

been productive of good. The loud calls of the anti-slavery party for the actual and immediate emancipation of the slaves, have stimulated the planters to better their condition; and by convincing the colonists that emancipation must sooner or later be granted, have roused them to make those exertions best calculated to prepare the negroes for it.

Up to this point good has been done,—but evil, and that evil irreparable, may be the consequence of more violent measures. Here then let the abolitionists pause: they have done their duty,—in too many cases more than their duty, and let them now leave the colonists to do theirs. They call for emancipation: the work that is to produce it, and to render it a safe measure, is begun; it is vigorously continuing: let them watch that it be fairly completed; but let them not, if they be the friends of the negroes, strive to enforce their favorite, Freedom, upon them, before they be in a condition to receive her.

I said that the colonists and the anti-colonists have done both good and harm. The good lies in the ameliorated condition of the negroes, produced by the violence of one party stimulating the other to action. The harm is caused by the circulation of ranting pamphlets, and false reports that have misled the public from some; and by the mingled truth and falsehood of contradictory publications, emanating from others. Thus the world, with both sides of the question before it, could not decide between them, because neither side was fairly stated.

It is thus clearly proved that Englishmen who

wish to form correct ideas on the state of slavery, cannot trust entirely to the assertions either of the planters or the abolitionists.

The all-pervading principle of self-interest will infuse itself into the arguments of the one, and bursts of well-meaning, but mistaken enthusiasm, will (particularly, if aided by ignorance) destroy the cool reasoning of the other: their readers may now and then catch a glimpse of the truth, but they will never see the whole.

From whom then are people to expect a fair delineation of the state of slavery? why clearly from one who has resided in the midst of it, without being interested in its abolition or continuation; from one who has poured into its recesses, and seen it in its darkest and its fairest light; from one who is unattached to either party, and unbiassed by any prejudice (except that which is in favor of an universal freedom), but above all, from one who has studied the nature, characters and dispositions of the race of people to be emancipated.

As all this do I present myself to the public; I went to the West Indies at an early age, before any prejudice could be formed for or against the colonists. I had never heard or read with any attention,—therefore I could not be influenced by—the arguments of either party: it is true, indeed, that I went out expecting to see cruelty, and prepared to condemn it; but this did not arise from any bias or prejudice, but from a hatred of all slavery and from those feelings on the subject of liberty which ought to, and I trust do, fill the breast of every Englishman. I

have resided four years in the tropics, but in those four years my residence has not been fixed. I have been continually removing from island to island, and consequently had never the time (even if I possessed the inclination, which, God wot, I had none of) to form any ties or connexions that might bind my interest to the interest of the planters. My visits to estates gave me many opportunities of having long and private conversations with the slaves; of observing well their treatment, and of learning their own ideas of their own condition. I had no occupation in the West Indies, save that of looking scrutinously around me, and making my observations on the state of things. In this I employed myself till my return to England, and there I found the opinions which existed on the subject of slavery strong and various, but none of them correct. I found, too, that nearly all who spoke on the subject derived their ideas from the different pamphlets and productions which had been put into their hands. I was even induced to read such pamphlets and productions (to the number, I think, of about one hundred, for and against, at various prices, from a penny to a pound); and it was the perusal of them that induced me to undeceive the public on the question, which all of them pretended to discuss, but which none discussed fairly.

The preceding chapters will give a correct idea of the present state of slavery to those who read them; and will, I think, go a great way to prove that a gradual emancipation must be the object of the friend of the slave.

I believe that from the commencement of my argu-

ments I have placed the question in a new light. I have spoken of it not politically, but morally. I have not said that the slaves must be emancipated immediately, but I have said (and what Englishman would not?) that they must be emancipated. I have not said that it would be an injustice to the planters, but a cruelty to the slaves to give them freedom now.

In discussing the question, I put the colonists entirely out of it; not because I would assert them to be unworthy of consideration, but because I would lay all consideration aside that is not advantageous to the negro, whom I would befriend; because, too, I would prove that independent of its advantage or disadvantage as a political measure, and taking it merely as a question of right and wrong, emancipation ought not yet to be granted to the negroes; nay, that it would be a violation of principle, and an infringement of duty to grant it.

All this may seem very strange, and yet, in my opinion, it is very clear.

Slavery is an evil which England has done her best to encourage and support: "a monster matured by the growth of years, and strengthened in its existence by the supporting influence of interest and property:" a thing that has enriched our forefathers and filled the coffers of the first-born of our race. The present generation, however, with motives nobler, and views more philanthropic, than those which actuated their ancestors, regard slavery with the detestation it deserves; they have abolished the trade, and they seek to abolish the system.

Every exertion has been made to ameliorate the condition of the enslaved; and that condition *has* been so ameliorated that the negroes who were born, and have been brought up in it, have actually become contented and happy.

They are, doubtless, an injured race, and it is our duty to repay them for their injuries; but, can we do so by giving them a gem which they know not how to value, and telling them that it is all the compensation they will receive for the cruelties sustained by their fathers, and the degradation submitted to by themselves.

Liberty is the gem to which I allude. Liberty is the gem of which they know not the value, because they are contented without it. Mr. Barclay is right when, in speaking of emancipation, he says, that "here it is one thing, and there it is another: here it is to make the negroes an industrious and enterprising free peasantry, and there it is to be a liberation from the master's authority, an exemption from labor; in short, the free and full enjoyment of enviable idleness in the houses and land belonging to their masters, which they now occupy."

It is clear, therefore, that while the slave views liberty in a light like this, and while taking it in any other, he is more contented with his slavery, he cannot be fit to enjoy it.

He is, therefore, uninstructed, suppose then we instruct him; he is unenlightened, suppose we enlighten him; he is irreligious, and perhaps a pagan, suppose we instil into his mind the true principles of

morality, and religion; he is ignorant, suppose we educate him; his mind is full of the degradation of slavery, suppose we inspire him with the noble spirit of freedom: his whole nature will be changed; he will view liberty not as the gift which leaves him to indulge himself in idleness, but as the gift that will allow him to gain for himself and his offspring an honest and independent livelihood; he will become restless and unhappy under the yoke which he now bears with patience and content: suppose we then rid him of that yoke; suppose we leave him free to labor as he seeks; suppose we give him emancipation when, and not before he desires it, when he is no longer happy and contented without it, when he sighs for it from the bottom of his soul, in a word, when he knows its value.

I will ask the veriest advocate of emancipation, if this would not be the nobler way of bestowing the gift; setting aside custom and the acknowledged prudence of bringing about any important change by gradual, and not sudden means? I will ask if it would not be more generous to bestow it thus, than to give it to him in the darkness of his ignorance?

But put generosity, which we ought not, out of the question, and look only to common sense:—

Take an uneducated peasant from Yorkshire, and make him the prime minister of England; how would he support his situation?

Place the sturdy inhabitant of icy Lapland on the burning plains of Africa; how would he endure the change?

Take the emaciated invalid from the bed of sickness and force him to labor in the field ; how will he perform his task ?

Snatch the unenlightened and uneducated slave from the low degradation of his slavery, and place him suddenly on the glorious throne of liberty ; how will he bear his elevation ?

And yet the Yorkshire peasant might be taught, and an humble individual promoted step by step, might at length attain the dignity of a prime minister, and be able to support his office.

The Laplander might be borne through climes that grew warmer by degrees, and finally arrive in the hottest land without feeling inconvenience from the change.

The sick patient too, if allowed to recover slowly, would in time grow convalescent, and attain strength sufficient to enable him to labor in the field.

Lastly, the ignorant and unenlightened slave, however low his degradation, may be placed with safety upon the glorious throne of freedom, provided he be conducted to his exalted station with careful and gradual progression.

And here let me stop ; I have said enough to prove that " gradual emancipation, should be the object of all those who would befriend the negro." I will conclude by remarking, that, provided that gradual emancipation be brought about, as it is our duty to bring it about, by education and religious instruction ; the time will not be far distant when it will be safe and just towards the planter, and great

and glorious for the slave:—and I will further advise the abolitionists not to indulge longer in that favorite *theory* which leads them to suppose that they can remedy in a day an evil which has existed for ages, lest in its fatal *practice* they one day behold bloodshed, murder, desolation, and destruction triumphing in the tropic isles, and laying waste the colonies of their country.

CHAPTER LI.

FORTS AND FREE AFRICANS.

“ Through this we pass
Up to the highest battlements from whence
The Trojans threw their darts.” *Denham.*

“ These free savages can never be any thing else but
a source of unmingled evil to the whole society.” *Coleridge.*

READER, I have done with slavery; I have said little about it, yet that little will serve, I think, to show what it is; judge now for yourself.

I will resume the narration of my memoirs. If I mistake not, my last pause was at George Town, in the very lovely island of Grenada, and near the sober threshold of a stone building of substantial memory, bearing the nomenclature of a methodist chapel.

I believe I mentioned all that was worth mentioning in the town, with the exception of sundry tales, hereafter to be told, of more than one of its inhabitants.

So now for the suburbs.—

First, foremost, and most formidable, Fort George. This fortification is beyond all calculation beautiful and picturesque; you ascend, from the Carenage, one of those paved hills of purgatory before-mentioned,

and turning round by the Long Room, you are in two minutes on your way to the Fort.

By the way I must not pass the Long Room without a word on its own merits and those of its worthy owner:—therefore, know all men by these presents, that the said Long Room is by far the most useful apartment in George Town. It forms the first floor of a large brick building at the corner of the street, which, though not exactly a tavern, may be termed a house of accommodation for strangers of any note on their first arrival in the island; and a very comfortable and respectable dwellingplace is it, I swear by the manes of my aunt Josephine, an oath to me more binding even than the “kitchen poker” or the more classical waters of Styx.

But, for the Long Room, there would be no doing without it, it is not only a desirable but an indispensable. Is there a public ball, it is given in the Long Room; is there a militia dinner, the Long Room is the place where the members luxuriate on their turtle, and discuss their bottles of champagne; is there a *soirée*, a concert, or a *déjeuné de grand façon*, in the Long Room must the invited convene; is there a dance, on the chalked floor of the Long Room must the fair creoles of Grenada

“Trip the light fantastic toe,”

even as do the lively and lovely *débutantes* of the fashionable world on the aristocratic *plancher* of Almacks.

But in more ordinary seasons, the Long Room is

the apartment where the inhabitants of Grenada are wont to kill time by perusing the journals of Great Britain, or playing billiards in the Grand Saloon; or drinking ginger-beer in the airy gallery of Red *Pavé*, which leadeth on one side to the printer of printers; or on the other, to the room of rooms.

But what has all this to do with Fort George? I said that in two minutes after passing the Long Room you would be on your way thither. The distance is, perhaps, a furlong, and the principal objects on the road, which by the way is rugged to a miracle, and most terrible to ascend, are a pretty English looking house, fronted with green trellis work, the great gates of the fort, the quarters of the ordnance store-keeper, and finally the drawbridge; pass this, and in another moment you are on the battlements of the citadel.

Here there is a refreshing breeze and a delightful prospect; signals for approaching vessels, waving on either flag-staff; barracks that contain some five and twenty artillerymen; guns to shoot with and to salute with; mortars that might throw shells, and shells that might be thrown by mortars.

This fort, which defends the entrance to the Carénage, and was formerly called Fort Royale, though pretty and unique, is not to be compared to the splendid range of fortifications that grace the Richmond Heights.

A few doors beyond the goodly domain of Miss Jenny Gosset, of ginger-beer celebrity, and opposite to Constitution Hill, before told of, is the road lead-

ing to these forts, which road is not less worthy of a description than the forts themselves.

The first part of it is called Upper Montserrat, *pourquoi je ne sais pas*, and although only remarkable for a few clean dwellings and a great many dirty ones, is nevertheless a favorite promenade with *many*, not to say all, of the inhabitants of Grenada, or rather Georgetown.

After passing the residence of the chief judge, which may be termed the top of Montserrat, the road becomes more level, and the scenery more picturesque. A conspicuous object is the Government House, which is a noble building; and if not the most splendid in the West Indies, is certainly superior to any in the smaller islands; and is a credit to the colony. It is built of brick, has a handsome exterior, and is delightfully situated on a pleasant and healthy spot, commanding a magnificent view of the surrounding scenery.

On one side it looks towards the town and harbour; and on the other, towards that most classical valley in the tropics, the Vale of Tempe.

Some distance beyond the Government House, is a point called the White Gun, where the road branches off in two directions, one leading to the country, and the other by a steep ascent to Richmond Hill.

After passing the guard-house, a little way up the hill is the mess-room; and the barracks for the men and officers are considerably beyond.

They are situated on the battlements of the first

fort, and are fine, cool, airy, and substantial buildings, with long covered galleries at the back. Further on are the superb quarters of the Commandant, after which comes the citadel, on which a flag-staff is erected, and another fort.

At the back of the barracks, and some distance below them, is a fine parade-ground, where the troops are regularly exercised. In my poor opinion, it is impossible for any view to be more beautiful than that seen from the Richmond Heights. The pleasing and picturesque appearance of the little town; the unique fort, defending the harbour and commanding the bay; the busy Carenage, filled with vessels of all sorts and sizes; the boats watering at the aqueduct; the spacious Lagoon, the little creeks and bays; the fair pasture of Belmont on one side, and the lovely Vale of Tempe on the other; the long line of broken and irregular hillocks shooting into the sea and becoming

“ Small by degrees, and beautifully less,”

until they terminate in Point Saline; finally, the sea itself, the broad bright blue Atlantic, with the little droghers scudding over its unruffled surface, or larger vessels with their bellying sails filled with the balmy breezes of the tropics, bounding lightly and swiftly over its azure waves, and dashing up the foamy spray—all these combine to form a scene of surpassing loveliness, almost deserving, in the opinion of Coleridge, “that Westall should make a voyage from England to see and paint it.”

The Richmond Heights are considered very healthy situations for the troops, although every regiment on its first arrival in the Island suffers more or less; and the hospital, which is built on a hill below (a position not deemed quite so salubrious, on account of the marshes in its vicinity), is seldom without its number of invalids.

I do not think, however, that the many deaths among the troops are caused by climate so much as by change, and the drinking of new rum.

It is customary to send troops from Great Britain direct to Demerara and Berbice, which are two of the most unhealthy of our colonies—low, damp, woody, level, and hot.

After having been two or three years on these disagreeable stations, those who survive the trial are considered to be by that time well-seasoned to the climate, and the regiment is then ordered to St. Vincent and Grenada, two of the most healthy islands in the West Indies.

Here, instead of the low, marshy, and hot country they have just left, the troops are quartered in barracks built on lofty hills, over which the breeze blows with a grateful freshness, which too often tempts them to expose themselves to its dangerous, but refreshing coolness; thus the perspiration is suppressed, and those diseases gained which so often prove fatal.

Hospital Hill is another fortification which has accommodation for a considerable number of soldiers; but on account of its unhealthy position, it is

used only as a station for black troops, who do not suffer from those causes which prove so destructive to Europeans.

The Government force stationed in Grenada, is two companies of an European regiment, and one of a West India corps, a detachment of artillerymen, and a staff, consisting of the Medical, Commissariat, Ordnance, Barrack, and Engineer departments, to the four last of which are attached a body of military labourers.

These people are commonly black Africans, who have been taken in slave ships, and either kept in the service of Government, or bound out as apprentices for the term of seven years, to be declared free at the expiration of that period.

Those attached to military departments are called by the natives, "King's niggers;" and those who are free, by the termination of their apprenticeship, bear the appellation of "Willyforce nigger."*

These beings are not only rude and barbarous, but bad, vicious, and depraved, plunged into the lowest state of moral degradation; obstinate, idle, stupid, ignorant, and savage, in fact, hardly above the condition of brutes. It seems impossible to instruct them or to make them work though they are paid and fed for it; they will not be led by gentle means, and they will hardly be driven by force: their feelings appear torpid and their affections undeveloped; they seem to exist in indifference; they display a morbid selfishness in all their actions, and they look

* Wilberforce Negroes.

upon all around them, even their best friends, with the dark and gloomy eye of suspicion and mistrust.

Mr. Coleridge seems to have studied those people with some attention, and his remarks will I think give the reader a better idea of their characters than any further explanation of mine.

“What is further intended,” says he, “with regard to these Africans, I know not, but certainly much temper and deliberation are requisite to deal with them beneficially. They present, within a comparatively small compass, all the difficulties which would necessarily attend the immediate enfranchisement of the entire slave population in the colonies; and they who affect to hold those difficulties cheap, only discover their own consummate ignorance of a subject upon which they have nevertheless the assurance to set themselves up as oracles. If there were any present or future chance of converting these barbarians into useful citizens, by a lavish expenditure of money upon the actual system, the tax might be generously borne by the generous philanthropy of the British people; but in reality, this expense is incurred for the purpose of maintaining them in a situation in which they are so far from advancing in civilization, that they become more vicious and lazy every day that they live. Labor of every kind they dislike, agricultural labor they detest. As long as the crown continues to support them by a daily pension they will not, generally, work at all; if they were left to themselves they would probably labor or steal, as it might happen, to the extent of procuring subsist-

ence, which would be about a month or so in the course of the year. To the moral stimulus of bettering their condition, of acquiring importance, and commanding comforts, they are utterly insensible; they care for none of those things, they have no sort of apprehension of them. Indeed they seem to be practical philosophers, although no great political economists, and I have no doubt if they reason at all, that they conclude the planters to be egregious fools for toiling so heavily instead of sitting down in the shade and drinking new rum all the day long."

So much, Reader, for Forts and Free Africans.

CHAPTER LII.

SOCIETY OF GRENADA—NOTES ON A BALL.

“All that was brightest and noblest in Britain burst in an assembled group upon her startled senses.”

* * * * *

“And Gertrude gazed and smiled, and smiled and gazed; her daintiest imagining had pictured nothing half so radiant half so fair.”

A Dream of Fashionable Life.

“GENTLEMEN of Grenada, where are your wives?” says the author with whose remarks I have concluded my last chapter. It was this question, with the succeeding observations, that led me to suppose I should find no female society in the Island of Grenada. I was, therefore, agreeably surprised, after a fortnight’s residence in Georgetown, to find myself invited to a ball at the house of Mr. ***.

Now the reader will easily suppose that there could be no ball without ladies, and on this occasion I think there were about eighteen present; at more public parties I have seen as many as twenty-six. This number, although certainly not so extensive as in many of the other islands, will nevertheless form a very pleasant little society for a small town.

In Barbados I have seen at one soirée as many as a hundred of the fair sex. In St. Vincent I have gazed at a brilliant assembly of more than fifty; and

yet I have often felt more pleasure in the social gaiety of a *petite réunion* in Grenada, than in the more formal and ceremonious parties of the other favored isles.

Not that I would accord the palm of beauty to the fair creoles of Georgetown, for in Barbados I have seen the rarest and the fairest beings; the young, the sad, the smiling, the tender, and the caressed; and in St. Vincent I have beheld the lively and lovely, the merry and the mournful, the innocent, the joyous, and the gay. But when we possess but few gems we set on them a greater value; and the bright star in the azure heaven seems brighter when it shines alone, than when it has to vie with the brilliancy of a thousand others.

The party of Mr. *** was only the first of a succeeding many which I have enjoyed and delighted in since my arrival in Grenada. There was less pomp, there was, perhaps, less etiquette, and certainly less ceremony, than I had been accustomed to in the other islands, but as the same circle was in the habit of meeting again and again, as there was no party spirit to cause a division of sets, and as the assembled of the little community were all known to each other, there existed between them a social and familiar intercourse which rendered their society pleasing, and caused it to be enjoyed.

The Government House, which I have before spoken of, was the scene of many delightful gaieties towards the close of the year 1828; and a description of the ball which was given by Sir James Campbell,

the Governor, on its last and most eventful evening, will give an idea of the little society of Grenada.

A gentleman of the party presented me with a poetical narrative of the occurrence, and although I doubt much whether it will greatly enhance his fame as a poet, yet it may amuse the reader more than my own common-place prose. I shall take the liberty of making notes on his verses as I proceed. He begins thus—

1.

“The theme that I have chosen to indite
Of jovial import is—a splendid ball,
Which cast of late a cheerful ray of light
Upon the season, and which did befall
On the old year’s last and most propitious night,
When all the world attended pleasure’s call,
And large assemblages of rank and quality
Met to partake Sir James’s hospitality.

2.

“And I do also promise to include
The supper, and to give a bill of fare
Of all the mixed varieties of food
And luscious wines that have been sported there;
And, finally, it will be monstrous rude
T’ omit the name of any lady fair;
For certes I shall rouse my reader’s passion,
If I leave out the beauty or the fashion.”

In my opinion it would be much more rude to insert the name of “any lady fair,” although the assemblage of “beauty and fashion,” to which the author alludes, was brilliant yet select, and does not indeed merit to be passed over in silence.

The charms of a fair creole are rendered doubly powerful by the pleasing gaiety and lively animation

which is ever excited by a ball ; and few, I think, would have entered that splendid apartment, and have seen the many in their joyousness, without breathing a secret prayer for their prosperity ; without hoping that the glad young smiles of happiness that sat on every brow, might long be expressive of the felicity of their hearts. The poet proceeds :

3.

“ I seldom dance, being almost grown too old ;
 And if, by chance, I dare to ask a *belle*,
 She seems to wonder I could be so bold,
 And looks more scornful than there's need to tell.
 And so that night, the tropics not being cold,
 Quiet I sat to let my peepers dwell
 Upon the scene ; and now, the De'il confound me,
 If you don't hear of all that pass'd around me.

4.

* * * * *

5.

“ The country-dance had ended, and the band,
 As customary, played a march the while,
 And I resign'd my seat (I never stand)
 To one fair maid, who paid me with a smile ;
 I thought her manners courteous and bland,
 And her the fairest creole in the isle :
 I know a certain doctor who thought the same,
 His name—why there now—I forget his name.

6.

“ But hers I never can forget ; for she
 Was beautiful beyond the common kind ;
 With courteous ease and graceful gaiety
 She talked with spirit, danced as if her mind
 Partook the joyous sentiment of glee
 Her countenance express'd : there lurk'd behind
 No foolish envy of her sex—by Jove !
 I wonder not the doctor was in love.

7.

And now they all stood up to the quadrille,
 These were the beings who composed the set."

* * * * *

This practice of dancing quadrilles after opening the ball with a country-dance, appears to prevail throughout the West Indies; and in the Island of Grenada they seldom even vary the figure, dancing the "Lancers" only occasionally instead of the regular set; and if the fashionable galopade, and the still more fashionable mazourka, ever find their way to the tropics, I much question their power of being able to expel the modern quadrille, or even the ancient country-dance.

As I see little chance of my reader becoming acquainted with "the beings who composed the set," I will omit their description, and pass on to verse

11.

"But the quadrille had ended, so the band
 Struck up, at once, a tune of martial sound,
 And almost all the ladies in the land
 Were, with their various part'ners, pacing round.
 My tale is of that evening's pleasure, and
 It doth in many characters abound,
 So I will now describe, in modern song,
 The characters who paced that room along.

12.

"'Hold, Poet, hold!—' a voice is heard to call,
 'You're far too fond of your descriptive pieces,
 We now have heard sufficient of the ball,
 And eke enow of masters and of misses.
 A dance without refreshment doth appal
 The stomachs of the wisest, e'en Ulysses
 Could not support it; so, if you are able,
 Your worship may describe the supper table.'

13.

“ It shall be so : first soup of turtle came on,
 I love the taste of turtle and of venison ;
 Ye gods, how nice they are ! and next a salmon,
 Or dish of oysters did receive my benison.”

* * * * *

Apropos of these oysters ; it is curious that they are found in Grenada, and I believe in one or two other islands, growing on, or rather attached to, trees and bushes planted on the seabeach ; and by lopping off one or two branches you obtain a plentiful supply. They are very small, and somewhat more insipid than the oysters we get in England, but, as they are rather scarce, they are accounted a luxury. To proceed.

14.

“ And, sparkling pink, was there the bright champagne,
 Which many drank, regardless of the warning
 Of would-be wits, who, o'er and o'er again,
 Said they would have the *real pain* in the morning.
 And one of whom I ask'd, but ask'd in vain,
 When I perceived the New Year's Day was dawning,
 How he felt on the whole, upon an average,
 After consuming so much windy beverage ?”

I know not if this be a sarcasm, but it is certainly true, that the jovial West Indian does very often indulge in taking rather too much of this exhilarating beverage ; which in the island of Grenada may be, and is, had in perfection.

15.

“ And luscious grapes were there, and tarts, I'm sure,
 And pastry too, of all and every kind ;
 Wines that might suit the nicest epicure,
 And please the palates of the most refin'd.

Fruits—all that man could mention or procure,
 The grateful shaddock, with its yellow rind,
 The juicy orange, and the matchless pine,
 More than one can remember or divine."

The supper was, indeed, most splendid; no expense had been spared to render it worthy of the occasion on which it was given; the whole affair was well directed, and magnificently arranged, and the luxuries on the table were truly

"More than one can remember or divine."

16.

"To crown the whole, Sir James, to all around,
 Was kind, and mildly affable and gay;
 Delighted with the sweet and mirthful sound
 Of joy and revelry: he seem'd to pay
 Attention universal; there was found
 No sign of ostentation in the way
 In which he strove to entertain them all,
 Throughout the supper, and throughout the ball."

Even our author, who, in some of the verses I have omitted, has been somewhat personal and acrimonious, could not forbear joining in the general admiration of that kind condescension, and gentlemanly mildness of manner, which so eminently distinguish the character of Sir James Campbell, and have caused him to be respected and beloved by all who know him. He has been some time absent from his government, to which he is now returning; and if he cross the broad Atlantic in safety, his arrival will be hailed not only with the sounding of cannon, and the waving of flags, but with earnest and sincere expressions of joy from every inhabitant of Grenada.

The poet next tells us that

“ The party, after supper, danc'd again,
 Quadrilles, the Spanish dance, the ‘ Lancers’ too.”

* * * * *

Nothing could be more characteristic of a West Indian *soirée* than to say,

“ The party after supper danc'd again ;”

they always do dance again, their spirits never flag ; and if they did, supper and the champagne would bring them to their usual pitch of animation.

I would venture to lay my tailor's bill (a thing which is never paid) against the national debt (another thing which is never paid, so that the bet is pretty even), that a young and lovely creole would dance in one evening as many galopades, and half as many mazourkas, as the most experienced of our “ *debutantes*” would accomplish in a whole season.

The author concludes his narration by informing us that

“ 'Twas New Year's Day, the clock had struck the hour
 Of five, and they all deem'd it time to go ;
 No drizzling rain did fall, no little shower,
 That might excuse their longer stay, and so
 They did depart. Time doth itself devour ;
 For sure the morning gun had fired now,
 Which is the last gun I mean shall be fired,
 My readers all look so extremely tired.”

