy	Blue Hole	602	247				
	Cocoa Ridge	360	53				
	Bellfield	97	21				
	Stampford-Hill	230	50				
	Gold Mine	461	24				
	Top Hill	363	96				
	New-Forest	200	29				
			2,313	520			

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING.

PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.	PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.
Manchester	Hanbury	Acres. 2,985	320	Manchester—continued.	Thomaston	Acres. 30	12
	Panslodge	449	42		Lichfield	631	70
	Adam's Valley	852	96		Withbank	20	8
	Topsham	280	8		Howick	24	11
	Timbuctoo	300	18		Waterloo	1,200	99
	Trinity	1,390	5		Inglewood	500	65
	Donegal	13	2		Bel Retiro	304	58
	Hopewell	100	5		Hopeton	450	97
	Blenheim	441	178		Wilderness	580	75
	Ramble	1,698	90		George's Valley	790	115
	Spurtree	2,500	380		Fairfield	560	79
	Mayday Hill	688	136		Silver Grove	750	180
	Mooreland	515	243		Marley Hill	900	34
	Hanover	100	24		Brandon Hill	50	6
	Redbury	1,000	50		Luckey Valley	50	9
	Dunrobbin	62	8		Highgate Hall	689	25
	Mayhole	60	10		Belle Air	794	59
	Maidstone	341	64		Old England	208	95
	Bath	297	11		Epping Forest	300	34
	Chatham	420	25		Shian Castle	1,098	81
	Caledonia	854	200		Mount Prospect	730	89
	Scotia	335	213		Chavelez	139	50
	Duff House	1,200	155		Ryde	1,075	106
	John's Hall	1,950	165		Waltham	650	155
	Glasgow (Mile Gully)	620	19		Prospect	550	200
	Auchembeddie	365	33		Lie Logie	185	20
	Friendship	50	34		Peter's Field	1,100	74
	Allsides	2,420	29		Look Out	1,333	55
	Newfield	314	98		Cowick Park	400	80
	Berkshire	288	38		New Hall (Mile Gully)	728	43
	Wellington	200	36		Mount Nelson	613	115
	Malton	600	13		Melrose	1,522	38
	Mount Reliance	59	10		Sedburgh	260	100
	Resource	297	39		Graze Hill	30	13
	Chantilly	476	10		Stickland	122	41
	Hatfield	300	32		Lochabar	455	42
	French Park	40	18		Goory	408	41
	Hibernia	1,000	83		Bloomfield	514	77
	Beverley	51	28				
	Mount Endeavour	88	11			61,887	7,324
	Richmond Hill	500	92				
Brussels	600	60	Port Royal	Washington	174	38	
Java	682	104					
Norway	1,200	100		174	38		
Battersea	936	106					
Roxbro' Castle	400	79	St. David	Burness and Bothwell	192	74	
Retreat	900	69		Friendship Hall and Mount Pleasant	400	38	
Spring Grove	540	22		Clyde Side	221	41	
Craighead	1,600	70		Orange Park	504	160	
Isle	397	70			1,918	313	
Retreat	150	14					
Retirement	320	14	St. Thomas-in-the East.	Content	256	64	
Fair Prospect	150	26		Roaring River	300	43	
Woodlawn	250	38		House Hill	680	142	
Farm	200	100		Glenmoy	791	36	
Keynsham	1,543	100		Mount Felix	459	26	
Shirehampton	568	97		Union Hill	300	17	
Comfort	286	1		Windhill and Duart Castle	1,400	132	
Buldead	726	270		Newington	1,020	170	
Prospect	233	6			5,200	630	
Endeavour	517	35	Portland	Dunbar	435	20	
Pimento Hill	352	33		Friendship Hall	1,100	154	
Westfield	168	30			1,535	174	
Richmond	640	75					
Highgate	302	48					
Woodside	181	42					
Inverness	40	13					
Quatrebras	48	—					
Skiddaw	300	39					
Manning's Field	284	9					
George's Vale	239	28					

APPENDIX TO SEVENTH REPORT FROM THE

PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.	PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.
		<i>Acres.</i>				<i>Acres.</i>	
St. George -	Bremen Valley - - -	201	98	St. Andrew—con-	Woodlands - - -	200	62
	Cherry Hill - - -	109	30	<i>tinued.</i>	Lancashire - - -	29	7
	Chepstou - - -	1,150	99		Holborn Hill - - -	50	11
	Corsham - - -	518	22		Mount Salus - - -	100	32
	Dry River Retreat - - -	480	22		Pilgrims' Cottage - - -	20	8
	Endeavour - - -	252	25		Happy Grove - - -	300	76
	Green Hills - - -	320	48		Industry - - -	28	16
	Mahoe - - -	300	33		Fair Hill - - -	28	15
	Middleton - - -	735	78		Content Mountain - - -	56	50
	Orange Vale - - -	1,217	158		Mount Olive - - -	340	58
	Rose Hill - - -	300	44		Bagalette - - -	98	17
	Southfield - - -	100	34		Ness Side - - -	59	10
	Trafalgar - - -	1,924	99		Mount Ossa - - -	176	21
		7,696	780		Florence Hill - - -	250	35
					Happy Hut - - -	16	10
					Rose Hill - - -	95	10
					Burnfoot - - -	30	10
Metcalfe	Newport - - -	422	81		Bromly Hill - - -	250	25
	Jobshill - - -	672	236		Rock Castle - - -	100	10
	Rose Hill - - -	467	200		Rose Mount - - -	380	123
	Two Rivers - - -	107	8		Cyprus Hall - - -	71	11
	Pitfield and Hillside - - -	248	66		Belmont - - -	80	24
	Mammee Hill - - -	900	79		Golden Hill - - -	77	19
	Deeside - - -	313	110		Rock Hall - - -	663	30
	Mount Patience - - -	Unknown	41		Fern Hill - - -	100	17
	Dublin Castle - - -	Unknown	40		Brandon Hill - - -	200	18
	Mount Vernon - - -	Unknown	Unknown		Industry on Mount Ogle - - -	200	12
	Essex - - -	180	73		Industry - - -	25	7
	Bræman - - -	Unknown	Unknown		Hall Green - - -	491	145
	Lienster - - -	732	73		Mount Horeb - - -	52	12
	Rock River - - -	306	72		Mount Pelier - - -	265	50
	Castleton - - -	100	3		Logwood, Cooper Hill } and Mount Atlas }	300	63
	Clarke Castle - - -	10	21		Happy Retreat - - -	42	9
	Mount Zion - - -	50	16		Providence - - -	20	11
	Mount Sowell - - -	62	28		Hermit Hut - - -	10	9
	Mount Regale - - -	185	24		Mount Dakins - - -	1,198	120
	Finsbury - - -	162	30		Good Hope - - -	125	43
	Kendal - - -	367	34		Mount Zion - - -	200	11
		5,283	1,235		Pleasant Spring - - -	230	33
					Happy Hut - - -	20	20
					Minot's Content - - -	100	38
St. Andrew	Pleasant Valley - - -	10	6		Peter's Retreat - - -	182	29
	Mount Habinah - - -	13	12		Mount Ogle - - -	230	19
	Middleton - - -	793	212		Gethsemane - - -	30	7
	Merryman's Hill - - -	80	40		Ilchester - - -	30	12
	Thom Hill - - -	110	26		Retirement - - -	13	8
	Felix Grove - - -	100	17		Happy Hut - - -	9	25
	Clifton Hill - - -	60	20		Lasee Green - - -	50	20
	Happy Hut - - -	16	6		Belmont - - -	150	16
	Mount Friendship - - -	605	72		Waterhouse Mountain - - -	172	40
	Mount George - - -	154	28		Mount Charles - - -	40	19
	Mount Pleasant - - -	170	19		The Cottage - - -	154	40
	Enfield - - -	70	38		Kings' Weston - - -	256	20
	Botanic Garden - - -	233	33		Case Horton - - -	75	40
	Basford Hill - - -	80	9		Mount Zion - - -	266	5
	Irish Town - - -	60	6		Content - - -	28	20
	Juniper Grove - - -	300	23		Retreat - - -	28	20
	Mount Reserve - - -	50	14		Mount Tirza - - -	235	14
	Peter's Rock and Mount } Charles }	603	131		Bardowie - - -	281	99
	Mount Olive - - -	87	24		Campbell Mount - - -	249	70
	Ross View - - -	82	25		Cedar Valley - - -	500	185
	Mount Retrieve - - -	18	9		Hermitage - - -	500	103
	Mount Olive - - -	24	11		Healthful Valley - - -	512	91
	Rock Castle - - -	15	8		Hall's Prospect - - -	900	61
	Wiltshire Mount - - -	50	11		Mount Industry - - -	380	78
	Constitution Hill - - -	230	65		Knowsley - - -	432	104
	Prospect (Yates) - - -	420	41		Murmuring Brook - - -	60	7
	Dick's Last Shift - - -	126	34		Mount Woolfreys - - -	223	33
	Industry Grove - - -	120	8		Mount Sanai - - -	193	15
	Sterling Castle - - -	505	88		Mount Prospect - - -	300	127
					Mount James - - -	607	87

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING.

PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.	PARISH.	PROPERTIES.	Extent of Freeholds.	Number of Labourers attached in 1832.	
		<i>Acres.</i>				<i>Acres.</i>		
St. Andrew— <i>continued.</i>	Mount Cheerful - - -	132	29	St. Elizabeth— <i>continued.</i>	Milksham - - -	650	16	
	New Castle - - -	459	62		Belle Vue - - -	817	143	
	Prospect Hill - - -	600	131		Roseberry - - -	10	172	
	Prospect - - -	961	114		Hopeton - - -	400	27	
	Struan Castle - - -	192	30		Mole Hill - - -	116	50	
	Salisbury Plain - - -	770	166					
	Swainspring - - -	299	74			9,464	1,376	
	Spring Field - - -	56	8					
	Westminster Cottage - - -	300	34		Westmoreland -	Barton Hill - - -	250	15
	West Prospect - - -	900	97			Clefdon - - -	539	56
	Green Castle - - -	40	7			Chilton - - -	532	66
	23,981	4,535	Chebucto - - -	280		-		
			Kentucky - - -	100		68		
			Cruise - - -	464		66		
			Cairn Currain - - -	400		38		
			Glenburnie - - -	557		96		
			Highgate - - -	141		32		
			Invarray - - -	170		43		
			Industry - - -	64		12		
			Pondichery - - -	148	56			
			Tug Hill - - -	50	23			
				3,695	621			
St. Elizabeth	Berlin - - -	1,412	452					
	Healthfield - - -	269	21					
	Torrington Castle - - -	1,000	167					
	Corsham - - -	740	30					
	Woodlands - - -	2,300	150					
	Chelsea - - -	180	48					
	Belmore Castle, formerly } Percy - - -	900	50					
	Unity - - -	370	36					
	Morebah - - -	300	14					

S U M M A R Y .

	Acres.	Labourers.		Acres.	Labourers.
St. Catherine - - -	6,087	688	St. Thomas in the East - - -	5,200	630
St. Thomas in the Vale - - -	16,781	2,854	Portland - - -	1,535	174
St. Ann - - -	12,367	950	St. George - - -	7,696	780
St. Mary - - -	1,618	423	Metcalfe - - -	5,283	1,235
St. Dorothy - - -	2,313	520	St. Andrew - - -	23,981	4,535
St. John - - -	10,149	1,465	St. Elizabeth - - -	9,464	1,376
Clarendon - - -	18,852	2,924	Westmoreland - - -	3,695	621
Manchester - - -	61,887	7,324			
Port Royal - - -	174	38		188,400	26,830
St. David - - -	1,318	313			

ABSTRACT of the Evidence relative to Sugar Estates.

NAMES OF PERSONS GIVING EVIDENCE.	No. of Estates under his charge.	No. 1 TABLE. Comparison of the No. of Labourers located on the Estates in		No. 2 TABLE. Comparison of Crops.				No. 3 TABLE Abstract of Contingencies and Crops, and Cost of Sugar per Cwt., after deducting Proceeds of Rum.				
		1832.	1847.	CROP—1832. An average Year.		CROP—1847. This takes an average of 1846 and 1847, the one being a good and the other a bad Year.		Contingencies. £. s. d.	CROPS.		Cost of Sugar per Cwt. £. s. d.	
				Hhds.	Pns.	Hhds.	Pns.		Hhds. 16 Cwt.	Pns. at 14 l.		
The Hon. Thomas M'Corcock, St. Thomas-in-the-East	3	about the same		1,125	-	772	368	59,981 - -	2,863	1,483	- 16 3	
The Hon. Gilbert Shaw, Vere and Clarendon	10	3,048	790	2,258	848	1,284	636	193,891 13 6	5,410	2,443	1 3 -	
Louis M'Kinnon, Clarendon	10	2,681	1,345	2,020	-	1,017	491	94,913 7 5	3,256	1,524	1 8 3	
Henry Lord Garrigues, Vere	4	797	80	623	292	153	80	32,925 18 4	1,567	643	- 19 1	
William Johns, Westmoreland	1	391	122	230	105	177	108	21,734 2 2	807	446	1 4 -	
George R. Gow, Westmoreland	1	325	170	225	86	122	70	16,081 16 10	614	289	1 4 6	
Henry Westmoreland, Metcalfe	8	5,778	1,923	876	355	442	187	55,303 16 11	1,784	789	1 11 -	
John Stirk, Vere	1	232	20	163	80	111	53	14,489 17 10	500	184	1 9 9	
James Carson, St. Andrew	1	312	35	184	129	101	54	7,410 4 4	325	176	- 19 -	
Thomas M'ulloch, St. Mary	1	193	-	165	79	93	48	9,740 13 3	281	135	1 15 -	
Charles Draeseke, St. Mary	1	225	-	184	91	62	37	10,720 9 11	288	151	1 17 4	
John P. Jones, Portland	4	820	60	128	33	75	15	17,463 9 -	981	303	- 16 10	
Henry Groves, St. James	3	701	125	301	119	295	146	25,493 11 2	1,008	498	1 2 11	
Paul King, Trelawny	5	1,125	705	902	479	509	270	53,725 6 -	2,245	1,167	1 - 10	
John W. Pierce, Trelawny	2	1,018	364	316	76	162	81	9,840 19 2	289	135	1 13 6	
Henry Brockett, Hanover	7	1,925	148	1,199	571	619	293	42,048 4 4	1,577	751	1 5 -	
Thomas Morrish, Trelawny	7	2,124	1,141	1,183	634	602	298	68,275 12 10	2,967	1,363	1 1 -	
William Henry Knott, St. James	8	2,193	930	811	197	704	354	80,903 13 3	3,317	1,711	1 1 5	
The Hon. Richard Burke, Met- calfe	10	2,638	580	2,524	1,216	1,090	477	157,274 - -	6,105	2,539	1 4 11	
Charles Nockells, St. Thomas- in-the-East	1	970	345	843	410	437	234	11,901 7 7	439	184	1 5 5	
Isaac Jackson, St. James	16	3,591	1,234	2,935	1,284	1,730	909	108,452 19 2	4,765	2,543	- 19 1½	
Charles Stewart, St. Ann	3	1,896	386	863	391	2,331	1,038	64,327 - -	2,331	1,038	1 6 8½	
Lawrence Hislop, St. James	15	3,701	1,150	2,325	1,074	1,494	758	150,500 6 1	6,313	3,066	1 1 4	
Alexander Gladstone, St. Eliza- beth	4	971	560	575	158	319	199	33,188 3 6½	1,893	801	- 14 6	
John Jump, St. James	4	1,234	890	910	419	452	214	29,185 17 11	1,524	713	- 15 9	
William Hosack, St. George's	4	about the same.		900	429	461	230	37,716 4 5	1,842	888	- 17 2	
Stephen Hannaford, St. Dorothy	4	2,991	870	1,160	453	1,745	748	60,753 - -	1,745	748	1 16 -	
	138	41,820	13,973	25,928	10,008	17,359	8,331	1,405,887 14 11	57,006	26,711		
Total Contingencies, as above								1,405,887 14 11				
Deduct 26,711 Puncheons Rum, at 14 l.								373,954 - -				
57,006 Hogsheads Sugar × 16 = 912,096 Cwt.								1,061,963 14 11	gives 22 s. 7½ d. as the Cost of Sugar per Cwt.			

In some of the above Returns the comparison of Population comprehends several Estates, for which the Crops and Contingencies cannot now be distinctly ascertained.

Appendix, No. 2.

COPIES of DESPATCHES addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies by any of the Governors of Her Majesty's Possessions in the *West Indies* or *Mauritius* relative to the present State or Prospects of the CULTIVATION of SUGAR or COFFEE in those Possessions, or containing Representations of the Distressed State of the Planters, or containing Information relative to any attempted REDUCTION of WAGES, and the Spirit with which such Attempts have been met by the Native and Immigrant Labouring Population.

Colonial Office, Downing-street, }
28 March 1848.

B. HAWES.

SCHEDULE.

JAMAICA.

No.	DATE.	SUBJECT.	PAGE.
1. Governor Sir C. E. Grey to Earl Grey.	5 Feb. 1848	Encloses Memorial to Her Majesty from the Inhabitants of the Parish of Portland, complaining of the Distress brought upon the Colonists by the operation of the Sugar Duty Act, and praying Relief	237
2. Jamaica Act 11 Vict. c. 27	- - - -	An Act for the Encouragement of Immigration	238

BRITISH GUIANA.

3. Governor Light to Earl Grey	11 Jan. 1848	Transmits Dr. Bonyun's Report on a Commission of Investigation as to the Rural Hospitals on Estates, and Condition of the different Emigrants in the Colony	241
4. Earl Grey to Governor Light	29 Mar. 1848	In reply to Despatch, 11 January 1848, No 10, forwarding Dr. Bonyun's Report	251
5. Governor Light to Earl Grey	18 Jan. 1848	Transmits a Petition addressed to the Governor and Court of Policy against the Civil List and general Expenses of the Colony	252
6. Governor Light to Earl Grey	18 Jan. 1848	State of the Colony. Necessity of passing more stringent Laws to check the practice of Incendiarism, &c.	254
7. Governor Light to Earl Grey	31 Jan. 1848	Transmits a Government Proclamation issued in order to check the practice of Incendiarism	255
8. Governor Light to Earl Grey	14 Feb. 1848	Petition enclosed for exemption of Colonial Free-labour Produce from Duty	256
9. Governor Light to Earl Grey	14 Feb. 1848	Improved manufacture of Sugar in Colonial Laboratory. Forwards specimens, with Dr. Shier's Report and List of Details	258
10. Governor Light to Earl Grey	18 Feb. 1848	Abstract Reports of Stipendiary Magistrates and Inspector-general of Police, on condition and labour, &c. of Creole population. Incendiarism	261

TRINIDAD.

11. Lord Harris to Mr. Gladstone	30 July 1846	Transmits Regulations for Indian Immigration and copy of Trinidad Cooly Regulations	263
12. Lord Grey to Governor Lord Harris.	15 Sept. 1846	Reply to preceding Despatch, 30 July 1846, containing objections to Cooly Regulations	267
13. Lord Harris to Earl Grey	21 Oct. 1846	Encloses Message to Legislative Council on the subject of Cooly Regulations, and also on Inter-colonial Immigration	268
14. Lord Grey to Lord Harris	1 Mar. 1847	Respecting disallowance of Cooly Regulations	269
15. Lord Harris to Earl Grey	18 Jan. 1848	Unsatisfactory and Diseased State in which the Liberated Africans lately landed in this Colony from Her Majesty's Steamer "Growler" were found to be in	269
16. Lord Harris to Earl Grey	2 Feb. 1848	Petition to the Queen from the Inhabitants of Trinidad interested in the cultivation of Sugar, praying for Relief	270
17. Governor Lord Harris to Earl Grey.	21 Feb. 1848	Report on Blue Book for 1847, and State and Prospects of the Colony	271

BARBADOES.

18. Governor Reid to Earl Grey	30 Dec. 1847	Encloses his Speech at the Opening of the Legislative Session, Barbadoes	277
19. Governor Reid to Earl Grey	8 Feb. 1848	Transmits Replies of the Council and Assembly to the Speech with which he opened the present Session of the Legislature	280
20. Governor Reid to Earl Grey	26 Feb. 1848	Sugar cultivation; State and Cost of	282
21. Governor Reid to Earl Grey	8 Mar. 1848	Encloses Tables showing the Average Cost of producing Sugar on various Estates	282

MAURITIUS.

No.	DATE.	SUBJECT.	PAGE.
22.	Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey 14 Oct. 1847	Encloses monthly Returns of Immigrants for September; proportion of Females; Casualties; Case of the "Fuzel Rohamany"	292
23.	Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey 29 Oct. 1847	Encloses Labour Returns for quarter ending 30 September; List of Sugar Estates; Monthly Tax beneficial	301
24.	Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey 3 Nov. 1847	Inaction of Captain Wilson, Emigration Agent at Madras; Probable short Supply of Labourers from Bengal. Second annual Exhibition of Society of Arts and Sciences for Sugar and other Produce	308
25.	Earl Grey to Sir William Gomm 20 Feb. 1848	Reply to preceding Despatch, 3 November 1847. Discontinuance of Cooly Emigration to West Indies, and abolition of Captain Wilson's Agency at Madras. Mr. Caird's Agency at Calcutta to be wholly for Mauritius, and supply of Coolies thereto. Reduction of his Salary. To be paid wholly from Mauritius Funds	312
26.	Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey 12 Nov. 1847	Monthly Immigration Returns enclosed. Disproportion of Females explained	313
27.	Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey 19 Nov. 1847	Statements of Engagements and Discharges of Indian Labourers during September and October enclosed; also of Rates of Wages. Sugar Crop promises favourably	320
28.	Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey 19 Nov. 1847	Statements of Births and Deaths during September and October enclosed	322
29.	Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey 26 Nov. 1847	Complaint against Captain Wilson, Emigration Agent at Madras. Requests that another be named specially for Mauritius. Short introduction of Labourers. Increase in number voted likely to be required	323
30.	Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey 1 Dec. 1847	His Views as to line of Policy to be pursued in present circumstances of the Colony. Commercial Failures and remedial measures. Sugar Crop promises well	324
31.	Earl Grey to Sir William Gomm 4 Mar. 1848	Reply to preceding Despatch, 1 December 1847; approves his proposed Policy in remedying Commercial Distress	325
32.	Earl Grey to Sir William Gomm 21 Feb. 1848	Commercial Failures. Remedial Measures. Proposal for Export Duty on Sugars shipped being made payable in England instead of Mauritius, to be submitted for Council's consideration	325
33.	Governor Sir W. Gomm to Earl Grey. 4 Oct. 1847	Ordinance No. 29, of 1847, further delaying the Registration of Deeds and Titles, and reducing Transcription Duty. Enclosures and Reports in favour of	326
34.	Governor Sir W. Gomm to Earl Grey. 11 Dec. 1847	Monthly Immigration Returns for November 1847, enclosed	326
35.	Governor Sir W. Gomm to Earl Grey. 14 Dec. 1847	Report of Financial Committee on Expenditure of the Colony, and Reduction of, enclosed	333
36.	Governor Sir W. Gomm to Earl Grey. 14 Dec. 1847	Report of Financial Committee on alleged expediency of Substituting some other Tax for the Export Duty on Sugar. Proposed Land Tax	336
37.	Earl Grey to Governor Sir W. Gomm. 4 April 1848	In reply to two previous Despatches, Nos. 287 and 289, of 14 December	340
38.	Governor Sir W. Gomm to Earl Grey. 28 Dec. 1847	Immigration and temporary withdrawal of Stamp Duty on Engagements. Arrival of "Æneas" from Calcutta, with Immigrants	340
39.	T. Caird, Esq. to the Under Secretary of State. 10 June 1847	Continuance of Cooly Emigration to Mauritius; requests instructions on Sir W. Gomm's application for	342
40.	B. Hawes, Esq. to T. Caird, Esq. 23 Sept. 1847	Stating Earl Grey's inability to convey authority for complying with the requisition from Sir W. Gomm	343
41.	Earl Grey to Governor Sir W. Gomm. 27 Mar. 1848	In reply to previous Despatch, No. 299, of 28 December 1847	343
42.	Governor Sir W. Gomm to Earl Grey. 29 Dec. 1847	Report of Finance Committee on Scarcity of British Silver, and difficulty of relieving, enclosed; withdrawal of Tokens and Marquees from circulation, recommended	343

ST. VINCENT.

43.	Governor Reid to Earl Grey 25 Jan. 1848	Vagrant Act, No. 553, of 1847, and Attorney-general's Opinion in favour, enclosed	347
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ANTIGUA.

44.	Extracts from Stipendiary Magistrates' Reports for Half-year ended 31 December 1847, enclosed in Governor's Despatch, 29 February 1848		349
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Appendix, No. 2.

J A M A I C A.

— No. 1. —

(No. 13.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir C. E. Grey to Earl Grey.

My Lord, King's House, Jamaica, 5 February 1848.
I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship a memorial addressed to Her Majesty in Council by the inhabitants of the parish of Portland, and a copy of the letter received on the occasion by the Governor's secretary from Dr. Clachar, the custos of the parish.

I have, &c.
(signed) Charles Edward Grey.

Appendix, No. 2.

JAMAICA.

No. 1.

Sir C. E. Grey to Earl Grey.

31 Jan. 1848.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Sir, Port Antonio, 31 January 1848.
I HAVE the honour to transmit the accompanying memorial to The Queen, and respectfully to request the Governor will forward it as early as possible for presentation to Her Majesty.

Enclosure in No. 1.

T. F. Pilgrim, Esq.
Government Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. S. Clachar, Custos.

To The Queen's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

The humble Memorial of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Parish of *Portland*, in the Island of *Jamaica*,

Humbly sheweth,

THAT the island of Jamaica, once a flourishing and prosperous colony, and a valuable appendage to the British Crown, has been reduced to the lowest state of prostration, which is attributable, not to any want of natural resources, or energy in her people to develop those resources, but to a policy which has already portended ruin, and which, if persevered in, must inevitably consummate the overthrow of every interest in the country.

That it might not be thought that your loyal subjects in Portland are without the evidence of facts, it is necessary to state that in this parish alone the effects of the Emancipation Act have been to throw out of cultivation no less than 13 out of 27 properties. If properties have been thus extensively abandoned through the indirect working of a philanthropic and humane enactment of the Imperial Parliament, the inference must be obvious that the Sugar Duties Act, which places us in direct competition with the slaveowner, must at no distant period consummate the ruin of almost every property in the island.

Your memorialists further revert to the moral features of the case, and the distresses that have been brought upon your Majesty's loyal subjects in this colony. Not many years have now elapsed since slavery in a mitigated form was the great object of the national abomination; to abolish it, a noble generosity dictated the sacrifice of 20,000,000*l.* Large sacrifices were also made in this colony in the same cause. The British nation assumed a high moral position among the nations of the world, and the most eminent statesmen held that there were moral considerations as to the admission of slave-grown sugars into the British market which applied to no other article.

Taking this as a guarantee that slavery could never again be encouraged by the British people, and that slave sugar could never meet with a ready ingress to the British market, we labour under the most unmitigated surprise to find that free British subjects, whose loyalty to your Majesty's throne has never been impeached, are doomed, by a strange and hasty revolution of sentiment, to meet with no better consideration than the slaveowner and slave trader.

Your memorialists cannot think that their distance from Britain disqualifies them for the paternal consideration of the Government; nor can they see any reason why the imposts levied upon their produce should be in a greater ratio than those laid upon British subjects living in any English county.

By the free trade policy of Parliament, your memorialists have been brought to the very verge of ruin; in numerous instances, where prosperity once existed, poverty and wretchedness are now predominant, and if speedy assistance be not rendered, the great experiment of negro emancipation will stand forth to the world as a palpable failure.

Appendix, No. 2.

JAMAICA.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Your memorialists also submit that the attempt in blockading the coast of Africa has not been attended with the success that was anticipated, while Cuban property, especially in slaves, has nearly doubled its value in consequence of the Sugar Duties Act. It appears to your memorialists that no force sufficiently large could be employed in Africa to put a stop to so lucrative a trade; and that, were a smaller number of vessels stationed on the coasts of Cuba and Brazil, more effectual service would be performed, while a part of the present expenditure for their maintenance might be employed in furnishing these colonies with emigrants.

Wherefore your memorialists humbly pray that your Majesty will be pleased to take their distress into your gracious consideration.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(62 signatures.)

— No. 2. —

C A P. XXVII.

AN ACT FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF IMMIGRATION.

No. 2.

Act for encouragement of Immigration.

Preamble.

£. 15,000 placed at disposal of Governor for introducing immigrants.

Governor to appoint agent-general, who shall be paid a salary not exceeding 300 l. a year.

Governor to appoint a sub-agent at any of the ports at which immigrant vessels may arrive, who are to receive 4 s. for each immigrant.

Power of dismissal, and of awarding remuneration.

Receiver-general to pay to the order of the Governor such sums of money as may be required for the purpose of this Act, not exceeding 15,000 l.

Proviso. Agent-general to lay before the commissioners of accounts a quarterly statement of drafts and expenditure.

How emigrants are to be entitled to a free passage to the place whence they originally came.

WHEREAS it is expedient to give effectual aid and encouragement to the measures now in progress for the introduction into this island of agricultural labourers, artizans, and mechanics and their families, from various parts of Europe, Africa, and America: be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly of this your Majesty's Island of Jamaica, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that the sum of 15,000 l. be placed at the disposal of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, to be by him applied to the purpose of introducing immigrants into this island, and of defraying such incidental expenses connected therewith, as are not hereinafter expressly provided for.

II. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, to nominate and appoint some fit and proper person, resident in this colony, to be agent-general of immigration, who shall be paid an annual salary not exceeding the sum of 300 l., by four quarterly payments, which payments the receiver-general is hereby authorized to make to such agent-general upon the warrant, in writing, of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, directed to the said receiver-general.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, to nominate and appoint, at any of the ports of this island, at which any vessel with immigrants may arrive, or to which immigrants may be sent for location, a sub-agent, whose duty it shall be to take charge of such immigrants upon their landing or arriving at such port, and carry into effect such directions as he may receive from the agent-general; and each such sub-agent shall be entitled to receive the sum of 4 s. for each immigrant so landed or sent as aforesaid, on its being certified to the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, by the agent-general, that the duties of such sub-agent have been satisfactorily performed.

IV. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, and he is hereby authorized and empowered from time to time, to dismiss such agent-general and sub-agents, and to appoint others in the room of such agent-general and sub-agents who may be so dismissed, and to award the parties so appointed such salary or remuneration as he may deem adequate, not exceeding the sums limited by this Act.

V. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the receiver-general of this island shall, and he is hereby required, out of any monies in his hands unappropriated, to pay to the order or orders of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, such sum or sums of money as shall, from time to time, be required for the purposes of this Act, so as that such payments shall not exceed the aforesaid sum of 15,000 l.: provided always, that the agent-general for the time being shall lay before the commissioners of public accounts quarterly, a statement of the amount which shall be drawn from the receiver-general as aforesaid, and an account in detail of the manner in which the sums so drawn have been expended.

VI. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that every emigrant who shall arrive in this colony under the provisions of this Act, from any port or place on the western or eastern coast of the African continent, or from the Island of Madagascar, or from any other island except the Island of St. Helena, adjacent to the said coast of the said African continent, inhabited by the negro race, and who shall have been conveyed to this colony at the charge of the public revenue thereof, and who shall reside in the same for five years, without having departed therefrom, and on the importation of whom no bounty other than the rate or bounty for defraying the expenses of importation from the coast of Africa, or the adjacent islands, which is hereinafter mentioned, shall have been paid, shall, at the expiration of that period, and for two years thereafter, upon giving six months' notice to the agent-general of his intention to demand the same, be entitled to a free passage from this island to the port or place from whence he originally came, or at which he embarked, and the

the entire cost and expense of such passage shall be paid out of the public funds of this island in such manner as by any Act of this island shall be provided : provided always, that if any emigrant as aforesaid shall have acted as a delegate under the authority or appointment of the agent, appointed for the collection and embarkation of emigrants at any port or place from which emigration is conducted by Her Majesty's Government, or of the agent-general for immigrants in this colony, such emigrant shall be entitled to such free passage back as aforesaid at the end of such period of five years, notwithstanding he may not have remained in the colony during such period without departing therefrom : and provided further, that every emigrant who shall be brought into this island from the western or eastern coast of the African continent, or from the island of Madagascar, or from any other island, except the island of St. Helena, adjacent to the said coast of the said African continent, and inhabited by the negro race, and who would be entitled under this Act to a free passage at the end of the period aforesaid, shall be at liberty, at any time previous to the expiration of the period aforesaid, on giving due notice as aforesaid (such immigrant not being at the time under any contract to serve any person), to depart this island, and shall be entitled to such proportionate sum for the period such emigrant has been in the island, towards procuring a passage back to the port or place from which he originally embarked, as the whole expense of such passage back shall bear to the whole period of five years, and such proportionate sum shall be paid in the same manner and under the same authority as is hereinbefore directed with respect to the whole sum, which would be paid in the case of any immigrants who shall have remained in this colony during the whole period of five years.

Proviso.

Proviso.

VII. And be it enacted, That whenever any immigrant who may, under the provisions of this or of any former acts, or of any future act of this island, become entitled to a passage back to the port or place from which such immigrant may have embarked, and shall signify to the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being, his desire to return to such port or place, the Commissioners of Public Accounts shall, upon representation thereof by the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being, provide the necessary means of conveyance, under such arrangements and regulations as shall be approved of by the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being.

Commissioners of accounts to provide return passage for immigrant, on representation of the Governor.

VIII. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That on the arrival of any emigrant into this colony, under the provisions of this Act, from any port or place in the western or eastern coast of the African continent, or from the island of Madagascar, or from any other island, except the island of Saint Helena, adjacent to the said coast of the said African continent, and inhabited by the negro race, provided such immigrant shall have been conveyed to this island at the charge of the public revenue thereof, the agent-general, or sub-agent, shall deliver, or cause to be delivered to such emigrant, a certificate under his hand, stating therein the right of such emigrant to a free passage back to the port or place at which he embarked, or from which such emigrant came.

On the arrival of immigrant from any place, except St. Helena, agent-general to deliver a certificate, stating the right of such immigrant to a free passage back to the place whence he came.

IX. And be it Enacted, That no agreement or contract entered into by any emigrant brought into this colony from any port or place on the western or eastern coast of the African continent, or from the island of Madagascar, or from any other island, except the island of St. Helena, adjacent to the said coast of the said African continent, and inhabited by the negro race, with any employer, shall be valid, unless the same shall have been made within this colony, and such agreement or contract shall not be made for a longer period than three years, nor less than one year, nor until the emigrant making it shall have been 48 hours in the island.

No contract to be valid unless made in this island, and until 48 hours after arrival, and no contract to be valid longer than three years.

X. And whereas it is expedient that the parties who may obtain the services of immigrants from Africa, or the islands adjacent thereto, on their first landing in this island, should contribute towards the expense of importing such immigrants : Be it enacted, That any party who may so obtain the services of such immigrants shall, and he is hereby required to pay to the agent-general, or some sub-agent of immigration, the sum of 2 l. in respect of each such immigrant above the age of 10 years, and the sum of 1 l. in respect of each such immigrant under the age of 10 years and above six, which sums the agent-general of immigration is hereby required to receive and appropriate to immigration purposes, under the authority of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor in this island.

Persons obtaining services of immigrants to pay certain rates.

XI. Whereas, by the first clause of an Act, passed on the 19th day of December 1840, entitled "An Act to regulate the Apprenticeship of Minors," provision is made for the apprenticing of minors, with the consent and approval of the parents, guardians, or next friend of such minors ; and whereas captured African children having been recently imported into this island, and it being probable that others of the same description may hereafter be brought, it is expedient that provision should be made for the apprenticing of such children : be it further enacted, that in the case of African children under 10 years of age, and having no known parent in this island, it shall be the duty of any stipendiary magistrate, or sub-agent of immigration, appointed under this Act, to indent the same to such person or persons as may be willing to engage them for a period of five years, under the provisions and regulations contained in the aforesaid recited Act, entitled "An Act to regulate the Apprenticeship of Minors;" provided that any such agreement, or indentures of apprenticeship, shall not be subject to any stamp duty, and shall be in the following form :

Stipendiary magistrates and sub-agents to apprentice immigrant children under 10 years

Proviso.

Appendix, No. 2.

Jamaica, ss.

Indenture.

This indenture, made the _____ day of _____ between D. E. of the parish, &c., esquire, sub-agent of emigration, acting under the authority of an Act of the Governor, Council, and Assembly of this island, passed in the eleventh year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, entitled "An Act for the encouragement of Immigration," of the one part, and A. B. of _____ an householder of the parish of _____ of the other part, witnesseth that the said D. E. in pursuance and exercise of the authority in him vested by the aforesaid Act, hath put, placed, and bound _____ African children, whose signatures are subscribed to these presents, and their respective ages affixed to each signature, brought to this island on the day of _____ in the ship _____ with and to the said A. B., with him to dwell and serve from the day of the date hereof, and during and unto the full end and term of five years, from thence next ensuing, and fully to be computed and ended; during all which time the said apprentices their said master well, and shall faithfully serve, his lawful commands obey, from the service of their said master they shall not at any time depart, or absent themselves without their said master's leave, but shall demean themselves and faithfully behave towards their said master, and all those acting under his lawful authority, during the said term; and the said master, for the consideration aforesaid, shall teach and instruct, or cause to be taught and instructed, the said _____ apprentices in works of husbandry and field or plantation labour, for and during the aforesaid term; and shall, during all the term aforesaid, find, provide, and allow unto the said _____ apprentices, sufficient meat, drink, apparel, lodging, washing, due and proper attendance by a qualified medical practitioner, and such medicines, subsistence, and medical comforts, as the medical attendant may direct, and also shall, during all the time aforesaid, well and truly conform to the provisions of a certain other Act, passed in the fourth year of the reign of Her said Majesty, entitled "An Act to regulate the Apprenticeship of Minors."

In witness whereof, the parties aforesaid to these present indentures have set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

Immigrants amenable to laws affecting vagrants, rogues, and idle and disorderly persons, &c.

XII. And whereas doubts have arisen whether Indian immigrants are subject or amenable to the laws of this island, affecting or relating to vagrants or idle and disorderly persons, rogues, and vagabonds, and incorrigible rogues, and it is expedient to remove such doubts, be it declared and enacted, that all and every Indian immigrant and immigrants now resident in this island, shall be subject and amenable, in the same manner as every other class of persons, to the laws affecting or relating to vagrants, or idle and disorderly persons, rogues, and vagabonds, and incorrigible rogues, and all and every the provisions, penalties, and punishments therein contained.

Governor, by proclamation, to name places from which emigration is permitted into the colony, &c.

XIII. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, and he is hereby authorised and required, by his proclamation, to name such ports or places out of this colony from which by the laws there in force emigration is permitted, other than ports or places on the western or eastern coast of the African continent, or in the island of Madagascar, or in other islands adjacent to the coast of [the] African continent, and inhabited by the negro race, from whence emigrants may be brought to this colony, and upon the introduction into this colony of any emigrant from any such place, the person by whom, or at whose charge such emigrants have been introduced, and who shall, in all respects, have conformed to the provisions and directions contained in this Act, and in the Passengers' Act of the Imperial Parliament, and to the rules and regulations in respect of such emigrants, promulgated from time to time by Her Majesty's Government, and by the Governor, or the person exercising the functions of Governor of this island, shall be entitled to receive, and shall be paid a certain fixed rate or bounty for every immigrant so introduced by him; provided, that for the purposes, and within the meaning of this Act, the island of Saint Helena shall not be considered adjacent to the coast of Africa.

Proviso.

And to fix rate or bounty for maintenance and passage to this island.

XIV. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, to fix such rate or bounty as to him shall seem sufficient for indemnifying the person at whose charge any such immigrant has been introduced into this colony for the expense of his maintenance and passage from the port of embarkation to the same; and the said Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, shall, in his proclamation to be issued for that purpose, declare the rates or bounties payable upon emigrants from the respective ports or places therein mentioned, and also the number of weeks which shall be deemed adequate for the voyage of any ship or vessel from such respective ports or places to this colony: provided always, that such rate or bounty shall not, in the case of any immigrants from Europe, exceed the sum of Ten pounds, or in the case of any immigrant from any port or place in Africa, shall not exceed the sum of Seven pounds, if brought to this island by a British sailing ship; or Ten pounds, if brought by any of Her Majesty's steam vessels.

Proviso.

Receiver-general to pay bounties on the production of agent-general's certificate.

XV. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for the receiver-general to pay, out of any monies in his hands unappropriated, all such fixed rates or bounties as aforesaid, as shall from time to time be claimed by any person or persons introducing immigrants into this island as last aforesaid, upon the production to him of the certificate of the agent-general of the number of immigrants introduced into this island as aforesaid; and that

that the provisions of this Act, and the provisions of the Passengers' Act of the Imperial Parliament, and of such rules and regulations in respect of emigrants as may from time to time be promulgated by Her Majesty's Government, or by the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor of this island, have been fully complied with, such certificate to state in addition to the foregoing the amount of bounty which the party is entitled to receive under the same; and the said Agent-general shall once in each quarter lay before the Commissioners of Public Accounts a statement of the sums so paid by the Receiver-general, and of the names of the parties to whom, and the number and description of immigrants on account of whom such sums have been paid: provided always, that the total amount of such payments for one year shall not exceed the sum of 5,000 *l.*: and provided also, that such amount shall not be deemed or taken to be part of the aforesaid sum of 15,000 *l.* herein declared to be placed at the disposal of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, to be by him applied to the purpose of introducing immigrants into this island.

XVI. And be it enacted, that upon ships arriving in this island with immigrants, and leaving it without taking away any cargo, no tonnage duty shall be charged.

XVII. Whereas by the Act 8 Vict. c. 44, provision is made for raising a loan of 45,000 *l.* exclusively for Hill Coolie immigration: and whereas no part of the said sum of 45,000 *l.* has been raised for such purpose; be it enacted, that the said Act 8 Vict. c. 44, be and the same is hereby repealed.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, that the several clauses of this Act, except the clause next mentioned, shall continued and be in force from the passing of this Act till the 31st day of December 1848, and no longer; and that the seventh clause hereof, providing for the return passage of immigrants under the provisions of this or of any former and any future acts of this island, shall not be subject to or limited by this duration clause, but shall be and continue in full force.

XIX. And be it further enacted, that this Act may be amended, altered, or repealed during the present session

Appendix, No. 2.

JAMAICA.

Agent-general to lay quarterly statement of sums paid, &c. before commissioners of accounts.

Proviso.

No tonnage duty to be charged on immigrant ships quitting without cargo.

8 Vict. c. 40, repealed.

Certain sections of this Act, except the 7th, to be in force till 31 Dec. 1848.

Act may be amended or repealed.

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 3. —

(No. 10.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Light* to Earl *Grey*.

No. 3.
Governor *Light* to Earl *Grey*.

My Lord,

Government House, Demerara, 11 January 1848.

I HAD the honour of stating in my despatch, No. 180, date 15th September, that I proposed employing Dr. Bonyun on a commission of investigation as to rural hospitals on estates, and condition of the different emigrants in the colony.

I wrote some instructions for Dr. Bonyun, of which I forward copy, and had them published for general information, as the best way of softening any opposition, which some were disposed to show, to Dr. Bonyun's inquiry, which I have, in the interests of the community, and for the information of Her Majesty's Government, employed him to make.

Dr. Bonyun began his labours on the 1st October; he visited every cultivated estate; was employed during the months of October, November, and the early part of December. His Reports, with the elaborate Tables, were not completed till the early days of the current month; I received them on the 8th instant.

I have the honour of forwarding to you Dr. Bonyun's letter of the 6th instant, explanatory of the Returns annexed, together with remarks on Tables (A)*. These remarks are the memoranda made on each estate at the time of visiting them; the estates are according to districts; being those,

1. On the East Sea Coast, Demerara.
2. Mahaica Creek.
3. East Bank River Demerara.
4. West Coast and River Demerara.
5. Island of Leguan, Essequibo River.
6. Hog Island - - - ditto.
7. Tiger Island - - - ditto.
8. Island of Wakenaam, ditto.
9. West Sea Coast, Essequibo.
10. Berbice, West Sea Coast.
11. East Bank River Berbice.
12. East Sea Coast, Berbice.
13. North Side Canje River.
14. South Side - ditto.

No. 1.

No. 2.

17

* N.B.—These remarks, together with the Tables (A), being very voluminous, have not been copied for the Committee, but they can be furnished if required.

Appendix, No. 2: In these remarks will be found the state of the hospitals, the description of medical attendance, of emigrants, with observations on their general health, their mortality, acclimatization.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 1.
Governor Light to
Earl Grey.

Tables (A), in No. 13, give a general state of immigrants in British Guiana in 1847; each estate is named according to its district.

The 1st column gives the name of each estate.

2d. The number of immigrants on each estate at time of inspection.

3d. Immigrants sick at date of inspection.

4th. Deaths on estates from 1st January to 31st October 1847.

5th. Emigrants who died in the Colonial Hospital between same dates.

6th. Immigrants dead on the estates and in hospital same date.

8th. Immigrants allotted to each estate, with date of each allotment.

9th. Total number allotted.

10th. Ratio of sickness on each plantation.

11th. Ratio of mortality on each plantation.

12th. Ratio of mortality in the Colonial Hospital on the admissions from each estate.

13th. Hospital accommodation.

From Nos. 2 to 12 inclusive each column is subdivided into columns, separating the immigrants according to the places whence they come.

No. 13 gives details in subdivisions of the column, which speak for themselves, and necessary to the object in view.

No. 3.

Table (B.) gives the ratio of mortality and sickness in the different districts.

No. 4.

Table (C.) contrasts the ratio of mortality on the numbers in the rural districts, and on the admissions into the Colonial Hospital.

Table (D.) shows the total number of immigrant field labourers in October and November 1847, and the total of deaths from 30th January to 31st October 1847; Demerara, Essequibo, Berbice, and on banks of rivers or creeks.

Table (E.) shows the total number of immigrant field labourers in October and November 1847, and the total of sickness from the 30th January to 31st October 1847.

In addition to the above, are Appendices 1 to 6.

No. 5.

No. 1 giving details regarding the numbers, Portuguese, Calcutta, and Madras immigrants, and their employments, with assumption as to withdrawal from field labour or death of the former.

No. 2. A summary, according to districts, of deaths of Coolies, Portuguese, and Africans.

No. 3. Acclimatized Portuguese.

No. 4. Return of deaths among a certain portion of the creole population in the months of July, August, September, and October.

1847.

No. 5. Africans brought by the "Growler," mortality of (an exception, as to health).

No. 6. Number of estates' hospitals in the different districts, in columns, showing number of hospitals, number to be erected, number of sugar estates.

The mortality amongst the Portuguese has at times, and according to circumstances, been frightful; the greatest during an epidemic on their first introduction in large numbers. Next, the result of starvation in Madeira during last and preceding year, from which they fled with shattered constitutions incapable of resisting this climate. Last, the result of location, and in some instances inefficient medical treatment and care when sick, with filthy penurious habits, withholding themselves from purchase of suitable food when convalescent, and even in health; the conclusions drawn by Dr. Bonyun are, that unless a better system is adopted in the rural districts for the due care and treatment of the Portuguese, they will be expensive labourers; though many of the estates who know their value have taken better care of their allotments, and find them most useful.

I have used my endeavours to prevent the Portuguese from locating themselves in unhealthy districts, but as free agents they have gone where they think they will make most money; no law could justly be enacted to limit their services to particular districts which are certainly healthier than others. The law necessary should be the establishment of rural hospitals; which, had my advice been taken by the legislature some years ago, could have been afforded from the colonial treasury; and by this time the small additional tax on the planters which I proposed for their maintenance, would not have been more costly than the present system of estates' hospitals, which, as may be seen in Appendix, No. 6, is as yet incomplete.

With regard to the natives of India, your Lordship will read that the climate is much more fatal to those from Madras than from Calcutta; these latter died in greater portion during the voyage than the former, but the mortality amongst the Madras immigrants is infinitely greater than amongst those from Calcutta: while these are healthy, industrious, useful labourers, those are idle, sickly, and beggarly, filthy in their food and habits, living often on putrid offal and carcasses rescued from the vultures, covered with ulcers and inveterate itch. It will be a question whether the emigration from Madras should continue unless greater pains are taken in the selection.

But with the Africans your Lordship will have proofs of their entire fitness for this country: acclimatized at once, they almost instantly amalgamate with the Creole population, take the same work, assume the same manners, work for themselves in their own grounds, and buy land; other emigrants fill the hospitals, swell the expenses of the government, become lame, limbless, helpless; and even were they to be had at a less price than the Africans, would be expensive emigrants. The African is so intimately associated with the

the creole, so thoroughly alive to his rights and interests, that no fear ought to be felt of coercion or ill-treatment arising from their introduction, as fast as the policy of Her Majesty's Government may justify, or the means of the colony provide.

Coolies and Portuguese have, with increasing earnestness, been applied for by the colonists, rather than be without labour; could they be assured of Africans in equal numbers to the supply from India, I am satisfied that neither Portuguese nor Coolies would be asked for.

From hearing about four months ago of some cases of great destitution, in consequence of some of the natives of India wandering as destitute vagrants, I established, out of the contingencies at my command, a house of reception and hospital, under charge of Mr. Carbery, on the Arabian coast, Essequibo, with a medical attendant; fitted up the house, and supplied it with proper nurses and medicines, merely to prevent the recurrence of some three or four distressing scenes of neglected disease and sores which had been reported to me. My establishment, large enough for 30, I fitted up with 20 beds; at first the vagrancy flocked there, and the house filled; as soon as possible, such as were fit to be removed, were transferred to the Colonial Hospital. The numbers of the last report received to-day are now reduced to nine, who will be transferred as above. It has been a check to wanderers, a resource to some who have been hastily ejected from estates; and as explanations are sometimes required from parties ejecting or refusing to take care of their people, there is more reserve shown by managers and others in subjecting themselves to inquiry.

I have entered into these details because, in Dr. Bonyun's remarks on Tables (A.), he has alluded to this establishment, bearing the name of Onderneeming.

My outlay has been so small, that I trust, when the financial members enter on the accounts, they will see how much may be done by proper management at a small expense, and consent to similar places at suitable parts of the distant rural districts.

Dr. Bonyun observes, that the African preserves his health better in our unwholesome locations on the rivers and creeks, than elsewhere. He alludes to the want of quinine in sufficient doses, but considers the parsimony in regard to it, as well as to proper care of immigrants, an exception more than a rule. He names several estates of that description, and gives details of neglect, which, if unexplained, are not creditable to the owners. As I intend laying a copy of the documents under comment to your Lordship before the Court of Policy, I have no doubt such animadversions will be made as will prevent the recurrence of them; the only defence that can be urged, will be that of limited resources, or total ignorance of the facts, by the attorneys and proprietors.

Dr. Bonyun has, I think, executed his work with fidelity and impartiality; he is out of the reach of party influence, and therefore may be relied on.

It will be satisfactory to me if his mission, under my instructions, be worthy of your Lordship's approval.

The Right Hon. the Earl Grey.

I have, &c.
(signed) H. Light.

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

THE following instructions to Dr. Bonyun are published for general information, by order of his Excellency the Governor. The principal points on which information is required from the Commissioner are,

1. Whether there is *bonâ fide* hospital accommodation, and for how many, on each estate?
2. Whether there are such articles of bedding and furniture as are necessary for persons in ordinary or extraordinary cases of sickness?
3. Whether there is a supply of bandages, lint, besides the ordinary dressing materials for sores; and whether medicines usually required for fever and dysentery are on the spot in the estate's hospital?
4. The number and quality of nurses to each hospital?
5. The dieting; with examination of, and report on the hospital books.
6. How often are the patients visited by the medical attendant: are these visits limited to periodical attendance: are they made on requisition, in cases of sudden want?

Dr. Bonyun should put himself in communication with the medical men of the estates, to form, if possible, one uniform system throughout the colony.

On reporting the result of his labours, the ordinary diseases of the emigrants must be separated from those brought on by their own dirty sordid habits, and deductions either favourable or unfavourable to their general health drawn.

Observations should be made on the locality, and comparisons as to its effect on creoles compared with emigrants, whose health also must be compared with that of each other, according to country.

Dr. Bonyun will not enter on the estates for the purpose of inspecting hospitals without the consent of the proprietor or his representative; but let it be clearly understood, that no allotment of emigrants will be made to any estate whose proprietor, manager, or representative refuses to give facility to the supervision now proposed.

Appendix, No. 2.
BRITISH GUIANA.
Encl. 1, in No. 3.

It will be an advantage if Dr. Bonyun could see the emigrants who are located on the estates, to contrast their state of health in the various districts, and obtain the exact number on each estate.

Dr. Bonyun to commence on the 1st of October.

Guiana Public Buildings,
28 September 1847.

By command,
(signed) *W. B. Wolsley*,
Act. Gov. Sec.

Enclosure 2, in No. 3.

Encl. 2, in No. 3.

Sir,

Demerara, 6 January 1848.

In obedience to your Excellency's orders, I have visited, during the months of October, November, and a part of December, every cultivated plantation in the colony, and have examined into the state of the immigrants, hospital accommodation, and medical attendance on each of them. I now beg leave to lay before your Excellency the results of my investigation. Table (A.) exhibits at one view the number of Madeirians, Calcutta and Madras Coolies, and Africans, allotted and casual, and the number of sick at the date of inspection; also, the number of deaths on the plantations and in the colonial hospital, from 1st of January to the 31st of October 1847, with the ratios of sickness and mortality; the number allotted, as far as I could ascertain, and the date of allotment; together with the extent of hospital accommodation, medical attendance, medicines, nurses, and the state of the dwellings of immigrants. Appended to this table are elucidative remarks on each plantation. Table (B.) shows the ratios of sickness and mortality on the coasts, rivers, creeks, and islands in each county. Table (C.) illustrates the comparative value of medical treatment on plantations and in the colonial hospitals. Table (D.) is a summary of the whole number of immigrants and of deaths, contrasting the mortality on the coasts with that of the localities under the influence of river miasm.

The Madeirians being the most numerous and most sickly of the immigrants who have been brought to this colony, I will, in the first place, call your Excellency's attention to the great mortality which has occurred amongst them since 1841, in which year they first began to arrive in large numbers. It appears that the number brought into the colony from that year, including 429 brought in 1835, up to 31st October 1847, has been 15,699. The number on estates at present is 5,853; if to this number be added 2,116, which it is estimated will cover all the Madeirians in the country not working on estates, we find there does not exist at this moment in British Guiana more than 7,969, leaving a balance of 7,730 not accounted for, who have either died or left the colony. The number of deaths, including those Madeirian inhabitants who died in Georgetown, being 1,062, or about one-seventh part of the whole deficiency, it is reasonable to infer that in six years, during one of which a fatal yellow-fever epidemic prevailed, the majority of the unaccounted for balance, 6,668, fell victims to that epidemic, the climate, and other causes. By referring to Table (B.) it will be observed that a large mortality occurred in 1847, on the Mahaica Creek, the island of Leguan, and the river district of the west coast of Essequibo. In 1846 the mortality was likewise great in these districts (Appendix No. 2); while on the coasts the mortality has been comparatively small, excepting where, as on the "Profit," and other plantations, it has been large in consequence of the state in which the immigrants were brought to this country, and other causes irrespective of the climate, which I have endeavoured to explain in my tables and remarks. Table (D.) shows the ratio of mortality on sea coasts to be 4 per cent. less than on rivers, creeks, and islands. The most fatal localities being, as is clearly shown in Table (B.), the Mahaica Creek and the island of Leguan; the apparently large mortality on the west sea coast of Berbice being owing to a large number of Madeirians having been brought in a very desperate state from plantation Blairmont to a temporary hospital (No. 19.) on that coast, and having there died; besides the "Sandford" Madeirians, who were brought on Plantation Profit in an emaciated state, and perished as detailed in the remarks appended to Table (A.) I have endeavoured in Table (C.), for your Excellency's information, to make a comparative statement of the value of medical treatment on the estates and in the colonial hospitals; and it appears from that table that patients treated in the colonial hospital invariably recover in a ratio far exceeding that of patients treated on the estates, even to the extent of one-half more on the number of sick admitted into the hospitals, compared with the number of both sick and well on the estates. This I humbly conceive to be a convincing proof that hitherto most insufficient remedial means have been employed in the rural districts with regard to these people; and I feel assured that to the single article of quinine, independent of skilful treatment, and other necessary appliances, is owing many of the lives which have been saved in the colonial hospitals, and which have given to those institutions established by your Excellency so distinguished a value. I have been enabled, from a careful examination of the people from many of the more recent cargoes, such as the "Landlord," "Borderer," "Whampoa," "Duas Annas," "Navarino," "John Willis," and other vessels, to testify to the correctness of the health officer's report to your Excellency, that during 1846 and in 1847 a large number of Madeirians have been introduced into this colony in a debilitated state, the result of famine in their own country, and it might have been expected that considerable mortality under any circumstances would occur among them. If my deductions be correct the

decrease

decrease of Madeirian immigrants in six years has been about 40 per cent., and the average annual mortality since 1841 not less than 7 per cent. It therefore appears that although the decrease of the Madeirians has been very great, much of that decrease is owing to a fatal epidemic having existed in the colony during the year 1841, to many of them having been located on rivers, creeks, and islands, to the almost total deficiency of hospital accommodation and judicious hygeian treatment, and latterly to thousands of them having arrived in this colony with constitutions shattered by diseases incidental on starvation and misery.

Another circumstance to which I wish to draw your Excellency's attention is, that, as near as I could ascertain, the numbers of acclimated Madeirians at work on the plantations, at the date of my inspection, was 1,617; the greater part of them (when the numbers on La Penitence, Riumveld, and Houston, which estates, from their vicinity to the town, are much frequented, be deducted) residing on the coasts of Demerara and Essequibo. (See Appendix, No. 3.) This fact, coupled with what I have stated concerning the causes of the mortality, induces me to think that should Madeirian immigration to this country be continued under judicious restrictions, such as their location on the coasts alone, a stringent enforcement of the Hospital Ordinance, together with the establishment of rural district hospitals, so great a mortality will not again occur, even should the class of these immigrants be such as has been recently imported into this colony. The diseases from which they suffer are remittent fever at certain seasons (July, August, and September); intermitent fever, with its sequelæ (dropsy, swelling of the flesh, diseases of the spleen and of the liver); dysentery, ulcers, and ophthalmia; the latter destroys not only nearly all the infants very soon after their arrival into this country, but also those who are born here. The intermitent fever does not destroy life immediately, but by repeated periodical attacks, by which the vital powers become finally so much exhausted as to impair the digestive and assimilating powers, and thereby induce those diseases which are known under the generic term of the sequelæ of fever: enlargement of the spleen, which is an unexplained consequence of these repeated periodical attacks, seldom occurs in those Europeans whose circumstances enable them to avail themselves of the well known remedial means; and it is this disease of the spleen which appears to precede those organic changes which place the sufferers beyond the control of medicine. In your Excellency's instructions I was directed to draw a comparison between the diseases incidental to Madeirians and other immigrants, and the natives of the colony. I think that this can be most clearly and satisfactorily done by here stating my opinion, that all the diseases from which the Madeirians peculiarly suffer are the result of marsh miasm; and not to enter into a detailed account of the modifications of treatment, the only essential remedy hitherto discovered is the copious and continued use of quinine, in the first instance, together with nutritious food and invigorating drinks.

The native population, on the other hand, are uninfluenced by marsh miasm, and require no quinine; it is a waste of valuable medicine to give it to them. The African immigrants enjoy the same immunity. On these grounds then I would again, with deference, suggest that Madeirian immigrants, if judiciously and liberally treated during the first two years of their residence in this colony, would be a very useful addition to the population of the country.

The immigrants who suffer much from sickness, after the Madeirians, are the Madras Coolies. The number that has been introduced into the colony since 1845 is 3,985; and the number died or receded from field labour during that time has been 1,249, there being working on estates at this moment only 2,736; giving a ratio of dead, or receded from plantation work, of 33.5 per cent. That a great portion of this number have died there can be little doubt; my tables show 360 deaths; the balance are squatters and beggars, who are daily dying in the colonial hospitals. Their general appearance, although larger men, is very inferior to that of the Calcutta Coolies. They are very much given to vagabondage, and are extremely filthy in their persons and habits, eating every species of garbage, even to the extent of picking up the putrid bodies of animals from the nastiest trenches, cooking them and eating them mixed with curry. They suffer, as do the Madeirians, more on the rivers, creeks, and islands than on the coasts (*vide* Table (B.)), and also from intermitent fever, but in a less degree than the Madeirians. Their principal diseases are intermitent fever, marasmus, palsy, ulcers and other diseases consequent on imperfect assimilation and diminished nervous power. I am not aware whether these people were vagabonds and beggars in their own country or not, but I am induced to think that two distinct classes of them have been brought here; for those on Plantation Albion in Berbice, and Plantations Paradise and Enmore, appear to me to be a superior class irrespective of the state of health they were in; for I found some, that appeared to me to be of the inferior class, on some other estates in tolerable health, as your Excellency will perceive by my remarks appended to Table (A.) I think that, as with the Madeirians, if the Madras Coolies, which are about to be brought here, be located on the coast estates alone, there will be much less mortality, although, if not restrained from their bad and unnatural habits, it will still be considerable. I would, however, with all deference, state my opinion that the inferior caste is not worth the trouble and expense of acclimatizing.

The labourers who have been brought from Calcutta appear to be generally of a higher caste of Coolies, are more cleanly in their persons, stricter in their religious observances with regard to food, fonder of dress, and more industrious than the Madras labourers: seen in separate bodies, the latter have a dirty, lurid, ragged appearance, which contrasts strongly with the bright, clean, and gay aspect of the former. These labourers are seen to the best advantage in Leguan, which island appears to be as salubrious to them as it is fatal to the Madeirians. The total number brought here since 1844 is 3,668, and the number working in the field at the date of my inspection was 3,403; thus leaving only the small number of

Appendix, No. 3.
 BRITISH GULANA.
 Encl. 2, in No. 3.

265 to be accounted for. Of these, we have record of 97 having died; so that, as steady field labourers, the Calcutta Coolies are decidedly superior to either the Madeirians or the natives of Madras; the ratio of those from Calcutta who have died or receded from plantation work being only 7·2 per cent., while, as already stated, the Madras people give a ratio of 33·5 (*vide* Appendix, No. 1). The mortality for 1847 is one-fourth less than among the Madras Coolies (2·7 and 8·1, Table (D.)), and the ratio of sickness is very small throughout the country (5·9), that of Madras coolies being 9·4. It has not come under my observation whether the Calcutta Coolies are subject to any peculiar diseases, further than that the acclimatizing ordeal appears to be more connected with itch, or what is called a "psoric diathesis," than with the usual effects of miasm fever, and its consequences. On their being first located in this country, this cutaneous affection breaks out, and keeps them thin and sickly for some months, although it does not, unless accompanied by bad sores, incapacitate them from working. Although they suffer occasionally from intermittent fever, their power of resisting the influence of marsh miasm is the next in degree to the creoles. This class of Coolies have in some instances formed alliances with negro women, and I saw a few of the offspring. The two of most advanced age are on Plantation Lochabar, Berbice; they are remarkable-looking children, of very symmetrical forms, with handsome intelligent countenances, and glossy black hair in long wavy locks. The Calcuttans (467) who were brought here in 1838, and located on Highbury, Vreed en Hoop, Belle Vue, and Anna Regina, were, with the exception of the Belle Vue Coolies, of whom so much was said, remarkably healthy; and the sickness among the Belle Vue people was evidently the psoric diathesis developed in its most aggravated form. Notwithstanding this infliction, the mortality among them was trifling as compared with what we have since witnessed in the Madeirians. I think the admixture of vagabond tribes in the future shipments of these people is much to be apprehended, for a part of some of the late cargoes are very inferior.

I have now to bring before your Excellency the state of the African immigrants in this colony. On referring to Table (D.), it will be seen that the ratio of mortality is exceedingly small, 1·8, and that the sea coasts give a larger mortality than the banks of rivers, creeks, and islands; namely, 2·3 on the former and 1·5 on the latter, as if the miasm which is so deadly to the European were a congenial stimulant to the natives of Africa. Even including the great mortality which occurred among the captured Africans per Her Majesty's ship "Growler," as shown in Appendix No. 5, who were evidently imported into this country under the most disadvantageous circumstances (*vide* Health Officer's note to said Appendix) the total mortality, as already shown, is only 1·8 per cent., which does not exceed the ordinary mortality of the creole population (*vide* Appendix No. 4), and is as low, if not lower, than that of any other country in the world. Your Excellency will perceive in the remarks appended to Table (A.), that in numerous instances the Africans brought to this colony by the "Arabian" and other vessels, and by the "Berbice Immigration Society," have been located on several estates, not only without any mortality occurring, but, on the contrary, that they have added to the population a considerable number of vigorous children. Even the mortality among the "Growler" Africans is not much greater than that on the Madeirians during the year 1847, and the residue become very rapidly acclimated. The number of Africans who have been introduced since 1835 appears to have been about 6,718. The number now recorded by me as being actually located on estates is 4,319; but I would observe that the apparent deficiency is not owing to mortality, as the tables clearly show, or the secession from field labour, but to their rapid amalgamation with the native black population, and their having thus eluded inspection, which was generally disagreeable to them. I need scarcely, after these statements, express my concurrence in a very general opinion that Africans alone can be introduced into this country without any suffering, and with great and permanent advantage to themselves and to the colony. Your Excellency will perceive, by Appendix No. 6, that there has been erected since your proclamation a great many estates' hospitals. Many of these establishments are very efficient, and I think that there is a general disposition shown to profit by the fatal experience acquired from the previous neglect of remedial measures.

With the exception of an apparent want of due appreciation among medical men generally of the value of quinine as an antidote to miasm in all its forms, and the consequent sparing use of this costly remedy, medicines are liberally supplied; and, as your Excellency will perceive in the remarks appended to Table (A.), want of liberality on the part of proprietors and attornies in furnishing medical comforts is the exception. The usual medical attendance (three times a week) is too little for immigrants during acclimatization, and they are not subjected generally to sufficient supervision from the doctor, manager, or overseers. It is to be lamented that good drainage, so essentially requisite to the salubrity of dwellings, particularly in malarious districts, is now and has been almost totally neglected. Good drainage around the dwellings of immigrants on estates would have saved many lives, and ought to engage the immediate and serious attention of the proprietary body.

I have, &c.

His Excellency H. Light, Esq., Governor,
 &c. &c. &c.

(signed) George R. Bonyun.

Enclosure 3, in No. 3.

Table (B).—RATIO OF SICKNESS AND MORTALITY in the different DISTRICTS.

	Natives of Madeira.	Sick at Date of Inspection.	Ratio of Sickness.	Died from 1 Jan. to 31 Oct. 1847.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Calcutta.	Sick at Date of Inspection.	Ratio of Sickness.	Died from 1 Jan. to 31 Oct. 1847.	Ratio of Mortality.
DEMERARA:										
East Sea Coast - -	1,738	291	16.7	191	9.9	130	-	-	2	1.5
East Bank of River -	1,067	143	13.4	143	11.8	1	-	-	-	-
West Bank of River -	476	102	21.4	41	7.9	106	11	10.3	3	2.7
West Sea Coast - -	969	149	15.2	190	1.7	208	21	10.0	6	2.8
Mahaica Creek - -	218	55	25.2	143	39.6	142	5	3.5	2	1.3
Island of Leguan -	158	30	19.0	52	24.7	876	68	7.7	15	1.6
Island of Wakenaam, Essequibo.	391	69	17.3	55	12.3	381	75	19.0	19	4.9
River District of West Coast.	96	23	23.9	35	26.7	309	3	0.9	10	3.1
Arabian Coast - -	465	25	5.3	39	7.7	916	13	1.4	23	2.4
BARBICE:										
West Sea Coast - -	111	54	48.6	25	18.3	69	-	-	-	-
Banks of River - -	5	-	-	1	16.6	128	4	3.1	4	3.0
East Sea Coast - -	54	17	31.4	10	15.6	30	2	6.6	1	3.2
Canje Creek - -	105	17	15.2	22	17.3	165	2	1.8	12	10.2
	5,853	974	16.6	956	14.0	3,403	204	5.9	97	2.8
	Natives of Madras.	Sick at Date of Inspection.	Ratio of Sickness.	Died from 1 Jan. to 31 Oct. 1847.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Africa.	Sick at Date of Inspection.	Ratio of Sickness.	Died from 1 Jan. to 31 Oct. 1847.	Rates of Mortality.
DEMERARA:										
East Sea Coast - -	605	12	1.9	27	4.2	343	2	0.5	19	5.2
East Bank of River -	124	4	3.2	13	9.4	257	1	0.3	4	1.4
West Bank of River -	41	9	21.9	2	4.6	153	-	-	1	0.6
West Sea Coast - -	598	36	6.0	32	5.0	156	-	-	3	1.8
Mahaica Creek - -	12	-	-	2	14.2	104	-	-	1	0.9
Island of Leguan -	52	1	1.9	-	-	295	15	0.5	7	2.3
Island of Wakenaam, Essequibo.	159	40	25.1	27	14.5	301	2	0.6	5	1.6
River District of West Coast.	59	24	40.6	11	15.7	140	7	5.0	7	4.7
Arabian Coast - -	438	33	7.5	26	5.6	251	-	-	-	-
BARBICE:										
West Sea Coast - -	51	3	5.8	11	17.7	185	4	2.1	9	4.6
Banks of River - -	75	13	17.3	63	45.9	1,138	17	1.4	13	1.1
East Sea Coast - -	343	44	12.8	9	2.5	548	7	1.2	4	0.7
* Canje Creek - -	179	39	21.7	19	9.5	440	2	0.4	6	1.3
	2,736	258	9.4	242	8.1	4,319	57	1.3	79	1.8

The mortality from which the Ratios are deducted, occurred during the first 10 months of 1847.

(signed) George R. Bongun, M. D.

TABLE (C.)—Contrasting the RATIO of MORTALITY on the Numbers in the RURAL DISTRICTS, and on the Admission into the COLONIAL HOSPITAL.

	In Different Districts and Ratio of Mortality.												Admissions into Colonial Hospital and Ratio of Mortality.												Total Ratio in Districts.	Total Ratio in Hospital.
	Natives of Madeira.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Calcutta.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Madras.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Africa.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Madeira.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Calcutta.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Madras.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Africa.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.		
Demerara and Essequibo:																										
Sea coasts - - -	3,172	382	10.7	1,254	31	2.4	1,641	82	4.7	750	22	2.8	631	47	6.0	24	-	-	161	3	1.8	-	-	-	7.0	5.7
Banks of rivers and creeks, and islands in mouths of rivers -	2,406	361	13.0	1,817	49	2.5	447	50	1.0	1,250	25	2.0	1,502	108	6.7	39	-	-	270	5	1.8	0	-	-	7.5	5.8
Berbice:																										
Sea coasts - - -	165	24	12.6	99	-	-	394	10	2.4	738	12	1.6	-	11	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	1	-	8.2	-
Banks of rivers and creeks - - -	110	11	9.0	233	13	5.2	254	52	16.9	1,586	17	1.0	450	12	4.8	170	-	2.3	753	-	5.0	47	2	6.0	-	4.6
	6,853	778	11.7	3,403	93	2.7	2,736	194	6.6	4,319	76	1.7	2,583	178	6.4	283	4	1.6	1,184	48	3.8	53	3	5.3	4.0	-

TABLE (D.)—Showing the TOTAL NUMBER of IMMIGRANTS FIELD LABOURERS in October and November 1847, and the TOTAL of DEATHS from 30 January to 31 October 1847.

	Natives of Madeira.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Calcutta.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Madras.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Natives of Africa.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.	Total Numbers.	Total Deaths.	Ratio Total.
Demerara, Essequibo, and Berbice:															
On sea coasts - - -	3,337	464	12.2	1,353	32	2.3	2,035	105	4.9	1,483	35	2.3	8,208	639	7.2
On banks of rivers, creeks, and islands - - -	2,516	492	16.3	2,050	65	3.1	701	137	16.3	2,836	44	1.5	8,103	738	8.3
	5,853	956	14.0	3,403	97	2.8	2,736	242	8.1	4,319	79	1.8	16,311	1,377	7.7

TABLE (E.)—Showing the TOTAL NUMBER of IMMIGRANTS FIELD LABOURERS in October and November 1847, and the TOTAL of SICKNESS from 30 January to 31 October 1847.

	Natives of Madeira.	Sickness.	Ratio of Sickness.	Natives of Calcutta.	Sickness.	Ratio of Sickness.	Natives of Madras.	Sickness.	Ratio of Sickness.	Natives of Africa.	Sickness.	Ratio of Sickness.	Total Numbers.	Total Sickness.	Ratio Total.
Demerara, Essequibo, and Berbice:															
On sea coasts - - -	3,337	535	16.0	1,353	36	2.6	2,035	128	6.3	1,483	13	0.8	8,208	712	8.5
On banks of rivers, creeks, and islands - - -	2,516	439	17.4	2,050	168	8.1	701	180	18.5	2,836	44	1.6	8,103	781	9.6
	5,853	974	16.6	3,403	204	5.9	2,736	258	9.4	4,319	57	1.3	16,311	1,493	9.1

Enclosure 5, in No. 3.

Appendix, No. 2.
BRITISH GUIANA.

Appendix, No. 1.

Encl. 5, in No. 3.

	Immigrants.	Dead or withdrawn from Field Labour.
Madeira Immigrants:		
Brought in from 1835 to December 1844 - - - - -	5,134	4,693
Working on estates, January 1845 - - - - -	441	
Brought in during 1845 - - - - -	688	
	1,109	
Working on estates, January 1846 - - - - -	747	362
Brought in during 1846 - - - - -	6,822	
	7,569	
Working on estates, January 1847 - - - - -	3,785	3,784
Brought in to 31st October 1847 - - - - -	3,782	
	7,567	
Working on estates, 31st October 1847 - - - - -	5,853	1,714
		10,553
Total number brought to this colony - - - - -	- - - - -	15,699
Field labourers in October 1847 - - - - -	5,853	
In Berbice Colonial Hospital - - - - -	17	
In General Colonial Hospital - - - - -	150	
Hucksters and shopkeepers in Berbice - - - - -	229	
Household servants, &c. - - - - -	100	
Hucksters and shopkeepers in Demerara - - - - -	1,020	
Household servants, woodcutters, &c. - - - - -	600	
		7,969
Not accounted for - - - - -	- - - - -	7,730
Calcutta Coolies, brought in 1845, 1846, and 1847 - - - - -	3,678	Ratio.
Working on estates, October 1847 - - - - -	3,429	
Not accounted for - - - - -	249	72
Madras Coolies, brought in 1845, 1846, and 1847 - - - - -	3,985	
Working on estates, October 1847 - - - - -	2,736	
Not accounted for - - - - -	1,249	335

Appendix, No. 2.

Districts.	Coolies.	Died.	Portuguese.	Died.	Africans.	Died.	
1846:							
A. - - - - -	112	3	219	60	112	5	Mahaica Creek.
A. Lower Division - - - - -	6	-	34	-	43	-	Ditto.
B. - - - - -	29	2	339	8	187	2	East coast and
C. Town - - - - -	5	-	72	-	32	-	La Penitence.
C. Lower Division - - - - -	126	5	272	63	202	6	East bank of river.
D. - - - - -	73	6	190	12	119	1	West bank of river.
E. - - - - -	375	18	425	77	130	1	West coast.
F. - - - - -	465	17	160	79	224	4	- - Leguan, Wakenaam Trooler and
							Hog Island.
G. - - - - -	275	-	199	10	160	-	- - Part of Upper or River District of
							west coast.
H. - - - - -	389	3	-	-	100	-	Arabian coast.
I. - - - - -	116	2	42	60	331	18	East sea coast, Berbice.
K. & L. - - - - -	160	12	46	4	1,046	16	River Berbice.
M. - - - - -	172	10	63	20	661	27	Canje Creek and east coast.

Appendix, No. 2.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enc. 5, in No. 3.

Appendix, No. 3.

ACCLIMATED MADRISIANS (brought to this Country before June 1846).

East sea coast - - - - -			386
East bank of river - - - - -			300
West bank of river - - - - -			157
West sea coast - - - - -			210
Mahaica creek - - - - -			10
Island of Leguan - - - - -			17
Island of Wakenaam - - - - -			200
Arabian coast - - - - -			306
Berbice - - - - -			31
			1,617
On coasts - - - - -		902	
On rivers, creeks, &c. - - - - -		715	
			1,617

Appendix, No. 4.

RETURN of DEATHS among the following Amounts of CREOLE POPULATION on the respective Estates, during the Months of July, August, September, and October 1847.

PLANTATIONS.	Population.	Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.
Providence - - - - -	270	1	
Profit - - - - -	102	2	
Henry - - - - -	64	2	
Arcadia - - - - -	135	1	
Mocha - - - - -	381	1	
Wallville and Woriden St. Matthew's Parochial Friendly Society - - - - -	81	—	
	987	—	
	1,120	7	16

Furnished by Dr. Dodgson from his practice.

Appendix, No. 5.

AFRICANS brought by HER MAJESTY'S STEAM SHIP "Growler."

Embarked.	Died on Board.	Sent to Colonial Hospital.	Died in Colonial Hospital.	Sent to Foundry.	Died in Foundry.	Sent to Estates.	Died on Estates.	Total Deaths.	Ratio of Deaths.
476	20	25	10	8	- -	425	46	76	159

EXTRACT from Health Officer's Report of Immigrants arrived on 10 August 1847, by Her Majesty's steam ship "Growler."

I would also request to be permitted to notice another difference in the instructions from those in the Cooley scheme; viz., constituting the commander on board the superintendent in charge of the immigrants, instead of the surgeon. This I think need only be represented to secure its alteration. The mortality during the short voyage of 18 days is large, 4.20 per cent., only equalled in one case from the coast of Africa, viz., in the brig "Rufus," in November 1845; and greater than the average of Cooley ships. For I find on reference to my records, the average mortality from Calcutta is 5 per cent.; that from Madras, 1.29 per cent.; making a general average of 3.14 per cent. A considerable number of the youths arrive in poor condition. Twenty-five patients, as by the hospital list, have been sent to the colonial hospital. Dr. M'Crae reports that a very great many of the people embarked in a state of emaciation and debility, evidently produced a short time before by the horrors of the middle passage, previous to the capture of the slave ship. In consequence of this he signed the receipt for the people as to their health, "with the exception of several dysenteric and catarrhal complaints." In conclusion, I may mention much inconvenience was expressed to have been felt from the want of interpreters.