In all the islands in the West Indies a gun is fired at the hours of five in the morning, and eight in the evening, by way of letting the inhabitants know that it is time to get up, or to go to bed ; which may very well lead us to suppose that the officers of our West

India garrison have adopted that very old fashioned proverb, never penned in London, which saith,

“ Early to bed, and early to rise,
Makes a man healthy, and wealthy, and wise.”

—————“ The clock had struck the hour
Of five, and they all deem'd it time to go.”

This is a perfect truism. The clock had actually struck five ; the loud report of the morning-gun had burst upon the ears of the fair assembly at Government House before they could find resolution enough to leave the merry dance, and proceed towards

“ home, sweet home.”

This is nearly always the case at a public party : the quadrille seems never to fatigue, and always to exhilarate the guests. The completion of one appears only to stimulate them to the commencement of another ; and, in the meanwhile, time, who from the happy flies so swiftly, and from the woeful with such a tardy wing, has borne away the hours of the night ; and when, at length, the gentlemen have buttoned their surtouts, and the ladies have concealed their fairy figures in the many folds of their silken cloaks, morning has dawned upon the isle, and the early, yet splendid rays of the tropic sun are already updrawing the dew from the flowers.

This may be termed a general specimen of West India balls ; yet in the island of Grenada the same parties meet in a more social manner ; and though the gaiety may be as great, the dance as spirited, and the happiness as perfect, the guests, as a matter of course, disperse at an earlier hour.

CHAPTER LIII.

FEVERS AND THEIR EFFECTS—A RIDE AND A RIVER
SCENE.

—————“ We are all diseased ;
And with our surfeiting and wanton hours,
Have brought ourselves into a burning fever.”

Shakspeare.

“ The laundress must be sure to tear her smocks in the washing.”—*Swift.*

I DO not tell the reader that the people go to balls night after night, or even week after week, in the tropics, with impunity. Many a man by dancing, drinking, and dissipation, has provoked the attack of that, which has effectually prevented him from dancing, drinking, or dissipating more. Many a young and fairy being, many a lovely, innocent, and smiling creole, has gained, in the merry dance, in that exhilarating whirl which fills her eye with animation, and her heart with joyousness, that which has borne her, in her beauty and her bloom, away to an early grave.

The diseases of the Western Isles leave the invalid but little time for penitence or reflection.

In the short space of three days, the fever which rages in the brain, and burns in the blood of the victim, is either defeated and defied by the hardy vigor

of a young and healthful constitution, or extinguished by the cold and clammy touch of death. To-day I dine with the strong and the healthy; to-morrow I follow him to his home of homes. The grim skeleton, however, is usually more lenient to the old inhabitants than to the new comers. It is the seasoning fever that does the work of death. It is this that the afflicted father curses with the curse of bitterness; over this does the mother mourn in the tenderness of her grief.

But I have seen a hundred of the aged who have passed their grand climacterics. Sixty, seventy, eighty years, have rolled over their hoary heads, and they are now on the high road to a hundred; and yet they show no signs of dying. They live on in the hardihood of their health, in spite of the sighing of their relatives, and the impatience of their heirs.

And I have seen the young too, the young, the beautiful, the brave; they came in the pride of health, they were flowers that promised long to blossom in their beauty; they were gay, and innocent, and joyous; wild as the air they breathed; unthinking as the earth they trod on; beloved by their relatives, admired by their friends, and triumphing in the prospect of happiness; and happiness was theirs, and they enjoyed it. And a week passed away, a week of pleasure, the dissipated pleasure of the world; but it passed soon in its blissfulness, and then came fever, and it seized them with its burning grasp; and disease, and it breathed upon them the breath of corruption; and a phantom, a grim, gaunt,

gloomy, grinning phantom, and it touched them with the withering hand of death. So the flowers were blasted in the loveliness of their bloom, and the young in the elasticity of their youthfulness, and the beautiful in the pride of their beauty, and the brave in the vanity of their courage. They were conveyed to their last homes, and their parents wept for them a season, a short season, and their relatives mourned for them a while, a little while, and their friends missed them for a day or two. After this came pleasure, hand in hand with oblivion; and the dance and the festival were resumed, and the worms feasted on the buried, and the men forgot them in their gaiety.

In all this there is a deep and impressive warning, but it is a warning that is not heeded. I was in Grenada, when the scarlet fever was pursuing its ravages; and there such scenes were of every day occurrence; indeed, I believe their frequency deprived them of their effect. In the West Indies custom reconciles us to the sight of death, as it does in England to the sight of misery. And yet, that same fever, I mean the scarlet, is a terrible enemy to wrestle with, and there are few who survive the combat.

In the West Indies, however, any fever is bad enough, and I think the "seasoner," is as bad as any. I had one in Barbados, that thinned and weakened me; another in St. Vincent, that nearly *kilt* me, and a third in Grenada, that nearly killed me.

This fever attacked me one morning after a dance

of my own, and two or three after the entertainment I have already spoken of, given by the Governor. It was the dissipation of these two nights, and two more besides, that had fairly knocked me up ; and it was my father who in a great fright sent for a doctor to recover me.

Now, next to the approach of death and the devil himself, I do shudder at the forthcoming of a doctor. Let him be physician, surgeon, apothecary, or apprentice, equally doth he terrify me with his prescriptions. My fancy teemeth with pills, and the payment for the same ; with visits (guinea visits), vexations, and vital air ; with blisters, bolus, and the bill ; with hot waters, bleeding, and Gil Blas-isms—the very thought of the remedy is to me worse than the disease.

But the doctor came though, and there was no help for it ; and he felt my beating pulse, and said it went very quick ; and my burning forehead, and pronounced it very hot ; and my palpitating heart, and told me there was a lady in the case ; whereat I muttered, God forbid ! and gave him a guinea for his pains and his penetration.

But the doctor was right, and though I threw the prescription out of the window, and the prescribed after it, though I ate beef-steaks because he forbade it, and drank sangaree because he said it would kill me, and though the same cured me when the doctor could not, still he was right ; my heart beat not because my brain was fevered, its palpitation was for her I loved ; for Laura, whose dear image

floated before my fancy like a dream, whose sweet features are impressed upon my memory in all their sweetness ; whom I think of in happiness and in woe, in prosperity and adversity, in gaiety and solitude, in sickness and in health. But what has this to do with my fever ? Well, after two days of illness and three of convalescence, I found myself *en etat de monter à cheval*, and my first ride was to Mount Parnassus, a very pretty estate, which some gentlemen of classical taste had named on the same day with Corinth and the Vale of Tempe, two other plantations in the same island, called after, but not at all like the classical originals.

I took my way through the market-place and along the Bay, and after passing the burying-ground, arrived at the river, where I disappointed my steed of his usual gallop, in order to observe what was going on in the water. Reader, did the old woman who took care of you in the nursery, never sing you the burthen of the song,

“ The devil a bit of comfort is
Upon a washing day ? ”

Not so is it in the tropics : there every day is a washing day ; and yet each has its little quantum of comfort.

The negro woman, whose duty it is to keep your linen clean, departs in the morning from your dwelling, and carries her bundle to the town, or out of town river. There she rids herself of all superfluous robes, and tying on a light garment, marches into the middle

of the stream, with a hundred others of her own sex, who have assembled there for the same purpose.— Many of the women have young children whom they take with them; and it is not at all uncommon to see about fifty naked niggerlings dabbling all day in “the gleaming waters,” or sporting, as lambkins sport, only not altogether so white, on the banks of the stream in which their mothers are washing: the said banks are usually covered with clothes of all sorts and colors laid out to bleach in the sun; and forming a curious contrast with the green verdure of the surrounding scenery, which is full of richness and beauty.

This was the scene that induced me to ride slower than I am often wont to do, by the banks of the rippling stream that winds through the rich valley of Tempe, on the road to Mount Parnassus.

Really it was worth the while to see these women wash; no mercy had they on the shirts, waistcoats, or pantaloons, of the good people of Grenada. The river, as is usually the case in the West Indies, was shallow and full of rocks, and *les petites blanchisseuses* who have no notion of rubbing their hands up and down like the fairer daughters of Albion, were all employed in beating the wearables on the said rocks and then dipping them in the water below: and verily I say unto thee, every one of them did perform her office with a spirit worthy of an Amazon; and for the breaking, bursting, rending and tearing of the waistcoats and pantaloons, one would have thought that each of them were married to a tailor, or had a button-maker for her *chère-ami*.

Notwithstanding this, there are few women in England who can wash, or even iron, like the negroes; and if they do contrive to tear the pockets of your trowsers, and break the buttons of your shirts on the stones of the river, they repay you for these trifles by bleaching the former to a spotless white, and by ironing the latter with a neatness which I have no where else seen equalled.

The scene around a West Indian river is not, however, always confined to the washers; there are generally a number of other negroes (particularly in the morning and evening), of all ages and sexes, who bring their wooden cans for water, which the inhabitants are obliged to send for from the river, though in Grenada many of the town's people, particularly those living on the Carenage, are supplied from the aqueduct which falls into the Lagoon, and renders the harbour so convenient to the merchant ships for taking in their water.

As every sable "*Aquarius*" on the road had a companion (some a group), and a tongue to talk to the same, the noise and chattering was incessant and even deafening, and though I would not for worlds have restrained their loud and joyous bursts of merriment, which broke momentarily upon my ear and seemed to tell me of their happiness, yet I was not displeased when I had passed the river, at least the busy part of it, and galloping through the Vale of Tempe, arrived in a few minutes among the green cane fields of Mount Parnassus.

CHAPTER LIV.

CASH, CHARACTERS, AND THE CARNIVAL.

“ They never put in practice a thing so necessary as coined money.” *Peacham.*

“ An it please you my Lord
They have both excellent characters.” *Old Play.*

“ Carnival, the feast held in Popish countries before Lent,—
a time of luxury.” *Johnson’s Dictionary.*

SOME of my most pleasant recollections of the West Indies are associated with Mount Parnassus: did I wish to describe a day of happiness, it should be a day that I had passed under the hospitable roof of the cottage on Mount Parnassus: did I wish to tell of rural beauties, the surpassing loveliness of Mount Parnassus would afford an ample theme: did I wish to prove the kindness and hospitality of the planters by an exemplary instance, I would refer my readers to the amiable inhabitants of Mount Parnassus.—I say this not in flattery, but in feeling, for I experienced there what I knew how to appreciate and shall never forget.

On the occasion in question, I breakfasted with the worthy proprietor, and afterwards rode back to town by another route.

I always found that a bath and a morning ride

were very conducive to health ; and I generally took one, and sometimes both, before breakfast.

The aqueduct, falling into the Lagoon, which I have before mentioned, is the general rendezvous for all the bathers in Georgetown ; and there are commonly as many as twenty boats assembled around the spot before sunrise. The fact is, the place has many attractions : the water is clear, without being too deep, and from the intervention of the reef which divides the Carenage from the Lagoon, is free from sharks. After swimming about in the salt water, the bather has only to stand under the aqueduct when he receives the most cool, delightful, and refreshing shower-bath from a fresh and falling stream. This is healthy and reviving and gives one a *gout* and an appetite for one's breakfast.

On my return from Parnassus, a heavy rain which threatened to continue, effectually counteracted my intention of going to the little town of Gouyava, which I had not yet seen, except as I passed ; and therefore, after a glass of ginger-beer and a game of billiards at the Long Room, I sat down to calculate for the benefit of my reader, and produced the following

TABLE OF COINS USED IN GRENADA.

Names of Coins.	Value in Currency.			Value in Dollars and Bitts.	
	£.	s.	d.	Dollars.	Bitts.
Joe	3	12	0	8	0
Joe	3	6	0	7	4
Half ditto	1	13	0	3	8
Quarter ditto	0	16	6	1	10
Eighth ditto	0	8	3	0	11

Names of Coins.	Value in Currency.			Value in Dollars and Bitts.	
	£.	s.	d.	Dollars.	Bitts.
Quadruple	7	4	0	16	0
Half ditto	3	12	0	8	0
Pistole	1	16	0	4	0
Half ditto	0	18	0	2	0
Moidore	2	9	6	5	6
Guinea	2	5	0	5	0
Half ditto	1	2	6	2	6
Dollar	0	9	0	0	12
Half ditto	0	4	6	0	6
Quarter ditto	0	2	3	0	3
Bitt	0	0	9	0	1
Half ditto	0	0	4½	0	0½

DESCRIPTIVE MARKS.

A Joe, value £3 12s. has a G stamped in the middle of the face side. A Joe, value £3 6s. has a G stamped in three places, near the edge of the face side. When a Joe is plugged, the initials of the workman's name are stamped upon the plug.

British silver is valued at 250 per cent. currency.	£.	s.	d.
A British Half-crown is worth	0	6	3
——— Shilling	0	2	6
——— Sixpence	0	1	3
Colonial, marked IV.	0	2	6
——— VIII.	0	1	3
——— XVI.	0	0	7½

When I had finished my calculations; when I had eaten my dinner, and digested the same; when I had dreamt sweet dreams and awakened to painful realities on the sofa in my drawing-room; dreams that portrayed the fairy form of Laura in all its loveliness, realities that discovered to me a cunning Jezabel of sable hue, stealing oranges from my side-

board ; why, then evening came and the moon shone into my apartment ; so I put on my Panama hat and proceeded to take an " evening stroll."

I passed by the dwellings of Miss Mary and Miss Nanny, and proceeded solus to the battlements of Fort George.

No kinder souls are there in Grenada than Miss Mary and Miss Nanny ; the little Island would be in jeopardy without them, were they to die, as God knows, I hope they will not for many years ; the lovers of pastry and ginger-beer would follow them from very mournfulness. They preside over every party, they make every thing that is good ; no dinner is given (unless it be a bad one) without their assistance ; no dance without their superintendance ; no supper without their connivance and co-operation. No dinner, for who would eat the turtle, or drink the punch that was not made by Miss Nanny ? who could digest the tartlet that came not from the oven of Miss Mary ? No dance, for how could the gentlemen procure champagne and sangaree for themselves, and lemonade for their partners, if Miss Nanny or Miss Mary were not present to see that the servants

" Mixed them nobly, and made them well ?"

No supper, for who could expect to see taste or elegance on a table, the laying out of which they had not directed and arranged ? But setting aside their usefulness, they are really a good, worthy, and kind-hearted pair, and I can only repay them for the *bon bons* they gave me on my departure from Grenada,

by wishing them a long life of prosperity and happiness.

After taking a turn round the battlements of Fort George, I proceeded to the house of Mr. —, who, with his usual kindness, detained me during the evening with his amiable family; and some of the events of that night deserve to be recorded.

The Island of Grenada was once entirely catholic, and although it has now long been in possession of the English, there are still some French inhabitants, and a great many of the ancient religion in the colony. The carnival is therefore, even now, a time of gaiety, although the masquerades and fancy balls which enliven the Island of Trinidad during that season have been long since done away with in Grenada.

The good catholics, however, account it a duty to put on masks, and therewith to enter the houses of the worthy people of Georgetown, and to amuse them with such behaviour as best beseemeth the characters they sustain; there are also a few graceless young protestants who are sometimes wont to join them in their merry-making.

On the evening in question, the family of Mrs. — were sitting socially, as was their wont, around the tea-table, when suddenly the window opened, and two ruffians, armed cap-a-pie, in the guise of banditti, entered the room, and presented their pistols at the heads of the ladies. *Le bruit de ce terrible moment reste encore dans mes oreilles*; the screams, like ladies' screams, were deep, deafening, and de-

lightful; so the gentlemen thought it right to interpose, then the ladies became more faint, and the ruffians more furious; at length four, Oh, marvellous achievement! contrived to conquer two, and the banditti were expelled "vi et armis," the ladies were restored to their senses, and the scream was converted into a laugh.

This was the commencement of the carnival, and though the two first masks had made their *entrée* rather roughly and their exit with as little ceremony, there were many more who followed with more politeness, and amused us not a little during the evening.

Four ladies, richly, dressed and masked, though without supporting any particular characters, danced a quadrille with the gentlemen, with much spirit, and played some very pretty airs on the piano. After giving their partners each

" One kiss at parting"

they left the room, and were succeeded by a masked group of negro boys and girls, who danced for a while, after the fashion of the chimney-sweepers on the first of May, and then very coolly helping themselves to some wine and cake, departed with many a profound bow to the company.

It is in this innocent manner that the carnival is carried on in Grenada, though the gaiety, and even the character of the thing is decreasing year after year, as very few of the white, or even colored inhabitants mingle in it with any spirit, and the negroes,

although they manifest wonderful ability in playing the devil or the fool, are not altogether so capable as their fairer brethren of maintaining those characters which alone render a masquerade at all interesting.

Even the slaves, however, have, like the monkeys, that talent for mimicry, which, from the drollery they display, would enable them to convert a very gloomy tragedy into an equally amusing farce; and Mr. Barclay tells us, that in the island of Jamaica, during the Christmas holidays, the slaves on one or two of the estates in the country actually attempted to perform one of the tragedies of Shakespeare.

“The last party of this kind,” says that clever writer, when speaking of their crop-over assemblies, in his very able work on slavery, “which I had the pleasure of seeing and dancing with at Christmas, 1823, belonged to Reach and Muirton estates, the property of Mr. William Bryan, and afforded a novelty I had never before witnessed, in a rude representation of some passages of Richard III. which they made sufficiently farcical. The Joncanoe men, disrobed of part of their paraphernalia, were the two heroes, and fought, not for a kingdom but a queen, whom the victor carried off in triumph. Richard calling out ‘a horse! a horse!’ &c. was laughable enough. This farce I saw at Dalney Estate, the property of Sir A. Grant, and it afforded Mr. Bell, the manager, and his guests no small amusement. How the negroes had acquired even the very imperfect knowledge they seemed to have of the play, we

could form no idea, and the occasion did not admit of asking questions."

It is the same aptness for imitation that now enables the negroes of one or two of the West India towns to amuse the inhabitants with their droll buffoonery, in endeavouring to support characters under the disguise of a mask: even the slaves however are dropping this old custom by degrees, and Trinidad is the only one of our catholic colonies where the gaieties of the carnival may be said to be kept up with any spirit.

CHAPTER LV.

ROADS AND FLOODS—GOUYAVE AND THE GRAND
ETANG.

“ All dwelling else

Flood overwhelmed, and them with all their pomp,
Deep under waters roll'd.” *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

“ I had not time to reach the Grand Etang, which, I am told,
is a great curiosity.” *Coleridge.*

THE beauties of the little Island of Grenada are not confined to the vicinity of Georgetown:—a visit to Gouyave and the Grand Etang convinced me that the wild magnificence of her inland scenery, though it could not delight the eye more than the picturesque views that fringe her coast, nevertheless afforded a fine field for the poet and the artist to display their powers and their talent.

Gouyave is a little town on the coast, some distance to windward of St. George. The mode of conveyance thither is generally by the canoes which pass daily up and down between the two towns. To see these canoes, a stranger would imagine it impossible that they could proceed half the distance without going down; yet, though they appear to be so slightly built, they are perfectly safe in the hands of those who know how to manage them, and will even

stand a little rough weather, as well as a larger and broader boat. Many persons go to this town by water from choice; for myself, I confess I prefer the ride: the varied and picturesque scenery of the road is to me more delightful than the monotonous appearance of the water.

The roads in Grenada, generally speaking, are not good: wild and craggy paths, broken fragments of rock, and every now and then a passing stream, render them totally impassable in a carriage; and the one or two vehicles which are kept in the town, are used oftener, and that with great caution, for the purpose of conveying the fair creoles to dance or festival, than for taking them an airy drive through the Vale of Tempe, the beautiful pasture lands of Belmont, or any other road in the vicinity of town.

Another great impediment to the use of carriages would be the rivers which usually flow directly across the roads in various places; and which, as there are no bridges, the foot passengers as well as the horsemen are obliged to ford: this is sometimes a dangerous achievement, as in the rainy season the water rises to twice its usual depth, and the strength and rapidity of the current is sufficient to carry a man, and even a horse, down the stream.

From this cause floods sometimes happen, and the torrents, that rush down from the mountains with terrific impetuosity, carry every thing before them. They are not, however, so frequent any where as in the fertile Island of St. Christopher, which from time to time has suffered seriously from inundations.

A few extracts from the account given by a Moravian missionary of a flood in that island, in the year 1792, may not be uninteresting to the reader.

“St. Kitts, April 11th, 1792.

“By this opportunity I send you an account of the dismal situation in which this island, and in particular the town of Basse Terre, has suddenly been thrown.

“Ever since Palm Sunday we have had at times smart showers of rain. In the night a strong wind arose with repeated violent gusts of flying showers which lasted till morning; towards noon it rained much, and great quantities of water flowed down College Street. At two it began to lighten and thunder, and the stream increased so that it spread as far as our new wall, and about eight in the evening the rain grew more violent. Between nine and ten we heard much noise: I went into the garden and heard distinctly the cries and shrieks of the poor negroes opposite to us, for the waters coming across Mr. L.’s cane lands, had passed through their huts. I would gladly have gone to their assistance but could not, for the current was very rapid, and the water higher than our walled fence. I called upon the Lord to have mercy upon them, but soon after saw the negro houses carried away with their inhabitants.

* * * * *

“In the morning we were soon informed of the great damage done in the town. On L.’s plantation two women with two children were lost.”

“In College Street the torrent carried away all the

fences, walls, and steps, and in some places tore down the houses, some falling upon the inhabitants, and some being carried away with them. The water also broke into the house of one of our communicants, gained vent and swept away two adjoining houses into the sea. The English church and the Methodist chapel were filled with mud and water, several houses were carried into the sea with all their furniture and dashed to pieces. Most of the merchants' cellars were filled with water, mud, and sand, and great quantities of provisions were spoiled.

“A Mrs. T——, with her house and family, was carried into the sea : she cried out, ‘ Lord have mercy upon me.’ A Mulatto, hearing her cries, ventured out, and swimming after her, caught her hair and saved her, though she was almost dead. Her daughter's dead corpse swam by her side : her son was saved, but two of the inhabitants were lost.

* * * * *

“The strongest walls were unable to withstand the vehemence of the main current, and the oldest inhabitants cannot remember so formidable and destructive an inundation, whereby so many lives were lost.

* * * * *

“G. C. SCHNELLER.”

So much for the floods of the rainy season. I will now return to the little town of Gouyave, the ride to which was at one and the same time very dangerous and very delightful, and hath led me into my long digression about roads, rivers, and St. Christopher's.

Gouyave, from the sea, had more the appearance of an English village, than any other place I had yet seen in the West Indies. It is a very pretty, although a very small town, and is principally inhabited by colored people: there are several fine estates and wealthy proprietors residing on them in its vicinity, and it has a rectory and a resident clergyman attached to the parish.

It was in the neighbourhood of this town, that the slaves in Grenada, stimulated by the French and colored inhabitants, commenced that terrible insurrection, by which, under the command of Fedon, a colored man, and with the assistance of a foreign enemy, they contrived to distress and lay waste the island, during the space of nearly two years.

The insurgents commenced their ravages in 1794, and it was not till the 10th of June, 1796, that "the French troops, under their commandant, Jossy, surrendered all their posts, by capitulation, to the British, under Major General Nichols."

The rebel chief appears to have escaped into the woods, with a few of his companions, but the heads of the conspiracy, with a few of the French inhabitants, were either taken or surrendered, to the number of about fifty, and, after undergoing a trial, were ordered to be executed as traitors.

"On the 1st of July, fourteen of the most criminal were executed on the parade ground at St. George's, the rest were respited by Lieutenant Governor Houston."

A few days afterwards, "a canoe was found at some distance from the island which had been overset, and a compass nailed to her bottom was known to

have been one which Fedon had: it was therefore supposed that in attempting to escape he had been drowned.”*

Gouyave is not the only town in Grenada besides the capital. L'Abaye Town, Charlotte Town, the town of Grenville, and the village at Cariacou, where there is also a church, and a rector, are all hamlets; which, like Gouyave itself, are denominated towns in the tropic.

These little villages, however, will never delight the eye of the tourist of Grenada so much as the very magnificent and wild scenery that is constantly bursting upon his view as he traverses her mountain paths, or rides over those broken and craggy roads which lead him through woods of the most varied and impenetrable foliage to the cool lakes and fountains that murmur away in dreary stillness, or to the falling torrents, that are echoed by the lonely rocks.

* There are a thousand anecdotes current with the inhabitants concerning this insurrection, and among others Mr. Coleridge has related the following: “In the insurrection of 1795, Mr. Macmahon the rector of St. George's was placed, with many others, in a room previously to being summoned to execution by the slaves. He saw all his companions taken out and shot, one by one; but having had the luck of Ulysses, to stand last, he determined to make a bold push for his life. Macmahon is a tall, and was then an uncommonly strong man, and the moment he walked out, he leaped upon the slave general, and clung round his neck so tightly that they could not force him away for a long time. The struggle produced a pause:—on inquiring who he was, and when he was known to be the parson, there was a common cry for saving his life, as he had always been a kind and charitable man to every one connected with his cure. The worthy rector tells this story with a deserved satisfaction.” (Vide Coleridge's “*Six Months in the West Indies in 1825.*”

Perhaps no finer specimen could be brought forward of the unrivalled grandeur and sublimity of the natural scenery of Grenada than the Grand Etang.

This lovely place has obtained its nomenclature from a very curious and interesting lake in its vicinity. The description given by Dr. Coke, who visited it in 1790, is equally applicable to its appearance in the present day; for though the years that have rolled away since that period have effected vast changes among mighty nations, yet there nature wears the same face, the waters flow on in the same stillness, and the trees of the forest preserve their verdure through a summer that never ceases.

“The lake is deep,” says the author to whom I have alluded: “it is in itself, as it were, a spacious fountain, which by subterraneous passages, that are invisible to the human eye, supplies, according to common report, no less than twelve diminutive rivers, which water the island. It is surrounded by romantic peaks, of different elevations, which are covered with trees of various kinds and dimensions.

“The adjacent scenery is picturesque and romantic beyond all description. It is a region in which the philosophic mind may survey with pity the votaries of wealth and ambition practising the arts of fraud and injustice; and from whence he may behold mankind, immersed in licentious dissipation, pursuing and pursued, each other's prey. Were I disposed to seclude myself from all intercourse with the world, I know of no spot that I should prefer as a place of residence. The varieties of vegetation would furnish

the botanist with employment, and an observatory erected on one of the peaks would enable the astronomer to trace the various movements of the heavenly bodies which roll through the ethereal vault. Their extensive circles would insensibly expand the mind while engaged in contemplation, and lead the pious soul to adore that Power which communicated motion to their enormous bodies."