(signed) John M. Johnstone.

Appendix, No. 6.

Appendix, No. 6.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Encl. 5, in No. 3.

NUMBER of ESTATES' HOSPITALS in the different Districts.

DISTRICTS.	Number of Hospitals.	Number of Hospitals to be Erected.	Number of Sugar Estates.
East sea coasts - - - - -	19	5	37
Mahaica creek - - - - -	4	—	8
East bank of river - - - - -	4	1	12
West bank of river - - - - -	5	1	16
West sea coast - - - - -	9	5	22
Island of Leguan - - - - -	14	1	34
Island of Wakenaam - - - - -	14	1	20
Arabian coast - - - - -	11	6	36
Berbice - - - - -	21	4	35
	98	24	220

— No. 4. —

(No. 319.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Governor Light.

No. 4.
Earl Grey to
Governor Light.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 March 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 10, of the 11th January, forwarding a copy of a Report, accompanied by various tables, which you had received from Dr. Bonyun; the result of the investigation which you had commissioned him to make into the rural hospitals on the estates, and the condition of the different emigrants in the colony.

I approve of your having directed this inquiry to be instituted, which was one of great importance, and appears, I am happy to observe, to have been exceedingly well conducted by Dr. Bonyun, to whom I request you will convey my thanks for the very valuable information he has collected.

The emigration of Coolies in 1844, and of each succeeding year, was made at the request of gentlemen in this country interested in the West Indies, supported by applications from the proper authorities in the colonies themselves; but no such applications have been made this year from any source, and there appears to have been a general understanding that the renewal of this kind of emigration would not be proposed. The information contained in your present despatch shows that the colonies will be no losers by this conclusion as to the introduction of Indian labourers.

But I think that the same information renders it worthy of serious consideration whether the bounties should not henceforward be abolished in respect of emigrants from Madeira, and be made payable exclusively upon natives of the coast of Africa; a class of immigrants, as Dr. Bonyun's report shows, equally well suited to the climate and to the cultivation of sugar. You will understand that I should not propose to offer any obstacle to the voluntary immigration of labourers from Madeira, or to their introduction by private funds, but merely to recur to that former decision under which they were pronounced (with the advice of the Court of Policy) not fit subjects for the payment of bounty from the public revenue.

This is a point to which I should wish you to give your best attention, and to inform me of the course you would recommend.

As regards the general health of immigrants, I think it well deserves the consideration of the Court of Policy whether the facts stated by Dr. Bonyun, and especially the great difference between the rate of mortality in the estates' hospitals, and in those which are public establishments, do not lead to the conclusion that the latter should be extended; and whether they might not usefully be combined with workhouses, to which, by an effective vagrant law, all vagrants and beggars might be compelled to resort, while relief would be granted to the really destitute.

The expense of such a measure might very properly, I think, be defrayed by a small tax on inhabited houses, which, though charged on the owner in the first instance, would of course in fact fall upon the occupiers; and in return for this payment, the population generally might be granted the privilege of gratuitous medical treatment. The information you have now laid before me leads to the inference, that much might in this manner be done towards promoting the health and good order of the community, and encouraging regular industry; but the question must be one for the consideration of the local authorities, who alone would be competent to impose a fresh tax, and who must have the best means of judging of the general facilities for giving effect to the proposed measure.

Appendix, No. 3.
BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 4.
Earl Grey to
Governor Light.

In conclusion, I would only further suggest, whether the law should not also enforce the effective draining by the owners of all land on which houses are built. This might perhaps be accomplished by subjecting to a double tax houses reported by some public officer appointed for the purpose, to be deficient in this respect.

I have, &c.
(signed) Grey.

— No. 5. —

(No. 16.)

No. 5.
Governor Light to
Earl Grey.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Light* to Earl *Grey*.

Government House, Demerara,
18 January 1848.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship an extract minute of the Court of Policy, dated 6th instant, containing copy of a petition addressed to the Governor and Court of Policy against the civil list and general expenses of the colony. It is signed by the principal inhabitants of Georgetown. Your Lordship will read that, although I have allowed the recommendation of the unofficial members to be carried into effect, namely, of transmitting copy of the petition to your Lordship, yet the official members (excepting the collector of the customs, who being unconnected with the financial measures of the colony) voted against the recommendation.

It is probable that the petitioners wish to strengthen the resolutions of the unofficial section of the Court of Policy transmitted by despatch (No. 1.) dated 1st instant, and to express their conviction of the difficulties of the present crisis; but they must well know that the combined Court has full power to make the most sweeping reductions in the expenditure of the colony, other than the civil list, without permission of the Secretary of State or the Executive. It is for your Lordship to decide whether power to reduce the civil list should be conceded.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Light*.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Encl. in No. 5.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the Colony of British Guiana, at its adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, Thursday, 6 January 1848.

(After Prayers.)

THE Honourable Mr. Rose, with leave of the Court, presented a petition signed by 84 persons, praying the Court to take measures for reducing the expenditure and modifying the taxation of the colony; viz. :—

To His Excellency Governor *Light* and the Honourable the Court of Policy of British Guiana.

The Memorial of the undersigned Inhabitants of British Guiana,

Most respectfully sheweth,

THAT your memorialists feel imperatively called upon at this period, when your honourable Court usually enters on the highly important duty of framing an estimate of the expenditure for the current year, to represent in the strongest and most earnest manner to your honourable Court, and also to urge the pressing necessity of representing without delay to Her Majesty's Government, that in the present critical and embarrassed position of the colony, the inhabitants are totally unable to sustain any longer the great burden of taxation which has hitherto been imposed upon them.

The value of the staple produce of this purely agricultural colony has declined so low since it has been subjected to an unequal and ruinous competition with the produce of slave labour in the markets of Great Britain and Ireland, that during the year just completed it has fallen far short of the cost of production; consequently no income whatever has been derived from the large capital invested in landed property.

The ruinous effects and result of this unequal competition are manifested in the aggravated distress which has already overtaken the proprietary body, its consequent action on the mercantile interests, and which must now speedily extend to and overwhelm every other class of the inhabitants. It is a mournful truth that notwithstanding the colony has been blessed with an abundant crop for the past year, the position of British Guiana is now absolutely worse than it was at the close of 1846, even though the crop of that year was seriously affected by the drought of the year preceding.

That a vast amount of expenditure has been incurred to renovate the cultivation and produce the crop of the year just passed; and even with the increased returns from the soil, the embarrassments of the proprietary body have been augmented through the ruinous depreciation of their produce, thus leaving them and the colony at large in a more disastrous condition than whilst suffering from the dispensation of Divine Providence.

Your

Your memorialists most respectfully desire to impress upon your honourable Court that the present civil list and general local establishments and expenditure are entirely disproportioned to the prostrated resources of the colony.

Your memorialists are compelled to avow their painful conviction that the period has arrived when the public expenditure must of necessity be effectually curtailed, inasmuch as the colony is not in a condition to bear even one-half the amount which was levied by direct and indirect taxation for the service of the year 1847.

Your memorialists consider that with such an onerous burden as the present civil list, so entirely inconsistent with the present resources and circumstances of the colony, it is impossible to raise by taxation an adequate amount to support even on a greatly reduced scale those institutions which have become necessary from the altered state of society, and for the maintenance of internal peace and good order.

That your memorialists, with deep sentiments of loyalty to their Most Gracious Sovereign, and attachment and affection for the mother country, most respectfully call on your Honourable Court to uphold and maintain the principle that as British subjects, inhabitants of a British colony, admitted to be an integral portion of the empire, they have an undoubted right to claim for their staple product, sugar, admission into the markets of Great Britain and Ireland, free of any duty whatever; and for their rum, on precisely equal terms at that levied on British spirits.

Your memorialists cannot comprehend why their agricultural produce should be subjected to heavy duties, while the cotton and corn of foreign slave countries which still impose heavy duties on British goods are admitted free of any duty into the British markets; that if the principle upon which the admission of these products of slave labour on these terms be, that it is essential to the welfare and employment of the people of the mother country, and interwoven with their very existence, the same principle imperatively calls on the mother country to preserve us, more especially at the very time we have, in obedience to her mandate, become the instruments for carrying out a grand scheme of philanthropy.

That in the present state of the British markets, glutted as they now are with sugar the produce of slave labour, the gross value of the entire crop of the colony for the past year cannot be estimated at more than 3,500,000 dollars. To attempt therefore to raise an amount of taxation at all approaching to the estimates of late years, which would actually require little short of one-third of the gross value of the entire produce to realize, your memorialists venture to assert would be a measure equally impolitic and impracticable in a community numbering about 125,000 persons, entirely dependent on the produce of the soil for support; and would moreover paralyze the efforts of the proprietary body to reduce the costs of production and preserve the cultivation of the colony.

Your memorialists respectfully submit to your Honourable Court that, taking the foregoing circumstances into your serious consideration, you may be pleased to institute a rigid and searching inquiry into every item of the estimate for the service of the year 1848, so as to effect a reduction on all items retained thereon, to strike off all which are unnecessary, and others which, however justifiable in more prosperous times, ought now to be dispensed with, and thus bring the estimate within the aggregate limit which your memorialists maintain the altered circumstances of the colony imperatively demand.

That your memorialists further desire respectfully to suggest to your Honourable Court, that the "ways and means" required for meeting the public expenditure might be greatly modified, and that a system of taxation might be devised which would render the machinery for its collection far less complex and expensive.

All which is most respectfully submitted to the favourable consideration of your Excellency and Honourable Court, and with a respectful solicitation that the sentiments of your memorialists may be communicated to Her Majesty's Government.

British Guiana,
1 January 1848.

(84 Signatures.)

The Honourable Mr. *Rose* moved, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Stewart*, the following appointment on the Petition:

THAT this Court, fully concurring in the sentiments expressed in the memorial as to the great distress which prevails in the colony, and of its inability to support the present rate of expenditure, will use every means to reduce the estimate for the year 1848.

This Court further most earnestly entreats his Excellency the Governor to recommend the memorial to the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government, especially as to the absolute necessity of reducing the present civil list.

That a copy of the memorial, and the Court's recommendation, be transmitted by his Excellency the Governor to the Right honourable Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Whereon the Court divided:

Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Porter. Mr. Rose. Mr. Jones. Mr. Stuart. Mr. White.	Collector of Customs.

Appendix, No. 2.
BRITISH GUIANA.
Encl. in No. 3.

The appointment was accordingly carried.
The Chief Justice, the Attorney-general, and the Government Secretary declined voting. The Chief Justice handed in the following memorandum, for insertion on the minutes; namely,

“ The Acting Chief Justice, without at all entering into the merits or demerits of the statements contained in the petition, declines to vote or to give any opinion on the petition, or on the motion.”

(True extract.)

(signed) *William Walker*,
Secretary.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
Governor Light to
Earl Grey.

EXTRACTS of a DESPATCH from Governor *Light* to Earl *Grey*, dated Demerara, 18 January 1848 (marked Private).

THE end of the year closed the manufacture of sugar and employment of creoles who held out against any diminution of wages; and to this moment whatever is done, and very little is doing, is performed by the Portuguese and Coolies, who are, however, often driven from the field by the creoles. It is in vain that the ministers of religion tell the creoles that the planters are reduced to such a state by the low prices as not to be able to afford, without absolute ruin to themselves, the same rate of wages as before; they stubbornly refuse to work at any reduction of price.

* * * * *
Within one fortnight three fires, incendiary, have occurred; a return of which I annex.

* * * * *
Under these circumstances, and if unhappily the creoles continue determined in abstaining from work and in revengeful mood, it be found that incendiarism proceeds, I respectfully submit that some stringent law should be passed, as is I believe enforced in England, to make the district or parish contribute to the payment of the value of property destroyed by incendiarism: it will be a wholesome check on those who while they hold back from actual crime do not discourage it, or give information so as to secure double vigilance on the part of the police as well as the well-disposed.

Although some three or four creoles have been imprisoned for threatening and ill-treating emigrants who have chosen to accept of lower wages, yet the intimidation still continues. I have directed the inspector-general of police to use every diligence in arresting the progress of intimidation, and to employ the swiftest mode of conveyance of strong bodies of police, whenever he is called on to support the peaceable and well-inclined against their more turbulent comrades.

As I stated, the planters wish either to have a fourth more task for the same wages, or to pay a fourth less wages for the working task of last year; the labourers, by being more industrious, may still obtain the same wages.

I have thought it my duty to make your Lordship acquainted with what is passing; I most earnestly hope that I may shortly be able to write more favourably of the state of the colony.

Enclosure in No. 4.

RETURN of PLANTATIONS on which FIRES have occurred since the 31st December 1847.

Name of Plantation.	District.	County.	Date of Fire.	Property Destroyed.	Opinion of Stipendiary Magistrate of the District.
Palmyra	(F.)	Essequibo	1 January	Two megass logies	-- The act of an incendiary, almost certain; the police on the traces of a fugitive negro.
Montrose	(B.)	Demerara	15 —	-- An entire range of megass logies.	-- <i>Idem.</i> —In the middle of the day, in three different places at once.
Lusignan	(B.)	Demerara	16 —	-- Overseer's dwelling-house.	-- <i>Idem.</i> —At night found on fire at different parts, to the great danger of the lives of the inmates, who lost everything; and one most seriously hurt in escape in his shirt.

A most rigid inquiry is now in progress.

H. L.

— No. 7. —

(No. 17.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Light* to Earl *Grey*.Appendix, No. 8.
BRITISH GUIANA,
No. 7.
Governor *Light* to
Earl *Grey*.

My Lord,

Government House, Demerara, 31 January 1848.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a proclamation which after some deliberation, and for the satisfaction of some of the leading men here, I directed Mr. Walker, the Government Secretary, to write for my approval. Considering that Mr. Walker had embraced all the points bearing on the present state of the colony, I heartily concurred in the idea that the proclamation would not be without some effect; it was printed, and has been generally circulated. I have to thank Mr. Walker for his ready assistance, when I was otherwise busily engaged, and I respectfully submit it for your Lordship's approbation.

I regret to say, that on the 19th instant the logies of plantation Melleville, Mahaica River, east coast Demerara, were burnt down; that about the same time an attempt was made to set fire to the dwelling-house of Blairmont, a plantation on the west bank of river Berbice; and that a few nights later, a dwelling-house belonging to a respectable inhabitant was fired at the four corners and in the interior, and burnt to the ground, at New Amsterdam; the family escaping with the greatest difficulty, with the loss of all they possessed.

Every exertion is made by the police to discover the offenders; and rewards are offered for their apprehension or discovery.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Light*.

P. S.—February 4th. I regret further to report, that on the 31st ultimo the megass logies of plantation Zorg, Arabian coast Essequibo, were fired and burnt down at 10 A. M.; making the sixth fire in the month of January.—*H. L.*

Enclosure in No. 7.

British Guiana [L. s.]. *Henry Light*.

Encl. in No. 7.

PROCLAMATION by His Excellency *Henry Light*, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

WHEREAS within the short space of little more than a fortnight, no fewer than three destructive fires have taken place on plantations, one in the county of Essequibo, and two in the county of Demerara, by which, in two instances, extensive ranges of megass logies, with all their contents, have been totally consumed; and in the third, a dwelling-house, with all its furniture, books of the estate, and other valuable property, placed at the same time in the most imminent danger the lives of four persons, who narrowly escaped from the flames: And whereas, from the evidence already obtained, there is every reason to believe that these occurrences are not accidental, but the result of wilful and deliberate design, and connected with some plan or combination for the general destruction of plantation property throughout the colony:

I have thought fit to issue this my proclamation, warning all persons against the dangerous and illegal tendency of such combination or agreement, and pointing out to them the inevitable results of such atrocious conduct, both as affecting their own character, their interests, and possibly their lives.

I do, therefore, earnestly call upon and exhort all the labouring population of this colony, and more especially those who are natives of the same, to remember the obligation under which they lie to manifest their appreciation of the blessings of liberty and the advantages of civilization, now absolutely in their possession or freely offered to their acceptance: and that in no way can they more satisfactorily do this than by practically exemplifying the precept of "doing unto others as they would that others should do unto them."

I call upon them to recollect that they who countenance and protect the criminal are sharers to all intents and purposes of his crime; and that even if they escape the visitation of human laws, they have yet to dread the assured retribution of Divine Justice.

I warn those who are immediately concerned in or connected with these most detestable and unprovoked attacks on property and life, that when detected and convicted, which cannot fail eventually to be the case, they have nothing to look for but the exertion of the utmost rigour of the law, which in the case of the mere destruction of property, subjects the perpetrator to the punishment of transportation of 15 years; and where life also is endangered, the life of the offender is justly forfeited, and in such case mercy could not be extended.

I call upon all Her Majesty's faithful and loving subjects, the orderly and well-conducted peasantry of this colony, to reflect on their social position and advantages; to ask themselves what they have to complain of?—what grievances remain unredressed?—what irregularities in the laws, or in the administration of them, afford reasonable grounds of murmuring? And were it otherwise, what kind of redress do they promise themselves by cowardly and assassin-like attacks on the property and lives of those whom it has pleased Providence to

Appen.lix.No. 2.
BRITISH GUIANA.
Encl. in No. 7.

place in a somewhat higher social position? Will the destruction of the means of manufacturing the produce of the crop now ripening on the ground, contribute to secure them more constant employment or higher wages? Will they, when the ability of the proprietor of the soil to employ them is taken away, be able to support themselves in the comfort and ease to which they have been accustomed? Or will they not rather, with the depreciation and destruction of the property of their employers, lose their chief resource in the opportunity of exercising their honest industry, and become a disgrace, instead of a credit, to the country of which they are free citizens, and which lavishly expended her treasure to make them such?

There is but one cause which can be assigned for the crimes against which this proclamation is issued, and that is the proposed reduction of the wages hitherto paid to the labourers on plantations. But this reduction, proceeding as it does from the actual and urgent necessity of the case, and presenting the only means of carrying on the work of the plantations at all, should rather secure the ready sympathy and cheerful co-operation of the peasantry, than incite them to deeds of violence as a senseless means of revenge for a fancied injury. There are those amongst them who can read, and there are few not sufficiently intelligent to understand the real state of things if fairly explained to them. How can they expect to receive the same rate of wages as usual for manufacturing a hogshead of sugar, when that which lately sold for 100 dollars will not now bring 50? And after all, it is in their own power to earn as much money as before; for they have only to work a little longer and more continuously, and they would receive at each week's end the same amount of money as previously. Were the labouring population of this colony to join earnestly with the owners of the land, they might readily increase the quantity of sugar produced by one half at least, which would secure to them ample wages and increasing prosperity.

I address them as their friend, as their Governor, and as representing in this colony their Gracious Sovereign, whom they profess to love and revere; and I call upon them as men who ought to be grateful for the blessings they enjoy under Her mild and considerate sway; as men whose real welfare is bound up with the general prosperity of the colony; as men conscious of their obligations as Christians, to reflect well on these things, to beware of those who would incite them to evil, and thereby bring them to shame. And I warn them, in the most solemn manner, that if all present means should fail in putting a stop to these nefarious proceedings, such stringent and rigorous measures shall be instantly adopted as will make the consequences felt by every one in the community.

Lastly, therefore, I do hereby call on all stipendiary and other magistrates, all officers of police, and all persons in the service of Government, to be active, vigilant, and persevering in their endeavours to trace, detect, and bring to condign punishment, the authors, abettors, or perpetrators of these atrocious outrages, warning them that I shall visit with heavy penalties any neglect of duty on their part. And I call upon all Her Majesty's loving and dutiful subjects to be aiding and assisting in endeavouring to preserve the peace and good order, and promoting the welfare of the community in which they reside, as they will respectively answer the contrary at their peril.

Given under my Hand and Seal of Office, at the Guiana Public Buildings, in Georgetown, Demerara, this 19th day of January 1848, and in the 11th year of Her Majesty's Reign.

God save the Queen!

By His Excellency's Command,

William Walker, Government Secretary.

— No. 8. —

(No. 25.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Light* to Earl *Grey*.

No. 8.
Governor *Light* to
Earl *Grey*.

My Lord,

Government House, Demerara, 14 February 1848.

I HAVE been requested by some of the persons whose names are at the foot of the petition herewith annexed, to forward it to your Lordship, being copy of that which is to be brought before Parliament.

This petition, bearing date 17th January last, was not given to me until after the sailing of the packet on the 4th instant.

In paragraph 5 allusion is made to the cessation from labour by the creoles. I am sorry to say that, although tranquil, this cessation from labour continues.

Paragraph 6 alludes to the fires. There were six in the month of January, the last on the 31st; happily none have been reported in this month.

Paragraph 7 alludes to the temper of the creoles being soured. I am of opinion that a very large proportion of the creoles have a different feeling towards the planters and government to that which they had four or five years ago; but this has arisen from other causes than that of low-priced labour. It is not at all uncommon for remarks, not of the civilised kind, being made by groups of creoles on meeting carriages and horses of official men, to the effect that they the people were taxed to pay such luxuries.

Paragraph 8 alludes to the present distress of the planters. It is difficult to foresee the end.

end of their embarrassments. Had they the means of introducing and using the plough, with the advantages now likely to be obtained from the agricultural chemists' labours, the colony would yet compete with slave colonies.

Appendix, No. 2.
BRITISH GUIANA.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Light.*

No. 8.
Governor Light to
Earl Grey.

Enclosure in No. 8.

To the Honourable the Commons of *Great Britain and Ireland* in Parliament assembled.

Encl. in No. 8.

The humble Petition of the Proprietary Body and Others dependent on the successful Cultivation of the Plantations in *British Guiana*;

Respectfully sheweth,

THAT only a very short time has elapsed since your petitioners and others of their fellow colonists addressed your Honourable House by petition, setting forth the distress which pressed so heavily upon them, and threatened to involve them and the colony at large in ruin, unless their prayer for remedial measures was promptly granted by the British Parliament.

That since the said petition was forwarded for presentation to your Honourable House, the state of the colony has become highly alarming, and, your petitioners emphatically declare, portends, at no distant period, a dissolution of the bonds by which society is held together.

That your petitioners felt, that whilst they had in their petition claimed the support of Parliament to alleviate their sufferings, it was nevertheless incumbent on themselves to endeavour, by an equitable mode of proceeding towards the agricultural peasantry, still further to lessen the cost of production, in order to palliate in some measure the disadvantage of their position in having to compete, for the present, with the staple products of slave labour.

That with this object in view, your petitioners commenced with diminishing the salaries of the staff of the plantations, which, being composed of persons sensible of the distressed condition of their employers, willingly acquiesced in the measure as one of paramount necessity; and, following up this course of proceeding, proposed to the agricultural population a reduced scale of wages for the tasks hitherto performed, or a continuation of the old rates of remuneration for an increased quantity of work, based upon the tariff sanctioned by the late governor, Sir J. C. Smith, for 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours per day.

That although your petitioners have, at a vast expense, brought into use every practicable auxiliary power to manual labour which mechanical invention or science could suggest, short of thorough drainage and the use of the plough (the latter being altogether dependent in this colony upon the costly introduction of the former), and notwithstanding several of the manufacturing operations are rendered less laborious by the use of some of those mechanical powers to the persons employed about the sugar works, and also notwithstanding the wages offered by your petitioners are still beyond what the present prices of sugar and other staple products in the home markets warrant, your petitioners regret to say that their offers have been met by the labourers with a decided refusal, and at this moment an almost total cessation from field labour has taken place. The few estates which have any field or manufacturing operations going on, procure it only from immigrant Portuguese and Coolies, together with a few of the staff of the properties; and even they are performing it irregularly, under fear of encountering the hostility of the creole population, who are systematically practising a course of intimidation.

That since the Christmas just passed several fires have taken place of megass logies, whereby those costly and indispensable buildings have, with their large stocks of fuel for manufacturing the product of the estates, been entirely consumed; and from the fact of no manufacturing operations being carrying on at the time on any of the estates where the fires have occurred, and also the remarkable circumstance of their taking place at such a crisis as the present, and in such unparalleled rapid succession, as well as from other circumstances elicited through magisterial investigation, there is little doubt of their being the work of incendiarism.

It is awful to contemplate the state of this fine colony at this eventful crisis; the temper of the labourers is soured, and they feel acutely the competition to which the produce of their labour has been exposed with that of slaves. But your petitioners have no means of shielding them from this disadvantage, although willing to share with them even more than their fair portion of the evils it has entailed, until, by respectful representations, they may be palliated or entirely removed, through the wisdom of the British Parliament. But in the attempt to secure the temporary co-operation and submission to patient endurance of the labouring population, and to uphold the cultivation of the colony, your petitioners have entirely failed; the plantations are now, during the present rainy weather, fast running to waste, and this at a time when labour is most required to keep the cane cultivation free of grass, for the purpose of procuring a return from the soil.

Your petitioners are paralysed at this state of things, unparalleled in the annals of the colony. They see their distresses and difficulties daily augmenting, and without the power, by any exertions of their own (of the want of which they have often been unjustly accused

Appendix, No. 2.
 BRITISH GUIANA.
 Encl. in No. 8.

by parties ignorant of the nature of their trials), to help themselves; for if your petitioners cease to cultivate their estates, they become valueless and run to waste. On the other hand, if they continue to cultivate them under present circumstances, they must do so with the certainty of loss; a fact which is known to capitalists, who consequently have effectually put it beyond the power of parties to carry into practice; so that whilst the struggle to produce a better state of things is maintained, the plantations are sinking into decay.

Your petitioners feel constrained to state to your Honourable House, that if relief be not speedily extended, besides a ruined proprietary body there will be a discontented labouring population pervading the once flourishing and productive province of British Guiana; its civil and religious institutions must disappear as the inevitable consequence, and the emancipated race relapse into a state of barbarism, which, in the course of time, may assume a character of antagonism and rapine.

Your petitioners, in this awful state of things, most urgently call upon your Honourable House to listen to their prayer for relief, and to save, ere it be too late, their properties and families from utter ruin. They confess that they see no hope of ever procuring the hearty co-operation of the emancipated population in any attempt to compete with slave-labour produce, as it is evident that they were not led to expect that they would ever be placed in such a position, whilst they had to provide themselves with the requisites which, as a free population, they considered they ought to acquire the means of procuring by their ordinary labour, and unsubjected to competition with the produce of slaves, who are in the slave colonies, as they are well informed, compelled to work for 16 hours out of the 24.

Your petitioners, therefore, in conclusion, humbly pray your Honourable House, deliberately and calmly, to take their condition into consideration, and that in your wisdom you may come to a decision that the free-labour produce of the colony, and of other British possessions, shall in future be exempt from all duties, as the products of integral portions of the British Empire; and that, for the purpose of the national revenue, those duties shall be confined to the produce of foreign countries.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

British Guiana, 17 January 1848.

[30 Signatures.]

— No. 9. —

(No. 26.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Light* to Earl *Grey*.

No. 9.
 Governor *Light* to
 Earl *Grey*.

My Lord,

Government House, Demerara, 14 February 1848.

As I consider every step tending to show progress in the manufacture of sugar should reach Downing-street as early as it does the West India body in London, I have availed myself of Dr. Shier's offer of duplicate specimens made in the colonial laboratory, which I have addressed to your Lordship separately.

I have the honour to enclose Dr. Shier's letter to me, and two explanatory documents, one describing the process of manufacture, the other a table of details; both these and the specimens are of value to the West India colonies generally, even if it be only to show how much may yet be done for the planters by science. With this view I have written this despatch, trusting respectfully that the transmission of the specimens of sugar will not be considered an unnecessary detail.

Nothing can equal the slovenly, unscientific way in which sugar is made on those estates on which the common process is in use. Dr. Shier has, I believe, opened the eyes of the planters to this defect; and he is now engaged, on some estate on the east coast, Demerara, carrying on experiments for the general uses of the colony in reference to the laboratory specimens.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Light*.

Enclosure 1, in No. 9.

Encl. 1, in No. 9.

Sir,

Colonial Laboratory, George Town, 3 February 1848.

HAVING been applied to by various parties at home connected with the West Indies and interested in the improvement of the manufacture of muscovado sugar in this colony, I am about to transmit to Michael M'Chlery, esq., of London, certain samples of sugar prepared in this laboratory, accompanied with an explanatory memorandum and a table of data and results;

results; and I beg herewith to forward to your Excellency duplicates of these samples of sugar, and a copy of the memorandum and table.

To his Excellency Henry Light, Esq.
Governor of British Guiana.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Shier.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 9.

MEMORANDUM for Michael M'Chlery, Esq., accompanying Seven Samples of Muscovado Sugar, and a Table of Data and Results. Encl. 2, in No. 9.

HAVING had many applications from proprietors of estates and others interested in West India property, regarding improvements capable of being effected on the process of sugar making, without involving any complicated apparatus beyond that in common use, as well as regarding the possibility of preparing concentrated cane juice or syrup for transmission in that state to Europe, I beg to send you herewith seven specimens of sugar, along with a table showing every particular regarding the canes, the juice, and the manufacture, that I thought would be useful or interesting for you or your West India friends to know. I have kept duplicate samples; and I beg the favour of your submitting those sent to the careful inspection of one or more of the most skilful brokers you can find, in order that the blank columns in the table may be filled up, and the results communicated to us. As the sugars are dried, I beg that the bottles be not opened till they are submitted to the brokers.

I will now proceed to mention a few other particulars, regarding the process and samples, that could not well be given in the tabular form.

The canes were, in every instance, average specimens, not selected with the view of making a fine specimen of sugar, but taken at random from the punts at the mill door of the estates. The process followed differed little from that in common use; but as some difference exists in different colonies, it may be proper to describe it more in detail.

The grinding was effected by a two-roller hand-mill, used in the laboratory for supplying small quantities of cane juice for our investigations. As the mill is of very little power, we invariably pass the canes three times through it, to obtain as many pressings as would be got in the most approved four-roller mills. From the seventh and eighth columns in the table it will be seen that the yield of juice is considerably greater than what is usually got in this colony. From numerous trials on various estates, I am satisfied that the average yield does not exceed 45 per cent., whereas the average yield of the seven specimens is 58.32 per cent.; and were our mill one of greater power, even that per-centage could be considerably exceeded. The first of all improvements, then, seems to be to obtain a larger per-centage of juice from the cane; and by ordinary attention to the setting of the rollers, to getting the rollers turned true when they have worn hollow in the middle, to better and more regular feeding, this might to a great extent be effected with the mills in present use. In all cases, however, where new mills have to be erected, I would give a decided preference to the American four-roller mills with a slow motion, as in all respects superior to the English three-roller mills. If we only extract 45 per cent. of juice, while others extract 60 or 65, we are clearly at an immense disadvantage, and adhere to a form of mills, and a style of working them, incompatible with a profitable yield.

The method of clarification used in preparing these specimens will soon be detailed in a special report. It will suffice at present to say that lime is the sole neutralizing agent; that it is used in excess, the juice being boiling at the time, and clay or gypsum is used along with it to act mechanically in giving density to the coagulum of feculent matters that subsides to the bottom of the clarifier; that the tempering is regulated by an accurate though simple system of checks and tests; that the clarified juice is capable of a ready and perfect filtration; and that subsequently to this operation, the excess of lime is corrected by the use of sulphuric acid.

This method of clarification succeeds on the large scale as well as on the small, and has been verified by me on two estates making five and seven hogsheads per day respectively. This method, when accurately performed, renders skimming unnecessary, and saves that part of the juice, sometimes amounting to one-sixth of the whole, which at present goes with the skimmings to make rum. It appears, moreover, that by this method of clarification, a sugar is obtained which, when dissolved, gives a more transparent solution, and is free from a certain solid sediment which appears on dissolving ordinary muscovados.

The clarified juice was boiled down in an iron vessel over the open fire, and was exposed from four to five hours to the action of heat. The thermometer was always used towards the close of the process, and served, along with the appearance and touch of the syrup, to determine the proper time for striking. The Table presents some instructive facts regarding the striking point; thus, No. 1 and No. 2 were made from canes grown on the same field. The difference in the density of the juice was only .005, and the total yield of sugar and molasses from the same quantity of juice almost identical; yet, in consequence of No. 1

Appendix, No. 2. being boiled somewhat higher, it yielded four ounces more sugar per gallon, and four ounces less molasses. When the clarification has been bad, cane juice cannot be boiled so high with safety as when it has been good; hence it is customary, on a great majority of estates, to strike too low, sometimes as much as 10 or 12 degrees of Fahrenheit too low; thus rendering the yield of molasses inordinately large.

BRITISH GUIANA.
Encl. 2, in No. 9.

The columns of per-centric results, both as respects juice and canes, will be read with interest, for they show that 25 per cent. increase on the quantity of sugar at present obtained from the cane juice on most estates in the colony may be easily obtained. If, when the two blank columns are filled up by the broker, anything like a similar increase on the planters' profit, arising from improved quality, is exhibited, it will show that, when urged by competition into the use of better methods of manufacture, not to mention better methods of cultivation, there is in reality much reason for really active energetic planters to hope.

To the 26th column of the Table considerable interest attaches, inasmuch as it shows that by drying the sugar as soon as it is cured, it might be sent home in boxes, casks, or even bags, not merely without loss, but without fermentation or discolouration; and that its tendency would be rather to gain a little in weight than to lose in the hands of all parties, even up to the consumer. At present the average loss by drainage and fermentation on shipboard from this colony cannot, I think, be estimated at less than 12 per cent.; while to dry thoroughly the specimens sent, the average loss was only 4.22 per cent., affording a saving of nearly eight per cent. Were the quality and colour of the muscovados of this colony made equal to specimens Nos. 1, 4, or 2, their destination would probably be the scale; and packages like the Cuba sugar boxes of four or two cwt., even if they cost as much as the present packages do, would be more convenient for grocers and families, and would stow better on shipboard. The cost of drying the cured sugar would be very inconsiderable.

It may be proper here to notice that all these specimens have been struck into cones. Operating on small quantities, no other course was so convenient; but they are true muscovados, and have not to be syruped, or liquored, or washed, or clayed. I think it right, however, to mention that I consider it impossible from our cane juice to make as good sugar as these specimens by striking into the ordinary flat coolers. Cone striking, or any of the numerous substitutes for it now known and practised in various colonies, would be attended with little or no increased labour over the present plan, and would secure many advantages.

On the whole, then, I am of opinion that with better expression, better clarification, careful concentration, even in the present very defective coppers, followed up by striking into the vessels in which the sugar is to drain, that a very great increase in quantity of sugar, and a great improvement in its quality and value are easily attainable.

On the preparation of well-clarified cane juice, concentrated so as to be transmitted home, I have made many experiments, and would have transmitted specimens, had it been possible to do so with safety. I find that to preserve the syrup from fermentation, it requires to be boiled so high, that, on cooling down, it in a very short time deposits large crystals of candy. A difficulty would, therefore, at once arise regarding the levying of the duty, for it would arrive in England partly crystallized and partly syrup. Boiled up to this point, but little more heat suffices to convert it into sugar; and planters will, therefore, I believe, prefer to complete the process. Boiled to a lower density than this, it very readily runs into fermentation, especially if it is not struck hot into close vessels. Exposed to the air, as it would be were it struck into an iron cooler, or even directly into a puncheon, it cannot be kept any length of time, say a few months, at our ordinary temperatures, without fermenting so as to start the bung, and overflow in a greater or less degree.

I consider that, for the use of central factories or refineries in this colony, the method of concentrating up to a certain point, and then transmitting the syrup to the factory by railway or water carriage, might be practised with great advantage, provided but short time elapsed from the making of the syrup and the completion of the process.

If further information regarding the densities, temperature, and length of time my syrups kept before they crystallized, or till fermentation set in, is still desired, I will willingly furnish it; and I mean soon to try whether, with a greatly improved clarification, we may not now succeed better than we did last year.

(signed) *John Shier.*

Colonial Laboratory, 3 February. 1848.

Enclosure 3, in No. 9.

TABLE of various Data and Results obtained in preparing Specimens of MUSCOVADO in the COLONIAL LABORATORY of *British Guiana*.

No.	Date of Manufacture.	Locality of Canes.	Description of Canes.			Per Centages.		Specific Gravity of Juice.	Caustic Lime to neutralize 1 Gallon of Juice.	Temperature at Striking, Fahrenheit.	Length of Time in Cones.	
			Plants or Ratoons.	Age, Months.	Length of time Cut.	Green Megass.	Juice.				Crys-tallizing.	Dripping.
	1847 :				Days.				Grains.	°	Hours.	Days.
1	26 November	Pl. La Penitence.	Plants	14 ½	2	46.29	53.71	1.0025	9.32	238.5	18	12
2	27 —	Ditto	Ditto	14 ½	3	40.20	59.80	1.0875	10.35	238.	36	8
3	18 December	Pl. Thomas	Ratoons	13	3	37.87	62.13	1.0838	5.1757	239.	18	8
4	20 —	Pl. Kitty	Ditto	15	4	44.39	55.61	1.0838	18.29	239.5	18	7
5	22 —	Pl. Thomas	Ditto	13	6	36.12	63.88	1.0775	10.35	240.	18	6
6	29 —	Pl. Enmore	Ditto	12	1	43.87	56.13	1.0825	10.35	239.5	18	7
7	31 —	Ditto	Ditto	12	3	43.03	56.97	1.0838	9.66	240.	18	10

RETURN PER GALLON.				Density of Molasses.		PER-CENTIC RESULTS.						Loss per Cent. in Drying.	Locality of Canes.
Sugar.		Molasses.		Specific Gravity.	Temperature at Observation, Fahrenheit.	In 100 parts of Juice.			In 100 parts of Cane.				
Grains.	Round Numbers.	Grains.	Round Numbers.			Sugar.	Molasses.	Total.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Total.		
11,277	1 9 ½	4,905	0 11 ½	1.3713	80.25	14.75	6.41	21.16	7.92	3.44	11.36	-	Pl. La Penitence.
9,509	1 5 ½	6,664	0 15 ½	1.3691	80.25	12.49	8.75	21.24	7.47	5.23	12.70	-	Ditto.
9,887	1 6 ½	7,420	1 1	1.3729	78.75	13.03	9.78	22.81	8.10	6.08	14.18	3.21	Pl. Thomas.
10,290	1 7 ½	7,311	1 0 ½	1.3721	80.25	13.56	9.64	23.20	7.54	5.36	12.90	4.69	Pl. Kitty.
8,879	1 4 ½	6,530	0 15 ½	1.3819	80.	11.77	8.66	20.43	7.46	5.49	12.95	-	Pl. Thomas.
9,956	1 6 ½	7,234	1 0 ½	1.3808	79.	13.14	9.55	22.69	7.38	5.36	12.74	5.28	Pl. Enmore.
9,727	1 6 ½	7,147	1 0 ½	1.3765	84.75	12.82	9.42	22.24	7.30	5.37	12.67	3.69	Ditto.

— No. 10. —

(No. 32.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Light* to Earl *Grey*.

No. 10.
Governor *Light* to
Earl *Grey*.

My Lord,

Government House, Demerara, 18 February 1848.

I HAVE the honour of forwarding to your Lordship an abstract of the reports from the stipendiary magistrates and inspector-general of police, which have been made to me by my orders, of the state of the colony, so far as regards the creole population.

I am sorry to say there is a continuance of cessation from labour by the great majority; whatever work is done, is by the immigrants.

In some parts of the country I have understood that offers have been made to the labourers for taking off the standing crops at half produce, but without effect; though in Leguan, River Essequibo, several estates have been given over to the negroes on a trial of the Metairie system. Many estates are in arrear of wages, but the labourers do not apply for redress to the stipendiary magistrates, and therefore these are happily spared from adding to the embarrassments of the planters by summary processes.

The creoles are everywhere peaceable, which, after the repetition of incendiarism of last month, I did not expect.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Light*.

ABSTRACT of Reports made to the Governor on the State of the RURAL DISTRICTS of this COLONY, from 24 January to 17 February 1848.

DISTRICT.	AUTHORITY.	DATES.	PRECIS OF REPORTS.
General - - -	- Inspector-general Police.	24 Jan. 1848 17 Feb. -	-- Throughout Demerara and Essequibo everything quiet and orderly, though the people generally decline to work at reduced wages. From personal inspection of Demerara, and from reports of inspectors in Essequibo and Berbice, all quiet, but labour not generally resumed by creoles; their conversation, however, leads to the inference that they will, to a large extent, soon do so. More cases than usual before the magistrates, but nothing of particular importance.
A. Upper, Demerara -	George Ball, S. M. -	29 Jan. - 5 Feb. - 12 - -	-- Generally quiet. Creole labourers generally decline work. Immigrants, except a portion of Africans, at work. On one estate (Supply) about a dozen creoles and 30 Barbadians at work, cutting canes, at about 25 per cent. reduction on former rates.
A. Lower, Demerara -	J. O. L. Mure, S. M. -	5 - -	-- Nothing to excite apprehension in the conduct of the people; who, however, refuse throughout the district to work for reduced wages, except on one estate, plantation Enterprise.
B. Demerara - - -	D. MacLennan, S. M.	31 Jan. 7 4 Feb. - 7 - 7 12 - 7 15 - 7	-- Everything quiet and peaceable; but the creole labourers generally, except a few at plantations Ogle and Turkeyan, decline working. Immigrants throughout the district at work. Ascribes the obstinacy of the creoles partly to the fact that some estates have already advanced the rate of wages. A little improvement, more creoles having turned out, but no villagers. No unusual violations of the law. Rents exacted from estates' people who will neither work nor quit. A few villagers have since turned out, and in a few days it may be general.
C. River, Demerara -	A. M. Lyons, S. M. -	2 - 7 5 - 7 16 - 7	-- District tranquil. Labourers gradually, but not rapidly, resuming work. Number at work increasing. Creoles generally resuming. Several estates making sugar.
D. Demerara - - -	W. H. Ware, S. M. -	29 Jan. 7 2 Feb. 7 8 - 7	-- No insubordination or unusual violation of the laws attempted. A number of labourers on five out of 13 estates working at reduced wages. Immigrants generally working well. Subsequently the labourers on five other estates resume work. Everything quiet.
E. Demerara - - -	J. S. Beamish, S. M. -	29 Jan. 7 2 Feb. - 3 - 7 5 - 7 12 - 7	-- Population peaceably disposed. A riot between the labourers of Fellowship and Den Amstet quelled by a couple of policemen, and leading to no subsequent proceedings. District quiet.
F. Essequibo - - -	C. A. Goodman, S. M.	6 - 7	Labouring population peaceable; but Coolies alone in regular work.
G. Essequibo - - -	Edward Carbery, S. M.	5 - - 12 - 7	-- Conduct of the labourers everywhere peaceable and orderly. Creoles at work on five estates, and immigrants generally. Difficulty partly occasioned by seven estates in adjoining district giving full wages. Subsequently two other estates resume work, and general resumption expected by end of the month.
H. Essequibo - - -	W. J. Sandiford, S. M.	2 - - 5 - - 12 - -	-- District generally orderly and peaceful. Majority of estates at work at some reduction of wages, but chiefly by immigrants.
I. Berbice - - -	P. Norton, S. M. -	1 - - 5 - - 12 - -	-- No outrage. Creoles refuse reduced wages, but arrears are in some instances due; as long as their provisions last are not likely to resume work.
K. L. Berbice - - -	C. H. Strutt, S. M. -	29 Jan. - 2 Feb. - 5 - - 15 - -	-- Population orderly and respectful. Africans at plantation Highbury resume work at 25 per cent. reduction. Few creoles at work on plantations, but are not nevertheless idle, being engaged on their own provision grounds.

TRINIDAD.

Appendix, No.
TRINIDAD.

— No. 11. —

No. 11.
Lord Harris to
Mr. Gladstone.

COPY of DESPATCH from Lord Harris to Mr. Gladstone.

Sir,

Trinidad, 30 July 1846.

By this mail I forward to you a small book of regulations for Indian immigration in this colony, which I have had drawn up, partly compiled from the first set made for that purpose, and added to by myself, with the valuable aid of Major Fagan, the Coolie magistrate.

My object with respect to the book itself was to furnish every proprietor, planter, and manager, with a copy of it, in order that they might be aware what was their duty towards the Coolies, and what was to be required of the Coolies, and that none might be able to plead ignorance as an excuse for not fulfilling the conditions for their receiving these immigrants, as has sometimes been the case.

My desire has been impartially to study the interests of both parties, at the same time never to lose sight of the fact, that the Coolies are placed here under peculiar circumstances, as utter strangers in a foreign land, and therefore requiring the zealous and unceasing care of Government; that they are also far from being the best class of the Indian labouring population, are naturally dissolute, and depraved in their habits, if left to themselves, and much inclined to fall into habits of drinking, and of wandering idle about the country, and therefore require the close supervision of Government, in order to correct, if possible, but at all events to prevent, any evident and public cases of vagabondage and licentiousness. On this account some of the rules may appear stringent, but, as I have before stated to you, I consider this system of immigration requires the greatest care and attention to ensure its success; that it must be handled delicately and yet with great firmness, and that considerable discretionary power must be permitted to the local government, in order to give it free action on the subject.

I hope that these regulations will receive your approbation. I shall be prepared to modify them according to any suggestion you may throw out; but I feel that no power has been assumed which is not necessary, and which, if questioned, I shall not be prepared to require of the Legislative Council to confirm by Ordinance.

I have, &c.
(signed) Harris.

P.S.—I enclose a copy of the instructions issued to the inspector of police, in regard to the duties required of the police, under the 9th Rule of the Code of Regulations.

Enclosure 1, in No. 11.

TRINIDAD COOLY REGULATIONS.

Encl. 1, in No. 11.

1. Applications for cooly labourers from proprietors and agents of estates to be made to the agent-general of immigrants, specifying the number required, and conveying an assurance that all the rules passed, or to be passed, in reference to them by the Government, while under limitation of service, or until they become amalgamated, through permanent settlement in the island, with the rest of its labouring population, will be strictly conformed to.

Application for coolies, to whom, and in what form, to be made.

2. The coolies are to be provided at the sole cost of the planters, with a dwelling-house of wood, strongly floored, well ventilated with doors and windows, and, in every respect, so constructed as to afford them in the worst weather, a dry and comfortable shelter. Separate huts, so that every man may have a house to himself, it is recommended should for the future be constructed for these people, instead of large open barracks as at present, to each of which should be annexed an inclosure of land, sufficient for a garden, and the rearing of domestic animals, such as pigs, goats, and poultry, which they should be encouraged to undertake, the first supply being given them gratuitously by their employers.

Houses or huts to be provided for coolie immigrants, with enclosures of land attached thereto for garden and the rearing of domestic animals.

3. In order to secure to the cocoa planters, and smaller sugar proprietors, an equal share in the general benefit to be derived from the labour of the coolie immigrants, they (the coolies) will be divided into gangs of 50 and 25.

Coolie immigrants, how distributed; appointment of sirdars or coolie

Appendix, No. 2. The appointment of sirdars, or coolie overseers, being in the opinion of his Excellency the Governor, of rather questionable expediency, is left discretionary with resident proprietors and managers, as the best judges how far it may be useful or otherwise.

overseers, left discretionary with resident proprietors and managers.

4. The wages, food, and clothing to be given to the coolie immigrants during the first year of engagement with their employers, are to be regulated by the following tables :

MONTHLY TABLE.

	Rs.	₹.	c.
To each sirdar - - - - -	7	3	35
To each male coolie - - - - -	5	2	40
To each female ditto - - - - -	3	1	45
To each boy under 12 years - - - - -	3	1	45

DAILY TABLE.

Days.	Amount.	Days.	Amount.
	₹. c.		₹. c.
1	0 9	1	0 5½
2	0 18½	2	0 11
3	0 27½	3	0 16½
4	0 37	4	0 22½
5	0 46	5	0 28
6	0 55½	6	0 33½
7	0 64½	7	0 38
8	0 74	8	0 44½
9	0 83	9	0 50
10	0 92½	10	0 55½
11	1 1½	11	0 61½
12	1 10½	12	0 67
13	1 20	13	0 72½
14	1 29	14	0 78
15	1 30½	15	0 83½
16	1 47½	16	0 89
17	1 57	17	0 94½
18	1 66½	18	1 1½
19	1 75½	19	1 6
20	1 84½	20	1 11½
21	1 93½	21	1 17
22	2 3	22	1 22½
23	2 12	23	1 28
24	2 21½	24	1 34
25	2 30½	25	1 39½
26	2 40	26	1 45

FOOD.	
Rice (per day 1½ lb., or)	- - - - - 45 lbs. per month.
Dholl or peas	- - - - - 9 lbs. "
Ghee or oil	- - - - - ½ gall. "
Salt	- - - - - 1½ lb. "
Salt Fish	- - - - - 4½ lbs. "
Muscalahs { Turmeric or tamarinds	- - - - - 4½ lbs. "
{ Onions and chillies	- - - - - 1 lb. "

Dietary table.
No deviation to be made therefrom, and all extra supplies required by the coolie to be purchased by himself.

One small tin or iron pot to each coolie.

N.B. The above rations, being ample, indeed more than one coolie can consume, are to be those issued to every coolie throughout the colony, without any deviation whatsoever therefrom; whatsoever else (tobacco, for instance) the coolie may wish for, must be purchased by himself. Much importance is attached to the strict and uniform observance of this recommendatory rule.

CLOTHING.

Clothing.

To each male coolie and labouring boy are to be given, during the first year of service, two good blankets, as protection from rain and cold; two pairs of strong trousers, one woollen cap, one durable jacket.

To

To each coolie woman, two blankets, one chuddur, or sheet of six yards, to serve as wrapper; one head-dress, or female's turban; and one good petticoat.

All children too young to labour must be provided with clothing and food by their respective parents.

5. His Excellency Lord Harris, having reason to think that coolies are frequently met on the public roads, and in the neighbourhood of estates, in almost a state of nudity, notwithstanding the ample covering provided for them under the foregoing rule, managers of estates, as well as all police authorities, are earnestly enjoined to exert themselves for the abatement of a practice as offensive to decency as it is disgusting in a civilised community, and demoralising in example to the other labouring classes of the island. Here, where the coolie's money savings may be said to be a clear gain to him, his food and clothing being supplied to him from the manager's stores, no excuse for such an inadequate covering of his person can be allowed; and it will accordingly be the duty of the superintending magistrate, whenever he visits estates, to inquire into the state of the coolies' clothing, and to authorize the renewal of such articles as they may appear deficient in, from having either lost or sold them; managers repaying themselves the cost by deductions from the next subsequent pay issued to them, carefully preserving the bills as vouchers for the expenditure.

6. The hours of labour, when the coolies are not employed at task-work, allowing one intermediate hour for breakfast, are fixed as follows: from 6 A.M. to 4 P.M., during the *entre coupe*, or out of crop season; and during the crop time, or whenever any extra labour has to be performed, the coolies are to work as long as the other labourers on the estate; and as an essential means to ensure prompt and punctual attendance at work at the appointed hour on the part of the labourers, the absence of which must be so detrimental to the successful management of a property, it is recommended that all labourers on estates be summoned at the same time to work, and by sound of bell; and in order to secure the estate against the loss which a wilfully lazy and drawling performance of work on the part of coolies must occasion, as well as to put an effectual check to what, if persevered in, must be replete with annoyance and vexation to managers, distracting their attention from their immediate duties, it is recommended that a register (to be sworn to if necessary) of all coolies guilty of such dereliction of engagement, and of all particulars necessary to its clear establishment against them, be kept, so that at the expiry of their contract they may be made to make good the days which the register may clearly show the estate had lost by such wilful failure to fulfil the same. No one requires a stricter surveillance of conduct while at work than the Indian labourer, whose propensity to lie down and smoke while at work, and to seize every available opening for evading it, is proverbial.

7. More efficient arrangements than have at present generally obtained must be made, to ensure the regular visitation of the coolies, at least once a week, by a qualified medical gentleman, who will be required to keep a register of the coolies under medical treatment in the subjoined form; copy of such register to be furnished quarterly, viz., on the 1st April, 1st July, 1st October, and 1st January, through the coolie magistrate, for the information of his Excellency the Governor; and as it must tend to the greater comfort and surer recovery of the sick that they should during illness not be disturbed by the noise and bustle of the general barrack, a house, sufficiently spacious and well ventilated by doors and windows, and having a rain-proof roof, to be provided on each estate for exclusive use as a coolie hospital; coolies while on the sick list to receive no wages, and in regard to diet and everything else to be subject to the regulating orders of the attending medical officer. Coolies falling sick are never to be permitted to remain in barrack or their huts, but are immediately to be removed to hospital; their wives and children while ill to receive every care and attention their case may demand.

Appendix, No. 2.

TRINIDAD.

Encl. 1, in No. 11.

Coolies not to be allowed to go about inadequately attired. Articles of clothing lost, or sold, to be replaced at their expense by managers of estates.

Hours of daily labour. Task-work allowable at the discretion of managers.

Medical attendance to be provided for the coolies. Hospital registers to be kept, of which copies are to be submitted quarterly to his Excellency the Governor. Suitable house as hospital to be erected on each estate.

Women and children to receive medical care and attention.

REGISTER of SICK COOLIES on the _____ Estate, for the Quarter commencing _____, and ending _____

No.	Name.	Date of Admission to Hospital.	Nature of Case.	Date of Discharge, being Cured.	Date of Discharge, being Incurable.	Date of Decease.	REMARKS.
							In this column must be noted the several dates during the quarter on which the sick were visited by the doctor, and how far, in his judgment, their complaints have been produced by rum drinking; and whether the habit has increased or otherwise during the quarter. The disorders considered incurable to be particularised, and opinion given as to whether originated since arrival in colony, or otherwise.

Appendix, No. 2.

TRINIDAD.

Encl. 1, in No. 11

ABSTRACT.

Total number admitted into hospital during the quarter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Discharged cured	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remaining in charge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(signed) A. B.
Medical Officer in charge.

18

No contract expired coolie to be employed unless he can produce regular certificate of discharge.

Printed certificates in the prescribed form to be issued to estates at the cost of Government in the first instance.

8. As the practice of engaging contract expired, coolies offering themselves for hire without being able to produce from their late employers certificates of regular discharge, &c., might be productive of much inconvenience and trouble, and have besides a prejudicial effect on the conduct of the coolies. Superintendents of estates are not to consider themselves at liberty to entertain any Indian immigrants presenting themselves for service under such circumstances, nor until they can produce the required documents, or the superintendents have communicated in reference to them, with their late employers, by whose statements they will be guided in entertaining them or otherwise; and that this regulation may come at once into operation, printed skeleton certificates in the annexed form are now in course of issue to estates, at the cost in this first instance of Government; one duly signed by the manager is to be given to each coolie on his finally leaving the estate, being affixed by gum, or other glutinous liquid, to one of the inner sides of his pass-book.

Certified that A. B., a (a) Coolie,
(b) allotted to this estate, on the
184, for the contract term of one year, which has this day expired, declining to renew, has consequently been discharged, first receiving all his just dues, as per entry in Coolie account-book; his conduct during the term of his servitude was, &c.

(signed) B. C.
Resident Proprietor, (c)

(d)

184 .

- (a) Insert the Presidency, Calcutta, or Madras, from which the Coolie may have emigrated.
(b) If Sirdar, insert it.
(c) Substitute manager when there is no resident proprietor.
(d) Name of estate and quarter.

Coolies not to leave estates without tickets of leave, and all found wandering about the country without such passports to be secured, and sent back to their respective estates by the police constables.

9. It is recommended that no manager should allow coolies to go on leave without furnishing them with a ticket signed by himself, specifying the name, period of leave, and locality to be visited; and to give more effectual operation to this rule, police constables are required to take charge of, and send back to their respective estates, any coolies they may find wandering over the country unprovided with the above-mentioned tickets of leave, charging their respective managers with any expense the execution of these orders may occasion, the managers indemnifying themselves on the next ensuing issue of pay.

Wages of coolies, when and how to be paid.

10. Coolies to be regularly paid throughout the colony at the termination of each month, and never on any account at a later period, and by the managers themselves, and never under any circumstances through the sirdars. This rule is to be considered applicable to the issue of rations, clothing, &c.

Coolies' account-books, plan upon which to be kept.

11. Pay-books, distinct from the accounts of all other labourers, to be kept, in which must be specified opposite each man's name, his rate of pay, the allowance of food, clothing, &c., issued to him, and when pay is disbursed at the end of the month, the account must be closed and authenticated by the signature of the manager, and to be produced whenever called for by the stipendiary magistrate, or other competent authority; and in order to render the keeping of accounts between coolies and managers more easy and satisfactory, weekly pass-books are to be supplied to each working coolie; in this pass-book, at the close of every Saturday's work, the coolie is to be credited with the number of days of the past week (from Monday to Saturday) for which he gave his labour; in like manner he is to be charged with whatever expenses he may have incurred from advances made to him, or on any other just account, in regard to which he must at the time be fully satisfied by clear explanation; and on his quitting the estate from refusal to renew or other allowable cause, the pass-book is to be given, to him duly filled up, and authenticated as required by rule 7.

Weekly pass-book to be supplied to coolies, &c.

Half-yearly reports of number of women and children to be furnished to government.

12. Half-yearly reports of the number of Indian and negro women with each coolie gang, stating number of male and female children, with their ages, to be forwarded on 1st July and 1st January to the magistrate, for the information of his Excellency the Governor.

Suggestions as to the discouragement of rum drinking amongst the coolie labourers.

13. It having been brought under the cognizance of his Excellency the Governor, that the coolies on several of the estates have begun to indulge in rum drinking, in many instances selling their clothes and even their rations, to procure for themselves this deleterious liquid, resident proprietors and managers are earnestly called upon to exert themselves by every means in their power to arrest at once the growth of what must tend to the nullification of every exertion that may be made for the religious and social improvement of these coolie labourers, a people who have such strong claims on the philanthropy as well as on the sense of self interest of their employers.

14. One liberal but uniform system of pay and treatment in respect to the coolie labourers ought to be observed throughout the colony, those of one estate never on any account receiving an advantage above the rest. Such an understanding amongst the resident proprietors and managers of estates is, it is obvious, indispensable as an effectual guard against the engendering of dissatisfaction on the part of the coolies, and of those disputes which invariably result from the cessation of what men, from being long in receipt of, regard as rights. In reference to this important subject, and after it has received fuller consideration, resident proprietors and managers will be more definitely communicated with.

By command of his Excellency the Governor.

(signed) *James Fagan, c. s. m.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 11.

MINUTE FOR THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE.

In reference to the ninth rule of the book of rules and regulations lately drawn up for the proper management of the coolies in this island, the inspector of police is directed to give instructions to the sub-inspector, serjeants, and police constables, that on their meeting with coolies apparently wandering about either in town or in the country, they will require them to show their leave tickets (mentioned in the ninth rule, or their discharge ticket mentioned in the eighth rule), when they may be allowed to proceed; should they possess neither, or be supposed to be wandering about as vagrants, they should be conducted or forwarded to the nearest police station in order further to make any statements should they so wish, and then be directed to return to the estate upon which they are employed.

The Governor particularly desires, that in the performance of this duty the police should conduct themselves quietly and civilly towards the coolies.

By command.

25 July 1846.

(signed) *Arthur White, Col. Sec.*

— No. 12. —

(No. 29.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord Grey to Governor Lord Harris.

No. 12.
Lord Grey to
Governor Lord
Harris.

My Lord,

Downing-street, 15 September 1846.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 34, of the 30th July, transmitting a printed copy of certain rules and regulations respecting coolie immigration, drawn up by your Lordship, with the assistance of Major Fagan.

On referring to those rules, I find that they provide, among other things, for the erection of places of abode for the Indian immigrants for the amount of their wages, food, and clothing; for the amount of their daily labour; for their repayment to their employers of lost time; for the medical attendance on them; for their nonemployment by any new master without a certificate of discharge from their last employer; for preventing their wandering abroad, and for the uniform and regular payment of their wages.

Even if I were satisfied of the wisdom and justice of the whole of these regulations, I should yet be compelled to deny their validity. They constitute in effect a law of great extent and importance; and the enactment of laws is manifestly not within the province of the executive government of Trinidad. The regulations so promulgated might be disobeyed with absolute impunity, and could not be enforced by any legal process. So far as they contemplate the security and benefit of the coolies, they are therefore ineffectual; and yet, by affording a semblance of efficiency, may prevent the enactment by the proper authority of such laws as are really required for the purpose.

But, independently of their want of legal authority, there is much in the regulations themselves of which I cannot approve. To some of them I perceive grave objections, and more especially those numbered 8, 9, 11, 13, and 14. It is, however, sufficient for my immediate purpose to observe, that the regulations must be withdrawn as resting on no adequate authority. As I shall take an early opportunity of transmitting to your Lordship a full explanation of the views of Her Majesty's Government as to the general principles by which laws ought to be made for regulating the relations between the coolies and their employers, I abstain at present from entering into a more particular examination of the printed rules transmitted in your despatch of the 30th July.

See Circular Desp.
to W. Indies,
23 Oct. 1846, at
p. 1 of Parliamen-
tary Paper 325,
27 April 1847.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Grey.*

Appendix, No. 2.

TRINIDAD.

— No. 13. —

(No. 84.)

No. 13.
Lord Harris to
Earl Grey.COPY of DESPATCH from Lord *Harris* to Earl *Grey*.

My Lord, Trinidad, 21 October 1846.
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 29, dated 15th September, in which your Lordship requires that the coolie regulations should be withdrawn, on the ground of their not possessing sufficient legal authority.

In pursuance of your Lordship's directions that has been done.

In not bringing the regulations before the Council previously to transmitting them to England, I followed the only precedent I possessed, that of my predecessor, whose regulations respecting the coolies never received the public sanction of the Council.

I expected that serious objections would be raised in England to many of those added by me; but as they were intended for a very different state of society in Trinidad, and as immediate interference was required, I did not hesitate to adopt such measures as I conceived would be beneficial to the parties interested.

I shall not trouble your Lordship at present respecting them, further than stating that I permitted the 14th Rule to remain in deference to an older and more experienced opinion than my own, but with the warning that it could not be carried out; and in effect it has never been acted on.

I herewith forward to your Lordship a copy of my message to the Legislative Council on this subject, and also on the inter-colonial immigration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Harris*.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Encl. in No. 13.

Government House, 17 October 1846.

MESSAGE.

THE Governor has summoned a special meeting of the Council, for the purpose of acquainting the Board that he has received instructions from the Secretary of State on no account to sanction for the future the payment of any bounties from the local treasury for intercolonial immigration.

It would appear that there is some misconception at the Colonial Office as to the authority on which these bounties have hitherto been paid.

They are authorized, as the Board is aware, by the 3d section of the Immigration Ordinance, and by the 5th section of that Act the public faith is pledged that, "no order altering or disallowing the amount of any sum or sums which may have been fixed for the passages of immigrants coming into the colony, shall come into operation until six months after such order shall have been published in the Royal Gazette."

In order, however, that the Board may not be taken by surprise, the Governor has instructed the Attorney-general to give notice that on the next regular day of meeting of the Board, which will take place on the 1st proximo, he will move a resolution to the effect of disallowing the payment of all sums of money for the passage and maintenance of immigrants from any of the British possessions in the West Indies.

The Governor has also directed to be laid on the table of the Board a copy of the rules and regulations which he had issued in regard to the coolies.

The Governor's reasons for not bringing these rules before the Council and proposing to legalise them at once in the form of an ordinance were, that he looked upon the whole question of Indian immigration as one of experiment; that he was desirous of gaining some sort of knowledge from actual data before coming to any decided conclusion; that he felt it necessary to see what the working of the system really would be, and as he thinks nothing is more to be reprobated than a constant meddling with legislation, he preferred leaving the rules to rest at first upon their own merits with those who were called on to adopt them, and his gratification has been great to find that they have received at all events an unopposed and, in very many cases, a fair and diligent trial by those engaged in carrying them out practically on estates.

The Governor, however, has to acquaint the Board that he has been directed by the Secretary of State to withdraw the rules, on the ground of their want of legal authority.

Pursuant to these instructions, the Governor has withdrawn the rules. With respect to the rules, the Governor feels it due to himself thus publicly to state the principles by which he was guided in the framing and carrying out the rules.

It had not been, and it is not now, necessary for the Governor to pronounce any opinion as to the policy or impolicy of Indian immigration; he found it actually established on his arrival in the colony, and his duty was, therefore, to arrange such rules with the assistance and means he possessed as appeared to him most likely to conduce to the welfare of the coolies, who were placed more particularly under the care of the government.

The objects he was desirous of carrying out practically were two-fold; first, that the planter should have a fair return of work for the food, clothing, medical advice, and money, &c.

&c. which he undertook to provide to the coolie; secondly, that ample justice should be done to, and proper care taken of, the immigrants, and also that there should be such supervision over him as would prevent him acting in a manner prejudicial to himself.

The Governor has used his best endeavours to accomplish these objects; the utmost vigilance that the means at his command would allow of has been employed in rendering strict and impartial justice to both parties, and he can say with satisfaction that where the rules have been most closely followed, there they have answered best, and both planter and coolie have been satisfied.

The Governor has moreover the gratification of stating that, in adopting that rule which has been most questioned, viz. the 9th, he firmly believes that by placing a moderate check on his prevalent propensity to wandering about, many a poor Indian has been spared during this very sickly and protracted wet season from severe illness, from probable starvation, and ultimately from death.

After the instructions he has received, it is not, of course, the Governor's intention to propose any further measures in regard to the coolies, more particularly as his Excellency has been made acquainted by Earl Grey that it is his Lordship's intention to transmit to him, by an early opportunity, a full explanation of the views of Her Majesty's Government as to the general principles by which laws ought to be made for regulating the relations between the coolies and their employers.

Appendix, No. 2.

TRINIDAD.

Encl. in No. 13.

— No. 14. —

EXTRACT from Lord Grey's DESPATCH to Lord Harris; dated 1 March 1847.

No. 14.
Lord Grey to
Lord Harris.

" WITH respect to the disallowance of the coolie regulations, which Major Fagan appears to view with so much regret and disappointment, I have found nothing in his paper to alter in any degree the opinion which I had already expressed to you upon that subject; and it will not be in my power, therefore, to advise Her Majesty to sanction any ordinance establishing regulations which shall be liable to the same objections. I am, however, fully sensible of the necessity of a law for checking abuses which may arise in the employment of the coolies. I am happy to learn that the subject is about to engage your attention and that of your Council; and I shall receive with every disposition to judge favourably of it any law which you and they may think fit to enact; nor have I any wish to require the adoption of the regulations sketched out in the 'heads of an ordinance' to which you allude, or to debar you from adopting any legislation which, in concurrence with your Council you may consider more suited to the peculiar circumstances of Trinidad, provided certain fundamental principles are not violated."

— No. 15. —

(No. 7.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord Harris to Earl Grey.

No. 15.
Lord Harris to
Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Trinidad, 18 January 1848.

IN consequence of the very unsatisfactory condition which the liberated Africans, lately landed in this colony from Her Majesty's steamer "Growler," were found to be in, I feel it to be my duty to forward to you a report on the subject, and also a return showing the present state of these people.

It was discovered immediately on their landing that they were all labouring under dysentery and itch, and the greater number were much emaciated.

It is of course impossible for me to tell whether they were attacked by the above-mentioned diseases previous to their capture, but if such were the case it appears curious that Governor Macdonald, in his despatch to me, which I received by the "Growler," should state, "that it affords me the greatest satisfaction, therefore, that such unexpected good fortune has enabled me to despatch her to your Lordship with a full complement of as fine a body of emigrants as ever left this colony."

Your Lordship will perceive by the return which accompanies this despatch, that they in no way answered Governor Macdonald's description on their arrival here; in fact, a more miserable, debilitated, and I may add, loathsome set of creatures I never saw, and it must be a long time before any of them can be so far recovered as to be of any service to the estates on which they have been placed.

I have, &c.
(signed) Harris.

Appendix, No. 2.

TRINIDAD.

Encl. in No. 15.

Enclosure in No. 15.

RETURN of the State of the CAPTURED AFRICANS received by Her Majesty's Steamer, "Growler," from *Sierra Leone*, 5 December 1847.

Number landed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	395
Sent to estates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	330	
Sent to hospitals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	
									395

Of these sent to estates there are now:

In good health	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109
Ill, but expected to recover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	168
Ill, and expected to die	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Dead since distributed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39

Of these sent to hospital:

Expected to recover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51

TOTAL - - - 395

8 January 1848.

(signed) *Thomas F. Johnston*,
Agent-general Immigrants.

— No. 16. —

(No. 14.)

COPY of a LETTER from Lord *Harris* to Earl *Grey*.No. 16.
Lord Harris to
Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Trinidad, 2 February 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a petition to Her Majesty the Queen from the inhabitants of this colony interested in the manufacture of sugar, and which I beg to recommend to your Lordship's very favourable consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Harris*.

Enclosure in No. 16.

Encl. in No. 16. PETITION of the Inhabitants of *Trinidad* interested in the Cultivation of Sugar, praying for Measures of Relief.

To The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of *Trinidad*, interested in the Cultivation of Sugar.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's loyal subjects, the inhabitants of Trinidad, beg most humbly to approach your Majesty's august presence, and to represent the many and grievous evils which have followed the passing of an Act in the Session before last of the Imperial Parliament, entitled "An Act for granting certain Duties on Sugar and Molasses," c. 63, (18th August 1846) by which the property of your petitioners has been rendered utterly valueless, and their means of subsistence taken from them.

The policy pursued by the Imperial Legislature and Government in the administration of the affairs of Trinidad has for a long series of years been of a purely experimental nature, the result of which has been entirely destructive of the agricultural interest of the colony, and commensurately injurious to the well-being of all classes of society, whether merchants, mechanics, tradesmen, or labourers. Unless, therefore, the Imperial Parliament may be induced by your Majesty's gracious interposition to re-consider and change the course they have hitherto adopted, Trinidad will quickly cease to be a sugar-exporting colony; and, in consequence of the impossibility of substituting with advantage any other staple, the capital invested therein will become lost to the Empire, whilst, to the like extent that injury is inflicted upon the British sugar colonies, will profit accrue to those foreign countries where slavery is upheld and the slave trade maintained and promoted.

Considering that the depressed condition of your petitioners, in common with the inhabitants of every British colony throughout the West Indies, is fully known and admitted in Great Britain, your petitioners will proceed to state some of the remedies, which they beg with the utmost submission to suggest to your Majesty's gracious consideration, for ameliorating the present state of their affairs; and,

1st. They

1st. They humbly pray, that all treaties for the suppression of the slave trade now existing between your Majesty and foreign powers be more strictly enforced, and that some new and stringent measures be adopted for the detection and liberation of such slaves as have, since the conclusion, and in defiance of those treaties, been feloniously introduced into foreign countries.

2d. That, as an indispensable means of reducing the cost of production, your petitioners should be allowed unrestricted access to the coast of Africa, and to all other places whence fresh additions to their free labouring population may be obtained; and as their present impoverished condition (which incapacitates them from defraying the expenses of immigration) has been the result of Government measures, your petitioners implore that Government aid may be extended, to enable them to transport labourers free of cost to these shores.

3d. That the discriminating duty between rum from your Majesty's colonies and British spirits should be forthwith repealed.

4th. That molasses as well as sugar from these colonies be permitted to be used in the breweries and distilleries of the United Kingdom.

5th. That your petitioners claim as British subjects to have your Majesty's West India colonies considered and treated as integral parts of the British empire, and therefore entitled to the introduction of their staple commodities into the market of the mother country on the same terms with the agricultural produce of her own provinces, and that the revenue raised from sugar and molasses should be levied exclusively upon that produced by slave labour. To the last of these remedial measures your petitioners attach the most importance; without it all the others will prove unavailing; for unless your petitioners are assisted by protection, until other countries shall have abolished slavery and the slave trade, it is utterly impossible that any efforts of their own can enable them to contend against the manifold and overwhelming advantages possessed by their slave-holding rivals; the life-destroying labour of slaves, as applied in foreign countries to the production of sugar, effectually removes that article beyond the reach or application of the principles which regulate free trade.

Your petitioners further pray, that your Majesty may be graciously pleased to command that copies of this their humble petition be presented to both Houses of Parliament, and that the utter ruin now menacing the agricultural interests of the loyal inhabitants of your Majesty's colony of Trinidad may be patiently considered, and the relief implored be promptly granted; or in lieu thereof, that such full and complete compensation be awarded as the equity of the case may justly demand.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(545 signatures.)

Appendix, No. 2.
 TRINIDAD.
 Encl. in No. 16.

— No. 17. —

(No.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Harris* to Earl *Grey*.

No. 17.
 Lord Harris to
 Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Trinidad, 21 February 1848.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you by this mail, the Blue Book of this colony for the year 1847.

The items which require any particular notice from me are, first, the diminution of revenue under the head of imports, which amounts to 7,596 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.* as compared with 1846.

	£.	s.	d.
1846	-	-	62,703 19 11
1847	-	-	55,107 12 3

The decrease as compared with the whole receipts is considerable; it may be partly accounted for from the unnecessarily large importation which had taken place in previous years, and partly from the general depression which occurred during the latter portion of the year.

It is a matter for some question how far any rapid increase in the consumption of superfluities may be counted on for the future, and whether the population of the island when it is put to the trial, will, as money becomes scarcer, prefer to procure luxuries by increased exertion, or will relinquish them rather than undergo greater physical labour.

This is still a doubtful point, and will probably take some time to decide; but the tendency at present is, I fear, in the latter direction.

The principal articles in which the decrease has taken place are, cottons, linens and silks, boots and shoes, and hardware.

There is a very slight increase in the exports occasioned by a larger crop, and a more extensive shipment of rum.

The quantity of sugar exported last year was 44,665,600 lbs., estimated value 382,551 *l.*; that of 1846 was 37,901,800 lbs., estimated value 414,110 *l.*; but the prices being much lower, the duty diminished accordingly.

I fear that no great improvement can be expected on this item for the present or the succeeding year, and in consequence of the probable diminution of the quantity of land which will be cultivated for the future an increase cannot be counted on for some time.

Appendix, No. 2.

TRINIDAD.

No. 17.
Lord Harris to
Earl Grey.

I had hoped to have forwarded to your Lordship a return showing the average cost of cultivating the sugar-cane; of the manufacture of the sugar, the quantity produced per acre, with some other information, in the several English, French, Spanish, and Danish islands. The information has been collected, and is still collecting for me, by Dr. Mitchell, a physician of this island, who I believe possesses as much practical and scientific knowledge on these subjects as can well be combined in one person, and who has been travelling through the islands for me, in order to acquire a knowledge of the latest improvements of every kind. It has, however, been found so difficult to make any approach to average statements in numbers, that I am obliged to wait for further information; what I have actually collected goes to show, that in the English colonies the sugar has been produced at a considerable loss at the late prices.

There are, however, estates in most of the islands where skill, science, and economy have been brought to bear, and which have made a fair return for the capital expended.

On the best managed estates in the English islands, a cwt. of sugar may be produced for \$2.50 = 10s. 5d.; but the average range is from \$4 to \$7 = 16s. 8d. to 1l. 9s. 2d.; in Martinique, to 15s. 10d.; in Guadaloupe, the same; in Santa Cruz, from \$2.25 to \$2.50 = 9s. 2½d. to 10s. 5d.; Porto Rico, cheaper; of Cuba I have no correct information, but from 50 cents to \$1 = 2s. 1d. to 4s. 2d., which is the same as it was in Trinidad, I have heard, during the existence of slavery.

In Trinidad, I believe, no sugar has been produced at a less cost than \$3 = 12s. 6d. per cwt., but the average is between \$4 and \$5. Now I find that the average price in the colony, for the last six months of 1847, was \$3.83 = 15s. 11½d.*; so that the mere production costs more than could be obtained in the market, leaving nothing for the interest of capital, reserve for losses, &c. &c.

Wages in Trinidad, 30 cents = 1s. 3d. per task, which takes from four to five hours work. It is very rare to hear of two tasks being done in a day by the same man.

40 cents = 1s. 8d. per day of 8 hours.

In Jamaica, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per day.

In Barbadoes, 6½d. per day.

In St. Lucia, 1s. 3d. per day.

In Grenada, 1s. per day.

In Santa Cruz, free labour, 1s. 8d. per day.

In Guadaloupe and Martinique the cost of the keep of a slave, for the year, is *frs.* 220 = 9l. 3s., or 6d. per day; so that Barbadoes is the only English island at all on an equality with the French, so far as cost of labour is concerned; but there the slave can be made to work any number of hours in the 24 his master may order.

But besides the mere cost, another important point should be added, which is, that the sugar made in the slave countries is decidedly superior to that produced by free labour; and this is not altogether owing to the greater care, or the superior machinery they possess; for it will be found that the quality of the sugar has deteriorated in many of our colonies since emancipation, which can only be attributed to the difficulty of procuring experienced labourers, or such as will take sufficient pains to ensure the production of a good article.

Such a state of things has of course been felt most severely; but I am happy to say that, though greatly dispirited, the planters are exerting themselves almost universally to improve the quality of their sugar, and to diminish the cost of production. Much may yet be done by the introduction of implemental husbandry and machinery; but as their slave-possessing opponents are equally well, if not better, provided with these, it is very questionable how far they can succeed in the struggle.

I have already on several occasions pointed out to your Lordship the very great benefit which would accrue to this island if a more liberal policy could be adopted respecting the trade with other countries, more especially with France and Spain; a still greater one would be gained if the neighbouring republic of Venezuela could be induced to modify its customs duties.

Should the steam communication between Port of Spain and Maturin, which I have shown every inclination to support, be established, it will prove very beneficial; but I am more anxious to see a similar one, only on a larger scale, set on foot between this and the city of Bolivar (lately Angostura). There are many reasons for hoping that Port of Spain may eventually become the receptacle of the trade of that vast tract of country from which the Orinoco draws its waters. A steamer, passing by the Cano Macaroo, could reach Bolivar in 70 hours, and return in 50; whereas merchant vessels take from five to 20 days to ascend to that place from the chief mouth of the river. An American company has already entered into a contract with the Venezuelan government to navigate the Orinoco, from Bolivar upwards, for a distance of 700 miles, by steamer; it only requires, therefore, to connect Trinidad and Bolivar by similar means, only I hope by an English company, and the interior of the western part of that vast continent would be opened for enterprise, and an invaluable impulse given to the commerce of this island. I have explained my ideas on this subject to Mr. Curtis, the enterprising and able engineer of the Trinidad Railway Company; should he be able to make any progress in this matter while he is in England, and should

* This was the average price at which sugar was sold during the year in the colony, but it did not fetch so much in the home market. The present price of sugar is \$2.50 sold in the island.

should it come under your Lordship's notice, I beg to recommend it to your favourable consideration. Appendix, No. 2.

There is but a very small increase under the head of Crown Lands. I have been able to do little more at present than prepare for future improvements. A proclamation was issued offering grants, under the conditions sanctioned by your Lordship; the returns of applicants are not yet completed. The village of Arima has been sold in lots; I hear that some activity, in consequence, may now be seen in its streets. The village of Aronea has been laid out, and a good many lots purchased; and I hope in a short time to have three or four more villages in progress in different parts of the country. TRINIDAD. No. 17. Lord Harris to Earl Grey.

The failure of the West India Bank has prevented many of the peasantry from becoming purchasers, as great numbers of that class had hoarded their notes; there appears to be still a great prejudice amongst them against entrusting their money to the savings bank.

It is, however, necessary to proceed with considerable caution in the sale even of village lots. There is a marked inclination in the population to retire to any spot of land they can purchase, instead of continuing to work as hired labourers; and though it may be of minute proportions, yet it is considered at once as an independence, whether it be sufficient to support them and their families, or not.

The frequent division of properties amongst the members of families facilitates these purchases greatly. As the portions become too small to be carried on, for instance, as coffee or cocoa estates, they are sold in small lots, and are thenceforward turned by the purchasers into badly cultivated provision grounds. Though this description of settler has become very numerous, yet no market can be worse supplied with fruit and vegetables than Port of Spain, and the population depends almost entirely on the Main for the larger part of provisions, such as yams, plantains, and sweet potatoes.

The increase of the public expenditure has been occasioned, as your Lordship is aware, mainly by immigration and the public buildings. The court-house will be finished and occupied next month, by which 450*l.* per annum, the amount of rent for the premises at present used for that purpose, will be saved to the colony.

Of the ordinances which were passed by the Legislative Council, that for the encouragement of immigration, &c., No. 9 of 1847, alone requires any lengthened notice from me.

I cannot say that it has succeeded to my satisfaction. The causes of its failure I attribute partly to the very depressed circumstances of the planters at the time of its being brought into force, and the general conviction that the Coolies would not remain on the estates, consequently inducing a small demand for the Coolies, and partly to its want of adaptation to the localities and the population with which it was intended to deal.

The ordinance was brought into force on the 7th June last year, and orders were issued to Major Fagan, the Cooly magistrate, to proceed as rapidly as possible to the several estates in the island to explain the conditions of the law to the proprietors and the Coolies, and to draw out the contracts for all who should be desirous of entering into them. The stipendiary magistrates were also required to render every assistance, and as much as possible to prepare both parties for the Cooly magistrate's visit.

At the end of Major Fagan's tour it was found that the number of estates which had taken Coolies on contract, and the number of Coolies under contract, were as follows:—

Number of estates taking Coolies under contract	- - - -	46
Number of estates taking Coolies under the monthly tax	- - - -	25
Number of Coolies taken under contract	- - - -	1,204
Number of Coolies taken under monthly tax	- - - -	371
Number of Coolies under contract and monthly tax	- - - -	1,575
Number of Coolies in the island	- - - -	4,357

Of the 46 estates the proprietors or managers of 29 paid the 2*l.* per head as required; the others gave bills on their agents in town, which were dishonoured, and which remain unpaid to the present day.

I should have proceeded to require payment had I not found that the means were not forthcoming, and had the Coolies not for the most part left the estates and broken their contracts before I learnt the fate of the bills which had been given by the planters.

In fact it was discovered afterwards that many of them left the estates within a week of entering into the contract, but no pains were taken to give the government any information of it. It was even stated to me, on pretty good authority, that on some estates the Coolies were concealed during the visit of Major Fagan, and brought back to their work when he had left that part of the country.

I have said above that the want of means was one cause why contracts were not generally entered into by the planters. I have on previous occasions described to your Lordship how entirely the greater number of them depend upon advances from merchants for the carrying on their estates, and it has been impossible for them for the most part to procure any at all this year. Money has lately been borrowed in Port of Spain at 45 per cent., and many were therefore unable to pay the tax required upon taking contract Coolies.

But there was also a general feeling that the provisions of the ordinance were not sufficiently stringent to warrant their advancing the sum required.

That such has turned out to be the case there can be no doubt. I shall proceed to explain why it appears to me that it was likely to happen.

Your Lordship will remember that the withdrawal of some rules which I had established, respecting the management of the Coolies, was required by a despatch dated 15 September 1846, and they were accordingly cancelled on the 17th of October following.

Appendix, No. 2.
 TRINIDAD.

No. 17.
 Lord Harris to
 Earl Grey.

The chief principle on which those rules were grounded, was the keeping the Coolies on the estates to which they were allowed by a system of leave tickets and passes, and the ensuring a fulfilment of the agreement made on both sides, by a just and constant surveillance by the Cooly magistrate.

Doubtless there were numerous faults in those rules; from the circumstances of the case they had been drawn up at very short notice, but all will allow, who had the opportunity of judging, that during their operation the Coolies were healthy, well clothed, generally contented, and improving daily in habits of industry.

On the withdrawal of those rules, they gradually returned to the habits which are natural to them; they left the estates, and were to be seen wandering about the country in bands, and by the time that the immigration ordinance came into force, but few were remaining on the properties on which they had been originally located.

I must now explain how the provisions of that ordinance did not serve to correct the evil. On entering into contract, the Coolies were liable on breaking their engagement to certain penalties. In order to enforce these it was necessary first that the delinquents should be caught, and then brought before a justice of the peace. Now the great difficulty is, in this country, to get such penalties to bear at all upon the delinquents.

Your Lordship must remember that the sugar estates in this colony, comprising at the most an extent of 32,000 acres, are scattered over an area of 1,200,000, and that though in some districts they are closely packed, in others they are separated by extensive forests, and that even where the estates are adjoining one another, the roads are for some months in the year almost impassable for horsemen.

A proprietor or manager on finding that his Coolies have left the estates, would first of all have to discover in what direction they had proceeded, no easy matter in a thinly populated country, and chiefly forest land. If he get information of their course, he must then either himself leave his estate or send his overseer, by which loss is certain to accrue to him, (for I can assure your Lordship, whatever you may hear to the contrary, that it requires strict, constant, and untiring watchfulness to procure the very sparing and very imperfect labour of the Creole from him), and he may probably go after all in the wrong direction, and never fall in with the Coolies, but if he do, then he has to lose more days in appearing at police offices, &c.

The result has been that I know of only one instance in which the proprietor has attempted to recover the Coolies.

The consequence of their re-adoption of their wandering habits have been most distressing. I was induced, from numbers being found destitute, sick, and starving in the roads, to establish two hospitals for their reception, one at Port of Spain, and the other at San Fernando, both under the superintendence of the surgeon of the colonial hospital. The returns of the last eight months have shown an average of between 200 and 300 people to provide for instead of 90, which had been the previous average. Since last June 250 Coolies have died in the hospital, and great numbers in other places; in fact scarcely a week passes but reports are sent from different parts of the country, of the skeletons of Coolies being found in the woods and cane-pieces. I believe that in no country has greater suffering been undergone than by these unfortunate people in the shape of disease, starvation, and ultimate death; and to those who have had to witness it daily it has been most distressing. Such being the state of the contracts, it was impossible to carry out the monthly tax provision; the principle of the law depended, I imagine, on the supposition that there would be a demand for all under contract; that not being the case, and the Coolies declaring their willingness to enter into contract, they could hardly be forced to pay the tax. In addition, it would have been impossible to enforce it, in consequence of their inability to pay, for the wages of numbers have been in arrear for a long time, as much as three and four months.

The scarcity of money is and has been so great, that on the arrival of the Africans by the "Growler," I was informed that though willing to take them, no one could afford to pay the tax, and I was obliged to take bills at three months or else I must have kept the immigrants on my hands.

With respect to the Coolies who have arrived the case was even worse; for two days I waited, and not a single application was received for any one of them. The immigration agent-general was sent to inquire if any would take them, but all declined, and I was at length obliged to distribute them amongst six estates, the agents of which offered to take them on making no payment at all.

Had it been in my power I was resolved to retain these people, and employ them for the government, and I would have done so at first with all the Coolies but that it would have required an army to collect them and keep them in custody; and besides, your Lordship is aware of the pecuniary difficulties in which I have been, and still am placed; that I have at times scarcely enough in the treasury to liquidate the most ordinary calls for hospitals, gaol, and police, and I should therefore have been utterly unable to support these Coolies for more than a few days, and must have yielded at last to circumstances.

I have felt and still feel myself in a most disagreeable position respecting the state of the immigrants; there is nothing more objectionable than to allow the provisions of any law to fall into desuetude; but every point upon which I might have expected support, the very ground on which the law was framed, have failed me.

- 1st. There was not a demand even for half the Coolies.
- 2d. Then the pecuniary destitution of the planters.
- 3d. Their indifference or inability to see the law carried out.

I have

I have felt also the more anxious for the success of this law because it did not emanate from myself. I have no doubt of the wisdom of the principle which your Lordship laid down, that we should seek "to place them (the immigrants) in a situation in which they might be acted upon by the same motives by which men are impelled to labour in industrious countries."

Appendix, No. 2.

TRINIDAD.

No. 17.

Lord Harris to Earl Grey.

Now I would, with all deference, submit that it is, from what I have already shown, impossible to place the immigrant in a situation similar to that of labourers in industrious countries, the circumstances of the countries, of the facilities for communication, for travelling for justice, for police, being so very different.

I have, moreover, great doubts whether the Cooly and the African are morally or mentally capable of being acted upon by the same motives in this island on their first arrival as labourers are in more civilized countries. That one which urges the mere support of animal existence will not induce them to continuous and skilful labour when their wants can be supplied by the most parsimonious use of their muscles. The fear of the law, it is manifest, is not very readily brought to bear on them. Luxuries they do not generally know of or require. The only independence which they would desire is idleness, according to their different tastes in the enjoyment of it. And then the higher motives which actuate the European labourer (and we must remember the vast difference there is even in Europe with respect to the industry of various races), which are above and beyond circumstances irrespective of mere self interest, which he has received as his patrimony from previous generations, and which I believe, even in this age, are still to be found prevailing amongst them; viz. that to be industrious is a duty and a virtue; that to be independent in circumstances, whatever his station, raises a man in the moral scale amongst his race, and that his ability to perform his duties as a citizen, and there we may add as a Christian, is increased by it. These, and such motives as these, are unknown to the fatalist worshippers of Mahomet and Bramah, and to the savages who go by the name of liberated Africans.

A proof of this, and a marked difference, may be seen daily in the vicinity of Port of Spain. The Portuguese are chiefly settled in the town or its vicinity as gardeners, &c., their services are at a premium, their work is on the whole more valuable, they get higher wages than the African, the Cooly, or the Creole, so that their circumstances are at least as good, in fact better, for they live more economically. Yet at four o'clock, when their day's task is over, they are to be seen not idling about the grog shops, or loitering about the streets, but employing the remaining hours of daylight in cutting up wood wherever they get leave to do so, and carrying logs or bundles of it into town for sale; but no such idea had ever entered the heads of the others, and now when times are altered, when provisions are scarce and dear, and money hardly to be got, they have not shown any symptoms of following the example, or of employing their extra time profitably.

After having given my best consideration to the subject, it appears to me that in the first place the immigrants must pass through an initiatory process. They are not, neither Coolies or Africans, fit to be placed in a position which the labourers of civilized countries may at once occupy; they must be treated like children, and wayward ones too; the former from their habits and their religion, the latter from the utterly savage state in which they arrive.

They must serve an apprenticeship, if not, if suffered to go at large, the consequences to the Coolies have been only too extensively and sadly developed in Jamaica, in Demerara, and in Trinidad. To the African, he for the most part lives, but he remains a savage, and frequently leaves the cultivated lands and joins his countrymen at one of the several villages which they have been permitted to establish. Here again when he has once escaped, the proprietor and the law are baffled; if search is made, where in the forests is he to be looked for? If tracked to a village he is not to be found; he can always elude the seekers, who seldom take the trouble to return for him a second time.

To show your Lordship how necessary it is that if immigration is to be continued some stricter surveillance must be adopted, I give a return which I called for last November, and which was made on the 30th of that month. The returns were sent from every sugar estate but one, and from most of the large cocoa properties in the island. The statement shows the number of men, women, and children located on the estates, or working on that day, to which is added the number of Creoles, most of whom are slaves liberated in 1838, or their descendants.

Countries whence Imported.	Number of Immigrants Imported.
Old Islanders	11,339
Africans	3,990
Coolies	4,959
Americans (free black)	1,301
Portuguese	962
Saba	64
Total Immigrants	22,015
Natives of Trinidad emancipated in 1838	20,656
	42,671

Appendix, No. 17.

TRINIDAD.

No. 17.

Lord Harris to
Earl Grey,

COUNTRIES WHENCE IMPORTED.	Number remaining on Estates.	COST.
Old Islanders - - - - -	2,641	£. 26,790 8 4
Africans - - - - -	2,154	30,695 7 8
Coolies - - - - -	2,110	78,013 13 5
Americans - - - - -	148	8,131 5 -
Portuguese - - - - -	119	7,014 1 8
Saba - - - - -	-	200 - -
	7,172	150,844 16 1
Natives of Trinidad emancipated in 1833 - -	3,166	1,184,964 16 3
	10,338	1,335,809 12 4

So that 5,291 men, 2,798 women, 2,249 children = 10,338, were to be found of all sorts (including the increase since 1838) located, though perhaps not working, and working, though perhaps not located, on nearly all the estates of the island on the 30th November last.

The proportion of men, women, and children is matter for serious consideration.

Of course this report does not presume to state that the rest are lost utterly and entirely to the colony, but it does seem that the immigrants have not up to the present time answered the purposes for which they were imported, or at all events that a most extensive diminution takes place; for though the immigration may be said to have commenced in 1839, yet by far the larger portion has occurred within the last five years. Some doubtless located in the towns and neighbouring villages may be still available during crop time, but generally such is not the case; they live independently, and not, I fear, by honest industry. During the crop time the sugar canes from neighbouring estates furnish a large part of their food; a few plantains, sweet potatoes, tobacco, all easily procured, and salt fish make the sum of their wants.

It is most desirable that an attempt should be made to prevent such results for the future. The immigrant has been looked upon too much as a mere animal whose labour is valuable; whereas I would endeavour to make him eventually a useful colonist, an industrious and worthy citizen. To attain this he must be subjected to a discipline and to education. The provisions of that discipline must be directed, superintended, and enforced by the government, in a colony like this. To leave it to the proprietor or manager to whom the immigrant may be entrusted as a labourer is probably rendering the plan nugatory; there are duties towards those under him which he is also ignorant of, and which he must be taught. Could the immigrants already imported at such heavy cost have been kept to the purposes for which they were introduced, their labour alone would amply suffice to carry on the cane cultivation and the sugar manufacture of the island.

It will be conceded by all that an allowance of one person for two hogsheads (including the work of men, women, and children,) is amply sufficient; or rather, that a population of 100 persons is able to produce 200 hogsheads of sugar, and that the aged and sick may be included in that number. It might be done with less; in fact, there are those who have assured me that they can manage with the work of from 30 to 50 for 200 hogsheads. But taking the larger number, and putting the average of the crop of the island at 30,000 hogsheads, it is really less, 15,000 persons would be required. The population of the island at the last census (1845) was 59,815.

It is questionable, under present circumstances, whether immigration can, or if so, whether it ought to be continued; and it is still more questionable, if it be true, as I am informed, that orders have already been received from one-third of the estates in the colony to be thrown out of cultivation after the present crop. But if it is to continue, when is it to cease? It is clear that the immigrants do not necessarily remain on estates to give the benefit of their labour; and if immigration is recommended in order to place the labour market on a par with that in slave-holding countries, if this is to be accomplished, it will be necessary to mass men together in such bodies, that the pressure of starvation shall act with equal power as the fear of the whip. To reach at this point would require, and in a very short time, thousands upon thousands, in a country like this, with vast tracts of fertile lands uncultivated, unless they be restrained within bounds and kept to their appointed work.

To compete with the slaveowner, it is not only cheap but continuous labour which the planter requires, and of which he at present cannot be certain, but which he is obliged to use all methods in endeavours to obtain. There is the great burthen and difficulty which every European has more or less, from the highest to the lowest, to contend with in these colonies; that though he is obliged to bear with conduct which he would not tolerate in his own country; that though he is suffering continued annoyance from the carelessness, the idleness, and the waste of his property, which he sees ever going on, yet, for the sake of some little peace and quiet, he is obliged almost to cringe to those whose vices he can scarcely endure, and to permit much, in order to save himself from greater loss and discomfort.

Appendix, No. 2.
 TRINIDAD.
 No. 17.
 Lord Harris to
 Earl Grey.

I would here call your Lordship's attention to the result of the policy which has been carried on, and how by it the finances of the colony have been reduced; how its means have been consumed in a most extravagant and but very partially successful system of immigration. To this has everything been sacrificed; and for the sake of getting an extended cane cultivation, which is now on the point of being abandoned, all improvements, even the most important, have been neglected. I have on former occasions stated to your Lordship the dearth of education, the scanty means of instruction which the colony affords; the population is annually increasing, the young are daily advancing in numbers, and simultaneously advancing in ignorance and in vice, but I am deprived of means to improve their condition.

The gaol is so crowded that there has been and is great fear of serious disease breaking out amongst the prisoners, but the treasury has no funds to spare to increase it.

The hospital (a hired building) is so inconvenient, so ill-arranged, so badly drained, that twice during the year has hospital gangrene shown itself amongst the patients, but the plans which I have ready for a new one cannot be made use of.

The lunatics and the idiots wander at large about the streets, to the annoyance and disgust of all, except when at times they become violent; then, if by chance room may be found either in the gaol or the hospital, or the police station, they are confined. Daily, during the last year, have I desired to commence building only a few strong rooms, in which they might be housed, but the want of funds has stopped me.

I think I have stated enough to satisfy your Lordship that this matter requires consideration, and that the system has been faulty, more especially when I add, that out of 990 persons convicted of crimes during the year, only 240 were natives of the island.

I have not hesitated to state plainly to your Lordship the faults and failings of the Creole population; it is with great pleasure that I can bear witness to their good qualities, which have been particularly displayed during the present distress. The labourers on estates have worked as usual thereon, though there has been a want of money to pay them regularly; and, up to the present time, wages are due on some estates for three and four months.

It has been also very gratifying to me to see the emulation which has been called forth amongst the young by holding examinations, and by the distribution of a few prizes; and a much greater progress has been made by some during the past year than I had expected, and I feel certain that it only requires the means to diffuse instruction more extensively to cause a rapid and general improvement in the mental and I hope also in the moral state of the population. To what pitch of advancement they are capable of attaining remains still to be proved. They are at present subjects for great anxiety and for great interest.

Under the fostering care of Great Britain, if she will still foster them, I believe that the population of this island may become not only prosperous but may prove of vast importance in assisting to civilize the fine and extensive continent in its vicinity.

I have, &c.
 (signed) Harris.

BARBADOES.

— No. 18. —

(No. 85.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Reid to Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Windward Islands, Barbadoes,
 30 December 1847.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the speech with which I opened the Legislative Session at Barbadoes.

I had reserved the public expression of my opinion on the subject of general education for this occasion, as one on which I could express it with the best chance of its having a useful result. I found most of the schools here, as I had found them in Bermuda, of a very low character; and in conversation I have not refrained from expressing this opinion.

.....
 No. 18.
 Governor Reid to
 Earl Grey.
 29 Dec. 1847.

Appendix, No. 2.
BARBADOES.

No. 18.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.

But in this matter, as in other questions, I have felt the support of public opinion necessary before even improvement can be brought about. I have for this reason given all the publicity I could to your Lordship's despatches on the subject of education, and printed 1,000 copies of the extract from Major Græme's report on the Moravia Industrial Schools, in order that the system followed in these schools might be made widely known, and I shall neglect no opportunity of furthering your Lordship's views in promoting general education.

I have, &c.
(signed) Wm. Reid, Governor.

Enclosure in No. 18.

Enclosure in No. 18.

Mr. President, My Lord Bishop, and Gentlemen of the Council.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly.

THE ancient custom of making a short Address on the opening of a Legislative Session, affords me an opportunity, which I gladly embrace, to renew the assurance that I not only desire on my part earnestly to study the common interest, but on all occasions to respect your privileges. By your protecting the prerogatives of the Crown on the one hand, and by my respecting and maintaining the people's privileges on the other, we ensure that mutual confidence which is necessary for efficient government.

I take this public occasion to express to you my deep regret at the recent pecuniary losses which have befallen this island, and my sincere sympathy with those individuals, who have thereby been unexpectedly deprived of the means of subsistence. At the same time, we have all cause for satisfaction in the reflection that when, from unavoidable causes, payment of wages was suddenly stopped, we have witnessed exemplary good conduct throughout all classes of the community.

Twice within the year which is just concluding has this island apprehended want of food. I have never doubted but that provisions to a much greater extent should be raised here. This is a subject with which legislation cannot interfere; but there seems now to be a general conviction, that very serious consequences might result from the neglect to grow a larger proportion of food. I hope it will be found consistent with the interest of individuals to cultivate more provisions within the island, so that in the absence of foreign supply you may never feel apprehensive of famine.

During last Session I drew the attention of the Legislature to the subject of binding boys apprentices to the sea, who, by demanding parochial relief, become burdens on the public. I pointed out, in the communication I then made, how this island, importing nearly all its provisions, and with a population of more than 120,000, many of whom are well fitted for seamen, is without ships of its own, and that the inhabitants are therefore doubly dependent on others for the means of subsistence. Further reflection has strengthened my conviction of the importance of your turning your attention to the encouragement of the shipping belonging to your own island, to be manned by your own people. That an island in the ocean, cultivated like a garden, and exporting all it grows, should have left its own carrying trade exclusively in the hands of others, was a natural, and therefore a reasonable state of things, whilst the island imported labourers to work the soil. But this is no longer the state of Barbadoes. Henceforward native seamen should be encouraged. There is a large class of persons here of European descent, better fitted for navigation than for tropical agriculture, and it would be for the particular benefit of individuals of this class, as well as for the general interest, that they should thus occupy themselves. I allude to this subject on the present occasion, not with a view of suggesting further legislation upon it than I have already proposed, but as a matter of considerable importance to the public interests, which I think should not be overlooked.

Intimately connected with this subject is that of deepening the mouth of the Careenage, by blasting away a portion of the rock which lies in the middle of the entrance, and which prevents the deeper water within it from being made as useful as it otherwise might be. Modern inventions have made such operations practicable without great cost; it is time, rather than any large outlay of money, that is required. Had it not been for the misfortunes which had befallen this island, I should have advised you to make a beginning of this work without delay, as one which I think will well repay the money required for its completion. I wish to assure you that you shall have at all times my support, in keeping public expenditure within the limits strictly necessary for the public welfare.

My attention has been directed to the circumstance of the prisons becoming overcrowded; of persons fined by the magistrates, preferring to be sent to prison rather than pay the fines imposed on them. Another cause why the prisons become crowded is, that the state of the law admits of scarcely any other punishment than fine or imprisonment. This subject will require your attention, and I should be glad to think you could devise means to obviate the necessity of sending persons to the common goal for short periods or for small offences.

I recommend you to reconsider that old law of this colony, which requires a ticket of leave for persons leaving the island. This law, intended originally to prevent the escape of European bond-servants, is still maintained as a check on the escape of fraudulent debtors, and on the abandonment of helpless families. I hope you will be able to devise direct checks

checks for these purposes, without maintaining a law which involves restraint upon all persons alike. Improved navigation, which is bringing all mankind into communication, seems pregnant with such high results, that impediments of this description, wherever they exist, ought to be removed, or as far as possible prevented from being unnecessarily vexatious.

I hope you will renew your consideration of the subject of a savings bank, to afford a place of security for the savings of the working classes. I am myself inclined to think that it would in this island be enough to provide a place of safe deposit, under the guarantee of the Legislature, without payment of interest, for such sums as the labourer may save, until he can himself invest them profitably. By affording him a place of safe deposit, we diminish the inducements to commit robbery, or to hoard coin.

I shall lay before you some observations made by the magistrates in their half yearly reports, which I think worthy of your serious notice.

You are aware that a commencement has been made by private subscription, to establish a school of practical chemistry; but in order that it may succeed and prove useful, it will require to be aided by public funds. It will be for you to think whether, under present circumstances, you can now assist in establishing it.

After a year's residence in this island I can come to no other conclusion than that here, as elsewhere, for agriculture to flourish, the agriculturists must be independent. The road to independence has always been the same, that is through the means of industry, intelligence, and strict frugality; the wealth of this island consists in what the soil produces, and its best capital is the people's labour. When combined with intelligence the value of labour becomes greatly augmented.

Happily there is here both industry and good conduct amongst the mass of the people. Whilst we strive to encourage religion and morality, let us also strive to increase the general stock of intelligence throughout the whole body of the community.

Amidst all your difficulties, I hope you will not be obliged to diminish the grants given in aid of schools. I could wish to see, that in spite of these difficulties, you could augment them. After many years reflection on the subject of general education, I am satisfied that instruction of a practically useful kind cannot be carried out without aid in public money. I am also convinced that public money cannot be laid out to greater advantage; but it should be given only to schools really likely to be beneficial. I recommend that all schools accepting grants of public money should be subjected by you to inspection, and that the reports of the inspectors should be annually laid before you, previous to further grants being made. The manner in which the aid now given is distributed requires revision; and it should, I think, be given in proportion to the value of the school to the community. I hope public sentiment will make public schools free alike to all, and that the qualities of the mind will form the only distinction recognized in your schools which accept aid from the revenue. I should desire to see emulation created not only amongst schools, but among teachers. Nor would I confine the grants of aid here to schools for the working classes only, for the instruction of all classes has become in the present day matter of public concern of the highest importance. Instruction imparted in early years is a foundation necessary to enable men to carry out self-education after they have entered on the business of life. The acquirements of teachers should be such as to command respect, and to raise and maintain them as a body, in that position which public opinion throughout the world seems to have determined that they shall occupy. Present difficulties will not, I hope, deter you from considering how you can best raise up a class of native teachers, worthy of that position which they ought to hold. I also hope that the offer made to train teachers for the colonies in the training schools in England will not be lost, for prosperity under free institutions requires that intelligence should be diffused throughout all classes of a community.

The manner in which science has been brought to the aid of agriculture is in itself new. We cannot foresee in the present day to what extent chemistry and mechanics may be carried in increasing the produce of the soil. Science is giving rise to new professions unthought of before; but the advantages of combining scientific education with school instruction are not purely economical. The mind is elevated by being thus led to the contemplation of the highest objects; by making us better acquainted with the works of the Creator, we are irresistibly impressed with ideas of reverence for His wisdom. When I turn my thoughts to the schools of this island, I am convinced that instruction of a more comprehensive kind should be given. I am satisfied that you yourselves are anxious that there should be sufficient means within the island for the education of children whose parents reside here permanently; and hence the earnestness with which I urge this subject on your serious attention.

(signed) *William Reid*

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

Enclosure in No. 18.

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

— No. 19. —

(No. 13.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Reid to Earl Grey.

No. 19.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.18 Jan. 1848.
25 Jan. 1848.

My Lord,

Barbadoes, 8 February 1848.

WITH reference to my despatch, Barbadoes, No. 85, dated 30 December 1847, I have the honour to transmit copies of the replies which I have received from the Council and Assembly to the speech with which I opened the present session of the legislature.

I have, &c.
(signed) Wm. Reid, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 19.

Encl. 1, in No. 19.

THE following is the Reply of the Honourable Board of Council to the Speech of his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Legislative Bodies on the opening of the new Session.

May it please your Excellency,

THE Council respectfully tender to your Excellency their thanks for the comprehensive speech delivered to the legislative bodies on the opening of a new session. Bearing on many important topics connected with the welfare of the country, they desire to assure your Excellency that the various subjects of your address will severally engage their earnest consideration.

Your Excellency feelingly adverts to the distress and embarrassment yet prevailing in the island, from the monetary losses which it has so recently sustained. The sympathy and concern manifested by your Excellency on this trying occasion, your promptness to mitigate the evil by providing for the exigencies of an important public establishment, as well as your efforts to restore confidence to the community at large, are gratefully acknowledged by the Council, who willingly reciprocate in the satisfaction expressed by your Excellency on the exemplary conduct exhibited by all classes of the people during a period of unusual excitement. Throughout the island personal sacrifice has been cheerfully made to give employment to the labouring population as the means of their support; and to a reduction of wages, imperatively called for, both from present difficulties and the unproductive sales of our staple crop, the labourers have readily consented. Such conciliatory acts of the employer and employed, in affording mutual accommodation, are alike creditable to both parties.

The Council are of opinion that those painful apprehensions of famine which during the past year more than once disturbed the community, may be allayed, under Divine blessing, by a more extensive planting of provisions, and if a judicious system of alternating crops be adopted, without any appreciable injury to the staple growth.

In calling the attention of the Legislature to the importance of establishing the marine of the island on a more enlarged and national footing, your Excellency humanely alludes to that class of persons who, of European descent, are dependent on precarious labour for their subsistence, but whose physical constitution is better adapted for navigation than for tropical agriculture. The history and condition of the class in question entitle them to consideration and sympathy, and demand that every reasonable and legitimate exertion should be employed to rescue them from the abject and degraded state to which numbers among them have been reduced by the combined influence of poverty and misfortune.

The Council are very sensible of the injurious tendency to the public morals and interest which is produced by over-crowding the prisons with persons amenable to fines or imprisonment for petty offences, and of the preference generally evinced for short periods of confinement over the payment of pecuniary forfeitures. As the law at present exists, the magistrates have no other alternative than to commit to prison those who, from contumacy or inability, decline the payment of fines. The Council trust that, the evil having a demoralizing influence, both within and without the walls of the prison, and involving a heavy item of expense to the country, will not be found irremediable.

The Council attach considerable value to your Excellency's just perception of a truth forcibly impressed upon their own convictions, "that for agriculture to flourish, the agriculturist must be independent." To attain this state, neither energy nor enterprise, regulated by prudence, is wanting in the community; but independence to the West Indian agriculturist has been rendered almost hopeless by his premature exposure to an unequal competition with the slave producer of sugar, whilst he is at the same time shackled with restrictions which give a vantage ground to his opponents. The stern reality of a daily depreciation of property in the British West India colonies, in juxtaposition with the doubled and increasing efforts of the slave proprietors to procure, at enormous sacrifices, additional slave labour, is alone significant of the disastrous fate which must await our agriculturists in the impending contest between the free and slave grower of sugar, unless, upon a dispassionate and impartial consideration of his case, the British Government shall interpose such a measure of relief as will enable him to vie with the slave grower of sugar.

In directing the attention of the Legislature to various other points of considerable moment to the public service, none stands more prominently forward in your Excellency's speech than the subject of general education. In the views entertained by your Excellency,

of

of the importance of this subject, the Council fully concur. That instruction to all classes of the community, of a more comprehensive and practically useful character than is now commonly bestowed, would confer benefits eminently advantageous, both in a moral and economical point of view, is not to be denied; but under the present unfavourable aspect of West India affairs, and existing difficulties, the Council can only venture to indulge the hope, that the resources of the island may be equal to any appliances of the public funds which may be necessary to promote an enlarged scheme of education, at once benevolent and liberal in its principles.

Council Chambers, 18 January 1848.

(signed) *John S. Gaskin,*
President.

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

Encl. 1, in No. 19.

Enclosure 2, in No. 19.

To His Excellency *William Reid* Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel in Her Majesty's Royal Engineers, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of this Island, &c. &c. &c.

Encl. 2, in No. 19.

May it please your Excellency,

THE House of Assembly desire most respectfully to tender to your Excellency their thanks for the able address delivered by your Excellency at the opening of the session, and for the assurance of your desire to study the common interest, and to respect the privileges of the House. They at the same time beg to assure your Excellency that no exertion shall be wanting on their part to maintain inviolate the prerogative of the Crown, convinced that, by so doing, they shall ensure that mutual confidence which is so necessary for efficient government.

The House desire also to thank your Excellency for the expression of regret at the recent pecuniary losses that have befallen this island, and of sympathy with those individuals who have been sufferers by the recent failures. They cordially concur in the opinion expressed by your Excellency, that there is cause for satisfaction and congratulation in, and they bear willingly testimony to, the exemplary conduct evinced by all classes of the community, more especially by the agricultural labourers, who have cheerfully submitted to the privations that have been rendered imperative by the present condition and prospects of the island. They venture to hope that the cause of this conduct on the part of the labourers may be traced to the present good understanding that exists between themselves and their employers, which they trust nothing may occur to disturb.

The House entirely agree with your Excellency that the cultivation of a larger quantity of food is a subject that does not legitimately come within the province of legislative enactment; but they trust that the remarks which have been made by your Excellency will carry with them that weight and receive that consideration among the agricultural portion of the community which the importance of the subject so prominently and forcibly claims for them.

The expediency of deepening the mouth of the carenage, so as to make the water within more useful than at present, is a subject unquestionably well deserving of attention; but notwithstanding the assurance of your Excellency, based doubtless on practical experience, that such an operation is rendered by modern inventions one requiring time rather than any large outlay of money, it is to be feared that the present state of the finances of the island will not justify the Legislature in entering at this time on so important an undertaking.

The overcrowded state of the prisons to which your Excellency has been pleased to call the attention of the Legislature is a circumstance to be much regretted. The House however confidently expect that this evil will be gradually removed by the strict and improved discipline that now prevails within the prison walls, as well as by the more efficient system of punishments that may be carried out in a new gaol of more enlarged dimensions, and which will, it is hoped, deter persons who are fined by the magistrates from preferring to be sent to prison rather than pay the fines imposed on them. In the meantime, however, the House beg to assure your Excellency that they will readily consider such measures as may be introduced for the present mitigation of this evil.

The House respectfully acknowledge the importance of the other measures which your Excellency has been pleased to bring before them, and assure your Excellency of their willingness to give them that careful consideration which they merit.

The subject of general education well deserves the serious consideration of a legislative body, and the House beg to express their concurrence in the sound views advanced by your Excellency on that subject, not only in reference to the amount of the annual grant, but also as to the mode of distribution. They trust that when the present difficulties under which the island is suffering shall have passed away, and the subject shall again come before them, it will be legislated on in accordance with the more enlarged and comprehensive views which your Excellency has taken so much interest in bringing to the notice of the Legislature.

(signed) *J. Thomas,*
Speaker.

House of Assembly,
25 January 1848.

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

— No. 20. —

No. 20.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Reid* to Earl *Grey*.Windward Islands, Barbadoes,
26 February 1848.

My Lord,

*Vide 3d Report of
Committee,
No. 167, Sess.
1848, p. 378.*

In a despatch, marked St. Lucia, No. 16, dated 31st January, I stated that I had written little or nothing on the state of sugar cultivation during the year I have been here, and that this has been owing to the great difficulty of procuring data from which accurate results may be deduced, being unwilling to repeat mere verbal statements, which might mislead your Lordship. I added, that I am endeavouring to arrive at the average cost of making a cwt. of sugar on verified documents.

Since the date of that despatch, I have passed a week in Grenada and two days in St. Vincent. I have obtained a few statements on the price of cultivation and been promised others, but I fear that I shall not be able to have any of them copied in time to accompany this despatch, nor have I had time sufficiently to consider their details, having only returned two days ago from Grenada and St. Vincent. I think it right, however, to state in general terms, that from all I learn, the cost of making sugar by free labour is greatly beyond the cost of making it by slave labour. My opinion is, that sugar cultivation by free labour cannot yet withstand competition on equal terms with slave labour, and that freedom should be nursed by protection for a considerable time to come. How long that time should be, your Lordship will understand that I cannot say. If there be no protection, the cultivation of sugar will be further given up in Grenada, and it will dwindle in all the Windward Islands, excepting Barbadoes.

Whilst travelling in these islands, and amongst estates falling off in production, I felt a conviction that without protection, the most serious result for humanity would not be loss of sugar, but that the consummation of the greatest act of human legislation, the abolition of slavery, will be retarded and perhaps endangered.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. Reid*, Governor.No. 21.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.

— No. 21. —

(No. 21.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Reid* to Earl *Grey*.Windward Islands, Barbadoes,
8 March 1848.

My Lord,

THE following statements on the price of cultivating sugar are those which I alluded to in my despatch, Barbadoes, No. 14, dated 26th February 1848.

That which is placed first was prepared by Mr. Porter, a member of Council in St. Vincent. It contains returns of expenses taken from the books of 16 estates, excluding two small estates; the average cost of making a cwt. of sugar will be found to be 14 s. 6 d. to 21 s. 4 d. This statement is certified by Mr. Porter, who is attorney for several of the estates named.

TABLE showing the Cost of raising SUGAR per Hogshead and per Cwt. in the Island of *St. Vincent*, on the following Estates, taking an Average of Three Years; viz. 1845, 1846, and 1847.

[Note.—The Rum calculated at 8*l.* sterling per Panchon, and the Molasses at 8*l.* sterling, being the Prices in England in November 1847, when these Calculations were made.]

NAME OF ESTATE.	Crop.	Island Expenses.	Average Island Expenses for Three Years.	Average Home Stores Yearly.	Total One Year's Expenses.	CROPS.			AVERAGE CROP.			Average Cost per Hogshead of 15 Cwt., including Offals.	Average Cost per Cwt., deducting Offals, at present Prices in England.	Average Cost per Cwt.	Loss of Exchanges.	
						Sugar.	Rum.	Molasses.	Sugar.	Rum.	Molasses.					
Argyle	1845	£. 3,082	£. 2,720	£. 400	£. 3,120	Hhds. 160	Punch. 23	Punch. 53	Hhds. 177	Punch. 23	Punch. 52	£. s. d. 17 12 6	£. s. d. 15 15 -	21/1	- 3	-- Long cartage and expenses of machinery included.
	1846	2,058				131	16	50								
	1847	2,421				242	29	55								
Calder	1845	2,948	2,692	400	3,092	164	18	85	173	20	82	17 17 6	15 - -	20/4	- 3	-- Laborious estate for stock. Long cartage and a steam-engine.
	1846	2,046				128	18	65								
	1847	2,481				229	49	98								
Calder Bridge	1845	1,228	1,390	200	1,490	74	2 1/2	47	82	1	57	18 5 6	16 - -	21/4	- 3	Small estate, and long cartage.
	1846	1,234				68	-	56								
	1847	1,407				104	-	69								
Rutland Vale	1845	2,269	2,412	361	2,772	216	26	101	188	31	78	14 15 -	12 3 8	16/8	- 3	
	1846	2,408				174	24	66								
	1847	2,500				175	43	68								
Peter's Hope	1845	1,987	1,869	188	1,552	89 1/2	12	24	100	16	31	15 10 4	13 6 2	17/8	- 3	
	1846	1,340				92	11	39								
	1847	1,360				120	27	32								
Mount Grenan	1845	1,949	2,124	337	2,461	139	12	52	165	14	88	14 18 3	12 12 8	16/10	- 3	
	1846	2,094				166 1/2	10	95								
	1847	2,330				190	18 1/2	117								
Belvidere	1845	1,649	1,525	184	1,709	122	22	53	124	22	60	13 15 8	10 18 2	14/6	- 3	-- Many advantages, and no extra expenses. Saving of 10 <i>s.</i> per hogshead in attorney's salary.
	1846	1,477				105	19	59								
	1847	1,500				145	25	70								
Yambon Vale and Marriagua	1845	2,652	2,682	290	2,972	147	-	75	163	10	96	16 4 9	14 4 7	19/6	- 3	Long cartage and small estates.
	1846	2,698				175	7	102								
	1847	2,698				228	23	111								
Fairhall	1845	1,433	1,520	150	1,670	89	9	46	103	13	57	16 4 3	13 10 9	18/3	- 3	
	1846	1,429				89 1/2	14	55								
	1847	1,697				133	16	70								
Evesham Vale	1845	1,729	1,694	180	1,874	91	-	60	107	-	64	17 10 3	15 14 4	20/	- 3	-- Laborious estate, and very difficult cartage. Heavy expense on stock.
	1846	1,075				98	-	57								
	1847	1,650				132	-	75								
Cane Garden	1845	878	893	70	,963	58	3	35	60	4	35	16 1 10	13 15 4	18/4	- 3	
	1846	859				53	3	35								
	1847	963				70	5	34								
Upper Adelphi	1845	1,547	1,654	220	1,874	143	31	18	111	35	18	16 17 9	13 17 5	18/6	- 3	
	1846	1,739				88	39	-								
	1847	1,676				105	36	36								
Mount Pleasant	1845	2,262	2,292	362	2,654	122	33	52	142	86	82	18 13 9	14 18 6	19/	- 3	-- Long cartage; steam-engine; additional drogherage; machinery.
	1846	2,301				113	28	72								
	1847	2,312				191	50	123								
Revolution Hall	1845	1,421	1,517	150	1,667	95	4	50	113	6	59	14 15 -	12 15 9	17/	- 3	18 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> to this.
	1846	1,494				130	1	18								
	1847	1,636				116	12	40								
Carapan	-	-	-	-	2,527	-	-	-	122	17	74	20 14 3	17 14 3	23/7	- 3	-- 19 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> ; long cartage; steam-engine, and considerable repairs of buildings.

P.S.—The years 1845 and 1846 were rather dry. The crop 1847 was partly increased by the introduction of labourers from Madeira, and partly by a very favourable season.

The above returns, taken from the books of the estates, do not include interest of capital invested.

St. Vincent, 12 February 1848.

(signed) James Porter, Attorney for several of the above Estates.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING.

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

No. 21.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.

The next are Tables of the cost of making a hundredweight of sugar during several years, by slave labour, in the island of St. Vincent. The average cost per hundredweight will appear by these returns to vary from 5s. 1d. to 6s. A note at the bottom of these Tables states that the proceeds of the rum and molasses are deducted from the gross expense of cultivation. These returns are also signed by Mr. Porter.

TABLE showing the Average Cost at which SUGAR was produced, taking a period of Five Years, during Slavery, on an Estate in St. George's Parish.

YEARS.	Hogshds. of Sugar.	Punchns. of Rum.	Punchns. of Molasses.	Island Expenses.	Home Invoices.	TOTAL.	Average Cost per Hogshead of 16 Cwt., deducting Offals.		Cost per Cwt.	Mount Pleasant Estate.
							£. s. d.	s. d.		
1826 - - - -	304	111	67	£. 1,737	£. 611	£. 2,348	} 4 3 5½	} 5 6¼	The average price obtained for rum was 1s. 1d. sterling per gallon, and for molasses 9½d. sterling, during these five years. These expenses include 255 l. sterling for machinery.	
1827 - - - -	281	94	83	2,192	530	2,722				
1828 - - - -	332	106	77	2,073	558	2,631				
1829 - - - -	305	110	56	1,715	520	2,235				
1830 - - - -	280	119	27	1,734	457	2,191				
Five Years - -	1,502	540	310	9,451	2,676	12,127				
Average of One Year -	300	108	62	1,890	535	2,425				

TABLE showing the Average Cost at which SUGAR was produced during the Four Years of Apprenticeship, on an Estate in St. George's Parish.

YEARS.	Hogshds. of Sugar.	Proceeds of Rum and Molasses.	Island Expenses.	Home Invoices.	TOTAL.	Average Cost per Hogshead of 16 Cwt., deducting Offals.		Cost per Cwt.	
						£. s. d.	s. d.		
1835 - - - -	191	£. 796 13 4	£. 1,522	£. 448	£. 1,970	} 4 10 -	} 6 -	The average price obtained for rum was 1s. 4½d. sterling per gallon, and for molasses 11½d. sterling, during these four years. These expenses include 196 l. for machinery.	
1836 - - - -	270	1,336 - -	1,491	660	2,151				
1837 - - - -	261	1,180 - -	1,775	454	2,229				
1838 - - - -	233	1,099 - -	1,597	460	2,357				
Four Years - -	955	4,411 13 4	6,655	2,022	8,707				
Average of One Year	238	1,103 - -	1,671	505	2,176				

TABLE showing the Average Cost at which SUGARS were produced during the Four Years of Apprenticeship, on an Estate in Charlotte Parish.

YEARS.	Hogsheads of Sugar.	Proceeds of Rum and Molasses.	Island Expenses.	Home Invoices.	TOTAL.	Average Cost per Hogshead of 15 Cwt., deducting Offals.		Cost per Cwt.	
						£. s. d.	s. d.		
1835 - - - -	263	£. 774 - -	£. 1,417	£. 430	£. 1,847	} 3 16 11	} 5 1	Average price:—Rum 1s. 4½d. per gallon; molasses, 11½d. per gallon.	
1836 - - - -	219	832 - -	1,123	470	1,593				
1837 - - - -	243	1,061 - -	1,390	440	1,830				
1838 - - - -	161	1,182 - -	1,548	440	1,988				
Four Years - -	886	3,849 - -	5,478	1,780	7,258				
Average of One Year -	221	962 - -	1,369	445	1,814				

Note.—The proceeds of the rum and molasses are deducted from the gross expenses of cultivation in all the above Tables.

(signed) James Porter,
Attorney for the above Estates.

The following statement is taken from the estate books of Easy Hall, Barbadoes, and is certified by Mr. Pilgrim, police magistrate. The cost of making a hundredweight of sugar, from the year 1828 to 1846, is given by Mr. Pilgrim in a table which follows the statement of expense of cultivating the estate. By referring to this table, it will be seen stated that for the six years preceding the years of apprenticeship, the cost of making a hundredweight of sugar averaged 1 dollar 22 cents, or 5s. 1d. sterling; whereas for nine years of cultivation by free labour the cost is stated at 3 dollars 75 cents, or 15s. 6½d. sterling.

1846.

EXPENSES of Cultivating EASY HALL SUGAR ESTATE, in the Island of *Barbadoes*, for the Year, making a Crop of 54 Hhds., averaging 15 Cwt. per Hhd. each.

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

No. 21.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.

		Dolls. cts.		Sterling.		
				£.	s.	d.
1	Amount paid for wages, including all labourers employed and requisite for carrying on the cultivation, manufacture of sugar, and attendance on stock, &c.	3,037	85	632	17	8½
2	To coopers and carpenters, for the customary routine of such estate's work	203	47	42	7	9½
3	For staves, puncheons, and other packages requisite for containing the produce	152	74	31	16	5
4	For white and pitch pine lumber	221	66	46	3	7
5	For purchase of stock	—	—	—	—	—
6	For drogherage or cartage of produce or supplies	11	—	2	5	10
7	For colonial taxes or import duties	240	41	50	1	8½
8	For oats, oil-cake, and corn for stock	541	25	112	15	2½
9	Nails, iron-hoops, wood ditto, hoes and bills	290	55	60	10	7½
10	Paints and paint oil					
11	Boiling-houses, utensils, and wire strainers	19	—	3	19	2
12	Truss hoops, mill grease, and oil. Included in items 9 & 10.	—	—	—	—	—
13	Coals, bricks, temper, and building lime	150	39	31	6	7½
14	Saddlery	41	10	8	11	3
15	Medicines	30	15	6	5	7½
16	For blacksmiths' and coppersmiths' work	77	31	16	2	1½
17	Carpenters' work, and extra expenses in the erection of new buildings, or extensive repairs of old ones, and machinery	148	34	30	18	1
18	For salaries of attorney, manager, and overseers	1,075	85	224	2	8½
19	Book-keeper and agency expenses					
20	Medical attendance on labourers	—	—	—	—	—
21	Expenses of immigrants	—	—	—	—	—
22	Manures	650	76	135	11	6
23	Carts and cart-wheels. Included in item 2.	—	—	—	—	—
24	Sundry expenses not specified above; viz.—					
	Plumber	20	20	4	4	2
	Masons	35	70	7	8	9
	Mill sails, rope, vat hoops, clinchers, &c.	93	23	19	18	5½
	A grindstone, 8 dollars; proof glass, 25 cents; pint pot, 20 cents	8	45	1	15	2½
	Bills lading, 60 cents; stationery, dollars 4.09; postage, 1 dollar; gauging, dollars 4.80	10	49	2	3	8½
	Cane plants and tops	42	88	8	16	8
	A clock	6	—	1	5	—
		7,108	78	1,480	19	11

Certified to be a correct statement, taken from the yearly abstract of the books of the estate under the hands of poster of the estate books.
(signed) *H. Pilgrim, P. M.*

TABLE showing the Crops, and the Cost of Production, on EASY HALL PLANTATION, in the Parishes of *St. John* and *St. Joseph, Barbadoes*.

YEARS.	Number of Hhds. of Sugar.	Average Cost of producing 1 Hhd. of 15 Cwt.		Average Cost of producing 1 Cwt.		Average Cost for a given Term of Years.	OBSERVATIONS.
		Dolls. cts.	Dolls. cts.	Dolls. cts.	Dolls. cts.		
1828	117	16	98	—	99		
1829	113	24	43	1	63		
1830	124	19	90	1	32		
1831	102	18	62	1	24		
1832	82	19	71	1	31		
1833	99	12	94	—	86	1 22	-- For six years preceding apprenticeship.
1834	108	14	—	—	90		
1835	103	24	25	1	61		
1836	92	32	2	2	13		
1837	93	48	72	3	24	1 97	-- For four years of apprenticeship.
1838	91	31	11½	2	7½		
1839	93	34	30½	2	28½		
1840	65	63	3½	4	20½		
1841	59	68	54	4	57		
1842	81	62	56½	4	17		
1843	110	67	78	4	52		
1844	113	46	63	3	11		
1845	86	60	30	4	2		
1846	54	71	81	4	78½	3 75	For nine years of freedom.

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

No. 21.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.

MEMORANDUM referring to annexed Table.

Easy Hall Estate is well known as a first-rate sugar plantation of the district called the Cliff. It has been under the highly successful management of its present director for a long period, and may be said to be managed on a liberal scale. The estate consists of 195 acres.

The cost of production of one cwt. of sugar on this estate has been obtained by deducting all the yearly profits of the estate for the sale of rum, molasses, provisions, old metal, &c., from the gross expenses (including the attorney's commissions), and then dividing the remainder by the hogsheads of sugar made, and each hogshead taken at 15 cwt. which average has been obtained by the inspection of two years' accounts sales of the sugars.

The expenses of an estate are not diminished with the crop beyond the mere cost of manufacture, about six dollars per hogshead.

(signed) *H. Pilgrim, P. M.*

THE next statement is a copy of the abstract of the accounts of Mount Clapham Estate, at Barbadoes, in 1842, taken from the estate's books.

Under a former owner I am told that Mount Clapham Estate cleared nothing, but by inspecting the abstract it will be seen to have made under the present owner a profit at the price obtained for sugar in 1842. The cost of a cwt. of sugar, at the prices of rum and molasses in 1842, appears to be 12 s. 4 d., but calculated at the prices in 1847, the cost would have been 16 s. 6 d.

MOUNT CLAPHAM ABSTRACT, 1842.

	Dols. Cts.	Barbadoes Currency.		
		£.	s.	d.
Incidental Expenses:				
6,579 feet deal boards, 166 dols. 92 cts.; 1,208 deal plank, 38 dols. 96 cts.	205 88			
836 feet p. plank, 36 dols. 70 cts.; hardwood for mill and carts, 355 dols. 83 cts.	394 53			
1,300 cedar shingles, 6 dols. 50 cts.; 4,150 staves, 202 dols. 10 cts.; 1,550 w. hoops, 66 dols.	274 60			
40 m. nails, 36 dols. 75 cts.; 550 clinches, 4 dols. 40 cts.; 37 rivets and 9th t. hoops, 67 dols.	41 82			
95 lbs. bar iron, 11 dols. 40 cts.; locks and hinges, 16 dols. 95 cts.; 295 lbs. rope, 47 dols. 20 cts.	75 55			
1 hhd. coal, 8 dols.; 104 bush. lime, 13 dols.; 8 puns. oatmeal, 144 dols.	165 -			
20 sacks oats, 88 dols. 50 cts.; 5 sacks salt, 14 dols.; 16 gallons linseed oil, 16 dols.	118 50			
60 lbs. tallow, 12 dols.; paint, 2 dols. 10 cts.; mending cart harness, 7 dols. 40 cts.	21 50			
Medicine and farrier's attendance, 21 dols. 75 cts.; cleaning well, 50 cts.	22 25			
Island import duty on stores, 8 dols. 10 cts.; stationery, &c., 3 dols. 72 cts.	11 02			
	1,829 55	432	9	1¼
16 cattle, 491 dols., and 2 horses, 274 dols., purchased - 765 dols. Deduct 15 old cattle, 343 dols., and 1 horse, 8 dols, sold 351 „	414 -	134	11	-
Utensils:				
4 wine pipes for distillery, 12 dols.; 2 cans, 2 dols.; 1 bell, 25 cts.	14 25			
4 pails for the boiling-house, 1 dol. 60 cts.; 2 baskets, 40 cts.	2 -			
4 tin measures, 75 cts.; a tin funnel, 20 cts.	- 95			
1 brass cock, 60 cts.; 1 pair steelyards, 2 dols.	2 60			
1 pair slates, 1 dol. 75 cts.; 1 bridle, 3 dols.; 2 currycombs, 1 dol.	5 75			
3 web halters, 1 dol. 20 cts.; 1 scrubbing brush, 1 dol.	2 20			
1 doz. ox bows, 4 dols. 50 cts.; 1 ½ doz. cattle chains, 6 dols. 75 cts.	11 25			
	39 -	12	13	6
Labourers' Expenses:				
3 barrels pork for them at Hestwals	35 -			
Joseph Howell, for 4 months' medical care of them, to 30th April	26 66			
	61 66	20	-	9¼
Field labourers, for their hire this year to cultivate the estate and make sugar	2,989 29			
Superintendents, watchmen, storekeepers, and domestics	681 40			
	3,670 69	1,192	19	5¼
Carried forward	- - -	1,792	6	10¼

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 287

		Barbadoes Currency.	Appendix, No. 2. BARBADOES.
		£. s. d.	No. 21. Governor Reid to Earl Grey.
Brought forward		1,792 6 10½	
Workmen's Accounts:			
Blacksmith, 93 dols. 9 cts.; plumber, 29 dols. 50 cts.; brazier, 13 dols. 5 cts.	Dols. cts.	135 64	
Millwright, 7 dols.; cartwright, 6 dols. 50 cts.; coopers, 63 dols. 65 cts.		67 15	
Carpenters, 42 dols. 75 cts.; masons, 13 dols. 60 cts.		56 35	
		259 14	84 4 5½
Taxes:			
Parochial, on 236 acres of land in Christchurch, at 1/10		66 56	
Ditto - on 107 acres of land in St. Michael's, at 3/10		63 11	
On labour to keep the public roads in repair		48 -	
		177 67	67 14 10½
Managers and White Servants' Expenses:			
A quarter cask wine, 60 dols.; 2 half-barrels pork, 3 dols.; beef, 8 dols.		118 -	
A barrel flour, 9 dols. 75 cts.; 6 boxes fish, 26 dols. 50 cts.; 50 lbs. starch, 6 dols. 25 cts.		42 50	
125 lbs. coffee, 25 dols. 96 cts.; 25 lbs. cocoa, 1 dol. 62 cts.		27 58	
2 boxes candles, 10 dols. 30 cts.; 1 box soap, 3 dols. 75 cts.		22 7	
		210 15	68 5 11½
Salaries:			
John R. Gibbes, manager, 480 dols. and presented him, for his successful management, 160 dols.		640 -	
Key-keeper, 67 dols. 50 cts.; superintendent of yard business, 64 dols.		131 50	
Accountant		80 -	
		851 50	276 14 9
		Currency.	
Invoices for 9 hogsheads oats, 34 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> sterling	£. s. d.	54 8 7½	
Invoices for 2 mill-wheels, 43 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> sterling		68 3 -	
			122 12 1½
Amount of expenses of the estate			2,401 18 11½
Cleared			2,670 18 9½
		£.	5,072 17 8½

SUGAR.

	Hds.	Sterling.		Barbadoes Currency.
		£.	s. d.	
Net proceeds of sales of shipments to Cork, consigned to S. Hard & Sons	70	1,885	2 4	
Ditto to Dublin, consigned to Hardy Brothers & Co.	31	816	8 4	
	101	2,701	10 8	480 dols. p'ct. 4,914 7 10½
Deduct, paid Island Export Duty on above Shipments				73 17 -½
Carried forward				£. 4,140 19 9½

Appendix, No. 2.
BARBADOES.No. 21.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.

					Barbadoes Currency.	
					£.	s. d.
Brought forward - - -					4,140	10 9½
RUM AND MOLASSES.						
RUM.	MOLASSES.	—		—	—	
Gallons.	Gallons.	cts.		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.	
—	92	sold at 35		32 20		
—	2,356 ½	— 40		940 50	974 70	
209	- - -	— 45		94 5		
384	- - -	— 50		182 -		
348	- - -	— 60		208 80		
352	- - -	— 62½		200 -		
60	- - -	— 65		39 -		
114	- - -	— 70		79 80		
125	- - -	— 80		180 -	928 65	
1,572	2,448 ½				1,898 35	
Deduct, paid for a licence to sell rum - - -						11 55
					Dols.	1,886 80
Sundries:						
Corn sold, 234 dols. 56 cts.; potatoes, 609 dols. 45 cts.; yams, 7 dols. 80 cts. - - - - -					Dolls. ct.	851 81
Deduct cane plants purchased - - - - -					232	97
And corn and cane meat, ditto - - - - -					47	84
					280 81	
					571 -	
Received for rent of quarry, 76 dols. 95 cts., land rent, &c. 85 dols. 52 cents - - - - -					162	48
Received for ditto of land on which Highgate staff is situate - - - - -					85	70
Received for three labourers' houses sold - - - - -					Dols. 90	-
Ditto - for four vats sold - - - - -					40	-
					130 -	
Deducted from T. Brown and Codd's accounts for 1841, when paid this year - - - - -					32	79
					Dols.	981 79
					£.	819 2 8½
					£.	6,072 17 8½

1 8 4 2.

By this abstract, by deducting from the gross expenses of the estate the value of all other articles of produce and profit, the approximate cost of the sugar will be found:

		Sterling.	
		£.	s. d.
Gross expense of estate - - - - -		1,601	5 10
Value of rum, molasses, and all other produce in 1842 - - - - -		621	11 8½
Cost of 101 Hogsheads of Sugar, 15 cwt. to the Hogshead, 12s. 4d. per cwt.; but at the present value of Rum and Molasses the Cost of 1 cwt. Sugar would have been 16s. 6d. } £.		979	14 6½

The following is an abstract from the accounts of the Mount Clapham Estate for the year 1846:

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

No. 21.
Governor Reid, to
Earl Grey.

MOUNT CLAPHAM ABSTRACT, 1846.

	Dols.	cts.	Barbadoes Currency.
			£. s. d.
Cooperage and Repairs:			
4,400 staves, 200 dols. 80 cts.; 2,900 w. hoops, 199 dols. 20 cts.;	352	-	
1 set truss hoops, 12 dols. -			
6,780 deal boards, 162 dols. 12 cts.; 1,980 ft. deal plank, 53 dols. 79 cts. -	215	91	
Bullytree and locust, 81 dols. 91 cts.; 7,500 cedar and cy. shingles, 53 dols. 50 cts. -	137	41	
110 m. nails, 83 dols. 50 cts.; 300 clinches, 2 dols. 15 cts.; locks and hinges, 4 dols. 30 cts. -	89	95	
10th block tin, 2 dols. 50 cts.; 1,422ths lead, 85 dols. 32 cts. -	87	82	
74ths i. hoops, 3 dols. 71 cts.; 12 rivets, 10 cts. -	3	81	
700 Liverpool bricks, 16 dols. 80 cts.; 135 bu. lime, 13 dols. 50 cts. -	30	80	
4 kegs gunpowder to the blast stones, 75 dols.; masons, 59 dols. 26 cts. -	75	01	
Carj enter's hire, 89 dols. 25 cts., and cooper's hire, 49 dols. 95 cts. -	138	20	
	1,130	41	367 7 8
Miscellaneous Expenses:			
3 puns. oil meal, 48 dols.; 13 bags corn, 25 dols.; 28 sacks oats, 184 dols. 50 cts. -	207	50	
4 sacks salt, 8 dols.; 2 tons guano, 80 dols. 53 lbs.; tallow, 9 dols. 50 cts. -	97	54	
29 galls. lamp oil, 25 dols.; 4 pints turpentine, 65 cts. -	25	65	
Paint and oil, and painting the mill, &c. -	26	12	
Canvas and twine, and making and mending mill sails -	19	75	
Mill lacing, 2 dols.; wick yarn, 1 dol. 25 cts.; 26th rope, 3 dols. 81 cts. -	70	6	
Making cart harness, 1 dol. 50 cts.; gauging molasses and rum caaks, 3 dols. 17 cts. -	4	67	
Repairing superintendent's watch, 5 dols.; poison for dogs, 1 dol. -	6	-	
Paper and ink, 2 dols. 95 cts.; cane plants, 407 dols. 83 cts.; and fodder, 18 dols. 42 cts. -	428	70	
	822	99	267 9 5½
Utensils:			
1 pewter worm, 193 dols. 20 cts.; 3 brass cocks, 9 dols. 75 cts.; 2 caposes, 5 dols. -	207	95	
1 still, 154 dols.; deduct old still and head sold, 75 dols. 57 cts. -	78	43	
1 copper ladle, 1 dol. 75 cts.; 1 mill-step, 3 dols.; 6 cane bills, 2 dols. 25 cts. -	7	-	
6 cattle chains, 1 dol. 75 cts.; 1 grindstone, 5 dol. 75 cts.; 1 hoe, 80 cts. -	8	30	
1 saddle pad, 1 dol. 50 cts.; 1 saddle and bridle, 19 dols.; reins, 1 dol. -	21	50	
1 horse-brush and 1 currycomb, 1 dol. 25 cts.; bit, 1 dol. 50 cts.; comb, 12 cts. -	2	87	
1 pair horse-scissors, 40 cts.; 4 halters, 3 dols. 10 cts.; 2 horse-pails, 50 cts. -	4	-	
10 rum casks, 10 dols.; 3 rum cans, 3 dols.; 8 barrels, 1 dol. 20 cts. -	14	20	
4 baskets, 40 cts.; a scrubbing-brush, 75 cts. -	1	15	
1 hair-brush -	1	-	
	346	40	112 11 7½
Workmen's Accounts:			
Blacksmith, 33 dols. 28 cts.; plumber, 78 dols. 50 cts.; and mill-wright, 137 dols. 80 cts. -	249	58	81 2 3
Taxes:			
Parochial, on 236 acres land in Christchurch, at 1/3, 36 dols. 32 cts. } Ditto - on 107 - ditto - St. Michael's, at 2/6, 41 dols. 15 cts. }	77	47	
Treasury on the above 343 acres, at 10 cts. per acre, to keep the public roads in repair	34	30	
Assessment paid this year, which was due in 1845, for repairs of roads	14	10	
Island export duty on 116 hhds. sugar shipped this year	89	32	
	215	19	69 18 8½
Carried forward	-	-	£. 898 9 8½

Appendix, No. 2.

BARBADOES.

No. 21.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.

		Dols.	cts.	Barbadoes Currency.		
				£.	s.	d.
Brought forward - - -		-	-	898	9	8½
Managers' and White Servants' Expenses :						
Quarter cask wine, 64 dols. 4 cts.; 4 half-barrels pork, 44 dols.	-	108	-			
1 half barrel mackerel, 4 dols. 50 cts.; 2 barrels 1 keg herrings, 11 dols. 50 cts.	-	16	-			
2 boxes fish, 8 dols. 50 cts.; 1 barrel flour, 10 dols.; 41 lbs rice, 2 dols. 46 cts.	-	20	96			
125 lbs. coffee, 19 dols. 25 cts.; 3 half-boxes candles, 10 dols. 79 cts.	-	30	4			
60 lbs. soap, 3 dols. 60 cts.; and 50 lbs. arrowroot starch, 4 dols. 40 cts.	-	8	-			
		183	-	59	9	6
Salaries :						
John R. Gibbs, manager - - - - -	-	480	-			
Thomas Antson, under ditto, for 9 months and 6 days, at 200 dols. per year - - - - -	-	153	33			
Key-keeper, 80 dols., and assistant keeper, 57 dols. 27 cts. - - -	-	137	27			
Accountant - - - - -	-	80	-			
		850	60	276	8	11½
Hired Labour :						
Amount thereof this year - - - - -	-	4,025	95	1,308	8	8
Live Stock :						
8 cattle, 181 dols. ; 1 horse, 140 dols. ; 2 sheep, 7 dols., purchased -	-	328	-			
Deduct 5 cattle, 131 dols. ; and 1 sheep, 7 dols. 10 cts., sold - - -	-	138	10			
		189	90	61	14	4
				2,604	11	1
				2,604	10	11
				£.	5,209	2 -
Sugar :						
	Hhds.	£.	s.	d.	Dols.	
Net proceeds sales shipments to Cork, consigned to S. Hardy & Sons -	75	1,618	8	-	480 p' ct. exchange	2,524 14 -½
Ditto - - ditto - to Dublin, consigned to S. Hardy Brothers & Co.	41	929	3	2	480 - ditto	1,449 9 8½
	116	2,547	11	2	Sterling - - -	3,974 3 9½
					Dols.	cts.
Sold in the island, 2 brls., 500 lbs., 5 dols. 25 cts. p' 100 ; brls. 20 cts. ea.	-	26	65			
Ditto - - ditto - - 4 dols. 50 cts. p' 100 - ditto -	-	22	50			
Ditto - - 32 galls. sirup, at 35 cts. per gall. - - -	-	18	20			
Ditto - - 18 - ditto - - 35 cts. - ditto - - -	-	6	30			
		73	65	24	18	8½
Rum and Molasses :						
	cts.					
1,361 gallons of molasses - - - at 22½ - - -	-	306	22			
3,424 - ditto - - - - - at 30 - - -	-	1,027	20			
174 - ditto - - - - - at 35 - - -	-	60	90			
438 - ditto - - - - - at 40 - - -	-	175	50			
		1,568	52			
5,397						3,998 2 6
308 gallons of Rum - - - at 40 - - -	-	123	20			
181 - ditto - - - - - at 45 - - -	-	81	45			
60 - ditto - - - - - at 47½ - - -	-	28	50			
1,836 - ditto - - - - - at 50 - - -	-	816	-			
31 - ditto - - - - - at 52½ - - -	-	16	28			
216 - ditto - - - - - at 55 - - -	-	118	80			
63 - ditto - - - - - at 70 - - -	-	44	10			
		1,230	33			
2,495						909 19 -½
Carried forward - - - - -				£.	4,908	1 6½

	Dols.	Cts.	Barbadoes Currency.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	-	-	4,908	1	6½	
Sundries:						
Potatoes, 364 dols. 10 cts.; yams, 62 dols. 50 cts.; and corn, 208 dols. 62 cts., sold	635	22				
2 sugar tierces sold, 6 dols.; rent of land and cottages, 195 dols. 31 cts.	205	31				
Rent of land on which Highgate flag staff is situate	85	70				
	926	23	301	-	5½	
	£.		5,209	2	-	

Appendix, No. 2.
BARBADOES.
No. 21.
Governor Reid to
Earl Grey.

1846.

By this Abstract, by deducting from the gross expenses of the estate, the value of all other articles of produce and profit, the approximate cost of the sugar will be found.

	£.	s.	d.
Gross expense of estate	1,736	7	4
Value of rum, molasses, and all other produce in 1846	807	5	5
Cost of 116 Hogsheads of Sugar	929	1	11

15 Cwt. to the hogshead, 10s. 8½d. per cwt., but at the present reduced value of rum and molasses the cost of 1 cwt. of sugar would have been 14s. 7d.

Being desirous of knowing what are the periods in which capital employed in the culture of the sugar are replaced, I have obtained the annexed statement from Mr. Gaskin, President of the Council of Barbadoes. Mr. Gaskin calculates that one-third of his capital is three years before it is replaced, that another third is two years before it is replaced, and the remaining third one year.

Another question of interest is, what is the difference between a planter who cultivates a sugar estate, and manufactures his canes with capital of his own without having any occasion to borrow, and a planter who, having no capital whatever of his own, works entirely on money borrowed?

By a computation given to me, he who works a sugar estate entirely on borrowed capital, pays 11½ per cent. per annum for it. But on this question I am endeavouring to obtain more exact information.

The Cost of Preparing for, Planting, Manuring, and Reaping a Crop of 75 Acres of Canes, in the Parish of St. Philip, Island of Barbadoes.

	Dols.	Cts.
1. The planter should commence to make up the manure on the 1st day of January, say 1845, which would cost 25 dollars per acre, and taking his crop at 75 acres, the amount would be	1,875	-
2. The planter would begin the preparation of the 75 acres on or about the 1st of July, commencing with the holing of the land, and allowing 5 dols. 25 cts. per acre, to hole and cross-hole the 75 acres, which would give an average of 200 holes per day for each labourer to dig out, and 300 holes to cross-hole, the sum expended would not be less than	393	75
3. The planter during the months in the fall of the year would throw out the manure which was made up; and allowing one pen of manure of 40 feet square to each acre of land, he would have to carry out 75 pens, at the rate of 4 dols. each, costing him a total sum of	300	-
4. The planter would have to keep the 75 acres of land free of grass or weeds, from the time of preparation till at least the 1st day of August 1846, a period of 13 months, the cost of which, at the rate of three labourers per acre, would be 56 dols. 25 cts. to weed the 75 acres; and as the grass grows very luxuriantly (more particularly in this parish) the preparation lands would require to be weeded once in every third week, amounting to	956	25

Appendix, No. 2.
 BARBADOES.
 No 21.
 Governor Reid to
 Earl Grey.

		<i>Dols. Cts.</i>
5.	The planter would next begin to plant his crop about the 15th day of December 1845, and complete it about the end of January 1846; he would require 204,150 cane plants to plant off the 75 acres, which will cost 26 dols., allowing each labourer to cut 2,000 for his day's work; it would also take half the above quantity to supply his crop, and after adding the cost of cutting those, together with the labour expended in carting the plants to the different fields, dropping, and planting off the 75, the total amount would be -	146 75
6.	The planter would as soon as convenient, between the months of April and June 1846, trash the young canes, which on an average of six labourers per acre, including the carting of the trash round the fields, would cost -	112 50
7.	The planter would reap the crop planted in December 1845 between the months of January and June 1847; the 75 acres of canes planted would give an average of two hogshead per acre, or 150 casks of sugar, which could not be taken off for less than 6 dols. each, and that under favourable circumstances; the amount of reaping would be therefore -	900 -
8.	Another item in the expenditure of an estate would be the cost of watchmen, superintendents, herdsman, and grooms, which could not be put down at less than 42 dols. per month, amounting at the end of the year to -	504 -
Total - - - <i>Dols.</i>		5,088 25

The planter ships his crop, commencing in March and would finish early in July, which would be on average 35 days on the voyage; it is then sold at a credit of three months, and making an allowance for the time it is in the warehouse, the net proceeds of the whole crop would not appear at the planter's credit in his account current before the 15th of January 1848, showing a period of three years that the planter would be compelled to wait before he receives any return for the 5,088 dols. 25 cts. which he has expended to bring the crop to maturity, and thereby loses the interest of one-third of that money for three years, one-third for two, and one-third for one year.

(signed) *John S. Gaskin.*

These statements will not furnish any information new to your Lordship, since West India proprietors resident in England have in their possession abstracts of the expense of cultivating their own estates, and I see published in the English newspapers corresponding statements. Nevertheless I have thought it my duty to ascertain as nearly as I can approximate to it, and on the spot, what the cost of making sugar in the British West Indies may be.

I have, &c.
 (signed) *Wm. Reid, Governor.*

MAURITIUS.

— No. 22. —

MAURITIUS.

(No. 232.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir *W. M. Gomm* to Earl Grey.

No. 22.
 Sir *W. M. Gomm*
 to Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 14 October 1847.

I HAVE the honour to submit the monthly returns of this colony for September.

I again regret the small proportion of females accompanying the considerable introduction of the month here reported.

Casualties on the passage are shown to have been very few; and those in the colony generally continuing at a low rate.

The irregularity pointed out by Mr. Dowland, in his report upon the ship "Fuzel Rohmany," will be brought to the notice of the Calcutta Protector, and the small proportion of females recently transmitted pressed upon that of the agent.

This is partly accounted for, however, by the report, also forwarded, of a band of Madras men making their way to Calcutta unaccompanied, with the object of emigrating to the colony, and the decision come to under the circumstances.

I have, &c.
 (signed) *W. M. Gomm,*
 Lieutenant-general.

Enclosure 2, in No. 22.

RETURN of the IMMIGRANTS introduced into the Colony of *Mauritius* at the Public Expense, who have Embarked for their respective Countries during the Quarter ended on the 30th September 1847.

Date of Embarkation.	Name of Ship.	Destination.	Previously to Five Years' Residence at their own Expense.			After Five Years' Residence at Public Expense.			REMARKS.
			M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	
1847:									
13 July	Fyzel Currim	Calcutta	148	8	-	*6	-	-	Average period of residence of those who left previously to five years' residence, three years and two months.
13 - -	- Ditto - -	Ditto - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	
4 Aug.	Steamer Surat	Bombay	19	-	-	-	-	-	
12 - -	Rachel - -	Madras - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	
4 Sept.	Teazer - -	Ditto - -	50	4	-	3	-	-	Average period of residence of those who left after five years' residence, about nine years.
4 - -	Ditto - -	Ditto - -	-	-	-	*3	-	-	
14 - -	Fyzel Rohomany	Calcutta	2	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTALS - - -			219	12	-	5	-	-	

* At their own expense.

Immigration Office, October 1847.

Encl. 3, in No. 22.

Enclosure 3, in No. 22.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 6 September 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "Fuzel Rohomany" (No. 13, of 1847), which arrived at *Port Louis* from *Calcutta* on 1 September 1847.

NAME of the master—John Grenville Harrison Porter.
 Name of the surgeon—Shaik Himmut ("native doctor").
 Date of departure—From *Calcutta* 12th, from *Sandheads* 17th July 1847.
 Number of days on the voyage—51.
 Registered tonnage—614.
 Superficies of passengers' deck—Not known.
 Number of statute acres admissible—236.
 Number of such adults actually on board—231.
 Number of crew—62.
 Port at which the vessel touched—Not any.
 Date of touching—Not any.
 Days there—Not any.
 If placed in quarantine, state the cause—Not any.

Emigrants Embarked.				Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.
M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
221	13	4	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	216	13	4	-	238

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance).

General state of health, very good.

"The whole of the between decks, from the fore part of the fore-scuttle hatch to the after transom or fifth beam abaft the after-skuttle hatch," appropriated to the emigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Appendix, No. 2. MAURITIUS. Encl. 3, in No. 22.
Emigrants embarked - - - - -	221	13	4	-	
Deaths on the voyage (Nos. 40, 50, 55, 139, 155) - - - - -	6	-	-	-	
TOTAL Living and on Board on 1 Sept. 1847 - - - - -	216	13	4	-	
Infants embarked - - - - -	-	-	-	none.	
Births on the voyage (mothers) - - - - -	-	-	-	none.	

DISTRIBUTION of IMMIGRANTS by the "Fuzel Rohomany," 6 September 1847.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATE.		IMMIGRANTS.				REMARKS.
	Name.	In what District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	
Raffray & Co. - -	Ganité - -	River Rempart -	38	2	2	-	Immigrants in the band who have been already in the colony:--
Barlow & Co. - -	Phoenix - -	Plains Wilhelms	27	1	1	-	
Montocchio & Co. - -	Beau Rivage -	Flacq - -	21	1	-	-	Men - - - 18 Women - - - 1
Adam & Co. - -	St. Aubin - -	Savanne - -	20	-	-	-	
Rivière & Co. - -	Palma - -	Plains Wilhelms	17	-	-	-	Attended the distribution:--
J. Blancard - -	La Laura - -	Flacq - -	14	-	2	-	
Barlow & Co. - -	Mon Trésor -	Grand Port -	15	-	-	-	Planters - - - 55 Representatives of planters - - - 30 Interpreters of ditto 70
Legentil - -	La Paix - -	River Rempart -	12	-	1	-	
Adam & Co. - -	La Bourdonnais	-- North Pam- plemousses.	12	-	6	-	Total - - - 155
Bandot - -	Poudre d'Or -	River Rempart -	8	-	1	-	
Lucas & Co. - -	Cottage - -	-- North Pam- plemousses.	8	-	-	-	TOTAL - - -
W. West - -	The Vale - -	- - ditto - -	7	-	-	-	
Aikin & Co. - -	La Sottise - -	- - ditto - -	5	-	-	-	
Foliard - -	Belle Alliance -	River Rempart -	6	-	-	-	
Chapman & Co. -	Mount Mascal -	-- North Pam- plemousses.	4	-	-	-	
Barlow & Co. - -	St. Rock - -	Grand Port -	3	-	-	-	
	TOTAL - - -		216	4	18	-	

REMARKS.

It appears that, contrary to the Indian regulations, none of the provisions were served out to the emigrants twice a day; some of them, including tamarinds and chillies, not even once, but only weekly. The latter practice, at least, is obviously a most objectionable one. It is, however, only fair to Captain Porter to state, that the emigrants who landed from his vessel were in the best possible condition, and expressed themselves entirely satisfied with the treatment they had received during the passage.

(signed) *James Dowland,*
Acting Solicitor.

Enclosure 4, in No. 22.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 27 September 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "Ernaad," (No. 14 of 1847), which arrived Encl. 4, in No. 22. at Port Louis from Calcutta on the 18th September 1847.

NAME of the master—Edward Younghusband.
Name of the surgeon—Ramjean (native doctor).
Date of departure—15th August, from Calcutta.
Number of days on the voyage—33 days.
Registered tonnage—682 tons.
Superficies of passengers' deck—Not known.
Number of statute adults admissible—216.
Number of such adults actually on board—211.
Number of crew—73.
Port at which vessel touched—None.
Date of touching—None.
Days there—None.
If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.
Encl. 4, in No. 22.

Emigrants Embarked.				Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.					
Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
189	19	15	1	224	-	none	-	1	-	-	189	18	15	1	223

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

"Between decks," 15 feet from forehead to the gunroom abaft, appropriated by charter-party to the sole use of the immigrants. Ship properly fitted with windsails and patent ventilators.