The magnificent natural scenery of the Grand Etang had led the doctor into rhapsodies, and he has enumerated a number of advantages attendant on a residence in that rural spot, which, I think, few of my readers, if they had seen the place, would ever have dreamt of.

In the first place, the varieties of vegetation which he says would furnish the botanist with employment, at present only expel the rays of the sun, and nourish gnats, insects, and mosquitos in myriads; things which have just sense enough to pick out the most delicate spot on the face of a white intruder into their regions, and thereon to fix themselves, and fly away, leaving behind them the memory of a bite which is little short of purgatory. Secondly, were an observatory to be erected on any one of the peaks near the Grand Etang, it would assuredly be blown down by the first September gale; so that its owner, instead of surveying the bodies which "roll in the ethereal vault," would have a chance of rolling himself down a mighty precipice of some two hundred feet deep, and deposited, telescope and all, into a vault by no means ethereal.

Thirdly, unless the gentleman were a catholic, he might not like to live on wild pigeons and fresh water fish; and it would be impossible to get any other provision nearer than Georgetown.

With these considerations, Heaven forbend that I should be condemned to drag on a botanical or astronomical existence among the forests of the Grand Etang. No, no; I have better hopes and fairer prospects of happiness; and much as I admire the beauty of its lakes, the grandeur of its woody mountains, and the awful sublimity of its precipices, yet I give a dearer preference to the valleys of my native land; above all for the vale where Laura is living in her purity; where the jessamine, the honeysuckle, and the rose are climbing over the cottage of my beloved.

Here there is an endless summer, and the flowers bloom without fading, and the trees are not deprived of their foliage. Season after season the earth pours forth her treasures and the same orb that shines upon the frozen waters of a colder region is ripening the fruits of the tropics; but what is all this to the heart of an exile? how can I enjoy them without Laura, my own, my beautiful, my betrothed?

I go where the aspens quiver,
 And I take my wild guitar;
 But the music of the zephyrs
 To me is dearer far.
 The sweet, soft tones you lov'd to hear
 Have lost their sweetness now;
 And the only voice I welcome
 Is the whisper—Where art thou?

CHAPTER LVI.

COLORED PEOPLE.

“The free mulattoes in the West Indies would naturally incline rather to the side which elevates, than to that which degrades them in society: they are an obvious bulwark of defence to the whites against the blacks.”

Coleridge.

“Grenada is honorably distinguished among the Antilles for its liberal treatment of the colored classes of the inhabitants.”

Ibid.

I SEE no just cause or impediment why my readers should not now be brought to the consideration of the characters and customs of a class of people, which, though essentially differing from the white and black inhabitants of the tropic islands, are, nevertheless, the connecting link which binds them together, and the barrier of defence to the former. I speak of the free colored people, who form so large a portion of the population of the Antilles, but whose value in many of the islands, from the prevalence of prejudice, has not been appreciated as it deserves.

From the black to the white there are so many gradations of color, that I should never have been able to present them before my readers, had not some good man, whose name I wis not, been kind enough to draw the marks of distinction to a nicety. “A

samboe," says he, "is the nearest remove from black, being the child of a mulatto father and negro woman, or vice versa; a mulatto is the child of a white man by a negress; a quadroon is the offspring of a white man and a mulatto mother; the child of a quadroon by a white man is a mustee; the child of a white man by a mustee woman is a mustiphini; the child of a mustiphini by a white father is a quintroon; and the child of a quintroon by a white woman is free by law."

Among all these names, hard to pronounce and harder to remember, the samboe or mongrel, as it is oftener called, the mulatto and the mustee, are the only distinctions between the black and white that really pass current, though more have been defined; and the whole posse of grades, which, as the reader perceives, is somewhat formidable, may be easily comprised in the one simple appellation of colored people.

In describing them it may be well to give the ladies the precedence, and I may perhaps gain some favor among them by enumerating the personal charms which have captivated, in their day, the hearts of English, Irish, and Scotch, but more especially of the latter.

If I accord the palm of female beauty to the ladies of color, I do not at the same time deteriorate the attractions of the fairer creoles; the stately and graceful demeanor which calls upon us to admire the one, does not forbid us to be fascinated by the modest loveliness of the other; yet I will acknowledge that

I prefer the complexion that is tinged, if not too darkly, with all the richness of the olive, to the face which, however fair in its paleness, can never look as lovely as when it wore the rose-blush of beauty which has faded away.

I know no prettier scene than a group of young and handsome colored girls taking their evening walk, along the moonlit avenues of mountain cabbage trees, which are generally found in the vicinity of the West India towns. They are extremely fond of dress, and make their toilet with much taste and extravagance.

A sort of many colored turban is twisted gracefully about their heads; their dresses of spotless silk or muslin, are fastened with a flowing sash of ribbon, of the brightest hue (for nearly all of them are fond of dashing colors); their pretty ancles are ornamented with gay sandals, tied over *le bas de soie blanc*, and the tout ensemble is adorned with bracelets, and broaches, and earrings, which only doubloons can procure, but which they cannot resist buying, *parce qu'elles sont si jolies*.

I do not, however, think their love of dress would yield to their love of pleasure, for though the climate inclines them (and every body else) to be lazy and languishing to a miracle, yet they have a high flow of spirits, and a natural liveliness of disposition, which enables them to dance and play and romp and enjoy themselves with as much gaiety of heart as their fairer sisters on the hills of Albion.

With all this they have much to answer for, for I

do wisely opine, that they are the grand cause of much of the immorality that prevails in the West Indies; although I will endeavour to lighten the load of blame that lies upon their fair (or rather dark) shoulders to the best of my poor ability.

All the world know (and it would be well if they did not) that many (for the sake of charity and chastity, I will not say all) of the managers on estates, and residents in the towns of the tropics, have sacrificed all their national morality at the shrine of a deceased philosopher, and formed a very improper *liaison d'amour* in lieu of that very proper *liaison de mariage*—

“That binds so firmly and that wears so well,”

with various olive colored divinities, who “love them for themselves alone,” and take the greatest possible care of their legitimate homes and of their illegitimate children.

Now, all this is a great bore, and causes more trouble to moral authors and respectable clergymen than the reader has any idea of; and while the practice exists (and, God knows, I think it will exist for ever in *some* places) there will be little chance of reforming the morals of the worthy inhabitants of the Antilles.

The custom I have alluded to arises from three causes, first and principally, from slavery, which has a bias upon every thing connected with it. Secondly, from the attractive powers of the male Buckras—British, Scotch and Irish; and thirdly, from the proud and haughty spirits of the colored ladies themselves.

Generally speaking, they look down (and very unjustly) with a feeling of contempt on men of their own color, who are, in rank, wealth, and situation in life, fairly on a level with themselves, and rather than live with them a virtuous and inoffensive life, they prefer dwelling with a white man in a state of moral degradation: again, the mulatto, finding himself despised by women of his own color, is obliged to seek a companion among those of a darker hue; and he, in his turn, deeming her unworthy to be his wife, will only maintain her in the condition of a concubine. It is thus that profligacy and immorality, beginning in the dwelling of the proprietor, descend to the hovel of the slave, and are every where practised though they are every where condemned.

The change in this system, which it would be so desirable to effect, must be, like emancipation, gradual; and yet I think the method is simple, and will do its work rapidly, although it will have to contend with strong and established prejudices, and the mighty influence of long custom and habit.

In my opinion, it is to be effected by that liberal spirit, in the minds of those who compose the legislature of the several colonies, which will induce them to grant to the colored men those privileges (many would term them rights) which they are anxious to enjoy, and certainly not unworthy to obtain.

The colored man is a being essentially differing from the slave: proud of heart, independent in spirit, valuing freedom, if it be possible, more than Englishmen value it, because he is living in a land of

slavery; ambitious, industrious, anxious to acquire knowledge, and often self-educated to a surprising degree, tenacious of his rights, decided in his character, loyal to his king, looking with a jealous eye upon his white brethren, seeking to be elevated to the same level, and desirous of moving in the same rank; fierce when stimulated to action, but too peaceable to attack without an injury; looking down with scorn, often a cruel scorn, upon his dependants and inferiors, and hardly acknowledging, even to himself, the superiority of those above him; firm in his principles of religion, willing to receive instruction, and to listen with attention to precepts that may tend, either to enlighten his ignorance or increase his knowledge; striving to maintain, always, a respectable appearance, and to gain, by honest industry, that which will enable him to vie, in point of exterior, with the whites.

Such a character fits him for the enjoyment of many privileges; and, provided his ambition be limited within proper bounds, to grant him those privileges would be to make him a good citizen, and give him an importance in the eyes of the women of color, which would go far towards effecting a most desirable object; I mean the encouragement of marriage between them, and the weakening of those motives which induce the colored women to live in immorality with a white protector.

If from religion she were to learn the impropriety of such a connexion, and from experience the happiness of a legitimate union with one of her own rank

(provided that rank were elevated, and rendered more important by the privileges I have alluded to), she would hardly, I think, when her vanity was once satisfied, sacrifice the advantages of the latter to the disadvantages of the former state.

With her white protector, her situation can be any thing but enviable; she lives with him as a concubine, not as a companion; she feels herself his inferior, she cannot mingle with his guests, she may not be introduced into society, she does not dine at his table; her situation is degraded, though, from habit, many view it in a less hateful light; her children are illegitimate, and her attachment to their father (sincere and constant as it may be, and generally is) resembles the attachment of an old and faithful servant, rather than the love of a fond and affectionate wife.

A connexion with a respectable man of her own color would be the very reverse of this;—she would be his wife, his equal, his companion; their children would be legitimate, their friendships mutual, their society the same, and their pleasures shared together; their union would be sanctioned by religion and morality, and held respectable in the eye of the world.

Therefore, to encourage the marriages between colored people,—which would, assuredly, take place oftener, if the men possessed those privileges which would give them an importance sufficient to satisfy the vanity of the women,—and to discourage those connexions which custom has established, and which the principles of religion must overthrow, must, I think, be the first object of those who really seek to

lay the foundation of something like a moral system in the West Indies.

I do not deny that the task is difficult, or that the undertaking is great, but still I think it may be gradually accomplished if properly begun. The grants to the colored people of Grenada have already produced good effects. In that island, the class to which I allude are a most respectable and estimable body of men, and eminently deserving of all they have obtained.

They are looked upon with less prejudice, their grants are more numerous, their wealth more considerable, their privileges more extensive, and their usefulness more perceived than in any other island. Several of them are merchants, and have extensive stores in the town, and nearly all of them have received (or given themselves, which sufficiently proves their ambition to know,) an education little inferior to that of many men who have been brought up in the public schools of England; and, at all events, greatly above that of one half of the white overseers, and even managers, on estates in the country.

The public papers, in one or two islands, are conducted by persons of this class, and the proprietor, and sole editor, of the "St. George's Chronicle" is a worthy young man of color; yet I do not hesitate to assert, that his paper (with the exception of the "St. Vincent Gazette," not that *by authority*, and perhaps one of the journals of Barbados) is, for the spirit of its leading articles, as well as for the general arrangement of its matter, the best paper printed in the

Leeward Islands. His almanack, also, stands unrivalled for the elegance of its typography, and the usefulness of its contents.

In Grenada, too, the ladies of color have not shown themselves behind the men in their progress in civilization; they are, generally speaking, better educated than their sisters in the other colonies, and many of them can play on the piano, and sing with very fair execution.

They have also, to their credit, acquired a better character for morality and religion; they are regular in their attendance at church, and are not unfrequent guests at the communion table: they already discourage the immoral connexions, of which they are themselves the offspring, and seek a more legitimate union—marriage, with white men it is true, but still marriage.

Many of my countrymen have been induced to enter with them the temple of Hymen, and I shall marvel not to hear that more have followed their example.

At all events, let the future bring what it may, if a change for the better be effected in the system of morals in the West Indies, from the causes I have described, the colored ladies of Grenada may take to themselves the credit of having been the first to show their respect for a moral theory, by commencing a moral practice, and the legislature of that island may rejoice in the liberal spirit which induced them to be foremost in granting privileges to a people who really endeavoured to deserve them.

CHAPTER LVII.

A CHAPTER OF MISCELLANIES.

“ Not much of any thing but a little of every thing.”

THE subject of my last chapter is by no means exhausted, but my limits will not allow me to say more in this small volume. My Memoirs are now drawing to a conclusion, and I am about to wind up the catalogue of my remarks on Grenada by a Chapter of Miscellanies.

In this beautiful little island there are many wild and romantic spots, many varieties and curiosities of nature that well deserve to be described, and I regret much, that I had neither time nor opportunity to bestow upon them the attention they deserved.

Grenada is considered, after St. Vincent and Barbados, the healthiest of the Antilles, but it has had its share of fevers, as well as the rest; and the deaths that have occurred among its white inhabitants, from time to time, have been numerous and destructive.

During the insurrection of 1794, that calamity was rendered doubly terrible by the pestilential fever which then raged in the town with a fury that has not since been equalled. A little work, published in 1801 (now I believe not extant), by C. Chisholm,

then Inspector General of the Ordnance Medical Department in the West Indies, gives the following interesting account of it.

“ Since the year 1794 this devoted island, together with the scourge of pestilence, has cruelly experienced all the evils which an insidious, a merciless intestine enemy could devise and give efficacy to. Blessed with abundance of those good things which are considered as the necessaries of life, united under a mild and fostering government, and enjoying that tranquillity, which their unhappy neighbors, on the French Islands, in vain looked for, from the machinations of designing and unprincipled demagogues, or from the dreams of theorists in philanthropy; their only wish was to be permanently relieved from the infection of a disease, which had hitherto but imperfectly yielded to the best means that could be suggested. The usual series of such awful visitations was however reversed; pestilence began the career, civil war augmented, and famine for a time, combined with these, seemed to complete the measure of their misfortunes.

“ The year 1795 produced a scene of horrors seldom equalled. Confined to the narrow limits which their arms could command, almost all the inhabitants were exposed to the common calamity. The certainty of massacre, should they remain on their plantations, drove all the inhabitants of the country into town, where an almost equal certainty of falling victims to pestilential infection awaited them. The great increase of new subjects to act on, which thus took

place, augmented the virulence of contagion, and seconded by fear, fatigue, a privation of accustomed food and comforts, despondence of mind, intemperance, and irregularities of conduct, gave rise to even a greater mortality than marked the two preceding years. The young and the aged, the unhabituated and the assimilated to the climate, the temperate and the dissipated, equally suffered by it. People who had hitherto carefully avoided the source of infection, and had scarce ever visited the town since the introduction of the pestilence, now perceived that their sedulity had only warded off, not prevented, the evil hour. Men who had long resided in the climate, and considered themselves as secure against the attacks of the usual diseases incident to it, found that assimilation to climate was no security against the indiscriminating malignity of this contagion. Those who, from a peculiarity of constitution, had escaped infection hitherto, now fell sacrifices to it.

“ The contagion pervaded every quarter of the town; the fortresses were, as usual, particularly exposed to it; the ships employed in the departments of government, more especially the hospital ships, became sinks of pestilence; but, as formerly, the resorts of low dissipation seemed to possess it in a degree of concentration almost peculiar to themselves.

“ Whilst this calamity threatened universal destruction, an unhappy contrariety of opinions, a want of decision in the measures pursued, the formidable appearance of a barbarous and implacable enemy, to whom these circumstances gave a strength, which, if

properly exerted, must have proved fatal, prevented the general mind from perceiving or adopting the means of eradicating the infection. Almost every house was considered as the abode of death; the intercourse of the inhabitants, therefore, experienced an almost total cessation, except when defence against the common enemy demanded united exertion. Funerals were not permitted, or were not attended; and, in most instances, the bodies of the deceased were dragged out to sea, and deposited in a watery grave."

Such is the account given by a medical officer of the dreadful pestilence, which, together with other calamities, so effectually reduced the population of Grenada. I rejoice to say that the island has long since regained its healthy and prosperous condition, and the diseases which now visit it occasionally may all be attributed to natural causes and a sickly season; while the number of deaths that occur, though great I confess for so small a colony, are trifling when compared with those which take place in the islands of Tobago, Dominica, and St. Lucie.

Its population in the year 1827 was as follows:—

Whites	Males	573	
	Females	195	
		<hr/>	768
Free, Coloured, and Black .	Males	1470	
	Females	2155	
		<hr/>	3625
Slaves	Males	11828	
	Females	12581	
		<hr/>	24409
Total Number of Persons			<hr/> 28802 <hr/>

“ You will say,” says Mr. Coleridge to the gentlemen of Grenada, “ that there are just forty ladies in the island ! it may be so—but show them, gentlemen, to the world, and put to silence the moralities of Englishmen and Barbadians.”

Now, although I do not see the actual necessity of showing the fair creoles to the world, yet I trust that the tender moralities of Englishmen and Barbadians, and even of Mr. Coleridge himself, will be sufficiently put to silence when they observe that Grenada contains, instead of forty white females, no less than one hundred and ninety-five, and that out of this number about seventy-two are ladies moving in society, and enlivening its fairy circle with a thousand charms and graces—gay, young, lively, beautiful, and fair—mild and gentle as the breezes that murmur in their orange groves, and graceful as the waving and feathery branches of their mountain palms ; ever assembling together in a blissful routine of *soirées*, balls, and parties—scenes that derive their animation, their brilliancy, and their effect from the lovely beings who brighten them with their presence.

Grenada is divided into six parishes, St. George, St. John, St. Mark, St. Patrick, St. Andrews, St. David, and the little island (at least the greater part of it) of Cariacou is also attached to its government.

The number of estates, including Cariacou, is near one hundred and eighty, and the amount of produce in the year 1827 was as follows :—Sugar 24,048,791 lbs. Molasses 152,947 gals. Rum 1052,576 gals. Coffee 41,888 lbs. Cocoa 224,934 lbs. Cotton 296,618 lbs.

Grenada is celebrated for its fine rum above any of the other Leeward Islands.

In a former chapter I mentioned the strength of the Government force stationed in Grenada, I will now say something of the militia. The force which usually musters once a month in Georgetown, consists of the St. George's regiment, a company of artillery, and a troop of light dragoons ; but there are five more regiments scattered throughout the island and in Cariacou, and also a body of black men, called the colony rangers, residing at the Grand Etang, and under the command of a captain.

I will say, in justice to the Grenada militia, that they appear upon the ground where they assemble, in better condition than any colonial body I have seen in the other islands, and this, perhaps, arises from the circumstance of their being principally composed of respectable young men of color, who take a pride in being well and decently equipped ; the uniform of the officers is both splendid and expensive, and I have never yet seen a shabby commander at the head of any company in the corps. They go very well through their exercise, and perform their evolutions as much *à la militaire* as could be expected from men not trained to arms. I understand that their *ci-devant* commander Colonel Hoyes, who is universally respected and beloved in the island, has presented them with a very handsome pair of colors ; and I will only hope, for the sake of England as well as Grenada, that a too sudden emancipation of the negroes will never oblige them to unfurl their

splendid gift on a more bloody field than the square parade ground of Georgetown, or the beautiful pasture lands of Belmont; that their new banners may ever be the banners of peace, and that when their bearers shall shake them proudly in the balmy breezes of the tropics, they may wave in the morning over the heads of an assembled many only in honor of some coming jubilee, or as a blissful token that the sun in his brilliancy is about to shine upon a day of happiness.

The last time, however, that I beheld the militia of Grenada under arms, it was on an occasion likely to create sentiments exactly the reverse of joy: they were assembled to bestow a parting mark of respect on their Governor, on his embarkation for Great Britain.

The day was rainy and disagreeable, and as the various companies were drawn up in rank on either side of the street through which his Excellency was to pass, extending from the Long Room to the Wharf, the falling torrent that drenched every individual of the corps, the look of sadness that cast a gloom over every countenance, the tear that glistened in the eye of more than one fair spectator (nay, smile not, gentle reader, for it is true as the gospel of St. Mark, and I have the authority of the "Grenada Free Press" for the assertion), and the calm and dreary stillness of the morning, cast a sombre mournfulness over the whole scene, that of the many who witnessed it, few will forget.

Sir James Campbell, after receiving the parting

salute, passed bare-headed, escorted by his aids-de-camp, through the whole corps, and embarking in the ship *Justina*, set sail for the white cliffs of Old England, leaving behind him, in the minds of all the inhabitants of Grenada, a feeling of sorrow at his departure, and a sincere hope that he might soon return to receive the cordial welcome of a community by whom he was greatly respected and beloved.

By the way, with all my good-will towards the militia of Grenada, I must not let them escape without a gentle word or two about the musical misery of their band. Those who compose it, though none of them are composers, have just sufficient knowledge of music to enable me to associate them in my memory with the squalling niggerlings on an estate nursery, or the seize-her dreading pigs of Barbadian origin before alluded to.

“ Their music sighs not softly on the breeze,
Nor gently whispers 'mong the forest trees ;
It is not echoed by the mighty rocks,
It tingles like the brass that Vulcan knocks.”

The Grub Street inhabitant of *attic* taste who wrote these four lines had a peculiar propensity for mingling the sublime with the ridiculous, and so has the band in question. Moreover, it delights in sharps, and can only play to a march in the Square or a toast in the Long Room, so that the sweet creoles must needs be content to dance to the tune of three fiddles, two tambourines, and a triangle, in lieu of the more important music of a band ; and, accordingly,

the orchestra of a ball-room in Grenada is small to a miracle.

Talking, or rather writing, of ball-rooms, I ought ere this to have said something about the colored dances, which in the West Indies are as frequent, and moreover, as pleasant (in their way), as any dance I know of.

The colored dances are of three kinds: one is an entertainment, the expenses of which are paid by the subscriptions of a number of colored ladies, who invite white gentlemen; another is given by a party of white gentlemen, who invite colored ladies; and a third is the assemblage of colored people, of both sexes, who defray all charges by a general subscription.

At these parties there is generally a freedom and total absence of etiquette, which would not be permitted in an assembly of the whites; but in Grenada, this is not the case; for there the same propriety of conduct and due ceremony is observable as in any private party, and the colored ladies do not forget themselves in the gaiety of their hearts.

They, however, enter into the spirit of the thing with as much animation as their fairer sisters, to whom they are not inferior, either in sprightly conversation, an easy and graceful manner of dancing, or an exquisite and tasteful arrangement of their ornaments and dress.

The refreshments during the dance, and *le petit souper à minuit*, are the same as those of the white society.

Reader, I have written a great deal about the society of Grenada, and I will now say something of the societies which are equally good and pretty numerous.

They consist of "The Grenada District Committee of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge;" "The Branch Association in aid of the incorporated Society for the Conversion and Religious Instruction and Education of the Negroes;" "The Society for the Education of the Poor;" "The St. George, St. Patrick, St. John, and St. Mark Book Societies;" of "The Agricultural Society;" and "The Carriacou Tree-planting Society." His Excellency Sir James Campbell is the President of nearly all these useful institutions; and the good they have already done is widely extending and universally felt.

Literature, too, flourishes or rather advances in Grenada more than in many of the other islands; its newspapers have more literary matter, and its almanacks are better arranged. There is also a periodical, which appears monthly, and usually contains some interesting original tales, a host of witty anecdotes, and a collection of very clever remarks on passing occurrences: its editor, who is, moreover, a delightful poet, dwells in a very pretty cottage built on the road to Hospital Hill.

A short distance up the hill, beyond the residence of this gentleman, is a large burying-ground, containing many respectable-looking enclosed tombstones, overgrown with wild bushes and shrubs. Near the spot is erected a cross, bearing an inscrip-

tion in dog-latin, and hither the good catholics of Grenada do often repair to perform their devotions.

Here, reader, I will pause, and bring my long chapter of miscellanies to a quiet conclusion, "for verily and indeed the time of my departure draweth nigh," and I am about to leave the tropics, if not for ever, for a while.

CHAPTER LVIII.

MY DEPARTURE—MY VOYAGE HOME—AN INCIDENT.

“ How hard to part from those who lov'd us well.”

Poetical Fragments.

“ Beauteous o'er the dark blue sea,
Thy cliffs, oh Albion! rise,
And beauteous on their heights the sun
Shines from these azure skies.”

Rev. Dr. Richards.

“ This life is all chequered with pleasures and woes,
That chase one and other like waves of the deep.”

Moore.

A FAIRER day has never dawned than that which shone upon my departure from Grenada. Some author has asserted that a gloomy morning will depress the spirits, and that sunshine will engender gaiety of heart; but if the brilliancy of that glorious orb could have begotten joyousness, methinks I should have been less mournful on the last bright morning of the May of 1829.

I had been four years in the Antilles, on that day I was about to leave them to return to my native hills. Some would have called those years, years of exile, but kindness, friendship, and hospitality would have made them years of happiness if Laura could have shared it with me.

It is impossible to leave a place where one has

passed many days, and received many kindnesses, without a feeling of regret. I was going to join my betrothed, and in that blissful thought (for it was only a thought) were concentrated a thousand rays of joy. But there are other ties besides the ties of love—hearts are linked together by the chains of friendship, of kindred, of affection. All these were united to bind me to the little island of Grenada, and I could not break them without a sigh of sorrow, I could not tear them asunder without a tear of regret.

If one resistless impulse, if one deep and absorbing affection had not called me to my native land, I would have passed my existence in Grenada. To me it was the loveliest island in the tropics; the azure heaven that beamed above its lofty hills, the deep blue ocean that dashed the foaming wave upon its rocks, the noble majesty that graced its mighty mountains, the soft and smiling verdure of its fertile valleys, did not delight me more than the frank and open hospitality and kindness of its inhabitants, the lively and lovely gracefulness of its fairer inmates.

After receiving from many kind friends—friends who will *never* be forgotten, parting proofs of their esteem, and bidding a thousand farewells to a few wild rakes, “jolly companions every one,” who had entered like myself into the follies as well as the pleasures of the place, my father accompanied me to the wharf, and seeing me safely embarked on board the good ship Mexborough, left me to my reflections and my fate, and returned to do duty in the garrison of Grenada.

The wind was not very favorable, but the sails were unfurled, and the Mexborough made her way gradually along the coast. By the setting of the sun Grenada was no longer visible, but yet,

“ As slow our ship its foamy track
Against the wind was cleaving,
Its trembling pennant still look'd back
To that dear isle 'twas leaving.”

Towards evening the breeze freshened, and the wind having shifted in our favor, we got on pretty rapidly during the night.