(signed) *T. J. Hugon,*
Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked - - - - -	189	19	5	1
Deaths on the voyages (No. 206) - - - - -	-	1	-	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 18th September 1847 - - -	189	18	5	1
Infants embarked - - - - -	-	-	1	2
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Deaths - ditto - (ditto) - - - - -	-	-	1	2
TOTAL Living and on Board on 18th September 1847 - - -	-	-	1	2

N. B.—The immigrants Seta, No. 53, and Rosun, No. 94, died after inspection in the dépôt.

(signed) *T. J. Hugon,*
Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRANTS per "Ernaad," 22d September 1847.

Sugar Planters.	E S T A T E.		I M M I G R A N T S.			
	Names.	In what District.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Chapman & Co. -	Bon Espoir -	N. Pamplemousses -	26	1	6	-
C. C. Browrigg -	Beau Bassin -	Plains Wilhems -	17	1	1	-
E. Gaud -	Lamitie -	Rivière Rempart -	11	-	2	-
Chapman & Co. -	Mount Mascal -	N. Pamplemousses -	16	2	-	-
Allard -	Mon Repos -	S. Pamplemousses -	19	2	-	-
Gaud & Co. -	Palmar -	Flacq -	11	1	-	-
Desmaias's -	Volmar -	Ditto -	9	1	2	-
Montocchio & Co. -	Beau Rivage -	Ditto -	4	-	-	-
J. Currie -	Sauveterre -	Grand Port -	21	4	2	1
G. Feuilltherade -	Teracine -	Savanne -	17	-	3	-
E. Montille -	Beaufond -	Grand Port -	10	-	-	-
Hunter & Co. -	Union Vale -	Ditto -	8	-	-	-
Robillard -	Belle Vue -	N. Pamplemousses -	11	1	1	-
Blancard -	La Caroline -	Flacq -	9	-	1	-
	Sent to Hospital -	-	1	-	1	-
	Died after Inspection -	-	2	-	-	-
	TOTAL - - -		189	15	18	1

Enclosure 5, in No. 22.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 27 September 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "Juliana" (No. 15, of 1847), which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on the 20th September 1847. Encl. 5, in No. 22.

Name of the master—William Young Woodhouse.
Name of the surgeon—Buldro Sing (native doctor).
Date of departure—5 August, from Calcutta.
Number of days on the voyage—40 days.
Registered tonnage—565 tons.
Superficies of passengers' deck—Unknown.
Number of statute adults admissible—203½.
Number of such adults actually on board—203.
Number of crew—61.
Port at which vessel touched—None.
Date of touching—None.
Days there—None.
If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
186	11	9	3	209	-	-	3	2	-	-	183	9	9	3	204

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

General state of health very good.

Between decks, from the sternpost to the fore hatchway, appropriated by charter-party to the use of the immigrants. Ship properly fitted with platforms, windsails, and patent ventilators.

(signed) T. J. Hugon,
Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked - - - - -	186	11	9	3
Deaths on the voyage (Nos. 93, 103, 161, 183, and 195) - - -	3	2	-	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 20 Sept. 1847 - - -	183	9	9	3
Infants embarked - - - - -	-	-	-	2
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Deaths on the voyage (ditto No. 195) - - - - -	-	-	-	1
TOTAL Living and on Board on 20 Sept. 1847 - - -	-	-	-	1

(signed) T. J. Hugon,
Protector of Immigrants.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 5, in No. 22.

DISTRIBUTION of IMMIGRANTS per "Juliana," 23d September 1847.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATE.		IMMIGRANTS.			
	Name.	In what District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.
W. Forster - -	Melville - -	North Pamplemousses	14	1	-	-
V. Harel - - -	Belle Vue - -	- - ditto - - -	14	1	-	-
E. Montille - -	Beaufond - -	Grand Port - - -	13	-	1	-
Adrain - - -	Trianon - - -	Plains Wilhems -	21	1	2	1
Adams & Co. - -	La Bourdonnais -	South Pamplemousses	9	2	1	-
V. Harel - - -	Aubry - - -	North Pamplemousses	5	2	4	?
Vandierre - -	St. Marie - - -	Flacq - - -	7	1	-	-
Moritocchio - -	Beau Rivage - -	Ditto - - -	22	-	-	-
Ditto - - -	Belle Marre - -	Ditto - - -	19	-	-	-
Collet - - -	Belle Rive - -	Rivière Rempart -	6	-	-	-
V. Robillard - -	Belle Vue - - -	North Pamplemousses	3	-	-	-
J. T. Couve - -	Beau Plan - - -	South Pamplemousses	3	-	-	-
Chapman & Co. -	Woodford - - -	North Pamplemousses	44	1	1	-
	Sent to hospital - - -		3	-	-	-
	TOTAL Landed - - -		183	9	9	3
	Died on passage - - -		3	2	-	-
	TOTAL originally Embarked - - -		186	11	9	3

Enclosure 6, in No. 22.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 27 September 1847.

Encl. 6, in No. 22. REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "Defiance" (No. 16, of 1847), which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on the 20th September 1847.

Name of the master—John Bathazard Sergent.

Name of the surgeon—Lall Khan (native doctor).

Date of departure—7 August, from Calcutta.

Number of days on the voyage—45 days.

Registered tonnage—512 tons.

Superficies of passengers' deck—Unknown.

Number of statute adults admissible—198.

Number of such adults actually on board—198.

Number of crew—45.

Port at which vessel touched—None.

Date of touching—None.

Days there—None.

If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
179	17	4	-	200	-	-	1	-	-	-	178	17	4	-	199

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper regarding the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

General state of health very good.

The whole of between decks appropriated by charter party to sole use of the immigrants. Patent ventilators. Men landed without one case of sickness.

(signed) T. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked	179	17	4	-
Deaths on the voyage (No. 12)	1	-	-	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 20th September 1847	178	17	4	-
Infants embarked			2	3
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.)			-	-
			2	3
Deaths on the voyage (mothers' Nos. 185)			1	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 20th September 1847			1	3

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.
 Encl. 6, in No. 22.

T. J. Hugon,
 Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRANTS per "Defiance," 24th September 1847.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATES.		IMMIGRANTS.			
	Name.	In what District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.
Adam & Co	Beau Sejour	Plains Wilhems	24	-	-	-
E. Boilian	Choisy	Savanne	9	1	2	-
Arth. Edwards	Ravin	Rivière Rempart	14	-	1	-
Chapman & Co.	Mount Mascal	N. Pamplermousses	11	-	-	-
Kfvorn	River La Chaux	Grand Port	12	-	3	-
Hy. Barlow	St. Rock	Ditto	6	1	5	-
Chapman & Co.	Virginia	Ditto	3	-	2	-
J. Daruty	Union	N. Pamplermousses	26	2	-	-
Adrian	Trianon	Plaines Wilhems	35	-	2	-
J. T. Couve	Beau Plan	Pamplermousses	35	-	-	-
V. Roblillard	Belle Vue	North ditto	3	-	2	-
	Died on the passage		1	-	-	-
	TOTAL		179	4	17	-

Enclosure 7, in No. 22.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 5 October 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "Isabella Hercus" (No. 17, of 1847), which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on the 29th September 1847. Encl. 7, in No. 22.

NAME of the master—Peter Houston.
 Name of the surgeon—John Harrison (European doctor).
 Date of departure—16th August.
 Number of days on the voyage—43 days.
 Registered tonnage—618.
 Superficies of passengers' deck—Unknown.
 Number of statute adults admissible—205.
 Number of such adults actually on board—203.
 Number of crew—44.
 Port at which vessel touched—None.
 Date of touching—None.
 Days there—None.
 If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.
Encl. 7, in No. 22.

Emigrants Embarked.				Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.					
Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
181	18	9	3	211	none	-	2	-	-	-	179	18	9	3	209

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

This seems a very good ship for emigrants; only one sick; people well contented with their treatment on board.

T. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked	181	18	9	3
Deaths on the voyage (Nos. 109 and 123)	2	-	-	-
TOTAL living and on board on 29th September 1847	179	18	9	3
Infants embarked	-	-	5	3
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.)	-	-	-	-
Deaths on the voyage (mother's Nos.)	-	-	5	3
TOTAL living and on board on 29th September 1847	-	-	5	3

DISTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRANTS per "Isabella Hercus," 2d October 1847.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATE.		IMMIGRANTS.			
	Name.	District.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Barlow & Co.	Phoenix	Plaines Wilhelms	13	-	-	-
Adrian	Tranon	Ditto	15	2	-	-
Adam & Co.	Bonne Mere	Flacq	31	2	2	1
Hunter & Co.	Les Marres	Grand Port	13	1	4	1
J. Blancard	La Caroline	Flacq	18	-	5	-
Montocchio	Beau Rivage	Ditto	24	-	-	-
Baudot	Belmont	Rivière Rempart	12	1	-	-
Ulcog & Co.	Bras d'Eau	Flacq	14	-	2	1
Baudot	Poudre d'Or	Riv. Pamplemousses	28	1	-	-
Adam & Co.	St. Aubin	Savanne	7	-	2	-
Sauzier	Mont Mascal	North Pamplemousses	4	2	3	-
			179	9	18	3
		Died on the passage	2	-	-	-
		TOTAL	181	9	18	3

Enclosure 8, in No 22.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
12 August 1847.

Encl. 8, in No. 22.

Sir,
I HAVE the honour to request that you will inform the Government of Bengal that about two hundred and fifty (250) men have come up from the Madras Presidency, with the intention of emigrating to Mauritius; but having no females amongst them, I beg the favour of your ascertaining whether the Government would have any objection to grant a license for a ship

ship to convey 218 of these men to Mauritius, unaccompanied, they having expressed their disinclination to take any Calcutta women with them. The remaining number will be sent in a ship which takes emigrants to this presidency.

In May last I despatched in the ship "Fyzel Currim," sixty-two (62) Madras men, making altogether about 312, who have come up since March of this year.

I have, &c.
(signed) T. Caird, Emigration Agent.

To Captain T. E. Royers, Protector
of Emigrants.

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.
Encl. 8, in No. 22.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
28 August 1847.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I have this day despatched by the ship "John Bright" 243 Madras men; but as they brought no females with them from their own country, I deemed it as well to refer the matter for the consideration of the Government of Bengal before shipping them, and the correspondence is herewith annexed.

2. As the colony is so much in want of labourers, I did not think that I should be justified in refusing to send them, from their having no females amongst them; but I have told the people who brought them up, that in the event of any more wishing to go to Mauritius, that they must bring their families with them.

I have, &c.
(signed) T. Caird, Emigration Agent.

To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary,
Port Louis, Mauritius.

From the Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Protector of Emigrants at the Port of Calcutta; dated Fort William, 18 August 1847.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 17, dated the 13th instant, with enclosures, and in reply to state, that the deputy-governor has been pleased to authorize the emigration agent to forward the party of 250 men, who have come to Calcutta from the Madras territories, with a view to emigrate to Mauritius.

I have, &c.
(signed) A. R. Young,
Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Fort William, Protector's Office,
21 August 1847.

— No. 23. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir W. M. Gomm to Earl Grey.

(No. 243.)

My Lord,

Mauritius, 29 October 1847.

I HAVE the honour to submit the labour returns of this colony, for the quarter ending 30th September of the present year, comprising—

- 1st. A statement of labourers-employed, absent, and sick, on 30th September.
- 2d. Statement of the per centage proportion of deserters, absentees, and sick among the labourers comprised in the Returns made to Government in each quarter of the years 1845, 1846, and 1847.
- 3d. List of sugar estates from which labour returns have been received for the several quarters of the years 1845, 1846, and 1847.

The present Returns show a considerable diminution in the number of notices sent in from the sugar estates, as compared with those of June; and the deficiency is still more observable among the minor estates beyond that of any former period noted, vitiating in proportion the general statement of members in employ, although perhaps not materially, the per centage proportion of absence from sickness and other causes specified; and thus the collective showing may be regarded as favourable to the period immediately under review.

And this impression is further confirmed with me by the periodical statements of the stipendiary magistrates officiating in the districts most populous in immigrant labour, importing, that while the disposition to release themselves from an engagement freshly contracted, and betake themselves to another, to the manifest hardship of the first employer, who had paid the stamp duty upon the faith of their remaining with him for the stipulated term, appears to the magistrates to have facilities left open to it by the law as it at present exists, which they would desire to see removed, by providing for the more ready detection of such wanton desertion; it is indisputable, that the regulation of exacting the monthly tax from all those who are not engaged in the great agricultural labour, has had the effect of bringing back numbers of stragglers and loose hangers-on upon the town into such service, and has thus materially increased the amount of work going on in the cane-fields, while it does not appear to have had the effect of sensibly diminishing the numbers already engaged in other regular employ.

I have, &c.
(signed) W. M. Gomm, Lieutenant-General.

No. 23.
Sir W. M. Gomm
to Earl Grey.

Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

GENERAL STATEMENT of LABOURERS Employed, Absent, and Sick, on 30th September 1847.

DISTRICTS.	LABOURERS EMPLOYED.						Absentees of more than a Fortnight.					Absentees under a Fortnight.					SICK.								
	Indians.	Creoles.	Malagasy.	Chinese.	Johannese.	Total.	Indians.	Creoles.	Malagasy.	Chinese.	Johannese.	Total.	Indians.	Creoles.	Malagasy.	Chinese.	Johannese.	Total.	Indians.	Creoles.	Malagasy.	Chinese.	Johannese.	Total.	
SUGAR ESTATES:																									
South Pamplemousses	11	1,730	170	6	-	-	1,906	64	-	-	-	-	64	126	5	-	-	-	131	72	3	-	-	-	75
North Pamplemousses	14	2,691	394	8	-	-	3,096	251	1	-	-	-	252	167	8	-	-	-	175	121	5	-	-	-	126
Rivière du Rempart	17	3,431	479	6	12	-	3,928	167	1	-	1	-	159	132	17	-	-	-	149	183	11	-	-	-	194
Flacq	30	6,486	353	11	-	-	6,860	372	6	-	-	-	377	434	10	-	-	-	444	884	10	-	-	-	394
Grand Port	22	4,147	208	1	-	3	4,359	167	-	-	-	-	167	241	8	-	-	-	249	197	4	-	-	-	201
Savanne	8	1,077	138	-	2	7	1,224	61	-	-	-	-	61	41	2	-	-	-	43	51	5	-	-	-	56
Black River	5	559	70	2	1	-	632	7	-	-	-	-	7	19	1	-	-	-	20	28	3	-	-	-	31
Plaines Wilhems	21	3,080	207	12	10	10	3,319	219	-	-	-	-	219	201	5	1	-	-	207	105	3	-	-	1	109
Moka	5	114	18	-	-	-	132	11	-	-	-	-	11	12	-	-	-	-	12	5	3	-	-	-	5
Total	133	23,318	2,037	46	25	20	25,446	1,309	7	-	1	-	1,317	1,373	56	1	-	-	1,430	1,146	47	-	-	1	1,194
OTHER ESTATES:																									
Port Louisa	4	156	29	3	-	-	188	1	-	-	-	-	1	12	1	-	-	-	13	6	1	-	-	-	7
South Pamplemousses	1	32	3	-	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
North Pamplemousses	6	45	7	-	-	-	52	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	4
Rivière du Rempart	8	113	3	3	-	-	119	1	-	-	-	-	1	11	-	-	-	-	11	4	-	-	-	-	4
Flacq	9	388	18	1	-	3	410	8	-	-	-	-	8	28	-	-	-	-	28	21	-	-	-	-	21
Grand Port	3	132	5	-	-	-	137	5	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	3
Savanne	3	69	10	-	-	-	79	2	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	5
Black River	3	154	14	6	2	3	179	4	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	-	-	5
Plaines Wilhems	29	300	39	15	5	3	360	24	-	-	-	-	24	9	-	-	-	-	9	9	2	-	-	-	11
Moka	9	79	13	-	-	-	92	2	-	-	-	-	2	4	1	-	-	-	5	6	-	-	-	-	6
Total	75	1,468	141	28	5	9	1,651	49	-	-	-	-	49	70	2	-	-	-	78	62	5	-	-	-	67
GRAND TOTAL	208	24,786	2,178	74	30	29	27,097	1,358	7	-	{ 1 -	1,366	{ 1,449	58	1	{ - -	1,508	1,208	52	-	{ - 1	1,261	4-0		
											Per centage	5-4				Per centage	5-5				Per centage				

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 2, in No. 23.

Enclosure 2, in No. 23.

STATEMENT of the Per-centage Proportion of **DESSERTERS**, **ABSENTEES**, and **SICK**, among the Labourers comprised in the Returns made to Government, in each Quarter of the Years 1845, 1846, and 1847.

Dates of Returns.	Number of Returns.	Number of Men.	PER-CENTAGE PROPORTION.				
			Deserters.	Absentees.	Total Deserters and Absentees.	Sick.	TOTAL of Absence.
SUGAR ESTATES:							
8 Mar. 1845	183	33,464	6.6	4.8	10.9	5.6	16.5
30 June -	171	30,862	7.3	5.5	12.8	6.0	18.8
30 Sept. -	194	35,065	7.3	5.7	13.0	5.4	18.4
31 Dec. -	195	35,908	5.9	4.7	10.6	4.4	15.0
31 Mar. 1846	191	33,651	6.7	5.4	12.1	4.5	16.6
30 June -	164	29,051	5.5	4.4	9.9	4.6	14.5
30 Sept. -	134	23,854	5.7	4.9	10.6	4.6	15.2
31 Dec. -	123	22,776	4.5	5.6	10.1	4.7	14.8
31 Mar. 1847	139	24,386	6.6	7.4	14.0	5.3	19.3
30 June -	150	26,059	5.6	6.0	11.6	5.2	16.8
30 Sept. -	133	25,446	5.2	5.6	10.8	4.7	15.5
OTHER ESTATES:							
8 Mar. 1845	313	5,589	4.9	2.4	7.3	3.9	11.2
30 June -	247	3,897	6.6	2.0	8.6	3.9	12.5
30 Sept. -	312	5,441	7.0	3.6	10.6	4.0	14.6
31 Dec. -	282	4,763	5.7	3.1	8.8	3.6	12.4
31 Mar. 1846	259	4,211	5.5	2.7	8.2	3.1	11.3
30 June -	253	3,942	4.4	2.1	6.5	3.0	9.5
30 Sept. -	250	3,512	2.9	2.8	5.7	3.3	9.0
31 Dec. -	155	3,465	2.5	4.4	6.9	4.0	10.9
31 Mar. 1847	118	3,936	2.4	9.0	11.4	5.6	17.0
30 June -	146	3,406	4.3	3.8	8.1	4.3	12.4
30 Sept. -	75	1,651	3.0	4.7	7.7	4.0	11.7
GRAND TOTAL:							
8 Mar. 1845	496	39,053	6.4	4.1	10.5	5.4	15.9
30 June -	418	34,259	7.2	5.1	12.3	5.8	18.1
30 Sept. -	506	40,506	7.3	5.4	12.7	5.2	17.9
31 Dec. -	477	40,666	5.9	4.5	10.4	4.3	14.7
31 Mar. 1846	450	37,862	6.5	5.1	11.6	4.3	15.9
30 June -	417	32,993	5.4	4.1	9.5	4.4	13.9
30 Sept. -	384	27,266	5.4	4.7	10.1	4.4	14.5
31 Dec. -	278	26,241	4.2	5.5	9.7	4.6	14.3
31 Mar. 1847	257	28,323	6.0	7.5	13.5	5.3	18.8
30 June -	296	30,065	5.5	5.8	11.5	5.1	16.4
30 Sept. -	208	27,097	5.4	5.5	10.9	4.6	15.5

Enclosure 3, in No. 23.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 3, in No. 23.

STATEMENT showing the several Quarters of the Years 1845, 1846, and 1847, for which
LABOUR RETURNS have been received from the undermentioned SUGAR ESTATES.

ESTATES.	OWNERS.	WHEN FURNISHED.			REMARKS.
		1845.	1846.	1847.	
SOUTH PAMPLEMOUSSES :					
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	
Albert - - -	Messrs. Hunter & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 - 3	
Beau Plan - -	Mr. J. F. Couve -	1 2 3 4	1 2 - -	1 2 -	
Espérance - -	Messrs. Couve & Co.	- - 3 4	1 2 3 -	- - 3	
Fairfund - - -	Messrs. Baker & Co.	1 - 3 4	1 - (3) 4	- - 3	
Farguhar - - -	Mr. Slade - - -	- - 3 4	- - - -	- - -	
Josephine - -	Mr. C. Larcher -	- - 3 -	- - - -	- - -	
La Louisa - -	Messrs. Chapman & Co.	1 - 3 4	1 2 - -	- - 3	
La Petite Rosalie	Mr. A. Duhamel -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 (4)	1 2 3	
La Sottise - -	Messrs. W. Aikin & Co.	- - - -	- - - -	(1) 2 3	
La Rosalie - -	Mr. N. Savy - - -	1 2 3 4	- - - -	1 - 3	
Les Rochers -	Mr. I. Currie - -	1 2 3 4	- 2 - -	1 - 3	
Maison Blanche -	Mad. Ve. Dioré -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	1 - 3	
Mon Choix - -	Messrs. Riviere & Carcenac.	1 2 3 4	- - - -	- - -	
Mon Desir - -	Mad. Bouchet - -	1 - 3 -	- - - -	1 2 3	
Mon Rocher - -	Mr. C. Feline - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 - 4	1 2 3	
Plessis - - -	Mr. Germain - - -	1 2 3 -	1 - - -	1 2 -	
The Mount - -	Mr. C. Feline - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Orangerie - -	Mr. A. Bouchet -	- - 3 4	1 - - -	- - -	
NORTH PAMPLEMOUSSES :					
Agrément & Unité	Mr. F. Merven - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Beau Manguier -	Messrs. H. Barlow & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Belle Vue - - -	Mr. Eug. Rivet - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Belle Vue - - -	Mr. V. de Robillard	1 2 3 4	1 2 (3) 4	1 2 3	
Belle Vue - - -	Messrs. Harel frères	1 2 3 4	1 2 - -	1 2 3	
Belle Vue - - -	Messrs. Pilot frères	1 2 3 4	1 - - -	- - -	
Bon Air - - -	Mr. I. Bourgault -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	- 2 3	
Bon Espoir - -	Mad. Ve. Dagonne -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	(1) 2 3	
Bon Espoir - -	Mr. Bestel aîné - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	- - -	
Caroline - - -	Messrs. Barbé & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 (4)	1 2 3	
Fond du Sac - -	Messrs. Lionnet & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 - -	- - -	
Grande Baie - -	Messrs. Leclezio & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	1 2 3	
Labourdonnais -	Messrs. H. Adam & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 (3) 4	- 2 -	
L'Espérance - -	Messrs. C. Cockerell & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 - - -	- - -	
L'Union - - -	Mr. E. Laborde - -	1 2 3 4	- - - 4	1 2 -	
L'Union - - -	Mrs. Wow. Gautier -	1 2 3 4	1 - - -	- - -	
Mare Sèche - -	Mr. L. Mazery - - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Mont Choisy - -	Mr. C. Millieu - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Mont Mascal -	Mr. E. Laborde - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 - 4	1 - -	
Persévérance -	Mr. Decamps - - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 - 4	- - -	
Rouge Terre - -	Mr. A. Paillotte -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Triolet - - -	Mr. Langlois - - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 (3)	
Solitude - - -	Mr. Vr. Lanougarède	1 2 3 4	1 2 - 4	- - -	
Union - - - -	Mad. Daruty - - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Vale - - - - -	Mr. W. West - - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Woodford - - -	Messrs. Chapman & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 (3)	
RIVIERE DU REMPART :					
Beau Séjour - -	Messrs. Barlow & Co.	1 - 3 4	1 - - -	- - -	
Belle Alliance -	Messrs. Hunter & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 (4)	(1) - -	
Belle Vue - - -	Mr. A. Collett - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 -	
Belle Vue - - -	Mr. R. Dumont - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Belle Vue - - -	Messrs. Chapman & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 - 4	1 2 -	
Belmont - - -	Mr. Blandot - - -	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Bois Mangué - -	Mad. Ve Raffray - -	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 (4)	1 2 -	

ESTATES.	OWNERS.	WHEN FURNISHED.			REMARKS.
		1845.	1846.	1847.	
Rivière du Rempart—continued.					
Bon Accueil	Mr. Vor. Pilot	- 3 4	1 2 - -	- 2 3	
Bon Espoir	Mr. R. Tiroumondy	1 2 3 4	1 - 3 4	1 2 -	
Constance	Heir Moulinié	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -		
Cottage	Messrs. Lucas, frères	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 (4)	1 2 3	
Deux Amis	Messrs. Feline & Dioré	1 2 3 4	1 2 - -	(1) 2 -	
Espérance	Messrs. Trebuchet & Co.	1 - 3 4	1 - - -		
Figette	Mr. Bandot	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Forback	Messrs. Aubin & Co.	1 - 3 4	- - - -	1 2 3	
Goodlands	Messrs. Hunter & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Haute-rive	Mr. L. Lebreton	1 - 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Ile d'Ambre	Mr. C. Rouillard	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	1 2 3	
L'Amitié	Messrs. H. Adam & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 -	
La Clémence	Messrs. Galdemar & Co.	- - 3 4			
La Laura	Messrs. Jonas & Co.	1 - 3 4	1 - - -		
La Paix	Mr. A. Legentil	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	1 - -	
La Réunion	Messrs. Maurel & Lachiche.	- 2 3 4	1 2 - -	- 2 -	
Le Rocher	Mad. Raffray	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 - 3	
Lucia	Messrs. Piat & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 - 3 -		
Mapon	Messrs. Leclezio & Chennau.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Melville	Messrs. Forster & Le-strange.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 -	
Mon Songe	Heirs Moulinié	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	- 2 3	
Mon Triomphe	Mr. Sornay	1 2 3 4	1 - - (4)	(1) - -	
Mon Loisir	Mr. E. Rouillard	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	1 2 3	
Mon Loisir	Heirs Pilot	1 2 3 4	1 2 - -	- 2 -	
Mon Piton	Messrs. Barbé, Lor-tan & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 - - -		
Moulins	Mr. Berger Dujonet	1 - - -	- - - -	- 2 -	
Petit Village	Mr. John Clifford	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Poudre d'Or	Mr. Bandot	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Ravensthorpe	Messrs. Chapman & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 (3) (4)	(1) 2 -	
Ravin	Messrs. Edwards & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 - - 4		
Riche en Roches	Mad. Béchard	- - - -	1 2 - -		
Roche Croix	Mad. Ve. Lachiche	- 2 3 4	1 2 - 4	1 2 3	
Roche Noire	Mad. Ve. Grenier	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Roche Terre	Mr. Fourrette	1 2 - 4	1 2 (3) 4	1 2 -	
St. Antoine	Mr. Ed. de Chazal	1 - - 4	1 - - -	1 - -	
Schoenfeld	Messrs. Staub, Berne & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 (4)	- (2) 3	
FLACQ:					
Argy	Mr. Fropier	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Beau Bassin	Mr. A. Gérard	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Beau Bois	Messrs. H. Adam & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 - 3 4	1 2 3	
Beauchamp	Messrs. Hunter & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Beau Rivage and Bel Air.	Messrs. Montocchio, frères.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Bel Etang	Messrs. M. Fostée	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Belle Etoile	Messrs. Sevenne	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Belle Mare	Messrs. Montocchio & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	1 2 3	
Belle Maré	Mr. Hoareau	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Belle Roche	Messrs. Nozaic & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 (3)	
Belle Rose	Mad. J. M. Lagesse	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Belle Vue	Mr. V. Lanougarede	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Belle Vue	Mr. F. Gautier	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Bon Accueil	Messrs. Blyth, Brothers & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Bonne Mere	Mad. Bréard	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Bras d'Eau	Messrs. Ulcoq & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Choisy	Mad. Toché	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Constance	Mr. P. N. Truquez	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Constance	Mr. D'Arifat	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 (3)	
Hermitage	Messrs. Barbeau & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 - 4	1 2 (3)	

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.
Encl. 3, in No. 23.

ESTATES.	OWNERS.	WHEN FURNISHED.												REMARKS.
		1845.				1846.				1847.				
		Quarters.				Quarters.				Quarters.				
Flacq—continued.														
La Gaité - -	Messrs. H. Barlow & Co.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
La Retraite - -	Messrs. Bourgault & Co.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Laura - -	Mr. J. Blancard - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
La Villette - -	Mr. Gondreville - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	-	4	1	2	3		
L'Etoile - -	Messrs. Plantin & Marquet.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
L'Union - -	Mr. Lanougarède - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Mare Triton - -	Mr. L. Barbeau - -	-	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	(3)		
Mon Rocher - -	Messrs. Hardy & Co.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Mont Alba - -	Messrs. Charreton - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	(3)		
Nouvelle Caroline	Mr. J. Blancard - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Palmar - -	Messrs. Desmarais - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Petite Retraite - -	Messrs. Piat & Co. - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Providence - -	Mr. Martin - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	(1)1	-	3	(*) United with La Villette estate.	
Queen Victoria - -	Messrs. Chapman & Barclay.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Richemare - -	Mr. J. A. Wiehe - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	-		
Rivière Profonde	Messrs. Pilliet & Delapelyn.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Saint Amand - -	Messrs. Hardy & Lagesse.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Victoria - -	Mr. John Clifford - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	-	4	1	2	3		
Woodlands - -	Messrs. Arbuthnot & Stevely.	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	4	-	-	-	not worked.	
Virginie - -	Mad. Feuilherdde	1	2	3	4	Included in La Gaité estate.								
GRAND PORT:														
Anse Cunat - -	Mr. A. Mangeot - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Beaufond - -	Mr. E. Montille - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Beau Vallon - -	Mr. A. Rochecouste	1	-	3	4	1	-	-	(4)	-	2	3		
Beau Vallon - -	Mr. Cautin - -	1	-	-	4	1	-	-	4	1	2	3		
Bon Espoir - -	Messrs. Hunter & Co.	1	-	3	4	1	2	(3)	(4)	-	-	3		
Choisy - -	Messrs. Fenouillot & Co.	1	-	3	4	1	2	(3)	(4)	-	-	(2)	(*) Included in Plaisance.	
Deux Bras - -	Mr. B. Buttié - -	1	2	3	4	1	-	-	-	(1)	(2)	3		
Ferney - -	Messrs. Lalouette & Co.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Grand Sable - -	Mr. A. Cheron - -	-	-	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Gros Bois - -	Messrs. R. Irving & Co.	1	2	3	4	1	2	(3)	4	1	2	3		
La Barraque - -	Messrs. Rudelle & Vinay.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Le Hangard - -	Messrs. Barry & Dupont.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	(2)	3		
Les Mares - -	Messrs. Hunter & Co.	1	2	3	4	1	2	(3)	-	-	2	(*)	(*) Included in Bon Espoir.	
Mon Désert - -	Mad. Vè. Cloupet - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	(3)	(4)	(1)	2	3		
Mon Trésor - -	Messrs. H. Balow & Co.	1	-	3	4	1	2	-	(4)	1	2	3		
Mont Eulalia - -	Mr. E. Clifford - -	1	2	-	4	1	-	3	4	1	2	3		
New Grove - -	Mr. D. Pougnet - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	(3)	4	1	2	3		
Plaisance and Richfield.	Mr. G. De Bissy - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Riche in Eau - -	Mr. Bignoux - -	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3		
Rivière la Chauz	Mr. V. Kfvern - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	-	-	-	2	3		
Sauveterre - -	Messrs. Faduilhe & Co.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Souffleur - -	Mr. Charroux - -	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	(4)	-	2	3		
Union Vale - -	Messrs. Hunter & Co.	1	2	-	4	1	2	(3)	-	1	2	3		
Virginia - -	Messrs. Chapman & Co.	1	-	3	4	1	-	-	(4)	-	2	3		
SAVANNE:														
Beau Bois - -	Mrs. Descroizilles - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	-	-	2	(3)		
Beauchamp - -	Mr. C. C. Brownrigg	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Bel Air - -	Mr. Loustan - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	-	-		
Belair and Providence.	Mr. Coriolis - -	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Bel Ombre - -	Mr. G. D'Emmerez	1	2	3	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Bénarès - -	Messrs. Reid, Irving & Co.	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		
Bon Accueil - -	Messrs. Prudhomme, freres.	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3		
Bon Espoir - -	Mr. C. Autard - -	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		

ESTATES.	OWNERS.	WHEN FURNISHED.			REMARKS.
		1845.	1846.	1847.	
Savanne—continued.					
Constantine	Messrs. de Latour & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
East Wick Park	Mr. A. Jamin	1 2 3 4	1 - - -	- 2 -	
La Réunion	Mr. Laverdant	1 2 3 4	1 - - -	- - -	
Long Champs	Messrs. Wainwright & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 - -	- - -	
Loustalot	Mr. Loustan Lalane	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 -	
L'Union	Messrs. Fontenay & Co.	1 - 3 -	1 - - -	- 2 3	
Richebois	Messrs. R. Jack & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 - - -	- - (3)	
Rochester	Mr. Chaline	1 2 - 4	1 2 3 -	1 2 -	
Savannah	Mr. A. Jamin	1 2 3 4	1 - - -	- - -	
Saint Aubin	Mr. Autard, père	1 2 3 -	1 - - -	- - -	
Saint Aubin	Messrs. H. Adam & Co.	- - 3 4	1 - 3 -	- 2 -	
Saint Felix	Messrs. Louvet & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Saint Martin	Mr. D'Unienville	1 2 - 4	- - - -	- - -	
Surinam	Messrs. H. Adam & Co.	1 - 3 4	1 2 - -	1 2 3	
Terracine	Mr. Chaline	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	- - -	
Union	Mr. E. Autard	1 2 3 -	- 2 (3) -	- - -	
BLACK RIVER:					
Black River	Mr. A. Genève	1 - 3 4	- - 3 -	- 2 3	
La Chaumiere	Mr. J. Herchenroder	1 2 3 4	1 2 (3) -	- 2 3	
Morne	Messrs. E. & A. Autard	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	- 2 -	
Rivière Dragon	Mr. O. Avril	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Tamarind	Mr. Fortier	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Wallalah	Heirs Boucherville	not worked.	- - - -	- - -	
Wolmar	Mr. C. Brownrigg	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Yemen	Mr. A. Labutte	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 -	
PLAINES WILHEMS:					
Beau Bassin	Messrs. Cockerell & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Beau Sejour	Messrs. H. Adam & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Beau Songe	Mr. Bolle	- 2 3 4	- - - -	- 2 (3)	
Belle Terre	Mad. D'Agnel	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Chébel	Mr. Savy	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Clairfond	Mad. Galaup	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Drayton Manor	Messrs. Hunter & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 - -	1 2 3	
Ebène	Mad. Isnard	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 (2) 3	
La Louise	Mr. V. Marot	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Mon Désir	Mr. A. Paillette	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Mon Essai	Mr. O. Chaillet	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Mon Repos Giblot	Messrs. Cheron & Roussel.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Mont Choisy	Mr. L. A. Courtin	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Mont Roche	Mr. Mée	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Palma	Mr. P. A. Rivière	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Phoenix	Messrs. Babé, Lortau & Co.	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Pierrefond	Messrs. Letard & Ganachaud.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Plaisance	Messrs. Fontenay, père et fils.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Roches Brunes	Madms. Dylos and Hugnin.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Rose Hill	Mr. Laverdant	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 - -	
Stanley	Messrs. Cordouan & Co.	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Trianon	Mr. Adrian	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Vaucluse	Mr. F. Gallet	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
MOKA:					
Bocage	Mad. Martinel	- 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	
Chateau Tremblant	Mr. Maujean	- - 3 4	1 2 3 4	(1) 2 3	
La Fontaine	Mr. A. Dubois	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	1 - 3	
Minissy	Mr. de Boucherville	- - 3 4	1 2 3 -	1 - 3	
Mon Desert	Mr. Noël	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 -	- 2 3	

The figures within parentheses, thus (1) (2) (3) (4), &c., indicate those that have been received after the close of the quarterly general statements.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

— No. 24. —

(No. 253.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir *W. M. Gomm* to Earl Grey.

No. 24.
Sir W. Gomm to
Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 3 November 1847.

I SUBMIT a correspondence which has passed between this Government and the emigration agent at Madras.

Your Lordship will perceive that Captain Wilson did not consider himself authorized from home, up to the date of his last letter, to officiate on the part of this colony.

I hold it to be the more important that I should expose to your Lordship the actual state of the relations between the colony and Madras at this juncture, since we have just received notice from Mr. Caird, that his obligations to the West Indies will inevitably preclude him from furnishing us with more than a scanty further supply for an uncertain season to come from Calcutta, and thus the numbers confidently looked for by the colony before the termination of the year will have been reduced by more than one-half.

Your Lordship will be assured from unquestionable authority in other quarters besides my own, that the sugar cultivation of the island is continually extending itself, and its demand for manual labour increasing in proportion; notwithstanding the great accession of means obtained from the active introduction of improved machinery; and if the inability is admitted for meeting the demand through Government agency, your Lordship may look to see the requisitions more pressing ly reiterated for a resort to unrestricted private competition for the attainment of this end; in other words, a licence for forcing or attracting down from the provinces, by means which the agents of Government are taught to refrain from putting in play, the supplies which do not present themselves in sufficient abundance, pending prosperous seasons at home, with out such allure; a course to be deprecated as much as ever in my estimation, regarded in whatever point of view.

But the demand will be advanced with a better show of reason, if not of right, than heretofore, since the imposition of the stamp-duty and monthly tax will enable the Treasury to make head against the increased expenditure so solicited.

An additional consideration of much weight is the approach of the period from which a large proportion of the Indian labouring population will acquire a title to the free return-passage to their homes, by the completion of their five years' industrial residence in the colony; in what numbers availing themselves of the privilege, uncertain; but they will probably be considerable.

The crop in progress will again be an abundant one.

The agricultural committee of the Society of Arts and Sciences held their second annual exposition of sugars and competition for prizes on Thursday last the 28th ultimo, and the result was highly satisfactory and encouraging.

A marked improvement was observable in the mode of cultivation and in the quality of the produce within the last twelve month, while it exhibited an excess of production far surpassing that of any preceding year.

The low prices, however, fetching at home, attributed to causes presumed to be general and likely to work still more prejudicially to the interests of the colonial sugar grower, impress cultivators and parties sustaining them with the opinion, that vast production at moderate cost will alone furnish them with the means of competing in any sort with the difficulties which they feel around them, and with those which they apprehend are in prospect for them.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. M. Gomm*,
Lieutenant-General.

Enclosure 1, in No. 24.

Encl. 1, in No. 24.

To *G. F. Dick*, Esq., Colonial Secretary, *Mauritius*.

West India Emigration Office, Madras,
7 September 1847.

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 31st of August, by the barque "Hossanah," of your communication, as below,* Nos. 3 and 4 of the 7th and 10th of July last. Also, the receipt on the 2d instant by the barque "East Anglican," of your communication, dated 10th August. Also duplicate of the latter on the 6th instant, *via* Pondicherry, by what conveyance unknown.

2. The subject matter of the above communications being the same, I have the honour to reply to them collectively, adverting on particular points to each, as occasion may require.

3. In reference to my letter of the 10th of May last, I respectfully beg to call the attention of his Excellency the Governor of the Mauritius to the statement therein, "that pending the receipt of Earl Grey's decision, I should not feel warranted in commencing emigration

to

* Letter, No. 3, dated 7 July 1847, and duplicate.

Letter, No. 4, dated 10 July 1847, with accompaniments, and duplicate.

Letter, dated 10 August 1847, and duplicate.

to the Mauritius." I have now the honour to state, that to this date his Lordship's decision has not been received by me; and therefore I would, with all deference, observe, that I am still in the position of one not having yet assumed the duties of the Mauritius emigration; for I conclude, the statement in the 3d para. of your letter, No. 3, that "the emigration from Madras to Mauritius has received the sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c." has reference to the letter from Lord Stanley, No. 311, dated 14th March 1845; extract of which was forwarded to me with your communication, dated 28th November 1846; and which, from its having emanated from a nobleman, who had long quitted office when I received it, and was based on the existence of a state of matters totally different to that which subsequently obtained, caused the reference by me above adverted to to the present Secretary of State for the Colonies. And in the absence of the receipt of Earl Grey's decision thereon I have not felt warranted in assuming the duties of the Mauritius emigration.

4. I would here respectfully beg to call the attention of his Excellency the Governor of Mauritius to the fact, that the late Act of the Government of India, authorising the re-commencement of emigration from Madras to Mauritius, limits the season for that emigration from Madras to the period intervening between the 1st of April and the 31st of August. And I beg respectfully to observe, with reference to the communications as above acknowledged, that the earliest, dated 7th July, and which under any circumstances could not have reached me till the latter end of that month, but which having, it appears, left Mauritius in a vessel which sailed from thence on the 10th of August only, I did not consequently receive it till the 31st August, the last day of the season; and with the utmost deference I beg to express my sincere regret that at so late a period his Excellency should still have entertained the expectation that subsequent to the receipt of those communications, wherein it was expressed, the accomplishment of the desired emigration was practicable.

5. With reference to the copy of the communication from certain planters in Mauritius, with accompanying report by Mr. Maurel, conveyed in your letter, No. 4, of the 10th July, and on which his Excellency desires my observations, I respectfully beg to state, that confining the brief remarks I have to make entirely to Madras, it appears to me that the system proposed by Mr. Maurel, as it would seem, for adoption at the three Presidencies, betrays an absence of acquaintance with the system existing at Madras; and also of the very many circumstances which bear upon the whole question of emigration generally, and which, under conformity with the existing Acts for its regulation, must affect the number of really agricultural emigrants procurable without infringing those Acts; and must also determine the nature and extent of the machinery requisite for carrying it out. I apprehend, that the system and establishments proposed by Mr. Maurel would be found on trial to be disproportionately expensive, cumbrous, and ill adapted to insure the attainment of the end proposed.

With reference to the proposal to engage shipping a year before, I incline to the opinion that all experience warrants the belief that shipowners will prefer holding their ships free to avail themselves of the constantly occurring fluctuations in freight, to binding themselves so long beforehand; but this is a question on which parties concerned in shipping will, I should think, be most competent to pronounce a decided opinion.

6. With reference to his Excellency's expectation (conveyed in your letter of the 10th ultimo), that as soon as I shall have received Earl Grey's answer, I will avail myself of the preference which there is ample reason for believing the Indian emigrants give to Mauritius as well on account of the superiority of the climate as the shortness of the voyage, &c." I beg to observe, with the utmost deference, that the result of my experience hitherto, in sending emigrants to the West Indies, does not permit me to acquiesce in the opinion entertained by his Excellency on those points. With respect to inferiority of the climate of the West Indies to Mauritius, the emigrants to the West Indies, among whom were numbers who had previously been to the Mauritius, have never expressed or evinced in any way the slightest solicitude on that point. And in the instances in which individuals have written back to their friends from the West Indies, after a year's residence, they have, as far as I can learn, made no complaint of the climate, but have invited their relatives to join them. With respect to the comparative length of the voyage to the West Indies, I never heard the slightest objection made to it; it is a matter about which they always display perfect indifference, although it is most particularly explained to them in my presence, as well as in a written statement in the native dialect, as being on the average above three months; they feel assured that during the voyage they will be well fed and taken care of, and beyond this they care nothing about it. The impression is very strong on my mind, that being once assured that the place they are required to go to is under the British Government, and that the arrangements for their comfort and wellbeing are the especial care of that Government, they are utterly indifferent where they go to, and will with cheerful confidence go anywhere.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. W. Wilson,*
West India Emigration Agent.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, 7 July 1847.

1. I HAD yesterday the honour to receive your letter of the 10th May, which I have laid before his Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant-general Sir W. M. Gomm.

2. And his Excellency has instructed me to express to you his disappointment at the result of your observations with regard to the supply of agricultural labour for Mauritius

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 1, in No. 24.

and the West Indies, and his regret that no effort should have been made towards obtaining for this colony a portion at least of the emigrants asked for; the more especially as, from former experience, there is strong reason for believing that the Madras labourers generally are well disposed to emigrate to Mauritius.

3. As there will still be time, after your receipt of the present communication, for forwarding emigrants to this colony, and as the arrangement for their emigrating from Madras has received the sanction of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for Her Majesty's Colonies, and of the Supreme Government of India, as well as that of Madras, his Excellency the Governor trusts that no further delay will occur, but that you will use your best exertions to embark as large a number of labourers as possibly can be obtained this year, who are very urgently required here, as you will perceive from the letters I have had the honour to address to you on the subject.

Captain Wilson, Emigration Agent,
Madras.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. F. Dick,*
Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, 10 July 1847.

1. His Excellency the Governor directs me to enclose for your information a copy of a communication from the planters of three of the principal districts of this colony, respecting the manner of conducting emigration from India to Mauritius, together with the answer returned to them, and the letter on the subject, addressed to Mr. Caird, the emigration agent at Calcutta.

2. His Excellency will be happy to receive your observations on the various matters adverted to in this correspondence.

3. And he directs me to take this opportunity of reiterating his earnest expectation that you will use your best endeavours to forward the largest portion of immigrants you can embark during the present season for this island, so as still, if possible, to ensure the number requested for this year being received here.

Captain Wilson, Emigration Agent,
Madras.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. F. Dick,*
Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, 10 August 1847.

1. His Excellency Lieutenant-general Sir William Gomm has had before him your letters, under date the 10th and 25th of May last, stating that your experience has led you to the belief that the two emigrations to Mauritius and the West Indies cannot be supplied with agricultural labourers to the extent required; that you have communicated in that sense with Earl Grey, and that you see little probability of any emigration taking place this season.

2. His Excellency has directed me to express his deep regret that you should have been induced so long to delay communicating to the Secretary of State, or to this Government, the doubts you entertain with respect to a matter of such importance to the interests of this colony. But his Excellency still trusts that, as soon as you shall have received Earl Grey's answer, you will have availed yourself of the preference which there is ample reason for believing the Indian immigrants give to Mauritius, as well on account of the superiority of the climate, as the shortness of the voyage, and the frequency of the opportunities afforded them of returning to their native country, and that you may be enabled, before the close of the present season, to carry out to some considerable extent, if not entirely, the wishes of his Excellency the Governor, in regard to emigration from your port.

Captain Wilson, Emigration Agent,
Madras.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. F. Dick,*
Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 24.

(No. 17 of 1847.)

Encl. 2, in No. 24.

Sir,

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
28 August 1847.

IN continuation of my letter to your address, under date the 7th instant, I have now the honour to offer the following remarks on the principal points referred to in your letters of the 1st and 9th ultimo, and its enclosures.

First. The planters complain of the paucity of labourers sent home from this port.

In reply I beg leave to say that I have been busily engaged since the month of March in procuring people, and that I have despatched, up to this date, 18 vessels with emigrants. I have now in hand the "Fyzel Curreem," "Sultany," "Duke of Portland," "Martin Luther,

Luther," and "John Bright." I hope also to get off at least five or six vessels, besides those above mentioned, between this and the end of October.

Secondly. The planters state that they had been assured that shipowners, from various causes, were reluctant to engage their ships in carrying Coolies, and that they had taken the first favourable opportunity of withdrawing from the trade.

I am not aware myself what vessels they can refer to, as not a single ship which I have had last season has sought other employment without having in the first instance been tendered to me again. That the "Rustonjee Cowasjee," with several others, had been offered by me Rs. 60 per head, and that the owners had refused it, is totally unfounded.

Thirdly. The planters recommend that vessels should be engaged some time previous to their being required.

I have no objection whatever to make to this, and, should his Excellency the Governor deem it advisable, I will make a bargain with ships for two voyages in the season; and I have no doubt but that a number of the English vessels which come out here would be induced to make an agreement for two trips certain, when they would not think it worth their while to fit up their vessels, by procuring water-casks, cooking utensils, &c. for one voyage only. This point shall receive every attention on my part; and whenever vessels are plentiful in this port, I will do my utmost to make the best arrangements for next year on the most reasonable terms.

Fourthly. On the size and class of vessels to be taken up for the conveyance of Coolies.

I beg leave to assure his Excellency that during four seasons I have not had a single ship offered to me which has been refused in consequence of her not having sufficient height in her betwixt decks; nor do I think, from all I can hear, that a small class of ship would pay the owners to carry the Coolies, because the fittings up are of the same cost as those of a large one would be, and no owners consider the Coolie freight of sufficient importance for them to make a voyage unless they can carry a cargo of rice as well, and this cannot be done in a small ship. Coolies are sought for, on the part of owners, in a great measure that their ships may go out light and in good sailing trim, and at the present time 3/12 per bag freight is fully equal to Rs. 80 for Coolies per head.

Fifthly. On the advantages of employing European surgeons.

I beg leave to state that it is with great difficulty three or four can be procured in the cold season for West Indies ships, and from what I have seen of them they certainly are not more competent to the charge of Coolies than a well-educated native doctor. Few of them have had any practice in this country, nor do they know a word of the native language, a most serious objection to their employment, in my opinion.

Sixthly. The planters recommend that permission should be granted to them to authorize their friends in India to recruit for labourers, in conjunction with the agent.

I shall be very glad to avail myself of any assistance which they can give me, but I doubt very much whether they are in a position to do it. If the planters would, on the return of any sirdar to this country, give him a note to me, I would do everything in my power to assist him, and would depute an agent of my own to accompany him to the mofussil, with funds, for the purpose of bringing down Coolies.

Seventhly. The planters would also recommend that their friends should assist me in procuring shipping.

I shall be most happy if they can point out to me any measure by which I could obtain vessels on more reasonable terms than what I have hitherto done. During the current year, if emigration had been going on under the old system, ships would not have been obtained under 120 to 130 rupees a head, as the agents would have been outbidding each other for passages.

Eighthly. It is also recommended that a European assistant should be appointed in the interior.

In reply I beg leave to say, that even if one were appointed he would still require a native agency under him. My opinion is, that the people will readily emigrate when they are pressed for money, or when their crops have failed, but that no advantages which can be held out to them are sufficient to induce them to leave their homes, unless they have urgent reasons for so doing. In a season like the past, when they had a most abundant rice crop, sufficient hands were not procurable to cut it, and I observed myself rice spoiling on the ground for want of hands to reap it.

Since October 1846 I have had very great difficulty in procuring families, in consequence of the reasons above stated, viz., the fine harvest; and I am very much afraid, if emigration is forced in the way it is now, to supply both the West Indies and Mauritius, that families cannot be procured in the number which his Excellency the Governor is desirous of having. The best season, however, is now coming on again, and I will do my best to carry out his Excellency's wishes on this head.

In conclusion, I beg to submit a statement of the number of ships which have left since March, showing how very few deaths have occurred whilst the vessels are proceeding down the River Hooghly. I never embark the people now until a steamer is alongside of the ship, and the vessel takes her departure immediately afterwards.

To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Port Louis, Mauritius.

I have, &c.
(signed) F. Caird, Emigration Agent.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 2, in No. 24.

Appendix, No. 2
 MAURITIUS.
 Encl. 2, in No. 24.

A STATEMENT showing the Number of DEATHS that occurred on board EMIGRANT VESSELS during the Passage between *Calcutta* and the *Sandheads*, as reported to the Bengal Government by the Pilots and Preventive Officers who accompanied these Vessels, Season 1846-47.

NAMES OF MAURITIUS VESSELS IN 1847.	Number of Souls Embarked.	Number of Deaths in the River Hooghly.
Shaw Allum - - - - -	326	3
Sultany - - - - -	327	None.
Defiance - - - - -	215	1
Futtle Rozack - - - - -	238	None.
Fyzel Currim - - - - -	235	None.
Sir Robert Seppings - - - - -	265	None.
Nusser - - - - -	274	None.
Champion - - - - -	223	None.
Johannes Sarkies - - - - -	188	1
Fuzzle Rohomany - - - - -	238	1
Rustomjee Cowasjee - - - - -	232	None.
Lady Sale - - - - -	153	None.
Juliana - - - - -	213	None.
Defiance - - - - -	205	None.
Ernaad - - - - -	227	None.
Isabella Hercus - - - - -	219	None.
Sulimany - - - - -	241	None.
John Bright - - - - -	243	None.

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
 28 August 1847.

(signed) T. Caird, Emigration Agent.

— No. 25. —

(No. 285.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Sir W. M. Gomm.

No. 25.
 Earl Grey to Sir
 W. M. Gomm.

Sir,

Downing Street, 20 February 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your despatch, No. 253, of the 3d November last, enclosing a further correspondence with Captain Wilson, the emigration agent at Madras, renewing the expression of your opinion in favour of opening that port for immigrants to Mauritius.

You will have learned by my despatch, No. 195, of the 19th of September, that I considered Captain Wilson to have judged rightly in not undertaking to send emigrants to Mauritius, as he was not appointed for that purpose, and had received no authority to assume the duty. I have now to inform you, that it has been determined that no more emigration of Coolies should take place to the West Indies, that Captain Wilson is there-
 fore

Wide Parl. Paper,
 No. 61, of 1848,
 p. 240.

fore about immediately to return to England, and that the agency for emigrants at Madras will cease. The same decision will also leave Mr. Caird entirely free at Calcutta to devote his whole time to the supply of emigrants to Mauritius; and inasmuch as he has reported that he can supply between 8,000 and 9,000 people in the year, and it appears that even in 1847, when there was also an emigration to the West Indies, he despatched upwards of 5,900 people to Mauritius, there seems no reason to doubt that he can more than furnish from Calcutta the whole number of people required by your Government. But I must distinctly explain to you, that until the finances of the island are in a more settled state, and shall be in a condition to meet the heavy charges which in all probability will shortly arise on account of return passengers, I cannot authorize you to depart from the existing limit of emigration stated in my despatch of the 11th of August last, viz. the number of 6,000 people in the year.

The discontinuance of emigration to the West Indies will cause Mr. Caird's salary to fall exclusively on Mauritius; and I have, in consequence, acquainted that gentleman that it must be reduced from 1,500 *l.* to 1,000 *l.* per annum.

You will therefore understand it to be settled, that there is only to be one agency in India for the supply of emigrants to Mauritius; but I do not wish to confine you entirely to the choice of Calcutta, in case you should see sufficient reason to prefer another station. Some gentlemen in this country interested in Mauritius, have represented to me that the port of Madras would be preferable for the present purpose. They observe that emigrants coming from Madras are more robust, and are better labourers; and that not only is the voyage shorter, but that the charge for conveyance would be less by 2 *l.* per head. On the other hand, it is to be remembered that the general quantity of shipping to be met with at Madras is much smaller than at Calcutta; that during certain seasons the port is scarcely accessible to sailing vessels, owing to the prevalence of storms; and that at all times embarkation is more difficult than from Calcutta; besides which it is right that I should mention to you that Captain Wilson has always hitherto found it beyond his power to supply even the comparatively limited number required for the West Indies, whilst Mr. Caird, as I have stated, has been able to command a much larger number of emigrants. Having thus drawn your attention to the circumstances which you will have to consider in determining this question, I wish you to understand that I have no desire whatever to confine you to one rather than another of these ports, but that I shall be quite willing to leave the matter to your own judgment and that of your Council, if you should see sufficient reason to transfer Mr. Caird's agency from Calcutta to Madras. But in that case I desire that you will give that gentleman due notice of the change, and afford him a reasonable time to make his arrangements for leaving Calcutta and proceeding to Madras.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Grey.*

— No. 26. —

(No. 260.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir *W. M. Gomm* to Earl *Grey*.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 12 November 1847.

No. 26.
Sir *W. M. Gomm*
to Earl *Grey*.

I HAVE the honour to submit the monthly Immigration Returns of this colony for October.

The disproportion of females transmitted with the several bands here reported upon, is in accordance with the earlier remittances of the present year: a subject to which the attention of the agent has been specially drawn.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. M. Gomm*, Lieut.-general.

Enclosure 2, in No. 26.

RETURN of IMMIGRANTS who Embarked for their respective Countries during the Month of October 1847.

Date of Passport.	SHIP.	PRESIDENCY.	INDIANS.														
			Old Immigration.						New Immigration.								
			Government Expense.			Their own Expense.			Government Expense.			Their own Expense.					
			M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.			
1 October 1847	Juliana	Calcutta	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
"	Deborah	Madras	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
		TOTAL	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-

Immigration Office, 11 Nov. 1847.

(signed) T. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

Enclosure 3, in No. 26.

RETURN of IMMIGRANTS who entered the Depôt for Re-engagement, and of those who Re-engaged therefrom during the Month of October 1847.

DISTRICTS.	Entered for Re-engagement.	Re-engaged from the Depôt	Balance on the 31 Oct. 1847.	REMARKS.
Port Louis	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
Pamplemousses				
Riv. du Rempart				
Flacq				
Grand Port				
Savanne				
Black River				
Plaines Wilhems				
Moka				
TOTAL				

Immigration Office, 11 November 1847.

(signed) T. J. Hugon, Protector.

Enclosure 4, in No. 26.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 30 October 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the ship "Duke of Portland," (No. 21 of 1847) which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on 26 October 1847.

- NAME of the master—William John Cubitt.
- Name of the surgeon—J. Jemmieson, European doctor.
- Date of departure—13 September.
- Number of days on the voyage—44 days.
- Registered tonnage—533 tons.
- Superficies of passengers' deck—3,348 superficial feet.
- Number of statute adults admissible—209.
- Number of such adults actually on board—207½.
- Number of crew—44.
- Port at which vessel touched—None.
- Date of touching—None.
- Days there—None.
- If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
183	22	7	1	213	-	-	1	1	-	-	162	21	7	1	211

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

General state of health very good.
The space allotted for the accommodation of the immigrants is the whole of the between decks from the paul bitt to the transom.

(signed) T. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 4, in No. 26.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked - - - - -	183	22	7	1
Deaths on the voyage (Nos. 114 and 190) - - - - -	1	1	-	-
TOTAL Living on board on 26th October 1847 - - -	182	21	7	1
Infants embarked - - - - -			4	-
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.) - - - - -			-	-
Deaths on the voyage (ditto) - - - - -			4	-
TOTAL Living and on board on 26th October 1847 - - -			4	-

N.B.—A boy named Goolaub, No. 4,500, died after inspection.

(signed) *T. J. Hugon*, Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION of IMMIGRANTS, per "Duke of Portland," 29th October 1847.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATE.		IMMIGRANTS.			
	Name.	District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.
Blyth & Co. - -	Bon Accueil -	Flacq. - - -	15	1	4	-
Vinay & Rudelle - -	La Baraque -	Grand Port - - -	15	1	6	-
Maugeot & Co. - -	Four Sisters -	Ditto - - -	12	-	3	-
V. Gerard - -	Beau Bassin -	Flacq - - -	22	-	-	-
Hunter & Co. - -	Good Lands -	Riviere Rempart -	31	2	3	1
V. Harel - -	Belle Vue -	North Pamplemousses	15	-	4	-
F. Sevenne - -	Belle Etoile -	Flacq - - -	41	2	2	-
P. Mollieres - -	Virginia -	Grand Port - - -	4	-	-	-
Montocchio & Co. -	Beau Rivage -	Flacq - - -	2	-	-	-
Hunter & Co. - -	Beau Champ -	Ditto - - -	24	-	-	-
	Hospital - - -	- - -	1	-	-	-
	Died after inspection - - -	- - -	-	1	-	-
	TOTAL - - -		182	7	21	1

REMARKS.

One man fell overboard and was drowned, although it was nearly a calm, and a boat was lowered without loss of time. One woman died of dysentery; she was sent on board sick.

T. J. Hugon.

Enclosure 5, in No. 26.

Encl. 5, in No. 26.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 28 October 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the ship "Fyzel Currim," (No. 20 of 1847), which arrived at *Port Louis* from *Calcutta* on the 20th October 1847.

NAME of the master—Lewis John Ballantine.

Name of the surgeon—Sheik Irnaught (native doctor).

Date of departure—3rd September 1847.

Number of days on the voyage—44.

Registered tonnage—459.

Superficies of passengers' deck—Unknown.

Number of statute adults admissible—208.

Number of such adults actually on board—206.

Number of crew—54.

Port at which vessel touched—None.

Date of touching—None.

Days there—None.

If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 317

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 5, in No. 26.

Emigrants Embarked.				Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				TOTAL.	
Adults.		Children under 14.		M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.			
M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
180	22	11	1	214	-	-	2	-	-	-	178	22	11	1	212

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

General state of health very good.

The space allotted to the immigrants is the whole of the between-decks, from the after part of third beam, and before the fore-hatch to the transom.

(signed) *T. J. Hugon,*
Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked - - - - -	180	22	11	1
Deaths on the voyage (Nos. 51 and 68) - - - - -	2	-	-	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 21st October 1847 - - - - -	178	22	11	1
Infants embarked - - - - -	-	-	3	-
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Deaths - ditto - - ditto - - - - -	-	-	3	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 21st October 1847 - - - - -	-	-	3	-

(signed) *T. J. Hugon,*
Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION of IMMIGRANTS per "Fyzel Currim," 25th October 1847.

Sugar Planters.	E S T A T E.		I M M I G R A N T S.			
	Name.	District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.
Bouchet, senior - - -	Mon Desir - - -	South Pamplémousses	12	-	2	-
T. Allard - - -	Mon Repos - - -	Ditto - - -	11	1	-	-
Adam & Co. - - -	Labourdonnais - - -	North Pamplémousses	54	2	11	1
C. Feline - - -	The Mount - - -	South Pamplémousses	16	1	4	-
Hunter & Co. - - -	Le Bassin - - -	Plaines Wilhems - - -	10	5	-	-
L. Le Breton - - -	Haute Rive - - -	Rivière Rempart - - -	11	-	1	-
L. Faduilhe - - -	St. Felix - - -	Savanne - - -	20	1	-	-
Brenan & Co. - - -	Riche Bois - - -	Ditto - - -	43	1	3	-
Chapman & Co. - - -	Woodford - - -	North Pamplémousses	1	-	1	-
	TOTAL - - -		178	11	22	1

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 6, in No. 26.

Enclosure 6, in No. 26.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 21 October 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "Sulimany" (No. 19 of 1847), which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on 17 October 1847.

NAME of the master—Henry Monk.
 Name of the surgeon—Synd Agha (native doctor).
 Date of departure—23d August, from Calcutta.
 Number of days on the voyage—33 days.
 Registered tonnage—794.
 Superficies of passengers' deck—Unknown.
 Number of statute adults admissible—234.
 Number of such adults actually on board—234.
 Number of crew—81.
 Port at which vessel touched—None.
 Date of touching—None.
 Days there—None.
 If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
213	17	6	2	238	-	-	-	-	-	-	213	17	6	2	238

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance).

General state of health very good.

Between-decks—18 inches before the fore hatchway to the transom, appropriated by charter-party to the sole use of the immigrants.

(signed) *T. J. Hugon,*
 Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked	213	17	6	2
Deaths on the voyage	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 30th July 1847	213	17	6	2
Infants embarked	-	-	1	2
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.)	-	-	-	-
Deaths on the voyage (ditto)	-	-	1	2
TOTAL Living and on Board on 17th October 1847	-	-	1	2

(signed) *T. J. Hugon,*
 Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION of IMMIGRANTS per "Sulimany," 21 October 1847.

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.
Encl. 6, in No. 26.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATE.		IMMIGRANTS.			
	Name.	In what District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.
V. Lanongarede	Belle Vue	Flacq	10	-	-	-
Hunter & Co.	Bon Espoir	Grand Port	15	-	-	-
Adam & Co.	Labourdonnais	South Pamplemousses	15	-	4	1
P. Feline & Co.	Mon Rocher	Ditto	20	1	-	-
Staub & Co.	Shamfield	Rivière Rempart	23	-	-	-
Ls. Le Breton	Belle Rine	Ditto	22	-	1	-
V. Keating	Riche en Eau	Grand Port	10	-	2	-
T. Merven	Unité and L'Agreement.	South Pamplemousses	8	-	4	-
De Rhune	Plessis	Ditto	6	1	-	-
Raffray	Le Rocher	Rivière Rempart	5	-	-	-
Charles Sornay & Co.	Mon Triomphe	North Pamplemousses	7	1	1	-
Montocchio	Beau Rivage	Flacq	29	1	1	-
Hunter & Co.	Beau Sejour	Rivière Rempart	40	2	3	1
Sevenne	Belle Etoile	Flacq	2	-	1	-
		Hospital	1	-	-	-
		TOTAL	213	6	17	2

Enclosure 7, in No. 26.

Encl. 7, in No. 26.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 6 October 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "John Bright" (No. 18 of 1847), which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on 30 September 1847.

NAME of the master—James Hamlin.
Name of the surgeon—Charles E. Jones.
Date of departure—28th August from Calcutta; left pilot 31st.
Number of days on the voyage—33.
Registered tonnage—591.
Superficies of passengers' deck—space for 250 men.
Number of statute adults admissible—250.
Number of such adults actually on board—241.
Number of crew—47.
Port at which vessel touched—None.
Date of touching—None.
Days there—None.
If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Emigrants Embarked.				Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.					
Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
243	-	-	-	243	-	-	2	-	-	-	241	-	-	-	241

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance).

This ship has very fine between-decks. The people seem to have been well taken care of. Two deaths on the voyage, but no sickness on landing. The immigrants appeared to have a great liking to the captain and officers.

(signed) T. J. Hugon,
Protector of Immigrants.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS

Encl. 7, in No. 26.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked - - - - -	243	-	-	-
Deaths on the voyage (Nos. 29 and 43) - - - - -	2	-	-	-
TOTAL living and on board on 30th September 1847 - - - - -	241	-	-	-

(signed) *T. J. Hugon*, Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION of IMMIGRANTS, per "John Bright," 4th October 1847.

SUGAR PLANTERS.	ESTATE.		Males.
	Name.	District.	
Kfvern - - - - -	Riv. La Chaux - - - - -	Grand Port - - - - -	7
Adam & Co. - - - - -	La Bourdonnais - - - - -	North Pamplemousses - - - - -	11
Lucas & Co. - - - - -	Bon Espoir - - - - -	Rivière Rempart - - - - -	10
V. Lionnet - - - - -	Fond du Sac - - - - -	North Pamplemousses - - - - -	23
Charles Rouillard - - - - -	Ile d'Ambre - - - - -	Rivière Rempart - - - - -	29
Hunter & Co. - - - - -	Bon Espoir - - - - -	Ditto - - - - -	17
King & Co. - - - - -	Chauvot - - - - -	Ditto - - - - -	24
Lionnet & Co. - - - - -	Mon Espoir - - - - -	North Pamplemousses - - - - -	23
Blyth & Co. - - - - -	Bon Accueil - - - - -	Flacq - - - - -	18
Gauachaud & Co. - - - - -	Pierrefond - - - - -	Plaines Wilhems - - - - -	27
Wainright & Co. - - - - -	Long Champ - - - - -	Savanne - - - - -	18
King & Co. - - - - -	Victoria - - - - -	Flacq - - - - -	24
		TOTAL - - - - -	241

— No. 27. —

(No. 267.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir *W. M. Gomm* to *Earl Grey*.No. 27.
Sir *W. M. Gomm*
to *Earl Grey*.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 19 November 1847.

I HAVE the honour to submit statements of the number of Indian labourers engaged and discharged in the colony in the months of September and October, showing also the rates of wages contracted for within the same periods.

The number of engagements during the latter month is shown to have exceeded that of discharges to no inconsiderable extent, exclusive of fresh arrivals within the term; 14 s. the average rate of wages largely prevailing, and to greater extent, as compared with 16 s., than during the preceding month.

Engagements at 8 s. and 10 s. are shown to have been considerable in both months.

The sugar crop is in full progress throughout the island, and continues promising most fairly.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. M. Gomm*,
Lieutenant-General.

Enclosure 1, in No. 27.

STATEMENT of the Number of INDIAN LABOURERS Engaged and Discharged during the Month of September 1847, and showing the Rates of Wages for each Engagement.

Rates of Wages.	Number of Engagements.	Per Centage.	Rates of Wages.	Number of Engagements.	Per Centage.
£. s. d.			£. s. d.		
3 12 -	1		- 16 -	1,107	20.6
3 4 -	1		- 15 -	2	
3 - -	1		- 14 -	2,391	44.6
2 8 -	3		- 13 -	3	
2 - -	7		- 12 -	457	8.6
1 16 -	2		- 11 -	1	
1 12 -	21	other rates	- 10 -	92	1.7
1 10 -	1	above 14s.	- 8 -	911	16.9
1 8 -	19	1.3	- 6 -	20	other rates
1 6 -	9	1.	- 4 -	17	above 14s.
1 4 -	55	1.	- 2 -	2	8.
1 2 -	1				
1 - -	162	3.	Total - -	5,365	
- 18 4	1				
- 18 -	78	1.5			

DISTRICTS.	ENGAGED.	DISCHARGED.
Port Louis	1,987	387
South Pamplemousses	388	466
North Pamplemousses	541	705
Rivière du Rempart	433	368
Flacq	626	730
Grand Port	740	707
Savanne	262	454
Black River	124	158
Plaines Wilhems	264	486
Moka	none	28
TOTAL - - -	5,365	4,489

Enclosure 2, in No. 27.

STATEMENT of RATES OF WAGES for Engagements during the Month of October 1847, as well as of Engagements and Discharges.

Rates of Wages.	Number at each Rate of Wages.	Per Centage.	Rates of Wages.	Number at each Rate of Wages.	Per Centage.
£. s. d.			£. s. d.		
3 - -	2		- 14 -	1,643	41.9
2 8 -	3		- 13 -	36	
2 - -	10		- 12 -	273	6.9
1 16 -	2		- 10 -	679	17.4
1 12 -	17		- 9 -	3	
1 10 -	1		- 8 -	372	9.5
1 8 -	12	other rates	- 7 -	1	below 14s.
1 4 -	33	above 14s.	- 6 -	26	2.2
1 2 -	5	5.	- 4 -	18	
1 - -	82		Total - -	3,917	
- 18 -	27	17.1			
- 16 -	669				
- 16 -	3				

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 2, in No. 27.

DISTRICTS.								ENGAGED.	DISCHARGED.
Port Louis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,559	252
South Pamplémousses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	182	266
North Pamplémousses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	274	373
Rivière du Rempart	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	235	213
Flacq	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	555	513
Grand Port	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	471	544
Savanne	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	333	366
Black River	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	104	155
Plaines Wilhems	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	188	255
Moka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	30
TOTAL								3,917	2,967
Deduct arrivals								814	—
								3,103	2,967

— No. 28. —

(No. 268.)

No. 28.
Sir W. M. Gomm
to Earl Grey.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Sir W. M. Gomm to Earl Grey.

My Lord, Mauritius, 19 November 1847.
I HAVE the honour to submit statements of births and deaths in the colony for the months of September and October, distinguishing the Indian immigrant from the general population.

Under both heads the returns will be found favourable, particularly those of the earlier month.

Similar reports shall be periodically transmitted to your Lordship, and similarly indicative, I trust, of the reverse of discomfort prevailing among either of the great classes of the colonial population.

I have, &c.
(signed) W. M. Gomm, Lieut.-general.

Enclosure in No. 28.

STATEMENT of BIRTHS and DEATHS during the Month of September 1847.

DISTRICTS.	BIRTHS.							DEATHS.						
	General Population.			Indian Immigrants.			TOTAL.	General Population.			Indian Immigrants.			TOTAL.
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.		M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	
Port Louis	80	69	149	4	6	10	159	62	50	112	27	-	27	139
South Pamplémousses	22	18	40	7	7	14	54	16	14	30	8	-	8	38
North Pamplémousses	5	10	15	5	6	11	26	2	2	4	7	3	10	14
Rivière du Rempart	11	11	22	5	6	11	33	6	2	10	10	3	13	23
Flacq	14	14	28	14	14	28	56	16	6	21	11	6	17	38
Grand Port	17	15	32	12	9	21	53	10	8	18	5	2	7	25
Savanne	7	4	11	13	6	19	30	14	4	18	9	-	9	27
Black River	3	5	8	4	-	4	12	2	2	4	1	1	2	6
Plaines Wilhems	6	6	12	1	2	3	15	8	6	14	4	2	6	20
Moka	5	5	10	1	1	2	13	4	-	4	1	-	1	5
TOTAL	170	157	327	66	57	123	450	142	93	235	84	17	100	356

Enclosure 2, in No. 28.

STATEMENT of BIRTHS and DEATHS during the Month of October 1847.

DISTRICTS.	BIRTHS.							DEATHS.						
	General Population.			Indian Immigrants.			TOTAL.	General Population.			Indian Immigrants.			TOTAL.
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.		M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	
Port Louis - - - - -	63	63	126	11	3	14	139	78	65	143	24	5	29	172
South Pamplemousses - - - - -	14	17	31	11	6	17	48	19	14	33	9	2	11	44
North Pamplemousses - - - - -	7	3	10	8	5	13	23	5	7	12	15	3	18	30
Rivière du Rempart - - - - -	6	12	18	11	8	19	37	5	5	10	12	4	16	26
Flacq - - - - -	14	25	39	15	13	28	67	20	8	28	10	7	17	45
Grand Port - - - - -	24	17	41	7	7	14	55	16	12	28	8	-	8	36
Savanne - - - - -	6	0	6	5	3	8	20	6	5	11	9	6	15	26
Black River - - - - -	13	7	20	1	1	2	22	4	4	8	-	1	1	9
Plaines Wilhems - - - - -	14	10	24	7	7	14	38	8	6	14	3	3	6	20
Moka - - - - -	2	6	8	1	2	3	14	2	1	3	-	1	1	4
TOTAL - - - - -	162	165	327	77	55	132	459	163	127	290	99	32	131	421

— No. 28. —

(No. 273.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir W. M. Gomm to Earl Grey.

No. 29.
Sir W. M. Gomm
to Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 26 November 1847.

THE address which I have the honour to submit will show to your Lordship that the anticipations expressed in my Despatch, No. 253, of the 3d instant, have not been long waiting their fulfilment.

Not only is the additional amount of labour applied for by the Council, and with my own concurrence as expressed in despatch, No. 83, of 15th April, here insisted upon by the requisitionists, but the necessity alleged for an indefinite increase beyond that amount.

I have considered the proceeding announced in my reply, a copy of which is subjoined, to be the fittest for disabusing the parties interested, respecting the views and instructions of Her Majesty's Government in the matter.

The despatches adverted to have accordingly been laid this day before the Council, and will be officially promulgated to-morrow in the usual manner.

I have also, in a minute, of which I submit a copy, recommended the Council to take into its immediate consideration the question of return passages in 1848 and 1849, and to estimate the probable amount of funds requisite for meeting such charge in those years, in connexion with the principle laid down in your Lordship's several despatches freshly received; and with due consideration also given to the concurrent reduction of taxation desirable, and prosecution of important public works: and to furnish the result of such comprehensive investigation for the satisfaction of your Lordship.

I am strongly persuaded that the result of such inquiry will prove favourable to an increase of the number of 6,000 men, now annually called for and sanctioned; and had I not been very decidedly under such impression when forwarding my despatch, No. 83, above referred to, and replied to in your Lordship's, No. 184, of 11th August, I should have refrained from giving in my adhesion to the resolutions of the Council recommending an increase to the amount specified.

But I fear that the additional means shown to be placed at the disposal of Government through the working of the late enactment, and drawn from whatever other sources in accumulation of these, must still be found inadequate for furnishing a supply to keep pace with the demand in all this matter.

The Council's Report in it shall be submitted without delay on my part.

I have, &c.

(signed) W. M. Gomm, Lieutenant-general.

Vide Parl. Papers,
No. 61, of 1848,
p. 110.

Enclosure 1, in No. 29.

To his Excellency Sir W. M. Gomm, K. C. B., &c. &c.

Sir,

Port Louis, 23 November 1847.

WITH reference to my communication with your Excellency in August last, on the subject of emigration from Madras, and the urgent representations which the local government was reported to have made to remove the unjustifiable opposition of Captain Wilson to the free emigration of Coolies from Madras, I am now requested by the Merchants and Proprietors' Association to inquire whether any replies have been received from Captain Wilson, and whether the tenor of them is of such a nature as to lead us to expect shortly emigrants from that presidency; unfortunately private advices corroborate those previously received

Encl. 1, in No. 29.

Appendix, No. 2.
 MAURITIUS.
 Encl. 1, in No. 29.

of a determination on his part to neglect his duty to the very great prejudice of this colony, and we, therefore, feel naturally anxious to ascertain whether your Excellency can remove our apprehensions. Your Excellency must excuse our addressing you so often on the same subject; but as every arrival from Europe holds out but too prominently the fearful struggle, and questionable issue, of competition in the production of sugar with the yearly reduction of duties on foreign, and as moreover we have been specially taxed, and have actually paid into the Treasury the necessary funds for an increased emigration, and that a further accumulation of those special taxes is daily taking place, while the object for which they are raised remains unaccomplished, and has been so for the last two years, the Merchants and Proprietors' Association again earnestly press the attention of your Excellency to the absolute necessity of taking such measures as will secure to this colony the full number of men not only voted for by the Council, but of such an addition thereto as may be sanctioned by the very large revenue produced by the taxes on emigration. It is painful to find that the greater the struggle in production becomes, the more restrained are the means afforded by Government, although the colony has paid in anticipation for the introduction of the labour which it stands so much in need of, and which was within reach, had it not been for the opposition of the emigration agent at Madras; for the preference accorded by the men in Madras to emigration to this island is so marked that I need not remind your Excellency that all the emigrants arrived by the ship "John Bright" were Madras men who had found their way to Calcutta at their own expense. If the system pursued by Captain Wilson is to be persevered in, this association respectfully suggests that the interests of this colony would be materially promoted by removing him from his charge, and by the appointment of a special agent to watch over emigration from Madras, such agent to be nominated here, and to be paid by the colonial treasury. Active measures are imperative in the present position of the sugar colonies; time lost or misapplied may carry with it irretrievable ruin, and the extent of the danger is loudly proclaimed to your Excellency by the fact that out of 15,000 men voted for in the last two years, only 4,804 were received in 1846, and up to 4th instant 4,205 have arrived, making a total of 9,009 men; thus leaving a deficiency of 5,991 men voted for, and whose cost of introduction has long since been paid for.

Your Excellency will, therefore, feel the necessity and earnestness of this appeal.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. E. Arbuthnot,*

Chairman of Merchants and Proprietors' Association.

Reduit, 24 November 1847.

THE Governor presents his compliments to Mr. Arbuthnot, and has to acquaint him and the parties in whose name Mr. Arbuthnot addresses the Governor in the communication received from him yesterday evening, that they will find their principal queries contained therein amply responded to by Earl Grey in the despatches recently received from his Lordship, which it is the Governor's intention to lay before the Council of Government on Friday next; and to which it is further his intention, acting in the interest of the colony, to give the earliest and most extensive publicity possible.

Enclosure 2, in No. 29.

MINUTE.