The Mexborough was a beautiful vessel, originally, I believe, intended for a free trader. She was a poop ship, and all her accommodations were above the main deck, those below having been cut away to make room for hogsheads of sugar, and puncheons of rum. She had a dining-room and two aft-cabins; and her state rooms were most superb, each of them containing a four-post bedstead decked with mosquito curtains, and with as much room and air as any moderate man could desire. Yet, notwithstanding the comfort of my berth, I did not sleep well on the first night of my voyage homeward. I thought of the scenes I had left, and of my adventures in the West Indies, of the change that time had effected in my mind as well as my person, of the alteration that had taken place in my opinions on slavery, and the state of society in the Antilles, of the happiness that awaited me in Old England, and a thousand other things unmentioned because forgotten, that deprived

me of my usual slumber, and kept me awake till the morning sun darted its rays into my cabin.

I rose early, and found the breeze light, and the vessel proceeding very slowly through the water. After breakfast the wind subsided altogether, and when I went upon deck, the ship was entirely becalmed under the lee of the Island of St. Vincent. Grenada was still fresh in my mind, and a feeling which I cannot exactly describe (I wish I could for the novelty of the thing), induced me to write verses on the blank leaves of my pocketbook. I had never before wreaked my vengeance upon rhyme, and I hope the gods and my readers will pardon me for my first offence. *Le voici.*

MY DEPARTURE FROM GRENADA.

1.

The sun arose, the morn was fair,
And soft and bland the tropic gales ;
Proud waved the palm plumes in the air,
And overlooked the verdant vales.

2.

The lofty hills were brightly green,
The rural valleys greener still,
Where oft the murm'ring fount was seen
To gleam in many a winding rill.

3.

The town, the fort, the views around,
All burst at once upon my sight,
And every well known spot of ground
Presented scenes of past delight.

4.

Scenes that like blissful visions came,
Days wasted with the young and gay,
Joys that, like thoughts we cannot name,
Of childhood's thinking, pass away.

5.

But I must go—to me the isle
Is dear—but on my native hill,
Oh! there is one whose sweet young smile
Of joyousness is dearer still.

6.

And so farewell! where'er we move
In life, we still have this to tell;
And all who leave the friends they love
Must say and hear the word—farewell.

7.

And it was heard, and it was told,
And I sped in my bark away,
And now 'tis neither love nor gold
That can recal the parting day.

8.

But memory oft will love to trace,
And fancy bear me back again,
To scenes in that enchanted place,
Where pleasure held her sportive train.

9.

My bark has gaily dashed the spray,
And floated on before the wind,
Through deep blue waters kept her way,
Nor cast a look on those behind.

10.

But calm are now the ocean waves,
And smooth is now the summer's sea,
And still my bark that ocean laves,
Becalm'd beneath yon island's lee.

But the calm did not long continue; a breeze sprung up, and the studding sails being set, we left St. Vincent rapidly and soon came up with one of the other islands. We were three days among the Antilles, and more or less becalmed under the lee of every land we passed. During this time we saw about one hundred vessels, laden like our own, and proceeding homewards with their cargoes, but when we got quite clear of the islands these ships all took different courses, and we no longer sailed in company although bound for the same port.

My voyage could hardly have been more pleasant than the first four days promised to make it, if, on the fifth, I had not made a discovery no less disagreeable than important. I had gone into my berth to take a quiet nap after dinner, and finding my pillow somewhat uncomfortable, was proceeding to move it when three large rats leaped from under it, and, running very coolly over my body, made their exit with as little ceremony as if they had been nursed and brought up in the vessel. The presence of these animals afterwards proved a great nuisance, they devoured the corn and biscuit, and even attacked the young fowls in their coops; but their last mischief was perpetrated on the person of the pilot who carried the ship into Gravesend, and whom they effectually wakened from a sweet sleep by fastening on his ear and giving him a gentle bite.

Nothing of importance transpired on our voyage to make it more interesting to the reader than it proved to ourselves; we had sky and sea and sea

and sky for thirty-six days, and nothing to vary the scene save an occasional vessel coming near enough to inquire the longitude, or a gale of wind that forced us to reef the topsails, and made the captain a little cross, and the passengers not a little seasick.

On the morning of the 37th day a sailor from the topmast head descried the land, and by noon I had a distinct view of the green shores and white cliffs of Old England.

The story which every traveller tells of the sentiments that swell his bosom, either on leaving or revisiting his native home, is not the less true because often repeated. There *is* a charm in gazing once again upon the land we love—there *is* a deep feeling of delicious ecstasy in knowing that the balmy breezes that fill the sails of our vessel, are wafting us to our native hills.

Colder hearts than mine have been gladdened at the sight of England, and how could I fail to be delighted with the prospect of scenes I once knew so well. I loved my country too well to behold such scenes without interest.

“And while I gazed I felt a tear
From secret rapture start,
And joy—sweet quickener of the pulse,
Play round my beating heart.”

Yet, why? Not surely from the waves that dashed their foam upon her cliffs, for I had seen the sparkling waters of the Atlantic gleaming in the rays of a tropic sun—not from her hillocks—for I had gazed on the mighty mountains of the Antilles, with their

lofty summits buried in the clouds of heaven, not from the green verdure of her smiling valleys, for I had been in vales where summer never ceases, where the birds warble on the boughs, and the streams flow beneath the shade of trees whose leaves fall not in the autumn, whose branches are not deprived of their rich and variegated foliage by the cutting severity of a winter's frost.

“ No, Albion, 'twas a moral charm
 Endear'd thee to my sight,
 For on thy plains my infant eyes
 First opened on the light :
 The air my sportive childhood breath'd
 Along thy valleys blew,
 And nature first within thy glens
 Entranc'd me with her view.” *Casket.*

For two days we were off the coast, passing down the Channel, and on third we entered the port of Gravesend. Here I landed, and taking a postchaise, proceeded immediately to London, and took up my abode at an hotel near St. James's Street, where I purposed remaining a few days to settle my affairs before I could depart for Devonshire, in which place I intended to surprise Laura by my sudden appearance, as I had not written to apprize her of my arrival. I trusted that there was a feast of happiness in store for me, and I looked forward, with all the impatience of hope deferred, to the blissful hour that should welcome me to the home of my betrothed.

The second day after my arrival in town, I had just finished breakfast when the waiter laid the “ Morning

Post" on my table, and I took it up to see what was going on in the world.

After reading one article on trade and another on taxation, and perusing the history of one divorce and two executions, after going to sleep, or nearly so, over the speech of an honourable member of the House of Commons, and being sufficiently awakened by the narrative of one or two incidents in a trial of crim. con. I ventured to glance over the list of births, deaths, and marriages. The first of these conveyed the pleasing information that Lord and Lady —— had at length been blessed with an heir; the second, that Sir Henry * * * was deceased, and had left a large fortune to his nephews; the third, that on the previous day, "Captain S——, of the Royal Navy, had led to the Hymenial altar *Laura*, only daughter of L. M——, Esq., of Harley Street. After the ceremony the happy bride and bridegroom left London for —— Lodge in Devonshire, the property of the bride's father."

And so *Laura* was married—a piece of information by which I was very nearly (I will not say quite) thunderstruck.

Reader, I will not trouble you with my griefs, suffice it to say, that heaven has blessed me with a very tolerable share of philosophy, that I saw no way of mending the matter, that I knew sorrow would only make it worse, and weeping no better; and, therefore, I sat down and sighed and reflected, and reflected and sighed, and finally came to the resolution (which I think was a wise one) of bearing the business like a Spartan.

After this I grew poetical, I thought once again, which I ought not, of Laura, and then I sought consolation in the words of the melody,—

“ But go, deceiver, go,
Some day, perhaps, thou’lt waken
From pleasure’s dream to know
The grief of hearts forsaken.

* * * * *

“ Go—go—’tis vain to curse,
’Tis weakness to upbraid thee,
Hate cannot wish thee worse
Than guilt and shame have made thee.”

I found Moore did me no good, and so I fled to Byron, and that “poet of poets” established me in the right possession of my reason, and saved me from going mad. He says—

“ Man’s love is of man’s life a thing apart,
’Tis woman’s whole existence. Man may range
The court, camp, church, the vessel, and the mart;
Sword, gown, gain, glory, offer in exchange,
Pride, fame, ambition, to fill up his heart,
And few there are whom these cannot estrange.—
Men have all these resources.—”

And that’s true enough thought I, but you forgot authorship.

The very next day I took apartments in a house towards the West end of this great city, and sat down to pen the pages of this little book, which may heaven prosper in its circulation, the publisher be paid for his pains, and the author be recompensed for his trouble. To its contents may the reader look with satisfaction, and the reviewer be merciful in his might.

CHAPTER LIX.

EARTHQUAKES.

“Convulsions now the ocean seize,
And bellowing earthquakes play.”

HAVING narrated the principal events that transpired during my residence in the West Indies, and having wound up the thread of my memoirs by detailing the last important incident that occurred on my arrival in my father-land, I have now only to write a few chapters on general matters, and to conclude my little work with an account of the earthquakes that have despoiled, and of the hurricanes that have laid waste the tropic islands—of the soil and climate of the Antilles—of the maners and customs of their inhabitants—their geology, their natural history, and a few other topics of equal interest and importance.

For whatever I may say on many of these subjects I shall of course be indebted to the works of those authors who have gone before me. The reader will easily conceive the uselessness of my compiling a flaming account of an earthquake, a hurricane, or a volcanic eruption from the details of others; and he

will, I think, allow that it is better, (if not less presumptuous,) to give such accounts in the language of those who saw them, than to put them into any language of my own; when it must be well known that from the period in which such events may have occurred, I could only derive my information from the pages of former writers. I will therefore make no apology for the long quotations likely to appear in the succeeding chapters; suffice it to say, that without such quotations, which are in themselves full of interest, my little volume could not be considered complete, either as a work of information or a book of reference.

It may not be amiss to commence with some remarks on earthquakes, which, with the exception of hurricanes, have proved more detrimental to the Antilles, than any other of the very awful and terrific phenomena of nature.

Earthquakes have been experienced in regions colder and more temperate than the torrid zone, but it is, nevertheless, well known that in the West Indies and among the Tropic Islands they are more frequently felt than in any other part of the earth. The fact is, there are few of these islands that do not contain lands or mountains more or less volcanic, and it generally happens, that when such mountains have ceased to emit portions of flame, smoke, and lava—in a word, when their tumult has subsided, their quiet calm may be considered, or at least feared, as the forerunner of that terrible calamity, an earthquake.

So do the dark, the desperate, the deep in crime, the despairing, and the depraved, wear a countenance that is most smooth and undisturbed when they are meditating the foulest schemes; so do they flatter, with the fawning flattery of a parasite, the victims they are about to destroy.

Nearly all the islands in the West Indies have suffered more or less from earthquakes, but there are some that have been more particularly the victims of those calamitous afflictions; Jamaica, for instance, has most frequently experienced their dreadful effects, and seldom does a year pass away, in which the inhabitants do not feel one or two shocks.

The earthquake sustained by that island in 1692, was too remarkable to be ever forgotten; and it will serve the reader as an instance of the severe misfortunes to which this otherwise prosperous colony is continually exposed. The account given of it by Dr. Coke, whose work is, I believe, nearly, if not quite obsolete, may prove as interesting and as curious, as any that may have preceded it.

He says "The terrible earthquake which happened on the sixth day of June, 1762, may be justly considered as one of the greatest natural calamities that ever afflicted the world. It was a concussion which shook the island from its circumference to its centre. The mountains trembled from their summits and tottered from their bases. It was a commotion which was felt to the remotest extremity of the island, and threatened a dissolution to that portion of the world. The catastrophe was unexpected, because it was

sudden; the presages and the awful event which followed, were closely linked together, and the tremendous monitors which warned the inhabitants, at once discovered their danger and pointed to their doom.

“The season previous to this awful event had been remarkably dry and sultry; and, on the morning of the catastrophe, the skies were transcendently serene. ‘Nature’ (says Raynall) ‘in one moment destroyed this brilliant appearance.’ The sky, on a sudden, grew turbid and angry, the air seemed agitated by some unusual conflict, and a degree of redness gave a new tinge to the atmosphere, which was evidently discomposed. An unusual noise, somewhat resembling the rumbling of distant thunder, was heard issuing from the hidden caverns of the earth. The noise alternately subsiding and then bursting out with redoubled violence, preceded the movement which was felt on the surface. The inhabitants were surprised rather than alarmed, and waited in suspense, without much anticipation of their approaching fate

“At length, between eleven and twelve at noon, the dreadful shock came on. The edifices tottered, the inhabitants were terrified, and about nine-tenths of the houses fell. In less than three minutes, the large and populous town of Port Royal was a scene of desolation. About three thousand inhabitants, with their houses and their wealth, found one common grave. Their wharfs and quays first yielded to the irresistible stroke, these trembled for a moment with inexpressible agitation, and sunk for ever beneath the

encroaching ocean, which advanced with unnatural mountains to overwhelm the sinking lands.

“The sinking of the wharfs was but a prelude to that of the town. Those houses nearest to the water, first disappeared, the next in succession followed next in fate. In the mean while the streets began to gape, opening those dreadful fissures into which the miserable remnant of the inhabitants fell who had escaped the previous ruin, and were fleeing for *shelter* in the *open air*.”

I will here beg the Doctor's pardon for interrupting his description which is really most sublime: to tell the readers that I presume the word *shelter* in 1692 could not have been exactly the same as *shelter* in 1830; at all events, we should deem it rather a novelty to see our brethren seeking it in the *open air*.

Mr. Coke continues.—“The water gathering strength by that power of resistance which the land had lost, began to roll where the town had flourished, and swept from the sight of mortals, the devastations which the earthquake had made.

“Several of the inhabitants, in the violence of the convulsion, were conducted through some subterraneous passages, and returned again to the surface of the earth through distant apertures, that had no visible connection with that which first yawned to receive them. Of bodies thus restored, many were mangled too shockingly to behold; most were dead, though some were returned alive, and even without any material hurt.

“The houses that escaped the general overthrow

could not escape the general inundation. The waters, rising to a prodigious height, not only overwhelmed the streets and ruins of the demolished houses, but entered those houses which survived the shock, and filled them to the upper story. It was a preternatural tide that was to ebb no more."

Thus does the author conclude his description of the destruction of this town, and in a succeeding page he tells us that "Port Royal, although embosomed in the ocean, still* bears the dreadful evidence of its fate. Though buried beneath the waves which have rolled over its desolated edifices, and triumphed over its departed grandeur, for one hundred and fourteen years, yet in calm and clear weather the ruins are awfully conspicuous, to the present day. The boats which support the living and convey them on the surface of the deep, carry them over the corrupted bones and moistened ashes of thousands, who sunk in that tremendous hour, into this watery abyss. The earthquake has written the epitaph of this devoted city in indelible characters, "presenting," (says Edwards) "an awful monument or memorial of the anger of Omnipotence." "What has thus happened," continues that author, "will probably happen again; and the insolence of wealth and the confidence of power, may learn a lesson of humility from the contemplation."

The description of this author appears only to relate the ruin of Port Royal, but the Encyclopædia Britannica tells us that "the effects of this earth-

* His account was published in 1808.

quake were not limited to this spot, it was severely felt through the whole island, which, in many places, sustained very material damage; indeed there were few houses which were not either injured or thrown down: in some places the inhabitants, houses, trees, and the whole surface were swallowed up in the same chasm, and what was formerly dry land was then left a pool of water; the wells, in almost every corner of the island, whatever was their depth, threw out their waters with great violence; the rivers were either entirely stopped or ceased to flow for twenty-four hours, and many of them formed to themselves new channels. At the distance of twelve miles from the sea an immense body of water spouted out from a gap which was formed in the earth, and was projected to a great height in the air. Such was the violence of the shock, that many persons were thrown down on their faces even in places where the surface of the ground remained unbroken. It was observed that the shock was most severely felt in the immediate vicinity of the mountains. Could this arise from the greater pressure, and, consequently, the greater resistance; or was it because the force which produced these terrible effects existed near them?

“ After this great shock which destroyed the town of Port Royal, the inhabitants who escaped went on board ships in the harbour, where many of them remained for two months, during which time the shocks were repeated, and were so frequent that there were sometimes two or three in the course of an hour; these were still accompanied with the same rattling

noise like that of thunder, or like the rushing noise occasioned by a current of air in rapid motion; they were also attended with what are called *brimstone blasts*. These, it is probable, were sulphureous vapours which issued from the openings made by the earthquake. The atmosphere, however, seemed to be loaded with noisome vapours, for a very general sickness soon succeeded, which in a short time swept off not fewer than three thousand persons."

The information which I have quoted respecting this very terrific calamity, will give the reader an idea of the horrors of an earthquake, and although few have been so dreadful in their consequences as the one in question, yet, I regret to say, that the Island of Jamaica is very frequently visited with alarming shocks; and that the other colonies, particularly Trinidad, are also subject to continued apprehensions of fearful events from the same awful source.

My limits will not allow me to go into a minute detail of every individual earthquake that may have been experienced in the different islands; suffice it to state, in conclusion, that the inhabitants of the Antilles have felt the dreadful influence of many, and to hope sincerely that they may not be visited by more.

CHAPTER LX.

HURRICANES.

“ The north flies forth and hurls the frightened air :
 Not all the brazen engin'ries of man,
 At once exploded, the wild burst surpass ;
 Yet thunders yok'd with lightning and with rain,
 Water and fire increase th' infernal din ;
 Canes, shrubs, trees, huts are whirl'd aloft in air ;
 The wind is spent, and all the Isle below
 Is hush'd in death.”

Sugar Cane, a Poem by Granger.

HAVING given the reader a description of one of those terrible earthquakes which so often visit the tropic islands, and from which he may form a general idea of the whole, I will now proceed to the consideration of hurricanes which have been scarcely less dreadful in their ravages over the fertile lands of the Antilles.

I have seen these terrific and calamitous visitations no were better described than in the Treatise on Tropical Diseases, by Dr. Moseley, published in 1792, in which we are told that “ Hurricanes generally set from the north or north-west, from the great rarefaction of the air within the tropic of cancer, by the sun's northern declination in the autumnal season (therefore the months of August, September, and

October, are called, in the West Indies, the hurricane months), from which an influx of dense airs rushes in from the polar regions and the great western continent (the earth being susceptible of much greater degrees of cold and heat than the ocean, which is preserved in a more uniform temperature from being incapable, like all transparent bodies, of deriving heat from solar light), and a great conflict is raised, the wind varying with furious blasts from every point of the compass, until an equilibrium is restored and nature composed by the eastern winds regaining their course.

“ The ruin and desolation accompanying a hurricane can hardly be described.—Like fire, its resistless force consumes every thing in its track in the most terrible and rapid manner. It is generally preceded by an awful stillness of the elements and a closeness and mistiness of the atmosphere, which makes the sun appear red and the stars look larger than usual. But a dreadful reverse succeeding, the sky is suddenly overcast and wild; the sea rises at once from a profound calm into mountains; the wind rages and roars like the noise of cannon; the rain descends in deluges; a dismal obscurity envelopes the earth with darkness; the superior regions appear rent with lightning and thunder; the earth often does, and seems to tremble; terror and consternation distract all nature; birds are carried from the woods into the ocean, and those whose element is the sea, seek for refuge on the land; the frightened animals in the fields assemble together, and are almost suffocated by

the impetuosity of the wind in searching for shelter, which, when found, serves only for their destruction.

“ The roofs of houses are carried to vast distances from their walls, which are beaten to the ground, burying the inhabitants under them ; large trees are torn up by the roots, and huge branches shivered off and driven through the air in every direction with immense velocity ; every tree and shrub that withstands the shock is stripped of its boughs and foliage ; plants and grass are laid flat on the earth ; luxuriant spring is changed in a moment to dreary winter. This direful tragedy ended, when it happens in a town, the devastation is surveyed with accumulated horror ; the harbor is covered with the wrecks of boats and vessels, and the shore has not a vestige of its former state remaining ; mounds of rubbish and rafters in one place, heaps of earth and trunks of trees in another ; deep gullies, from torrents of water, and the dead and dying bodies of men, women, and children, half buried and scattered about where streets but a few hours before were, present the miserable survivors, with the shocking conclusion of a spectacle generally followed by famine, and when accompanied by an earthquake with mortal diseases.

“ Such were the hurricanes that left melancholy traces in many of the West India Islands in the month of October, 1780, and particularly in Jamaica ; where, on the third of that month, the west end of the island was laid waste. Vast districts of finely cultivated lands were made a desert, and several villages were

destroyed; but the part of Jamaica which suffered most, was the parish of Westmoreland; where, in addition to the preceding calamities, the sea rose in a column, appearing at a distance like a dark cloud, and overwhelmed the little sea-port town of Savannah la Mar.

“When many people were viewing the approach of this phenomenon from their windows, ignorant of what it was, it advanced suddenly upon them, drowned them in their upper rooms, and washed away them and their houses together. The sea overflowed the land above half a mile beyond its usual bounds, and carried several large ships with it; one of which, when the waters subsided, was left nearly a quarter of a mile on the land. This hurricane commenced from the south east about twelve o'clock at noon, and continued till eight in the evening. The sea rose between four and eight o'clock and subsided at ten with an earthquake.—Nearly three hundred people perished.”

Such is the account given by Doctor Moseley of the tremendous hurricanes of 1780; but it was not, as he has asserted, “particularly the island of Jamaica,” that suffered by their devastating fury. Barbados, St. Lucia, Dominica, St. Vincent, St. Kitts, Grenada, St. Eustatia, and Martinique experienced their dreadful effects in a greater or less degree; and the following quotations from Southey's *Chronology of the West Indies*, are melancholy yet interesting proofs that every island in the Antilles was more or less exposed to their despoiling influence.

“ The hurricane began at Barbados on the morning of the 10th of October, and continued with little intermission about forty-eight hours. In the afternoon of the first day all the ships were driven from their anchors to sea. In the course of the night Bridgetown was nearly laid level with the earth. Daylight presented a scene of desolation seldom equalled. Not one house or building in the island, however strong or sheltered, was exempt from damage. Most of the live stock, and four thousand three hundred and twenty-six persons perished : the loss which the colony sustained was estimated at one million three hundred and twenty thousand five hundred and sixty-four pounds sterling. Upon the authority of a public document sent to the Secretary of State by the Governor of the island, it is said that a twelve pound gun was, by the wind and waves, carried from the south to the north battery, a distance of one hundred and forty yards. Some Spanish prisoners under Don Pedro St. Jago assisted the troops in relieving the inhabitants, and preventing the negroes from plundering. Parliament voted eighty thousand pounds for the relief of the sufferers.”

The following copy of what passed in Barbados, from the 9th of October until the 16th, is full of interest.

“ The evening preceding the hurricane, the 9th of October, was exceedingly calm, but the sky surprisingly red and fiery ; during the night much rain fell. On the morning of the 10th, much rain and wind from N. W. By ten o'clock it increased very

much—by one, the ships in the bay drove: by four o'clock the Albemarle frigate (the only man of war here) parted her anchors and went to sea; as did all the other vessels, about twenty-five in number. Soon after, by six o'clock, the wind had torn up and blown many trees, and foreboded a most violent tempest. At the Government House, every precaution was taken to guard against what might happen; the doors and windows were barricaded up but it availed little.

“ By ten o'clock the wind forced itself a passage through the house from the N. N. W., and the tempest increasing every minute, the family took to the centre of the building; imagining, from the prodigious strength of the walls, they being three feet thick, and from its circular form, it would have withstood the wind's utmost rage; however, by half after eleven o'clock, they were obliged to retreat to the cellar, the wind having forced its way into every part, and torn off most of the roof. From this asylum they were soon driven out; the water being stopped in its passages, and having forced itself a course into the cellar, they knew not where to go; the water rose four feet, and the ruins were falling from all quarters. To continue in the cellar was impossible, to return to the house equally so; the only chance left was making for the fields, which at that time appeared equally dangerous; it was, however, attempted, and the family were so fortunate as to get to the ruins of the foundation of the flagstaff, which soon after giving way, every one endeavored to find

a retreat for himself. The Governor and the few who remained were thrown down, and it was with great difficulty they gained a cannon, under the carriage of which they took shelter. Their situation here was highly deplorable :—many of the cannons were moved, and they had reason to fear, that the one under which they sat, might be dismounted and crush them by its fall ; or, that some of the ruins that were flying about, would put an end to their existence : and to render the scene still more dreadful, they had much to fear from the powder magazine, near which they were. The armory was level with the ground, and the arms, &c. scattered about.

“ Anxiously did they wait the break of day, flattering themselves, that with the light they should see a cessation of the storm ; yet when it appeared little was the tempest abated ; and the day served but to exhibit the most melancholy prospect imaginable. Nothing can compare with the terrible devastation that presented itself on all sides ; not a building standing—the trees, if not torn up by the roots, deprived of their leaves and branches, and the most luxuriant spring changed in this one night to the dreariest winter. In vain was it to look round for shelter ; houses, that from their situation it was to have been imagined would have been in a degree protected, were all flat with the earth ; and the miserable owners, if they were so fortunate as to escape with their lives, were left without a covering for themselves and families. * * *

“ Nothing has ever happened that has caused such

universal desolation. No one house in the island is exempt from danger; very few buildings are left standing on the estates. The depopulation of the negroes and cattle, particularly the horned kind, is very great, which must, more especially in these times, be a cause of distress to the planter. It is as yet impossible to make any accurate calculation of the number of souls who have perished in this dreadful calamity. Whites and blacks together, it is imagined to exceed some thousands; but fortunately few people of consequence are among the number. Many are buried in the ruins of houses and buildings; many fell victims to the violence of the storm and the inclemency of the weather; and great numbers were driven into the sea and thus perished.

“The troops have suffered inconsiderably, though both the barracks and the hospital were early blown down. Alarming consequences were dreaded from the number of dead bodies that lay uninterred, and from the quantity the sea threw up, which, however, have happily subsided. What few public buildings there were are fallen in the general wreck. The fortifications have suffered very considerably. The buildings were all demolished; for so violent was the storm here, when assisted by the sea, that a twelve-pounder was carried from the south to north battery, a distance of one hundred and forty yards. The loss to this country is immense; many years will be required to retrieve it.”

So much for the devastation of this terrific and ever to be remembered hurricane, in the Island of

Barbados. Let us now see its effects in the other Colonies.

“ At St. Lucia, only two houses were left standing in the town. His Majesty's ship *Badger* was dismasted, and driven on shore in that harbor. All the barracks, huts, and other buildings, were blown down; and all the ships were driven to sea.

“ At St. Christopher's several vessels were driven on shore.

“ Considerable damage was done at Dominica.

“ Every building in St. Vincent was blown down. The *Experiment* of fifty, and the *Juno*, a French forty-gun frigate, were entirely destroyed.

“ At Grenada, nineteen sail of loaded Dutch ships were stranded and beat to pieces.