Encl. 2, in No. 29. I WOULD propose to the Board that the despatches now read, and others recently received from the Secretary of State, bearing upon the question of immigration and the principle upon which funds are to be provided for its maintenance, be taken into consideration by the immigration committee, for the purpose of ascertaining and reporting upon the amount of means available for meeting the expense of increased introduction to the amount voted in the Council's minute of the 12th of April last, in conformity with the conditions prescribed by the Secretary of State; viz.

The previous realization of a fund sufficient to meet the estimated cost of return passages in 1848 and 1849:

The due prosecution of important public works (embracing the recent vote of the Board in favour of steam communication), and gradual reduction of taxation where it most sorely presses upon the community at large.

The principal despatches to be referred to for this purpose will be No. 171, of 23d July; No. 181, of 7th August; No. 183, of 10th August; and No. 184, of 11th August.

Government House, 26 Nov. 1847.

(signed) *W. M. Gomm.*

— No. 30. —

(No. 270.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir *W. M. Gomm* to *Earl Grey*.

No. 30.
 Sir *W. M. Gomm*
 to *Earl Grey*.

My Lord,
 SINCE forwarding to your Lordship my despatch, No. 273, of the 26th ultimo, tidings have reached the colony of events vitally affecting every interest in it and connected with it; the

Mauritius, 1 December 1847.

the failure of the principal London houses of commerce through whose resources alone the sugar cultivation of the island has been maintained and carried to the height at which it presents itself to-day.

I know not whether I am entitled to expect some special instructions from your Lordship for my guidance at a moment of such overwhelming visitation for a community with the direction of whose affairs I am charged, but in the absence of any such special instructions the line of duty is, I apprehend, sufficiently pointed out to me; to stifle every feeling, and sink every consideration in those of the public administrator and dispassionate calculator of the colony's permanent and substantial interests, regardless, so far as influence over measures is affected, of pressing needs and even partial claims at right hand or left; above all, to refrain from extending a momentary and transient relief, even under security admitted sufficient in the special case; futile unless continued, but which cannot be continued without flagrant departure from established principle, and would therefore but abuse the confidence of, I fear, numerous parties who will be struck down irrecoverably by the weight and suddenness of this blow.

Should the immediate result of the receipt of such crushing intelligence be the dismissal of no inconsiderable number of labourers from estates whose administrators are no longer in a condition to maintain them, it must be the study of the Government to furnish employment for as many as possible by the extension of repair to the public roads largely requiring it throughout the island, and immediate prosecution of public works sanctioned, but waiting the opportunity for entering upon; and for meeting these additional expenses, the Treasury is happily at this hour amply provided.

The sugar crop of the year, already far advanced, will be abundant.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. M. Gomm*, Lieutenant-general.

— No. 31. —

(No. 291.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Sir *W. M. Gomm*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 4 March 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st December, No. 279, written on the arrival in Mauritius of the distressing intelligence of the failures of the Mauritius merchants in this country, but before the receipt of my several despatches of the 25th October last, notifying measures of relief. I have to express my concurrence in the views which you have communicated to me in this despatch.

With reference to its last paragraph, I have to observe that, if it should be found absolutely necessary to provide temporary employment for those labourers who may be thrown out of work, this cannot be so well accomplished in any other way as by repairing the public roads.

You will, however, bear in mind the injunction which I have already conveyed to you, to postpone every expense which can by possibility be deferred.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Grey*.

— No. 32. —

(No. 286.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Sir *W. M. Gomm*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 21 February 1848.

THE circumstances of difficulty and distress in which the sugar planters of the British colonies are placed at present, and the extensive failures of houses connected with Mauritius in particular, have led to a suggestion on the part of the merchants in London, connected with that colony, of which I see no reason to doubt the practicability, and which I trust may facilitate the operations of the planters. It is suggested that the export duty on all sugar shipped to this country may be made payable here instead of in the colony. It appears that a measure of this nature was partially adopted in the year 1845, the process by which effect was given to it being, that bills were drawn by the planters on their London agents, which bills were received at par by the local authorities in payment of the export duty; and being accompanied by the bills of lading as a guarantee, and by the further personal obligation of the shippers, in the event of any accident to the ship, were remitted by the local authorities to the colonial agent-general, by whom the value was realized and placed to the credit of the colony. I am not aware that this manner of proceeding will occasion any material inconvenience to the public service, and if you should not yourself see any objection to it, I request that you will recommend it to the Council, and that should it be approved by that body, you will cause it to be carried into effect. At the same time, if you can devise any more simple means of effecting this object, and with equal safety to the revenue, I shall readily take it into consideration with a view to its adoption.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Grey*.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

No. 30.

Sir *W. M. Gomm*
to Earl Grey.

No. 31.

Earl Grey to Sir
W. M. Gomm.

Vide Parl. Papers,
No. 61, of 1848,
pp. 255 to 261.

No. 32.
Earl Grey to Sir
W. M. Gomm.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

No. 33.
Sir W. Gomm to
Earl Grey.

For Earl Grey's Des-
patch, No. 116, of 31
March 1847, vide
Sessional Paper, No.
61, of 1848, p. 105.

For Sir W. Gomm's
Despatch, No. 156, of
13 July 1847, vide
Sessional Paper, No.
61, of 1848, p. 107.

(No. 219.)

— No. 33. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *William Gomm* to Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 4 October 1847.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Despatch, No. 116, of 31 March, and mine, No. 156, of 13th July, in reply, and numerous preceding ones therein referred to, I have now the honour to submit Ordinance No. 29, of 1847, passed by me with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, "for extending the delay fixed for the registration of certain deeds, and reducing the duty on transcription."

Your Lordship will readily perceive that the object of the local government in the pro-
jection of this measure has not been to effect any very material alleviation of duties at present imposed on the transfer of landed property in the colony; it is rather preparatory to measures having this object in view, affording facilities for conforming to the law in its present state to parties in default, and removing all difficulties, on the score of expense, from the process of transcription, considered very material for the definite settlement of claims to property transferred under whatever conditions.

A fraction of the Council contended for proceeding immediately and largely to the reduction of the registration dues themselves, with a view to its retro-active operation; but it was urged, on the other hand, that such unconditional concession would have the effect of holding out a premium to evasion of the law, and encourage the expectation that a like cause of non-conformity persisted in with equal pertinacity might be similarly rewarded under the reduced tariff.

The measure has passed the Council with only two dissentient voices.

Your Lordship will find the arguments of the Procureur-general and other members of government, and of their opponents, rendered with sufficient accuracy in the local prints of the day successively forwarded.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. Gomm*, Lieut.-general.

Enclosure in No. 23.

Encl. in No. 23.

MAURITIUS AND DEPENDENCIES.—Ordinance, No. 29, of 1847.

Enacted by the Governor of Mauritius, with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof.

Title.

For extending the delay fixed for the registration of certain deeds, and reducing the duty on transcription.

Preamble.

Whereas it is considered expedient that a new delay be granted for the registration, on simple proportional duty, of deeds of sale and other "actes sous signatures privées," as well as of certain mutations of property not registered in due time; and also that the transcription duty on certain deeds of transfer of property be reduced.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has ordered and does hereby order,—

Six months' delay
granted for stamping
and registering all pub-
lic deeds and titles, and
private agreements not
previously stamped and
registered, on paying
the simple duty.

Art. 1. A delay of six months, to begin from the publication of the present Ordinance, is hereby allowed for the stamping and registration, at a simple proportional duty, of all and every deed and other "actes sous signatures privées," and mutations of property by inheritance, will, or donation, which, at the date of this Ordinance, may not have been stamped or registered within the delay fixed by the "Arrêté of 16 Frimaire, an 12" (9th December 1803), and the receiver of registration dues is hereby empowered to register such deeds and documents, at a simple proportional duty, in the same manner as if they had been presented for registration within the delay prescribed by the above said "Arrêté."

Transcription duty on
deeds passed after this
date, reduced to 1 s.
per 100 l. and its frac-
tional parts.

Art. 2. The duty of one per cent. imposed by Article 65 of the Arrêté of 1 Brumaire, an 14 (23d October 1805), for the transcription of the deeds of transfer of immovable rights or properties, is hereby reduced, and shall in future be levied at the rate of 1 s. for 100 l., or for any fractional part of 100 l., upon any such deeds which may be passed after the publication of the present Ordinance, independently of the fees allowed by the 67th Article of the above said Arrêté to the conservator of mortgages.

Promulgation.

Art. 3. The present Ordinance shall take effect from the day of its publication.

Passed in Council, at Port Louis, Island of Mauritius, this 4th day of October 1847.

I have &c.

(signed) *D. W. Richetts*, Secretary to the Council.

(No. 236.)

— No. 34. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *William Gomm* to Earl Grey.

No. 34.

Sir W. Gomm to
Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 11 December 1847.

I HAVE the honour to submit the monthly Immigration Returns of this colony for November. The proportion of women to men in the introductions of the period is shown to be higher than in those of the several preceding months.

The deaths in the colony numbering somewhat higher, though inconsiderably so, with reference to the total numbers introduced to whom the estimates apply.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. Gomm*, Lieut.-general.

Enclosure 2, in No. 34.

RETURN of IMMIGRANTS who Embarked for their respective Countries, during the Month of November 1847.

DATE of PASSPORT.	SHIP.	Presidency.	INDIANS.												REMARKS.
			Old Immigration.						New Immigration.						
			Government Expense.			Their own Expense.			Government Expense.			Their own Expense.			
			M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	M.	W.	C.	
1847: November 3	Sulimany	Calcutta.	1	-	-	-	-	-	4*	-	-	4	1	-	* 3 invalids and 1 prisoner sent by po- lice.
" - 10	Futel Oheb		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
" - 15	Sultany		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	
" - 17	Dhur		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
			1	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	9	2	-	

Immigration Office,
9 December 1847.

(signed)

T. Hugon,
Protector of Immigrants.

Enclosure 3, in No. 34.

Encl. 3, in No. 34. RETURN of IMMIGRANTS who have entered the Depôt for Re-engagement, and of those who Re-engaged therefrom, during the Month of November 1847.

DISTRICTS.	Entered for Re- engagement.	Re-engaged from the Depôt.	Balance on the 30 Nov. 1847.	REMARKS.
Port Louis - - - -	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
Pamplemousses - - - -				
Rivière du Rempart - - - -				
Flacq - - - -				
Grand Port - - - -				
Savanne - - - -				
Black River - - - -				
Plaines Wilhems - - - -				
Moka - - - -				
TOTAL - - - -				

Immigration Office, 9 Dec. 1847.

(signed)

F. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

Port Louis, Mauritius, 6 November 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "Martin Luther," (No. 22, of 1847,) which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on 31 October 1847.

NAME of the master—James Hutton.
 Name of the surgeon—Pyster (East Indian).
 Date of departure—20th September from the moorings.
 Number of days on the voyage—37 from Sandheads.
 Registered tonnage—450 tons.
 Superficies of passengers' deck—2,744 superficial feet.
 Number of statute adults admissible—194.
 Number of such adults actually on board—193½.
 Number of crew—45.
 Port at which vessel touched—None.
 Date of touching—None.
 Days there—None.
 If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Emigrants Embarked.				Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.					
Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
164	23	13	-	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	164	23	13	200

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

General state of health good.

The space allotted for the accommodation of the immigrants, is the whole of the between decks, from the paul-bitt, or afterpart of the third beam before the fore-hatch, to the transom.

(signed) T. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked - - - - -	164	23	13	-
Deaths on the voyage (Nos.) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 1st November 1847 - - - - -	164	23	13	-
Infants embarked - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Deaths on the voyage (ditto) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 1st November 1847 - - - - -	-	-	-	-

(signed) T. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION of IMMIGRANTS per "Martin Luther," 3d November 1847.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATE.		IMMIGRANTS.				REMARKS.
	Name.	District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	
A. Collet - - -	Belle Rive	Riv. du Rempart	20	2	5	-	
A. Rivière - - -	Palma - - -	Plaines Wilhems	11	-	-	-	
Bouchet - - -	Mon Desir - - -	S. Pamplemousses	17	-	3	-	
Chapman & Co. - - -	Queen Victoria	Flacq - - -	29	2	1	-	
T. Motet - - -	Woodford	N. Pamplemousses	23	2	4	-	
J. T. Couve - - -	Beau Plan	S. Pamplemousses	32	1	1	-	
C. C. Brownrigg - - -	Esperance	Riv. du Rempart	7	-	1	-	
V. Robillard - - -	Belle Vue	N. Pamplemousses	4	3	3	-	
Adam & Co. - - -	Beau Bois	Flacq - - -	7	3	4	-	
Barclay, Brothers & Co.	La Louisa	N. Pamplemousses	14	-	1	-	
	TOTAL - - -		164	13	23	-	

Port Louis, Mauritius, 11 November 1847.

REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "Sultany," (No. 23, of 1847,) which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on the 2d November 1847.

- NAME of the master—Henry Handley.
- Name of the surgeon—Sheik Hemame (native doctor).
- Date of departure—14th September 1847.
- Number of days on the voyage—49.
- Registered tonnage—973 tons.
- Superficies of passengers' deck—Unknown.
- Number of statute adults admissible—300.
- Number of such adults actually on board—295.
- Number of crew—100.
- Port at which vessel touched—None.
- Date of touching—None.
- Days there—None.
- If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 3, in No. 34.

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
260	39	22	-	311	-	-	4	-	2	-	246	39	20	-	305

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

General state of health very good.

Between decks, from the stem to the 7th beam abaft the mizen-hatch, appropriated by charter-party to the use of the immigrants.

(signed) *T. J. Hugon,*
Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked	250	39	22	-
Deaths on the voyage (Nos. 10, 180, 241, 247, 296, and 305)	4	-	2	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 3d November 1847	246	39	20	-
Infants embarked	-	-	4	6
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.)	-	-	-	-
Deaths on the voyage (ditto)	-	-	4	6
TOTAL Living and on Board on 3d November 1847	-	-	4	6

N.B.—Two men, Nos. 4,900 and 4,950, have been sent to Civil Hospital.

(signed) *T. J. Hugon,*
Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRANTS per "Sultany," 6th November 1847.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATES.		IMMIGRANTS.				REMARKS.
	Name.	District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	
Made. Couvois -	Mon Repos -	Black River -	19	-	-	-	
J. M. Lagesse -	Belle Rose -	Flacq -	10	1	1	-	
Ve. Divré -	Maison Blanche -	S. Pamplemousses	17	5	4	-	
V. Robillard -	Belle Vue -	N. Pamplemousses	8	2	5	-	
Dupont & Barry -	Le Hangar -	Grand Port -	19	2	5	-	
Barbé & Lortan -	Mont Piton -	Riv. du Rempart	26	1	5	-	
Montocchio & Co. -	Riche Marre -	Flacq -	17	2	-	-	
E. Desmarais -	Palmar -	Flacq -	15	2	1	-	
Duval -	Clairfond -	Plaines Wilhems	28	-	-	-	
Raffray & Co. -	Le Rocher -	Riv. du Rempart	15	-	5	-	
R. Dumont -	Belle Vue -	Riv. du Rempart	21	2	-	-	
Cloupet & Co. -	Mon Desert -	Grand Port -	15	-	4	-	
J. Staub -	Shanfeld -	Riv. du Rempart	16	-	3	-	
Hunter & Co. -	Beauchamp -	Flacq -	18	3	6	-	
	Hospital -	-	2	-	-	-	
	TOTAL	-	246	20	39	-	

Port Louis, Mauritius, 23 November 1847.
 REPORT on the IMMIGRANTS by the Ship "John Brightman" (No. 24, of 1847),
 which arrived at Port Louis from Calcutta on 13 November 1847.

Appendix, No. 2.
 MAURITIUS.
 Encl. 3, in No. 34.

NAME of the master—Thomas Douglas Scott.
 Name of the surgeon—Kosseal (native doctor).
 Date of departure—1st October from Calcutta.
 Number of days on the voyage—44.
 Registered tonnage—404 tons.
 Superficies of passengers' deck—Unknown.
 Number of statute adults admissible—176½.
 Number of such adults actually on board—174½.
 Number of crew—45.
 Port at which vessel touched—None.
 Date of touching—None.
 Days there—None.
 If placed in quarantine, state the cause—None.

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
154	17	10	1	182	-	-	2	-	-	-	152	17	10	1	180

(Here subjoin any remarks that may be proper respecting the general state of health on board, or other circumstances of importance.)

General state of health very good.

The whole of the between decks, from the second beam before the fore-hatch to the transom or stern-post, allotted for the accommodation of the immigrants.

(signed) T. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Emigrants embarked - - - - -	154	17	10	1
Deaths on the voyages (Nos. 14 and 74) - - - - -	2	-	-	-
TOTAL Living and on Board on 13 November 1847 - - -	152	17	10	1
Infants embarked - - - - -	-	-	1	2
Births on the voyage (mothers' Nos.) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Deaths on the voyage (ditto 160) - - - - -	-	-	1	2
TOTAL Living and on Board on 13 November 1847 - - -	-	-	1	1

(signed) T. J. Hugon, Protector of Immigrants.

DISTRIBUTION of IMMIGRANTS per "John Brightman," 17 November 1847.

Sugar Planters.	ESTATES.		IMMIGRANTS.				REMARKS.
	Name.	District.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	
Baudot - - -	Belmont - -	Riv. Rempart -	20	-	3	-	
L. Le Breton - - -	Haute Rive - -	Ditto - -	20	3	1	-	
Durney & Co. - - -	Hermitage - -	Flacq - -	25	-	3	1	
Dioré - - -	Maison Blanche	S. Pamplemousses	1	-	-	-	
Madame Pilot - - -	Mon Loisir - -	N. Pamplemousses	9	1	4	-	
Mr. Duval - - -	Clairfond - -	Plaines Wilhems	15	1	-	-	
D. Emmerez - - -	Bel Ombre - -	Savanne - -	20	-	-	-	
J. Langlois - - -	Triolet - -	N. Pamplemousses	32	2	3	-	
F. Laurent & Co. - -	Deux Bras - -	Grand Port - -	10	3	3	-	
	TOTAL - - -		152	10	17	1	

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

— No. 35. —

(No. 287.)

No. 35.
Sir W. Gomm to
Earl Grey.COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *William Gomm* to Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 14 December 1847.

WITH reference to my despatch, No. 158, of 16th July, acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's, No. 104, of 4th March, I have now the honour to submit the report of the Committee of Financial Officers, to whom I had in the first instance referred the consideration of that portion of the question raised by Mr. David Barclay, on the part of the Mauritius Association, in his address, communicated to your Lordship's Under Secretary of State, of the 13th February, relating to the general expenditure of this colony, with a view to inquire whether the system of administration at present pursued would not admit of being simplified and rendered less expensive.

The committee, in this their thirty-fifth report, enter minutely into the details of the colonial financial administration, showing, in the 9th and 10th paragraphs of their report, to what causes it is owing that the annual expenditure of government is so considerable; the whole of the disbursements on the public account passing through its hands unshared, as in other British colonies, by municipal or local bodies,

I share in the regrets of the committee, expressed in their 11th paragraph, at the enduring prevalence of this system, originating under another regime: while I also participate in their impressions of there being daily evidence to prove that the people are still but ill prepared for a change, and that great discretion must be used in introducing it.

The successful establishment of the English language in the courts of justice, to the discomfiture of every artifice employed, by interested parties, for retarding such a consummation, and the progressive infusion among all classes of the community of English modes of thinking and feeling, contingent upon the spread of the language; the correction of abuses in the practice of the courts, still fondly advocated by the parties who repudiate the language; the correction of the criminal code, the defective working of which is daily experienced, and for retaining which in force every sleight of ingenuity is put in play by the same parties; and the institution of trial by jury, advocated through petition 10 years ago, as pressingly essential to the interests of the colony, by the same parties who now protest against any such innovation; these measures, successively carried through, and imparting their wholesome stimulants into the body and heart of the community, may fit it at no distant day for the enjoyment of municipal and parochial privileges, and the exercise of duties devolving upon parties popularly appointed for their protection and administration attaching to them.

Meantime, the committee are amply borne out in their estimate (para. 10) of the extraordinary occupation thrown upon the respective departments of government, and chiefly that of the Colonial Secretary, through the working out of such a system as, I fear, must still be tolerated; and, large as the establishment of this latter office would seem to be, I can assure your Lordship that nothing short of the unremitting personal labour of its chief, and the method which his great experience enables him to introduce into its details, would bear him with success through his multifarious duties.

I may confidently affirm, as my predecessors have done on several occasions in time past, in concurrence with the Council, that the Colonial Secretary's office is inadequately supplied at this day with means for carrying on the work which falls to its portion without the extraordinary exertion, always on the stretch, above adverted to; and an occasional delay in the dispatch, and imperfection in the discharge, of important business is the inevitable consequence.

Your Lordship will perceive (para. 12 and 13) that the judicial branch of expenditure is that in which retrenchment appears to the committee to be most needed, and most practicable through the measures on foot for amending the system of criminal procedure; still beset with obstruction, however, as exposed in despatch No. 239, of 24th October, and various preceding ones of the year.

And I concur in opinion with the committee, after such a revision, that the general system of expenditure, as now established in the colony, admits but of very partial modification, bearing in mind those considerations upon which reduction in any branch may be wholesomely recommended.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. M. Gomm*,
Lieut.-general.

Encl. in No. 35.

Enclosure in No. 35.

THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT OF FINANCIAL OFFICERS.

Expenditure of the
colony; despatches
of Secretary of
State.

May it please your Excellency,
THE undersigned financial officers have the honour to report upon the despatches from the Secretary of State, No. 104, dated 4 March, and No. 107, dated 7 March 1847, instructing your Excellency to take into consideration the present expenditure of the colony, and to report whether the system of administration at present pursued would not admit of being simplified and rendered less expensive.

6 December 1847.

2. The

2. The undersigned will endeavour to lay before your Excellency, as succinctly as possible, for the information of the Secretary of State, a general view of the system of administration established in the colony; and such information, with regard to the establishments and expenditure, as will enable your Excellency to form an opinion upon the practicability of simplifying the former, and of reducing the amount of the latter.

3. It cannot be denied that the gross amount of revenue levied and expended in this colony appears to be large, as compared with the area or the population, and possibly with the value of its produce; although this must be somewhat difficult to estimate, and the comparison with other colonies or countries in this respect must be still more difficult. But a cursory view of the receipts and expenditure during the last few years will not afford a just idea of the permanent scale of either, and there are circumstances connected with the established mode of administration in the colony, the standard of society, and the cost of living, which will serve to explain and justify any excess that may exist in the permanent scale of expenditure, as compared with other colonies.

4. It is only necessary at present to deal with the expenditure, and this cannot be better treated than by entering into an examination of the disbursements of last year, 1846, which varied very little in real amount from those of the preceding year.

5. The total expenditure, including arrears, upon the supposition that an equal sum remained unpaid at the close of the year, and deducting certain sums refunded from colonial revenues, and on account of profit and loss, which were balanced by at least equivalent receipts, was 273,534 *l.*

6. Of this amount, 41,518 *l.* was for immigration. The sum expended was actually greater, but only the above amount entered into the accounts of the year. This is an extraordinary, and it is to be hoped a temporary expenditure, which cannot, as the Secretary of State has already remarked, be complained of by the parties who addressed his Lordship, and is disbursed as economically as is consistent with the regulations laid down for the guidance of the local government. To this item must be added the expenditure on account of Seychelles and Rodrigues (the former of which yields but a trifling revenue, and the latter none), amounting to 4,650 *l.*; after these deductions the actual ordinary expenditure within the colony was 227,366 *l.*

7. The military expenditure on account of Her Majesty's troops and military buildings, over which the colonial government has no control, was 26,351 *l.*, being 5,000 *l.* above the usual payment, in consequence of an arrear to that amount having been paid within the year. The civil pensions, which are equally beyond control, amounted to 3,860 *l.*, leaving a balance, subject to revision by the local government, of 197,155 *l.*

8. The expenditure on the erection and maintenance of public buildings, roads, and bridges, amounted to 36,006 *l.*, independently of the establishment of the Surveyor-general's Department, which, added to the above, raises the total expenditure under this head to 43,101 *l.*

The necessity for this large outlay has been shown in the report of the finance committee on the surveyor-general's department, but may here be again briefly explained. For many years after the capture of the colony the public buildings were adequate for the wants of the colony, and they did not require any heavy repairs. The expenditure also usually exceeded the revenue, and there were no funds available for building. Moreover the government had the command of the labour of a large body of slaves and of Indian convicts. Of late years, however, the old buildings have fallen into decay, and additional or more extensive edifices have in many instances become necessary. For a long time the high price and difficulty of procuring labour prevented the government from undertaking any works; and when the re-opening of the immigration from India in 1843 permitted this, a vast accumulation of necessary works had taken place, which has rendered a large annual outlay requisite, and will call for a continuance of it for some years to come.

9. This may be a proper place to advert to that peculiarity in the administration of the colony which places the whole machinery of government in the hands of the single central executive body. There are not many municipal or local bodies to conduct the levy or disbursement of any share of the taxation, with a single exception, the committee for the management of the Bathurst Canal. It is true there is a town committee for Port Louis, but being named by the Governor it has very limited functions, and none of taxation; and, in fact, it only serves as a Board of reference for information touching the interests of the town. The sums disbursed on account of the necessary expenses or improvement of the town, are drawn from the general revenues of the colony, to which however the inhabitants of the town contributed largely, both directly and indirectly, and they are paid at the Treasury without the intervention of the committee. There are also charity committees in each district, and one in town, the latter known under the title of the "Caisse de Bienfaisance," but they have no power of taxation, and their only duty is to distribute the amount raised as a poor-tax, and supplied from the sources to the support of the poor, the whole amount passing through the Treasury.

There is also a committee of notables in the town of Port Louis, and in each district, named by the Governor, but they have no power of levying or disbursing public money. The consequence is, that all those functions of local or parochial administration which usually devolve upon the inhabitants of each parish or district, are here centered in the government. As regards the roads and bridges, their construction and maintenance rest with the government; there are no turnpikes; the taxes on carts, carriages, and beasts of burthen do not amount to one-fourth of the expenditure on this branch; the rest is defrayed from the general revenue. In some districts the poor tax is sufficient, in others it is insufficient, and the balance is advanced from the general revenue. It has already been observed

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. in No. 35-

that the expenditure on the town of Port Louis is supplied indiscriminately from the general revenue, and that its direction and control rest almost entirely with the government. The pilotage service and the towing of vessels into harbour, usually the objects of municipal management, are conducted by the government. The savings bank, hospital, dispensaries, royal college, public schools, are all managed and supported mainly by the government. The spirit of dependence upon the government established under the French dominion has never been changed, and is deeply rooted in the character of the people. The existing system of licences tends to maintain it; the principle of the law is that, with certain exceptions, no person shall enter into any trade or art without a licence from the collector of internal revenues. The nomination also to offices of every grade throughout the colony necessarily, under these circumstances, rests with the government.

10. From all these causes, it results that every tax and charge upon the inhabitants figures in the accounts of general revenue; that the disbursements are proportionately great; that an amount of correspondence is entailed upon the Governor and colonial secretary with references to other departments, which is scarcely conceivable under a different system; and that the duties of the officers of supervision, such as the audit of receipt and payment, such as the Treasury, and of collection of taxes, such as the internal revenues, are greatly increased as compared with other colonies in which a different system prevails.

11. The undersigned do not feel called upon to offer an opinion on the circumstances which have created and led to the maintenance of this system. They must have excited the attention and anxiety of every Governor of the colony, and must have been often brought to the notice of the Secretary of State; and there is sufficient daily evidence to prove that the people are but ill prepared for a change, and that great discretion must be used in introducing it.

12. A brief examination of the expenditure will show how far the existence of this system tends to swell the aggregate of general expenditure. After deducting the amount expended on public works, roads, and bridges, and upon the maintenance of the establishment of the surveyor-general, the expenditure of 1846 was 154,054*l.* This amount was distributed over the several branches of the service, as distinguished in the public accounts, in the following manner:—

DEPARTMENTS, viz.		£.	s.	d.
Civil	- - - - -	37,606	14	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Revenue	- - - - -	29,993	2	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
Judicial	- - - - -	54,607	8	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Medical	- - - - -	9,219	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ecclesiastical	- - - - -	4,038	2	10
		£.	135,474	13 - $\frac{1}{2}$
Provisions and stores for various departments	- - - - -	7,619	19	9
Town of Port Louis	- - - - -	5,371	15	5
Quarantine	- - - - -	409	3	5
Census	- - - - -	836	8	6
Miscellaneous	- - - - -	4,342	-	5
TOTAL	- - - - -	£.	154,054	- 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

From the charge on account of the departments are to be deducted the following sums, being the amount of special receipts in diminution of sums advanced or disbursed by the government, viz. :—

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Civil :						
Education	241	8	8			
Cemetery of Port Louis	73	19	6			
				315	8	2
Judicial :						
Law charges and fines	1,216	16	7			
Prisons	999	19	-			
				2,216	15	7
Medical				739	13	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
TOTAL				£.	3,271	17 1 $\frac{3}{4}$

Leaving the actual expenditure of each branch as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.
Civil	37,301	6	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Revenue	29,993	2	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Judicial	52,390	13	- $\frac{3}{4}$
Medical	8,479	10	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ecclesiastical	4,038	2	10
TOTAL	£.	132,202	15 10 $\frac{1}{2}$

In

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUGAR AND COFFEE PLANTING. 335

In the amount for civil departments are included the following charges, which either do not strictly belong to the expenditure of a central government, or are in aid of institutions which have a claim upon the colonial government for support, viz. :—

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.

	£.	s.	d.
Royal College - - - - -	2,069	-	-
Schools - - - - -	5,806	15	-
Savings Bank (this amount is covered by interest received on loans) - - - - -	268	-	-
Botanical garden - - - - -	518	1	-
Observatory - - - - -	100	-	-
Museum and library - - - - -	240	-	-
Royal Society of Arts and Sciences - - - - -	200	-	-
Leper establishments - - - - -	307	8	4
	£.	9,309	4 4

Encl. in No. 35.

leaving a difference of 26,992 l. 2 s. 5 ½ d., out of which the expenses of the following establishments, amounting to 22,261 l. 10 s. 8 d. are supported, viz. :—

- His Excellency the Governor.
- Colonial Secretary.
- Council.
- Auditor-general.
- Treasurer.
- Civil Storekeeper.
- Powder Magazine.
- Colonial Agent.
- Registry of Births and Deaths.

In the amount for the revenue departments is included for the following establishments, viz. :—

	£.	s.	d.
Pilots - - - - -	2,577	7	6
Steam-tug vessels for Port Louis; dredging service, ditto - - - - -	5,968	18	4
TOTAL - - - - -	£.	8,546	5 10

If this sum be deducted, the expenditure on the collection of the revenue will be 21,446 l. 18 s. 9 ½ d., which, in proportion to the average receipts of 1844-6, exclusive of immigration taxes, is at the rate of 8 l. 8 s. 6 d. per cent.

The expenditure for the judicial service consists of—

	£.	s.	d.
Courts and establishments - - - - -	14,634	15	7 ½
Law charges - - - - -	9,327	19	11 ½
Police - - - - -	28,156	4	11 ½
Prisons (exclusive of provisions and stores) - - - - -	271	12	6

This is the most expensive branch of the service, and is certainly disproportionate to the other branches, owing in some degree to the existence of the old system of colonial jurisprudence founded on the French, and established when the circumstances of the island were quite different from the present. In the second item of law expenses, it is to be hoped that reductions may be made, and as the whole system of criminal procedure is under revision, other changes with a view to economy will perhaps be practicable.

The chief expenditure in the medical branch is for the maintenance of the Civil Hospital at Port Louis, and of the dispensaries in the same town, and Mahébourg, and for the pay and fees of the medical practitioners employed as vaccinators throughout the island.

There are not any ecclesiastical foundations, or tithes for the support of the clergy, which therefore devolves mainly upon the government. It is understood that the Roman-catholic clergy derive a considerable revenue from the churches. The chief part of that derived from pew-rent in the two churches belonging to the Church of England is applied to repairs and maintenance, the rest to charity.

The charge of 7,619 l. 19 s. 9 d. for provisions and stores must be distributed over several departments, but the chief expenditure is on account of the hospital, prisons, and boatmen in the port office.

The sum of 5,371 l. 15 s. 5 d. under the head of Town of Port Louis, provides for the scavenging and lighting of the town, and the repairs of the streets.

The census is a periodical expense, and the other items do not call for any observation.

18. Upon a review, then, of the expenditure, the undersigned are unable to point out any manner in which the general system of administration can be simplified with a view to economy. They do not pretend to say that it does not admit of improvement in some of its details, specially in the judicial branch, which will soon come under consideration; but these do not affect the general system, which does not appear at present to be susceptible of any material modification.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. in No. 35.

14. Neither does the general scale of the departments, as regards either the number or salaries of the persons employed, appear to admit of reduction, with reference to those considerations upon which it should be properly based; but as this subject introduces a new topic, and as the present report has already reached a considerable length, it will be more conveniently treated in a separate report upon the audit office.

All which is humbly submitted.

(signed)

G. F. Dick, Colonial Secretary.
W. W. R. Kerr, Auditor-general.
Rawson W. Rawson, Treasurer.

To his Excellency the Governor.

— No. 36. —

(No. 289.—Financial.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *William Gomm* to Earl Grey.

No. 36.

Sir. W. Gomm to Earl Grey.

For Sir W. Gomm's Despatch, No. 158, of 16 July 1847, vide Sessional Paper, No. 61, of 1848, p. 196.

For Lord Grey's Despatch, No. 104, of 4 March 1847, vide Sessional Paper, No. 61, of 1848, p. 18.

For Earl Grey's Despatches, Nos. 104 and 113, of 4 and 18 March 1847, vide Sessional Paper, No. 61, of 1848, pp. 23 and 18.

For Sir W. Gomm's Despatches, Nos. 158 and 112, of 16 July and 15 May 1847, vide Sessional Paper, No. 61, of 1848, pp. 196 and 148.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 14 December 1847.

WITH reference to my despatch, No. 158, of the 16th July, acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's, No. 104, of 4th March, directing me, in connexion with other important points of inquiry suggested by Mr. David Barclay on the part of the Mauritius Association, to examine into and report upon the alleged expediency of substituting some other tax for that of the present export duty on sugar, I have now the honour to submit the result of the inquiry instituted with that view, Report No. 37, of the committee of financial officers.

The committee, your Lordship will perceive, have taken up the matter of despatch No. 113, of 18th March, in connexion with that portion of No. 104 relating to the sugar duties, in their present report.

The report is so full as to render superfluous any addition of my own, except for the purpose of inviting your Lordship's regard to its most prominent features; and I feel more than this to be the less called for from me, since I find the report developing views long since entertained and repeatedly submitted to your Lordship and your Lordship's predecessor by myself: as in the despatch above cited, No. 158, of 16th July, No. 112, of 15th May, and others therein referred to. All these views are laid open particularly in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the report. Paragraphs 9 and 10 also embody statements in justification of the existing tax advanced in previous despatches.

A new and important accession of strength to the cause of this duty is, however, brought to bear by the committee in their 11th paragraph, in refutation of the allegations of the parties complaining "that the duty tends to prevent extended improvements in agriculture," where they show, and I think your Lordship will consider successfully, that the duty operates as a positive premium upon the diligent and intelligent cultivation and manufacture of sugar.

The question of the imposition of a land tax, whether general upon cultivated land or limited to sugar estates, to replace the sugar duty as now levied, is also maturely considered by the committee from paragraph 13 onward, and its numerous difficulties set forth, I submit, with much perspicuity.

From paragraph 24 onwards, the reporters are busied in estimating how far the charge is borne out, of the present duty imposing an undue share of the public burthens of the colony upon the sugar growers; and the committee arrive at the conclusion that the charge cannot be successfully maintained.

I only record my own frequently expressed opinion while coinciding on this point with the committee, and principally for the reasons adduced by them, and summed up in their 27th and 28th paragraphs.

And I fully concur with the committee in the sentiments expressed in their two concluding paragraphs, 29 and 30.

I have, &c.

(signed) W. M. Gomm,
Lieutenant-general.

Enclosure in No. 36.

Encl. in No. 36.

THIRTY-SEVENTH REPORT OF FINANCIAL OFFICERS.

May it please your Excellency,

Port Louis, 7 December 1847.

THE undersigned financial officers have the honour to report upon the following papers, laid before them by your Excellency.

Export duty on sugar.

1. Despatches from the Secretary of State, No. 104, dated 4 March, and No. 113, dated 18 March 1847, upon the subject of the export duty upon sugar, the produce of this colony, and suggesting the expediency of substituting for it a tax upon all descriptions of land.

2. This is a mighty question, involving important principles of taxation, and affecting one-fifth of the whole annual revenue of the colony.

3. As

3. As a general rule export duties fall upon the foreign consumer, unless the exporter has to enter into competition in the foreign market with other producers of the same article on terms so nicely balanced, that the export duty turns the scale against him. In such a case it would certainly be desirable to remove the export duty; and so, in like manner, it would be the interest of the exporter, that he or the producer should be relieved from every tax which increases the cost price of the produce, and prevents him from entering into competition with his foreign rival upon the most advantageous terms.

4. But if it be necessary that for the purposes of revenue a certain amount of taxes should be raised from a certain class of the community, being the producers of an article intended almost exclusively for exportation, it signifies nothing, as regards the position of that article in a foreign market, whether the duty is levied in one stage of production or another, whether on the land from which produced, or upon the produce when exported, provided that the one mode of levy is not more onerous or extravagant than the other.

5. Such is the position of the question as regards the export duty on sugar in this colony. This duty is an equivalent for all other taxes directly affecting the cultivation of the cane and the manufacture of sugar. There are no direct taxes on the land or buildings employed in this branch of production; upon the stock or profits of the parties engaged in it; upon the wages of the labourers whom they employ, nor upon the carts or animals used in the cultivation of the fields. The only direct tax paid by the proprietor of a sugar estate is a poor tax, which in no case exceeds 2*l.* 8*s.* per annum, and on small estates is much less; and the only other tax to which he is liable as a cultivator of the soil is a tax upon his carts, seldom exceeding six or eight in number, employed in bringing the sugar to the place of shipment, which is applicable to the repair of the roads, or upon one, or at most two coasting vessels, which is levied to meet harbour expenses. He is subject to no local taxes for tithes, roads, police, or other objects, and to no claims for the support of local institutions of a charitable or other nature. In lieu of all these taxes and charges, some of which, in one shape or other, and to a less or greater degree, fall upon the producers of sugar in all other colonies and countries, the Mauritius sugar grower pays a tax on exportation of 1*s.* per 100 lbs., which, on the average price of five dollars per 100 lbs., is equal to 5 per cent., and upon the extremes of 3½ and 6½ dollars per 100 lbs., may be quoted in round numbers at 4 and 7 per cent.

6. It is evident, therefore, that the planters have no just claim to be exempted altogether from this duty, or from an equivalent to some portion, if not to the whole of it, even if the expenditure of the colony were to be reduced to the extent of the present collections of the duty, which is the only suggestion offered by the Mauritius Association in the memorial enclosed in the despatch of the Secretary of State.

7. But it remains to be considered whether, as asserted in the same memorial, the levying of the tax in the form of an export duty is severely felt by the colonists as being extremely oppressive upon industry, and tending to prevent extended improvements in agriculture; and whether, as suggested for your Excellency's consideration by the Secretary of State, it would be expedient to substitute a land tax for the export duty.

8. The undersigned are prepared to show that the latter duty presents all the essential conditions of a just and sound tax.

9. It is levied only upon the quantity actually produced or purchased. The rate is fixed and known beforehand; it is not an *ad valorem* duty dependent upon the state of the market or the caprice of the officer levying it. It is levied at the most convenient time, when the exporter is usually in funds, or can raise money to pay the duty on the cargo itself, and in the most convenient manner, by weighing the packages in the course of transfer from the shore or coaster to the ship; and it is collected in the most economical manner, almost without expense to the government, as it causes scarcely any increase of the customs establishment, which must be maintained for other purposes; consequently no more is taken out of the pockets of the payers than is required for the use of the government. Its collection also cannot be evaded, as no sugar can be cleared at the Custom-house until the duty has been paid upon it; and thus the government is secure of its revenue, and the tax falls equally and certainly upon all who are bound to pay it.

10. No tax is entirely free from inconveniences or objections. This duty is open to one which is attendant upon all fixed duties levied on articles varying in value, either from quality or from changes in the market. It fluctuates, as has already been shown, between four and seven per cent. *ad valorem*; but this range is not so great as to amount to a serious objection, and as every estate produces sugars of various qualities, down to the lowest syrups, it presses nearly equally upon all parties, and the chief effect of it is to raise, in a slight degree, the average per-centage rate of the duty on the whole crop of each. The consumer at the Cape of Good Hope and in Australia, whither the low sugars are chiefly exported, may be obliged to pay a trifle more for them, but the slight difference in the per-centage rate of duty does not affect either the planter or the exporter.

11. The assertion that the duty tends to prevent extended improvements in agriculture cannot be for a moment maintained, as the following calculation will distinctly prove. A skilful cultivator will obtain 5,000 lbs. or more of sugar from an acre of canes; a careless cultivator will not obtain more than 1,000 lbs. or 1,500 lbs., say the latter quantity. The latter will probably expend more in the production of this quantity than the former did in

Appendix, No. 2.
 MAURITIUS.
 Encl. in No. 36.

the production of his larger crop ; but allow the expense to have been the same, and to have amounted to two-thirds of the value of the inferior crop, say at five dollars per 100 lbs., to 10 *l.* per acre, the comparative result would be, that the former would have a surplus of 40 *l.*, out of which he would have to pay a duty of 50 *s.* ; and the latter would have a surplus of 5 *l.*, out of which he would have to pay a duty of 15 *s.* The smaller duty, therefore, in the latter case, bears a proportion of 15 per cent. to the planter's profit, while the larger duty in the former case bears a proportion of only 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. If the expenditure were double that of the careless cultivator, the proportion of the duty would only be 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., or little more than one half of the amount in the other case ; and however much the data may be altered, and the difference between the two may be reduced, the advantage will always remain in favour of the skilful cultivator. The argument is still stronger with regard to improvements in the manufacture of the sugar, because the duty remains stationary while the value of the sugar increases, as in the case of the improved highly crystallized sugar made in the vacuum pan ; upon which, if valued at eight dollars per 100 lbs., the duty amounts to very little more than three per cent., while the increase in the value amounts to 60 per cent. It is therefore an erroneous supposition, not borne out by reason or by the fact, that the duty has any effect in preventing improvements in agriculture.

12. Thus much for the nature and effects of the export duty on sugar. A land-tax, it appears to the undersigned, would be open to many objections, and its assessment would be attended with serious difficulties.

13. In the first place, no machinery exists for assessing or collecting the tax. A cadastre of the island has never been made, and there is no correct register of properties. The creation of the necessary machinery would be both tedious and expensive.

14. Secondly, In what shape is the tax to be imposed ? Not certainly a fixed rate on all descriptions of land ; because then the sugar grower would pay in the same proportion on his valuable land ; and the large capital invested on it, as the ex-apprentice upon his acre or half acre of garden ground, possessing no capital but the labour of himself and his family : nor scarcely a scale of rates apportioned to the nature of the cultivation, for two reasons ;—

1st. Because as the staple produce of the island is the cane, scarcely any other cultivation is carried on in it except that of vegetables, which are grown upon small properties not exceeding two acres, or in patches not exceeding that extent on larger estates. The expense, therefore, of assessing and collecting a low rate of tax upon the numerous properties of this description throughout the island would nearly swallow up the revenue derived from them, and would only serve to maintain a corps of tax gatherers, while the same burthen, as at present, would fall upon the sugar growers.

2d. Because the constant mutations, even upon the sugar estates, on which old plantations are annually abandoned or put in fallow, and new land taken into cultivation, would render it necessary continually to revise the assessment, and to keep up an inspection, which would be both expensive and obnoxious.

15. If then the tax be limited to sugar estates, should it be a fixed or a variable tax ? Owing to the peculiarities attending the production of sugar, our dependence upon a distant market, the great fluctuation in prices, the many influences to which the crop is subject, and above all, the circumstance of there being but one kind of crop, so that there can be no compensation for a loss upon that one by a gain upon others, as is the case with an agriculturist in Europe, it would not be just to establish a fixed tax, and it would be almost impossible to establish a fair variable tax. Moreover, the same objection which was remarked as attaching to the export duty, presents itself here under a different form. The quality of the land varies greatly in different districts, and certain districts are liable to the evil influences of weather in different degrees ; for which, in order to assess the land equitably, allowances must be made which it would be difficult and almost impossible to estimate.

16. These difficulties are pointed out, not as being insuperable, but as presenting objections to the establishment of a land-tax, to which others of equal or greater importance must be added.

17. The planter would be obliged to pay the same amount in bad years as in good, although his crop might fall short by one-third, or even one half ; an export duty is charged only on the actual produce.

18. He would be obliged to pay in advance at the beginning of the year, or at some fixed period, without reference to his being in funds to meet the tax. The export duty is paid only upon shipment, when he has sold the sugar, or received advances upon it.

19. The tax must be paid in the first instance by the planter, whose capital is small, and often borrowed ; at present it is paid almost universally by the agent in Port Louis, or by the purchaser.

20. The tax would remain on the land, whether it was in profitable cultivation or not. The planter would not be able to allow his canes to stand over a year (reference is made to what are called *cannessantées*), nor to adopt the advantageous system of fallowing ; and further, the planter with a small capital, employing only a few men, would pay as much as the planter of large means employing double the force on the same extent of land.

21. The

21. The tax, as its rates would necessarily be heavy, would tend to have the effect of throwing poor land out of cultivation. Appendix, No. 2.

22. Lastly, the difficulty of collection would be very great. The tax would either fall into arrears, or stringent measures would become requisite, and an outcry would soon be raised against it. MAURITIUS.

23. For these reasons the undersigned cannot recommend a land-tax; and taking them in combination with those advanced in favour of the existing export tax, they respectfully submit that the planters would derive no benefit from the change, which would be further inexpedient as regards the interests of the revenue. Encl. in No. 36.

24. Having completed this comparison of the two modes of taxation referred to in the despatch of the Secretary of State, there remains for consideration one point mooted by his Lordship, namely, whether the export duty imposes upon the sugar growers more than their fair share of the public burthens of the colony. The following calculation will show that such is not the case.

25. An estate which cost a few years ago, say 60,000 *l.*, and which would probably not fetch the same amount if sold at the present time, although additional capital had been laid out on it, will produce from 1 to 1½ millions of pounds of sugar annually, say an average of 1¼ million. The value of this, at five dollars per 100 lbs., is 12,500 *l.*, and the amount of export duty payable upon it is 625 *l.* This sum bears to the value of the land and buildings a proportion of 1 *l.* 10 *s.* per 100 *l.*, and to the land, buildings, and cost of production, taken at the one-half of the gross receipts, 18 *s.* 10 *d.* per 100 *l.* Upon the gross receipts it amounts to 1 *s.* in the 1 *l.*, and upon the nett profit to 2 *s.* in the 1 *l.* If one-half be too much to allow for the nett profit, the duty would amount to 2 *s.* 6 *d.* upon a profit of two-fifths, below which the profit can scarcely fall short.

26. Or the calculation may be stated in a different manner. The land on which the crop of last year was grown, and the other land forming part of the estates on which it was grown, amounts to at least 120,000 acres. The duty amounted to 60,000 *l.*, or 10 *s.* an acre. An acre of land well cultivated will yield a surplus beyond the cost of production of 10 *l.* to 15 *l.*; the ratio of the duty to this at 15 *s.* an acre, for the crop was probably grown on 80,000 acres, actually in yield, would be from 1 *s.* to 1 *s.* 6 *d.* in the 1 *l.* sterling.

27. Considering that this duty embraces every direct tax upon the property, and the capital employed in its cultivation, the proportion according to either of these calculations does not appear to be excessive, especially as the duty is only levied upon produce actually received.

28. It must here be remarked, that, although a large annual burthen has been imposed upon the colony for the maintenance of immigration, which is now kept up exclusively for the benefit of the sugar growers, no additional taxes have until this year (and then only for the special object of an increased introduction of labourers) been imposed upon that class; for the duties on spirits, wines, and dogs fall on the community at large; and no substitute has ever been imposed upon the planters for the old taxes on slaves, which used to yield a large annual amount, and which ceased soon after the expiration of the ex-apprenticeship.

29. If, however, the present rate of 1 *s.* per 100 lbs. be deemed to be oppressive, or should, through any change of circumstances, become so, nothing will be easier than to reduce it, so as to adjust the burthen fairly upon the planter; and whenever, by a reduction of expenditure, or an increase of revenue, after having considered and adjusted the claims of other interests to a similar relief, there remains a surplus revenue with a prospect of its being maintained, a reduction can be made in the export duty on sugar.

30. In conclusion it may be observed, that the burthen of the sugar duty, and the complaints against it, have been greatly increased by the difficulty of obtaining British silver to pay it, which exposes the merchants not only to an increased charge for premium, but to delays and difficulties in procuring the necessary amount. It is a harassing thing for a merchant, acting on a large scale, to be obliged to pick up the amount required for the duty on a cargo in small sums from brokers and shopkeepers, and perhaps to wait for the payment of some claim upon the Treasury or Commissariat; and such is constantly the case.

The undersigned believe, that if there were not this difficulty, if the currency were placed on a sound footing, or if there were a circulation of paper receivable at the Treasury, the chief ground of complaint against the export duty, as it affects either the planter or the exporter, would be removed.

All which is humbly submitted.

(signed) G. F. Dick, Colonial Secretary.
W. W. R. Kerr, Auditor-general.
Rawson W. Rawson, Treasurer, &c.

Appendix; No. 2.

— No. 37. —

MAURITIUS.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Sir William Gomm.

No. 37.
Earl Grey to
Sir W. Gomm.

Sir,

Downing-street, 4 April 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your two despatches of the 14th December 1847, Nos. 287 and 289, with their enclosures, reports from the Finance Committee upon the questions of the possibility of reducing the expenditure of your government, and of substituting a general land tax for the present export duty upon sugar respectively.

These documents confirm the impression under which I addressed to you my confidential despatch of the 22d February 1848, of there being a considerable surplus revenue which it would be justifiable, in the present ample state of the Treasury balances, to apply without reserve to the reduction of such taxes as press the most heavily upon the cultivators of the cane; the class of tax payers entitled under present circumstances to a precedence of consideration on the part of the Government.

If upon a review of the whole of the burdens of these agriculturists, you should have arrived at the opinion, which would be a further condition of the adoption of the suggestion contained in that confidential despatch, that the export duty was the one most urgently requiring alleviation, I take for granted that you will have proceeded to act accordingly. But I confess that the papers now before me, lead me to entertain some doubt, whether desirable, as it undoubtedly is, to diminish this tax, it is in truth the first which ought to be selected for reduction.

The difficulty of substituting a land-tax for the export duty must be regarded, I fear, as insurmountable for the present, and it follows, with reference to the state of the colonial finances, that a partial reduction only of the export duty would be effected by the application of the entire available surplus revenue to that single object; reduction of the export duty, to whatever amount within the limits of financial safety, I should in any case rejoice to see take place, but on the ground of doubt above alluded to, I do not wish to exclude from your consideration, whether any remission of taxation which may be practicable might not with more advantage be effected by the reduction of any other tax which may seem to throw even greater difficulties in the way of the successful application of capital and labour to the cultivation of the cane. From the information now transmitted to me I should be inclined to infer the existing tax most really injurious to the cultivator, to be that imposed on the transfer of landed property, to which, I learn from your despatch, No. 219, of 4 October 1847, that your attention has already been directed. To afford facilities for the transfer of such property with cheapness and dispatch, I believe to be one of the conditions most conducive to improvement, and I question whether the present fiscal impediments to such transfers, are not calculated to inflict much more real injury on the community than an export duty levied to a corresponding amount, and consequently whether the proposition for the immediate reduction of the latter tax should not give way to a measure if practicable, for entirely, or almost entirely removing the former. This is however a question upon which a safe judgment can only be formed by those who have far more perfect local information than it is possible that I should possess. I must leave the decision therefore entirely to yourself, and to the Legislative Council, merely expressing my strong opinion of the urgency of affording some relief from their present burthens to the planters, whose own opinion as to the form in which that relief may best be granted, will no doubt have due weight with the Legislature.

As to expenditure, notwithstanding the conclusions adverse to the practicability of any considerable retrenchment which have been the result of the examination by the committee of the various items in detail, I cannot feel satisfied, with reference to considerations of a more general nature that such retrenchments might not be effected, and I am especially anxious that a commencement at least should be made without delay, towards establishing some system of local organization to relieve the general government from the mass of business and expense entailed upon it by the existing state of things.

I have, &c.
(signed) Grey.

— No. 38. —

(No. 299.—Immigration.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir William Gomm to Earl Grey.

No. 38.
Sir W. Gomm to
Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Mauritius, 28 December 1847.

THE ship "Æneas," which arrived from Calcutta yesterday, with the last remittance of immigrant labourers to the colony for the year, has brought also a communication from Mr. Caird, enclosing a copy of Mr. Hawes's letter to him of the 23d September, a later date by six weeks than the last received by myself from your Lordship on the same subject, that being No. 184, of 11 August, directing the course to be pursued by him with reference to the applications made from hence for the continuance of his supplies through the season in which he is making his remittances to the West Indies.

At the same time your Lordship is stated by Mr. Hawes to have been aware that the supply to the colony in 1846 fell short by 1,000 of the number sanctioned, and that it was on financial grounds alone, the augmented requisition was disallowed, and that it therefore became

For Earl Grey's Despatch, No. 184, of 11 August 1847, vide Sessional Paper, No. 61, of 1848, p. 116.

became of consequence to ascertain whether it might not be advisable to open the port of Madras to Mauritius immigration in addition to that of Calcutta, for ensuring to the colony the supplies of which it stood urgently in need.

I have little doubt of Mr. Caird's having lost no time in informing your Lordship in reply to this communication, and earlier ones therein referred to, that not only has the regular supply to the colony fallen short in 1846, but in the present year also; and to a like amount, the numbers arriving in neither year exceeding 5,000; and I trust that Mr. Caird will therefore have urged the necessity of giving us access to Madras to preserve the colony from very serious disappointment from henceforward in the amount of its supply of labour.

In the face of these short-comings in the amount of introduction anticipated by the colony, and of the unfavourable occurrences at home so seriously affecting its sugar properties, it has been suggested to me that I might run small risk of incurring your Lordship's disapproval by proposing to the Council a temporary remission of the stamp duty upon engagements, on the ground of this tax having been imposed upon employers expressly for the purpose of providing funds for furnishing a more extensive introduction for their service, a portion of the condition which it has been found impracticable to comply with, while on their part it has been punctually fulfilled.

I hope there is no one in the colony more heartily disposed than I am to afford every practicable relief to numerous parties, who I am very sensible must presently be driven to great shifts, the result possibly of imprudence in which they have had no share; but I do not at present see how I could look for your Lordship's approval of a course of proceeding which I am unable to reconcile with my own views of my duty to the colony at large.

It is true that in your Lordship's despatch, No. 38, while recommending the imposition of the stamp duty, your Lordship regards it as a measure calculated materially to assist in defraying the expense of immigration; but the more important object with your Lordship is declared to be that of checking competition among employers, and encouraging re-engagement between the same parties.

For each of these objects the law is found to be very successfully operating.

But there is another impost which is working equally beneficially, in reclaiming through its penalties numbers of stragglers and vagabonds to regular employment, and in the cane fields, the monthly tax; and I do not see with what show of fairness I could propose, for however limited a term (and the boon once conceded would be found in practice very difficult to limit, without rendering bootless the portion of relief already afforded, and at no inconsiderable sacrifice), a concession in the one case and not in the other; this latter involving the withdrawal of a check upon idleness, which all parties are agreed is working highly to the advantage of the planter.

But if this objection could be waived and the stamp duty be alone remitted, in consideration of the present embarrassment falling principally upon the agricultural interest, the concession so limited, and generally made, and it is only so, I apprehend, that it could be made, while affording real relief in too many instances would be extending a gratuitous boon in other quarters which the late reverses at home have not reached, comprising more than one-fourth of the sugar property of the island, while threatening to throw serious disturbance into the financial arrangements of government for continuing the steady supply of immigration.

The Council, in their reports upon the estimates of the contingent expenditure of 1848, are recommending for your Lordship's sanction the introduction of 13,000 fresh immigrants within the year.

This report, which I shall presently have the honour of submitting to your Lordship, will show the grounds upon which the Finance Committee proceed while making this proposal.

Other statements which are also preparing for transmission will show that the local treasury has actually in its chest a surplus exceeding 100,000 *l.*, to be augmented shortly by the sum of 40,000 *l.* on its way to the colony, as announced to me by your Lordship in despatch, No. 191, of 29 August.

The expense attendant upon the projected introduction of 1848, will thus be amply provided for, in strict accordance, I apprehend, with the principles laid down in your Lordship's despatch, No. 171, of 23 July, and for succeeding years in like manner, provided the sources of revenue actually counted upon on this score are not in the meantime tampered with; such are the export duties on sugar; distillery and sale of spirits duties; stamp duty and monthly tax.

These maintained in their integrity will render immigration upon an extensive scale independent of aid from the surplus of general revenue.

They have done so for the first time in 1846, and their productiveness will be shown to have considerably increased in the course of the present year.

And their immigration will support itself, and the surplus general revenue of the year be applicable to the prosecution of important public works, and reduction of imports pressing most irksomely upon the community at large.

I have, &c.
(signed) W. Gomm, Lieut.-Col.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

No. 38.
Sir W. Gomm to
Earl Grey.

For Earl Grey's Despatch, No. 38, of 29 September 1846, vide Sessional Paper, No. 325, of 1847, p. 148.

For Earl Grey's Despatch, No. 171, of 23 July 1847, vide Sessional Paper, No. 61, of 1848, p. 77.

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

No. 39.

Males - 1,621
 Females - 272
 Children - 210
 ———
 2,103

(No. 20, of 1847.)

COPY of a LETTER from *T. Caird*, Esq. to the Under Secretary of State, &c.

— No. 39. —

Emigration Agent's Office, Calcutta,
10 June 1847.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to request that you will lay the accompanying copies of letters before Earl Grey for his orders thereon. I have up to this period despatched eight vessels to Mauritius since the 1st March last, containing 2,103 emigrants, as per margin, and I expect to be able to get off 10 ships more before the 1st October next; but as his Excellency the Governor represents that colony to be very much in need of labourers, and has expressed a hope that in future emigration to Mauritius will not be stopped or interrupted on account of that for the West Indies; and as I am informed by the emigration agent at Madras that there will be no emigration from thence during the current year, I shall feel obliged by your acquainting me at your earliest convenience whether I am to continue sending labourers to Mauritius after the 1st October next (sufficient for both places not being procurable at the same time), or to stop the same and engage tonnage for the conveyance of coolies to the West Indies, as has heretofore been the custom.

I have, &c.

(signed) *T. Caird*,
Emigration Agent.

Enclosure 1, in No. 39.

(No. 3.)

Colonial Secretary's Office, Mauritius,
15 April 1847.

Sir,

Encl. 1, in No. 39.

I HAD the honour to address you on the 23d November last, acquainting you that, in anticipation of the port of Madras being reopened for the emigration to this colony of Indian labourers, his Excellency had been pleased to appoint, as emigration agent for this island at that port, the gentleman who now holds the office there of emigration agent for the West Indies, and requesting that you would put yourself in communication with him, and afford him all such information as he may require to enable him to carry out the views of this government for the despatch of 3,000 labourers annually.

2. I have now to intimate to you, that the supply of labour here continuing insufficient, notwithstanding the large number of Indian emigrants brought hither, it has become necessary to increase the number to be introduced this year to 9,000, exclusively of the proportion short sent down last year, viz., 987, according to your reports of numbers embarked on the different ships. And, in order that there may be no disappointments, his Excellency the Governor instructs me to request that the entire number may be expedited by you from Calcutta, in the event of any unforeseen delay having occurred with respect to the opening of the port of Madras.

3. But if emigration have commenced there, which the Governor cannot doubt of, after the government of India has announced its assent, you will be pleased to communicate with Capt. Wilson, in order that he may provide not only the 3,000 labourers applied for already, but such further number as may be required to complete any portion which you may be unable to provide, and so to assure the prompt transmission of the entire number above mentioned, 9,987 emigrants in the course of the year, and at the earliest period that may be practicable.

4. In conclusion, as labourers are still very urgently called for here, and as there is a strong impression among the sugar planters that the number now directed to be sent down will not be sufficient to meet the demand for labour for the ensuing and subsequent crops, his Excellency requests that you will bear in mind that an additional number may yet be asked for; and he trusts that you will, in conjunction with Captain Wilson, endeavour to be prepared to forward, with their families, 3,000 more emigrants, if you receive a requisition to that effect, in the course of the next two or three months.

I have, &c.

To the Emigration Agent,
Calcutta.(signed) *George F. Dick*,
Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 39.

(No. 4.)

Colonial Secretary's Office, Mauritius,
6 May 1847.

Sir,

Encl. 2, in No. 39.

I HAVE his Excellency Lieutenant-general Sir William Gomm's directions to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, under date the 7th and 17th ultimo; the one transmitting a copy of a report made by you to the Governor of India as to the advantage or otherwise that might be derived from reopening to emigration the port of Madras; the other, reporting that you had already despatched two vessels with immigrants for this island, and that you had taken up and expected to be able to despatch three more during all the month of April, but at very high rate of freight.

2. His Excellency's attention has been drawn to a paragraph in a communication under date the 27th March last, made by the secretary to the government of Bengal, from which it appears that the deputy governor does not approve of the existing arrangement under which,

which, for the interests of the West Indies, emigration to Mauritius is suspended at particular seasons not unfavourable for the voyage, when labourers may be found willing to depart for this island; and, as a communication to this effect will have been made both to you and to Captain Rogers by the secretary to the Bengal government, his Excellency the Governor has directed me to express his hope that in future emigration to this colony will not be stopped or interrupted on account of that for the West Indies.

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.
Encl. 2, in No. 39.

To the Emigration Agent,
Calcutta.

I have, &c.
(signed) *George F. Dick,*
Colonial Secretary.

— No. 40. —

COPY of a LETTER from *B. Hawes, Esq.* to *T. Caird, Esq.*

Sir,
I AM directed by Earl Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 10th June last, accompanied by copies of letters which had been addressed to you by desire of Sir William Gomm, wherein the wish is expressed that the supply of emigrants from Calcutta to Mauritius may not henceforth be interrupted during the months which have been set apart for emigration thence to the West Indian colonies.

Downing-street, 23 September 1847.

No. 40.
B. Hawes, Esq. to
T. Caird, Esq.

You state that it will be impracticable for you to procure a sufficient supply for the West Indies and the Mauritius at the same time, and request to be furnished with Lord Grey's instructions whether you are to adhere to the existing practice, or, in accordance with the desire of Sir William Gomm, to continue the Mauritius emigration coincidently with that to the West Indies. Lord Grey directs me to acquaint you in answer that, although it has been deemed requisite on financial grounds to disallow the augmented number of coolies in contemplation; of which the requisition of Sir William Gomm, to which you refer, was probably addressed to you, yet still the experience of last year (in which the emigration appears to have been nearly 1,000 short of the number sanctioned) seems to prove that the present arrangements will not secure to Mauritius an adequate supply of labourers; and it was with a view to enable his Lordship to judge of the propriety of opening the ports of Bombay or of Madras for this service, that I was directed to address to you my letter of the 16th instant, wherein you were instructed to report what is the number of efficient labourers which you think it probable that you will be able to despatch annually from Calcutta to Mauritius and the West Indies.

In the meantime Lord Grey is unable to convey to you his authority for complying with the requisition in question from Sir William Gomm; to sanction which would render it impossible for you to supply emigrants to the vessels which, in reliance on the continuance of the present arrangements, have been chartered in this country for the conveyance of coolies to the West Indies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *B. Hawes.*

— No. 41. —

(No. 304.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Governor Sir *William Gomm.*

Sir,
I HAVE received your despatch, dated 28 December last, No. 299, reporting the arrival of the ship "Æneas," from Calcutta, with immigrants, and explaining your views with respect to a proposition which had been made to you for a temporary remission of the stamp duty upon engagements of immigrants. I have to express my approval of the course which you took in refusing to accede to that proposal.

Downing-street, 27 March 1848.

No. 41.
Earl Grey to
Sir W. Gomm.

I would further observe that, with a view to the real relief of the planter, the stamp duty is the very last tax that ought to be remitted.

With respect to the export duty on sugar, however, you will have learnt from my previous despatches that I would gladly consent to its reduction or repeal whenever the financial circumstances of the colony may admit of affording the planters that relief.

When the report from the Council, recommending an increase of immigration, shall reach me, I will give it all due consideration.

I cannot but fear, however, that the aspect of commercial affairs in the colony will have so much altered since the date of your despatch, that there will be but little hope of such a measure being carried into effect.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Grey.*

— No. 42. —

(No. 300.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *William Gomm* to Earl Grey.

My Lord,
REPRESENTATIONS having been made to me that it might be advisable that the government should adopt some measures for increasing the diminished supply of British silver in circulation, and a mode having been suggested to me as practicable, by its acceptance of rupees of the Company at the regulated valuation, to be held in deposit in exchange for
0.32. x x 4 a like

No. 42.
Sir W. Gomm to
Earl Grey.

Appendix, No. 2.

a like amount of British silver, I requested the financial officers of government to take the proposal into consideration, and the report now submitted is the result.

The report will further illustrate the statement conveyed in my last numbered despatch, No. 299, of yesterday's date, with respect to the accumulation of funds in the local treasury, and develop, particularly in its 13th paragraph, the causes by which this depletion has been unavoidably produced. The report will also show throughout the complexity of embarrassment thrown upon those portions of the community who derive no immediate benefit from the introduction of the Indian coin, through the permanency of its twofold valuation in the colony.

And it will also show, I trust, to your Lordship's satisfaction, that while the government is exerting itself to give all possible effect to the committee's recommendations, contained in paragraphs from 18 onward, it is with reason abstaining from lending itself to any of the other projects, commented upon in the preceding portions of the report.

I cannot forward this document without expressing to your Lordship my sense of the valuable services this committee are rendering to myself, and to the community at large, through their able reviews of the important matters successively submitted to their consideration by me.

I feel confident that the matter contained in my despatches, recently transmitted, Nos. 287, 288, and 289, and various others which have preceded them, similarly furnished, within no lengthened period, will bear me out with your Lordship while making this acknowledgment.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. M. Gomm,*
Lieut-general.

Enclosure in No. 42.

THIRTY-FOURTH REPORT OF FINANCIAL OFFICERS.

1 December 1847.

Encl. in No. 42.

To his Excellency the Governor, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

Scarcity of British silver.

THE undersigned Financial Officers having, in accordance with your Excellency's desire, taken into consideration the present difficulty experienced by the commercial body in procuring British silver, and the expediency of affording facilities for the issue of that description of coin from the Treasury, upon deposits of rupees valued at 1s. 10d., have the honour to submit the following facts and suggestions for your Excellency's consideration.

2. The amount of specie in the Treasury vault on the 1st December 1846, was 98,000 l., consisting of the following coins :

			£.	s.	d.				
Gold	-	-	Sovereigns	-	-	5,000	-	-	
Silver	-	-	Dollars	-	-	14,583	6	8	
			Rupees	-	-	1,283	6	8	
British, viz.									
Half-crowns	-	-	6,900			38,000	-	-	
Shillings	-	-	11,900						
Sixpences	-	-	19,200						
Pieces of 4d.	-	-	4,200			38,700	-	-	
" 3d.	-	-	26,700						
" 1½d.	-	-	7,800						
Other Coins	-	-				433	6	8	
TOTAL						£.	98,000	-	-

3. During the present year there has been issued to the commissariat, for exportation in exchange for drafts on Her Majesty's Treasury, payable in London, the sum of 80,000 l., consisting entirely of sovereigns, dollars, and pieces of 4d. and 3d.

4. The amount in the vault at the present date is 106,000 l., consisting of--

			£.	s.	d.				
Gold	-	-	Sovereigns	-	-	2,305	-	-	
Silver	-	-	Dollars	-	-	3,541	13	4	
			Rupees	-	-	4,125	-	-	
British, viz.									
Half-crowns	-	-	18,200			78,700	-	-	
Shillings	-	-	29,400						
Sixpences	-	-	31,100						
Pieces of 3d.	-	-	8,900			10,700	-	-	
" 1½d.	-	-	7,800						
Other Coins	-	-							628
TOTAL						£.	106,000	-	-

There

There is consequently an increase of 8,000*l.* in the total amount of specie of all descriptions in the Treasury at the present date as compared with a year ago, but there is an increase of 40,700*l.* in large British silver, that is, half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences; and this amount has been withdrawn during the year from the circulation, or rather from the chests of the banks and commercial firms, for it is notorious that British silver is not in general circulation; that as soon as it is issued from the Treasury or military chest it is exchanged for rupees; or, when paid away, is collected by the money brokers, and is only used for the payment of taxes or for exportation.

5. According to the custom-house returns the importation of British silver during the year ending 31st October last was 8,000*l.*, and the exportation 300*l.*; the difference remaining in the island was 7,700*l.*

But the stock of large silver in the vault has increased during the last 12 months 40,700*l.*, consequently the stock which was in the hands of the public in December 1846, has been reduced to the extent of 33,000*l.*

6. If, therefore, there was a pressure for British silver at that date, and the premium which it then bore varied, according to the price current, from one to two per cent. at the beginning of the month, to three to four per cent. at the close, how much greater must it be now when so much has been absorbed into the Treasury? and how much more severe is it likely to become when the heavy disbursements from the Treasury on account of immigration are about to cease, and the payment of the export duties on sugar upon two-thirds of the crop, and of licence duties, and other taxes in the present month; and the first quarter of next year will absorb no less than 87,000*l.* above the sums payable out of the Treasury if the ordinary receipts and expenditure proceed at the same rate as they did during the same period of 1846 and 1847; and if the new immigration tax do not fall short of the average receipt during the first four months, July to October, in which it was levied, according to the following calculation, in which the extraordinary transactions with the Commissariat during the first quarter of 1847 were omitted.

	RECEIPT.	EXPENDITURE.	EXCESS.
	£.	£.	£.
December 1846 - - - - -	42,956	33,121	9,835
January 1847 - - - - -	47,894	13,997	33,897
February " - - - - -	32,048	16,751	15,297
March " - - - - -	29,057	17,145	11,912
£.	151,955	81,014	70,941

NEW IMMIGRATION TAX.

July - - - - -	£.	3,739
August - - - - -		4,162
September - - - - -		5,400
October - - - - -		3,663

TOTAL - - - £. 16,964

Average - - - £. 4,241.

Making, however, a larger allowance for the circumstances which are likely to affect the revenue during the ensuing four months, there can be little doubt that, in the ordinary course of events, an additional sum of 50,000*l.* or 60,000*l.* will be absorbed into the Treasury in that period, before any payments are likely to be required on account of the transport of immigrants.

7. The stock in the Treasury will be further increased by the sum of 40,000*l.* which the colonial agent has been instructed to send out in repayment of the sum advanced to the Commissariat, which, if it arrives before the month of April, will raise the amount in the Treasury to above 200,000*l.*

8. The question then arises, how is the public to meet this heavy drain to supply 50,000*l.* or 60,000*l.* in the next four months, in addition to the 40,700*l.* which they have furnished in the last twelve? How are the taxes and duties to be paid?

Appendix, No. 2.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. in No. 49.

9. As a proof of the existing pressure, the premium on British silver, which was quoted last week at $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent., is quoted to-day at 5 to $5\frac{1}{2}$. The result will therefore soon arise, that the public will be reduced to paying the duties and taxes in rupees at a loss of $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and the anomaly will speedily follow of all the British silver being locked up in the Treasury except the average sum of about 16,000 *l.*, which it disburses monthly, and the monthly payments of the Commissariat, which that department will be obliged to obtain from the Treasury, as the brokers will be unable to tender British silver for Commissariat bills.

10. Another anomaly will then be forced upon the government: a considerable quantity of rupees will find their way into the Treasury, and after a while it will be obliged to reissue them at the standard rate to parties who will dispose of them at the current rate, and thus reap an illegitimate profit of $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

11. It may be argued that the inconvenience and loss of this state of things falls upon the public only, who have themselves to blame for it; that they have made a profit upon the importation of rupees which they must now disgorge, but this is not quite accurate; certain measures of the government have had a material effect in reducing the supply of British silver. The banks it is known are useless in supplying or regulating the circulation, which, consequently, is maintained by commerce alone, and the natural course of the commercial transactions of the island leads to the importation of rupees, and not of British silver. The former may be usually imported at a profit, the latter seldom without a loss; and the difficulty of obtaining a supply in England for some time past has placed an additional obstacle in the way of importation, consequently there is no more in circulation than is absolutely necessary, and a slight derangement of the demand seriously curtails, and may even threaten, as at present, to absorb the whole circulation.

12. It is not pretended that there is much providence on the part of the merchants to secure a supply for their own wants, and they are scarcely bound to provide for those of their clients; moreover, as neither the government nor the banks come to the aid of the public, the traders and other tax payers who have not the means of procuring a supply for themselves, nor can be expected to do it, must fare as they best can.

13. But this year even the provident merchant might be mistaken in his calculations. The heavy drain occasioned by the old immigration taxes, and the unexpected disappointment in the arrival of only 5,000 instead of 11,000 immigrants, has led to an accumulation of 31,500 *l.* in the Treasury upon the immigration account of 1846-47, and the imposition of a new immigration tax, which could not have been foreseen nor provided for, has led to a further drain of 20,500 *l.*, making a difference in the circulation of 52,000 *l.*, which will be more than doubled, partly from the same causes, within the next four months. The merchants therefore are not wholly to blame for the present and the increasing scarcity of British silver; and the larger portion of the community who will suffer from it have no power either of preventing or remedying it.

14. And this suggests the remark, that while only a few have profited by the importation of rupees, the whole community, who had no control over their introduction, nor are in a condition to refuse to receive them at the rate fixed by the capitalists, will suffer the loss arising from the necessity of paying them into the Treasury at the legal rate.

15. Under such circumstances it must be the desire and policy of the government to relieve the existing pressure by any legitimate means at its command. One method would be that suggested for the consideration of the undersigned, namely, the issue of British silver from the Treasury in exchange for deposits of rupees, to be received at the legal rate, and to be redeemed hereafter by British silver. If there were a bank established in the island, which carried on its business with a view to assisting and regulating the circulation, and thus conferring a general benefit on commerce, instead of looking exclusively to the interests of its proprietors, the government might perhaps be warranted in entering into such a transaction with it; but it is notorious that the Commercial Bank does not fulfil the above condition. The Mauritius Bank is virtually defunct.

16. It might even be justifiable, considering the extent to which an extraordinary amount of taxation has contributed to occasion the present deficiency, and that the government could not possibly incur any risk or inconvenience, to issue British silver in sums of not less than 1,000 *l.* to individuals upon the same guarantee of rupees deposited at the legal rate; and it might be worth the while of the parties to lose the interest on the amount of difference, while they were procuring a supply of money from England to replace the rupees. But it is a question how far this is consistent with the instructions of the Secretary of State. And there is another consideration which must have some weight, namely, that the parties who would be able or likely to enter into such a transaction with the government, would be chiefly those who have already made their profit upon the introduction of the rupees, and would now probably make a second profit by retailing the British silver at a high premium to the public. For these reasons, and considering the possible extent of the influence which the recent disastrous intelligence from England may have upon the position and prospects of the colony, the undersigned cannot recommend that the government should at present adopt the measure under examination.

17. There does not appear to be the same objection to the exchange of British silver for deposits of gold, but the public would probably not avail itself of the opportunity.

18. Among the other measures at its command, the most legitimate, but one of slow operation, is an increased expenditure upon public works. But here there is a limit. The number of contractors qualified to undertake important works is small, and at present there is

a great

a great scarcity of timber in the colony. A large amount has been already voted for works which have not yet been commenced, viz. :—

Civil prisons, women's ward	-	-	-	£. 5,000
Second civil store	-	-	-	3,967
Public offices	-	-	-	6,587
Gondoles of Port Louis	-	-	-	9,000
Repairs of quay	-	-	-	1,261

Appendix, No. 2.
MAURITIUS.
 Encl. in No. 42.

making a total of 25,815 l. in addition to a number of works already in hand. Some of the above will not require any timber, and may therefore be commenced without reference to the scarcity of that article, and there are others which the Council might be disposed to sanction under the circumstances, such as the covering of the rivulet "Butte à Thonnier." The season too for laying macadam on the roads is at hand, and perhaps there may be an increased issue on this account.

19. It is also a favourable time for effecting any purchases of land or buildings which the government may have in view, such as the site of a new cemetery, or the building at the corner of the Place d'Armes.

20. Another mode of increasing the circulation of British silver is by the withdrawal of the tokens, which are a base coin, bearing a nominal value, as they are paid into the Treasury; at present they are paid out as fast as they are received.

These coins were issued in 1822, at the nominal value of one shilling. Their intrinsic value is calculated to be 6.46 d. The number issued in tokens and half tokens was 442,000, equal in nominal value to 22,100 l., and in intrinsic value to 11,528 l. 8 s. 8 d. In 1831 they were recalled and re-issued at the rate of 8 d. which was intended to cover the charges of coinage freight, &c., &c., and which slightly exceeded the difference between the above rate and the intrinsic value. The Lords of the Treasury disapproved of this arrangement, and directed that they should not be issued at a rate above their intrinsic value; in consequence, however, of the monetary difficulties, and the financial position of the government and the colony in 1832, the Secretary of State allowed the execution of this order to be suspended. The same reasons being no longer in operation, the present moment seems favourable for carrying out the original instructions.

21. There is also a small amount of markees still remaining in circulation, which are included in the orders already referred to of the Home Government, and may also now be advantageously recalled. With regard to the amount in circulation, it can only be stated, that in 1832, 4,400 l. in this coin had been accumulated in the Treasury, and the amount remaining in circulation was supposed to be small. In that year the above amount was re-issued, and at present there is only 421 l. in the Treasury, so that the circulation, not making allowance for the loss, would probably exceed 4,000 l.

The undersigned are unable to offer any other suggestions for relieving the existing pressure for British silver, but they doubt not that the facts which they have brought forward will receive your Excellency's attentive consideration, and will dispose your Excellency to apply any remedy to it which the course of administration and of future events may render available.

All which is humbly submitted.

(signed) *Geo. F. Dick,*
 Colonial Secretary.

(signed) *W. W. R. Kerr,*
 Auditor-general.

(signed) *Rawson W. Rawson,*
 Treasurer, &c.

ST. VINCENT.

— No. 43. —

(No. 3.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Reid to Earl Grey.

My Lord,

Barbadoes, 25 January 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship authenticated transcripts of an Act passed by the legislature of St. Vincent, together with the Attorney-general's opinion thereon, viz., "An Act to revive an Act, entitled 'An Act for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, and other vagrants.'"

I have, &c.
 (signed) *Wm. Reid,*
 Governor.

ST. VINCENT.

Governor Reid to
 Earl Grey.

Opinion.
 8 Dec. 1847.

No. 553.

Appendix, No. 2.

ST. VINCENT.Encl. in No. 43.
No. 553.

Enclosure in No. 43.

An Act (No. 553) to revive an Act, entitled "An Act for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, and other vagrants."

Not objectionable.

A new Bill is in preparation.

St. Vincent, 8 December 1847.

(signed) *P. Hobson,*
Attorney-general.

(True copy.)

(signed) *E. Hore,*
Private Secretary.

(No. 553.)

An Act to revive an Act entitled, "An Act for the Suppression of Vagrancy, and for the Punishment of Idle and Disorderly Persons, Rogues and Vagabonds, incorrigible Rogues, and other Vagrants."

Preamble.

WHEREAS an Act, entitled "An Act for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, and other vagrants," being a temporary Act, has from time to time been continued by various Acts, and the last continuing Act recently expired; and whereas it is necessary to revive the first-mentioned Act; be it therefore enacted by the officer administering the Government, the Council, and Assembly of the island of Saint Vincent and its dependencies, that from and after the publication of this Act, the first-mentioned Act entitled "An Act for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, and other vagrants," shall be revived and continued in force for the space of six months: provided always, that this present Act may be altered, amended, or repealed by any Act to be passed in the present Session.

Clause 1.
Reviving for six
months the Va-
grant Act.

Passed the Assembly this 20th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1847.

(signed) *C. D. Stewart,* Speaker.
James H. Brown, Clerk of Assembly.

Passed the Council this 20th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1847.

(signed) *Geo. W. D. Beresford,* Clerk of Council.

St. Vincent, 18 Dec. 1847.

IN accordance with my instructions, I assent to this Act.

(signed) *John Campbell,* Lieutenant-Governor.

Assented to by his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, this 18th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1847.

(signed) *Geo. W. D. Beresford,* Colonial Secretary.

Marshal's Office, St. Vincent, 20 Dec. 1847.

Duly published in Kingstown this day.

(signed) *Anthony H. Hobson,* Provost Marshal.

These are to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Act entitled, "An Act to revive an Act, entitled "An Act for the suppression of vagrancy, and for the punishment of idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues, and other vagrants," which Act duly passed the Council and Assembly, was assented to by his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, and proclaimed in Kingstown as therein stated.

Given under my hand at the Secretary's Office this 29th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1847.

(signed) *Geo. W. D. Beresford,* Colonial Secretary.

ANTIGUA.

Appendix, No. 2.

ANTIGUA.

— No. 44. —

No. 44.

EXTRACTS from the Reports of the Stipendiary Magistrates of Antigua, for the Half-year ended 31 December 1847; transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies by the Governor of Antigua, in Despatch dated 29 February 1848.

Extracts of Reports from Stipendiary Magistrates.

“THE number of young persons employed in field labour has increased during this half year; and I confidently repeat my conviction that in a few years a numerous native peasantry will arise to cultivate the soil, and supersede the necessity of immigration.”

“A considerable decrease has taken place in the wages of field labourers in this half-year, owing to the depressed state of colonial produce, &c. &c.”

“The labourers have submitted to this reduction without a murmur.”

“Several instances have been reported to me in which, upon being informed of the inability of the proprietor to pay the weekly wages in specie, as heretofore, the labourers have offered to continue the cultivation, and await the sale of the crop for payment of their claims.”

“The reduction of wages has had the effect of bringing more labour into the market.”

“There is a small decrease of paupers, as compared with the preceding report.”

“I am happy to report the increasing prosperity of the Savings Bank Institution; the amount deposited on 31 December is 1,400 l. sterling, being an increase of 800 l. on the last half-year.”

Appendix, No. 3.

Appendix, No. 3.

SIERRA LEONE.

SIERRA LEONE.

COPIES of the CHARTER-PARTIES or other INSTRUMENTS under which the Colonial Governments had contracted with certain Merchants, Shipowners, for the Conveyance of Africans to the British West Indies, together with any Rules and Regulations framed in the Colonial Office in relation to such Immigration and such Conveyance.

Colonial Office, Downing-street, }
27 March 1848.

B. HAWES.

LIST.

- No. 1.—Earl Grey to Governor Macdonald, 15 November 1847. Immigration—Instructions—Licences, &c. to be issued to Ships engaged in—Proclamation of Terms to be made, p. 349
- No. 2.—Earl Grey to Governor Macdonald, 21 January 1848. Detention of Akoo and Congo Africans in Liberated African Yard approved—Objections to Apprenticeship of African Children - - - - - p. 350
- No. 3.—Earl Grey to Governor Macdonald, 28 January 1848. Free Passages—Emigrant Tax—Instructions respecting - - - - - p. 350
- No. 4.—Land and Emigration Commissioners to B. Hawes, Esq., 28 March 1848. Enclosures: Charter-Parties—Regulations, Instructions, &c. issued by the Board relative to Emigration from Africa to British West Indies, and Shipping employed thereby - - - p. 350
- No. 5.—Form of Licence to African Emigrant Vessels—List of Licences granted to African Emigrant Vessels - - - - - p. 363
- No. 6.—Form of Admiralty Pass - - - - - p. 363

— No. 1. —

(No. 122.)

Earl Grey to Governor Macdonald.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 November 1847.

HER Majesty's Government have been led to view with great and increasing solicitude the deficiency of available labour under which many of the West Indian colonies are now suffering, and the jeopardy in which the interests of those valuable possessions of the Crown are in consequence placed; and they have anxiously considered the possibility of meeting this want by an increased accession of immigrants from the coast of Africa, a course which all statements concur in showing to be as advantageous to the Africans who emigrate as to the West Indian agriculturists who employ them.

Steps therefore are about immediately to be taken to encourage ships to proceed to certain parts of Africa in order to offer an opportunity of carrying this emigration into effect, and I have to instruct you to afford to such ships, if furnished with a proper licence, every

Appendix, No. 3.
SIERRA LEONE.

facility for procuring emigrants. The licence will include all the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, and also the Kroo coast, of which the limits will be defined in the licence, and will probably extend from Grand Bassa to the River Cestos. Proper security will be taken that the vessels licensed shall proceed to no other part of the African coast.

Among other means which may occur to you of forwarding this object, you will not fail forthwith to issue a proclamation in such terms as you may think best calculated to meet the apprehensions of the native chiefs and people, informing them that these ships are to be sent out under the control of the British Government, and that emigrants may rely upon good treatment.

I must conclude by strongly impressing upon you that the progress of this enterprise will be watched with the deepest interest by Her Majesty's Government, and that while any conduct on the part of a governor which might oppose or discountenance it would not fail to be followed by their serious displeasure, there are no means by which you will secure a greater share of their approval than by such efforts as may contribute to its success.

I have, &c.
(signed) Grey.

— No. 2. —

EXTRACT from Despatch from Earl Grey to Governor of Sierra Leone, dated 21 January 1848.

I ENTIRELY approve of your having detained in the yard 186 people of the nations of Akoos and Congos, who strongly urged their desire to be allowed to wait until they could be taken on the "Growler's" second voyage, as there was not room for them on the present occasion. The arrival of the sailing vessels since dispatched from this country will have afforded them an earlier opportunity. As these people had at their own request remained at the expense of the Government until they could be removed, you would, doubtless, have felt it incumbent on you at any rate to afford every possible discouragement to any such change of feeling as that to which you mention that persons of their race are liable.

I perceive by the returns that 178 children over 12 years of age have been apprenticed; I presume you must have been compelled to this course by an impossibility of otherwise providing for their subsistence; but you are aware of the strong objections which have been expressed both by the Committee of the House of Commons which sat in 1842, and also by Her Majesty's Government, to the system of apprenticeship, which had been shown to degenerate into a species of virtual slavery, and I must say that the step which you have thus reported convinces me the more of the necessity of as far as possible avoiding the settlement of the captured negroes who fall into the hands of Government in a colony where they cannot be provided for, except in a manner so little consistent with the advantages of a real state of freedom.

— No. 3. —

(No. 140.)

Earl Grey to Governor Macdonald.

Sir,

Downing-street, 28 January 1848.

WITH reference to that part of the general instructions to the emigration agent, enclosed in my despatch No. 60, of the 13th of March last, which desired him to furnish emigrants with general information on the nature of their prospects in the West Indies, and to acquaint them that they would be entitled to a free passage back at the end of five years, provided that during that time they had worked for owners of land in the colony, I have to add that the emigration agent should let it be understood amongst all the emigrants that, whilst they will be entirely free people, the reason why they are offered a free passage is that they may make themselves useful in the colony in labouring on land, and therefore, that if they should think proper afterwards to follow some other pursuit, it is possible they may be subject, in that case, to a small payment per month in order to refund the expenses of their conveyance.

You will be so good as to convey directions to this effect to the emigration agent.

I have, &c.
(signed) Grey.

— No. 4. —

Land and Emigration Commissioners to B. Hawes, Esq.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
28 March 1848.

Sir,

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th instant, enclosing the copy of an Order from the Select Committee of the House of Commons respecting sugar and coffee planting, and we have the honour, in obedience to Lord Grey's instructions, to enclose herewith the documents called for in that order, so far as they exist in this office.

We have, &c.
(signed) T. W. C. Murdoch.
Frederic Rogers.

Vide Parliamentary
Papers, No. 191,
of 1847, p. 8.

Nos. 1 to 4.

SCHEDULES.

Appendix, No. 3.

SIERRA LEONE

No. 1, containing 1st, Regulations issued by the Commissioners on 10th November 1847.
2d. Tenders of the "Amity Hall" and "Morayshire" for Jamaica, and letters accepting the same.

No. 2, containing 1st, Regulations issued by the Commissioners; the same as before, with the exception of addition in clause 5, to the effect that 7s. 6d. a day will be allowed for the mess" of the naval officer.

2d. Tenders of the "Una" and "Arabian" for British Guiana, and letters accepting the same.

3d. Tenders of the "Persian" and "Bangalore" for Trinidad, and letters accepting the same.

4th. Memorandum of subsequent alterations in dietary scale of the "Persian" and "Bangalore."

No. 3. Heads of instructions to naval officers.

No. 4, containing 1st, Letter of Mr. Walcott to Mr. G. Anderson, dated 19th November 1847, explaining the terms on which the "Superior" may be allowed to proceed to Sierra Leone for emigrants to British Guiana, and a copy of the bond given by Mr. Anderson.

2d. Letter from Mr. Walcott to Mr. Hopkinson, dated 18th December 1847, on his application for permission for the "Helena" to proceed to Sierra Leone on similar service, with the bond given by Mr. Hopkinson.

(No. 1.)

1. The ship will receive a licence to convey passengers from Sierra Leone or any other of the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, or from the Kroo coast, of which the limits will be defined in the licence.

2. The master is to proceed in the first instance to Sierra Leone and to report his arrival to the emigration agent there, by whose advice he is to be chiefly guided as to the place to seek passengers.

3. If he obtains a complement of passengers at Sierra Leone, he will repair with the least possible delay to Jamaica; but if he obtains none, or only a part of his complement at Sierra Leone, he will then proceed to the Kroo coast to collect passengers there. He is not to take on board a greater number of passengers than the ship can carry under the Passengers' Act, which number will be ascertained and certified before the ship leaves this country by the emigration officer at the port.

4. The ship is to carry a duly qualified surgeon, to be approved by the Emigration Commissioners, at the charge of the owners.

5. Should it be thought necessary to place a Government officer on board, his pay and the expense of his mess will be defrayed by the Government.

6. The passengers are to be victualled according to the scale annexed, marked (A.), and the vessel is also to be provided with the medical comforts and other stores enumerated in the schedule marked (B.).

7. The passage money to be paid in Jamaica for any Africans introduced under these conditions will be the sum of 35 dollars for each person of ten years and upwards, and half for children between one and ten, with no charge for infants; the payment to be made only on passengers landed alive, and in good health, and in strict conformity with these conditions.

8. The Emigration Commissioners do not undertake to guarantee any number of passengers, but only the payment of a certain fixed sum in case the bounty on the passengers actually embarked does not reach the amount of such fixed sum, the object being to afford the shipowner some protection against loss on the outlay that he must make in preparing for the people whether or not they may be eventually procurable. Supposing, therefore, that the freight on the number of Africans embarked would, at the specified rate of bounty, be less than the fixed sum, the latter will, nevertheless, be paid, but if the freight be greater, the shipowner is to receive the bounty only.

9. The master of the vessel, however, is to make every effort to procure a full complement of Africans, and unless otherwise directed by the emigration agent at Sierra Leone, is to remain at least 21 days on the coast, including both Sierra Leone and the Kroo coast, in order to entitle the owners to claim the benefit of Article 8. In any case of doubt or difficulty, and supposing that no Government officer is on board, the best way for the master to secure the acquiescence of the Emigration Commissioners in any course he may adopt, will be to obtain the written approval of the emigration agent at Sierra Leone.

By order of the Commissioners,
S. Walcott, Secretary.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
9, Park-street, Westminster,
10 November 1847.

Appendix, No. 3

SIERRA EONE.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Victualling Scale for African Ships.

Women to receive the same ration as men, and children between the ages of one and ten to receive half a ration.

	Per day.		Per week.
Rice - - - - -	1 ½ lb.	Vinegar - - - - -	½ pint.
Beef, pork, or salt fish - - - - -	¼ lb.	Palm oil - - - - -	1 ½ gill.
Lime juice - - - - -	½ oz.	Salt - - - - -	2 oz.
Sugar - - - - -	2 oz.	African pepper - - - - -	2 oz.
Water - - - - -	1 gall.		

SCHEDULE (B.)

Articles required for the use of the Africans on the Voyage to the West Indies.

1 new mat to serve as a bed for each person.

1 kit - - - - -	} For each mess of six persons.
1 wooden platter - - - - -	
1 mess bread basket - - - - -	
1 hawse bucket - - - - -	

With sufficient knives, spoons, tin drinking mugs, &c. for the numbers embarked.

Medical Comforts for every 100 Passengers.

28 lbs. of arrowroot.
28 „ of sugar.
100 pints of lemon juice.
100 lbs. of sugar.
6 bottles of wine.

10 gallons of rum.
3 „ of vinegar.
½ cwt. of marine soap.
2 gallons of Sir W. Burnett's
chloride of zinc.

SHIP'S NAME.	MASTERS NAME.	Tons per Register. State whether Old or New Measurement.	Length of Lower Deck.	Greatest Breadth of Lower Deck.	Height between Decks in three places.		
					At the Stern.	At the Main Hatchway.	At Stern Post.
Morayshire -	Stamp - - -	318, O. M. A. 1.	<i>Feet.</i> 66	<i>Ft. in.</i> 24 11	<i>Ft. in.</i> 6 6	<i>Ft. in.</i> 6 4	<i>Ft. in.</i> 6 1

Where Built.	When Built.	Whether Poop and Topgallant Forecastle.	Whether or not Stern Ports.	Where Lying.	When will be ready		Name fixed Sum for each Ship, according to Condition 8.	REMARKS.
					To be Surveyed.	To Sail.		
* Sunderland -	1835	- - Has topgallant fore-castle.	- - Has a half-poop, with stern windows in cabin.	- - London Docks.	- In about a week.	- - In about 14 days.	- - 3 l. 15 s. sterling per head on the number ad-measured for.	- - This ship has a raised quarter-deck, and it is proposed to ap-portion a part for the conveyance of the emigrants.

Sir,

London, 17 November 1847.

I BEG to offer the ship "Morayshire," A. 1, for the conveyance of Emigrants to Jamaica from Africa, on the terms mentioned in the annexed tender, subject to the conditions issued by you, dated 10 November 1847.

S. Walcott, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(signed) D. Dunbar.

SHIP'S NAME.	MASTER'S NAME.	Tons per Register. State whether Old or New Measurement.	Length of Lower Deck.	Greatest Breadth of Lower Deck.	Height between Decks in Three places.		
					At the Stern.	At the Main Hatchway.	At Stern Post.
Amity Hall -	Ford - - -	419, O. M.	<i>Feet.</i> 107	<i>Ft. in.</i> 26 4	<i>Ft. in.</i> 6 7	<i>Ft. in.</i> 7 1	<i>Ft. in.</i> 6 2

Where Built.	When Built.	Whether Poop, and Topgallant Forecastle.	Whether or not Stern Ports.	Where Lying.	When will be Ready		Name fixed Sum for each Ship according to Condition 8.	REMARKS.
					To be Surveyed.	To Sail.		
Sunderland	1831 -	- - Has both poop and topgallant fore-castle.	- - Has stern ports and scut-tles in bows.	- - West India Dock.	Now -	30 Nov. -	-- Either half the bounty on the whole complement, until the number of emigrants exceeds half, or 3 l. upon each emigrant not embarked less than the complement, and 35 dollars for each embarked and landed alive.	

(Here follow particulars of three other ships which were not accepted).

(signed) *James Thomson & Co.*

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
20th November 1847.

Gentlemen and Sir,

WITH reference to your offer, dated 17th instant, of the ship "Morayshire" for the conveyance of emigrants on bounty from the west coast of Africa to Jamaica, I am directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to acquaint you that they accept your tender, subject to the following stipulations:

1st. That the ship shall be pronounced by Lieutenant Lean seaworthy, and in every respect fit for the proposed service.

2d. That she is to sail from London on the $\frac{4th}{8th}$ of December.

3d. That for every passenger short of the full complement which the vessel is found by admeasurement of the Commissioners' officer capable of carrying, the owner shall be paid the sum of 7 l. sterling in this country within 15 days after receiving from Jamaica the official certificate of her arrival in the island.

4th. That with reference to the sixth and seventh clauses of the conditions dated the 10th instant, all emigrants above the age of 10 years shall be victualled and paid for as adults; and,

5. That the vessel be provided with a supply of provisions and water equal to eight weeks' consumption of the whole number of emigrants she can legally carry.

I am, &c.

(signed) *S. Walcott*, Secretary.

Messrs. James Thomson & Co. ("Amity Hall.")
D. Dunbar, Esq. ("Morayshire.")

(No. 2.)

1. THE ship will receive a licence to convey passengers from Sierra Leone or any other of the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, or from the Kroo coast, of which the limits will be defined in the licence.

2. The master is to proceed in the first instance to Sierra Leone, and to report his arrival to the migration agent there, by whose advice he is to be chiefly guided as to the place to seek passengers.

3. If he obtains a complement of passengers at Sierra Leone he will repair with the least possible delay to ; but if he obtains none, or only a part of his complement

Appendix, No. 3.
SIERRA LEONE.

ment at Sierra Leone, he will then proceed to the Kroo coast to collect passengers there. He is not to take on board a greater number of passengers than the ship can carry under the Passengers' Act, which number will be ascertained and certified before the ship leaves this country, by the emigration officer at the port.

4. The ship is to carry a duly-qualified surgeon, to be approved by the Emigration Commissioners, at the charge of the owners.

5. Should it be thought necessary to place a Government officer on board, his pay and the expense of his mess will be defrayed by the Government; 7s. 6d. a day will be allowed for the mess.

6. The passengers are to be victualled according to the scale annexed, marked (A.); and the vessel is also to be provided with the medical comforts and other stores enumerated in the schedule marked (B.).

7. The passage money to be paid in for any Africans introduced under these conditions will be the sum of 35 dollars for each person of 10 years and upwards, and half for children between one and ten, with no charge for infants, the payment to be made only on passengers landed alive, and in good health, and in strict conformity with these conditions.

8. The Emigration Commissioners do not undertake to guarantee any number of passengers; but only the payment of a certain fixed sum in case the bounty on the passengers actually embarked does not reach the amount of such fixed sum; the object being to afford the shipowner some protection against loss on the outlay that he must make in preparing for the people, whether or not they may be eventually procurable. Supposing, therefore, that the freight on the number of Africans embarked would, at the specified rate of bounty, be less than the fixed sum, the latter will nevertheless be paid; but if the freight be greater, the shipowner is to receive the bounty only.

9. The master of the vessel, however, is to make every effort to procure a full complement of Africans, and unless otherwise directed by the emigration agent at Sierra Leone, is to remain at least 21 days on the coast, including both Sierra Leone and the Kroo coast, in order to entitle the owners to claim the benefit of Article 8. In any case of doubt or difficulty, and supposing that no Government officer is on board, the best way for the master to secure the acquiescence of the Emigration Commissioners in any course he may adopt, will be to obtain the written approval of the emigration agent at Sierra Leone.

By order of the Commissioners,
Colonial Land and Emigration Office, } (signed) S. Walcott,
9 Park-street, Westminster. } Secretary.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Victualling Scale for African Ships.

Women to receive the same ration as men, and children between the ages of one and ten to receive half a ration.

	Per day.		Per week.
Rice - - - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	Vinegar - - - - -	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint.
Beef, pork, or salt fish - - - - -	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	Palm oil - - - - -	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ gill.
The latter not to be issued oftener than on alternate days with the beef or pork.		Salt - - - - -	2 oz.
Lime juice - - - - -	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	African pepper - - - - -	2 oz.
Sugar - - - - -	2 oz.		
Water - - - - -	1 gall.		

SCHEDULE (B.)

Articles required for the use of the Africans on the Voyage to the West Indies.

1 new mat to serve as a bed for each person.

1 kit - - - - - }
1 wooden platter - - - - - } For each mess of six persons.
1 mess bread basket - - - - - }
1 hawse bucket - - - - - }

With sufficient knives, spoons, tin drinking mugs, &c. for the numbers embarked.

Medical Comforts for every 100 Passengers.

28 lbs. of arrowroot.	10 gallons of rum.
28 " of sugar.	8 " of vinegar.
100 pints of lemon juice.	$\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of marine soap.
100 lbs. of sugar.	2 gallons of Sir W. Burnett's
6 bottles of wine.	chloride of zinc.

SHIP'S NAME.	MASTER'S NAME.	Tons per Register. State whether Old or New Measurement.	Length of Lower Deck.	Greatest Breadth of Lower Deck.	Height between Decks in Three Places.		
					At the Stern.	At the Main Hatchway.	At Stern Post.
Una	Thomas Mack	699 tons, O. M. 778 tons, N. M.	Feet. 140	Feet. 30	Ft. in. 9 9	Ft. in. 8 1	Ft. in. 7 7

Where Built.	When Built.	Whether Poop and Topgallant Forecastle.	Whether or not Stern Ports.	Where Lying.	When will be ready		Name fixed Sum for each Ship, according to Condition &	REMARKS.
					To be Surveyed.	To Sail.		
St. John's	September 1846.	Round-house and topgallant forecastle.	Stern and bow ports.	Messrs. Young & Co.'s dock-yard, Lime-house.	Immediately.	From London on Saturday for Cardiff, from which place she will sail about the 7th January 1848.	See letter	The master was in command of the "James Hay," and delivered a full complement of African emigrants at Jamaica, without the slightest casualty.

Gentlemen,

2, Riches-court, Lime-street,
21 December 1847.

We hereby offer the ship "Una," Mack, master, (particulars as per accompanying form of tender,) to proceed to the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, or from the Kroo coast to Demerara, for the fixed sum of 300*l.*, provided the said ship should not succeed in procuring emigrants the bounty on whom does not exceed the above amount.

We have, &c.

To Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

(signed) *Hall*, Brothers.

Gentlemen,

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
21 December 1847.

I AM directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to accept your tender, dated 21st instant, of the ship "Una," 699 tons, O. M., for the conveyance of emigrants on bounty from the west coast of Africa to British Guiana, subject to the following stipulations; viz.

1. That the ship shall be pronounced by the Commissioners' officer, Lieut. Lean, R. N., seaworthy, and in every respect fit for the proposed service.
2. That such means for securing proper ventilation between decks be adopted as shall be deemed sufficient by Lieutenant Lean.
3. That the ship shall be ready to sail on the 10th day of January next.
4. That she be provided with a supply of provisions and water, to be approved by the Commissioners' officer, equal to six weeks' consumption of the whole number of emigrants she can legally carry.
5. That if the amount of bounty which would be payable on the emigrants embarked, if landed alive in British Guiana, shall fall short of 300*l.*, the owner shall be entitled to receive the difference between that amount of bounty and 300*l.*, which difference shall be paid to him in this country within 21 days after the Commissioners shall have received from Demerara an official certificate of the arrival there of the vessel.

I am, &c.

Messrs. Hall, Brothers.

(signed) *S. Walcott*, Secretary.

APPENDIX TO SEVENTH REPORT FROM THE

SHIP'S NAME.	MASTER'S NAME.	Tons per Register. State whether Old or New Measurement.	Length of Lower Deck.	Greatest Breadth of Lower Deck.	Height between Decks in Three Places.		
					At the Stern.	At the Main Hatchway.	At Stern Post.
The fine Liverpool-built ship Arabian, * E. 1	J. Robertson	391, O. M.	Ft. in. 105 8	Ft. in. 26 7	Ft. in. 7 2	Ft. in. 6 8	Ft. in. 7 2

* This ship is well known in Demerara, having been employed by Her Majesty's Commissioners nearly three years in a similar service, making seven voyages with African emigrants satisfactorily.

Where Built.	When Built.	Whether Poop and Topgallant Forecastle.	Whether or not Stern Ports.	Where Lying.	When will be Ready		Name fixed Sum for each Ship, according to Condition 8.	REMARKS.
					To be Surveyed.	To Sail.		
* Liverpool	1825	-- Has poop and top-gallant fore-castle.	- Has stern ports.	-- London Dock.	Ready -	10 January	-- £.7 sterling per head for each passenger short of half of the full complement the ship can carry, as ascertained by the Commissioners' officer.	

62, Cornhill, 21 December 1847.

WE beg leave to tender the above-named ship to convey African emigrants from the British possessions on the west coast of Africa or from the Kroo coast to Demerara, subject to the terms and conditions annexed hereto.

(signed) *Lachlans & MacLeod*, Brokers.

Authorized and confirmed.

(signed) *J. H. Luscombe*, Owner.

To the Secretary of Her Majesty's
Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
21 December 1847.

Gentlemen,

I AM directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to accept your tender, dated 21st instant, of the ship, "Arabian," 391 tons, old measurement, for the conveyance of emigrants on bounty from the west coast of Africa to British Guiana, subject to the following stipulations; viz.

1. That the ship shall be pronounced by the Commissioners' officer, Lieutenant Lean, R. N., seaworthy, and in every respect fit for the proposed service.
2. That such means for securing proper ventilation between decks be adopted as shall be deemed sufficient by Lieutenant Lean.
3. That the ship shall be ready to sail on the 10th day of January next.
4. That she be provided with a supply of provisions and water to be approved by the Commissioners' officer, equal to six weeks' consumption of the whole number of emigrants she can legally carry.
5. That if the number of passengers embarked shall fall short of half of the full complement which the vessel is capable of carrying under the Passengers' Act, the owner shall receive for every passenger so falling short the sum of 7 l. sterling, which sum shall be paid to him in this country within 21 days after the Commissioners shall have received from Demerara an official certificate of the arrival there of the vessel.

I am, &c.

Messrs. Lachlans & MacLeod,
62, Cornhill.

(signed) *S. Walcott*,
Secretary.

SHIP'S NAME.	MASTER'S NAME.	Tons per Register. State whether Old or New Measurement.	Length of Lower Deck.	Greatest Breadth of Lower Deck.	Height between Decks in Three Places.		
					At the Stern.	At the Main Hatchway.	At Stern Post.
Persian, A. I - - - - -	- - - - -	<i>Ft.</i> O. M. 347 N. M. 409 including cabin accommodations, which are 24 feet long.	Total length 103 feet.	<i>Ft. in.</i> 24 3	<i>Ft. in.</i> 6 9	<i>Ft. in.</i> 6 2	<i>Ft. in.</i> 6 7

Where Built.	When Built.	Whether Poop and Topgallant Forecastle.	Whether or not Stern Ports.	Where Lying.	When will be Ready		Name fixed Sum for each Ship according to Condition 8.	REMARKS.
					To be Surveyed.	To Sail.		
Greenock -	1838 -	- - has sunk poop and no topgallant forecastle.	- has four stern windows.	- St. Katharine's Dock.	Ready	10 Feb.	- - a sum equal to eight guineas sterling per head for each passenger short of half of the full complement the ship can carry, as ascertained by the Commissioners' officer.	

62, Cornhill, 25 January 1848.

We beg leave to tender the above-named ship to convey African emigrants from the British possessions on the west coast of Africa or from the Kroo coast to Trinidad, subject to the terms and conditions annexed hereto.

(signed) *Lachlans & MacLeod*, Brokers.

Authorized and approved.

(signed) *Teighe & Smith*, Owners.

To the Secretary of Her Majesty's
Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Sir,

62, Cornhill, 25 January 1848.

WITH reference to our tender of the ship "Persian" this day, we beg to explain that the fixed amount intended by the owners is a sum equal to eight guineas per head for half the ship's ascertained complement of emigrants, less any amount which may have been received at Trinidad.

We are, &c.
(signed) *Lachlans & MacLeod*.

S. Walcott, Esq.
Secretary to Her Majesty's Colonial Land
and Emigration Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
26 January 1848.

I AM directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to accept your tender, dated the 25th instant, of the ship "Persian," 409 tons, new measurement, for the conveyance of emigrants on bounty from the west coast of Africa to Trinidad, subject to the following stipulations, which, as regards the fifth, contains a slight modification of the language of your letter of yesterday.

1st. That the ship be pronounced by the Commissioners' officer, Lieutenant Lean, R. N., seaworthy, and in every respect fit for the proposed service.

2d. That such means for securing proper ventilation between decks be adopted as shall be deemed sufficient by Lieutenant Lean.

3d. That the ship shall be ready to sail on the 10th day of February next.

o.32.

z z 3

4th. That

Appendix, No. 3.
SIERRA LEONE.

4th. That she be provided with a supply of provisions and water, to be approved by the Commissioners' officer, equal to six weeks' consumption of the whole number of emigrants she can legally carry.

5th. That if the amount of bounty which would be payable on the emigrants embarked if landed alive in Trinidad, shall fall short of a sum equal to eight guineas per adult (reckoning two children between the ages of one and ten as an adult), on half the ship's legal complement, to be ascertained by Lieutenant Lean, the owner shall be entitled to receive the difference between that amount of bounty and such sum, which difference shall be paid to him in this country within 21 days after the Commissioners shall have received from Trinidad an official certificate of the arrival there of the vessel.

I am, &c.
(signed) S. Walcott, Secretary.

Messrs. Lachlans & MacLeod.

SHIP'S NAME.	MASTER'S NAME.	Tons per Register. State whether Old or New Measurement.	Length of Lower Deck.	Greatest Breadth of Lower Deck.	Height between Decks in Three Places.		
					At the Stern.	At the Main Hatchway.	At Stern Post.
Bangalore, A. 1, 12 years.	James Parsons -	456 O. M. 511 N. M.	Ft. in. 107 6	Ft. in. 26 10	Ft. in. 6 4	Ft. in. 6 6	Ft. in. 6 5

Where Built.	When Built.	Whether Poop and Topgallant Forecastle.	Whether or not Stern Ports.	Where Lying.	When will be Ready		Name fixed Sum for each Ship according to Condition 8.	REMARKS.
					To be surveyed.	To Sail.		
Liverpool -	1841 -	Both -	Four -	- - West India Export Dock.	- Immediately.	- - When approved of and ready.	£. 750	

Gentlemen,

2, Leadenhall-street, 25 January 1848.

IN accordance with the public advertisement, we beg to submit an offer of the ship "Bangalore," A. 1, $\frac{465}{511}$ tons, for the conveyance of emigrants from the coast of Africa to Trinidad, subject to the conditions set forth.

The Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

We are, &c.
(signed) John Chapman & Co.

Gentlemen,

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
9, Park-street, Westminster, 26 Jan. 1848.

I AM directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to accept your tender, dated the 25th instant, of the ship "Bangalore," 511 tons, N.M. for the conveyance of emigrants on bounty, from the west coast of Africa to Trinidad, subject to the following stipulations; viz.

[1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th conditions same as in letter of this date to Messrs. Lachlans.]

5th, That if the bounty which would be payable on the emigrants embarked, if landed alive in Trinidad, shall fall short of 750*l.*, the owner shall be entitled to receive the difference between that amount of bounty and 750*l.*, which difference shall be paid to him in this country within 21 days after the Commissioners shall have received from Trinidad an official certificate of the arrival there of the vessel.

Messrs. J. Chapman & Co.

I have, &c.
(signed) S. Walcott, Secretary.

(Memorandum).

Dietary for the "Persian" and "Bangalore."

Appendix, No. 3.

SIERRA LEONE.

By a subsequent correspondence between the Commissioners and the brokers of these vessels, it was agreed that the allowance of animal food should be increased from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. per diem, and that biscuit should be issued for breakfast instead of rice. A small addition was also made to the list of medical comforts.

(No. 3.)

HEADS of INSTRUCTIONS for the Naval Officer on board the African Emigrant Transport

1. WHEN on service, the naval officer will wear the uniform established for his rank agreeably to the practice of Her Majesty's navy.
2. The duties of the officer will be chiefly to see that the vessel on board of which he shall be placed do not proceed for emigrants to any other part of the coast of Africa than Sierra Leone (or, if wished by the master, the British possessions in the Gambia or on the Gold Coast) and the Kroo coast, and to satisfy the officers of any cruisers who may be met with on the voyage that she is proceeding with the sanction and authority of Her Majesty's Government.
3. Within the limits of the British possessions in Africa, the officer will not be held in any way responsible for the selection of the emigrants to be put on board, as this duty will pertain solely to the master of the vessel and the Government emigration agent, or his representative on the spot. On the Kroo coast, however, being beyond the limits of British jurisdiction, it will be the duty of the officer, in case the Government emigration agent be not in attendance there, to make himself sufficiently acquainted with the proceedings to be able to certify that none of the emigrants embark otherwise than entirely with their own free will, and that nothing occurs which in any way bears a character of slave-trading.
4. Should the vessel for any reason touch at any other place in Africa than those above-named, the officer will immediately on his arrival in Jamaica report the circumstances to the governor of that colony, stating at the same time the object of the visit, the nature of the proceedings, and the length of stay.
5. It is not intended that the vessel should remain at Sierra Leone or the Kroo coast more than 21 days in all, unless it be otherwise specially agreed between Mr. Hook, the emigration agent and the master of the vessel.
6. The terms under which the vessel is to be licensed for the service are contained in the accompanying paper, which is forwarded for the information of the officer on board.
7. He is in no way to interfere in the management or navigation of the ship.
8. He will be furnished with a proper Admiralty pass, to satisfy any of the officers of Her Majesty's cruisers by whom the vessel may be visited. He is to offer no obstacle to any lawful visit by the officers of British or foreign vessels of war engaged in the prevention of the slave trade.
9. On the disembarkation of emigrants in Jamaica the duty of the officer will cease, and he will be allowed a passage back to England, at the expense of Government, in the first mail steamer.
10. His remuneration will consist of a gratuity of 150 £, to be paid to him in addition to his half-pay.
11. The officer will keep a journal, in duplicate, of any circumstances worthy of note which may fall within his observation. One copy he will deliver to the governor of Jamaica, and the other he will deposit on his return to England in the office of Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

1. The ship will receive a licence to convey passengers from Sierra Leone, or any other of the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, or from the Kroo coast, of which the limits will be defined in the licence.

2. The master is to proceed in the first instance to Sierra Leone, and to report his arrival to the emigration agent there, by whose advice he is to be chiefly guided as to the place to seek passengers.

3. If he obtains a complement of passengers at Sierra Leone, he will repair with the least possible delay to . . . But if he obtains none, or only a part of his complement at Sierra Leone, he will then proceed to the Kroo coast to collect passengers there. He is not to take on board a greater number of passengers than the ship can carry under the Passengers' Act, which number will be ascertained and certified before the ship leaves this country by the emigration officer at the port.

4. The ship is to carry a duly-qualified surgeon, to be approved by the Emigration Commissioners, at the charge of the owners.

5. Should it be thought necessary to place a Government officer on board, his pay and the expense of his mess will be defrayed by the Government.

6. The passengers are to be victualled according to the scale annexed, marked (A.); and the vessel is also to be provided with the medical comforts and other stores enumerated in the schedule marked (B.).

Appendix, No. 3.
SIERRA LEONE.

7. The passage money to be paid in these conditions will be the sum of 35 dollars for each person of 10 years and upwards, and half for children between one and ten, with no charge for infants; the payment to be made only on passengers landed alive and in good health, and in strict conformity with these conditions.

8. The Emigration Commissioners do not undertake to guarantee any number of passengers, but only the payment of a certain fixed sum in case the bounty on the passengers actually embarked does not reach the amount of such fixed sum; the object being to afford the shipowner some protection against loss on the outlay that he must make in preparing for the people, whether or not they may be eventually procurable. Supposing, therefore, that the freight on the number of Africans embarked would, at the specified rate of bounty, be less than the fixed sum, the latter will nevertheless be paid; but if the freight be greater, the shipowner is to receive the bounty only.

9. The master of the vessel, however, is to make every effort to procure a full complement of Africans, and unless otherwise directed by the emigration agent at Sierra Leone, is to remain at least 21 days on the coast, including both Sierra Leone and the Kroo coast, in order to entitle the owners to claim the benefit of Article 8. In any case of doubt or difficulty, and supposing that no Government officer is on board, the best way for the master to secure the acquiescence of the Emigration Commissioners in any course he may adopt, will be to obtain the written approval of the emigration agent at Sierra Leone.

By order of the Commissioners,

S. Walcott, Secretary.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
9, Park-street, Westminster.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Victualling Scale for African Ships.

Women to receive the same ration as men, and children between the ages of one and ten to receive half a ration.

	Per day.		Per week.
Rice - - - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	Vinegar - - - - -	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint.
Beef, pork, or salt fish - - - - -	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	Palm oil - - - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ gill.
Lime juice - - - - -	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	Salt - - - - -	2 oz.
Sugar - - - - -	2 oz.	African pepper - - - - -	2 oz.
Water - - - - -	1 gall.		

SCHEDULE (B.)

Articles required for the use of the Africans on the Voyage to the West Indies.

1 new mat to serve as a bed for each person.

1 kit. - - - - -	} For each mess of six persons.
1 wooden platter - - - - -	
1 mess bread basket - - - - -	
1 hawse bucket - - - - -	

With sufficient knives, spoons, tin drinking mugs, &c. for the numbers embarked.

Medical Comforts for every 100 Passengers.

28 lbs. of arrowroot.	10 gallons of rum.
28 " of sugar.	3 " of vinegar.
100 pints of lemon juice.	$\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of marine soap.
100 lbs. of sugar.	2 gallons of Sir W. Burnett's chloride of zinc.
6 bottles of wine.	

(No. 4.)

Colonial Land and Emigration Office, 9, Park-street, Westminster,
19 November 1847.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to return the following answers upon the points on which they believe you wish for information. They understand you to have inquired whether if you were inclined to send the "Superior" to Sierra Leone, on the chance of obtaining Africans, you could receive a licence for the purpose; and if free from any necessity of taking with you in the vessel a Government officer, provided you were satisfied to confine yourself to Sierra Leone, and entered into bond that the vessel should not repair without an officer on board to the Kroo coast, for the purpose of obtaining emigrants there.

I am desired to state that there would be no objection to giving you a licence on those terms, and that you will be at liberty to dispatch the vessel whenever you think proper. The conditions to be attended to are as follows:

1st. It

1st. It is necessary that every vessel licensed by the Government for the conveyance of passengers should be inspected by Lieutenant Lean, in the manner with which the Commissioners believe you are familiar, and to which they feel confident that you will feel no objection.

2d. It is necessary that a surgeon should be carried.

3d. Enclosed is a scale of provisions according to which the African emigrants must be victualled in order to entitle them to bounty on landing in the West Indies.

4th. Vessels bound to Guiana and Trinidad must have provisions and water on board for seven weeks, and those bound to Jamaica for eight weeks.

5th. It will be optional with the shipowner to lay in at Sierra Leone any of the provisions and stores which are of a kind that can be procured at that place.

6th. The bounty, as you are probably aware, has been named in the respective colonies at 95 dollars.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Gliddon,*
pro Secretary.

G. Anderson, Esq.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Victualling Scale for African Ships.

Women to receive the same ration as men, and children between the ages of one and ten to receive half a ration.

	Per day.		Per week.
Rice - - - - -	1 ½ lb.	Vinegar - - - - -	½ pint
Beef, pork, or salt fish - - - - -	½ lb.	Palm oil - - - - -	1 ½ gill.
The latter not to be issued oftener than on alternate days with the beef or pork.		Salt - - - - -	2 oz.
Lime juice - - - - -	½ oz.	African pepper - - - - -	2 oz.
Sugar - - - - -	2 oz.		
Water - - - - -	1 gall.		

SCHEDULE (B.)

Articles required for the use of the Africans on the Voyage to the West Indies.

- 1 new mat to serve as a bed for each person.
 - 1 kit - - - - -
 - 1 wooden platter - - - - -
 - 1 mess bread basket - - - - -
 - 1 hawse bucket - - - - -
- } For each mess of six persons.

With sufficient knives, spoons, tin drinking mugs, &c. for the numbers embarked.

Medical Comforts for every 100 Passengers.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 28 lbs. of arrowroot. | 10 gallons of rum. |
| 28 " of sugar. | 3 " of vinegar. |
| 100 pints of lemon juice. | ½ cwt. of marine soap. |
| 100 lbs. of sugar. | 2 gallons of Sir W. Burnett's chloride of zinc. |
| 6 bottles of wine. | |

Know all men by these presents, that I, George Anderson, of No. 3, Lime-street-square, in the city of London, merchant, am held and firmly bound unto our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, in the sum of 1,000*l.* of lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid to our said Lady the Queen, Her heirs and successors, for which payment to be well and faithfully made, I bind myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, firmly, by these presents. Sealed with my seal, and dated this 21st day of December, in the year of our Lord, 1847.

Whereas the above-bounden George Anderson hath applied to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies for his licence to enable him, the said George Anderson, to carry emigrants to Demerara, from the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, or from the island of St. Helena, in his ship called the "Superior," of 411 ³/₁₀ registered tonnage, whereof Thomas Jenkins is master for the voyage:

And whereas Her Majesty's said Secretary of State hath consented to grant such licence, upon the above-bounden George Anderson executing a bond to Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, conditioned as hereinafter mentioned:

Now the condition of the above-written bond is such, that if the said ship "Superior" shall not in the prosecution of the said intended voyage to Demerara embark passengers at any port or place other than and except in the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, or in the island of St. Helena, then the above-written bond is to be void, but otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

(signed) *G. Anderson.* L. S.

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the above-bounden George Anderson, in the presence of

(signed) *S. Walcott,*
Secretary to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Appendix, No. 3.
SIERRA LEONE.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office, 9, Park-street, Westminster,
18 December 1847.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter of the 14th instant, I am directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to acquaint you that they will not object, on the score of her size, to the "Helena," which you propose to send to the coast of Africa, for the purpose of obtaining emigrants for Demerara; and that provided the deck be so laid as to afford the requisite height, and all other requirements of the Passengers' Act be obtained, and proper means of ventilation be adopted, the Commissioners will apply for the requisite Admiralty pass and licence from the Secretary of State, on hearing from you when the ship is intended to be dispatched.

It has already been intimated to you that if the vessel is to proceed to the Kroo coast a naval officer must be carried on board, but if she is only to visit the British possessions the presence of this officer will be dispensed with, and merely a bond taken from the master and yourself, as a security that she does not touch elsewhere.

I enclose for your information a copy of the dietary scale to be used on this service.

Jonathan Hopkinson, Esq.

I am, &c.
(signed) S. Walcott, Secretary.

SCHEDULE (A.)

Victualling Scale for African Ships.

Women to receive the same ration as men, and children between the ages of one and ten, to receive half a ration.

	Per Day.		Per Week.
Rice - - - - -	1 ½ lb.	Vinegar - - - - -	½ pint.
Beef, pork, or salt fish - - - - -	½ lb.	Palm oil - - - - -	1 ½ gill.
The latter not to be issued oftener than on alternate days with the beef or pork.		Salt - - - - -	2 oz.
Lime juice - - - - -	½ oz.	African pepper - - - - -	2 oz.
Sugar - - - - -	2 oz.		
Water - - - - -	1 gall.		

SCHEDULE (B.)

Articles required for the use of the Africans on the Voyage to the West Indies.

1 new mat to serve as a bed for each person.

1 kit - - - - -

1 wooden platter - - - - -

1 mess bread basket - - - - -

1 hawse bucket - - - - -

} For each mess of six persons.

With sufficient knives, spoons, tin drinking mugs, &c. for the numbers embarked.

Medical Comforts for every 100 Passengers.

28 lbs. of arrowroot.

28 " of sugar.

100 pints of lemon juice.

100 lbs. of sugar.

6 bottles of wine.

10 gallons of rum.

3 " of vinegar.

½ cwt. of marine soap.

2 gallons of Sir W. Burnett's chloride of zinc.

KNOW all men by these presents, that we, Jonathan Hopkinson, of No. 35 Chester-square, in the county of Middlesex, esq., and David Palmer Moffat, owner and master of the brig "Helena," now lying in the West India Docks, London, are held and firmly bound to our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, in the sum of 1,000 *l.* of lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid to our said Lady the Queen, Her heirs and successors, for which payment to be well and faithfully made, we bind ourselves, and each of us, our and each of our heirs, executors, and administrators, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, and dated this 8th day of January in the year of our Lord 1848.

Whereas the above-bounden Jonathan Hopkinson hath applied to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies for his licence to enable him, the said Jonathan Hopkinson, to carry emigrants to Demerara from the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, in the vessel called the "Helena," of 154 ¹⁰⁰/₃₅₀₀ registered tonnage, whereof the above-bounden David Palmer Moffat is master for this voyage:

And whereas Her Majesty's said Secretary of State hath consented to grant such licence, upon the above-bounden Jonathan Hopkinson and David Palmer Moffat executing a joint and several bond to Her Majesty, Her heirs, and successors, conditioned as hereinafter mentioned:

Now

Now the condition of the above-written bond is such, that if the said vessel "Helena" shall not in the prosecution of her said intended voyage to Demerara embark passengers at any port or place, other than and except in the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, and shall not properly treat or provide for, during the said intended voyage, any passengers who may be embarked in such British possessions as aforesaid, then the above written bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Appendix, No. 3.
SIERRA LEO NE.

(signed) Jonathan Hopkinson. (L. S.)
(signed) David Palmer Moffat. (L. S.)

Signed, sealed, and delivered by each of the above-bounden Jonathan Hopkinson and David Palmer Moffat, in the presence of

— No. 5. —

FORM of LICENCE granted by Earl Grey to Vessels conveying African Emigrants from the Coast of Africa to the West Indies.

of having applied for my licence to enable to convey emigrants to from the British possessions on the coast of Africa, and from the Kroo coast, extending from Grand Bassa to the River Cestos, in the of tons burthen, and due security having been taken that this vessel will adhere to the intended object, and execute the service in a correct and proper manner, these are to certify that I do hereby license and authorize the employment of the accordingly.

(signed) Grey.

Downing-street.

LICENCES GRANTED.

"Amity Hall," for Jamaica, 4 December 1847.
"Morayshire,"
"Una," for British Guiana, 1 January 1848.
"Arabian," 4 January 1848.
"Bangalore," for Trinidad, 4 February 1848.
"Persian," " "

"Superior," to British Guiana, 14 December 1847.

"Helena," to the British Possessions on the Coast of Africa and to the Island of St. Helena, and to Sierra Leone, 4 January 1848.

These two vessels not having Government agents on board, are not licensed to go to any places other than British possessions.

— No. 6. —

(Memorandum.)

FORM of ADMIRALTY PASS.

If Captain of the barque employed in conveying passengers from any of the British possessions on the coast of Africa, and also the Kroo coast, extending from Grand Bassa to the River Cestos, to the West Indies, should produce this letter, and the is found to answer the description as stated on the other side hereof, and that she appears to be strictly engaged in the object stated above, it is the direction of my Lords Commissioners, &c. that you do not obstruct her in the prosecution of her voyage, nor in the shipment nor in the landing of the said passengers.

By command.

(signed) H. G. Ward.

To the respective Flag-officers, Captains, Commanders, and Commanding Officers of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels.

Appendix, No. 3. SIERRA LEONE. DESCRIPTION of the rigging [here state description of the vessel], statute adults on the lower deck and Owners belonging to burthen adults in the poop. of master tons; can legally carry

Appendix, No. 4.

COPIES of the COMMUNICATIONS from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston.

Foreign Office, }
5 April 1848. }

H A V A N A.

— No. 1. —

Appendix, No. 4.

HAVANA.

No. 1.
Her Majesty's
Commissioners to
Viscount
Palmerston.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to Viscount Palmerston.

Havana, 9 March 1847.

(Received 8 April.)

My Lord,
We have the honour to report that we have not heard of any vessel having come, during the last month, from the coast of Africa, beyond the rumours of one detailed in our previous despatch of the 27th February last. On the other hand, we regret to say that there are manifest tokens of the slave dealers again resuming their former practices, two vessels having been dispatched, we are positively informed, for the coast, though we have not been made acquainted with their names. We do not therefore feel authorized to name them upon suspicions of our own, the two we suspect being cleared ostensibly, one on the 2d of February, for Barcelona, and the other on the 28th for New Orleans. We hear also that two others have been sent direct to the coast from Spain. Respecting these movements, therefore, we have to exert our utmost diligence in obtaining proper information.

If the present price of sugar continue, there will be such strong inducements for an extended cultivation, and in consequence such a demand for labour, as will make the slave dealers and others to run all risks whatever to supply it. The returns afforded the sugar planters now are such as to make us astonished that they do not draw even a greater number of persons to engage in its production. To give an idea of its character, we may mention a case, which is notorious, of an estate, one of the newest formed. This estate consisting of about 60 caballerias, or 2,000 acres, at 1,000 dollars the caballeria, may be valued at 60,000 dollars. The buildings and machinery may be valued at another like sum, which is extreme. There are about 400 negroes, who, if bought two years since, might have been bought, one with another, at 400 dollars per head, though, as the owner imported them himself from Africa, they perhaps did not cost him one-fourth of that sum. Estimated value, 160,000 dollars. Of this,

	\$
Land - - - - -	60,000
Buildings, &c. - - - - -	60,000
Negroes - - - - -	160,000
Maintenance of same, and wages of overseers, &c. - - - - -	20,000
Total - - - - -	\$ 300,000

He has this year a crop of sugar amounting to no less than 10,000 boxes, which, at 15 dollars a box, will give him a return of 150,000 dollars; so that in two years he will be reimbursed more than the whole of the outlay.

With such prospects before them, there must be numbers to engage in the same speculations. One plan we learn has been proposed to the Spanish government by some parties here, who have put the Conde de Casa Brunet at their head, to be allowed to bring, they ask,

ask, 20,000 colonists from Africa, as they are pleased to call them, under certain stipulations for their treatment, but whom they acknowledge it is their purpose to buy. This scheme we understand has been communicated to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, and we presume, therefore, to Her Majesty's Government.

On the other hand, supposing this scheme may be viewed in the most favourable light as eventually to terminate in the benefit of those colonists, by their being allowed to return to Africa, after a certain number of years, as free men, with the produce of their labour for wages, there is another plan now here in contemplation, to forbid the future emancipation of slaves, or to permit it only under special circumstances. At present there is a law by which on the payment of a small sum on the birth of a child, its freedom is obtained from the condition of the mother; and of this law the better class of the coloured population avail themselves much, not only for their own children, but also for the benefit of their relations and others. The new law, we presume, will be directed against this privilege, as well as against the exercise of any other for the obtaining of freedom by the slave.

We have only to add that the ship "Numa," detained in June last by Her Majesty's brig "Daring," but released by the Mixed Court, entered this harbour again yesterday from Barcelona, with three passengers and an ordinary cargo.

We have, &c.
(signed) *J. Kennedy.*
Campbell J. Dalrymple.

— No. 2. —

Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston.

Havana, 9 April 1847.
(Received 10 May.)

My Lord,

WE have the honour to report that we have not heard of any vessel having come to any part of this island during the last month from the coast of Africa. Neither do we know directly of any one having been dispatched intended for slave trade; but we are credibly informed that no fewer than seven have lately sailed for that purpose, and that several others are fitting out. The great demand for slaves, in the present enormous profits to be derived by the cultivation of sugar, will of a certainty induce these parties to encounter every risk to obtain the labourers required, and a continued vigilance will therefore be necessary to defeat their practices as heretofore.

The vessel we referred to in our last month's report, dated the 9th of March, as having sailed ostensibly for New Orleans, but suspected for slave trade, was the "Atrevida," which we hear has actually so gone to the coast, calling at Santiago de Cuba.

We have, &c.
(signed) *J. Kennedy.*
Campbell J. Dalrymple.

— No. 3. —

COPY of a LETTER from *E. J. Stanley, Esq.* to *B. Hawes, Esq.*

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 28th instant, I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Grey, copies of despatches from Her Majesty's consuls at the Havana, Porto Rico, and Bahia, respecting the cultivation of sugar.

I am, &c.
(signed) *E. J. Stanley.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

(No. 6.)

My Lord,

IN my No. 5, of the 28th ultimo, I did myself the honour of acknowledging to your Lordship the receipt of Mr. Bidwell's, No. 12, of the 16th of December last, marked "immediate," and I answered the queries thereon as far as it was in my power according to your Lordship's instructions. Referring most respectfully to what I was then enabled to furnish, I have now the honour of stating to your Lordship that the information which I transmitted is confirmed by the results of my subsequent inquiries upon the principal points; but I am enabled to lay before your Lordship somewhat more minute details.

In answer to query the first:

"The extent and cost of slave cultivation in the island of Cuba, stating as nearly as possible

Appendix, No. 4-
HAVANA.

No. 1.
Her Majesty's
Commissioners to
Viscount
Palmerston.

No. 2.
Her Majesty's
Commissioners to
Viscount
Palmerston.

No. 3.
Cons. Gl. Crawford,
No. 6.
21 Feb. 1848.
Cons. Lindegren,
No. 4.
Ditto, No. 5.
11 March.
Cons. Porter, No. 2.
25 February.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

Appendix No. 4.
 HAVANA.
 Encl. 1, in No. 3.

sible the estimated cost of the different operations in the cultivation and manufacture of sugar, which make up its total cost to the producer?"

A committee of the "Junta de Fomento," or Local Board of Trade, reported in 1844 that the cultivation in the island was equal to about a fifth of the whole available lands; but taking into consideration the increased growth of sugar to the eastward, and of tobacco to the westward of this capital, that proportion is supposed at this date to be below the just estimate, and a quarter may be assumed as under cultivation, or as having been cleared.

By far the greater portion is in sugar, part is used for grazing, part is in coffee plantations, and a considerable surface under the growth of tobacco in a state of valuable production. A great number, however, of the coffee plantations having been destroyed by the hurricanes of 1844 and 1846, are abandoned, and their dotations of slaves have been sold, and their labour turned to the cultivation of sugar.

"The cost of sugar to the producer," setting out upon certain data according to the calculations and experience of practical men, is made as follows:

Upon an estate capable of producing 4,000 boxes, of 400 net pounds of sugar, capital invested 250,000 dollars, or 50,000 *l.* sterling, the annual expenditure consists of the following items; viz.

	\$
Salary to the manager, overseer, and ox-driver	2,400
Salary to clerk and sugar masters	1,660
Engineer and doctor	1,014
Apothecary, nurses, and sick food	650
Clothing and food for 200 slaves	6,000
Rent of the estate	1,350
Boiling-houses, ropes, &c. &c.	1,000
Carpenters' repairs, nails, &c.	1,850
Conveyance to market, varying according to distance, say 2 dollars per box	8,000
Repairs of engine	1,000
Wear and tear of waggons, cost 3,000 dollars, worn out in four crops	750
Wear and tear of boiler trains, cost 12,000 dollars, worn out in six crops	2,000
Wear and tear of 70 yokes oxen, cost 7,000 dollars, worn out in four crops, from which deduct 2,040 from the sale of these surviving, leaves 4,960 loss	1,240
Supposing the dotation of slaves 200, it will include a proportion of females, children, and invalids, so that during the six months' crop season it will be necessary to hire 30 able-bodied labourers, costing, with their food, 17 dollars each per month	3,360
10,000 sugar moulds, which cost 7,500 dollars, expended in five years	1,500
Storage and repairs of buildings	2,125
Making	<u>£. 7,180 or \$ 35,899</u>

To produce 4,000 boxes, 400 lbs. each, gives nine dollars per box, equal to about *c.* 8. 4. or one penny sterling, per lb. of sugar, to which must be added the interest upon the capital employed at 6 per cent., which will increase the cost of the sugar to the producer, bringing it up to 1½*d.* per lb., or thereabouts.

Your Lordship will at once perceive that when in my former despatch I put the estimated cost at eight dollars per box, the rent (which in the present form of calculation is put down, and means the dresino or tithe) was not included, nor was interest upon the capital invested taken into consideration.

The second query, "Whether any, and what proportion, if any, of the sugar produced is raised by free labour, working for wages, or otherwise?"

I have been informed that there is no estate raising sugar wholly by free labour, except one, near to Puerte Principe, by a company of Catalonians, who are said to have been unsuccessful; but I may here state, that almost all the various operations have been performed separately by free white labourers, even to the cutting of cane in the fields.

It is common for them to contract for supplying wood for fuel, for the ploughing of lands, as well as for the clearing of new estates, tumbling the timber, &c. &c. Formerly white free men were employed in carting the cane to the mills.

The sugar masters and their assistants, who are white men, work in the boiler trains, skimming the liquor, &c. &c.; in fact, free white men can do everything which is done by the slaves, excepting the working 18 hours out of the 24, which the negroes are forced to do in crop time; but even that the white labourer would undertake, and would accomplish, was the pay or salary raised in proportion to such severe labour and discomfort. Carting of produce, &c. on the roads is almost universally in the hands of freemen, who either contract to work by the job or for wages.

In the city of Havana, until very lately, the carters were all negro slaves, but they are fast disappearing, having been sent off to work upon the estates, and their places are being filled with white men, who appear to stand the fatigue and exposure of such employment quite as well as their predecessors.

To No. 3—"The cost of any given quantity of work, by slaves or freemen, by the task; for instance, the digging of any number of cane holes of a given size?"

I have the honour of stating to your Lordship that the clearing of new lands is generally performed by freemen, whether white or coloured; and such an operation usually costs, for tumbling the timber upon a caballeria (or 33½ English acres), cutting off the underwood, and burning, 525 dollars, or 103 *l.* sterling, which may be done by three men in about 40 days.

The

The planting of cane is hardly ever done by freemen. It costs for a caballeria from 1,000 or 1,200 dollars, say 200 *l.*, to 240 *l.* sterling.

The cane plants are laid in trenches, generally dug with the asadon or hoe, and are 33 inches apart and eight inches deep, of English measure; 30 men usually perform this planting, by the task, in a month; but it varies according to the nature of the soil and the perfectness, or otherwise, of the previous clearing. It is to be observed, however, that the foregoing estimate does not include the cutting and transport of the seed cane from the place of its growth to the ground to be planted, and that the planting in holes could be done somewhat cheaper; but that system has been almost wholly discontinued, because of the advantage found to result from planting in trenches in the manner I have described. The cutting of cane corresponding to 4,000 boxes of sugar, being about 25,000 cart loads of 2,000 lbs. each, may be done by 30 men in six months. For this labour, with the services of half the number of said gang during half of the night every other night, the rate usually paid is 3,500 dollars, or 700 *l.*, besides their food, 360 dollars, or 72 *l.* Bringing the cane from the place where it is cut costs 2,640 dollars, or 528 *l.*

Ploughing a caballeria of land, generally done by freemen, and which can be completed by two labourers, with four yokes of oxen, in 10 weeks, costs 204 dollars, or 41 *l.* sterling. Planting the canes thereon costs also 204 dollars, or 41 *l.* sterling.

The price paid for cutting and piling firewood per cord of 8 ft. 3 in. long, 5 ft. 6 in. high, and a vara of 33 inches wide, varies from 3½ to 5 reals, or from 1 s. 9 d. to 2 s. 6 d. sterling.

Building of stone fences, which, like the cutting of wood, is generally done by white men, can generally be contracted for at 9 d. to 1 s. sterling per brasa of 66 inches square, and the usual thickness of dry stone walls, it being understood that the materials are previously laid beside the line of the intended building of such work. A good builder can do five or six brasas a day.

Ploughmen earn 20 dollars, or 4 *l.* sterling a month, and besides are supplied the vegetables they eat.

The salary of a house carpenter, who understands doing rough work, carts, &c., is from 100 *l.* to 160 *l.* a year. Clay sugar moulds are paid for at 34 dollars, or 6 *l.* 16 s. sterling a hundred.

I am now come to the query No. 4—"The present price of a slave, and whether the price has increased or diminished of late years, and the cause assigned for it; also the average duration of life?"

I confirm in general what I had the honour of stating to your Lordship in my despatch of the 28th ultimo under this head, with the qualification that the value of a good slave, which I then put at 500 to 560 dollars, 100 *l.* to 110 *l.* sterling, is, I find, rather below the price. I have learnt that in lots of 10 and more, taken from the coffee estates, they have averaged the highest rate above stated, and that able-bodied field hands are worth 600 dollars, or 120 *l.* sterling, if purchased separately.

The increased demand for sugar, the consequent creation of new estates, and more extended cultivation, added to the non-importation of negroes from the coast of Africa, the extreme risk and difficulty of carrying on that detestable traffic, the slave trade, and the impression which has gone abroad and prevails in the island as to the absolute impossibility of smuggling in new negroes, are the causes to be assigned for the increased value of slaves.

There are, I believe, no statistics comprehending all the items necessary to judge of the duration of the negro slave's life in this island.

Some six or eight years ago, all opinions are concurrent that the waste of life amongst the slaves was much greater than it is now.

It was then terrific, and has been as great as 10 per cent. upon some estates, in a single crop time, without the occurrence of malignant disease or epidemic; and the deaths of infants are rarely noticed.

Upon such estates the mortality is still very great, arising from the ill-treatment, overworking, bad food, scantily supplied, and the want of sufficient clothing; but the prices of slaves having risen so considerably, their usage is becoming lessened, and where they are in numbers sufficient for the work they are found to live much longer, the mortality is as little as 2½ per cent., and from up to 5, under such favourable circumstances; but it varies, from the most lamentable causes, and, as I have said before, is as much as 10 per cent. in certain situations.

Upon the whole, it is my firm belief that if no more negroes are landed from Africa, and slavery continues, at the end of 20 years from this time there will be very few slaves surviving in Cuba, and that before the expiration of half that period there will be a great want of labourers in the island, especially upon the sugar plantations.

Fifthly. "The present condition of sugar cultivation generally, the relation of the slave population to the proprietary body, and whether there is tranquillity and security of property prevailing?"

I have already adverted to the very prosperous state of the sugar cultivation; I shall now proceed to notice the improvements introduced in its manufacture of late years, which have contributed in a very considerable degree towards the enormous increase of the quantity which the island produces.

All the modern inventions of machinery are now in use here.

Metal moulds have taken, or are fast taking, the place of those of clay or tile, which occupied many hands all the year round to form, and others to provide firing used in their baking.

The clay used for purifying the sugars is now beaten and prepared by a mill.

Appendix, No. 4.

HAVANA.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

The substitution of cast-iron wheels and rollers for the wooden ones and rails formerly used on the sugar sheds, which required all the negroes on the estates to move.

The use of steam pumps for moving the molasses and cane juice, and for raising water.

The introduction of waggons for the baggage or waste, which formerly was all carried upon their negroes' heads, in heavily-laden baskets, combined with the use of railroads for the internal transport of almost everything of weight from one place to another upon the estates, formerly done by the slaves carrying 100 to 120 lbs. on their heads.

The public railroads for transportation of the produce from the estates to the shipping ports, or to a market-place; improvements in the grinding mills, in the boiling-houses and sugar breakers, and consequent reduced consumption of fuel, have left the labour of many hands to be used in the field or for other purposes.

Sugar-producing consists in the growing of the cane and the manufacture of the juice.

A caballeria of ordinary land produces, in general, the cane sufficient to make 200 boxes of sugar; but some new lands at Trequa la Grande have produced more than double that quantity; hence the great inducement to bring new lands into cultivation.

Eighteen months after first planting the cutting of the first crop commences, and a crop is obtained yearly for 10, 12, or even 15 years in very superior ground, after which a thorough replanting becomes necessary.

It is therefore advantageous to remove to virgin lands, and as long as these are to be obtained new estates will be brought into existence, their greater fertility amply remunerating the expenses incurred in transporting the establishment, works, and machinery to the new site. The cane most productive is the Otahaita, except in poor soil, where the ribbed or stripped cane is preferable.

In former days, with the ox-mills, 40 per cent. of the weight of the cane, in juice, was about the average yield; by the introduction of steam-mills it was increased to 50, and so much improvement has taken place in squeezing the canes that 70 per cent. of juice has been obtained from the weight of cane pressed through the mill; 60 per cent. however, is the common yield, which readily accounts for much of the increase of this island's produce, obtained, as I have shown, by the use and perfection of machinery, without more field labour; in addition to which, the use of the Jamaica trains of boilers has materially increased the quantity of sugar obtained from the juice, whilst improvements in the furnaces have diminished the consumption of fuel; so that that process of sugar-making is likely to continue to be used in preference to the system of Derosne and Lails, which, although found to be the most perfect, the apparatus is more costly, is far from being the most profitable, and the sugar so made, whether because of the contact of animal charcoal with the vegetable substance of the cane juice, or from whatever other cause, more easily loses its sweetness and other properties for the after processes of refining.

In addition to what I have already said as to the relations of the slaves to the proprietary body, I shall state here that the wealthy slaveowners are seldom amongst their slaves; their mutual relations are therefore quite unimportant. Tranquillity prevails, and the security of property is maintained by the constant vigilance of the authorities, but it cannot be said to be so established as that the least relaxation of the strict police regulations, now most vigorously enforced, might not give room for the most serious apprehension.

The sixth and last query relates to "the internal taxation and the export duty on sugar, stated in English money."

The dresino, or tithe, amounting to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the produce, comes to 2 s. sterling, or thereabouts, per 100 lbs.

The taxes in the nature of import duties affect the planters most materially, and upon every article of food, clothing, &c. which are indispensably necessary, have been estimated, perhaps not very extravagantly, at 20 per cent. upon all the disbursements of an estate producing 4,000 boxes, say 7,000 dollars, or 1,400 l. sterling a year, which is equal to 7 s. sterling per box, making with the 2 s. dresino, and four reals or 2 s. export duty, no less than 11 s. sterling, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per box, which the government derives upon the whole growth of the island, estimated last year at 1,200,000 boxes, which consequently gave the enormous sum of 3,300,000 dollars, or 660,000 l. sterling to the royal treasury; and the dresino alone will in a few years be over 1,000,000 dollars, or 200,000 l. sterling, because of the great number of estates whose term (10 years) of exemption are about to expire, being afterwards liable to payment of the tithe.

I regret, my Lord, that the information which I have it in my power to furnish, in answer to the queries submitted by your Lordship's instructions, is so very imperfect; but upon all that relates to the affairs of this island there are great impediments to our getting at the government statistics, if any such exist, and our inquiries upon the subject of the production of their staple commodity are viewed with jealousy, so that it is extremely difficult to obtain such data as I so much wished for in forming a report of so much importance.

I have used every diligence in collecting from honest, intelligent, and practical sources the grounds upon which I have founded the statements which, in obedience to your Lordship's commands, I was able to transmit by the last packet, and have now the honour of laying before your Lordship.

The Viscount Palmerston,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. T. Crawford.

Appendix, No. 4.	Grinding, 12 yoke of oxen	- - - - -	\$ 3 0
● HAVANA.	„ 4 small boys at 1 ½ reals	- - - - -	- 0 6
	„ 9 men at 3 reals	- - - - -	- 3 3
			\$ 7 1
Encl. 2, in No. 3.	In the boiling-house, 8 men at 3 reals	- - - - -	- 0 6
	Three casks	- - - - -	- 12 0
			\$ 54 7

This calculation is made, valuing the labour of the negro at 3 reals, or 1 s. 6 d. sterling per day, composed as follows :

Food	- - - - -	\$ 40 per annum.
Clothing	- - - - -	12 „
Loss of time, from sickness or other causes	- - - - -	6
		\$ 58

To which is to be added the interest on 350 dollars, the value of the slave.

The legal interest is six per cent. per annum, but that generally paid by owners of estates is at least 12 per cent., and almost all of them are in debt ; taking, therefore, nine per cent. as the medium, it will be - 31 ½

Insurance of life, at six per cent. - - - - - 21

Total - - - \$ 110 ½ yearly.

Deducting then from the 365 days the Sundays and saints' days, and about 290 will remain as the working days of a negro in the year, making the cost of a slave's labour about three reals per day.

The course pursued in cultivation is to renew the canes every fourth year, as after that time they would not generally pay the expense of working; some land is however so situated that the canes ratoon well for six or seven years, but on all well-managed estates one-fourth part of the cane lands are renewed every year.

Q. 2. Whether any, and what proportion of the sugar produced is raised by free labour, working for wages, or otherwise?—A. Free people are employed more or less upon almost all the estates in the island in clearing land, draining, weeding, cutting canes, carting, and transporting produce to market. In one district, that of Ponce, where there are 4,500 slaves, I know that 1,600 free labourers are employed; and perhaps it may be fairly estimated that from a fourth to a fifth part of the cultivation and manufacture of sugar is done by free people, the number employed being considerable during the crop season, and much less during the rest of the year. The price, however, of labour by the day varies a good deal; in some parts they get as high as four reals per day and their food; in others, four reals, and they feed themselves; in others, three reals and their food; and in some places, three reals alone. I think, however, that four reals, and finding their own provisions, appears to be the medium price, but a very great part of the work on which free labourers are employed is by the task or job.

Q. 3. The cost of any quantity of work, by slaves or freemen, by the task or job; for instance, the digging any number of cane-holes of a given size?—A. With regard to cane-holes, they do not, I believe, make them as in our West India islands, where the practice is holing and banking, whereas here they merely make the holes with a spade or hoe to put the plants into them, and they do not make any bank; and holing and planting are generally agreed for together in the same job.

The expense of slave labour has been given, and the following is the calculated cost of the cultivation and manufacture of an acre of sugar by free labour; it is, however, to be observed, that they have great difficulty in getting the freemen to work in the manufacture of the sugar, and there are few estates in which they can get them into the boiling-houses, and therefore this part of the expense may not be so correct as the rest :

Hoeing and preparing the land	- - - - -	\$ 6 0
Holing and planting	- - - - -	- 6 0
Twice hoeing	- - - - -	- 8 0
		\$ 20 0

This,

This, in very rough land, would cost 25 dollars, and the whole of it is generally contracted or in one sum. Appendix, No. 4.

Making drains about eight inches wide and eight inches deep, where required	\$4 0
Third weeding	4 0
Twice thrashing the canes	6 0
Cutting, which varies from 3½ to 6 dollars, according to the size of the canes,	
medium	5 0
Carting, 5 boys, at 3 reals per day	\$1 7
5 yoke of oxen and carts	2 0
	3 7
Grinding, 12 yoke of oxen	1 4
,, 4 small boys, at 2 reals	1 0
	2 4
,, 9 men employed at the mill, at 4 reals	4 4
In the boiling-house, 7 men	5 0
Ditto - - - - 1 man	1 0
	6 0
3 casks - - - - -	12 0
	\$67 7

HAVANA.

Encl. 2, in No. 3.

From this abatement, compared with that of slave labour, it appears that the cost of free labour is about one-fifth more than that of slaves; one, however, of the principal proprietors of sugar estates in the island, who employs both free people and slaves, tells me, that taking into consideration the feeding, clothing, interest on capital, life insurance, and loss of time from sickness and other causes, he does not consider that there is any difference in any work done by slaves and free labourers, and that the cost of each will be about the same; but it is to be observed, that he pays the free people employed by him only three reals, or 1s. 6d. sterling, per day for field labourers, and four reals, or 2s. sterling, in the boiling-house, where they work longer, and they feed themselves, which is lower than the general rate of free labour.

It is calculated in both statements of free and slave labour, that the acre will produce three hogsheads of 1,000 lbs. of sugar each, and about one-third more of molasses, which is about the produce of an acre on the north side of the island, but on the south side some of the land will produce as much as 4,000 lbs. of sugar per acre. To the above charges in the cultivation and manufacture of sugar must be added in both cases of free and slave labour, the expenses of the government and local taxation, of the manager and overseers, repairs of the houses, implements of husbandry, and the expense to the place of embarkation, which last varies considerably. On the south side this expense is about two dollars, or 8s. per ton; but on the north coast the distance is from 2 to 25 miles, and as there are not any carriage roads, the expense varies from one dollar and a half, or 6s. sterling, to seven dollars, or 28s., per ton. Independent of the charge of conveyance, it is calculated that the total expense in the cultivation and manufacture of sugar produced on an estate, with a sufficient strength of slaves, without hiring labourers, costs the planter at least two dollars, or 8s. sterling, per 100 lbs.; the income therefore depends entirely upon the amount paid for labour, and the price obtained for produce. If all the labour was done by free people the cost would not be less than 2½ dollars, or 10s. sterling, per 100 pounds.

Q. 4. The present price of a slave, and whether the price has increased or diminished of late years, also the average duration of his life?—**A.** The price of a slave varies from 300 to 400 dollars, and if he has been taught a trade he will fetch much more. The price of a field negro is about 350 dollars, and it has varied little of late years. I cannot learn the average duration of a slave's life, but I do not think that it is materially shortened by the labour he undergoes, and I consider it will nearly average with that of a free person. Great part of the slaves are importations from Africa, some years ago, none having been brought here within the last four years.

Q. 5. The present condition of sugar cultivation generally; the relation of the slave population to the proprietary body; and whether there is tranquillity and security of property prevailing?—**A.** The masters and slaves are generally upon good terms; on some few estates they may be ill-used, but in general they are well treated, and on some estates they show much attachment to their masters. Property is perfectly secure here, and disturbances upon the estates to any extent very rarely occur; indeed, if any rising were to take place it would be easily suppressed, as out of a population of 450,000 (independent of the regular troops, consisting of three regiments of 1,200 men each, and a battalion of artillery) the slaves do not amount to more than 50,000, and the free people do not take part with them; they have besides seven regiments of militia of 1,000 men each, and three companies of local artillery; every white man who is not enrolled in the marine being liable to serve in the militia, which being distributed in the different parishes of the island, are ready to check any disturbance.

Q. 6. The internal taxation and the export duty on sugar, stated in English money?—**A.** The taxes to the government have been increased during the last year, and now five per cent. is the government tax upon the gross produce of the estate, and the amount to be paid by each proprietor is settled by the alcalde and the council in each district, although, however, they may divide the proportion to be paid by each fairly among themselves. They do not pay anything like five per cent. to the government, particularly on the large estates,

Appendix, No. 4.

HAVANA.

Encl. 2, in No. 3.

and the amount of the produce is generally very much undervalued. The local taxes may be considered at about two per cent. more in the larger parishes, but they are heavier in the small ones, as many of the expenses, such as the parish priest, schoolmaster, parochial physician attending upon the poor, sexton, and clerk to the parish council, are nearly as heavy in the small as the larger ones, therefore in the smaller ones they may amount to three per cent.

The export duty upon sugar is 10 cents, or about 5 *d.* English, per 100 pounds.

Q. 7. With respect to Porto Rico, what has been done in the way of irrigation, and with what success?—A. Irrigation has not been carried to any extent, it has only been attempted at Ponce and Guayanilla, on the north side of the island, as far as I can learn, where much money has been spent upon it, and nearly half the estates could be irrigated; but they are very subject to drought there, and the rivers which supply the water to the estates have been occasionally dried up.

I have, &c.
(signed) John Lindegren.

Enclosure 3, in No. 3.

(No. 5.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, 11 March 1848.

Encl. 3, in No. 3.

In my despatch of the 24th ultimo (No. 4.) I had the honour of forwarding to your Lordship answers to the questions asked me by Mr. Bidwell, in his despatch of the 16th December last (No. 6.), written me by your Lordship's desire, and I have since received further advices from the south side of the island, but I do not think that they vary much from what I have already forwarded to your Lordship, except that the cultivation of the cane appears to be in several places there different from that on the north side, and where there is this difference the canes are planted in holes from 12 to 15 inches square, and 8 to 10 inches deep, very much, I suppose, as in our West India Islands, the cost of which by free labour is from 12 to 14 dollars, or from 48 *s.* to 56 *s.* English; and by slaves from 9 to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ dollars, or from 36 *s.* to 42 *s.* per acres; this, as well as the acre mentioned in my last despatch, is rather larger than the English acre, and 100 of them are equal to about 108 English acres.

I am still unable to ascertain the average life of a slave, but all concur that it may be considered as nearly equal to that of a free inhabitant, and, in general, not shortened by ill-treatment or hard labour.

The Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) John Lindegren.

Enclosure 4, in No. 3.

(No. 2.)

My Lord,

Bahia, 25 February 1848.

Encl. 4, in No. 3.

In obedience to your Lordship's commands, transmitted to me in Foreign Office despatch, No. 4, of the 16th December last, requiring answers to queries respecting the cultivation of sugar in the province, I have the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying information, which, owing to the want of statistical returns, has been compiled from various private sources.

The Viscount Palmerston,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) Edward Porter,

QUERIES.

1. The extent and cost of slave cultivation in the province of Bahia, stating, as nearly as may be possible, the estimated cost of the different operations in the cultivation and manufacture of sugar which make up its total cost to the producer?

ANSWERS.

1. Not known, as no statistical returns exist respecting the extent of cultivation.

The cost of cultivation, at the present exchange of 28 *a.* \$1,000, is

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Per cwt. about - - - -	5	6
The manufacture - - - -	6	5
Interest on capital invested in land, houses, and machinery, about 6% per annum - - - -	4	6
Total cost per cwt., about - -	16	5

2. Whether any, and what proportion, if any, of the sugar produced is raised by free labour, working for wages, or otherwise?