“ At Martinique on the 12th, four ships foundered in Fort Royal Bay, and every soul perished. Every house in St. Pierre was blown down, and more than one thousand persons perished. At Fort Royal Town, the cathedral, seven churches, the Governor's house, the senate house, the prisons, the hospitals, the barracks, and upwards of fourteen hundred houses were blown down. In the hospital of Notre Dame, sixteen hundred patients, with the nurses and attendants, were almost all of them buried in the ruins. In the shipwrights' sick-house, one hundred perished. Upwards of nine thousand persons were computed to have perished in the island; and the damage was estimated at seven hundred thousand louis d'ors.

“ At St. Eustatia on the 10th A. M., the sky sud-

denly blackened all around ; it rained violently, and thundered and lightened. In the afternoon the gale increased : seven homeward bound ships were dashed to pieces, and every soul on board perished ; nineteen others were driven to sea. In the night every house to the northward and southward was blown down, or washed away, with the inhabitants, into the sea. Some few who had hid themselves in large holes in the mountains were saved. In the afternoon of the 11th, the wind shifted suddenly to the eastward, and swept away every house to the east and west. Between four and five thousand persons perished ; and the damage was estimated at one hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling. The cathedral, four churches, the barrack and hospital were left standing.”

Such was the memorable hurricane of 1780—such were the effects of its ravages in the beautiful isles of the Antilles. On the 8th, the sun rose in all the glory of his splendor ; he shone over the forest-covered hills, and penetrated the fertile valleys below, where the waters were gleaming in their brilliancy ; he cast his rays over the rich fields of waving canes, and upon the green velvet of a thousand smiling pastures ; their genial influence was felt by the inhabitants of the deep, and the blue waves of the Atlantic were sparkling in their brightness. He shone upon the rising towns of the tropics, and the gilded spires of their churches were glittering in the air.

But when three days had rolled over the heads of

the many—when, on the quiet morning of the 12th, the young Aurora had opened the bright portals of the azure heavens for the flaming car of the same glorious Sol, on what a scene did he shine—the forest-covered hills were stript of all their foliage, the fertile valleys had lost their green fertility, the gleaming waters were flowing over the limbs of the mangled, the waving canes were scattered like the hopes of their planters, the grazing flocks and herds were swept from the smiling pastures, the towns of the tropics were levelled with dust from which they sprung, and the gilded spires of their churches were broken in the blast of the storm.

It was a woeful spectacle for the survivors, the votaries of ambition had learnt a lesson of humility; the mighty had been humbled in their strength; the wealthy had been deprived of their riches; the sanguine had lost their hopes; the young, the fair, the beautiful, and the strong in health, were robbed by the despoiler of their youth, their beauty, and their strength; the dissipated and ardent followers of pleasure had been awakened from their blissful dream; the hardened in iniquity and the old in crime had been summoned to their home of homes; the ties of love and kindred were disunited and torn apart; the father found himself childless, and the mother without her offspring; the husband companionless, and the wife a widow; children were left to mourn for their parents, and to weep in the bitterness of their grief; the beautiful to sigh for her beloved, the lover to sorrow for his bride.

And these are afflictions to which our colonies are continually subject ; not an autumn passes but they dread their approach ; not a year rolls away, in which they do not fear either a dreadful attack of the elements or a terrible concussion of the earth.

May they dread without reason ; may their fears be groundless, till the swift current of time shall cease to flow, and the world be launched into eternity.

CHAPTER LXI.

NATURAL PRODUCTIONS OF THE ANTILLES—SOIL AND
CLIMATE.

“ Go, mark the workings of the power
That shuts within the seed the future flower ;
Bids these in elegance of form excel,
In color these, and those delight the smell ;
Sends nature forth, the daughter of the skies,
To dance on earth and charm all human eyes.

Cowper.

I HAVE endeavored to describe the calamitous afflictions with which it has sometimes pleased Providence to visit the tropic islands. I have portrayed the awful consequences of the most destructive earthquake, and the most despoiling hurricane that ever ravaged the green shores of the Antilles, and I will now seek a more grateful theme. I will fly to the smiling verdure, which renders those green shores so beautifully picturesque. I will tell of the graceful foliage that envelopes their lofty mountains ; and of the more useful, but not less lovely productions, with which nature has embellished their vales. I will tell of their cataracts and mountain torrents, of their golden rivers and flowing streams ; I will tell of the clement skies above them, and of the azure ocean that beats upon their rocks ; of the genial influence of their climate, of the productive fertility of their soil.

What earth produces—the treasures that come forth from her teeming womb, the luxuries she dispenses, the lavish bounty with which she bestows flowers for ornament, and fruits and vegetables for the use and consumption of man, are subjects which never fail in interest or instruction. Perhaps she is no where more prolific than in the tropic islands; there vegetation flourishes from year to year; it grows in a perpetual summer; there is no cold to blight, no winter to wither it; nothing but the occasional blast of a despoiling hurricane; nothing but the storm when it “rides upon the wings of the wind” can deprive it of its beauty, or rob it of its bloom.

In describing the natural productions of the West India Islands, method, which is good in all things, may as well be introduced; I will therefore divide them into two classes, the useful and ornamental.

The useful will comprise fruit trees and vegetables; the ornamental, trees not bearing fruit and flowers.

To begin with the useful:—The fruits of the tropics are sapadillos, pomegranates, sour-sops, grenadillos, custard apples, guavas, cerases, Java plums, mangoes, mamme sapotas, pineapples, Otaheite gooseberries, Jamaica plums, bread fruit, water lemons, cashews, avocado pears, hog plums, sugar apples, seaside grapes, oranges, shaddocks, limes, melons, and cocoa nuts.

The vegetables are papaws, plantains, okros, peppers, pigeon and angola peas, sweet potatoes, yams, and taniers. The other useful productions of the West Indies are the sugar-cane, the coffee and

cocoa plants, the cotton, and silk-cotton trees, with many more, which my limits will not allow me to name.

The bread fruit, the botanical name of which is *arto-carpus incisa*, is among the most valuable of the tropical fruits. It now flourishes in nearly all the West India Islands, although it is a native of Otaheite, and was only brought to the Antilles in 1793, by Captain Bligh, who was sent out on a voyage for the purpose of procuring them, and who, in January of that year, landed five hundred and forty-four plants in the island of St. Vincent, and committed them to the charge of Mr. Anderson, then superintendent of the botanical garden. He also left three hundred and forty-seven at Port Royal, in the island of Jamaica. Dampier, the British navigator, who appears to have been the first to notice these trees, thus describes them. "The bread fruit, as we call it, grows on a large tree, as big and high as our largest apple trees. It hath a spreading head, full of branches and dark leaves. The fruit grows on the boughs, like apples; it is as big as a penny loaf, when the wheat is at five shillings the bushel. It is of a round shape, and hath a thick, tough rind. When the fruit is ripe it is yellow and soft, and the taste is sweet and pleasant. The natives of Guam use it for bread. They gather it when full grown, while it is green and hard; then they bake it in an oven, which scorches the rind and makes it black, but they scrape off the outside black crust, and there remains a tender thin crust, and the inside is soft,

tender, and white, like the crumbs of a penny loaf. There is neither seed nor stone in the inside, but all of a firm substance like bread. It must be eaten new; for if it be kept above twenty-four hours it becomes harsh and choky, but it is very pleasant before it is too stale. This fruit lasts in season eight months in the year, during which time the natives eat no other sort of food of bread kind. I did never see of this fruit any where but here (Guam). The natives told us that there was plenty of this fruit growing in the rest of the Ladrone Islands, and I did never hear of it elsewhere." In many of the islands in the South Pacific Ocean and other warm climates this fruit is now flourishing in profusion.

But the bread-fruit, though a useful and prolific tree, will not bear a comparison in point of beauty with the stately palmetto, or mountain cabbage. This is of all others the most graceful and majestic tree of its kind in the tropics. The cocoa-nut tree and one or two more of a smaller species are not to be compared with it. It rises, I should say, from seventy to a hundred and twenty feet in height, though many authors have been inclined to give it a greater elevation. Ligon mentions having seen them in Barbados as high as two hundred feet. Mr. Hughes observes that the highest in his time was a hundred and thirty-four, and Bryan Edwards says he had seen them in Jamaica upwards of a hundred and fifty. The papaw is another very graceful tree, which produces a sort of vegetable much used in the West Indies, particularly in preserves. This tree is said

to possess some peculiar properties, and Waller has taken notice of it in his poems. He says,

“ The fair papaw,
Now but a seed, preventing nature's law,
In half the circle of the hasty year
Projects a shade, and lovely fruits does wear.”

By the way, when speaking of the mountain cabbage tree, I omitted to mention that the heart of the green spire that is seen shooting up above its branches, is a hard vegetable substance, resembling, when cut up, the heart of a cabbage. This, when boiled, and properly dressed, is of a very pleasant flavor; and the trees are not unfrequently cut down to procure it, for it is considered a rarity.

The mango tree is another fine fruit of the tropics, and it grows in great variety, there being many different kinds. Of these the mangosteen, or small mango, is superior to the rest and very sweet in flavor. It is a juicy fruit, containing a large stone in the inside; it grows very rapidly, and, as its foliage is thick, affords a pleasant shade. The botanical garden of St. Vincent, contained some very fine specimens of this fruit.

The shaddock, the grape, and forbidden fruits, all of which are large scions of the *citrus* or orange stock, are full of juice, and of a very grateful and refreshing taste, although many think them coarse and inferior to oranges. For myself, I prefer them to any fruit in the tropics, with the exception of the pineapple, and the melon; they are seldom absent

from a West Indian dessert table, where they are taken to give a zest to the wine.

Among the softer fruits are the grenadillos, so delightful when taken in malmsey, the water-lemon, the sapadillos, and the sour-sop. The botanical name for the last of these is *guanabanus*, and Johnson has confounded it with the custard-apple, giving Miller as his authority, who says "it grows in many parts of the Spanish West Indies, where it is cultivated for its fruits." The tree, however, which bears the custard-apple, and, indeed, the fruit itself, is totally different from the sour-sop. This last is a large and rich fruit, though no great luxury, and seldom brought to table for dessert. The rind of the fruit, even when ripe, is rough and prickly, and of a bright green; the inside is very soft, extremely juicy, and of a milky white; it contains a great number of little black seeds, and its flavor is slightly acid. It grows wild in the plantations and pasture lands of the Antilles, and is seldom eaten by any but the negroes.

The custard-apple, on the other hand, is considered a very luxuriant fruit, and is always brought to the dessert table during the season. It is small, very sweet in flavor, and of a delicate color. Its shape somewhat resembles a fine head of broccoli.

Pineapples and limes are very plentiful in the tropics: of the latter the West Indians make excellent punch and lemonade. Lemons and wild oranges also grow in profusion, and are chiefly used for marmalade, or candied preserves.

Talking of preserves, the guava jelly, which is

accounted so great a luxury in England, is made from the guavas which grow wild in all the islands of the Antilles.

The bannana tree, resembling the plantain, produces a pleasant fruit, and the fig tree is not less celebrated for its pleasant shade. Edwards calls it a forest in itself, and quotes Milton in its favor :

“ The fig tree ; not that kind for fruit renown'd,
But such as at this day, to Indians known,
In Malabar and Decan spreads her arms,
Branching so broad and long, that in the ground
The bearded twigs take root, and daughters grow
Above the mother tree, a pillar'd shade,
High overarched, and echoing walls between !”

Paradise Lost.

The ceiba, the silk-cotton, the bamboo, and a thousand others, are all shady in their way. *Apropos* of the bamboo : many a pretty twig has been severed from its green branches, and fashioned into a fashionable cane with which the beau ideal of dandyism might strut along the pavé of Bond.

So much for the fruits and trees of the tropics. I have left hundreds unmentioned, but as I have a chapter, and not a volume to write on the subject, I have no room to name them. And, now, a word or two on the flowers.

Flowers are seldom cultivated in the West Indies ; they grow wild, but they are not the less beautiful ; their dyes are splendid, and their varieties great : I regret to say that I am not botanist enough to know even the names of the most common kinds.

The fact is, because they are every where seen

they are seldom noticed ; they bloom in their beauty on every hedge ; they grow by the banks of every flowing stream ; they blossom among the wild shrubs of the mountains, and they display their gaudy colors on the brow of every rising hill. Out of a thousand which I have seen and admired in my rides, I can only recollect the Barbados' pride, a few wild lilies that grew by the rivers, and a tree, the name of which I forget, leafless and fruitless, and producing only blossoms. The flowers, which grow in bunches on the branches of this tree, are delicate and splendid, somewhat resembling the bloom of the peach tree.

The fences, where there are any, that grow along the roads, or divide the fields of the estates are particularly beautiful, studded with wild flowers, and never losing their bloom. But the most regular, and, I think, the prettiest hedges are formed of an evergreen shrub, resembling the small laurel or the bay, called the Galba, which springs from a round seed, about the size of a marble, and is very rapid in its growth.

The cane-fields of the Antilles are remarkably splendid when in bloom ; every cane shoots up a tall and straight but very slender stem, at top of which blossoms a large but extremely delicate flower, of a light lilac colour, and these are seen waving gracefully in the breeze, and give to the plantations during the season an air of gaiety, which is extremely pleasing.

Among the flowers of the West Indies there are, however, one or two too celebrated to be passed by unnoticed, and which are really curiosities of nature, and the animal flower may be accounted one of these.

I will give the reader an account of this as quoted from the Annual Register of 1764. It tells us that—

“ The inhabitants of St. Lucia have discovered an animal flower. In a cavern of that isle, near the sea, is a large basin from twelve to fifteen feet deep, the water of which is very brackish, and the bottom composed of rocks, from whence at all times proceed certain substances which present at first sight beautiful flowers of a bright shining color, and pretty nearly resembling our single marygolds, only that their tint is more lively. These seeming flowers, on the approach of a hand or instrument, retire like a snail, out of sight. On examining this substance closely, there appears in the middle of the disk four brown filaments resembling spiders legs, which move round a kind of yellow petals with a brisk and spontaneous motion. These legs reunite, like pincers, to seize their prey, and the yellow petals immediately close to shut up that prey so that it cannot escape. Under this appearance of a flower is a brown stalk, the bigness of a raven's quill, and which appears to be the body of some animal. It is probable that this strange animal lives on the spawn of fish and the small insects which the sea throws up into the basin.”

Besides this animal flower there is another natural curiosity in the West Indies, called the vegetable fly, which Atwood thus mentions in his History of Dominica :—

“ The vegetable fly is a remarkable insect : it is of the appearance and size of a small cockchafer, and buries itself in the ground where it dies, and from its body springs up a small plant which resembles a

coffee-tree plant, only its leaves are much smaller. The plant which springs from this insect is often overlooked; from the supposition people have of its being no other than a coffee plant; but on examining it properly the difference is easily distinguished, from the head, body, and feet of the insect appearing at the root as perfect as when alive."

A further light is thrown upon this great natural curiosity by the following paragraph from the Annual Register:—

"In the Philosophical Transactions for 1763, Dr. W. Watson states:—'I have received a letter from our learned and ingenious member, Dr. Huxham, of Plymouth, in which, among other things, he informed me that he had lately obtained a sight of what is called the vegetable fly, with the following description of it, both of which he had from Mr. Newman, an officer who came from the Island of Dominica:—'The vegetable fly is found in the Island of Dominica, and (excepting that it has no wings) resembles the drone both in size and color more than any other English insect. In the month of May it buries itself in the earth, and begins to vegetate. By the latter end of July the tree is arrived at its full growth, and resembles a coral branch. It is about three inches high, and bears several little pods, which dropping off, become worms, and from thence flies—like the English caterpillar.' Dr. Huxham has received a similar account from Captain Gascoign, who had been at Dominica. As I had never seen this production myself, but had been informed that Dr. Hill

had had the examination of some of them, I wrote to that gentleman to desire to be informed of the result of his inquiries, to which he very obligingly sent me the following answer:—‘ When Colonel Melvil brought these flies from Guadaloupe, Lord Bute sent me the box of them to examine. The result was this.—There is in Martinique a fungus of the clavaria kind, different in species from those hitherto known. It produces soboles from its sides, I call it, therefore, clavaria sobolifera. It grows on putrid animal bodies, as our fungus expedé equino, from the dead horse’s hoof. The cicada is common in Martinique, and in its nympha state, in which the old authors call it tettigometra, it buries itself under dead leaves to wait its change, and when the season is unfavorable many perish. The seeds of the clavaria find a proper bed on this dead insect and grow. The tettigometra is among the cicadæ in the British Museum; the clavaria is just now known.

“ ‘ This you may be assured is the fact, and all the fact, though the untaught inhabitants suppose a fly to vegetate, and though there exists a Spanish drawing of the plants growing into a trifoliate tree, and it had been figured with the creature flying with this tree upon its back.’ ”

Such are the natural curiosities of the kingdom of Flora in the tropics; but I must now leave the more beautiful and pass to the more useful productions of the prolific soil of the Antilles.

I should say, of all the numerous vegetables, the names of which I have given in a former part of this

chapter, that yams, tancias, plantains, and sweet potatoes, met with a greater consumption than any of the others.

The yam is a very fine vegetable, and when roasted and eaten with butter is deemed by many superior to the English potatoe—the sweet potatoe is also much liked—perhaps frying is the best mode of cooking it. Tancias are used chiefly in soup; but the plantains are, perhaps, more useful to the negroes than any of the preceding; when ripe they make a nice dish for the table, when unripe and roasted they serve as a substitute for bread, and make a very substantial meal: the slaves have also a practice of boiling them and then pounding them into a pudding.

In describing the productions of the Antilles, I must not omit to mention the arrow-root, which is very fine; nor the cassada, which is equally useful. Cassada is a sort of bread or cake made from a root, and eaten in great quantities by the negroes.

This cassada is derived from the root formerly called jucca, of which P. Matire gives the following description in his Decade. He says, “they have also another kind of root called jucca, whereof they make bread; but they never eat jucca except it be first sliced and pressed (for it is full of liquor), and then baked or sodden. But this is to be marvelled at, that the juice of this root is a poison as strong as aconitum; so that if it be drunk it causeth present death, and yet the bread made thereof is of good taste, and wholesome, as they all have proved.” As Martine says, it is indeed “to be marvelled at.” The

baneful poison of the juice of this root extends to all animals, and it were impossible to prepare the cassada without first thoroughly extracting its moisture, after which, by baking and pounding, it is reduced very nearly to the consistency of flour, and then makes a wholesome cake.

The provisions for animals in the West Indies are, like those for man, extremely bountiful. Guinea corn and grass for the cattle, Indian corn for the poultry, and green vines for the goats and pigs every where abound.

Apropos of vines: there is a very curious one in the Antilles, called the souple jack, and few persons go thither without bringing home a number for walkingsticks, as it is almost impossible to break them, and they will bend quite double.

I must now cease, for my limits will not allow me to say more of the vegetation of the tropic islands; but in conclusion I may be permitted to make a few observations on the soil and climate which render that vegetation so fertile and prolific.

There is scarcely a single island in the Antilles that does not contain a variety of soils, some deep black and rich, others shallow and sandy, and others again of a middle nature; yet all these are productive if well cultivated, and it would be difficult to discover a barren spot. The climate being warm is also congenial to the growth of vegetation, and I do not think so unhealthy as many have represented it. On the contrary, I am inclined to believe that, for his easy victories, Death is more indebted to careless-

ness, intemperance, and excess, than to the baneful influence of a tropical region. There is no doubt that in some islands, where cultivation has made less progress, and where the lands are low, marshy, and ill drained, fevers and diseases will arise from those very causes; and as the temperature of air varies according to the height of the land, some regions will always be more desirable than others; therefore if we except Dominica, Tobago, St. Lucia, and some parts of Jamaica, Demerara, and Berbice, I think we may place the climate of the other islands on a par with that of many European countries, and England may be included in the list.

As a perpetual summer reigns, of course there is no spring, autumn, or winter, and the year is only divided into two seasons, the dry and the rainy. The dry season lasts during the early months of the year, but the mountainous islands are seldom without rain, even during this period, and light thunder-storms are also of frequent occurrence. The rainy season commences about the middle of July, and lasts during four months, and the hurricane months may be said to comprise August, September, and October, when the wind, which in the tropics blows generally from one point, often shifts round to the opposite quarter. The torrents of rain which fall during these months, if they do not amount to inundations, are of great service to the lands, and give to the whole country a green and fresh appearance.

Besides the rains nearly all the Antilles are copiously watered by numerous rivers that take their

source from the mountains and flow in all directions. There are also in some, very fine lakes, bituminous ponds, mineral spas, and curious springs.

There is one of the latter in the Island of Barbados, of which Dr. Pinkard, in his Notes on the West Indies, gives a remarkable description. I will conclude this chapter by quoting the passage.

“ On approaching the spot,” says that gentleman, “ we came to a small hut, in which was living an old black woman, who employed herself as a guide to exhibit, under a kind of necromantic process, all the details of this boiling and burning fountain.

“ The old dame, bearing in her hand a lighted taper, and taking with her an empty calabash, and all the other necessary apparatus of her office, led the way from the hut down to the spring. In a still and most secluded situation we came to a hole or small pit filled with water, which was bubbling in boiling motion, and pouring from its receptacle down a narrow channel of the gully. Here our sable sorceress, in all the silence and solemnity of magic, placing the light at her side, fell down upon her knees, and with her calabash emptied all the water out of the hole, then immersing the taper in the deep void, she suddenly set the whole pit in a flame, when she instantly jumped upon her legs and looked significantly round, as if anxious to catch the surprise expressed upon our countenances from the workings of her witchcraft. The taper being removed, the empty space continued to burn with a soft lambent flame without the appearance of any thing to support

the combustion. We observed fresh water slowly distilling into the pit from the earth at its sides, and dropping to the bottom, and as this increased in quantity it raised the flame higher and higher in the pit, supporting it upon its surface, and conveying the appearance of water itself being on fire, although it was very clear and pure, and not spread with any oily or bituminous matter. When the water had risen to a certain height the flame became feeble, then gradually declined, and presently was extinct. The water was now seen to boil and bubble as before, and soon overflowing the pit, resumed its course down the narrow channel of the gulley, and all was restored to the state in which we found it. You will before this have discovered that the water was cold, and that the boiling and burning of this fiery deep was only the effect of inflammable gas, which escaping from the bowels of the earth, and rising from the bottom of the pit, supported the flame when it was empty, and bubbling through it when it was filled with water, gave it the appearance of a boiling spring. During the combustion the smell of the inflammable air was very powerful.”

CHAPTER LXII.

NATURAL HISTORY.

“ It is not necessary that every individual should make deep researches on this subject, nor be a learned naturalist; it is enough to attend to the most familiar and best known things before us.”

Sturm.

As I have spoken of the fruits and prolific vegetation of the tropics, it may not be amiss to say something of their natural history.

Man is not the only inhabitant of the Antilles; their impervious forests, their green woods, their lofty mountains, and their smiling valleys, are peopled with animals in thousands, birds in millions, insects in myriads; there is a wide field for the naturalist as well as the botanist, and if there are but few discoveries it is because there is little research.

The animals found in these islands are for the most part wild, though none of them are beasts of prey. The following list will I think include the most common.

The agouti, the armadillo, the opossum, the monkey, the guana, the lizard, the musk rat, and one or two more.

The agouti is an animal much larger than a rat,

though not so big as a rabbit, and in its appearance it bears a resemblance to both of these, but to the rat more especially. Mr. Edwards is mistaken when he says that, "in most of the islands to windward, the race, though once common to all, is now utterly extinct." On the contrary, they are still found in considerable numbers in nearly all the islands, and the negroes, who take much pleasure in hunting them, consume them, when caught, with the goût of an alderman over turtle.

The armadillo derives its nomenclature from the curious armour which preserves the upper part of its body, and is composed of scaly substances of irregular size covering the rump and shoulders of the animal, and of more regular bands, folding one over another, along the back. Its feet have long claws, with which it burrows out a retreat in some secluded spot, and there dwells, hermit-like, in perfect harmlessness, feeding on grain, worms, and other small insects, which it generally seeks for in the night. It is said to drink a great deal, and it breeds often, bringing forth several young at a birth. It can coil itself up into a small compass and is then invulnerable; it generally does this when attacked. Those who have eaten it declare it to be fine food.

There are six species of armadillos, known by the number of bands that surround their bodies; that of the Antilles is the *novemcinctus*, or nine-banded armadillo, and I have often seen it stuffed to perfection.

The opossum, which the negroes call a manicou,

is another curious animal well known to naturalists. The pouch, or fold of skin beneath the belly, in which it receives its young and there suckles them until they are able to shift for themselves, is a very remarkable contrivance. These animals are very numerous in the West Indies, and rather mischievous in preying upon the poultry of the plantations. They are also fond of fruit, and very expert in climbing the trees to procure it; they have a low squeaking voice, and, like others of the same genus, an unpleasant smell.

I am told they may be easily tamed, but I never tried the experiment, though I once caught a female with four young ones in her pouch.

Of monkeys, in the West Indies, I believe there are several of the small species, but more particularly in Jamaica, Trinidad, Demerara, and Berbice; I do not think they are very numerous in the other islands, at all events I never saw one.

The guana is a large sort of lizard which is found in nearly all the West India Islands, but is more rare in some than in others. Those I saw were chiefly of a bright green color and very beautiful; they are quite harmless and subsist principally on fruit. They are often eaten by the inhabitants of the Antilles, though Edwards tells us that the English "did not often serve them at elegant tables, but their French and Spanish neighbors, less squeamish, still devoured them with exquisite relish:" and he then adds; "I imagine, too, they have good reason, for I have been assured, by a lady of great beauty and

elegance, that the guana is equal in flavor and wholesomeness to the finest green turtle."

Now I had read this passage more than once, and yet, notwithstanding the assurance of Mr. Edwards's female acquaintance of great beauty and elegance, I never could bring myself to taste the white, mawky, chickenlike, and tender flesh of a fricasseed guana; it always reminded me of the cat which regaled Gil Blas de Santillane, or of the hind legs of those delicious little frogs which are cooked by connoisseurs for *les gourmands de Paris*.

I said the guana was a species of lizard, and of lizards the Antilles contain thousands and tens of thousands, of all kinds and colors. Many of them are very beautiful and many very disagreeable, but all perfectly harmless. They are very fond of music of any kind; and I have often seen one remain immovable on the branch of a tree, and give his whole attention to me, while merely whistling in a low tone, and, when listening to this, it would suffer itself to be caught without attempting to run away.

The most disgusting and disagreeable of this species of animal is the wood-slave, a sort of brown and gray lizard; I, however, believe it to be harmless, notwithstanding the assertions of the negroes, who dread it on account of its tenacity, and declare that all whom it may touch are liable to get the leprosy, although I do not believe that any instance can be advanced of its having produced such an effect. The tail of this animal will continue alive

at least two minutes after it is severed from the body.