2. All sugar produced is raised by slave labour.

3. The

3. The

QUERIES.

ANSWERS.

Appendix, No 4.

HAVANA.

Encl. 4, in No. 3.

3. The cost of any given quantity of work, by slaves or freemen, by the task or job; for instance, the digging any number of cane-holes of a given size?

3. The hire of a slave per day is about 10 *d.* sterling, and it is calculated that 13 slaves can open furrows for the planting of one acre of cane per day.

4. The present price of a slave, and whether the price has increased or diminished of late years, and the cause assigned for it; also the average duration of his life?

4. The price of a slave, at the present exchange, is 50 *l.* to 45 *l.*

Owing to the mortality, of slaves, which is calculated to be 4 to 6% annually, prices have gradually increased until within the last year, when the greater quantities brought hither in some degree reduced their value.

The average duration of a slave's life after commencing to work is about 25 years.

5. The present condition of sugar cultivation generally; the relation of the slave population to the proprietary body; and whether there is tranquillity and security of property prevailing?

5. The crop of this province has increased, but the quality has not improved during the last 20 years. If by the relation between slaves and proprietors their numbers be understood, no certain answer can be given, for want of statistical returns. As to their civil position to each other, the slave is protected by law from undue severity, which law is rarely enforced in towns, but never in the interior, where the master may be said to have full power over his slave, even unto death. At present tranquillity prevails; but by far the greater part of the inhabitants of the interior consisting of African slaves, security of persons or property is at all times precarious.

6. The internal taxation and the export duty on sugar, stated in English money?

6. Internal taxation of sugar is 4%; the export duty 7% on the market price.

Appendix, No. 5.

STATEMENT of Mr. Overmann, a Planter, resident in *Porto Rico*, as to the Growth of Sugar in that Island.

Appendix, No. 5.

Statement of a Planter in *Porto Rico*.

THE island of *Porto Rico* has about 400,000 inhabitants, of which 45,000 are slaves. There are 400 sugar estates worked, I should say by about 20,000 negroes, and they make 100,000 hhds. of sugar which is yet manufactured in the most common way by cattle mills and I do not think there are more than about 20 steam-mills in the island.

They have likewise only few wind, and still less water mills. The larger estates can make sugar at about 60 to 75 cts. per 100 lbs., taking, of course, the amount for the molasses and rum (if they make any) against part of the expenses; but smaller estates, with perhaps not sufficient lands, or badly conducted, cannot do it at less than 1½ to 2 dollars, as there are many expences, which weigh heavier on smaller estates; but, of course, much depends on the situation of the estate and the fertility of the soil, and the manner in which it is taken care of, the canes requiring to be kept very clean of weeds and grass.

It is generally calculated that a Spanish acre ought to give about 3,000 to 3,500 lbs. of sugar a year (an acre is about 40,000 square feet), but I have seen them vary from 2,000 lbs. to 6 or 8,000 lbs. an acre.

The price of land in *Porto Rico*, if planted in canes, is from 300 to 350 dollars an acre, in pasture 50 dollars, in wood 25 dollars, and so on. A negro is valued from 250 to 350 dollars, in *Havana* 500 dollars, in *Louisiana* 1,000 dollars, but I am sure that since eight or ten years no slaves have been imported from *Africa* into *Porto Rico*.

I have know several estates on which they have not planted a cane for upwards of 15 years, and the lands are scarcely ever manured, and produce continually as much as already stated above, which gives an idea of the superiority of the soil and climate, perhaps for cultivating the cane. On better regulated estates the canes are generally replanted every six or seven years.

An estate with 100 to 120 negroes can make, if it is well situated, from 600 to 900 hhds. of sugar a year; and this can be done, if the manager understand his business, without paying one cent for hired labour, or in the worst case they only ought to make a contract with the free Spaniards for cutting the canes, which would not be more than 800 to 1,200 dollars, as the general price is about four dollars an acre.

Appendix, No. 5.
Statement of a
Planter in Porto
Rico.

A reason why the Spanish islands, and particularly Port Rico, has done so well during the last years, is because they have been favoured with good weather and have made large crops, and because the Louisiana crop generally fell short, and the North Americans had to buy muscovades for their country. Last year higher prices were paid in Porto Rico, less in consequence of the reduction of the duty in England than of the reduction of the duty in the United States; so here prices were even higher from December till March than the preceding year. What caused the price to rise in Porto Rico from 4 to 5½ dollars was mostly the sale of several cargoes in Baltimore at 8½ to 9½ cents per lb., which was equal to 6 to 6½ dollars in Porto Rico. The price of sugar in Porto Rico is mostly regulated by the state of the North American markets, as they must have muscovades.

The Spanish planters in general live on their estates; they save, consequently, the high salary paid to an administrator, who often does not know anything of the cultivation of the cane, and does not care much how things are conducted, who often gets cheated, and I should say just as often cheats himself. Living on the estate the planter saves house and servants, rents, and has many small advantages which else he would not have; he lives more economically and sees that everything is conducted so as it ought to be, and as they sell the produce themselves they generally obtain the highest market price, and buy again the provisions and lumber, casks, &c., as cheap as possible. In fact they save everywhere a few dollars.

An estate of 360 acres of canes will generally have about 300 acres to be cut, and they will yield—

	Dollars.	Dollars.
1,000,000 lbs. sugar at 3 \$	- - - - -	30,000
80,000 gallons molasses, 12 cts.	- - - - -	9,600
Gross Crop	- - - - -	39,600
The expences would be about the following:—		
Salary for manager	- - - - -	1,000
2 overseers	- - - - -	1,000
1,000 hhds., 3 \$.	- - - - -	3,000
Maintenance of 120 negroes (slaves)	- - - - -	7,000
Repairing of buildings	- - - - -	1,000
Doctors fee	- - - - -	300
Cane-cutting	- - - - -	800
Unforeseen expences	- - - - -	500
		14,600
Would leave	- - - - - \$.	25,000

which would give a very good interest on the money invested. The Spaniards are generally paid about three rials a day for work in the fields, but the best plan is to pay them by the job, and the contract is made with one man who binds himself to bring as many free labourers as are required, and then they receive for cane cutting from 3¼ to 4 dollars per acre; for wood cutting one dollar per cord, or for three cart loads; cart boys can be hired at 4½ to 5 dollars a month, if they receive their breakfast and dinner on the estates, and then they work from four or five o'clock in the morning till about six o'clock. The slave population is decreasing in Porto Rico about one to one and a half a year, owing to the great scarcity of women; the proportion of men to women is about three to one. Another thing which I have omitted to observe is, that it depends very much when the canes ought to be cut, as if they are cut one month too soon or one month too late they will yield from 20 to 25% less sugar; this is a very essential point of a new manager on an estate; even if he is perhaps a man of better knowledge than the former one will very likely be, by taking off the first crop, make a difference of 12 to 15% in the quantity of sugar the other would have produced, to the disadvantage of the owner. I have seen cane fields in wet lands which were not cut in time, and which were only cut after the rains commenced, and they only produced one half of that which they would have given a month sooner, as the juice of the cane became very watery, and would, in some instances, not even granulate. As on a large estate all canes cannot be cut when they ought to be, very much is lost in this way by the owner, but that is a thing that cannot be helped. It has been observed in Porto Rico that those canes cut from February till May yield about 15 to 20% more than those cut in January and June or later. It is, therefore, a great advantage if an estate can take off the crop in the month mentioned.

I have made above a statement of an estate worked by about 120 negroes, and shall show you now that if the same estate was worked by free labourers in the English islands, it ought to give a still better revenue, provided it yields as much as in Porto Rico.

	Dollars.	Dollars.
1,000,000 lbs. sugar, 80,000 gallons molasses, say - - (The protective duty not calculated here.)	- -	39,600
Sundry expences, if they were the same, would be - -	7,600	
Free labour.—On an estate in Porto Rico, with 120 negroes, there would be only about—		
— 70 field negroes.		
20 — children.		
7 — in the hospital.		
10 — old and not working.		
— 5 pasture boys.		
3 — sewing clothing.		
— 5 house servants.		
These 40 are These 80 would be required to an expense to hire at 3 rs. a day = \$. 30 at the estate with- 300 d. - - - - out any benefit deriving from them.	Dollars. 9,000	
Deduct maintenance at \$60 a year - 2,400		
Interest on 120 negroes at \$300 = 36,000 at 10 % - - - - - 3,600	6,000	
		10,600
Remaining difference - - \$.		29,000

Appendix, No. 5.
Statement of a
Planter in Porto
Rico.

It seems by this statement as if it would be more profitable to work the estate with free labourers ; but again it must be observed that the only difficulty in the English islands is, that they cannot, perhaps, get sufficient labourers ; partly it is their own fault, as they have partly in some islands, of late, commenced to sell, or rent part of their lands to negroes, which, I hear, pays them a very good rent ; but of course, by having done so, they have given the negroes means in their hands to get independent, and they of course prefer working their own lands, as it pays them so much, than to be hired to an estate-holder, and to be obliged to do such work as they are ordered to. This is an oversight which the planters ought never to have done ; they make the field negro still more scarce by such a proceeding. Is it not natural that the negroes should prefer working their own lands, and plant what they think best, than to hire themselves to the owner of a sugar estate ? The English colonies cannot compete with Porto Rico, as the population of the whites, or descendants of the Spaniards, is so very large in proportion to the black, and the Spaniards are very willing to work in the field, if they can get occupation, and are regularly paid.

Although I say above that the maintenance of a negro will be about 60 dollars a year, it can be done for less, for 18 to 20 dollars a year ; but if that will be for the benefit of the planter, I doubt you can buy for the latter sum three suits of clothes, a blanket, three handkerchiefs, and keep the dwelling-house of the negro in order ; but if an estate follows this plan, it must keep a certain number of negroes constantly occupied in planting provisions ; and they must keep sheep, pigs, &c., in which way they can occupy their hands and lands as well as they would if they planted sugar, particularly if the price is high, and provisions are low. Should the price of sugar be as low as two dollars, it might be more advantageous for a planter to keep a certain part of his estate planted in plantains, rice, pigeon peas, sweet potatoes, jams, &c. ; but generally he will fare better by planting sugar, particularly if his lands are so rich that they do not require to be replanted for eight, ten, or more years ; he has then only the trouble to have the thrash (dried leaves of the sugar-cane, which remains in the fields, and serves as a kind of manure), turned, and the fields cleaned or weeded three or four times a year, and by the first weeding those cane-holes in which the plants have died out, are supplied with new plants (cane tops). This is the only trouble they have, and the crop of the next year is prepared. In wet lands the trouble of turning the thrash is spared, and the field is set on fire, which has been found very beneficial to the remaining roots of the cane, as on those lands the leaves are generally lying too thick on the ground, and do not allow the roots to sprout, often kill the plants. In latter years many planters in Porto Rico have given up planting provisions, as they can always buy them from the merchants at a reasonable price, and they are not obliged to pay before part of the crop is sold.

Appendix, No. 6.

OFFICIAL REGULATIONS respecting LANDS by the Dutch Government in the
Island of *Java*.

Appendix, No. 6.
Regulations
regarding Lands.

Preamble :—Art. 1.—Rights of the government:—

- a. To make laws for the protection of the inhabitants.
- b. For the administration of justice and police.
- c. For the disposition over the inhabitants, with a view to prevent disorder and danger to the state.
- d. For the imposition of duties, real or personal, direct or indirect, and to regulate the legal dues of the land proprietor.
- e. For the regulation of the main roads, bridges, sluices, canals, and other public works.
- f. The taxes of the sovereign, and those dues and rights delegated to the land proprietors.

Art. 2.—The right of property vested in the landowner entitles him to a share of the produce of all lands cultivated by the native population. To the proprietor belong all waste lands, together with the forests, bamboos, and other natural produce of the land, without prejudice to the natives who pay rent to the proprietor, making use of the pasturage requisite for their cattle, and of the forests for bamboos, rattans, allang allang, firewood, and such sort of necessaries required for their daily purposes. The passage of carts and cattle, &c. cannot be hindered, except for weighty reasons in the judgment of the local authority.

Art. 3.—All grounds cultivated by the natives are considered to be granted to them for improvement, and in the nature of life rents, subject to the payment of the proprietor's share in the produce and the further obligations that attach to them.

Art. 4.—They can sell or dispose of these life rents, and the same cannot be taken from them otherwise than is pointed out by this regulation.

Art. 5.—By failing to pay the proprietor's share in the produce; by extreme neglect of the ground; by non-observance of their established duties and obligations; by misconduct or crime which subjects the party, at the disposal of the local authority, to a forfeiture of his life-interest, for the benefit of the land proprietor in the absence of other rightful claimants.

Art. 6.—Uncultivated lands not granted as life rents, and worked by the proprietors (for their own account and risk,) by boodjangs, these boodjangs cannot be considered as life-renters of the ground they work.

Art. 7.—The owners cannot exact any other contributions from the natives than for the use of the ground or the produce.

Art. 8.—As such are recognized :

- a. The *chukay* of the paddy and *catchang* cut, and which depends on the quantity of the crop. Or,
- b. The contingent, which is yearly settled with the planter at the ripening of his paddy, *catchang*, &c., in concert with the native chief, or the oldest inhabitants, ascertaining the exact quantity of produce for a given quantity of ground.
- c. Garden rent for the rent of the grounds, planted with fruit trees or other articles, except paddy and *catchang*.
- d. Ground rent for small spots of ground on which the houses of the natives stand, (but not their gardens,) to which, however, those are not subject who pay *bhukay*, or garden rent.

Art. 9.—The *padjak*, being a fixed rent for more than one year of rice fields, depending on the quantity of the ground, and not on the actual state of the crop at the time, is expressly forbidden.

Art. 10.—The quantity of rent, for the produce of the ground, is to be regulated according to the uses and customs of each land, not exceeding, however, one-fifth of the actual crop.

Art. 11.—The exactions are to be made in kind at the reaping of the crop, whether of sawahs, *sipars*, *gagas*, *bhegers*, &c., without prejudice to the proprietor's agreeing for the payment in money, which agreement, however, is to be approved and registered by the local authority, on pain of nullity. The rent of rice fields must be paid in paddy, and cannot be claimed in rice, except by voluntary agreement, approved and registered as above.

Art. 12.—Of the rents by contingent a register shall be kept by the land proprietor and the native chief, in which are to be inserted the name of the planter, as far as possible the extent

extent of the ground, and the situation of the field. The taxed produce included in this contingent, and the land proprietor, is to send to the heads of the campongs a written statement containing these particulars.

Art. 19.—As the proprietor's interest cannot exceed one-fifth of the actual produce, so in case of a failure of the crop, without the fault of the planter, the rents under the name of contingent fall to the ground and are commuted into chukay, on the footing specified in Art. 8, under letters *a.* and *b.*

Art. 14.—In order legally to show a failure of the crop, the planter must, at least eight days before the cutting, notify the same to the head of the campong, who communicates it to the landowner, or the person he deposes to collect the rents, in order that they may be present at this proceeding. Whenever a difference takes place as to the cause of the failure, the interference of the local authority is to be called in, who shall examine whether or not, wholly or partly, it is to be attributed to the indolence, carelessness, or other causes, on the side of the planter, or whether the same has happened from causes beyond his reach, and settle the point without reference to higher power. The planter cannot claim a diminution of rent by virtue of this Article, if in the time and manner he does not apply first to the head of the campong, as herein expressed.

Art. 15.—The land proprietor cannot exact a ground-rent in the case of a crop of a former year, on pain of being punished as an extortioner. Whenever the nature of some cultures requires a longer period of settlement, this is to be the subject of a written agreement, to be approved and registered by the resident, on pain of nullity.

Art. 16.—The garden and ground rents mentioned in Art. 8, under letters *c.* and *d.*, are to be regulated yearly, according to the customs and usages of each land, as to the mode in which the same is to be paid, whether in produce, &c., all which shall be settled by a voluntary agreement, in the presence of the head of the campong, and another native chief, with two witnesses, to be chosen out of the inhabitants, while the local authority is qualified to settle all questions arising thereon, without form of process or higher power, as reasonable and customary. At the request of the parties the local authorities shall register the same; and whenever this is done, and not expressly renewed the following year, it shall be construed as having been tacitly extended, and continued till further revocation.

Art. 17.—Whenever agreements are concluded by which an inhabitant, instead of produce, is obliged to pay the land proprietor a sum of money, or wherever the latter has a legal claim on the former, and no currency stipulated, the payment can be made in such specie as the native chooses.

Art. 18.—The better to protect the proprietor in the enjoyment of his lawful rights, the resident, after examination, and without form of proceedings, shall give sentence in all cases of delay or default, to an amount of 50*l.* in the payment of rents; after allowing the debtor a fixed time, not less than 14 days, by his continuing in default, his goods and property, daily clothing, necessaries of life, and tools for the cultivation excepted, are to be sold, for the payment of his debt, by the local authority, to the most advantage. If not sufficient and weighty reasons exist, the debtor is liable to imprisonment for account of the land proprietor for not longer than a month. Where the debt exceeds 50*l.* the parties are to resort to the ordinary tribunal, and it shall be optional with the land proprietor immediately to take this course, overlooking the local authority.

Art. 19.—The natives cannot cut down, dig out, or destroy any trees whatsoever, without the proprietor's consent. Whenever trees are planted on grounds possessed as life-rents, or by lease, such trees are comprehended within the life-rents; but they cannot be cut down, except by the sanction of the land proprietor, to be settled, if need be, by the local authority.

Art. 20.—The inhabitants cannot demolish, without the concurrence of the proprietor, any houses, stalls, pondocks, or other buildings, or remove the same to another land, unless they have been put up without the use of materials belonging to the proprietor, or unless they have obtained the full property by other means; nor can such buildings be sold to the inhabitants of the said land, or other persons coming to settle there, with the knowledge of the proprietors.

Art. 21.—The land proprietor cannot, except by amicable agreement, dispose over samahs, gardens, or other cultivated grounds, laid out by the natives or their forefathers, or obtained by them, in life-rents.

Art. 22.—The proprietor cannot, of his own authority, remove from his land any inhabitant of the same; but with regard to those who are mere wanderers, without any fixed mode of living, or of bad conduct, he can notify the same to the local authority, who, after examination, is to act in conformity with the publications of the 23d August 1825 and 23d July 1833.

Art. 23.—New inhabitants cannot settle upon an estate against the will of the proprietor.

Art. 24.—From this are excepted persons employed by Government, and whose employment renders their residence requisite.

Art. 25.—Whenever it is necessary to appropriate a piece of ground for the purpose of housing the Government servants, or for the purpose of prosecuting any objects of general interest, such as making roads, canals, sluices, bridges, buildings, &c., the same shall take place by a reasonable indemnification, unless there exist any reasons to the contrary in the original conditions of some of the grants of landed property.

Appendix, No. 6.

Regulations
regarding Lands.

Art. 26.—The owner has a right to the services of the male inhabitants one day in the week, giving them a reasonable subsistence, for the purpose of laying out or repairing the country roads, the digging of watercourses, cutting grass, ploughing and preparing grounds, keeping watch at the dwelling-house and stores, and such like. When the place where the work is required is at a greater distance than five palls from their houses, an additional allowance is to be made of two cents to each man for each pall at the close of the day; from this servitude are exempt,

- a. All persons below 14, or at the age of 50 years.
- b. The sick and infirm.
- c. All those who by the native customs are entitled to freedom from personal labour; and further, all those who in the judgment of the local authority, can show legal grounds for being hindered. The journey to and from their houses shall be reckoned within the time of servitude, so that every one has six full days in the week for himself.

Art. 27.—As long as the delivery of coffees to Government exists on private estates in the Buiten zor of lands, the inhabitants of such estates are not liable to any feudal services for the proprietors, except the repair of the roads and bridges, and watching at the dwelling and storehouses.

Art. 28.—The natives are liable to bring in their rents free of cost to the stores of the proprietor, provided those stores are situated within the estate. The transport of produce to town or without the limits of the estate, can in no case be allowed, except by voluntary agreement and for reasonable payment, to be settled if need be by the local authority.

Art. 29.—The inhabitants are not liable to any other services, such as the attendance on cattle, the transport of house necessaries, the carrying of letters or other matters for the proprietor, except for reasonable payment, and such compensation is fixed at two cents per pall.

Art. 30.—The owner is allowed to make a voluntary agreement with the inhabitants for changing their servitude against a certain payment in money; these agreements must be made in writing, and approved and registered by the resident.

Art. 31.—Whenever the services of the natives (according to article 114 of the Government regulations) are required for the public good, or for the transport of the persons and goods of travellers, or of Government property, against the established rates of payment, the same shall take place, whether for the furnishing of buffaloes, or carts, or otherwise, direct by a requisition from the local authority to the native chiefs, without the intervention of the land proprietor and without his hindrance or throwing difficulties in the way. Buffaloes or carts, belonging to the land proprietor, are liable also to the same requisition, for the object and in the manner as above mentioned.

Art. 32.—No dams, canals, watercourses, roads, bridges, or other such sort of works, without the permission of the local authority, can be laid out, removed, changed, or stopped, on pain of immediate redress, by the public servants, at the cost of the landowner, who is liable moreover, for this transgression, to a fine not exceeding *f.* 500, according to the circumstances of the case, at the discretion of the judge.

Art. 33.—The making, repairing, and improving of main roads, the laying out and keeping in order of public bridges, sluices, canals, and watercourses, the tapping of water for the cultivation, and other objects, the clearing out of rivers and watercourses, and the repairs of their banks, and all other matters in connexion with this object, are, from time to time, to be regulated by Government; and with regard to these those regulations are conformed, which are to be found in the publication of 10 February 1824 (Staatsblad, No. 8), and in the resolution of 21 December 1828, No. 37; 16 April 1831, No. 23 (Staatsblad, No. 27); 2 December 1835, No. 19 (Staatsblad, No. 56); 28 January 1836, No. 24; (Staatsblad, No. 6.)

Art. 34.—Landowners, who of their own authority establish bazaars or markets, or who, in opposition to Article 77 of the Government Regulations, make illegal exactions in bazaars granted to them, shall be liable to all such penalties as shall be regulated on those subjects by the Government. In the meantime are confirmed the regulations and tariff for the different bazaars of the 17th November 1829 (Staatsblad, No. 111), and the alterations and amplifications which have emanated therefrom, or which shall hereafter be made.

Art. 35.—The right of hunting and fishing belongs to the land proprietor, and no one has a right to infringe this privilege on another's ground; with this understanding, however, that the fishing in rivers, and catching of birds with nets, and the destruction of wild beasts, cannot be refused the natives on the grounds granted to or hired by them as life rents.

Art. 36.—The natives are to be allowed as customary, at the tapping of litas, rewahs, or other reservoirs, to catch fish, paying one-fifth of the fish to the landowner.

Art. 37.—Landowners who take other or more rents or services from the inhabitants of their estates than what are expressly allowed by this regulation, or omit to observe the treatment of the natives upon the footing of this regulation, shall be liable, according to the exigency of the case, to be punished by the local authority, as mentioned in Article 60, or to be proceeded against before the judge for extortion and abuse of authority.

Art. 38.—Whenever the government considers the personal residence of a landowner upon his own estate as obnoxious to the public peace, the same may be denied him.

Art.

Art. 39.—Landowners who reside out of Ned. India shall pay a legal act, submitting, in the case of their landed property, to the jurisdiction of Batavia, when they must choose their domicilium citandi et executandi.

Art. 40.—The laying out and cultivation of lands, the raising and delivery of extraneous products which the natives are not accustomed to, the erection of manufactories, in a word, all undertakings for the owner's own benefit, risk, and account, he must bring into effect himself, without the help of the inhabitants, unless by mutual agreement. These agreements, on pain of nullity, are to be approved and registered within a month by the local authority, and the obligation lies on the local authorities, as well to do all for the advancement of useful cultures, operations, and industry, as also, at the same time, to guard the native population from arbitrary treatment.

Art. 41.—Hired servants, engaged for a period of more than three months for the service of cultures, manufactories, or other important undertakings, and not belonging to the land, are to be notified by the owner to the local authority.

Art. 42.—Of these notifications a register shall be kept, containing

- a. The names of the masters.
- b. Ditto the servants (hired labourers).
- c. The place where engaged and belonging.
- d. The work for which engaged.
- e. The terms of the engagement.

Art. 43.—Such engagements cannot be entered into for a longer period than three years, at the expiration of which it may be renewed in presence of the local authority, who is to take care that the same is done freely and without compulsion.

Art. 44.—The masters who detain their hired labourers longer than the engagement shall be liable to pay each man for each month *f.* 10 over and above the wages contracted for by the original engagement.

Art. 45.—The local authorities shall be careful on the one side that the landowners fulfil their engagements towards the labourers, and on the other that those labourers do the duty for which they have engaged; and whenever they transgress, absent themselves, or by extreme indolence or unwillingness neglect their business, they are liable, after examination, to be punished as the case requires, and according to the laws and regulations.

Art. 46.—The landowners are obliged yearly, on the 15th December, to send in to the government, or local authority under whom they resort, a correct statement, according to the form established, of the population of their estates, together with such statistics as may be required from them from time to time.

Art. 47.—The possession of firearms is only allowed to those native inhabitants who are furnished with a written permission from the local authority, which is to be renewed gratis every year. From this restriction are exempt those entrusted with public authority, subject to the penalties enacted in Art. 14 of the Regulations for the importation and sale and possession of firearms and gunpowder (Staatsblad, No. 58, of 1828.)

Art. 48.—Cockfighting, or other hazard games not included in revenue farms, are forbidden. Bongings, wayang, koelet, toping, and such like things on occasion of feasts, marriages, and religious ceremonies on private estates, can only take place by permission of the local authority, without prejudice to the rights of the farmers, as far as the same are liable.

Art. 49.—The making of entails or fidei komissaire titles on private estates in favour of individuals not being Christians remains, for the general benefit, forbidden.

Art. 50.—The landowners are interdicted from holding or making use of the block, on pain of the same being withdrawn and the transgressors subject to such further penalties as the nature of the case demands; with this understanding, however, that the native chiefs charged with the police on private estates shall be permitted, by the local authority, to hold a block, exclusively for the security of criminals, and in each case, whenever it is possible, the party is to be handed over within 24 hours to the nearest public authority.

Art. 51.—The exercise of the daily police on private estates is to be, under the immediate authority of the European and native servants of government, entrusted to the juragans, tjamats, head mandors, wykmeesters, or other native chiefs under whatever title, chosen by the landowner, all which persons are to be immediately subject to the local authority, to whom they are strictly required to send in their reports.

Art. 52.—The owner is obliged, wherever there is a number of houses so as to constitute, in the judgment of the local authority, a *desa* kampong, or village, to establish a native chief, at his choice, and to grant to each of these village chiefs for his maintenance, free of rent, such extent of sawahs, tipars, chegers, gagas, or other rice fields, as can be worked by one man, and a pair of buffaloes, or a piece of garden ground of such an extent as can usually be worked by one man. These village chiefs shall exercise the functions that by the regulations of the police, and for the administration of justice among the natives, are required of the heads of *dessas*.

Art. 53.—On estates where the population amount to 5,000 souls or more, the owners moreover are obliged to appoint a general chief, under such title as is congenial to the local customs, such as head mandor, head juragan, tjamat, &c. &c., to whom is to be granted, besides the ground as stipulated for the village chiefs, a monthly salary of from *f.* 5 to *f.* 30, according to the extent of the estate, and at the discretion of the local authority. These native chiefs, to whom those of the villages are subject, shall be charged with the

Appendix, No. 6.
Regulations
regarding Lands.

functions which, by the regulations for the police, and for the administration of justice among the natives, are committed to the heads of divisions (*divisie hoofden*); but in as far as concerns the residency of Batavia, their authority is merely that of servants of the police, acting according to the spirit of the said regulation.

Art. 54.—Whenever the landowner fails to appoint such native chiefs on his estate, it shall be done by the local authority at his expense; whenever a native chief is found unfit or unwilling, in matters of police, the owner must replace him by a written requisition from the local authority.

Art. 55.—Those small pieces of land, known by the name of Freeman's Land and Merdika, not being of a sufficient extent to admit of establishing separate chiefs upon them, shall be blended together by the local authority, as many as is considered advisable, and put under a native head, under the name of *wykmeester*, who, under the immediate control of the local authority, is to be charged with the functions which, by the regulations for the police and for the administration of justice among the natives, are committed to the heads of *dessas*. The native *wykmeester*, as a compensation for their services, are entitled to make the following exactions:—

- a. For granting a license of marriage, 50 cents.
- b. For granting a certificate of good conduct to natives who apply to the authorities for a travelling pass, 5 cents.
- c. For granting a certificate that there exist no objections to the holder being allowed to have the roning dance and native plays, each 25 cents.

Art. 56.—Except those presents, which by old custom on occasion of feasts or other ceremonies, the native chiefs mentioned in the three foregoing articles shall not demand or receive from the inhabitants any money or produce, on pain, each time, of fine or imprisonment, as stated in Article 60, or the punishment attached to extortion.

Art. 57.—The native chiefs on private estates to whom the police is entrusted, as above, although chosen and recommended by the landowners, shall be furnished by the local authority with his act of appointment, which act, in case of discharge, is to be called in again by the same authority.

Art. 58.—The inhabitants of private estates are obliged, for the furtherance of the police, to keep watch and patrols for the security of the persons and properties of the inhabitants.

Art. 59. The local authority shall take cognizance of all differences between the owners and inhabitants of private estates, about produce, services, and mutual rights and obligations. In case the parties cannot settle amicably, the local authority is to decide, or transfer it to the proper tribunal, according to the existing regulations, the Government always reserving to themselves, for the security of the peace, to adopt such regulations for the general interest as they may deem necessary.

Art. 60.—The local authorities are empowered to take cognizance, and without reference to higher power, to settle all cases of transgression or infringement of the present regulations, and wherever there are no special penalties or punishments prescribed, to impose the following: As concerns Europeans, and their descendants and equals, a money fine not exceeding *f.* 50, or imprisonment for not more than eight days. As concerns the natives and such like persons,

- a. A money fine not exceeding *f.* 25.
- b. Imprisonment, not exceeding 14 days.
- c. Stripes with a rattan ditto 25 *do.* (No.)
- d. Hard labour on the public works for a period not exceeding three months, without chains, for food, and without payment.

Art. 61.—The present regulation makes no difference in the special conditions and servitudes which attach to some private estates, for so far as they are not opposed by the existing laws: And that no one may plead ignorance hereof, this regulation shall be circulated, as well in the Dutch as in the native languages, and published, and affixed in places where customary. The higher and lower servants, justices, and officers, as far as each one is concerned, are commanded to enforce the strict observance of this regulation, without any over-looking or distinction of persons.

Buiten Zorg, 28 Feb. 1836.

(signed) J. C. Baud.

For ordonnatie van den Gouverneur-General ad interim in Rade,

De Algemeene Secretaris,
 (signed) H. J. Hoogveen.

Appendix, No. 7.

The SYSTEM and REGULATIONS for the holding of Lands, Directing of Labour, and Cultivation of Sugar in the Dutch East India Colonies.

EXTRACT from the Register of Resolutions of the Governor-general, *ad interim*, of Netherlands India.

Buitenroeg, 28 March 1834.

Appendix, No. 7.

TAKING into consideration that the regulations of his Excellency the Commissary-general, Van den Bosch, which were established during his residence of four years in this country, and known under the denomination of "Plan of Cultivation," had three different objects in view; first, to enable those possessions to liquidate to the mother country their monetary obligations and debts; secondly, to give a new opening and encouragement to the national trade and navigation; and, thirdly, to procure the greater quantity of articles for commerce, necessary for the abovementioned purposes, taking such measures as would be the most secure and least expensive to government, least oppressive to the native, and conforming nearest to the old customs, giving at the same time a fair prospect, which was absolutely necessary, to the industry and the capitals to be expended for such undertakings.

Regulations of land, &c. in the Dutch East India Colonies.

A system like this, which by its object and tendency met with the sincerest co-operation of all well-disposed civilians, a system too which was approved of and confirmed by His Majesty the King, could not but impress on the mind of all government's servants the necessity of each individual, in his sphere, maintaining and extending it. For this purpose, it was necessary that a general knowledge should be had of the object of introducing such a system, for it was not to be a mere co-operation of the civilians from an abject notion of executing the orders from a higher authority, but from a conviction that the above-named regulations were as requisite and necessary as they were just and equitable. And to the intent that this should finally be better known, some extracts from the archive of his Excellency the Commissary-general should be made public.

Reviewing the letters of his Excellency the Commissary-general, dated 6 December last, No. 429, and the 30th of January, No. 99, with their postscripts, perusing the advices of the director of culture, of the 22d and 26th of this month, No. 882 and 911.

Is approved of, and resolved,

1st. To send to all civilians in high or low situations, who are in any way connected with the cultures.

(A.) Some of the most important extracts compiled from the general report of his Excellency the Commissary-general, Van den Bosch, dated 24 January last.

(B.) Rudiments for the cultivation of sugar, resolved upon on the 6th of December by his Excellency the Commissary-general.

(C.) A description for constructing small indigo manufactories, which were first introduced in the residency of Cheribon, and subsequently in other places, with favourable results.

2d. To signify to such civilians, as is hereby decreed, to make the contents of these extracts serve for their information, making the most of them, according to local circumstances, not with regard only to the cultures, but to sweep away at the same time all reasons for discontent amongst the natives, which might have been occasioned by an unequal division of labour, or otherwise; for this they are especially enjoined to refer to the last part of Appendix (A.)

3d., etc. For their information and advice, an extract of this will be given to the general director of finances, to the director and inspector of the cultures, and to all the residents, assistant-residents, comptrollers of the revenues, and other civilians connected with the cultures; this resolution will also be published in the Indian Gazette.

Agrees with the above-named register.

(signed)

The Joint Secretary of the Indian Government.

Some short important Extracts from a General Review, composed by his Excellency the Commissary-general, Van den Bosch, dated 24 January 1834.

Old Institutions.—According to the ancient national institutions, the Javanese are divided into "Tjatjas," or families, *i. e.* a chief and several households dependent on him. These households do not consist merely of relatives, but often of labourers, subject to the chief of the tjatja; their number is greater or less, according to the extent of their paddie fields, over which the chief of the tjatja can dispose, and the assistance required for their cultivation. The chiefs of the tjatjas enjoy the half of two-fifths of the crop as the portion allotted to them of the rice fields, according to their fertility; at the same time all obligations depend, according to the ancient institutions of the Javanese, on the land (property), and not on the person (property tax).

Accordingly, the sovereign has a right to levy either a tax of one-fifth on all the land of a tjatja, or to extort personal service in lieu thereof. Should the latter be required, the tjatja will appoint one or more of his subjects to perform that service, who in that case will be freed of paying him the indebted tax, or the service may be divided between the several dependent families (tjatjas), in which case every individual employed shall pay comparatively a smaller tax to the chief of the tjatjas than otherwise should have been required of him. This national institution is often met with under different appellations, over the whole of Java. The chief of a tjatja is often called sikep, meaning labourer, which refers to his being specially employed by his prince or chief in any public or particular work, for the obligation of such labour rests virtually on the chief whose care it is to see it carried out, notwithstanding his being at liberty to make use of his subjects for the execution of it.

In the Preanger regencies the tjatjas consist on an average of 22 individuals, or about four families. It has been quite erroneously asserted that the Javanese have no idea of the just claims on property; according to this notion, the right of the sovereign on a cultivated piece of land does not extend any further than to the levying of that portion which, according to the addat, or custom, is due to him, or to enforce on the owner a public service, which is not proportionate to the tax required. Moreover, the land passes over to the members of the owner's family; they sell or let it amongst them, according to the addat custom, and those customs are still existing wherever they have not been suppressed by the arbitrary interposition of the European with the domestic concerns of the native.

Forced Cultivation up to and including 1808.—Under the late government, such a tjatja was annually obliged to plant and keep in order 1,000 coffee trees, to gather the fruit, and dry and deliver them, for which 60 days' labour during the year was requisite. For this it enjoyed the free use of its paddiefields, only paying one-tenth of the crop to the regents. The average extent of paddiefield which a tjatja possesses in the Preanger regencies may be estimated at a jouk (four bouws, a bouw $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre), of which, according to the ancient institutions, the fifth bunch must be paid; the coffee planter became exempted from this tax, consequently he was only charged with delivering that which was due to the chief; rating the value of a jouk of the above-mentioned size at 75 dollars (6*l.* 5*s.*).

The tjatja enjoys, consequently, for that exemption, *f.* 7. 50. (12*s.* 6*d.*), besides which, for the coffee delivered, valued at two-and-a-half piculs (one picul, 133 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.), annually, as the usual produce of 1,000 coffee trees, which the tjatja has to keep in order, it receives two ryks dollars and 13 stivers (9*s.* 5*d.*), for 133 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. the picul, or an average from *f.* 12 to *f.* 15 (1*l.* to 1*l.* 5*s.*); wherefore every tjatja enjoyed for each working day from four to five stivers (4*d.* or 5*d.*), and this in a country where the price of labour amounted to hardly half of that; this, therefore, was the course of that hated and detested description of forced labour, which was moreover based on the ancient national institutions, according to which the Sovereign possessed the right of enforcing a tax *in naturâ*, and that on such produce as was adopted for commerce, with this important difference, however, that the Sovereigns used to receive the produce merely in lieu of the tax pertaining to them, whereas the Dutch government not only granted them this tax, but paid to the planter about an equivalent sum of money besides.

The above explained, so called forced labour, has not been abolished in the Preanger regencies on the introduction of the system of land taxes, but has remained in force. That labour is therefore still in existence there up to the present day, and surely there is not to be found on Java another spot where the inhabitants are more contented with their situation, and where, under all circumstances, they have given more proofs of fidelity and attachment to the government, than in the said regencies.

Land Taxes.—According to the principle at the introduction of the system of land taxes, it was enacted, that of the sawas (rice fields) according to their fertility, one-half, two-fifths, or one-third, and of the tagal or high grounds one-third of their growth was to be paid. This was to be done in money, as was the obvious object at the introduction of this tax, the gathering of which was intrusted to the care of Indian collectors, who received eight per cent.

It is a generally well-known fact, on Java, that when the owner of a field lets it to another, he expects the half or two-fifths of the crop, according to its fertility, and the cultivator enjoys the remainder of the produce for his trouble. By levying a tax of half or two-fifths of the crop, the value of all landed property was therefore lost, at least when that land could not be cultivated with own hands, for to what purpose was the possession of a
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piece of land of which one-half or two-fifths of the produce was for Government, and the other half or three-fifths for the cultivator? By this tax it was useless to possess more land than could be cultivated with own hands.

Culture (Cultivation) from 1816 up to and including 1830.—The very high prices of coffee in the year 1817 up to 1823 made the Government very much interested in this article, and employ many means to encourage and extend its cultivation, which on the arrival of the commission in 1816, was found to have been very much neglected during the interregnum of the English Government, from there that the produce of the coffee has been brought to a much higher scale than it ever was before. It was originally expected that the native would have found, in his own interest, a sufficient stimulus to support this cultivation, and would have excited his desire for it by insuring to him the fruits of his labour after the payment of the tax calculated at two-fifths of his crop. It soon appeared, however, that this course had not the desired effect, for taking the Javanese householding into consideration, it could not well answer. All land on Java is common property, *i. e.* it is divided amongst the several *dessas* (villages), and is possessed by the inhabitants thereof in common. These common properties consist partly of rice fields, partly of pasturage, and partly of forests. The little piece of ground only which surrounds the houses may be considered as private property, but even this is not the case everywhere. To open proper coffee gardens, rich, high, and fertile forest land is required, which are, however, generally situated a long way from the villages, lying mostly in low and well-watered parts of the country.

The Javanese, therefore, who wished to cultivate any quantity of coffee, would often be obliged to go a long way from his dwelling, to settle there, to cut down the trees, and to clear the ground for the purpose of subsequently planting the coffee trees, from which he can only gather the fruits after a lapse of four years. Such an undertaking is beyond the power of every Javanese individually, and the coffee gardens can therefore only be opened by the united labour of the whole village. To bring the inhabitants however to do this, the interference of government is necessary, without which such an enterprise, which demands an uninterrupted labour for years, without yielding any remuneration for the first four or five years, would never succeed, and there is no instance of a coffee garden having ever been opened on Java on the above system without the co-operation of the executive power, and it is to the measures of this supreme commission of 1816 only, *i. e.* compelling the Javanese to cultivate the coffee, that the extent to which this culture has been carried may be ascribed.

The idea of insuring to the Javan, as a fair remuneration for his labour, after the payment of his tax, the free disposal of the remainder of his crop, was like giving him his civil liberty, being the original plan established in Java, which could not be brought into practice. (Merely a theory without any possible practicable result.)

To be convinced of this, it is only necessary to know how the cultivation of coffee is carried on in Java, and how it is transferred from the planter to the merchant who exports it.

It has already been stated, that the cultivation and keeping in order of the coffee gardens is committed, as an obligation, to the *desa* or inhabitants of the village, wherein the following rule is generally observed. The number of families in a *desa* is calculated, and proportionately the cultivation of coffee, say from 100 to 200 trees annually for each family, is imposed on the *desa*. The civilians select the ground for the opening of the coffee gardens, and charge the village and other Javanese chiefs with the execution of the further labour required for the laying out of them, seeing to that a sufficient number of men are set to work every day, and taking care that the planting takes place at the proper time. It is left to the chiefs to summon the necessary men to their daily work, which they mostly regulate according to the *adat* (custom) although arbitrary means are often very influential. According to the national institutions, based on ancient custom, some of the inhabitants of the village are exempted from performing public service. Villages, besides cultivating the coffee, have other labour imposed on them, as the making and keeping in repair of the bridges and roads, the cutting of canals, &c. For the cultivation of coffee, therefore, a certain number of persons out of each village was to be set apart, and as the coffee gardens are often a long way from the villages, the labourers must occasionally be changed for others. As the distribution of the labour between the different inhabitants was left entirely to the chiefs, and as has been stated, some were consequently favoured, it was very far from being equitable, for on the opening of the gardens some of the inhabitants of a village had an unequal labour individually imposed on them, and a greater number of days to work.

Even women and children are employed in plucking the coffee, but according to the *adat*, all of them are not obliged to do so. The coffee being now gathered, the question suggests itself, in what proportion is it to be divided amongst the several inhabitants? Evidently this cannot be done proportionate to the labour performed by each individual. Amongst a people whose mental powers are so little developed, no arrangements and regulations can be expected which would tend to a just division of the fruits acquired by labour, as above described; and it is equally impossible to effectuate this through the influence of a very limited number of civilians scattered amongst millions of natives, of whom, perhaps, not so many as ten understand their language properly from there also, that the inhabitants of the *dessas* resigned to their chiefs the entire disposal of the crop.

The consequence of this was, that there arose a class of monopolizers (buyers), mostly Chinese and Arabs, who took the produce from the chiefs, for which they advanced them a small portion in money, but generally goods, in payment, pledging themselves to pay the required tax to government. The Javan, not excluding the chiefs, is generally careless and

Appendix, No. 7.

Regulations of
land, &c. in the
Dutch East India
Colonies.

Appendix, No. 7.
 Regulations of
 land, &c. in the
 Dutch East India
 Colonies.

extravagant. The goods and money which he received in advance from the buyers were charged to him at an enormous interest, consequently when the coffee came to be delivered, little more was left for him to receive.

This little was divided amongst the population, and even this in a very arbitrary way, for as no one exactly knew what was due to him of the crop, every one contented himself with what he received, therefore the cultivation of coffee was considered by the common man as public labour, such as the making of roads and canals, for which they received no remuneration.

The original profits of this cultivation were thus almost exclusively enjoyed by the Chinese and Arab buyers, and in a small degree by the chiefs, whilst the common Javanese had all the burden to bear.

For has it not been proved by the elaborate investigation which took place on account of this, treated upon in the resolution of the 8th August 1832, No. 35, that the Javanese did formerly enjoy no higher price for his coffee than *f. 6* copper money (10*s.*)? and this only in one particular district, for in most districts he only received *f. 2* (3*s.* 4*d.*) for the picul, and in some places nothing for his produce.

This then is the result of applying abstract views to a community whose social condition has thereby not been consulted. Personal liberty and the free disposal of the fruits of his labour were insured to the Javan, for which he was to pay a duty or land tax, nevertheless he has been forced to cultivate coffee, and the fruits of his labour have been the booty of a body of defrauders who have satiated themselves at his expense.

Compare with this the system of cultivation based on the adat. In this case every dassa is obliged to turn out a certain number of men to lay out the gardens, when they are immediately exempted from the land tax. Every inhabitant may thus have his rice fields cultivated by another, resigning that part which would otherwise have been due to government. In that case he is only charged with the cultivation of coffee, or he may substitute another in his stead, allowing him that part of his crop which, were he not serviceable in this cultivation, he would have to pay for the land tax. How much are the *tjatjas* or tribes benefited by this arrangement, when they impose on one or more of their *woewoengs* or labourers the task of planting coffee.

This is the way in which the coffee has always been, and is still cultivated in the Preanger regencies. The Javan there, however, still continues to pay a tenth part of his crop to his chiefs, but enjoys in return payment for his coffee, on delivery at the warehouses, at the rate of *f. 7* (11*s.* 8*d.*) for 225 lbs.; besides which the regents and minor chiefs are compensated with *f. 1. 60* (2*s.* 8*d.*) for each picul, and by means of those arrangements, these regencies have always offered to government greater and more advantages than any other district. Never has a tendency to rebellion or opposition against the government been exhibited, and among the natives there exists in those regencies greater prosperity than elsewhere, although the same wish for finery is not so conspicuous among them.

Enough may be inferred from the above to show how little the Javan has gained by the principle of a free disposal of his person and labour, as he was obliged to cultivate coffee for nearly nothing at all, and also as the system of land taxing destroyed the value of such land as could not be cultivated with own hands.

It is true that the cultivation of coffee, compared with former years, had extended itself greatly, but the branch of industry was very far from agreeing with the interest and inclination of the Javanese. On the contrary, we may safely believe, that had proper care not been taken to provide for this, a general spirit of discontent would have appeared sooner or later.

The cultivation of sugar had, during the last few years, revived in some degree again, both on account of the high prices, and the encouragement government gave. The amount of sugar exported in the year 1828 was about 26,000, and in 1829 about 55,000 piculs, produced partly in the vicinity of Batavia, with the assistance, as formerly, of convicts from Cheribon, and partly in the eastern district.

When sugar fetched a high price this article was, in former times, cultivated in rather great quantities, but in the long run the cultivation could not be kept up without the serious interference of government, which may be attributed to the low prices it fell to, being often actually less than the cost of manufacturing it, and with such a falling off the undertakers were again threatened in 1830. Many were actually already ruined in the eastern districts, for although this branch of industry had then attained a certain height, yet without appropriate measures a continuance of success could not always be depended upon. The cultivation of indigo was likewise attempted. It had previously existed in Java, but was abolished during the government of the Governor-general Daendels. Mr. Petel had since then again commenced this cultivation, and introduced the new mode of manufacturing it. The encouragement which Viscount de Bus gave to this branch of agriculture increased the quantity exported from 17,000 in 1828 to 46,000 lbs. in 1830.

The expenses for manufacturing it, however, were so great, that when indigo fell in price on account of the extent of its cultivation in other countries, the manufactures that were then erected and promised great success, all fell to ruin. Between the years 1828 and 1830 some experiments were made in the cultivation of other articles, but on too small a scale to be able to judge, with any certainty, of their results.

None of those attempts had produced any article for exportation; there was even no prospect of those articles of industry ever approaching to any degree of success without the immediate interference and encouragement of government, and it was quite undecided as yet on what terms, and in what manner this success might be most advantageously attained to.

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It is true a plan of colonizing had been submitted, which had at first met with approbation in Europe, and which it was hoped would materially increase such products as were fit for an European market; but this plan appeared afterwards to be unacceptable, and cherished groundless hopes.

The prices of colonial commodities, more particularly those of the products of Java, were very low; the whole amount of export from the Indian Archipelago in 1828 had only amounted to *f.* 13,695,210, in which *f.* 10,000,000 from Java were included; in 1829 the whole amount of export from the Indian Archipelago amounted to *f.* 11,955,672, including for Java *f.* 8,000,000.

Taking into consideration that Java, in order to cover her wants, had to pay an import duty equivalent to the value of its products for the European market, and that in future it had likewise to discharge in Holland the rents and reimbursements of the enormous debts which had there been contracted, it may therefore be easily conceived how desirable was a change in our industry, both with regard to its extension as well as its solidity, but more especially in giving to the native a stimulus more suitable to, and agreeing better with his social condition.

New Plan of Cultivation.—The social regulations, which may be considered to stand in close connexion with the plan of cultivation carried on in this country, are based on the possession in common of all land belonging to a *dessa* or village, and also that according to the ancient national institutions, the submissive possession of such land pertained only to a certain class of the inhabitants of those villages, amongst whom it was unequally divided, whilst another class were excluded from all property and were in a certain measure dependant on the landed proprietors, who could dispose of their personal services, for which they allowed them in return a portion of ground sufficient for their subsistence, half of the crop of which they either paid to their *tjatjas* or chiefs, or retained in compensation for labour forced from them on their behalf. The patriarchal mode of government, according to ancient traditions so peculiar to all eastern nations, and of which traces are still met with everywhere, may be easily discovered from these principal points.

In truth, no clear idea can be formed of the social condition of the Javanese, divided as they are into inheritors and dependents, without bearing in mind this ancient patriarchal regulation.

In many countries of this archipelago, such as in several parts of Sumatra, where the supreme authority has not been able to impress on the mind of the inhabitants any decided supremacy, this law continues in full force; the patriarchs of the villages acknowledging no superior authority. The government there consists only of their deputies, who cannot decide in any affair without their advice and sanction: measures cannot even be carried by a majority of votes, but, in case parties cannot agree, the disputes which are not considered as decidable in any other way, are settled by force, and this takes place in a field set apart in every village for this special purpose, denominated *Tana Radza*. The rulers in Java had acquired a far greater authority; the princes even had contrived to procure for themselves an unlimited sway; they could, consequently, invest their deputies with such power as they considered expedient. The spirit of Mahomedanism, and the influence of the priests, have undoubtedly contributed greatly to ensure them this authority. Force of habit, so effectual amongst oriental nations, had strengthened and closely connected it with all domestic concerns. This authority of chiefs, however, had always respected the social regulations of the *tjatjas*, and the mutual relations which existed between the patriarchs and the people. The princes might be considered as the proprietors of all grounds, insomuch as they had a right to impose a certain tax upon all cultivated land, or to demand personal service in lieu thereof.

To secure himself against the payment of such a tax the tenant had a right to return his share of the grounds to the community, who accepted it with all its profits and losses. Meanwhile the taxes and services were regulated by custom; for the former, $\frac{1}{3}$ of the crop was calculated, and for the latter about 66 days' labour a year. This too was violated during the English government. Public labour was dispensed with, and the taxes on cultivated land raised from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{2}{3}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$, according to its fertility, in consequence whereof the ancient national institutions of a "patriarchal government" was annihilated, as the *tjatjas* or inheritors lost all means of drawing any considerable revenue from land let to their dependents, or acquiring any service from them.

Agreeably to the spirit of this plan a social institution was formed instead of this, based on an equality of rights, and an individual means of subsistence; at least, such would have been the result of this system, had not the people, in spite of government, managed in a great measure to preserve their ancient institutions.

Attempt to destroy in Europe the possession of ground, which in reality is the case, when a tax is imposed equivalent to the clear profit it yields, and will there be a country left, in which the fire will not be kindled in a very few days, and where rebellion will not continue to rage until the population is either subdued or expelled by tyrants? That the consequences of this have not been so fearful in Java can only be attributed to the inhabitants in many places evading these new regulations, and also to their forbearing character. If a system of cultivation is therefore to succeed in Java, and be agreeable to the inhabitants, it should be regulated so as not to impair, but rather to promote their domestic mode of living, and point out clearly to them that such a system is to their advantage.

Next to his national institutions nothing is more agreeable to the Javan than to have little to do, which is the natural consequence of the climate; besides this, he is anxious to make as large a profit as possible from the labour he is compelled to perform, which is the case in general with all persons.

Appendix, No. 7.

Regulations of
land, &c. in the
Dutch East India
Colonies.

Appendix, No. 7.

Regulations of
land, &c. in the
Dutch East India
Colonies.

On the introduction of a new system both these dispositions were to be observed, and it was to be rendered agreeable to his ancient national institutions. By means of it, likewise, an opportunity ought to be given to him, but more especially to the inheritors of the land, to work less or to make more profits from the same labour.

On that account it was set down as a principle, that the village which set apart one-fifth of its rice land for the cultivation of an article for the European market (which does not require more labour than the cultivation of rice) should be exempted from paying the land tax.

That such a village should, moreover, after the produce had been assessed, enjoy such surplus profits as exceeded the amount required for the payment of the indebted land tax; and that any failures of their crop, if it could not be attributed to any want of industry on the part of the Javan, was on Government account.

It does not require any further elucidation to prove that this system was in every way advantageous to the Javan, and enabled him to derive greater profit from his land, whilst, as will be further shown, it was left to his free choice to labour less if he felt so inclined.

Further, it was not only sufficient to cultivate such products as were fit for the European market, but they had to undergo a regular process of manufacture before answering that purpose; for this much capital, knowledge, and other requisites were required, which could not be at all expected from the Javan; it was therefore necessary to connect European or Chinese capital and industry in such a manner with the whole undertaking as to ensure the proper manufacture of the cultivated article.

In some cases, as for instance with the cultivation of sugar, it was desirable to have the labour equally divided amongst the population, so as not to press too hard upon any; some therefore were charged with its cultivation up to its being ripe, others with taking off the crop; thirdly, another portion were to transport it to the manufactory; and lastly, in case only sufficient labourers could not be obtained, a number were to be set apart for working in the manufactory.

The Javan being averse to labouring under the superintendence of Europeans, preferring the guidance and rule of his own chiefs, his inclination was also complied with in this respect; the superintendence of the European civilians being as much as possible confined only to watching that the lands were cultivated properly and in due season, as also that the crop was harvested and transported at the proper time.

These general principles, however, were occasionally modified where local circumstances or customs required it; for instance, the Javanese have been permitted to cultivate those productions on their own account, for which purpose they often set apart the greatest portion of their rice lands, these new articles giving them a larger profit than the cultivation of rice, though in that case they still had to pay the regular land taxes for these rice lands. The cultivation of these articles on their own account has principally taken place in the eastern districts, where the culture of sugar had already made some progress, wherefore the subjoined system rapidly extended itself there. Sometimes, and particularly in those cases where idle or unwilling civilians had the management of affairs, the land taxes were granted to the Javanese, in proportion to the value of the produced crop, which had failed from want of superintendence, skill, or other reasons, independent of the planter; the native therefore being duped, was averse to the system; at other times, when neither the chiefs nor people were acquainted with the culture, a certain number of men were collected to perform the required labour, and exempted from the land tax.

Not only were rice lands appropriated to the cultivation of those articles, but in many instances, where these were limited, the Javan was allowed to plant them on the high lands, which made the labour more agreeable to him, though greater inconveniences might afterwards arise, as the land once exhausted, would have to be manured, and if changed for any better soil, the manufactory would have to be removed, which could not be done without difficulty and great expense.

A great deal was sacrificed at first to overcome the aversion of the Javan to innovations, and therefore to this new system of cultivation.

For the future, where this system of cultivation continues to meet with difficulties, the following principle must be strongly adhered to; that the village, which sets apart one-fifth of its land for the cultivation of an article fit for the European market, should be exempted from the land-tax, and that the planter will have fulfilled his obligations when he has brought the growth to perfection.

The harvesting, and further, the manufacturing must be carried on, either according to the above stated plan or by some other appropriate means. Wherever the culture is established on a firm basis, and is in a flourishing condition, as in the eastern districts, no changes are advisable, at least when the population does not desire it.

The Javan does not generally like innovations. When the extension of culture is restricted, on account of lack of knowledge on the part of the native, such districts will be regulated according to the following plan: After a certain extent of ground has been set apart, preference being given to ricelands, as near as possible equivalent to the fifth part of the sawas belonging to a village, or in case this cannot be accomplished with the approval of the population, high lands to begin with will have to be selected and irrigated; the labourers thereto required will be divided in the following manner: for the cultivation of each bouw (), one man will be engaged as long as is requisite, for the space of eight days or a month, at the option of the inhabitants, when he must be exchanged for another, in such a way that there will be four men to be disposed of for each bouw, whilst only one of them is actually labouring at a time. The labour will be conducted by competent Chinese foremen, and superintended, by the Javanese chiefs. The population employed in this will only be charged with its cultivation up to the ripening of the crop.

The

The harvesting, and further, the manufacturing will be regulated on similar principles; a proportionate number of men for the harvesting will be set aside, provided only one fourth part at a time are actually engaged in this labour.

All persons employed in this culture, according to the above rule, will be exempted from paying land tax. The transportation of the crop requires a similar regulation. As far as it is possible, endeavours must be made to impose on the manufacturer the furnishing of cattle and carriage and the men employed, the labour of the fourth part only being required, will likewise be exempted from paying the land-tax.

Lastly, the labour at the manufactory itself must, as much as possible, be carried on by free labourers, or where these cannot be obtained they will be subjected to the same rules set down for the above-mentioned labour; in addition however to being exempted from the land-tax, they will receive rice and salt, as this labour requires more judgment and exertion.

For a clearer elucidation, it will not be superfluous to add here the application of these principles to some cultures, and to show the advantages which the manufacturer, the Javan, and the government may expect from them. A sugar manufactory, of which many are existing in Java, may serve as an example.

Cultivation of Sugar.—The average produce of a bouw of 500 square roods, planted with sugar-canes, may be estimated as 15 piculs of sugar.

For a sugar manufactory of 6,000 piculs, therefore, 400 bouws of land are required; for the cultivation of which 400 men are daily wanted, so that a population of 1,600 families, which may be calculated to possess 2,000 bouws of rice-land, are exempted from paying the land-tax.

The average land-tax of a family amounts to *f.* 7. 50. (12*s.* 6*d.*), and 2,000 bouws rice land pay about *f.* 15,000 (1,250*l.*) for land-tax, consequently the families promiscuously possess little more than one bouw each. One man cuts on an average from 500 to 550 canes a day, and from 2,000 to 2,200 canes are required for a picul of sugar, hence four men are wanted for cutting the necessary canes for every picul manufactured daily.

As the grinding is completed in about 10 months, the amount of the daily produce of sugar may be calculated at about 20 piculs; 80 men are therefore required every day for cutting the canes, wherefore 320 families will be exempted from paying the land-tax; 140 cartloads are to be daily transported to the mill, each cart carrying 300 canes; in most cases however each cart may accomplish two or three journeys a day, wherefore 70 carts will be sufficient. Each cart requiring a man, 280 families will be exempted from the land-tax.

Although the consumption of fuel has been greatly diminished by the better construction of the furnaces, yet a vadem (six feet) of wood remains necessary for 20 piculs; for felling, five men are daily required, and for the transportation by the carts an equal number; therefore 40 families are exempted from the land-tax.

On the delivery of the canes at the mill, the further manufacture is the business of the manufacturer; should it however be necessary to provide him with men, the number may be estimated at 50 daily, 200 families will therefore be exempted from the land-tax. A sugar manufactory of 6,000 piculs requires as follows:

For the cultivation of the land,	1,600	families	will be exempted from paying land-tax.
For the cutting of the canes	320	"	"
For transporting the canes	280	"	"
For wood	40	"	"

Making a Sum Total of - 2,240 families.

When labourers are to be employed at the mill, at the manufacturer's expense, however, the following number will also be exempted from the land-tax:

200 families.

Entire Amount - 2,440 families.

Of which, so far as may be necessary, only 610 are actually employed daily.

In a sugar manufactory in the vicinity of Batavia, where 200 men are employed, 2,500 piculs are made, whereas here 610 men only produce 6,000 piculs, hence the labour carried on by this plan gives a far smaller production than in the neighbourhood of Batavia. 2440 families enjoy an exemption from land taxes of *f.* 18,300 (1,525*l.*) at the rate of *f.* 7. 50 (12*s.* 6*d.*) for each family, and this for the labour on the land and in the manufactory during three hundred days; but, as the mill requires repairing now and then, and does not always work for various reasons, from 250 to 260 days only are required for grinding; consequently the labour of each individual may be estimated at 65 days, and his earnings at about 12 cents. (2½*d.*) daily, which are the full wages on Java.

Note.—A sugar manufactory laid out for 6,000 piculs does not generally produce more than 5,500 piculs, as some canes are always wasted, the given quantity of cane generally producing from 21 to 22 piculs. These wages are however far from being the only earnings of the Javan employed in the cultivation of sugar.

He is likewise exempted from the land-tax, and enjoys the whole produce of his rice-fields. Should he be a *tjatja* or inheritor, and possess, for instance, four bouws of sawa, he may order one of the four *woewoengs* or labourers attached thereto, to work in the sugar establishment, leaving his field to be cultivated by the remaining three, who receive his por-

Appendix, No. 7.
Regulations of
land, &c. in the
Dutch East India
Colonies.

tion of the crop, namely, one-half of the produce, the other half pertaining to the man labouring in the sugar establishment.

In this manner the inheritor saves three-fourths of the tax, which he was otherwise obliged to pay on his rice-fields.

A man who only possesses one bouw of rice-land is thus enabled by a labour equivalent to one-fifth of the full amount which is required for it, to clear himself of a land-tax, for which he would otherwise have had to cultivate two-fifths of his rice-lands. Admit that sugar is cultivated on rice-land, and that each has allotted one-fifth of his ground for this purpose, another one-fifth remains, which would otherwise have to be cultivated, to make up for the payment of the land-tax; supposing that part to be left to be cultivated by another, the owner enjoys one-half of its crop; and, in that case, has for the remaining three-fifths of his land the same labour left to him as when he had the land-tax to pay; one-fifth of labour will be required of him at the sugar establishment, equal to what he had to employ on the one-fifth of his rice-fields, making in all four-fifths of the labour he had otherwise to perform; besides which he had one-half of the crop of that one-fifth part cultivated by another; therefore, the Javan will have more profit with less labour than would otherwise have been required. If he cultivates the four-fifths of his land himself, and the remaining one-fifth is planted with sugar-cane, he will not have more labour to perform than would otherwise have been required and draw an extra one-fifth from his land; from which may be proved that the object of this new system to give the Javan an equal profit with less labour, or an equal labour with greater profit, has been attained.

For the rest, no elucidation is necessary to prove that the cultivation of a bouw of sugar-cane up to its ripening requires much less labour than a bouw of rice, which, besides labour of ploughing the ground, the sowing and planting of the paddy, and the watching of the crop, must be reaped, carried home, thrashed and transported to the bazaar for sale.

The foregoing system tends thus in every way to promote the interest of the Javan.

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Let us now consider what the produce acquired by the above plan costs, and in what proportion it repays the taxes which have been sacrificed for it. According to the above regulations the cost of the cultivation, cutting, and transportation of the sugar-cane requisite for a picul of sugar would be as follows: for planting 400 bouws calculated to produce 6,000 piculs of sugar, the exemption of land-tax of 16,000 families at *f.* 9. 505. (12*s.* 6*d.*) each, amounts to *f.* 12,000 (1,000*l.*)

	<i>f.</i>	<i>cts.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The cultivation of the sugar-cane requisite for producing one picul of sugar will therefore cost - - - - -	2	=	3	4
For cutting ditto 320 families are required, the exemption of whose land-tax amounts to <i>f.</i> 2,400 (200 <i>l.</i>) or - - - - -	- 40	"	-	8 per picul
For the transportation, with regard to the persons employed thereon, 280 families, or - - - - -	- 35	"	-	7
Two Chinese foremen, to be paid by Government, <i>f.</i> 30 (2 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>) a month, will amount to - - - - -	- 12	"	-	2½

The cost of cattle and carriage may be reckoned as follows:

	<i>f.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
70 cartloads daily may be said to require 80 buffaloes, each costing <i>f.</i> 30 (2 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>) will amount to <i>f.</i> 2,400 (200 <i>l.</i>), the interest at 9 per cent. will amount annually to - - -	216	=	18	-
For watching and attending to the buffaloes, one foreman and two men at <i>f.</i> 18 (1 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>) a month, per annum - - - - -	216	"	18	-
For repairing and keeping in order the carts, at <i>f.</i> 5 (8 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>) each cart - - - - -	350	"	29	3 4
For buying them at <i>f.</i> 25 (2 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>) a piece, 100 will cost <i>f.</i> 2,500 (208 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>), the interest will be - - - - -	225	"	18	15 -
Deaths of buffaloes annually, 30 beasts - - -	900	"	75	-
TOTAL Costs - - - <i>f.</i>	1,907	=	158	18 4

Or 32 cents for the picul, of which, however, as the manufacturer has to provide for the cattle and carts, and for the transportation of the wood, an allowance must be made - - - - -

Hence the total expense of the canes required for a picul of sugar, and delivered at the mills, amounts to - - - - -

0	50	=	-	10
3	37	=	5	7½

The canes required for a picul of sugar are delivered to the manufacturer, at the rate of *f. 3. 60 c. (6s.)*, therefore by this system, there remains 23 cents (*4½ d.*) for covering small expenses for administration, failure of crops; and when the population deliver the canes at the mill, without the interference of government, they are paid the full sum of *f. 3. 60 c. (6s.)*

It is further stipulated, that in case the bouw cultivated by government orders produce more than 15 piculs, one-third of the surplus will be allowed to the cultivators, one-third to the Chinese foremen, and one-third to government, to remunerate them for deficiencies on less productive land. The further process of manufacturing canes into sugar is carried on by the manufacturer according to the existing contracts. Those expenses, when properly administrated, will be *f. 3. 40 c. (5s. 8 d.)*, therefore a picul of sugar will cost the manufacturer *f. 7 (11s. 8 d.)*. The funds required for erecting a sugar manufactory, independent of manufacturing, amounts to from 50,000 to 60,000 guilders (*4,166 l. 13s. 4 d.* to *5,000 l.*), which are advanced to the manufacturers without interest, on good security, on condition, however, of their repaying it in one, two, and in some cases in three years, in sugar at the rate of *f. 10 copper money (16s. 8 d.)* a picul, and they are further obliged to repay government at the same rate for the cost of the sugar-cane, the quantity of which required for a picul of sugar rated at *f. 3. 60 c. (6s.)*, and for the wood to be delivered. All sugar which the manufacturer makes after the above-named payments have been settled, remains his own property, which, by preference, however, he must sell to government at the market price. Moreover, the contracts are regulated so as to provide for a good quality and a timely delivery of sugar. In reviewing this whole system, it will be sufficiently proved that the Javan is greatly benefited by it; that the usual land-tax is actually brought down to one-fifth of the value of the crop of his fields; that the manufacturer may expect, at the average of *f. 6,000*, or say *f. 5,500* piculs, a profit of at least *f. 16,000* to *f. 18,000 (1,333 l. 6s. 8 d.)*, without being subjected to any material risk; and that, taking it for granted the government does not realize a greater profit on the sugar than the mere difference of silver and copper money, they will still make a profit of 20 per cent. as well on the land taxes as on the advanced money, the latter being repaid in two years.

Taking into consideration that the sugar may now be had for *f. 10 copper money (16s. 8 d.)* or for *f. 8 silver (16s.)*, and might be even disposed of at this price, we may trust that a continual demand for this article will be effected, for though the price of sugar might fall for some time in Europe, on account of the too great importation, to realise any profit, yet it is certain that this culture will after a certain number of years yield fair profits, for in all countries where sugar is manufactured the expenses of cultivation are greater than *f. 8* a picul, and it may be foretold with certainty that all sugar which cannot continue to compete with that of Java will be driven out of the market.

To encourage the European and native civilians as much as possible in the cultivation of this, as well as all other articles fit for the European market, the following profits are ensured to them, which are fixed by the Resolution of the supreme authority of the 5th December 1832, No. 1, at 50 cents. (*10 d.*) on the picul of sugar, to be divided as follows :

	s.	d.
To the resident for all the sugar produced in his regency - - - - -	0	2
To the Regent for the produce of his regency - - - - -	0	2
To the assistant-resident for the produce of his regency - - - - -	0	2
To the comptrollers - - - - -	0	1
And to the smaller chiefs and native civilians at the disposal of the resident - - - - -	0	3
In all per picul - - - - -	0	10

Some modifications, according to local circumstances, have been introduced in the above-named division; nevertheless *10 d.* has remained the average sum to be divided amongst the European civilians and native chiefs for their encouragement.

The object of this whole system moreover is to keep in view the exemption of the Javan as much as possible from the superintendence, of foreigners and to allow him to labour under the guidance of his own chiefs.

The rules to be observed in the cultivation of sugar will be clearly put down in Appendix (B.) The above stated principles are likewise to be applied to any other culture which may be of importance to the commerce of Holland, and it will not be superfluous to subjoin them here.

The Cultivation of Indigo, &c. &c. &c.

Conclusion.—This system of cultivation tends to enable government to dispose of hundred thousands of hands, and that in such a manner as to ensure to the Javanese that with an equal labour as formerly they will have a higher payment, or with less labour an equal profit. It is equally the interest of the civilians and chiefs to extend this culture, and it may be expected that with proper guidance of the head of the government the desired result may be obtained. What is now principally desired is to find proper undertakers, who combine with the requisite knowledge a disposition to treat the Javan, when they come in contact with him, in a humane and even obliging manner. "No others must be tolerated."

The happiness and contentment of the Javan must be the first care of government, to which he has full claims both from his willing disposition, and on account of his childish intellect, which might often be abused. Such undertakers as act contrary to this must not be tolerated, whatever delay in the extension of the cultivation might be the consequence of it.

Appendix, No. 7.
Regulations of
land, &c. in the
Dutch East India
Colonies.

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For the transportation, with regard to the persons employed thereon, 280 families, or	-	35	"	- 7
Two Chinese foremen, to be paid by Government, <i>f.</i> 30 (2 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>) a month, will amount to	-	12	"	- 2½

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Appendix, No. 7.
Regulations of land, &c. in the Dutch East India Colonies.

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And to the smaller chiefs and native civilians at the disposal of the resident - - - - -	0	3
In all per picul - - - - -	0	10

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Appendix, No. 7.
Regulations of
land, &c. in the
Dutch East India
Colonies.

it. It is better to have no productions than to injure those duties which we owe to the population. It will not be long ere competent persons for such undertakings will flock to Java, as they enjoy an advancement of capital without the payment of interest, for erecting large manufactories, whilst, with a fertile soil, and a great variety of climate, labour is much cheaper there than in any other place, and a great demand for the manufacture will secure fair prices; such advantages are not to be met with anywhere else. Great difficulties at first existed in succeeding in agricultural enterprises, on account of the total ignorance of many civilians with respect to the various branches of agriculture, and also of the lazy disposition of others; this, however, has since diminished greatly. Wherever the residents have managed the affairs with diligence, willingness, and judgment, the undertakings have succeeded satisfactorily, whereas in places where such has not been the case, disappointments have ensued. In this matter also, no forbearance should in future be shown. Those who do not possess the capacity or inclination to serve government in the manner required of them, must seek employment elsewhere, but not expect any recompense for services which they do not render. It is also desirable to check the too great eagerness of some, whenever it tends to require from the Javan more than he is disposed to do. There is scope enough to render too great zeal unnecessary, and the productive capabilities of Java will be most effectually called forth by a moderate treatment.

Appendix (B.)

Belongs to the Resolution of the 28th March 1834, No. 1.

PRINCIPLES which are to be applied in the Cultivation of Sugar, when local Circumstances do not require any Change, or where no material Defects are observed.

Article 1.—Sugar cane must be cultivated on rise land, if such can be obtained with the sanction of the Javan, or else on highlands which can be irrigated.

Article 2.—Four families must be set apart for every bouw of sugar cane, charged only with its cultivation.

These will be therefore exempted from paying the land tax in so far as they attend to their duty in the cultivation of the land.

Article 3.—Excepting in cases of great emergency, no more than one man out of the four will be employed daily with a yoke of buffaloes.

Article 4.—The ploughing and planting will be carried on under the superintendence of a Chinese foreman paid by government.

Article 5.—The planters will have completed their task when the canes are ripe and fit for cutting.

Article 6.—For the cutting of canes the requisite dessas will be set apart and exempted from paying the land-tax.

Every man is calculated to cut 550 canes; wherefore, for every piece of sugar which the mill manufactures daily, four men are necessary, and 16 will be exempted from the land-tax, in order that no more than one man be employed at a time.

Article 7.—The cutting of the canes is effected under the superintendence of a Chinese foreman, paid by government.

The transportation will in future, and also at present, where such can be agreed upon, be carried on by the carts and buffaloes of the manufacturers; they will be provided with the necessary men by paying them 12 cents ($2\frac{1}{2}d.$) daily, or the requisite dessas will be set apart thereto, which will be exempted from land-tax, and must send one man out of four.

Article 8.—The men employed at the sugar-mills will be delivered according to the customary mode, and will receive fair payment.

In this manner the cultivation, cutting, and transportation of the canes will not be subject to any difficulties, and the amount of costs will be as follows: four men exempted from land-taxes, at the rate of *f.* 7. 50 (*12s. 6d.*) each, makes for the cultivation of a bouw, *f.* 30. (*2l. 10s.*), or for cultivation of the canes at 15 piculs a bouw - - - - -

Supposing 20 piculs of sugar are daily manufactured, 80 men will be required to cut the cane, or 320 be exempted from paying the land-tax, the aggregate amount of those land-taxes would have come to *f.* 2,400 (*200l.*)

For this purpose 5,400 piculs will have to be delivered in nine months; the cutting will therefore cost per picul - - - - -

Transport of the Canes.—Taking one man for each cart, six carts are required for one picul of sugar; on an average, each cart performs two journeys, consequently three men are necessary for one picul, or - - - - -

Two Chinese foremen, at *f.* 30 (*2l. 10s.*) a month will come annually to *f.* 750 (*62l. 10s.*), or on 5,400 piculs of sugar, about - - - - -

f. *c.* *s.* *d.*

2 00 = 3 4 per picul.

0 45 " - 9 " "

0 36 " - 7½ " "

0 14 " - 2½ " "

Amounts to . - -

2 95 " 4 11 per picul.

The sugar-canes can thus be delivered to the manufacturer at *f. 2. 95. (4s. 11d.)*, instead of *f. 3. 50. (5s. 10d.)*, and these 55 cents (11*d.*), will serve as a remuneration for the bufaloes and carts, which will not amount annually to more than *f. 2,500 (208*l.* 6s. 8d.)*.

If the whole amount of sugar-cane produces more than 14 piculs per bouw, one-third of the profits goes to government, one-third to the Chinese foremen, and one-third to the cultivator.

Appendix, No. 7.

Regulations of land, &c. in the Dutch East-India Colonies.

(Copy.)

The Joint Secretary.

Appendix (C.)

System and Division of the Labour in the small Indigo Manufactories.

Appendix, No. 8.

PAPERS delivered in by *H. Crosley, Esq.*, and referred to in his Evidence, 3 April 1848.

Appendix, No. 8.

REPORT of *Henry Crosley* as to the Result of TESTING SUGARS of various Descriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining their Intrinsic Qualities, or the Quantity of pure Saccharine Matter thereof, and charging Proportionate Duties thereon when Imported for Home Consumption.

Report as to the Result of Testing Sugars.

I BEG leave most respectfully to state to your Honourable Committée that, according to your commands, I have tested by the pneumatic process, viz. with pure water, and with the pressure and passage of the atmospheric air, various descriptions and qualities of sugar specified in the accompanying statement, the qualities ranging from the lowest brown sugars to the fine qualities imported from the British plantations and dominions in the West and East Indies, and also foreign sugars of Brazil and Cuba, &c.

By the said process I have separated the impure carbonaceous or coloured matter in a state of solution from the pure saccharine or product of sugar, resembling clayed, which varies in colour proportionately more or less white, accordingly as the sugar operated upon was of an inferior or superior quality, arising naturally from variableness of soil and climate, species of cane cultivated, and judicious or injudicious mode of manufacturing the juice.

The products of pure sugar, resembling clayed, range from 50½ lbs. to 101½ lbs. from each 112 lbs. of the material tested; but it is necessary to remark that, in converting the juice into sugar, that its quality is fine or inferior, and the quantity more or less according as the final concentration of the cleansed syrup (produced by prior operations) is effected or boiled to the degree for crystallizing at comparatively low or high temperatures varying from 160 to 250 degrees Fahrenheit's thermometer.

Again it is necessary to remark, that proportionate to the quantities of the pure products of sugar obtained by the testing apparatus, so will the quality of the extracted or inferior part in solution vary; that extracted from the most inferior sort of raw sugar, such as Khaur, Madras, Penang, and Brazil muscovado, would yield, by evaporating the water which forms a part of such solution, a very trifling quantity of regenerated raw sugar of a still inferior quality to the original from which the solution is made; whilst the uncrystallizable residuum or treacle would be in an increased ratio to that from regenerated raw sugar, the part product of an extract or solution from sugar of a superior quality, such as clayed sugar, which yields greater products of pure sugar, and a proportionably less quantity of the inferior part extracted and in solution, such solutions from the last-mentioned sugar not being molasses, but syrup, which would when evaporated yield a large product of regenerated raw sugar, and a very small quantity of molasses or treacle. The evaporation of the extract or solution from Khaur and such like low qualities of sugar, would require much art to obtain a crystallized product, and if art is not exercised, then the whole of the extract or solution could only be converted into treacle, and this is sometimes exemplified when West India molasses or the drainage from muscovado or raw sugar is boiled in this country for the production of sugar; whilst on the other hand, if the extract or solution is from sugars of fine quality, then less skill is necessary.

With reference to the utility of testing all descriptions of sugar imported, the pure product obtained ought not, I conceive, to be that which should be chargeable with duty; neither ought it to be considered that the inferior part extracted and in solution should be considered as rateable with duty, because the said products are united, and form together the article sugar as imported, which is chiefly consumed in that its natural state, and not in the separate state of pure sugar and impure in solution. The value of sugars is estimated when in their natural state, as imported, with regard to the intrinsic strength or purity, or colour; a bright yellow colour being the quality sought for grocery uses, while for refining that of a greyish hue is preferred, as it yields to the refiner a greater weight of products in sugar than the bright yellow; and this is exemplified by reference to the statement of testings.

Appendix, No. 8.
 Report as to the
 Result of Testing
 Sugars.