So much for the beasts of the Antilles. Of the birds I know little, save that they are very numerous and have a splendid plumage, though few of them are heard to warble, like the sweet songsters of my native groves.

Among the most common are the man-of-war bird, the ortolan, the hawk, the owl, the plover, the flamingo, the mocking-bird, the ramier, or wild pigeon, the wild fowl, the parrot, and the humming-bird. There are also a thousand others peculiar to the different islands, the names of which I do not know, neither if I did should I have room to describe them.

The parrot and humming-bird are found in greater variety, and are, perhaps, more beautiful than the rest of the feathered tribe in the West Indies; but as they are also common to other warm climates, and, for the most part, already well known, I will not stay to give an account of them here, but pass on to the insect tribe which infest the forests, and the woods, and the mountains, and the vales of all the islands in the tropics in myriads.

To attempt, however, to enumerate one tenth of the numerous species of flies, moths, butterflies, beetles, &c. that inhabit those regions would be a task almost beyond the power of the most skilful naturalist; for where millions exist thousands must be undiscovered. I shall, therefore, only mention a few

of the most common ; par exemple, the ant, the mosquito, the scorpion, the centipede, the fire-fly, the cricket, the grasshopper, the bat, the sand-fly, and the jigger.

Of all these the ants are perhaps the most annoying ; they infest every place, and it is impossible to keep the provisions and sweets out of their way without a great deal of contrivance ; they sting furiously, and the poor devil who happens to seize upon some fruit that may contain a nest of them, will learn a lesson of precaution that will serve him for the remainder of his days.

The variety of these insects in the West Indies is very great :—there are the common ants, the red ants, the wood ants, which destroy houses, and a thousand more ; but the most destructive of these insects that ever made their appearance in those islands were the sugar ants, which in 1770, spread desolation in the colonies of Martinique and Grenada ; and were, it was supposed, imported from Africa in the slave ships.

The hurricane in 1776 destroyed them in Martinique, and the same circumstance produced the same good effects in Grenada, at a time when the legislature of that island had offered twenty thousand pounds to get rid of them.

The following description of them, quoted from Coke, is not without interest. He tells us, that “ from a letter to which their depredations gave rise, we learn the following particulars. It was written by John Castles, Esq. to General Melville, who had

formerly been Governor of Grenada, and was read before the Royal Society of London in the month of May, 1790.

“ These insects are described by this gentleman to be of a slender make, of a middling size, of a dark red color, remarkable for the acidity of their taste when applied to the tongue, and peculiarly active in all their motions. Their numbers are represented as being so immense as to have covered the roads for many miles together, so that the impressions made by the feet of such horses as travelled over them could be seen distinctly in many places for some moments, till they were filled up by the surrounding swarms. Though easily distinguishable from the common ants, by the peculiarities which have been mentioned, there was another criterion which was always infallible; this was, the strong sulphureous smell which they constantly emitted when rubbed together; and from this vitriolic emission many inferred their hostility to vegetation. Their first appearance was on a sugar plantation about five miles from the capital, and from this place, extending themselves in every direction, in the space of a few years, they covered a tract twelve miles in length; destroying the sugar-canes, blasting vegetation, and reducing a spot, which had been remarkable for its fertility, to a state of the most deplorable desolation.

“ The places which they selected for their nests, were those which promised them the greatest security against heavy rains, which they seemed unable to withstand. On this account they instinctively chose

to deposit their eggs beneath the roots of the sugarcane, as affording them the most permanent shelter; and next to these, beneath those of the lime, the lemon, and the orange trees. And, hence it became necessary, to destroy the plant, or tree, in order to reach the habitation in which they propagated their species. But as this would have been productive of evils, equally pernicious with those which were designed to be remedied, the inhabitants were obliged to resort to other expedients.

“ Among the various experiments which were attempted in order to destroy them, those which proved most successful were poison and fire. To render the former efficacious, arsenic and corrosive sublimate were mixed with such animal substances, as they had been observed most greedily to devour. The effects produced by this were astonishingly great, but insufficient to reach the end which was designed. Multitudes fell by the arsenic, and myriads more were destroyed by those that had tasted of the corrosive sublimate, and were by that means rendered so outrageous, as to prey on such as came within their reach. But this method of destruction was found to be too tardy for the pressing exigency. Multiplication kept pace with the operation of the poison, so that no end appeared to the application; and it was found impossible to extend it over a hundred-thousandth portion of the ground they occupied.

“ A greater probability of success attended the application of fire. It was found that when wood had been reduced to charcoal, and was laid in their

way, they crowded about the smoking brand in such immense numbers, as to extinguish it entirely ; while thousands upon thousands perished in the heap which was raised by their numerous bodies. But these applications, though sufficient to prevent the rapidity of their increase, could scarcely reduce their numbers, much less exterminate their race. For this no specific was discovered by the exercise of art. But the same Divine Providence which brought this plague upon the inhabitants, provided for their deliverance from it. The dreadful hurricane of 1780, which proved so calamitous to many of the Islands, produced in Grenada the effect which the legislature had offered twenty thousand pounds to have accomplished. The sugar ants disappeared in an instant before the violence of this tornado, and the people were immediately relieved from the painful apprehensions under which they had so long labored."

So much, reader, for the ants of the Antilles. The mosquito, the scorpion, and the centipede are the next to be noticed. The first of these is merely troublesome, but he is nevertheless troublesome to a great degree ; he bites woefully, and every new comer is attacked on his arrival by myriads of the tribe, who leave no vulnerable part untouched ; and generally produce an irritation which occasions what is called the mosquito fever. The mosquito is about the size of an English gnat.

The bite of the scorpion is more dangerous, and that of the centipede terrible. I was once awakened from a sweet sleep by one of these creatures stinging

me in the eye, and the agony I suffered for about eight hours afterwards was indescribable. The sand-fly is another insect that attacks the skin, and its bite is not less severe than that of the mosquito. Sand-flies are so small as to be hardly perceptible; they abound most in Demerara and Berbice.

There are a great number of snakes and serpents in the West Indies, but few of them, if we except those found in Martinique and St. Lucia, are at all venomous.

As towards evening the grasshoppers and crickets are heard wherever there is vegetation, so is the light of the fire-fly every where seen :

“ On he wheels,
Blazing by fits, as from excess of joy,
Each gush of light a gush of ecstasy.
Nor unaccompanied ; thousands that fling
A radiance all their own—not of the day—
Thousands as bright as he—from dusk till dawn,
Soaring, descending.”

These little insects add materially to the beauty of an evening scene in the tropics.

The jiggers, or chegoes, or niguas, for they pass, or have passed, by all of these names, are very annoying little insects, which get into the feet and, if not taken out directly, frequently accumulate and cause great irritation, and, perhaps, some danger. Ligon, who describes them, tells us that “ the Indian women have the best skill to take them out, which they do by putting in a small poynted pinne or needle at the hole where he came in, and winding the poynt about the bagge, losen him from the flesh, and so

take him out. He is of a blewish color, and is seene through the skinne, but the negroes, whose skinned are of that color (or near it), are in ill case, for they cannot finde where they are, by which meanes they are many of them very lame. Some of the chegoes are poysonous, and after they are taken out will fester and rankle for a fortnight after they are gone."

I have thus noticed, as far as my limits will allow me, those animals, birds, and insects which are most common in the Antilles, and I must now say a word of the inhabitants of their lakes and rivers, and of the ocean that girds their shores.

The streams of the West Indies are nearly all well stocked with fish of various kinds, some of them very large. Of these the name of the mud-fish is the only one that now occurs to me; these are small, about the size of tench or carp, but very delicious when well dressed. In some places they are very numerous, and I have often caught as many as four dozen in an hour with hook and line.

But the sea is probably more productive than the rivers :

" Each creek and bay
With fry innumerable swarm, and shoals
Of fish glide under the green wave."

Of these the flying fish, which abound principally in Barbados, the jack fish, the butter fish, the turtle, the king fish, the dolphin, the sword fish, the snapper, the mullet, the crab, the cavalle, the conger-eel, the baracouta, the shark, the mud shark, and the whale are the most common; and all these, with the exception of the three last, are used for food.

Apropos of the conger-eel. In the Annual Register of 1794 we find the following extract of a letter, written by Mr. Lott, surgeon, of Rio Esequibo in South America, on the animal electricity of this fish.

“ The fish here called the drill-wisch or conger-eel is a kind of eel, in length from one to five feet, and of this singular quality, that it produces all the known effects of electricity—the like shock, and the like real or supposed cures. I, at first, cured fowls grown paralytic by contraction of the nerves; and then, proceeding from animals to men, by electrifying a paralytic, by striking his knees three times with one of these fishes fresh taken. The shock was such as to throw him down, with the two persons who held him; but he soon got up, and instead of being carried from the place of operation, walked away as if nothing had ever ailed him. With this admirable eel I have likewise cured nervous disorders, fevers, and very severe headachs, to which the slaves here are peculiarly subject; some of these wonders were performed before the Governor and several other persons of consideration.”

The other fish which I have named are already well known to naturalists, and the greater part of them to epicures: the luxury of the turtle, and the richness of the crab are highly appreciated by the latter.

By the way, I had nearly forgotten to mention the land crabs, which are so plentiful in the West Indies, and form one of the first delicacies of the table when properly dressed. For the very curious history of

these animals I refer my reader to the pages of Du Tertre, Brown, Goldsmith, and Edwards, who have described them more minutely than I have either time or space for, and also to Mr. Barclay's "Present State of Slavery in the West Indies," where the accounts given of the mountain crabs of Jamaica are at one and the same time instructive and amusing.

And here I must wind up my chapter on the natural history of the Antilles. I could hardly have said less on the subject, and yet the present volume is too small to admit of my saying more. I will, however, conclude with stating that a wide field is open to the curious; that those are lands where the naturalist could not fail to meet a reward for his researches, and that if a few of the industrious and the talented would journey thither, and ransack the vast and interesting labyrinth of beauties that now lie concealed, they might lay open to the world a store of hidden information, and derive for their trouble, not only fame, but that great stimulus to exertion, emolument—in a word, to use the expression of the speculator, *they might make it pay*.

CHAPTER LXIII.

MANY MEMS. ON MANY MATTERS.

“ A thousand things have I to tell ;
A thousand things, and more.”

Old Ballad.

A THOUSAND things and more!! Heaven save the mark! Time and space forbid it, and who shall defy time and space? What have I omitted in my little tales of the tropics that should still leave me a thousand things? Have I not furnished the reader with the whole list of “accidents and offences” (to use a newspaper phrase) that have occurred from the two days previous to my departure from Old England, to the two days after my arrival in the same land of my fathers? Have I not, moreover, told of earthquakes and hurricanes, of the natural productions, and the natural history of the Antilles? What more shall I do? Why, I will wind up the long narrative of my memoirs with a chapter of “*many mems. on many matters;*” and suppose I commence with

CREOLE LADIES.

“ Skin more fair,
More glorious head and far more glorious hair ;
Eyes full of grace and quickness.”

FAIR daughters of the tropics, what shall I say of them? Reader, *Ecoutez si vous voulez entendre.*

A young creole—for creoles, like other ladies, are always young—is a being whose languid beauty in the oppressive heat of the morning will captivate you as much as her lively gaiety of heart in the brilliant *soirée* of the evening; but if we turn to her domestic qualities, to her industry, her activity (except in the dance), her economy, and the fulfilment of her household duties, I think we must accord the palm to the ladies of Great Britain. In every thing that is beautiful she excels—in every thing that is useful—*voilà une autre chose*. Yet this is partly the effect of climate, partly of education, and partly of circumstances. Slavery too, which, as I before said, has a bias on every thing around it; influences this as well as other questions. Creole children pass the first ten or twelve years of their lives in their native island, during this period they receive little or no instruction, and can barely read and write; they are nursed and taken care of, principally by their own slaves; and as it may be easily supposed they spend much time in their company. Childhood is the age of imitation: the age when example has more effect than precept: it is not therefore to be wondered at, that creole children, like all others, should imbibe the tastes and gain the language of those by whom they are surrounded. The slaves also are not backward in teaching the picaninny buckras all that is most pernicious of their prejudices and their superstitions. The old black women of the tropics have their *jumbees* and their evil spirits, just as the ancient nurses of the colder regions have their ghosts and goblins; and the effect produced by

a nancy story on the minds of the young creoles, is precisely similar to that caused by the narration of Old Boguee tales in England, and by no means so innocent as the Arabian Nights, or the Gesta Romanorum.

Therefore, with strong superstitious notions in their minds, with the same love of plantains, pepper-pot, and calliloo that is manifested by the offspring of the slaves; with the spirit of idleness which would lead them to call a servant up stairs to pick up their pocket handkerchief if it chanced to fall; with the drawling tones with which, instead of saying "Susan, where are you going?" they would ask, "Aunte Suse, where you da go dis morning?" and with a total ignorance of every thing but their names and their alphabet, they are sent (and very prudently) home for education.

They remain a few years in England, and at the age of sixteen or eighteen return to the Antilles, altogether altered beings. They are now not only fair and beautiful, but clever and accomplished; they dance gracefully, sing divinely, play charmingly, they talk French, *comme les Françaises mêmes*; they work fancy work, and have read all the best authors, with the exception of Byron and Moore, and these last are poets whose productions the boarding-school ladies do not allow their pupils to read till after they are married.

All these accomplishments however, have not made them industrious; in a boarding-school they have not learned the principles of domestic economy, and certainly that knowledge will not be attained in the West Indies.

To those who expect to be united to the wealthy and the great, it may not be deemed necessary; they may have their slaves about them, ready to attend to all their wants, and to anticipate all their desires: but this cannot be the case with all; some will form an union with men, who, though they may be competent and independent, are only enabled to maintain that competency and independence, by a proper management and skilful economy. Such men will expect to find useful and domestic qualities in those who have charmed them with their accomplishments, and captivated them with their beauty; and if they find them not, though they may adore the charms and graces of their youthful figures, the sweet and unsophisticated purity of their hearts, the mild and yielding gentleness of their manners, their love, their innocence, their affection, their guileless spirits, and their romantic enthusiasm, they will mourn in secret over the inactivity of spirit and the inability for exertion, engendered by education, and rendered resistless by the oppressive influence of a relaxing and enervating climate.

Look at the life of a creole, she rises at an early hour, earlier, perhaps, than her sisters of the same rank in Europe, she repairs, *en dishabille*, to her breakfast, and after this she passes her morning either in reading some light production, or in practising those sweet and simple airs which charm her hearers in the evening, or in the execution of some fancy work. The two hours that precede her appearance at the dining-table are devoted to sleep and dress, and the evening is spent in gaiety. Thus do the years

roll away in the tropics, thus do the lovely inhabitants of the Antilles pass their mornings in inactivity, and their evenings in pleasure, thus do they

“Gather May flowers while 'tis May,”

while the attendants that surround them perform for them the domestic duties which may devolve on their situations as wives or mothers.

This is the custom of the country; the system of education may be blamable, but the fair beings educated should not partake of the blame: and even if the idleness of the lovely creole were deserving of censure, yet, there is so much to admire in her character, so much purity in her heart, so much affection in her spirit, so much gentleness in her manner, that it were impossible not to lose all memory of her faults, in the pleasing contemplation of her many virtues.

1.

She sings in summer bowers,
 Her heart is light and gay,
 And, like the lovely flowers,
 'Tis blooming while it may;
 Her smiles are all bewitching,
 They beam upon a face
 That beauty is enriching
 With hues of health and grace.

2.

She's young, and fair, and sprightly;
 The music of her lute
 Breaks on the breezes lightly,
 Its chords are never mute.

She sings in tones of sweetness
 A thousand songs of bliss,
 For time, with all his fleetness,
 Can rob her not of this.

3.

Oh, see, she is not idle ;
 With the summer roses now,
 She's going to the bridal
 With a garland round her brow.
 May her heart retain its lightness,
 And her sweet smile still be gay,
 Till her bright eyes lose their brightness,
 And her spirit fly away.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

IN a folio edition of the "Cosmographie and Historie of the whole World, by Peter Heylyn," published in 1665, we find the following curious record of the interment of Columbus. "He was honourably interred at Seville, where to this day remaineth this epitaph on his tomb, bald in itself, and otherwise exceeding short of so great a merit.

" ' Christophorus genuit quem Genoa clara Columbus,
 (Nunime perclusus quo nescio) primus in altum
 Descendens pelagus, solem versus cadentem
 Directo cursu nostro hactenus addita mundo
 Litora detexi Hispano paritura Philippo
 Audenda hinc aliis plura et majora relinquens.'

" Which may be Englished in these words :

" ' I, Christopher Columbus, whom the land
 Of Genoa first brought forth, first took in hand,
 I know not by what deity incited,
 To scour the Western seas, and was delighted

To seek for countries never known before.
 Crown'd with success, I first descried the shore
 Of the new world, then destined to sustain
 The future yoke of Philip, Lord of Spain :
 And yet I greater matters left behinde
 To men of more means and a braver minde."

LITERATURE.

LITERATURE in the West Indies is at a low ebb. Booksellers are hardly known, and books little patronised. Reading is by no means a favorite amusement among the inhabitants. Many of the planters and private gentlemen have tolerable libraries, and superb bookcases to contain them ; but I am inclined to think that the valuable volumes, cased, as they generally are, in gilt calf or Russia, are more for ornament than use ; they contribute to furnish the rooms, but very little to improve the understanding of the West Indians ; the fact is, the climate is too hot for study, and their minds are too much fatigued with the cares of business to lead them to seek for relaxation in any but very light reading, and very little even of that. Were I asked, I should give it as my opinion, that the colored people read more than any other class of inhabitants in the Antilles. They have an innate desire for information, and a wish to acquire knowledge, which is always most praiseworthy, and very often most successful.

The publications printed in the West Indies are seldom any other than newspapers and almanacks. Of the former, there are usually two published in each island ; though in Jamaica, Barbados, and the

larger colonies, there are perhaps more. In these the leading articles are some of them well written, the political remarks strong and independent, and the general arrangement of matter often considerable, and seldom uninteresting. The standard of talent, however, varies greatly in the different islands; and there are a few that display a vast superiority over the rest. Among these I think I may number the St. Vincent Gazette, by Drape, in which the articles are generally as well written as they are badly printed, exposing vast talent but little care, and the St. George's Chronicle, in which both care and talent are mingled to a very creditable degree.

The almanacks are commonly of two kinds; one printed on a sheet for pasting up in the counting-houses of the merchants, and one in a small volume,—containing a good deal of useful information,—for the pocket.

The almanacks published in Grenada are the most perfect that have yet appeared both for the elegance of their typography and the usefulness of their contents: that printed by Baker is illustrated by a neat lithographic drawing, and he deserves great credit for having been the first to produce one with such an embellishment.

I have often thought that a good monthly periodical would do well in the West Indies, but I have been told that where the attempt has been made it has usually proved unsuccessful, from having fallen into personalities, so generally disliked, and yet so difficult to be avoided in a small community.

I believe there are a few book societies in the Antilles, founded for the very laudable purpose of procuring from England, for the amusement of the fair creoles, *all* the new novels of the day; but I apprehend that the vast numbers monthly poured forth by those giants of the publishing world, Messrs. Colburn and Bentley and others, will reduce those ladies to content themselves with choosing only the *good ones*; par exemple, “The Man of the World,” the “Exclusives,” the “Manners of the Day,” “Paul Clifford,” and a few others. In the West Indies, though, as I have before said, the field open to the talented is not a wide one, yet there are many persons of first rate ability whose productions are perhaps little known and therefore little valued.

“There’s many a floweret born to blush unseen;”

and there is many a sweet and plaintive poet in the tropic isles, whose merit would win for him, in England, the fair wreath of fame. In the Island of Grenada there is an author whose abilities are of the first order; the following sonnet, quoted from the St. George’s Chronicle, is no bad specimen of his powers.

SONNET.

“Two wretched years have pass’d, since by thy side,
 Over yon river’s rugged bank I hung,
 And saw thy fair face in its lucid tide,
 And heard its echoes woo thy tuneful tongue;
 No more on life’s smooth current I rejoice,
 For never shall thy beamy eye again
 Gild its smooth lapse, nor thy melodious voice
 Bid friendship, love, and mild affection reign!

Yet on this mournful day, though years have flown,
 Still in her magic mirror fancy views
 Thy beauty's semblance, still the silver tone
 Of thy sweet voice her varied pow'r renews;
 And ever in my sad heart's inmost seat
 Shall that lov'd voice responsive echoes meet."

Who after this shall deny that there are poets in the Antilles?

DRESS.

DRESS in the West Indies is seldom studied by any but the fairer sex. The young gentlemen of the tropics do not imitate the beau ideals of dandyism who are daily wont to stroll in Regent Street, the Quadrant, the Burlington, and the Bond. They are content to be dressed plainly and well. White is the standard suit, being lighter and cooler than any other, and more adapted to the climate. The ladies, however, are, I think, fond of a variety of colors, and the ribands which arrive from France, vià Martinique, furnish them with "numbers numberless." A great fancy for *bijouterie* is also the foible or the forte of the fair creoles, and they show much taste in their choice of these

"trifles which cost no trifle."

The slaves and free blacks have a great rage for dress, and will scruple at no means to obtain it; but in my opinion the ladies of color excel all the rest in taste and tact, and stand unrivalled in the art of adorning their persons.

Les modes de Paris and *le petit Courier des Dames* are as much studied by the ladies of the tropics as

by the fair daughters of Albion, and large sleeves, large bonnets, and fringe flounces are as much in vogue in the Antilles as in this city of cities. The dressmakers are all very clever and very extravagant, but I believe that *les petites modistes* of Barbados and Trinidad are deemed superior to those of the smaller islands.

FINE ARTS.

LES beaux arts are entirely neglected in the West Indies; sculpture and painting are strangers in the tropics. The magnificent scenery and splendid views of the western isles are left undelineated by the pencil of the artist, though they might adorn his portfolio and establish his fame. By the way, I wish some good miniature painter would find his way into those hot regions. The inhabitants, particularly the more sable ones, would hail him as the "god of their idolatry;" he would get enough to employ his time for years; he would have the pleasing task of taking some most beautiful likenesses, and the yet more delightful occupation of receiving joes and doubloons from half the population of the Antilles.

A good landscape painter, a clever engraver on copper or in mezzotinto, and a lithographic establishment are also much wanted.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THERE are very few places of public entertainment in these islands, and the societies are usually obliged to seek for amusement among themselves and in their

own gay parties. In some of the colonies there are amateur theatres, but the acting, though tolerable, is seldom brought to any degree of perfection.

I saw an attempt made by the colored people to get up a little theatre in Grenada, and the amateurs performed one or two farces in a very creditable manner. One of Shakespeare's tragedies proved less successful, and was not so much in unison with the popular taste as a more lively piece. The persons deserved to succeed, because they displayed an enterprising spirit and made some exertion to get on, but I do not think the receipts could have paid them for the expenses they incurred.

I was also once present at a concert given by Kean the vocalist, who visited nearly all the islands for that purpose, and met with great encouragement.

A sort of physioramic exhibition, little better than a puppet show, and some slight of hand tricks by a juggler, attracted many visitors; and these three diversions were all the public amusements I heard of in the West Indies.

DROLL SAYINGS.

THE blacks are a curious race, and they make use of most unaccountable expressions. My first servant in Barbados always replied to me when I scolded him, which was pretty often:—"Don't fret Massa, don't fret; dat no good." They also apply the term "curse" to censure of the slightest kind. I once heard a free African call a young slave a "wicked

little picaninny," as it appeared to me in joke, and I was astonished at her answer. "You curse me eh! you curse me!—you dam Guinea nigger!—You Willyforce-congo! I make you sabe how for curse me;"—and hereat she took up a brickbat, and having thrown it at his head, which had it struck it would have broken, ran away as fast as her legs could carry her. This child was about ten years old. Another slave, a young man, who had attempted to cut off his hand, that he might escape future labor, gave the following reason for so doing. "Massa, you no sabe de parson say, if you right hand fend you cut um off." Fancy the cunning of the fellow!

A MADE DISH.

THERE is a made dish in the Antilles, called floating island, which is very luxuriant, and a great ornament to the dessert or the supper table. A sort of pond composed of wine, sugar, citron, and cream, but principally of the latter ingredient, is contained in a large glass, and surrounds a little island of guava jelly, which is seen floating on the top. It is of itself extremely delicious, and of a very delicate flavor; but Mr. Coleridge, who it appears has tasted not only the island but the white ocean surrounding the same, and found them both good, confesses—(Heaven save ourselves from the like piece of indiscretion) that he does not "see any just cause or impediment why these two articles should not be joined together in one dish." On the merits of the question, we profess ourselves incompetent to decide,

but we earnestly recommend this confession to the attentive consideration of the West Indian reader.

WATER DRINKERS.

THESE are a class of people by no means numerous in the Antilles, and yet there are a few who arrive in these hot islands with a determination to drink no wine. This is a resolution which I would recommend to none. Living too low is almost as bad as living too high; and in the enervating and weakening climate of the West Indies, it is highly necessary to take sufficient to support nature, and keep up the strength of the constitution, without going to excess. The wine is generally good, especially the Madeira; and when taken moderately, cannot produce bad effects. Water drinkers in the tropics are usually obliged to change their habit: they find that their beverage, even though it may have passed through a dripstone, which has made it very pure and very cool, is nevertheless of a nature likely to engender dysentery, cholera morbus, and other tropical diseases.

WINE.

IN England it is common to seek out the coolest cellar for the wines; in the West Indies, that which contains the greatest heat is deemed most desirable. Wine is not put in cool till about two hours previous to its being wanted. The usual method of cooling it is by encasing the bottles in little canvass bags, and then standing them in water in some cool situation. These bags are not taken off when the wine

is used, because, as they are damp, they keep it cool when on the table. Previous to dining it is customary to take wine in bitters, in order to give a zest to the appetite.

TOASTS AND SPEECHES.

THE dinners given in the Antilles are most sumptuous. These never, if they be public, and rarely if they be private, pass off without a number of toasts, which are commonly drank in "three times three," and often accompanied by a speech from the guests who may have proposed them; and this again calls forth an appropriate answer. In the West Indies there is a sort of rage for this table elocution, and there are some gentlemen who really speak well, but who, unfortunately, have also a propensity for speaking *long* (half an hour for instance), and the effusions of such persons, together with the wine, not unfrequently detain the gentlemen around the table till a very late hour; while the ladies in the drawing-room, being all alone, are ready to die of ennui.

Qui capit ille facit.

OBEAH.