The object of testing ought to be to ascertain the relative strength or purity of each quality imported, and upon the principle now acted upon by testing the strength of rum imported. A fixed degree is denominated proof; that which is above the proof pays duty accordingly.

Instance:—

10 Puncheons of rum, contents	- - - - -	902 gallons.
Proof, varying from 24 to 36 over-proof, or total	- - - - -	323 "
The duty of 4s. 5d. per gallon is charged on	- - - - -	1,225 "

Again:—

10 Puncheons, contents	- - - - -	913 gallons.
Proof, varying from 2 to 5 over-proof, or total	- - - - -	33 "
The duty of 4s. 5d. per gallon is charged on	- - - - -	946 "

and so in like manner, and upon the same principle, it is conceived, that all descriptions of sugars should be chargeable with duty proportionate to strength or purity, not by testing, as with rum, the strength of the sugar in each package or cask, but by testing an average of the quality of each mark of 10, 20, or 50 hogsheads, or 500 bags of sugar, when landed; and in order to meet equitably the exigencies of the case, so far as the planters and growers of sugar are concerned, I respectfully submit that sugar yielding pure products, varying from 60 to 80 lbs. inclusive, that such range should be the fixed standard for charging the present duty of 14s. per cwt.; because within that range, as proved by reference to the statement of testings, the generality of sugars of West India growth yield from 60 to 80 lbs. of pure product from each 112 lbs. of raw or muscovado. Again; as to those qualities yielding less than 60 lbs. pure product from each 112 lbs. raw sugar, it is respectfully submitted that the present rate of duty of 14s. per cwt. on the inferior article, or sugar, such as is imported, is disproportionate, and therefore the highest fixed standard on such sugar ought to be 70, the mean of 60 and 80, which would equitably provide for those manufacturers who, from uncongenial soils and climate for the growth of the sugar cane, or other operating causes, could not make sugars of fine quality; the higher price at which the fine qualities sold for would be an inducement to the manufacturer of inferior qualities to adopt improved measures to make finer qualities, if he possessed the means to accomplish that object; but if the manufacturer could not surmount the drawback, as in many instances would be the case, then, by charging duty on such sugars as by testing yielded less than 60 lbs. pure product from each 112 lbs., and calculating at the fixed mean standard of 70, the manufacturer would pay a fair and proportionate duty: but not so now, as he pays the same duty of 14s. per cwt. as is paid on sugars of the finest qualities, even approaching in colour to white; and clayed sugars, from which the impurity or coloured matter has been separated.

Again, as to those qualities exceeding 80 lbs. pure product from each 112 lbs. of sugar as imported, the same fixed standard or mean of 70 lbs. would justly apply; because all sugars from which more than 80 lbs. pure product is obtained, such sugars may be of improved quality from the nature of the soil and climate of the country of their growth, or because they have not been manufactured by some improved process operating to lessen the quantity of carbonaceous or coloured matter; and if, as would be the case, such superior sugar were charged at a higher rate of duty than 14s. per cwt. on the article imported (which principle is now admitted and acted upon under the existing Acts of 9 & 10 Vict. c. 63), the owner of said fine sugar would be compensated, for any outlay for machinery and apparatus, or extra labour or means, by the higher price he would obtain for his sugar; and thus, by charging all sugars of British or foreign production, whether raw or muscovado, or clayed, or otherwise purified in the country of their growth, with duty proportionate to their respective intrinsic qualities, or pure product obtained by testing, justice would be done to the manufacturers; and moreover the revenue would be increased by the adoption of the said scale and fixed standards, even though the present duty of 14s. per cwt. were to remain as the fixed rate upon muscovado sugar, because those qualities such as clayed, and others of superior quality approximating to white, and especially those imported from Brazil and Cuba, which are now barely admitted 20s., or 14s. duty plus the supposed protective duty of 6s. per cwt., which sort of clayed sugar, as proved by testing, yielded 98 lbs. of pure product, the extracts or coloured matter in solution being good syrup, from which about 8 lbs. of sugar could be obtained; and thus is proved the assertion in the letter I addressed, on the 31st January last, to the Right honourable the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that by refining such clayed foreign sugar, the product would be about 102 lbs. of refined loaves and lumps; the coloured matter in such clayed sugar, when wholly made into a solution, being discharged by filtering the solution through animal charcoal, as universally practised in refineries upon solutions of every description of sugar; and the like mode of discharging the coloured matter in the syrups that exude from the loaves or lumps when in the mould, and even from West India molasses (the drainage from muscovado sugar), such mode of filtering is employed; and it is employed to a limited extent in the East and West Indies.

With respect to the present rate of duty now charged according to the Act of 9 & 10 Vict. c. 63, the sugar classed as white, which comprises the white clayed sugars of Brazil and Cuba, the duty thereon is 16s. 4d. per cwt. plus the supposed protective duty of 7s. on the

the latter; and upon refined sugar the product of the British plantations and dominions in the West and East Indies, if of double refined quality, the duty upon importation is	£. 1 1 - per cwt.	Appendix, No. 8. Report as to the Result of Testing Sugars.
And upon other refined sugar, or sugar rendered by any process equal in quality thereto	- 18 8 -	
The mean Duty	£. - 19 10 -	

The basis upon which these duties are charged, it would appear, are just to equal the duty of importation on 112 lbs. of raw or muscovado, the duty on the product therefrom, as stated, being equivalent to the duty on 112 lbs. of raw or muscovado sugar, viz.:

About 67 lbs. refined sugar, which, at the mean duty of 19s. 10d. per cwt. as above stated, would be	s. d. 11 10
18 lbs. bastard ditto, at the duty on muscovado of 14s. per cwt., would be	2 2
27 lbs. molasses (treacle not crystallizable) and waste	- -
112 lbs. The Duty charged upon the Importation of Muscovado	14 -

Such products being obtained by employing the high temperature method of concentrating or boiling the syrups; viz. from 235° to 250° Fahrenheit, priorly alluded to with respect to muscovado sugar. But if the low temperature method, or 160° to 180° Fahrenheit, is employed, then the products would be as follows:

From 112 lbs. of raw or muscovado sugar, viz.

About 80 lbs. refined sugar, which at the mean duty of 19s. 10d. per cwt., as above stated, would be	£. s. d. - 14 2 per cwt.
17 lbs. bastard ditto, at 14 s.	- 2 1½ -
15 lbs molasses (treacle) and waste	- - -
112 lbs.	- 16 3½ -
Thus showing that the scale of products adopted by the said Act, if the raw sugar was refined by the low temperature method, that the duty is short charged by	- 2 3½ -
To equalize the duty of	£. - 14 - -

The fixed duty now charged on raw or muscovado sugar. And although colonial refined sugar is not, and may not be, an article of importation, still the advantages of the low temperature method of concentrating the syrup from the sugar cane bears upon the subject; and with reference also to the fine qualities of crystalline sugar not white, made by the said low temperature method in some of the British West India colonies, Demerara, &c., and also in the British dominions in the East Indies; and when all or any of these sugars, or those from Brazil and Cuba are rendered white by claying, or by any other process producing a similar effect; such sugar of the finest quality white, is virtually refined sugar about equal in colour to British crushed lump sugar of ordinary quality, such as upon exportation is entitled, under the said Act, to the drawback of £. - 17 - per cwt.

Whilst that imported from the British West India colonies and dominions in the East Indies pays, upon importation, the duty of - 16 4 -

Recurring, however, to the said Act, as to "white clayed sugar, or sugar rendered by any process equal in quality thereto, for every hundredweight," the duty on importation is - 16 4

If, however, such sort of sugar is equal in quality to refined of ordinary quality, as it really is, then according to the fixed standard or scale founded upon tests of other sugar less fine, this finest white clayed sugar would be chargeable at the rate of about	1 1 6 per cwt.
Consequently the disadvantage to the revenue is	- 5 2 -
To equalize the duty of	- 16 4 -

Now charged upon this particular description of sugar.

To elucidate more clearly the bearings of the question as to differential duties; i. e., differential as to the qualities imported, and not differential as to what the sugar, as imported, would yield here in Great Britain, in products of refined loaf or lump, and bastard sugar, and

Appendix, No. 8.
 Report as to the
 Result of Testing
 Sugars.

and treacle or molasses, or similar products refined or obtained by the pneumatic process, I respectfully beg leave to observe that, as it is optional, after the duty is paid on the sugar imported, whether it is refined or not, or consumed in the state as imported, as the chief part is for domestic purposes, which consumption, compared with that of refined sugar, is immediately in excess of the latter. That, so far as the Government are concerned, the duty ought to be charged on the article as imported; and, as the consideration and upholding of the revenue is the first and main point, I humbly conceive that, by adopting the plan I have ventured to submit to your Honourable Committee, that the revenue would be greatly increased, and at the same time justice would be done to the manufacturers of sugar, of all denominations and qualities.

Finally, and with reference to the foregoing, and to the question generally, I beg leave most respectfully to transmit herewith,—

- (A.)—Extracts of my pamphlet on sugar, and duties and drawbacks thereon, which I presented to the Right Honourable the Lords of the Treasury in 1831, which extracts, to a certain extent, have especial reference to the question at issue.
- (B.)—A statement of the tests I have made with pneumatic apparatus, to ascertain the quality of various descriptions of sugar.
- (C.)—A table of duties differential, on an ascending scale of pure products, from 50 lbs. to 110 lbs. from each 112 lbs. sugar in the state when it is imported.
- (D.)—A table of duties differential, on the basis of the said tests, and on the duty of 14s. per cwt. now charged upon muscovado sugar, showing by averages of qualities ranging from 50 lbs. to 110 lbs. pure products, with proposed proportionate duties for each average.
- (E.)—A table contrasting and showing, according to the averages in tables (C.) and (D.), the duties estimated upon the separate product of pure sugar, and also the products obtainable from the impure part in solution.
- (F.)—A certified extract of a communication from Dr. Sheer, the chemist appointed and paid by the colonial government of British Guiana, and sent expressly to ascertain whether cane-juice (syrup) could be imported into Great Britain with advantage or not.
- (G.) and (H.)—Boxes containing small boxes of samples of various sorts of sugar, tested, and the products therefrom; and also of white Havana clayed, not the finest quality, and of British refined crushed lumps, not the lowest ditto.
- (I.)—A box of bottles, containing the impure part (of the sugar tested) in a state of solution, Nos. 1 to 29.

Respectfully submitted by,

Emerson-street, 3 April 1848.

Henry Crosley.

(A.)

EXTRACTS from *Henry Crosley's* Pamphlet, published July 1830, and Presented to the Right Honourable the Lords of the Treasury (a recorded document).

Page 39.

"WHEN the whole of this detail is impartially considered, and when his Majesty's Government shall have maturely weighed the statements which have been submitted to them relative to the bearings of this process, if worked in the colonies, intimately connected as it is with the duties now paid upon the importation, and drawbacks allowed upon the exportation of sugars, the value of it, prospectively, will then be best understood and appreciated.

It has been stated, that a patent for the British colonies was taken in 1817, and abandoned; such abandonment arose from several considerations, viz. :—

When the writer's attention was primarily drawn by the patentee, in 1817, to the consideration, or estimate of value of the process, his first thoughts diverged from England to the British colonies, where, as he then conceived, the pneumatic process ought to have birth; and he was led to this conclusion from the knowledge that each hogshead of raw sugar lost considerably by drainage, after being landed in this country. Presuming that there must be a much greater drainage when the sugars are of a less age, he obtained the weights of about 100 hogsheads of raw sugar at the time of shipment, in Jamaica, and compared them with the landing weights in London, by which he ascertained that a loss of from two to three cwt. per hogshead, upon an average, had occurred during the voyage, which loss by drainage had been pumped with the bilge-water of the vessel into the sea. Upon the quantity imported annually, at the then supposed value of the product in the colonies, the enormous loss of upwards of 700,000*l.* appeared, independent of the loss to the owner of the ship, who received freight only on weight delivered from the ship.

These considerations led the writer to others which were connected with the revenue. By the Act of Parliament then in force, he found that raw or muscovado sugar, of the growth of the British plantations, paid about 6*s.* per cwt. less than clayed sugar; and as the entry, inwards, for muscovado sugar was particularly described by the additional words "not clayed," he believed that the improved sugar, which the pneumatic process would produce

produce in the colonies, might, from its not being clayed (although it would be superior to clayed sugar), be introduced, at the rate of duty imposed specifically by the existing Acts of Parliament on muscovado sugar; and thereby, in addition to the saving of the drainage on the voyage, and the subsequent drainage in the warehouses after landing, render the pneumatic process a most important acquisition to the planter. But a moment's reflection showed that these advantages would be but temporary. The Legislature had imposed those duties upon importation, and it might (as no doubt it would, had the evasion been practised) have passed other Acts to secure the duty upon sugar resembling clayed, although not actually clayed.

Other questions presented themselves: was it probable that Government would injure the refineries of the mother country, by permitting the importation of such sugar as the pneumatic process would produce, (which, to the eye, is, when properly prepared, equal to ordinary refined lump sugar, and superior thereto for refining); and if such sugar was permitted to be warehoused for exportation only, would not the export trade of crushed refined sugar thereby be greatly injured? Or, should the pneumatic sugar be permitted to importation, even at the increased duty then chargeable on clayed sugar, would not the extra and peculiar saccharine properties which, when properly prepared, the pneumatic sugar possesses over every other sort of sugar, induce the consumers of sugar in this country to prefer this new manufacture to that of ordinary lump sugar, knowing, as they would soon do, that its peculiar refinement was effected by the operation of the purest elements of nature, air and water, so different from the putrid blood and other deleterious substances, then and still partially employed in the refining of sugar? And, again, was it not likely that the Legislature, when they had a knowledge of the fact, that sugar which had undergone the process of curing, or been drained of the real molasses in the usual way, and afterwards cleared by the pneumatic process of the remaining colouring matter and other impurities, so as to render it equal, if not superior, to good ordinary lumps, would be permitted to importation into Great Britain at the duty of 27s. per cwt.; and that the same sugar when exported, in a similar condition and appearance (lumps crushed) as when imported, would be allowed the drawbacks of 41s. 5d. per cwt.; was it not probable, nay, would it not have been certain, that under such circumstances (and they are possible ones at this moment), the Legislature would, for the protection of this important branch of the revenue, have been compelled to re-model the scale of duties and drawbacks, in order to proportion and equalize (as they are now supposed to do) the one with the other, in lieu of allowing the drawback upon exportation so greatly to exceed the duty paid upon importation. In short, were the duties and drawbacks to remain as above stated, the writer, knowing, as he does from his extensive practice, that raw sugar, when properly operated upon by the pneumatic process, can be made in the colonies superior to single refined sugar of good ordinary quality, is enabled confidently to affirm that Government would be receiving, on the one hand, 27s. per cwt., and paying, on the other, only a few shillings per cwt. less than the drawbacks allowed on the exportation of the supposed products obtained from raw sugar;* whereas the difference between refining raw or muscovado, and this cleared pneumatic sugar, is only, as regards the latter, a deterioration by the renewed engenderment of molasses or colouring matter, in proportion to the action of heat employed in evaporating the solution of this already refined sugar to the point required for granulation; and this additional engenderment of molasses would now be but trivial, if the recently much-improved method of evaporating (noticed in the conclusion) were employed.

It is presumed that the foregoing remarks, and those which are about to be made, may have some weight in reference to the existing difficulties and opinions relative to the duties hereafter to be levied upon sugars imported, and drawbacks to be allowed, upon the exportation of refined sugars. To put into a still more perspicuous point of view the comparative value (when used for refining) of raw or muscovado sugar and pneumatic sugar (such as can be imported from the British West India colonies under Mr. Innes' present exclusive right for 14 years, should no alteration of the duties take place), and also to show the relative position of the duties payable upon the importation of those sugars, and the drawbacks allowed on exportation of the refined products obtained therefrom, the following estimates are submitted.

1st. As to value when used for refining:

167 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of raw muscovado sugar, which contains the molasses or colouring substance, is only equal to

112 lbs. of pneumatic sugar, which does not contain the like impurities;

Therefore, the refined products obtained from

112 lbs. of each must of course vary in proportion to the quantity of molasses or impurities contained in, or extracted from, each sort.

2dly. As

* There has been a series of improvements in the art of refining sugar for the last 20 years, which have had for their object a superiority of quality, increased weight of crystals, and a decreased quantity of treacle. If those improvements have effected the desired objects, and most certainly they have to a very considerable extent, it seems strange that Government have not altered the scale of products supposed to be obtained 20 years ago from 100 cwt. of raw or muscovado sugar, refined, in order to meet those changes produced by the improvements in the manufacture of the refined products and to prevent injury to the revenue, by paying more drawback than the duty received on the actual quantity of raw sugar required to produce the exportable products upon which the drawbacks are allowed.

Appendix, No. 8.
Report as to the
Result of Testing
Sugars.

2dly. As to the relative position of the duties and drawbacks:

167 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of raw or muscovado sugar, if imported in its natural state as heretofore, would pay at the rate of 27s. per cwt.	£.	s.	d.
- - - - -	2	-	4
112 lbs. of pneumatic sugar - - - - -	1	7	-
Difference of Duty per Cwt. - - - - -	£.	-	13 4

Which operates to the disadvantage of the revenue, and also of the importers of real muscovado sugar, particularly of those of inferior qualities.

112 lbs. of raw or muscovado sugar, paying duty of	£.	s.	d.
- - - - -	1	7	-
Is estimated to yield, according to the quantities of products specified in the Act of 9 Geo. 4, c. 93,			
61 lbs. of refined sugar, in loaves or lumps, on which the drawback allowed is 41s. 5d. per cwt.	£.	s.	d.
- - - - -	1	2	8
18 lbs. of bastard sugar, 27s. per cwt.	-	4	4
28 lbs. of treacle - - - - -	-	-	-
5 lbs. waste - - - - -	-	-	-
112	£.	1	7 -

Total drawback on 79 lbs. of products, equal to the duty paid on 112 lbs. of raw sugar.

But as

112 lbs. of pneumatic sugar is equal to
167 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of raw or muscovado of an average quality; and as it would require, according to the before-mentioned scale of products,
206 lbs. of raw or muscovado sugar to yield
112 lbs. of refined in loaves and lumps, it is evident that
112 lbs. of pneumatic sugar, when refined, will yield increased proportions of exportable products nearly equal to the quantities and qualities obtained from the same weight of ordinary lumps, because the said pneumatic sugar does not contain a greater portion of impurities than such lumps; therefore the products obtained from 112 lbs. of pneumatic sugar, or from 112 lbs. of ordinary lumps, would be as follows; viz.

- lbs. of double-refined in loaves, on which the drawback allowed would be 48l. 7s. per cwt.	£.	s.	d.
- lbs. of single refined, at 41s. 5d. per cwt.	-	-	-
- lbs. of bastard sugar, at 27s. per cwt.	-	-	-
- lbs. of treacle - - - - -	-	-	-
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. waste - - - - -	-	-	-
112*	Total Drawback on	lbs. Products	£.
	Duty payable on 112 lbs. pneumatic sugar, from which the above were obtained, would be only	- - - - -	1 7 -
	Being an Excess of Drawback above Duty per Cwt. of	- - - - -	-

Operating to the disadvantage of the revenue, and of those proprietors of West India estates who have not obtained a licence to expel the molasses, and other impurities, from their raw sugar, previously to its shipment for this country. There are also other disadvantages in refining sugar not cleared from the molasses, &c., which are herein explained, and will be easily understood by those persons conversant in the art of refining.

It is further submitted that, as the Legislature formerly required (as before stated) that double loaves should be refined in a specific manner, to obtain the extra drawback allowed thereon, those restrictions were removed by the repeal of the late Acts, in order to encourage the refineries and to meet the advances which had been made in science by the various improvements in the art of refining; it would appear but equitable on the part of the Legislature to grant proportionate drawbacks upon the exportation of the products from raw sugar manufactured in Great Britain by the pneumatic process, because those products can be refined to the same extent as crushed lumps and bastard sugar, upon each of which drawbacks are allowed. Such a permission on the part of Government would add a new branch to our national industry, improve our commerce, and benefit all persons concerned in the manufacture of raw or refined sugar.

Possibly objections may be made to this proposition, because Government now require that lumps for crushing shall be delivered to the officers of the revenue, complete, or of a certain dimension in height, proportionate to the face or base of the lump. But if pneumatic refined sugar were permitted to be exported for the drawback, restrictions and security to

* The statement of weights was omitted by the special request of extensive refiners of sugar in London, by whom the writer was then employed in perfecting their machinery, &c.

to the revenue might be required and easily obtained by operating on the raw sugar under the King's lock, which operation could be effected with the same facility and nearly as expeditiously as lumps are crushed in the warehouses of the London docks.

There appears to be no good reason why a refiner should be compelled to make a lump of sugar by a tedious, expensive, and deteriorating process, and then forced to crush it into powder, when by an expeditious, beneficial, and not expensive operation, he can manufacture a sugar superior to crushed lumps, which would be preferred by the refiners of sugar on the continent of Europe, and supersede the consumption there of Brazilian and Havana clayed sugars, which are invariably preferred to crushed lumps, for reasons obvious to every person acquainted with the art of refining.

These proposed advantages to the British refiner would not operate to the injury of the British planter; on the contrary, he would have encouragement to increase the growth of the cane. The shipping interest would be benefited, and Great Britain might then fairly compete with those foreign countries from which the Continent at present draws its chief supplies.

At all events, if the Legislature should deem the mode of paying the duties on the raw material, and allowing drawbacks on the exportation of the products of this pneumatic process, to be improper or insecure, there could not exist, it is conceived, any objection to the establishment of this new branch of manufacture in Great Britain, by permitting the raw material to be taken out of the warehouses upon bond being given to export certain specific products, similarly allowed and required by the Act of 9 Geo. 4, c. 93, relative to the refining foreign sugars for exportation only*.

The process of claying raw sugar is so well known, that a description of it would be superfluous; suffice it to say, that claying is only adapted to the discharge of the molasses and colouring matter adherent to the crystals when new, or immediately after they have been obtained by evaporation; it is, therefore, suitable to the colonies only, and not to Europe. It was attempted in this country about 40 years ago, to discharge, by means of claying, the colour remaining in union with raw sugar; and it is remarkable that this attempt by claying was made in the very buildings then called the claying sugar houses, and in the same rooms where the pneumatic process was first effectually employed; and the coincidence is still more striking, as nearly similar troughs or pans were employed. One hundred thousand pounds was expended, and the attempt abandoned after a few years of trial.

Thus, that which had been tediously and imperfectly performed by claying, and the action of gravity, was, 40 years afterwards, expeditiously and completely effected, by the intervention of a well known principle, by pure water, and by mechanical power.

In a previous part of this work, statements have been made as to the relative value of raw, pneumatic, and ordinary lump sugars, when used for refining; the advantages of separating the molasses or colouring substance from raw sugar previously to refining it into loaves and lumps; and also the disadvantageous action of heat upon saccharine solutions, varying according to the degree of heat applied, its duration and repetition, and the quantity of colouring substance contained in them. It may be asked, can such statements and reasonings be substantiated by practice? Investigation is therefore necessary, to ascertain whether such statements and reasonings are founded upon facts. It will be readily admitted by those gentlemen who are conversant with the principles of refining, that such is the case; but to those who have not a knowledge of the art, it may be needful to prove more clearly that the positions advanced are correct, by stating,

1st. That

112 lbs. of raw sugar, as imported, yields, by the old system of refining, by the use of a fire-pan, at a mean proof of 240 degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer,
28 lbs. of treacle.

2dly. That

112 lbs. of raw sugar, in the same state, yields, by the improved system, by the use of vacuum-pan, at the proof of 155 degrees (afterwards raised in the granulating vessel to 180 degrees),
20 lbs. of treacle.

3dly. That

112 lbs. of raw sugar (first partially cleared of the molasses by being made into meltings, and evaporated in the precise manner last-mentioned) yields
14 lbs. of treacle.

4thly. That

112 lbs. of raw sugar, operated upon or refined by the pneumatic process, to produce white crystals of the quality of ordinary lumps, and the extracted syrups therefrom, evaporated at 245 degrees of heat, will yield only
12 ½ lbs. of treacle or syrup.

By these comparisons, it appears that, by the first method, about
28 lbs. of treacle are produced when the molasses and colouring substance, in union with the sugar, is operated upon by 240 degrees of heat.

2d method

* The foregoing reasonings as to the advantages that might be derived by the sugar planter, and by establishing a new branch of manufacture in Great Britain, were applicable when the quantity of British plantation muscovado sugar imported was in excess of the consumption; but not so now, as the supply is not equal thereto.

Appendix, No. 8.
Report as to the
Result of Testing
Sugars.

2d method, when in the same state, at 280 degrees,
20 lbs. of treacle.

3d method, a partial separation of the molasses, &c. having been effected by meltings,
and the same heat of 180 degrees applied,
14 lbs. of treacle.

And by the 4th method, evaporating the extracted syrup and the colouring matter in
a more concentrated state, even at 245 degrees of heat, only
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of treacle or syrup.

Thus showing that the degree of heat, and the repetition thereof, engenders an additional quantity of molasses, &c. to that which the raw sugar contained when imported; and that a lesser quantity is engendered when a separation of the molasses, &c. has been effected previously to the action of heat. It may therefore be presumed that raw sugar contains even less than 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per cwt. of treacle, the least quantity obtained at the highest degree of heat employed for one evaporation.

As such, the planter and refiners could not fail to obtain considerable advantages if they adopted a better mode of evaporating the cane-juice and solutions of sugar to that which is now generally employed.

(B.)

STATEMENT of RESULTS of *H. Crosley's* TESTING, with Pneumatic Apparatus, various Qualities of SUGAR, as follows: the Samples of the Sugar Tested, and the Products therefrom of Pure Sugar and of Impure in a state of Solution, accompanying the present, and delivered to the Honourable Committee on Sugar Planting, viz.:

SUGARS denominated Muscovado or Raw, and also White, of the British Plantations and Dominions in the West and East Indies, and also those of Foreign Production.

No.	GROWTH OF	QUALITY.	PURE PRODUCT.
1	Jamaica - - -	fine - - - - -	78 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. from 112 lbs. raw.
2	Ditto - - -	ditto - - - - -	78 - - ditto.
3	Ditto - - -	less ditto - - - - -	68 - - ditto.
4	Ditto - - -	brown - - - - -	58 - - ditto.
5	The average of the British West India colonies, Barbadoes excepted.	average - - - - -	78 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - ditto.
6	Barbadoes - - -	bright yellow, for grocery - - -	70 - - ditto.
7	Ditto - - -	less colour, and more grain - - -	71 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - ditto.
8	Antigua - - -	bright yellow, for grocery - - -	70 - - ditto.
9	Grenada - - -	middling - - - - -	66 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - ditto.
10	The average of Trini- dad.	average - - - - -	65 - - ditto.
11	Demerara - - -	white crystalline - - - - -	101 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. from 112 lbs.
12	East India - - -	bright yellow ditto - - - - -	81 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. from 112 lbs. raw.
13	Ditto, Benares - - -	denominated brown, but yellow - - -	80 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - ditto.
14	Ditto - ditto - - -	- ditto middling, but white - - -	96 lbs. from 112 lbs.
15	East India, Khamr - - -	dark brown and clammy - - -	56 lbs. from 112 lbs. raw.
16	Madras - - -	ordinary ditto, but free - - -	68 - - ditto.
17	Penang - - -	ditto - ditto, very clammy - - -	52 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - ditto.
18	Mauritius - - -	bright yellow - - - - -	70 - - ditto.
19	Ditto - - -	brown - - - - -	56 - - ditto.
20	{ Cuba - - - Havana - - -	{ A little less white than clayed, now admitted at the duty of 14 s. per cwt., and 6 s. per cwt., 20 s. supposed protective duty.	{ 98 lbs. from 112 lbs. clayed.
21	Ditto - - -	-- Yellow, denominated muscovado, but clayed.	84 - - ditto.
22	Ditto - - -	yellow - - - - -	73 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. from 112 lbs. raw.
23	Ditto - - -	inferior ditto - - - - -	70 - - ditto.
24	Brazil and Bahia - - -	-- Yellow, denominated muscovado, but clayed.	84 lbs. from 112 lbs. clayed.
25	Ditto - - -	dark brown and clammy - - -	50 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. from 112 lbs. raw.
26	Porto Rico - - -	bright yellow - - - - -	80 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - ditto.
27	Santa Cruz - - -	ditto - - - - -	80 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - ditto.

Samples of the sugars tested are in small boxes, labelled and numbered 1 to 27, and the impure part of each separated by the pneumatic process, and in a state of solution, are in bottles in a case, also marked No. 1 to 27.

Emerson-street, 3 April 1848.

Respectfully submitted.
(signed) *Henry Crosley.*

(C.)

TABLE of DIFFERENTIAL DUTIES proposed to be Charged on SUGAR of various Growths and Qualities according to Statement of Tests made at the House of Commons with Pneumatic Apparatus by *Henry Crosley*, and by Order of the Chairman and Select Committee on Sugar Planting; the said Duties not comprising any additional or protective Duty upon Foreign Sugars of Slave production.

Tested Quantity of pure Product obtained from 112 lbs. of Sugar in its Natural State when Landed, the pure Product varying in Quality and Colour proportionately to that of the Sugar operated upon.	Rate of Duty on each 112 lbs. of Sugar in its Natural State when Landed, calculated at 70 lbs. the mean Purity of British Plantation Muscovado Sugar, the Range of pure Products therefrom being fixed from 60 lbs. to 80 lbs. from each 112 lbs.
Pure product, 50 lbs. from 112 lbs.	10 — per cwt.
Ditto - 51 lbs. - ditto	10 2 ½
Ditto - 52 lbs. - ditto	10 4 ½
Ditto - 53 lbs. - ditto	10 7
Ditto - 54 lbs. - ditto	10 9 ½
Ditto - 55 lbs. - ditto	11 —
Ditto - 56 lbs. - ditto	11 2 ½
Ditto - 57 lbs. - ditto	11 4 ½
Ditto - 58 lbs. - ditto	11 7
Ditto - 59 lbs. - ditto	11 9 ½
Ditto - ranging from 60 lbs. to 80 lbs.	14 —
Ditto - above 80 lbs. and 81 lbs. from 112 lbs.	16 2 ½
Ditto - 82 lbs. from 112 lbs.	16 4 ½
Ditto - 83 lbs. - ditto	16 7
Ditto - 84 lbs. - ditto	16 9 ½
Ditto - 85 lbs. - ditto	17 —
Ditto - 86 lbs. - ditto	17 2 ½
Ditto - 87 lbs. - ditto	17 4 ½
Ditto - 88 lbs. - ditto	17 7
Ditto - 89 lbs. - ditto	17 9 ½
Ditto - 90 lbs. - ditto	18 —
Ditto - 91 lbs. - ditto	18 2 ½
Ditto - 92 lbs. - ditto	18 4 ½
Ditto - 93 lbs. - ditto	18 7
Ditto - 94 lbs. - ditto	18 9 ½
Ditto - 95 lbs. - ditto	19 —
Ditto - 96 lbs. - ditto	19 2 ½
Ditto - 97 lbs. - ditto	19 4 ½
Ditto - 98 lbs. - ditto	19 7
Ditto - 99 lbs. - ditto	19 9 ½
Ditto - 100 lbs. - ditto	20 —
Ditto - above 101 lbs. from 112 lbs.	20 2 ½
Ditto - 102 lbs. - ditto	20 4 ½
Ditto - 103 lbs. - ditto	20 7
Ditto - 104 lbs. - ditto	20 9 ½
Ditto - 105 lbs. - ditto	21 —
Ditto - 106 lbs. - ditto	21 2 ½
Ditto - 107 lbs. - ditto	21 4 ½
Ditto - 108 lbs. - ditto	21 7
Ditto - 109 lbs. - ditto	21 9 ½
Ditto - 110 lbs. - ditto	22 —
Ditto - 111 lbs. - ditto	—
Ditto - 112 lbs. - ditto	—

Respectfully submitted.

Emerson-street,
3 April 1848. }

(signed) *Henry Crosley.*

Appendix, No. 8.

Report as to the
Result of Testing
Sugars.

(D.)

TABLE of DIFFERENTIAL DUTIES proposed to be Charged on SUGARS of various Growth and Qualities, and by Averages, as follows :

Tested Quantity of Pure Product from 112 lbs. of Sugar in its natural State, when landed.	Rate of Duty on each 112 lbs. of Sugar, in its natural State, when landed, calculated upon Averages.	REMARKS.
	<i>s. d.</i>	
Products ranging from 50 lbs. to 60 lbs. per 112 lbs. (or all less than 60 lbs.).	11 - per cwt.	-- Sugars of these qualities are of the very lowest description, and now are unsale- able.
Ditto from 60 lbs. to 80 lbs. inclu- sive.	14 - —	-- These are such as are generally import- ed from the British West India colonies, real muscovado or raw, and in that state consumed extensively in Great Britain.
Ditto from 80 lbs. to 85 lbs. -	16 6 —	-- These are superior to muscovado, and in most instances purified by some pro- cess, as claying, &c., to discharge the im- pure or carbonaceous coloured matter.
Ditto from 85 lbs. to 90 lbs. -	17 6 —	-- The last remark applies to these qua- lities.
Ditto from 90 lbs. to 95 lbs. -	18 6 —	Approximating to refined sugar.
Ditto from 95 lbs. to 100 lbs. -	19 6 —	Ditto - - ditto - and more so.
Ditto from 100 lbs. to 105 lbs. -	20 6 —	Ditto - - ditto - and more so.
Ditto from 105 lbs. to 110 lbs. -	21 6 —	Ditto - - ditto - and more so.

(Respectfully submitted.)

Emerson-street, }
3 April 1848. }

(signed) Henry Crosley.

(E.)

TABLE showing, according to the Statements of Tests by the Pneumatic Process upon various Qualities of SUGAR, the proportionate Rate of Duty upon the pure Product obtained, and also upon the Products that might be obtained from the impure part in a state of Solution, by evaporating the Aqueous part, and thereby obtaining certain variable Quantities of regenerated Sugar, and of uncrystallizable Product, Molasses or Treacle.

The duty charged under 9 & 10 Vict. c. 63, on muscovado sugar, is -	14s. per cwt.
The duty proposed, calculated upon the pure product, viz. 50 lbs. to 60 lbs. pure, the average duty, as per Tables (C.) and (D.) -	11s. per cwt.
Average products :	
55 lbs. of pure sugar, at 14s. -	<i>s. d.</i> 6 10 ½
About ¼ or 19 lbs. of bastard, at 11s. -	1 10 ½
— ⅓ or 38 lbs. of molasses, at 5s. 3d. -	1 9 ½
<u>112 lbs.</u>	<u>10s. 6½d. per cwt.</u>
The present duty charged on 112 lbs. -	14s. per cwt.
The pure products varying from 60 lbs. to 80 lbs., as per Tables (C.) and (D.)	
Average products :	
Mean - 70 lbs. of pure, estimated from 80 lbs. to 85 lbs. at 16s. 6d. -	<i>s. d.</i> 10 3 ¾
About ⅓ or 28 lbs. of bastard sugar, at 11s. -	2 9
— ¼ or 14 lbs. of molasses, at 5s. 3d. -	- 6
<u>112 lbs.</u>	<u>13s. 8¾d. per cwt.</u>

From 80 lbs. to 85 lbs. of pure product:			
The duty as per Tables (C.) and (D.)	- - - - -		15s. 6d. per cwt.
Mean	- 82½ lbs. of pure, estimated from 85 lbs. to 95 lbs.	s. d.	
	at 18s. 6d.	- - - - -	13 7½
About ¾ or 19½ lbs. of bastard sugar,	at 14s.	- - - - -	2 5
— ½ or 10 lbs. of molasses, at 5s. 3d.	- - - - -	- - - - -	5 ½
	<u>112 lbs.</u>		16s. 6d. per cwt.
From 85 lbs. to 90 lbs. of pure product:			
The duty as per Tables (C.) and (D.)	- - - - -		17s. 6d. per cwt.
Mean	- 87½ lbs. of pure, estimated from 85 lbs. to 100 lbs.	s. d.	
	at 19s. 6d.	- - - - -	15 2½
About ¾ or 16½ lbs. of bastard, at 14s.	- - - - -	- - - - -	2 -
— ½ or 8 lbs. of molasses, at 5s. 3d.	- - - - -	- - - - -	4 ½
	<u>112 lbs.</u>		17s. 7½d. per cwt.
From 90 lbs. to 95 lbs. of pure product:			
The duty as per Tables (C.) and (D.)	- - - - -		18s. 6d. per cwt.
Mean	- 92½ lbs. of pure sugar, estimated from 100 lbs.	s. d.	
	to 105 lbs., at 20s. 6d.	- - - - -	16 11
About ¾ or 13 lbs. of bastard, at 14s.	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 7½
— ½ or 6½ lbs. of molasses, at 5s. 3d.	- - - - -	- - - - -	3 ½
	<u>112 lbs.</u>		18s. 10d. per cwt.
From 95 lbs. to 100 lbs. of pure product:			
The duty as per Tables (C.) and (D.)	- - - - -		19s. 6d. per cwt.
Mean	- 97½ lbs. of pure sugar, estimated at 21s.	s. d.	
	8½ lbs. of bastard, at 14s.	- - - - -	18 3½
	6 lbs. of molasses, at 5s. 3d.	- - - - -	1 - ¾
	- - - - -	- - - - -	3 ½
	<u>112 lbs.</u>		19s. 7½d. per cwt.
From 100 lbs. to 105 lbs. pure product:			
The duty as per Tables (C.) and (D.)	- - - - -		20s. 6d. per cwt.
Mean	- 102½ lbs. of pure sugar, at 21s.	s. d.	
	6½ lbs. of bastard, at 14s.	- - - - -	19 2½
	3 lbs. of molasses, at 5s. 3d.	- - - - -	9 ¾
	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 ½
	<u>112 lbs.</u>		20s. 1½d. per cwt.
From 105 lbs. to 110 lbs. pure product:			
The duty as per Tables (C.) and (D.)	- - - - -		21s. 6d. per cwt.
Mean	- 107½ lbs. of pure sugar, at 21s.	s. d.	
	4 lbs. of bastard, at 14s.	- - - - -	20 1 ¾
	½ lb. of molasses, at 5s. 3d.	- - - - -	6
	- - - - -	- - - - -	- ¾
	<u>112 lbs.</u>		20s. 8½d. per cwt.

Respectfully submitted.

Henry Crasley.

Emerson-street, 8 April 1846.

Appendix, No. B.

Report as to the
Result of Testing
Sugars.

(F.)

EXTRACT of a COMMUNICATION from Dr. Shier, now in *Demerary*, dated
3 February 1848.

"ON the preparation of well-clarified cane juice, concentrated so as to be transmitted home, I have made many experiments, and would have transmitted specimens had it been possible to do so with safety. I find that to preserve the syrup from fermentation it requires to be boiled so high that in cooling down it in a very short time deposits large crystals of candy; a difficulty would therefore at once arise regarding the levying of the duty, for it would arrive in England partly crystallized and partly syrup. Boiled up to this point but little more heat suffices to convert it into sugar; and planters will therefore, I believe, prefer to complete the process. Boiled to a lower density than this, it very rapidly runs into fermentation, especially if it is not struck hot into close vessels; exposed to the air, as it would be were it struck into an iron cooler, or even directly into a puncheon, it cannot be kept any length of time, say a few months, at an ordinary temperature, without fermenting so as to start the bung and overflow in a greater or less degree."

[The above is an extract from report by Dr. Shier, chemist, appointed and paid by the colonial government of British Guiana, and sent home to us.]

Glasgow, 25 March 1848.

John Campbell.

POINTS submitted by *Henry Crosley* in addition to the DOCUMENTS already presented.

Paris, 1 November 1817.

1. APPLICATION to the French government for a sealed patent to secure the improvements made by H. Crosley in operating by the pneumatic process.

2. Sealed or secret specifications to patents not granted to aliens, only to natives of France, on H. C.'s renewed petition, if he submitted the invention to a special committee of scientific members of the government Board of Arts and Sciences, and they should consider it of sufficient importance to warrant their recommending that H. C. should have a sealed patent, then it would be granted to him, but only for 10, and not 15 years, as petitioned for.

3. Committee appointed, consisting of M. Gay Lussac, chemist professor; M. Bardel, chief for determining variable duties chargeable on different articles, and then especially on sugar; M. ——— (name forgotten), a professor.

4. Plan and description of pneumatic process, and samples of product exhibited by H. C. to the said committee; highly approved of by them, and particularly by M. Gay Lussac. H. C.'s request acceded to for sealed patent. H. C. interrogated as to his engagements in England with respect to the pneumatic process, who was urgently invited to settle in France and to introduce the pneumatic process, and other improvements, in manufacturing and refining sugar, as practised in England; promise given that if H. C. did so, all machinery, &c. should be admitted into France free of duty, and also articles for his private and household uses.

5. H. C. on that day invited to dine with M. Bardel, who upon H. C.'s arrival at M. Bardel's house, that gentleman took from his private repository a small apparatus, and remarked, "See how very near I have been to your invention; I use this for testing sugars of various

chemicals, qualities in preference to other means, which are * * * *," named to H. C. The small apparatus shown was a pneumatic machine, and the mode of operating H. C. had embraced in the specification of his French patent, considering, as he did when in England, that by such mode a similar effect would be produced on sugar, yet not equal to that other mode, which was suitable, but the other not so for operations on a business scale. The latter is by withdrawing the air from under the false bottom of the open pan in which the sugar is placed; and it should be in a dry and not moist state. The former, or small testing apparatus of M. Bardel, was a domed vessel, the sugar moistened ere put into it, and upon a filtering false bottom, somewhat similar to that used by H. C. Into this domed vessel, on the top a pipe was connected, which was attached to a small air pump, and thus in lieu of a vacuum being, as in the other case, created beneath the sugar, by this mode the air was forced and compressed upon it, and thus forced through the moistened sugar, carrying with it and separating the carbonaceous and coloured matter therefrom, as shown by H. C.'s late operations.

6. As to testing of sugar. Some sorts, such as khaur, &c., &c., the syrup from which it and any other sugar, even of finer sorts, have been made, the syrups have either not been properly cleaned, or they inherently contain coloured matter, or it is formed naturally by exposing the cane juice to the influence of the atmosphere; or too much temper or lime has been used, which compound turns vegetable substances of a reddish hue; hence the

vari:d

varied complexions of sugar: pale yellow, bright yellow, greyish hue, orange, brown, dark brown; and if fine double loaves are to be made, or sugar equal in standard whiteness to that quality, then the solution of the raw sugar, or material to be so refined, no lime water is used, as it would cause the refined sugar to have a redish tinge. Yet lime is a necessary evil in making sugar direct from cane juice. The foregoing remarks, and especially as to colour of various sorts of sugar, are made to account why all descriptions of raw sugar, when operated upon by the pneumatic process, do not yield white sugar. The use of the chemicals

Appendix, No. 8.
Report as to the
Result of Testing
Sugars.

***** is not equal to the simple elements, pure air and water, for testing sugar, because the former (the chemical) might, and would in some cases, when admixed with the sugar, form new compounds, and therefore such mode of testing would not be so sure nor equal to the latter mode with air and water, which would separate the coloured matter better than the chemical, which might, and would separate in some instances one portion of the coloured matter in the sugar, and not attack and separate the other or inherent part, independently perhaps of creating other coloured matter.

Possibly by an union of the said two processes, with judicious modifications, a superior test might be effected; but to ascertain whether this surmise is correct or not, a series of experimental testings must be made, which H. C. could effect in the course of a few days, say a week at most. However the pneumatic test, as exhibited, is simple and sure, and equal fully for the purpose proposed.

7. Comparison of workings of sugar canes in Cuba. H. C. can, if required, state some facts to show the advantages the Cuban planter has over the British.

8. H. C. was instrumental in causing the late Mr. Poulett Thomson, afterwards made _____ and Governor of Canada, to change the erroneous views he entertained and advocated in the House of Commons one Session, respecting the admission of foreign clayed sugar, and the next Session changed his view on the subject, which was caused, as H. C. believes, from his having written a somewhat voluminous tract upon the manufacture and refining of sugar, with statement of products, &c. &c., which said tract was presented to Mr. Poulett Thomson by a friend of H. C.'s, a merchant of London, of first-rate respectability who was personally known to Mr. Poulett Thomson. H. C.'s friend (the merchant) was received graciously, and thanked for the tract; but H. C. had not that satisfaction, although eventually, as he believes, it caused Mr. P. Thomson to change his opinion.

9. In 1839, H. C. published his pamphlet, "Suggestions," to the West India Proprietary; and, among other matters relating to sugar, he suggested the expediency of reducing the duty on muscovado from 24s. to 14s. per cwt., and pointed out the equity of permitting the West India planter to export refined sugar (such as lumps crushed) to Great Britain; also as to the benefits that might arise to the West India proprietors by having a model and central establishment in the colonies there, to manufacture sugar for more estates than one, as then and now generally practised. The Right honourable Sir Robert Peel, Bart., in 1845, adopted (but perhaps not from what H. C. had published in the said pamphlet, "Suggestions," five or six years previously) the duty of 14s. per cwt., and also permitted British plantation refined sugar to be imported at a moderate duty; that priority having been 8l. 8s. per cwt., or prohibitive, which took effect by the representations I made to the Treasury and Board of Trade, respecting the white crystalline sugar then being admitted at the same duty as muscovado or raw sugar; such white crystalline being (as admitted by the then chairman of the Committee of Sugar Refiners) a species of refined sugar which, as was then the law, although made in the British colonies, ranked as foreign refined sugar.

Appendix, No. 9.

SUGGESTIONS to the PROPRIETORS of ESTATES in the BRITISH WEST INDIES.

Appendix, No. 9.

To the Right Hon. Lord George Bentinck, Chairman of the Select Committee on Sugar and Coffee Planting.

Suggestions to the
proprietors of es-
tates in the British
West Indies.

My Lord,

House of Commons, Monday, 3 April 1848.

IN addition to the documents, &c. presented to your Lordship and the Honourable the Select Committee on Sugar Planting, I beg leave most respectfully to transmit herewith a note of points, No. 1 to 9, which detail information on the subject; also the pamphlet "Suggestions" to the proprietors of estates in the British West Indies, gratuitously presented to them in 1839; and also the plan of Pneumatic Apparatus on a business scale, the copy of that I exhibited in Paris, November 1817, to the Special Commission alluded to under the 1st to 4th points, and under which the Sealed Patent was granted to me.

I have, &c.

(signed) Henry Crosley.

Appendix, No. 9.
 Suggestions to the
 proprietors of es-
 tates in the British
 West Indies.

It has been suggested, as an inducement for the formation of the West India Association, that the products of the sugar-cane can be considerably increased beyond what they now are, by the adoption of improved processes, not generally known and employed. It is therefore necessary to state what the improved processes are, and wherein they differ from those in use in the British West India colonies, in order that the parties who are most interested and best qualified by their practical experience may judge what the real merits of the questions are; for it is upon that judgment only, and not upon theoretical surmises, that the purposed association should be formed. But the success of the undertaking will mainly depend upon the aid of an efficient Board of Management, thoroughly conversant with the affairs of West India estates, and also with mercantile transactions.

First. As to the Manufacture of Raw or Muscovado Sugar.—The first operation is the extraction of the juice or saccharine matter contained in the sugar-cane, and this is now only partially effected by the best constructed horizontal sugar-mills. The mogoss, or trash, after it has passed through and been squeezed by the rollers of the mill, still contains in an absorpt state much saccharine matter; which as pressure cannot extract it, is left in the trash, which is thereby more combustibile than it would otherwise be if the whole of the saccharine it contains were extracted. Much labour is required to dry, stack, and house the trash for fuel for the boiling coppers, or battery of pans; and if the mogoss is dry, it answers well for that purpose, hung or set as the boiling coppers now are in all our West India sugar works. By a recent importation of well-ground canes, or mogoss, for the purpose of experiment, it has been ascertained that it contains a powerful acid; thereby proving that saccharine, which is the basis of acidity, existed in this mogoss. But there are other and stronger proofs that a considerable portion of saccharine matter is left in the cane trash; viz., by a recent invention it has been discovered that the whole of the saccharine in beet-root can be extracted; whereas by the modes previously employed of rasping the root, and then subjecting it to hydraulic pressure of great power, that nearly one-third of the saccharine matter contained in the root still remained in the pulp, which to appearance was dry.

The principle of the invention (which is simple in the extreme, and requires little labour and expense for apparatus) is applicable for extracting the whole of the saccharine in malt and grain for making beer, spirits, and vinegar; which, by the present modes of mashing, is only partially extracted; therefore there can be no doubt that the invention is equally applicable for extracting from the cane trash, or mogoss, the saccharine that remains therein after the canes have been ground; and such extract can be obtained by one operation, at the specific gravity or degree of concentration of syrup, suitable for the production of sugar; or the extract can be obtained, at a less degree, for fermentation and distillation for spirit, which spirit would be of an improved flavour in consequence of lime not having been used. Therefore, as this invention (which has been for the last two or three years, and still is, in extensive use in Germany) has proved the fact that the whole of the saccharine in beet-root and other vegetable substances can be extracted without pressure, it is concluded, by analogy, that as the canes do not undergo a pressure by the rollers of the mill equal to that which the rasped beet-root is subjected to by hydraulic pressure, which is insufficient, that the residuum saccharine in the mogoss (which possibly may be one fourth of the whole contained in the sugar-cane) can also be extracted without pressure by the simple means employed for beet-root; consequently, if those means are employed in the West Indies, the yieldings from the cane would be increased probably in the proportion stated. Such, in reality, is the case in the yieldings of sugar and molasses from beet-root operated upon by the said invention.

The second operation, after the cane juice has been extracted by the mill, is tempering the juice with lime. This is sometimes done in the cisterns or receivers, and sometimes in the clarifiers, after the juice has been heated; but the latter mode is supposed to be the best, and if so, an improvement, not hitherto used for this operation, may be effected with considerable advantage in economising fuel and motive power by a high-pressure steam-engine, which is the most simple and suitable engine for colonial sugar works.

The third operation is the clarification of the juice in the siphons, or clarifying pans, which are generally heated by the fire, that acts under the whole of the coppers, or battery of pans, although sometimes a separate fire is used; but latterly, in Jamaica, steam has been employed under the siphons.

It has been recently stated by a gentleman who has been in the West Indies, and who is the patentee of an invention for purifying cane juice by the use of ferrocyanic acid (*ferro-prussic acid*) and sulphate of zinc, and with lime, that this method effects the desired object most completely; and, indeed, such is the opinion of some gentlemen who are proprietors of estates; but others, although they believe that by these means the cane juice may be divested in a great measure of the impurities it contains, consider that, in some respects, the sugar made from juice so operated upon by those chemicals does not partake of that quality which is best suited for refining. It may, or it may not, be so; but if the invention has the intrinsic worth it is supposed to have, it should be adopted after satisfactory trials upon a sufficient scale have been made of its efficacy in all respects. The use of chemicals in the manufacture of articles of food (and particularly those of a destructive nature) should always be employed with great care. They may, perhaps, be safely used by the philosopher or scientific operator; but the use of them when intrusted to unskilful or common workmen, may be attended with danger. Simple substances and natural means, if they are efficacious, should be preferred in all operations for the manufacture of food. However, it

is absolutely needful to clarify the cane juice in some way, and certainly for this operation steam heat is decidedly preferable to that of naked fire, or the irregular heat obtained from the fire under the teache; because when steam is used under the clarifier, or in pipes within it, the heat is under controul, and its action can be stopped by the shutting of a cock. The proper application of heat in clarifying cane juice is an important point. The quality of the sugar depends in a great measure upon this operation; for if too much or too little heat is employed the juice will be deteriorated, and the subsequent operation of cleansing will require a longer period to effect it, which is injurious and attended with additional care and labour. Therefore, whether chemicals or the usual simple means are employed for the clarification or depuration of the juice, steam heat would certainly be an improvement in the operation.

The fourth operation is cleansing the cleared liquor, and concentrating it to the consistence of syrup in the boilers or coppers. These are generally worked by the fire under the skipping teache, which acts under the whole battery of pans. Cleansing the liquor is an important operation, and it is rarely performed effectually in consequence of the irregularity of the heat under the boilers. Many of the impurities remaining in the juice, after it has been well clarified, are acted upon by heat; therefore in this operation of cleansing, like that of clarifying, the heat under the boilers or cleansing coppers may be too powerful, or not sufficiently so; and if the former, the scum which arises to the surface of the liquor (which ought to be skimmed off) will be boiled up and mixed with it, and thereby the sugar will be deteriorated in quality; or in the latter case, if there be a deficiency of heat under the boilers, the impurities and feculencies in the liquor, which heat would separate and throw up and render visible, still remain, and the quality of the sugar would thereby be injured. Now as practice has demonstrated that the operation of cleansing the liquor is generally performed improperly by the present imperfect mode of obtaining heat under the boilers, and as heat of various degrees of intensity is required under the several boilers of the battery, according to the progressive state of cleansing the liquor, and as it would be impracticable to have separate fires under each boiler, it follows that this operation of cleansing the liquor can only be properly performed in boilers heated by steam.

The fifth operation should be filtering the partially concentrated liquor or syrup, through a bag filter, and also through a stratum of coarse-grained animal charcoal, by which not only the impurities and feculencies remaining in the liquor or syrup would be separated therefrom, but the syrup would be clear and bright, and a considerable portion of the colouring matter discharged, and the sugar would thereby be greatly improved in colour and quality. To the use of animal charcoal as a filter must be chiefly attributed that perfection or whiteness which refined sugars exhibit. This valuable appendage to the manufacture of refined sugar has not as yet (although introduced into the colonies) been successfully employed in making raw sugar; the want of knowledge of its use, and the great expense of the charcoal required for each operation, has doomed the filter to abandonment in the colonies. Until lately, animal charcoal, when used as a decolorant and filter for saccharine solutions, has been considered to exert its properties chemically and mechanically; but by a recent invention of a scientific gentleman of Marseilles it has been discovered, and proved, that the action of animal charcoal upon syrup is only mechanical, and not chemical; and this fact is exemplified by filters, once charged with animal charcoal, continuing to cleanse solutions of raw sugar and also West Indian molasses, and to discharge a great portion of the colouring matter therefrom, equally well as when charcoal is taken for each operation of filtering. The charcoal in these newly invented Perpetual Filters does not require cleansing after each operation, but on the contrary they may be used for five or six days, after which the cleansing or revivifying of the charcoal is effected by fermenting and washing it in, and without discharging it from the filter, which is hermetically closed. Consequently, by the adoption in the colonies of this perpetual filter (which is equally applicable for the drainage of molasses as for the syrup), the advantages of perfectly cleansing and decolouring the syrup and the drainage molasses, may be attained to a considerable extent.

The sixth operation is the final concentration of the cleansed liquor or syrup to the consistence or proof for crystallization. Of all the means devised and employed for effecting this very important operation, that which is now in general use in the colonies is the worst. Rapid evaporation is the object aimed at; and to a limited extent it is obtained, but not without great sacrifices both in quantity and quality of the sugar. The syrup, when at proof for striking, is at the high temperature of 250° to 260° of Fahrenheit, and even at higher temperatures. Consequently, carbonization takes place to a considerable extent, and it is increased during the period of striking or discharging the teache, which retains the heat from the furnace and fire over which it is placed.

It is little more than twenty years since the advantages of evaporating saccharine solutions at comparatively low temperatures were known even to the sugar refiners of London: previously they, like the sugar planters, employed naked fire heat under the clearing and evaporating pans, the bottoms of which unlike the boilers or teaches of a West India sugar house are nearly flat, or but slightly concave inside, and the fire acts under the bottom only, and not around the sides; and so far the refiner's pan is better than the pan or teache in the colonies, because carbonization or burning on the sides is prevented. Steam pans were next substituted, which produced an amelioration of the evil (the carbonisation of the syrup); but still in both description of pans the temperature of the syrup, when at proof, is a high temperature. Next, and almost simultaneously with the introduction of steam pans, followed the very scientific invention of the domed or vacuum pan, which is also heated by steam; and as the pressure of the atmosphere by this arrangement is excluded

Appendix, No. 9.

Suggestions to the proprietors of estates in the British West Indies.

from acting upon the syrup in the pan, the evaporation is effected at a comparatively low temperature, and thereby concomitant benefits are obtained.

The superiority of a heated medium, in lieu of a naked fire under a sugar pan, gave birth to many schemes, amongst which none stands more conspicuous than that which recommended the adoption of a heated chemical solution bath, which does not embrace in its use either the advantage or simplicity of steam heat. But this scheme of supposed improvement has long since been exploded; for independently of the cost and danger attendant upon the use of the chemical solution, both the syrup in the pan during evaporation and when at proof for crystallization, was at the same high temperature it would have been raised to if operated upon by the naked fire in the teache commonly used. The chief desideratum in evaporating syrup is the low temperature of the syrup when under the influence of heat, and not the low temperature of the heated medium; and although a heated medium (and none is equal to steam) is an advantage, it is only so because its action is equal and more under control than the heat of a naked fire. And again, as to the formation of an evaporating pan: certainly an open pan for colonial use is, on account of its simplicity, greatly preferable to a domed or covered pan, such as the vacuum pan, which although highly scientific, is nevertheless complicated in its management; and for this reason, and also on account of its cost, and of the apparatus requisite for the vacuo method of evaporation, this method has been but very partially adopted in colonial sugar works. But there are other considerations respecting the choice of method, besides that of evaporating to proof at a comparatively low temperature, viz. :—

Dispatch of operation.

Economy of motive power and manual labour.

Economy of fuel.

Economy in cost of an apparatus, simple and effectual.

Perfection in the quality, and increase in the quantity of sugar, and decrease of molasses.

Now these desiderata, combined with that of evaporating at a low temperature, can be obtained by the use of an open pan or teache, when either naked fire or steam heat is employed under it; therefore, for general purposes, such a pan must be preferable to a vacuum pan, which is adapted to steam heat only. And that which adds to the benefits of this method of evaporating in an open pan, at comparatively low temperatures, say at about 100° Fahrenheit below the usual temperature of proof when the old method is used, is that the sugar made by this new method is dry, and of bold and brilliant crystals, and much sweeter than sugar made by any other method of evaporating, and particularly so when compared with sugar made in a vacuum or covered pan, which is less sweet than sugar made in the old way; and a stronger recommendation of the new method is that the agency which effects these united advantages can be employed in manufacturing a species of refined sugar, hereinafter alluded to, which would be in demand in the event of a sugar trade being opened between the British West India colonies and foreign countries.

The seventh operation is granulating, which hitherto has been imperfectly performed in the West India colonies. The native strength of the first crystallization of the juice of the sugar-cane is generally so satisfactory that it is concluded art can do little towards improvement. But such conclusion is erroneous, as will be more fully shown under the head of curing. If the high temperature or present method of evaporation is employed, the strikes are skipped alternately into wooden coolers, from which, in due time, and when at the supposed proper temperature, the partially imperfect crystallized mass is removed into hogsheads in the curing house. Heat, and a proper degree of heat, is requisite for a perfect crystallization; and such crystallization is better effected in a great mass than in a small one, because, in a great mass, and when a proper temperature is kept up, the first crystals formed (which are of greater gravity than the surrounding media or syrup), descend to the bottom of the vessel, and as crystallization proceeds the like takes place until the whole is complete. A contrary procedure, as by the customary mode of granulating in small masses, from the want of that proper heat, and also from a sufficient time not being allowed for crystallization, that portion of the mass which would crystallize if properly treated adheres to the external surface of the grains or crystals; and when heat subsequently acts upon the sugar in the hogsheads in the curing house, part of that coating of the crystals, called molasses, then drains from the sugar, and part when in the hold of the ship during the voyage, the hold being invariably at a temperature which accelerates the drainage of the raw sugar. Consequently, the quantity is less than it would be if the operation was properly performed.

Another drawback occasionally arises from the variableness in the quality of the cane juice, and the greater or less skill of the previous operations; all of which have an influence upon the crystallization. Some juice will crystallize more quickly than other, but the same period of time is allowed for the crystallization of all qualities of juice. The coolers or granulators must be emptied for the workings of the following day; and thus, by this injudicious mode of working, a less quantity of sugar of an inferior quality is made, and the drainage is increased. If the low temperature method of evaporation is employed, and the subsequent operation of crystallizing is properly performed, the contrast will be striking. The strikes*, in lieu of being put into and divided in wooden coolers, are discharged in suc-
cession

* If, however, the strikes are to be discharged into the coolers now used, even then it would be advisable to cover them with boards and mats, to keep the boiled mass warm, and not to cool it. The crystallization would thereby be improved.

cession into a copper heater, which is previously warmed by a gentle flow of steam in the iron case in which it is fixed; and the various strikes which are partially crystallized when discharged from the teache, should be kept in the heater at a proper temperature by steam, in order that the mass may not cool, and thereby prevent crystallization from proceeding as it would do if the temperature is kept up by the steam that surrounds the copper heater or granulating vessel. After the mass has remained in the heater for a certain period of time, which will vary according to the strength of the juice for crystallization, it should be removed, in its partially crystallized state, and when at the proper degree of temperature, into moulds or pyramidal-shaped vessels, properly arranged for draining the molasses; these vessels should be fixed and placed upon bearers in the curing house, which should be kept at a proper temperature continuously, and not intermittingly, as is now the case in all West India curing houses; and if these means are used, particularly the employment of a proper degree of heat, the raw sugar will be properly crystallized.

The 8th, and last operation, is curing, which cannot be completely effected in hogsheads or casks, even though they are placed in a curing house, which is kept at a proper and continuous temperature. The mass of sugar intermixed with the humid, or inferior part, and with the molasses, as it is termed, is removed from the coolers into hogsheads, whereby drainage immediately commences through the interstices of the staves, and the holes in the bottom of the hogsheads, which holes are partly closed by a plantain stalk, or other conductor, in order to accelerate the discharge of that portion of liquid matter which otherwise would in part be crystallized. It may be asked, why are the holes in the bottom of the hogshead partly closed? Is it suspected, that by permitting the molasses or liquid portion of the mass to remain with the sugar, the quantity is increased? If so, this is an admission that the granulation has been only partial, not complete; therefore tight casks, or vessels, should be used in lieu of open staved hogsheads. Or are the holes in the bottom of the hogshead merely to allow the half solid, half liquid mass to escape into the molasses cistern? In either case, it must be evident that the usual mode of granulating raw sugar is an imperfect mode.

Granulation, by the customary method of cooling the evaporized mass to a supposed proper temperature, is only a partial granulation, as shown by the reasonings under the seventh article. A complete crystallization, viz. regularly formed crystals (not grains or broken crystals), is only effected by heat, judiciously applied, when the evaporated mass is primarily crystallized in a heater, and subsequently completed in proper vessels in the curing house, which should be kept continuously at the temperature best suited to the quality of the sugar made.

But to proceed as to the best mode of curing raw sugar. The strikes or skipplings having been discharged into the steam heater, and therein crystallized to the extent required for filling in the curing house, the pyramidal vessels fixed therein, which are suitably constructed for subsequent operations, the partially crystallized mass, at a proper temperature, is then poured into the pyramidal vessels, and suffered to repose. No drainage takes place until the mass is firmly set, and even then it is prudent to ascertain, by the opening of the cock fixed at the apex of the vessel, that the crystallization is complete at the bottom as well as at the top of the vessel, after which the cock may be opened and the drainage permitted.

Notwithstanding the advantages to be derived by this mode of crystallizing and curing as described, a still further improvement may be made by using a magna or syrup, which will not only greatly accelerate the drainage of the molasses, but also cleanse the raw sugar from the mucous matter which adheres to the crystals, and by this process the complexion and colour of the sugar will be much improved; but a continuous and proper heat must be kept up in the curing house during the whole of the operations therein, and this can be easily effected (when the natural temperature is not sufficient) by steam circulating through pipes placed in the curing house. Again, by thus curing the sugar, the superior or upper part in the pyramidal vessels can be separated from the middle part, which will be of a somewhat inferior colour and bolder crystal, and the bottom part or point of a still darker colour and larger crystal; such variation in size of crystal originates from the causes stated under the seventh article on granulation. The sugar, so crystallized and cured by the improved means, will not drain in the hogsheads during the voyage, nor in the warehouses; and, moreover, the sugar in each hogshead will be of uniform quality throughout, and free from fuff. But it should however be remarked, that whether or not syrup or magna (which is a thick and humid mass of raw sugar) is used, the drainage or syrup therefrom should be filtered as before described, previously to its being evaporated for the production of sugar of a somewhat inferior quality, and the drainage or syrup from this sugar of second quality would be molasses, although in some instances it would yield sugar of a third quality; and thereby the quantity of molasses would be reduced. Perchance it may be remarked, that by the adoption of the improved method of crystallizing and curing, the manipulations would be increased, which is an object to be avoided in colonial sugar houses. An impartial review and consideration of the statements made, will, it is presumed, be convincing, that the labour would not be increased. Let us draw a comparison. By the old mode each strike or skipping is generally discharged into separate coolers; from thence, on the following day, or when at a supposed proper temperature, their contents are removed into the hogsheads. Now by the new mode all the strikes, if the workings are moderate, are discharged into one heater, and on the same day, and in the course of a few hours, the partially crystallized mass is removed into the pyramidal vessels in the curing house; so far the labour is not increased; and if magna or syrup is used for cleansing the sugar, the labour is trifling compared with the advantages obtained. The loss by drainage during the voyage is immense;

Appendix, No. 9.
 Suggestions to the
 proprietors of es-
 tates in the British
 West Indies.

In some instances two to three cwts. per hogshead. This waste is caused by the heat in the ship's hold, which is the place where the curing of British plantation raw sugar is principally effected. The amount of this unnecessary and annual loss by drainage is immense. This loss has long been deplored; but is it not wonderful that hitherto the evil has not been stopped? The principle or method of curing the bastard raw sugar of the refiners, even the lowest qualities, and such as is made from West India molasses, is well known in England; and such sugar will not drain if properly cured; why then, when so much is at stake, has not this principle or method of curing been adopted in the British sugar colonies? A similar question may be asked as to the shipment from some of the colonies of the drainage molasses, as it is termed. Such molasses is really a syrup, otherwise it would not yield, as it does when evaporated in England, a good and marketable raw sugar called bastard; but that yielding would be much better in the colonies, even if the present imperfect modes of evaporating, granulating, and curing are continued, as the molasses would then not be deteriorated by fermentation and delay in evaporating it, which causes a considerable reduction in the quantity and quality of the raw or bastard sugar made therefrom; on the other hand, if the improved methods were adopted in all the operations detailed and recommended, the molasses (then really so, as no further crystallization could be effected) might be converted into rum, or shipped for consumption in England, as molasses or treacle, the quality of which would be superior in flavour to that now produced by the refining of sugar, and from sugar made in England from West India molasses.

Secondly. As to the Methods of Manufacturing Sugar suitable for the Markets of Continental Europe and elsewhere, as a Substitute for the Clayed Sugars of Havana and Brazil.— The only variations from the processes previously described for manufacturing raw or muscovado sugar would consist,

Firstly, In a more extensive application of the use of magna and liquor, or syrup, by which the whole of the colouring matter that envelopes each crystal of sugar would be separated and discharged, and thereby the sugar would be white, excepting at the tip or apex of the mould or pyramidal vessel, which for this purpose should be smaller than that used for the curing of raw sugar. The white sugar should be crushed, as is customary in Havana, and the tips, which would be of an inferior but strong quality, might either be crushed for sale, or made into meltings; wherefrom white sugar would be produced by the aid of magna and liquor.

Secondly, In having an additional curing house and drying stove for the sugar made by this method of operating; but if objections should be made to this method of making white sugar similar to clayed sugar, on account of the manual labour, another and a quicker process by mechanical power might be substituted.

As regards the adoption of this last mentioned process it is necessary, from the bias that has existed against its use, to make a few preliminary observations. The process is called the Pneumatic, for which a patent was taken for the British colonies in the year 1829, about the period when the term of the English patent expired. The introduction into the West India colonies of the process for extracting the molasses from raw sugar was unsuccessful, in consequence of the principle of this process not being understood. From this cause it was difficult to operate upon sugar of small and variable grain. And from the same reason, viz. want of knowledge of the principle of the process, the quantity of white or cleansed sugar was comparatively small and imperfectly dried.

The process was in consequence abandoned, excepting in British Guiana, where crystalline raw sugar was produced by the use of the vacuum pan or low temperature system of evaporation. This particular description of raw sugar, from the largeness of its crystals, is more easily operated upon by the pneumatic process, and the product is a crystalline or white candy sugar, which may with propriety be denominated refined sugar; for such in fact the British government considered it to be, having imposed upon its importation the prohibitory duty of 8 l. 8 s. per cwt. chargeable on foreign refined sugar, consequently the process is now used in Demerara to a very limited extent for the manufacture of white sugar, although some estates still continue to use this process for curing or separating a part of the coloured matter that coats the crystals of raw sugar; and such partially cleansed sugar sells in England at good prices for grocery use, for which it is more suitable than for refining.

It has been remarked under the sixth article on evaporation, that raw sugar, made at a low temperature in a vacuum or domed pan, is less sweet than sugar made by an improved method, at a low temperature, in an open pan; and that the latter sort, independently of its being sweeter than sugar made by any other method of evaporation, is of bold and brilliant crystals; consequently raw sugar made by this improved method would be suitable for operation by the pneumatic process, and as the sugar could be completely cleansed from the colouring matter that envelopes the crystal, and thereby made white; and as the quality of peculiar sweetness renders it more suitable for refining than vacuum pan sugar, such improved sugar, although if not admitted for consumption in Great Britain (of which there is now some doubt), would nevertheless be suitable for, and meet with a ready sale in the European continental markets and elsewhere. But under all circumstances, and in the event of it being absolutely needful that sugar, *bonâ fide* clayed (although equally good if operated upon by magna and liquor, or by the pneumatic process), could only be imported into Russia and Prussia; the method of claying might be used in the British West India colonies in a more judicious manner, and with better results than in Havana and Brazil where the other improved and far more important methods of operation, as detailed, are not in use, nor are they likely to be so.

As regards clayed sugar imported into Great Britain, by the Act now in force the duty on British plantation sugar not refined is 24s. per cwt., consequently, as clayed sugar is not considered as refined sugar, the duty would be 24s. per cwt.

Appendix, No. 9.

Suggestions to the proprietors of estates in the British West Indies.

Thirdly. As to Refining Sugar into Loaves, Lumps, &c.—The refining of sugar in Europe is effected in such a variety of ways, that to detail them would be irksome, and indeed it would be superfluous; suffice it to say that the operations, in addition to those described under the previous heads, are not numerous nor difficult; and in many respects colonial sugar refineries would have advantages not possessed by those in Europe. But the chief consideration should be, which description of refined sugar could be best made in the colonies, with reference to pecuniary advantages? The buildings on sugar estates are not like the sugar refineries in Europe, which are expensive erections, and of great capacity of floorage, on account of the variety of qualities and sizes of the loaves, lumps, &c., which vary from 7 lbs. to 60 lbs. or 70 lbs. weight each when discharged from the moulds. In the colonies such variety in quality and size would not be required, and therefore the superficies of floors in a colonial refinery would be considerably less than in an English refinery. Fine double loaves might be wanted for the consumption of the colony, but strong lumps crushed, fit for the refiner's use, would be the article chiefly required for exportation; and as lumps are of greater weight than loaves, a less space and much less labour would be needful for such manufactures, therefore a building of two stories above the ground floor, and a drying stove would be sufficient; and as the temperature of a West India climate is favourable for refining, the building might be constructed of wood, and thereby the outlay would be considerably less than that for a brick erection such as is used in England for a sugar refinery. Again, if the refinery was contiguous to the boiling house of the sugar-works, the cane-juice, when concentrated to the consistence for clarification and filtering, might, without being converted into raw sugar, forthwith be made into refined lump sugar for crushing, which would be of a very superior strength for re-crystallization to such sort of lumps as are made in the refineries of England; the latter sort being generally made from the syrups of loaves of the first, second, and third quality products of the refine, admixed occasionally with raw sugar, and thereby, as those syrups have, in the course of the refine, been repeatedly subjected to the action of heat for evaporation (which is injurious to crystallization), the material from which English lump sugar is made is inferior to the material from which West India lump sugar would be made; viz. from the cane-juice direct, and by one application only of heat for evaporation, consequently West India lump sugar would be of a very superior quality for refining to that made in England. The syrup from West India refined sugar (for the reasons stated) would be of greater strength for subsequent refinement into lumps of a second quality, or such syrup might be admixed with fresh concentrated cane-juice or syrup; and by thus continuing the refine, lumps could be made until the syrup therefrom would be only suitable for making raw sugar, the drainage from which might again be made (with or without the addition of fresh and cleansed cane-juice) into raw sugar of a second and third quality; and the residuum from these qualities would be molasses or treacle, in quantity less than that obtained by the usual mode of refining in England. It must therefore be evident that colonial sugar refineries would have advantages not possessed by those in Europe.

Other and material advantages would be derived from refining sugar in the colonies; viz. the raw sugar employed (from not having been fermented in a ship's hold, as all raw sugar refined in England is) would be superior, and therefore the yieldings would be better. The crop time for making raw sugar in most of the British colonies is confined to six months of operations; a sugar refinery might continue in activity during and after that period, or only after crop time, in which case the workmen of the raw-sugar house might conduct the refinery.

Fourthly. As to the Distillation of Rum.—Although the processes for obtaining this spirit are (it is presumed) well conducted in the West Indies, still it is reasonable to suppose that, by the employment of scientific persons accustomed to the management of distilleries in Great Britain, better results would be obtained, and especially if the most scientific apparatus were employed. The quality of British West India rum, although superior to that made in foreign sugar colonies and states, is nevertheless of various qualities—good, middling, and inferior; and this variation is attributed to the growth of the canes, and to the quality of the sugar made therefrom; and to a certain extent these conclusions are correct. The rum of Jamaica is considered to be the best; that of the Leeward Islands the worst; but that of Demerara approximates (according to the price at which it is sold) to Jamaica rum: indeed it has been asserted, that finer rum is made on some estates in Demerara than in Jamaica. Whence arises this difference in the qualities of rum? It is suspected that the variation is not wholly produced by variableness in the quality of the canes and sugar, as there are some sugars of the Leeward Islands superior to Demerara sugar, and fully equal to Jamaica sugar. And again, the sugar of Barbadoes, as regards colour, is generally superior to Jamaica sugar; but Barbadoes rum is inferior to Jamaica rum. May not the variation in the qualities of rum in part arise from the particular modes employed in manufacturing the sugar? The Demerara rum alluded to is made on an estate that works the striking teache by the low temperature system of evaporation; and therefore, as the raw sugar is better, from not having been carbonized or burnt, as it would have been if the high temperature system had been employed, the drainage, or molasses, from sugar so made at a low temperature is also superior, and consequently a better spirit is obtained from the molasses. It is a well known fact that rum is improved by keeping, and that old rum is

Appendix, No. 9.
 Suggestions to the
 proprietors of es-
 tates in the British
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superior to new. The flavour of rum may be improved by the influence of atmospheric air; and, although it decreases the strength of the rum in a trifling degree, yet it mellows the flavour. This artificial improvement of the quality could be effected at a very trifling expense in the West Indies, with the machinery and apparatus required for evaporating at low temperatures in open pans. But, independently of the advantages that might be derived from a more scientific management and apparatus for distilling rum than that now used in the British West India colonies, the chief and most important benefit would arise, by extracting from the cane trash the residuum saccharine matter it contains, which is estimated at one-fourth of the whole quantity in the whole quantity in the cane.

This subject has been noticed under the first head, or detail of operations, as applicable to increasing the quantity of sugar; but possibly the extra extract that could be obtained from the cane trash might be better appropriated for distilling, as a purer spirit might be made from such extract than by admixing it with the skimmings and drainage molasses, which, as they contain a portion of lime, would not yield so pure a spirit: and it is not improbable that, by the aid of art, the purer sort of spirit that could be obtained from the saccharine left in the cane trash (now used as fuel) might be flavoured to resemble brandy; and if so, such British West India brandy would sell at higher prices than rum, as it would be greatly preferable to the British brandy made in England from corn, potatoes, and mangel wurzel, which sorts of brandy sell at higher prices than common raw spirit. There is also another use to which the extra extract from the cane trash might be applied, viz. for the manufacture of vinegar; but whether this article, if made from the sugar cane (which it is presumed would be of a superior quality to that made in England from malt, cyder, &c.), would be of sufficient importance for consumption in the West Indies, or for exportation, is unknown.

Having thus detailed the present modes of manufacturing products from the sugar cane, and the improved methods which might be employed, it may be interesting to enumerate concisely the principal advantages that would arise by adopting the course suggested, not only by an association, but also by individual proprietors of estates in the British West India colonies; who, for various reasons, might not be able, or might not feel inclined, to embrace the benefits of having their crops of cane, or products therefrom, wholly or partially manufactured by the West India Association:

1. The products from the cane would be increased in proportion to the increased quantity of saccharine matter that can be obtained by extracting the residuum that is left in the trash.
2. The cost of manufacturing would be proportionately less upon the total and increased quantity of products.
3. The products would be of better quality, and more suitable for sale.
4. The loss by drainage of the molasses from raw sugar, during the voyage and in the warehouses, would be avoided.
5. The drainage, or molasses (left upon the estate, in lieu of being pumped into the sea), might be converted into a good and marketable raw sugar, or into rum.
6. The sugar, whether in a raw state, or partially or wholly refined, would realize higher prices, as the excess of raw sugar, above the consumption of that article in Great Britain, would no longer exist.
7. The markets of continental Europe, and of British North America, and the United States, would be open for the sale of British West India refined, and partially refined sugar.
8. The bonding system in Great Britain would be available for British West India crushed sugar, and for the clayed or partially refined sugar, although possibly the last-mentioned sorts might enter for consumption into Great Britain.
9. The cane trash might in all probability (after the saccharine it contains has been extracted) be sold in the colonies for exportation at a price equivalent to the cost of coals, which are to be preferred for fuel, if the steam system is adopted in manufacturing sugar.
10. The Shipping interest would be benefited in proportion to the extra quantity of products obtained, and also by the exportation of coals for fuel in lieu of cane trash, which would then be an article of importation.

Lastly. The Association, by establishing in one of the colonies sugar works and a distillery, upon the improved methods suggested, would thereby benefit the West India proprietary generally, as the operations by those methods, and the changes suggested as to markets for the sale of the products, would determine the most profitable and suitable course to pursue.

Appendix, No. 9.
 Suggestions to the
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