OBEAH, or the detestable practice of spells, formerly existed to a great degree among the negroes, but it is now fast disappearing, and, I have no doubt, will shortly be extinct. It was first introduced into our colonies by the Africans, who have their minds filled with superstition. The many who once executed these spells were called Obi people, and pretended

to be able to cause the death of all those who offended them by catching their shadows. Had they only pretended it would have been well, but their pretensions were often fatally put into practice, and the number of negroes lost on the various estates, in the different islands, rendered it necessary that the legislature should take it into consideration.

There is no doubt but that the *catching the shadows* of their victims, or holding them spell-bound, was only a false pretence invented by the Obi men for murdering them by sinister means. Mr. Barclay, who was present at the trial of a notorious Obeah man on a plantation in Jamaica, tells us that "one of the witnesses, a negro belonging to the same estate, was asked, 'Do you know the prisoner to be an Obeah man?' 'Ees, Massa; shadow catcher true.' 'What do you mean by a shadow catcher?' 'Him ha coffin' (a little coffin produced) 'him set for catch dem shadow.' 'What shadow do you mean?' 'When him set obeah for summary' (somebody) 'him catch dem shadow and dem go dead;' and too surely they were soon dead when he pretended to have caught their shadows, by whatever means it was effected."

When this practice was found to be attended with such dreadful consequences, the governments of the several islands, after discouraging it by every means in their power, made it punishable by death. This salutary law has effectually limited the occurrence of obeah: the yearly decrease of Africans in the colonies, lessens the prevalence of superstition, and the light of religion, which is every where dis-

elling the gloom of ignorance, among many other evils will remedy this.

ADVICE TO OUTGOERS.

Most persons who go to the West Indies are at a loss to know what are the best means for preparing their constitutions for a change of climate. What are the most necessary things to take out, and how they should comport themselves on their arrival, in order to maintain their health. On these subjects, to future outgoers, I will give a word or two of advice.

First, Be sure to lay in a sufficient stock of light summer clothing, unless indeed you prefer paying cent. per cent. in the Antilles.

Secondly, Carry with you a reasonable proportion of English pickles and preserves ; you will otherwise find the want of them, as they are very rare in the tropics.

Thirdly, Do not take a servant with you on any account ; by so doing you will incur great expense and trouble, and what is more, you will never be able to keep your domestic ; for if she be a woman she will get married and leave you, and if he be a man he will either desert you to speculate for himself, or to obtain some situation in the country, or he will become discontented with the life which he must of necessity lead. Add to this, on board ship, instead of being able to attend on you there are a thousand chances to one but that your servants are themselves sea sick and require attention.

Fourthly, Obtain letters of introduction to one or two of the principal inhabitants of the island you are going to, and you will find a ready passport to the best society.

Fifthly, During your voyage take a dose of Epsom salts once a week, but when you arrive do not gain the habit of taking too much medicine, it will only weaken your constitution.

Sixthly, When you have passed the line do not expose yourself too much in the heat of the day, by walking in the sun on the deck of your vessel.

Seventhly, When you reach the West Indies, and begin to enter into the gaieties of the place, live moderately, and, if possible, regularly. Ride or bathe in the morning, and walk in the evening; for exercise, when not carried to excess, is good. Do not venture out in the heat of the day more than you can help. Drink a fair proportion of sangaree, and do not be afraid of it, nor make it too weak. Buy a box of sedlitz powders and take one in a glass of water every day before breakfast. Rise at gun-fire, and, when you can, go to bed at the same sober time.

Eighthly, Wear flannel; you will find it devilish hot but very good for the health.

Ninthly, Never check the perspiration by going into a draught when you are hot; do not drink cold water, and avoid catching cold, which is a serious thing in the tropics.

Tenthly and Lastly, Bear the bites of the mosquitos and sand-flies like a philosopher.

THE CONCLUSION.

To an author, the most agreeable part of a work is the conclusion, for there he finds himself at the end of a long labor, and begins to look forward with no little anxiety to the failure or success of his production.

If his reviewers pronounce it to be the former, his readers will forbear to crown him with the latter; and, in the knowledge of this fact, he casts it upon the wide world of literature, uncertain whether he will be praised for his genius or censured for his presumption.

For myself, I have already experienced the generosity of the public, and I am willing to believe that the critic has less severity and more kindness than many are wont to give him credit for; at all events I will fearlessly trust to *Fortuna rerum* and the liberality of both, and I will conclude my little volume with that motto of mottos,

FINIS CORONAT OPUS.

AN APPENDIX,
CONTAINING THE
GEOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND CHRONOLOGY
OF THE
BRITISH COLONIES IN THE WEST INDIES.



APPENDIX.

CHAPTER I.

THE GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY OF THE WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

JAMAICA is the largest of the West India Islands, and lies between seventeen and nineteen degrees north latitude, and seventy-six and seventy-nine degrees west longitude. It is fifty miles broad and a hundred and twenty long, and is in shape nearly oval. On the west of the windward passage, which lies directly before it, and is twenty miles wide, is the Island of Cuba, and on the east Hispaniola.

The prospect of this island from the sea is wonderfully pleasant. On the borders of the coast the land is low, but towards the middle of the island it becomes mountainous. A ridge of mountains runs east and west through the island, the most eastern of which are called the Blue Mountains.

Jamaica is well watered, and contains about a hundred rivers that derive their sources from the hills: the climate is warm, and in low and marshy lands unhealthy; but in higher situations it is cool

and temperate, and as salubrious as any other part of the West Indies.

Its soils are various; some deep, black, and rich, and others shallow and sandy, and others again of a middle nature, yet they are all fertile if well cultivated and applied to proper purposes. There are extensive savannahs and deep ravines in the island; and it is much subject to hurricanes and earthquakes. It produces maize, pulse, vegetables of all kinds, fine grass, beautiful flowers, and a great variety of fruits. Its commodities are sugar, cocoa, indigo, pimento, cotton, ginger, coffee, trees for timber, mahogany, manchineel, white wood, cedar, &c. besides some valuable drugs and gums. It abounds in fine harbors, and has a few salt ponds and hot springs containing mineral waters.

Jamaica is divided into three counties, Middlesex Surrey, and Cornwall, containing twenty parishes. It is governed by a legislature of its own, consisting of a governor, council, and assembly; and is defended by its militia, comprising of all the free males in the island from fifteen to sixty.

Its commerce is extensive, and its imports and exports very considerable. It contains thirty-six towns and villages, and churches and chapels in proportion. The chief of its ecclesiastical establishment is a bishop. Its population in 1812 amounted to three hundred and sixty thousand persons. It is famous for its fine rum.

BARBADOS.

BARBADOS, the most easterly of the English Caribbee Islands, is twenty-one miles long and fourteen broad, and contains a hundred and seven thousand acres of land. It lies between $12^{\circ} 56'$ and $13^{\circ} 16'$ of north latitude, and $59^{\circ} 50'$ and $62^{\circ} 2'$ of west longitude. Its climate is hot, but deemed healthy, and as temperate as any other in the tropics. It contains many wells of good water, two rivers, and several reservoirs for rain. Its soil varies; in some places sandy and light, in others rich, and in others spongy, but all well cultivated. The island is level and maintains a very beautiful and civilized appearance. The woods, which formerly grew in many parts, have been all cut down, and in their places are now seen estates and sugar plantations. The soil, in many parts of Barbados, has been so worn out that planters have been obliged to keep an immense number of cattle merely for their manure.

The commodities and vegetable productions of Barbados, are nearly the same as those of the other tropic islands, and it has fish, flesh, and fowl in abundance.

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES.

ST. VINCENT is one of the windward Caribbee Islands. It is twenty-four miles long and eighteen broad, and lies in 61° west longitude, and 13° north latitude. The whole island, except a part of the Charaib country, is very hilly, and in some places

contains lofty mountains. In its scenery there is a mingled wildness and cultivation, which renders it very pleasing to the eye. Its soil is in most places rich, luxuriant, and fertile, and every where well watered with rivers and springs, in the former of which there is a variety of fine fish. The high lands are easy of ascent; the climate is hot, but there is generally a refreshing breeze blowing from the sea. Upon the whole, St. Vincent is esteemed one of the most beautiful and healthy islands in the West Indies, and some have called it the Montpellier of the Antilles. The inhabitants raise abundance of fruit and vegetables, besides those commodities which are for exportation. Among its natural curiosities are a few mineral spas, and the volcanic Mount Souffrière. St. Vincent is said to have derived its name from having been discovered on the 22nd of January, the feast of that saint.

The Grenadines are a cluster of small islands lying between St. Vincent and Grenada, and all of them, except Carriacou dependent on the former. Of these little islets Becquia, Canuan, Carriacou, and the Union are the most extensive; the rest are some of them uninhabited, and few display much cultivation. Taking them all in all, they however produce small quantities of sugar, rum, cotton, and molasses, and sufficient fruit and vegetables for the consumption of the inhabitants. Great quantities of poultry and live stock are reared on these islands.

GRENADA.

GRENADA, the last of the windward Caribbee Islands, is about thirty miles in length and fifteen in breadth, and lies in $61^{\circ} 30'$ west longitude, and $12^{\circ} 10'$ north latitude. It is a mountainous and very fertile island, well watered with rivers and fresh water springs, which are said to derive their source from a large, curious, and very beautiful lake, on the top of one of its highest mountains. It produces tobacco, sugar, indigo, peas, millet, and fine timber, with luxuriant crops of fruit and vegetables; it also abounds in fish and wild game. Grenada is famous for its splendid harbor and Carenage, capable, it is said, of containing a thousand barks of three hundred and fifty tons each, that may ride in it secure from storms. There are numerous beautiful and safe bays and harbors round the coast, and the island is seldom visited by hurricanes. It is situated thirty leagues north of New Andalusia, on the continent.

DOMINICA.

DOMINICA is another of the Caribbee Islands, twenty-nine miles long and sixteen broad, and lying between 15° and 16° north latitude, and between 61° and 62° west longitude. It is a very woody country and contains many mountains, some of which are volcanic, and all wild and rugged, and nearly covered with forests. It is plentifully supplied with water, containing (according to Atwood) thirty fresh streams. The soil of Dominica varies, but is generally fer-

tile. The climate is exceedingly unhealthy, owing, I suppose, to the quantity of woody land left uncultivatéd, and the number of low, marshy, and ill-drained valleys. It contains insects in myriads, crapauds in millions, and a tolerable supply of fish and wild game. Its vegetable productions are common to the other islands, but its coffee is celebrated for its excellence. "It contains no regular harbor, but the anchorage round the coast is commodious and safe; and in stormy weather shipping may be securely sheltered under its capes."

It derives its nomenclature from having been discovered by Columbus on Sunday.

ANTIGUA.

ANTIGUA is one of the Antilles, and the largest of the British Leeward Islands, containing fifty-nine thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight acres of land, and measuring fifty miles in circumference. It lies in $17^{\circ} 6'$ north latitude, and $61^{\circ} 45'$ west longitude, and twenty leagues to the east of the Island of St. Kitts. It is divided into five parishes, St. John's Falmouth, Porham, Bridge Town, and St. Peter's; and its chief commodity is sugar, of which it exports considerable quantities. Its harbors for shipping are safe, handsome and commodious, and it has a dock-yard in one of its ports.

Antigua is not so fertile as some of the other islands, owing to its having no rivers, and only one or two springs, in which the water is brackish, so that the inhabitants are obliged to rely on the rain,

and are sometimes reduced to great straits for water. This island is often visited by hurricanes.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S is an island of the Antilles, which is named after Columbus, who discovered it. It lies in $17^{\circ} 30'$ north latitude, and $62^{\circ} 32'$ west longitude, and is situated to the north west of Nevis, and sixty miles to the west of Antigua. Its produce consists chiefly of sugar, cotton, ginger, and indigo; but, from its extreme fertility, it contains a great variety of luxuriant tropical fruits, particularly oranges and shaddocks, and an abundance of fine vegetables

The island is well watered with rivulets that flow from the mountains, which, in the inland parts, are very lofty, and overhang some dreadful precipices. There is, however, a quantity of level land and fine carriage roads in the country, but they are much subject to floods. The scenery is beautiful, the soil light, sandy, and fruitful, and the air and climate healthy and salubrious. St. Christopher's, in its longest part, extends near twenty miles, and in its broadest seven, though it is averaged at fifteen miles long and four broad. It contains forty-three thousand seven hundred and twenty-six acres. It has often suffered by hurricanes.

TOBAGO.

TOBAGO is an island lying in $50^{\circ} 40'$ west longitude, and $11^{\circ} 10'$ north latitude. It is between

eight and nine miles in length, thirty in breadth, and about twenty-four in circumference. It is in many parts hilly, but no where mountainous except at the north east end; and it contains much useful wood, and many trees of an enormous size. The climate is not considered healthy, but the soil, though varying, is extremely fertile, and well watered with rivers. It produces a great variety of fruit and vegetables, and also some useful drugs. It has also several bays along the coast, and two good harbors for shipping. Tobago is situated forty leagues south west from Barbados, thirty-five south east from St. Vincent, twenty south east from Grenada, twelve north east from Trinidad, and between thirty and forty north east from the Spanish Main.

ST. LUCIA.

ST. LUCIA is one of the Caribbee Islands, now belonging to the English. It lies about seventy miles north west of Barbados, in $13^{\circ} 25'$ north latitude, and $60^{\circ} 58'$ west longitude, from London, and is twenty-two miles long, and eleven broad. It is a rugged, mountainous, and woody island, with a soil which, though poor towards the coast, is very fertile in the inland parts, and by no means unproductive. The climate is unhealthy, owing to the quantity of uncultivated land and the number of noxious marshes. Some of the mountains bear marks of old volcanos, and the whole island is infested with serpents, many of them venomous. St. Lucia contains a number of beautiful bays and harbors, and is

well watered by streams. Its commodities and vegetable productions are common to the other islands.

ANGUILLA.

ANGUILLA, the most northerly of the Charaibbean settlements is about thirty miles long and ten broad, and derives its name from its snake-like form, though it has also been called Snake Island, because infested with serpents. It lies sixty miles to the north west of St. Kitts, in 18° north latitude, and 64° west longitude. Anguilla has a fruitful soil, and will grow corn, sugar, and tobacco; its fruits and vegetables are like those of the rest of the Antilles. The country is rather hilly round the coast, and slopes off inland. The inhabitants rear a great deal of live stock.

BARBUDA.

BARBUDA is one of the smaller Leeward Islands, twenty miles long and twelve broad, and lying in $18^{\circ} 5'$ north latitude, and $61^{\circ} 3'$ west longitude. It has a fertile soil, and a good road for shipping. It abounds in game and fish, and contains quantities of wild deer. Hunting, fishing, and rearing stock are the principal occupations of its inhabitants. Barbuda is situated twenty miles to the north east of St. Christopher's.

NEVIS.

NEVIS is a little island which, from the sea, has a beautiful appearance, being a conical mountain, evenly cultivated, and covered with foliage. Nevis

lies seven leagues to the north of Montserrat, and is twenty-one miles in circumference. Its soil is fertile though coarse in the higher parts, and its productions like those of St. Kitts. It contains some mineral baths, and its climate is temperate and healthy, though it is subject to floods and hurricanes. It contains three small harbors, and the same number of towns. Its commodities are cotton and sugar.

MONTSERRAT.

COLUMBUS called this island Montserrat from its resemblance to a mountain of that name in Catalonia. It contains between forty and fifty thousand acres, and is situated in $16^{\circ} 50'$ north latitude, and 61° west longitude, with Antigua to the north east, St. Kitts and Nevis to the north west, and Guadaloupe about nine leagues south south east of it. Its climate is extremely healthy, its lands mountainous, and its soil very fruitful. The animals, fish, and vegetable productions of the other islands are also common to Montserrat, and its principal commodities are rum, sugar, and cotton. It has a few tolerable roads, but no good harbor.

TRINIDAD.

TRINIDAD is an island in the Gulf of Mexico, divided from New Andalusia in Terra Firma by a strait of about three miles in breadth. This isle was discovered by Columbus, and called by him Trinidad, in honor of the Holy Trinity. It contains many natural curiosities, and has a fine, fruitful, and

productive soil. Its commodities are sugar, cotton, Indian corn, and tobacco, and it abounds in fruits and vegetables. Trinidad is sixty-two miles long, and forty-five broad, and lies in 10° north latitude, and between 60° and $61^{\circ} 30'$ west longitude. A great part of the island yet remains uncultivated. Trinidad, although subject to earthquakes, is out of the reach of hurricanes, and its climate, though very hot, is tolerably healthy.

CHAPTER II.

CHRONOLOGY OF JAMAICA, FROM ITS DISCOVERY to
THE YEAR 1815.—
AUTHORITIES.

Universal History,	Raynal, Du Tertre,
Travels and Voyages,	Coke, Coleridge,
Parliamentary Papers,	Stevens, Edwards,
Public Documents,	Long, and
African Institution Reports.	Captain Southey.

1494. MAY 2, Columbus discovered Jamaica.

May 5, Columbus anchors on the north side of the island, in a port which he calls Santa Gloria.

Columbus anchors for three days in another bay, which he calls Porto Bueno; traffics with the natives; leaves the island; calls it Santiago.

1503. Columbus forced to run his vessels ashore at Santa Gloria; meets with great kindness from the natives; natives change their demeanor, and refuse to supply provisions; Spaniards desperate in consequence; natives terrified by an eclipse of the moon; restore supplies; Columbus detained a year on the island.

1504. Vessels arrive, and on 28th June Columbus leaves Jamaica.

1506. May 20, Columbus dies.

1509. Don Diego Columbus arrives in the West Indies, and sends Juan de Esquibel with 70 men to take possession of Jamaica.

1523. June 27, Francisco de Garay, who had succeeded Esquibel as Deputy Governor of Jamaica, left that island with 9 ships, 2 brigantines, 144 horses, and 850 Spaniards, to establish a colony on the banks of the river Panuco.

Since the year 1509 the first town in the island had been founded, and was called Seville. It was afterwards burnt, and St. Jago de la Vega built in its stead.

1526. King of Spain gives 100,000 maravedis to build an hospital in Seville, but hearing there were no sick, orders a church to be erected instead.

1638. Colonel Jackson, with a force from the Windward Isles, invades Jamaica; inhabitants make a gallant defence; Colonel Jackson plunders St. Jago de la Vega, and extorts a ransom for sparing the houses; he then leaves the island without interruption.

1655. May 10, An expedition under Admirals Penn and Venables arrives at Jamaica.

English attack and take the island.

June 25, British fleet leaves Jamaica.

Major General Fortescue left in command of the army.

October, Major Sedgewick sent from England as commissioner; a supreme council constituted; General Fortescue declared President; General Fortescue dies; succeeded by Colonel D'Oyley.

1655. Not a single Indian in the island out of the 60,000 found there on its first settlement by the Spaniards.

Spaniards in Jamaica kill 80,000 hogs annually to export their lard to Carthage.

Oliver Cromwell issues a proclamation encouraging English settlers.

1656. Spaniards and negroes still continue to resist the English, but the British army is more successful, though exceedingly distressed.

Grand council of state in England vote that 1000 girls, and as many young men, should be listed in Ireland and sent to Jamaica.

Cromwell greatly encourages all settlers in Jamaica.

Army discontented ; ready to revolt.

Major General Sedgewick appointed commander in chief ; dies.

Mr. Noel, a London merchant, receives a grant of 20,000 acres of land in Jamaica.

Army largely reinforced ; great disease prevails ; 140 deaths weekly among the soldiers.

1657. Colonel Moore arrives with a new regiment ; several planters arrive from New England and Bermuda.

Colonel D'Oyley made Governor, vice Brayne, deceased.

Juan de Bolas, the negro chief of the Maroons of fugitive blacks, surrenders to the English, and is made colonel of a black regiment.

1658. Two hundred and fifty settlers arrive from Bermuda, with some quakers from Barbados.

Population 4500 whites, 1400 negroes.

Island attacked by the Spaniards, under their former Governor; routed with tremendous loss; make no further efforts of any consequence to reclaim the island.

1659. Charge to the English commonwealth for the maintenance of troops in Jamaica amounts to £110,228 11s. 3d.; annual issues afterwards £54,000.

1660. Some Spaniards and fugitives concealed in the north of the island are attacked and routed by the English, under Colonel Tyson.

1661. Colonel D'Oyley confirmed in the government of Jamaica by a commission from King Charles.

Constitution of the island settled by the same commission, dated February 13.

1662. Lord Windsor appointed Governor, vice D'Oyley.

Thirty acres of land granted to all persons residing in the island for the next two years.

One hundred thousand acres of land kept in four quarters of the island as a royal demesne.

One thousand men, from Jamaica, take Cuba from the Spaniards.

Lord Windsor succeeded by Sir Charles Lyttleton.

Twenty acres of land and freedom offered to all Vermaholio negroes who would come in from the woods.

1663. White inhabitants 18,000.

1664. Sir C. Lyttleton leaves Jamaica; Colonel Lynch chosen President by the council; Colonel Lynch succeeded by Sir Thomas Modyford.

Hostilities still carried on with the Spanish negroes.

Sir T. Modyford introduces sugar making.

Comet appears; cocoa trees blasted.

Number of regimented whites 3000; whites employed in privateering 800.

1666. The fortifications of Fort Charles and Port Royal perfected.

1670. Sir T. Lynch appointed Governor, vice Modyford recalled.

Number of militia in Jamaica 2750; seamen 2500.

Sugar plantations 70; number of hogsheads 1333.

1671. Sir T. Lynch calls an assembly; a body of laws passed; not confirmed.

Governor received orders to encourage the cutting of logwood.

1673. Fort James built.

Population 7768 whites, 800 seamen in privateers, 9504 negroes.

1674. Lord Vaughan appointed Governor, vice Sir T. Lynch.

1675. Eleven hundred persons arrive from Surinam.

1677. Number of whites enrolled amounted to 5000.

1678. Lord Carlisle appointed Governor, vice Lord Vaughan.

1678. Number of militia 4526.

Lord Carlisle offers a new code of laws; they are indignantly rejected by the assembly.

1679. Dissensions with the legislature; assembly dissolved.

1680. Lord Carlisle leaves Sir H. Morgan, Deputy Governor.

Forts Rupert and Carlisle built.

1681. Jan. 1, Divine service performed for the first time in the new church at Port Royal.

Sir T. Lynch appointed Governor.

1682. Twenty-eight new laws passed by the assembly and confirmed by the King.

1684. Colonel Molesworth appointed to succeed Sir T. Lynch as Governor.

1687. Duke of Albemarle succeeded Colonel Molesworth as Governor.

Mosquito Indians place themselves under the protection of the crown.

Terrible dissensions in the island.

Free toleration and exercise of religion granted to the Roman Catholics.

1688. It was computed that Jamaica required annually 10,000 negroes.

Duke of Albemarle dies.

1690. Lord Inchiquin appointed Governor.

Grand Jury address his Majesty.

Insurrection of 300 slaves; militia turned out; 200 taken, several hanged; insurrection quelled.

1691. Sir W. Beeston succeeded Lord Inchiquin as Governor.

1692. June 7, Dreadful earthquake destroyed nine-tenths of the houses, killed 3000 inhabitants, sunk streets, moved mountains, and committed the most horrible havoc and desolation.

North coast of the island plundered by 290 buccaneers.

1693. Sixteen parishes formed in Jamaica.

In those of the county of Surrey there were 6602 inhabitants; of Middlesex 8696; and of the other parts of the island 2000.

Town of Kingston founded this year.

Blacks chose Cudjoe for their chief, and make open war against the whites.

1694. French attack Jamaica; commit great barbarities; are defeated by the militia; lose 700 men and return to Espaniola without effecting a conquest.

1696. An act passed enjoining masters to instruct their slaves in religion and to exhort them to baptism.

1698. Population, 7365 whites, 40,000 blacks.

1700. Major General Selwyn appointed Governor, vice Beeston, deceased.

1702. General Selwyn arrives.

1703. January 9, Greatest part of Port Royal burnt to the ground; most of the inhabitants remove to Kingstown.

Act passed obliging proprietors to maintain 14 white servants for every 300 negroes.

1704. Colonel Handaside succeeded Governor Selwyn.

1709. Endeavors made to procure more whites without success; number of slaves imported in the last ten years 44,376.

1711. Lord Hamilton succeeded Colonel Handaside as Governor; a slave act passed.

1712. Island shaken by an earthquake; Savanna la Mar, a small sea-port town, entirely washed away with all its inhabitants.

Number of militia 2722.

1715. Number of militia 2679.

1716. Peter Heyward, Esq. succeeded Lord Hamilton as Governor.

1717. A slave act passed.

1718. Sir N. Laws succeeded Peter Heyward, Esq. as Governor.

1720. Number of whites computed at 60,000.

1721. A free school founded at Watton, in the parish of St. Ann; boys grounded in classics were to leave at fourteen years of age.

1722. August 28, A tremendous hurricane; Port Royal overwhelmed by the sea; 26 vessels and 400 persons perish in the harbor.

Duke of Portland succeeds Sir N. Laws; Governor's salary doubled.

1726. Assembly settle a perpetual revenue of £8000 a year on the crown, on certain conditions.

October 22, A hurricane did great damage to the island.

1727. Duke of Portland succeeded by Governor Hunter.

1728. Assembly congratulate his Majesty on his

accession to the throne, and thank him for appointing General Hunter Governor.

1728. A present of £6000 voted to the Governor, extra annual salary of £2500 withdrawn.

1730. Population returned at 7648 whites, 865 free negroes, and 74,525 slaves.

1731. Trade to Jamaica employs 12,000 tons of English shipping.

1732. Moravians send missionaries.

The imports from Jamaica to Great Britain at a medium of four years were £539,499 18s. 3½d.

1733. The runaway negroes retake their town in the mountains, which had been forced from them.

1734. Population 7644 whites, 86,546 negroes.

Runaway negroes commit various depredations.

Their town, called "Nanny," is taken by Capt. Stoddart.

Island and shipping suffer greatly by a hurricane.

1735. An act passed respecting the sale of slaves.

Troops arrive; runaway negroes desert their chief town and retire to the woods.

1736. Jamaica contains six forts—Fort Charles, Rock Fort, Port Antonio Fort, Fort William, Fort Marrant, and the Fort at Carlisle Bay.

Population, white inhabitants 76,000; militia, horse and foot, 3000 men; independent companies 800.

Maroons, under Cudjoe their chief, grow formidable; troops employed to reduce them.

1737. By order of the assembly, barracks fortified with bastions are built near the haunts of the Maroons.

1737. Musquito Indians employed to go against them.

1738. A treaty of peace concluded between the inhabitants of Jamaica and the Maroons.

1739. Population 10,080 whites ; 99,239 blacks.

Rate of interest reduced from 10 to 8 per cent.

1741. Assembly vote 5000 negroes to reinforce an expedition under Admiral Vernon.

Act passed to make free all the Mosquito Indians imported to Jamaica.

Population 10,000 whites ; 100,000 slaves.

1744. Died Francis Purdigo, a Greek, aged 114 years, 6 months, and 4 days ; he was present at the conquest of the island.

The seed of the Guinea grass brought to Jamaica by accident.

Population 9640 whites ; 112,428 negroes.

Oct. 20, Town, forts, and shipping sustain great damage by a dreadful hurricane.

1745. Martial law proclaimed, in consequence of a large Spanish force being in the neighborhood of the island.

Nine hundred slaves form a plot to assassinate the whites ; plot discovered by a girl.

1746. Population 10,000 whites ; 112,428 blacks.

1749. Severity of the law against runaway slaves increased.

Act passed for the encouragement of settlers.

Admiral Knowles and Governor Trelawney leave Jamaica, and receive complimentary farewell letters from the legislature.

1751. Imports from Jamaica rated at £261,728 5s.

1752. Court house built at Savannah la Mar; barracks below it for seventy men.

Quantity of patented land in Jamaica 1,500,000 acres.

Two thousand seven hundred mules annually required by the planters.

One hundred and eight families and fifteen artificers settle in Jamaica.

1753. Inhabitants of Kingston petition the King to make Kingston the seat of government in lieu of St. Juan de la Vega.

Jago

1754. Seat of government removed.

1755. An organ, value £440, set up in the church at St. Jago.

Population 12,000 whites, 130,000 slaves, 3000 militia.

1756. Henry Moore, Esq. appointed Governor.

The large court house in Spanish Town begun.

Governor Knowles resigns.

Seeds of the Barbados cabbage tree first introduced.

Imports from England to Jamaica rated at £348,720 4s. 9d.

1758. An act passed dividing the island into three circuits, in each of which assizes to be held three times a year.

1759. Records, books, and public papers removed from Kingston to Spanish Town; great rejoicings in consequence; Spanish Town illuminated.

1760. One hundred thousand dollars stamped and increased in value.

Act passed to punish obeah men; slaves for-

bidden to possess arms; to have two successive holidays, or to drum.

1760. Dangerous insurrection of the slaves.

Revolt quelled; ringleaders hung up in irons; loss to the island from this event £100,000.

Several regulations passed for preventing future revolts.

Act passed declaring Kingston, Savannah la Mar, Montego Bay, and St. Lucia free ports under certain restrictions.

1761. Number of negroes estimated at 146,000.

Deficiency tax doubled.

An act passed rendering null and void any grant or devise from a white person to a negro or mulatto exceeding £2000 currency.

1762. The Governor's house completed; expense of building and furnishing it estimated at £30,000 currency.

1763. Rear Admiral Keppel, on the Jamaica station, relieved by Rear Admiral Sir William Burnaby.

1764. Imports from Jamaica to Great Britain amount to £1,076,155 1s. 9d.; and from England to Jamaica £456,528 1s. 11d.

Number of slaves imported 10,223.

Coach horses of a member of the Assembly seized for debt; Assembly consider this an insult to their dignity; are about to take violent measures and are dissolved in consequence.

1765. March 26, New Assembly meet; support the measures of the old; are prorogued.

August 13, Assembly meet again; Speaker

refuses to apply to the Governor for the usual privileges; Assembly therefore dissolved.

1765. The Coromantin negroes rebel; revolt quelled; 13 executed, 33 transported, 12 acquitted, one white man killed.

Assembly seek to limit the importation of slaves; the Governor (by instructions) refuses his consent.

1766. Slaves imported to Jamaica since January 1765 to July this year 16,760.

Thirty-three newly imported Coromantins rise and kill and wound nineteen whites; soon defeated and taken.

June 9, Violent shock of an earthquake felt in Jamaica.

Parliament pass an act for opening the chief ports of Jamaica to foreign vessels.

1768. A slave act passed.

Jamaica exports 4203 lbs. of coffee; population 7000 whites, 166,914 negroes; number of cattle 137,773; value of exports £1,400,000 sterling.

Royal Hospital of Greenwich, in Jamaica, takes fire (supposed by lightning) and is entirely consumed.

1769. Plot of the negroes of Kingston to burn the town and murder the inhabitants discovered by a black girl; plot defeated.

1770. G. Mackenzie, Esq. appointed Commodore of H. M. ships and vessels on this station, vice Forster.

Exports from Jamaica amount to £1,538,730 sterling.

1772. Sir W. Trelawney, Governor, dies.

1773. Exports from Jamaica :

	To Great Britain.	To America.
Sugar, hhds. (13 cwts. each)	93,400	2,400
Rum, puncheons	17,280	8,700
Molasses, ditto	4,140	5,700
Coffee, cwts.	3,684	2,863
Indigo, lbs.	131,100	300
Cotton, lbs.	404,400	8,800
Pimento, lbs.	137,970	55,200

February 20, Sir Basil Keith, Knight, appointed Governor.

Tonnage of shipping employed in Jamaica calculated at 70,000 tons; current silver debased 21 per cent. by “ clipping villains.”

1774. Jamaica exports 6547 cwts. of coffee.

Debating society of Jamaica decide that the trade to Africa for slaves was neither consistent with sound policy, the laws of nature, nor morality.

Legislature pass bills to restrict the slave trade; Bristol and Liverpool petition against them; British board of trade refuse to consent to the restrictions.

Population 12,737 whites, 4093 free negroes, 192,787 slaves; number of slaves this year imported 18,648.

1775. The assembly of Jamaica petition in favor of the Americans.

1776. The American war causes a rise in the price of things used to support the slaves to four times their usual value.

An insurrection of the negroes; quelled by Sir B. Keith; 120 homeward bound ships detained,

- in consequence of the discovery of the plot; embargo taken off; 30 ringleaders executed.
1777. John Dalling, Esq. appointed Governor, vice Sir Basil Keith, deceased.
1778. Slaves not allowed to keep horses.
1780. October, Dreadful hurricane and earthquake; town of Savannah la Mar destroyed; damage estimated at £700,000 sterling.
- Kingston merchants subscribe £10,000 for the sufferers; British Parliament vote £40,000.
1781. A slave act passed.
- Jamaica again desolated by a hurricane; Major General Campbell appointed Governor, vice Sir John Dalling.
1782. Fire in Kingston, 80 houses and stores burnt down, damage £500,000.
1783. January 13, 1600 troops, 400 white families, and 4500 negroes came from Charlestown, in America, to settle in Jamaica.
1784. Island suffers from a hurricane.
1786. Another violent hurricane.
1787. Import of slaves to Jamaica in a medium of four years 10,451; re-exports 3619.
- Population 23,000 whites, 4093 free people of color, 256,000 slaves.
1788. A slave act passed, also an act respecting the burial of the dead.
- Valuation of property in this island; patented estates, as taxed per acre, £1,860,000; negroes 280,000.
- Exports of coffee 1,201,801lbs.

1788. Amelioration slave act passed.
 1789. Exports 75,000 hhds of sugar.
 1790. Methodist Chapel at Kingston completed,
 large enough to contain 1500 persons.

Times of the law terms altered.

1791. Population 30,000 whites, 10,000 free black
 and colored people, 250,000 negroes, and 1400
 maroons.

Slave act passed.

1793. Bread-fruit-trees introduced into Jamaica.
 1796. Rebel maroons taken prisoners, and 600 trans-
 ported to Halifax.
 1797. Jamaica exports 7,931,621 lbs. of coffee.
 1798. Jamaica exports 83,350 hhds. of sugar, and
 70,823 cwts. of coffee.

Value of slaves in Jamaica £10,240,000.

1799. Three hundred guineas voted by the assembly
 to Captain Hamilton, of his Majesty's ship Sur-
 prise, for cutting the Hermoine out of Port Ca-
 vallo.

Jamaica exports 94,500 hhds. of sugar.

Assembly vote £10,000 as a gratuity for the
 Bread-fruit-tree expedition commanded by Captain
 Bligh.

Jamaica exports 82,527 cwts of coffee.

1800. Expenses of the naval dockyard of this island
 amount to £140,000.

Exports of coffee 106,223 cwts.; of sugar
 110,300 hhds.

1801. Major-general Nugent appointed Governor,
 vice Earl Balcarres.

1801. Exports 121,368 cwts. of coffee, 143,200 hhds. of sugar.

Number of slaves in this island 307,094 ; imported 11,309 ; exported 270.

Number of Methodists amount to 600.

1802. Act passed by the assembly forbidding Methodists to preach.

Number of negroes 307,199 ; imported 8131 ; exported 2554.

1803. Five hundred Methodists in Kingstown.

Conspiracy among the blacks discovered ; two ringleaders executed, and many made prisoners.

Exports of coffee 117,936 cwts. ; 87,300 hhds. of sugar.

Import of slaves in a medium of two years 7662 ; exports 2402.

Number of negroes 308,688.

1804. Number of negroes 308,542 ; imported 5979 ; exported 1811.

Exports of sugar 120,000 hhds.

1805. Exports of sugar from Jamaica 126,000 hhds.

Population 28,000 whites, 9000 people of color, 280,000 slaves.

1806. Number of Methodists 832.

Number of slaves 312,341 ; exported 166 ; imported 8487.

1807. Act passed to prevent the preaching of Methodists.

Number of slaves 319,351 ; imported 16,263 ; exported 336.

Vote of thanks passed to Admiral Dacres for his exertions in protecting the commerce of Jamaica.

1808. Mutiny of the Second West India Regiment ; mutiny quelled ; 14 rebels killed, 5 wounded, 24 taken prisoners ; of the prisoners 10 were tried and 7 executed.

Differences between the civil and military authorities ; assembly prorogued in consequence ; great part of the town at Montego Bay destroyed by fire.

Joseph Ram, a black man, died, aged 140.

Importation of slaves ceased to be legal.

Number of slaves 323,827.

1809. Number of slaves 323,714.

Plot of the negroes to assassinate the inhabitants of Kingston discovered by George Burgess, a deserter from the Second West India Regiment.

1810. Number of slaves 313,683.

1811. Number of slaves 326,830.

1812. Shock of an earthquake felt in November.

1813. Bill passed extending the privileges of people of color.

Number of slaves 317,424.

Sarah Anderson, a black woman, died, aged 140 years.

1814. Number of slaves 315,385 ; £8000 subscribed to build a presbyterian church in Kingston.

1815. Port Royal nearly destroyed by fire ; island suffers by a hurricane ; number of slaves 313,814.

CHAPTER III.

CHRONOLOGY OF BARBADOS FROM A. D. 1605
TO A. D. 1811.

AUTHORITIES.

Universal History,	Du Tertre,
Parliamentary Documents,	Coke,
Travels and Voyages,	Edwards,
Public Journals,	Coleridge, and
Colonial Returns.	Southey.

THIS island was discovered by the Portuguese, it is supposed, about the end of the 16th century, although the exact period is not known. They put some hogs on shore, and then deserted it, after which we hear nothing of it till the year

1605. When the *Oliph Blossom*, Captain Cataline, from Portsmouth, touched here, and finding it unpeopled, the crew erected a cross, with this inscription, "James, King of England and this Island," and departed, after refreshing themselves with birds, fish, and hogs.

1624. The ship *William and John*, Captain Powell, arrived in Barbados, and laid the foundation of James Town.

Earl of Marlborough received a grant of this island from King James; under this nobleman's

patronage Sir W. Courteen sent out two ships, and landed 30 men on the leeward part of the island.

1624. Fortifications commenced ; Captain W. Dean acting Governor.

1627. King Charles I. granted Earl of Carlisle the Island of Barbados, who compromised his dispute with Lord Marlborough by agreeing to pay £300 a year to that nobleman and his heirs.

1629. Lord Carlisle's grant renewed.

July 5, Sixty-four adventurers landed at Barbados, with Charles Wolferstone as their Governor, and commenced a settlement at the bridge, now Bridgetown, on the windward side of the island.

Windward and leeward settlers disagree ; leeward settlers submit.

Sir William Tufton comes out Governor.

Charles Saltonstall arrives with 200 more colonists, and other requisites for a plantation ; population between 15 and 1600 persons.

1631. Captain Hawley arrives as Governor, vice Sir W. Tufton, who petitions against Hawley, and is shot for an act of mutiny.

1633. Richard Peers left Deputy Governor, vice Hawley recalled.

1634. Hawley reinstated in the governorship.

1638. Inhabitants of Barbados rebel against Hawley, who goes to England.

Earl of Carlisle appoints Mr. Henry Hunks Governor in his stead.

1639. Sir H. Hunks arrives in his government ; a Dutchman from Brazil teaches the use of the

sugar cane; value of land increased in consequence.

1641. Sir H. Hunks succeeded by Captain Bell, during whose government the constitution of the island is settled.

1646. Many emigrations to Barbados caused by the English rebellion; Lord Willoughby arrives, and is well received by the inhabitants.

1647. An epidemic disease rages; the living hardly able to bury the dead.

Exports from Barbados about this time—indigo, cotton, wool, tobacco, ginger, and fustic wood; tamarind trees first planted; palm trees brought from the East Indies.

An act passed by the legislature declaring their fidelity to King Charles; loyalty of the Barbadians very conspicuous.

1649. Plot of the negroes for massacreing all white inhabitants discovered by a slave:—eighteen of the principals put to death—cruel treatment pleaded as a cause.

1650. Trade with Barbados forbidden by Parliament, on account of the inhabitants continuing to acknowledge the authority of the Crown. The island at this time computed to contain 20,000 white men able to bear arms.

Trade of the island damaged by the piracies of Plunket, an Irishman who pretended to sail under commission from the Marquis of Ormond.

1651. Oct. 16, A fleet with 2000 troops under Sir G. Ascue capture all the vessels in Carlisle Bay;

the fleet cruizes off the island till December; Sir G. Ascue is reinforced and lands at Speight's Bay; unable to defeat Lord Willoughby; addresses the inhabitants; the people, averse to hostilities, oblige Lord Willoughby to negotiate.

1652. January 17, Treaty of peace ratified; Lord Willoughby proceeds to England; succeeded by Mr. Searle.

1655. The expedition for St. Domingo collected at Barbados, and sailed on 31st of March.

1656. Military force of Barbados 4500 foot, 800 horse.

Du Tertre says that Barbados this year contained two regular cities, in each of which more than 100 taverns might be reckoned, as well furnished as in Europe.

1661. King Charles created thirteen baronets in Barbados in one day.

1663. Mr. Kendall sent delegate to King Charles by the Barbadians; makes terms which the latter refuse to ratify; Lord Willoughby arrives; badly received.

Sept. 23, Act passed for levying $4\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent.; proprietary government terminated; Barbados under protection of the crown.

1666. July 28, Lord Willoughby left Deputy-governors, and sailed from Barbados in a fleet which, with the exception of two ships, was totally lost in a hurricane; Lord W. Willoughby, his brother, was appointed Governor of Barbados, in his stead.

1667. An English fleet arrived at Barbados.

1668. Bridgetown, the capital, destroyed by fire.
1670. Population of Barbados 50,000 whites and 100,000 black and colored inhabitants, whose productive labor employed 60,000 tons of shipping.
1673. King Charles, by a new commission, appointed Lord Willoughby Governor of Barbados.
1674. Colonel Codrington left Barbados for Antigua.
- Sir Jonathan Atkins appointed Governor, vice Lord Willoughby, deceased; total population 120,000; decrease since 1670 being 30,000.
- August 10, Three hundred houses blown down by a hurricane, plantations destroyed, eight ships wrecked, 200 persons killed.
1675. Another dreadful hurricane in August laid the country waste; Barbadians petition government to take off the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent tax; petition refused.
1676. April 21, Law passed by the legislature to prevent the slaves from attending Quaker's meetings; 400 ships of 150 tons employed in trade to Barbados; Population 21,725 whites, 32,473 negroes.
1678. Sir R. Dutton appointed Governor, vice Sir J. Atkins, recalled.
1680. Sir R. Dutton arrived at the seat of government.
1681. Law passed for prohibiting all negroes to attend any kind of meeting-houses.
1685. Sir R. Dutton laid an additional duty on sugar; government petitioned against it without effect; Sir R. Dutton returns to England; Colonel Stede left

Deputy-governor; a present of £1000 voted by the Assembly to Colonel Stede.

1688. An act passed for punishing slaves without trial by jury.

August 8, An act passed for making those pay fines who should kill a slave.

1689. August 1, Seven hundred men, equipped at the cost of the island, sailed under Sir J. Thornhill from Barbados to assist the English at St. Kitts against the French inhabitants.

1690. An act passed, by order of King William, for liberating the rebels concerned in the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion.

1693. Barbados afflicted by a dreadful sickness; the inhabitants reduced to great distress.

1694. Colonel F. Russel appointed Governor, vice Kendall made one of the lords of the admiralty; £2000 voted by the assembly to the new Governor.

Epidemical disease rages; two men of war manned to protect the harbour.

Hannibal slave ship brings a cargo of negroes; 320 die on the passage; most of the ships in the road put on shore by a hurricane three weeks before the arrival of the Hannibal.

1695. Two thousand pounds more voted by the assembly to the Hon. F. Russel; French fleet bound to Carthagena passed Barbados; F. Bond appointed Governor, vice Russel deceased.

1698. July 26, Ralph Grey, Esq. arrives as Governor; £2000 voted to him by the assembly, and £500 for rent of a house.

1698. Colonel Codrington dies ; succeeded by his son Christopher.

Population of Barbados 2330 whites, 42,000 slaves.

1701. Governor Grey leaves Barbados for recovery of health.

1707. From June 1698 to December 1707, 34,583 slaves were imported to Barbados.

1710. Colonel Codrington devised, by his will, two plantations in Barbados to the Society de Propaganda Fide, for the purpose of circulating Christian Knowledge among the slaves, and of endowing a college in Barbados, where the liberal arts should be taught.

1712. Population 12,528 whites, 41,970 negroes.

1717. Peter Heywood, Esq. succeeded Lord Archibald Hamilton as Governor of Barbados.

Captain Hume sails from this island after the pirates.

Legislature enact that any slave who has been one year upon the island and runs away, remaining absent thirty days, shall have "One of his feet cut off."

1720. An order in council was issued conveying certain directions to Governors, on account of complaints brought against R. Lowther, Esq. the then Governor of Barbados.

1721. H. Worsley, Esq. appointed Governor by letters patent, dated January 11.

January 20, King's Council issued an order for removing eight Justices of the Peace from their

- situations in Barbados, for having passed two arbitrary and cruel sentences.
1722. The assembly voted £6000 a year sterling as the Governor's salary, and laid a tax of two shillings a head on negroes.
1727. July, Thomas Paget, Esq. appointed Governor, vice Worsley.
1728. Assembly of Barbados declare themselves unable to bear more taxes, and request the Governor to assist them with part of his salary in repairing the forts and batteries.
1730. Session House and Prison finished ; expense of erecting them £5000, raised by a tax on the inhabitants. Barbados exports this year 22,769 hogsheads of sugar, valued at £340,396.
1731. Assembly complain to the King, "that the public good has been neglected, the fortifications gone to ruin, the public stores embezzled, and all the officers busied in nothing but how to raise their fortunes on the ruins of the people."
1733. Lord Viscount Howe arrived at Barbados as Governor ; £4000 a year voted as his salary ; state of the fortifications recommended to the notice of of the legislature.
1734. Great distress arising from a want of rain.
1735. Lord Howe dies ; £500 voted to his lady, who dies three days after the Governor.
1736. Barbados reported to have 22 castles and forts, 26 batteries mounted with 463 guns, many honeycombed, and 100 wanting to complete the fortifications. White inhabitants 17,680 ; Militia, horse and foot, 4326.

1736. Barbados returned on yearly average 22,769 hhds. of sugar.
1738. Month of March, 3000 persons laid up with the small pox ; inoculation successfully practised.
Sir Humphrey Howarth appointed Governor, vice Sir. O. Bridgman, Bart ; Lord Viscount Gage made Governor, vice Bridgman, deceased.
1740. R. Byng, Esq. Governor died.
1748. Population returned 15,252 whites, 107 free negroes, 47,025 slaves. Governor Greenville remarked that the real number was 25,000 whites, 68,000 blacks.
1753. Number of negroes 69,870.
1756. Charles Pilford, Esq. appointed Governor, vice Greenville.
1757. One hundred pistoles voted to Captain Middleton, of the navy, for his exertions in protecting the trade.
1759. January 3rd, Commodore Hughes arrived with his fleet, and on the 13th sailed for Martinique.
1761. Yearly average of sugar returned this year 25,000 hhds.
1764. April 30, the French king issued an ordinance establishing regulations for the practice of surgery in the French West India Islands.
Captains of men of war had orders to sieze all foreign ships found in British ports ; these orders were withdrawn in July.
1765. Moravian Missionaries arrived at Barbados.
1766. On the night of May 13 a fire in Bridgetown destroyed property to the amount of £300,000 sterling.

December 27, Another fire completed the ruin of Bridgetown.

1769. An unsuccessful attempt made to import to Barbados some of the rich soil of Dutch Guiana.

1770. Value of exports to Great Britain from this island £311,012, to America £119,828, and to the other islands £1173.

1772. Great Britain imported from her colonies 1,760,345 cwt. of sugar, from whence she derived a revenue of £513,436.

1773. Population of Barbados 18532 whites, 68,548 slaves.

Edward Hay, Esq. appointed Governor, vice Admiral Spry.

1775. Crops bad ; only 6,400 pots of sugar, of 70lbs. each, made on thirty-one estates ; one estate usually makes more.

1780. October 10, A dreadful hurricane laid all waste ; it destroys nearly all the live stock and 4326 inhabitants ; loss to the colony estimated at £1,320,564 sterling.

Number of negroes in Barbados 68,284.

1781. Negro population 63,208 persons.

December 5, Rear Admiral Hood arrives with his fleet.

1783. Number of slaves 62,258.

1784. Sir J. Steele introduces the system of voluntary task work among his negroes ; number of slaves 61,808.

Part of an estate called Crab Hole, under Hackleton's Cliff, slipped in the direction from north to south several hundred yards.

1785. Number of negroes 62,775.

1786. Number of negroes 62,115.

Prince William Henry arrived in the West Indies as Captain of the Pegasus frigate.

Population of Barbados 16,167 whites, 833 free people of color.

September 2, Great damage done among the houses and shipping by a hurricane; a splendid meteor appeared from behind a dark cloud during forty minutes.

1787. In a medium of four years the annual import of slaves to this island was 367, export 5; population 16,127 whites, 2229 free colored people, 64,405 slaves.

1788. Number of negroes 64,405; valuation of property, patented estates taxed per acre, £106,470; negroes 90,000; population 25,000 whites, 75,000 blacks and colored people.

1789. A Methodist meeting-house built by subscription and opened on August 16th; discouraged by the inhabitants; blacks forbidden to attend; Barbados exported 6,400 hhds of sugar; nearly all the island, consisting of 106,470 acres, reported as cultivated.

1790. Moravian missionaries have a congregation of forty baptized negroes with numerous others.

Sir J. Steele registers his slaves as copyholders; gives them grants of land, and abolishes arbitrary punishment; plan succeeds.

1791. Missionaries' congregation 44 adults, 3 children.

1792. April, King George, slave ship, wrecked to

windward of the island; 280 slaves drowned; number of slaves in Barbados 65,074.

1796. Number of Methodists 50; sixteen French privateers taken this year.

1797. Methodists think of quitting the island; numbers reduced to 21.

1798. Value of slaves in Barbados estimated at £2,484,600.

Methodist preacher leaves the island.

1799. Barbadoes exports 11,400 hhds. of sugar.

1800. Nov. 29, Lord Seaforth appointed Governor.

Methodists again attempt to establish themselves without success.

1801. Manumission tax for males £200 a head, for females £300.

Methodist preacher lands and is promised the protection of the Governor.

1802. Methodists increase to 36; chapel repaired.

Governor proposes a law "to make the murder of a slave felony;" Assembly resent the proposal.

1803. The imports of slaves in a medium of two years, to Barbados 1050 per annum, exports 28.

1804. Methodists in society amount to 49.

1805. Act passed making the murder of a slave death to the perpetrator; Barbados exported 9000 hhds. of sugar.

Population 15,000 whites, 2130 people of color, 60,000 negroes.

1806. Methodists, in number, 20 whites, 21 colored people.

1807. Methodists continue to decrease.

1808. October 8, Lieutenant General George Beckwith appointed Governor.

1809. Number of slaves this year 69,369.

1810. An act passed to repeal an act which prohibited Quakers from carrying negroes to their meetings.

Number of slaves 69,149.

1811. Free people of color petition to be admitted as witnesses in courts of law; petition rejected.

Scarcity of provisions, and a long drought.

Negro congregation of the Church of the United Brethren of Sharon; number, 147 females, 74 males.

Population 13,794 whites, slaves 69,132, free people of color 2,613; total of inhabitants 87,539.

CHAPTER IV.

CHRONOLOGY OF ST. VINCENT, FROM A. D. 1596 TO
A. D. 1812.

AUTHORITIES.

Universal History,	Coke,
Parliamentary Documents,	Edwards,
African Institution Reports,	and
Colonial Returns,	Southey.

THE Island of St. Vincent was discovered on the 22d of January, by the Spaniards, and so called from that day, being the feast of St. Vincent.

1596. The ship *Darling* touched at St. Vincent in her way from Guiana to England.

* * * *

1643. M. de Bretigny, on his way to take the command at Cayenne, touched at St. Vincent.

1655. Du Parquet sends 150 men under Lieut. Pierriere to destroy the Charaibs; French land, defeat the natives, ravage the island, and return to Martinique.

1656. Mortality among the Pelicans; shores of St. Vincent covered with their dead bodies.

1660. March 31, Peace between the Charaibs, English, and French; St. Vincent left in possession of the natives.

1673. Lord Willoughby made Governor of St. Vincent, with some other islands.

1675. A slave ship wrecked upon Becquia.

1719. Major Paulian lands with a French force to assist the Red Charaibs against the blacks ; French troops much harassed ; French retire in peace with both parties.

1722. June 22, Duke of Montague obtains a grant of this island to make a settlement ; Captain Uring made Deputy-governor ; vessels sent out from England to commence a settlement.

1723. Captain Braithwaite, of the sloop Griffin, arrived at St. Vincent ; exchanges presents with the natives, but finds a settlement not practicable.

1730. French and English agree to leave the island of St. Vincent in possession of the Charaibs.

1735. Number of blacks of St. Vincent, descended from those who escaped shipwreck, amounts to 6000 ; number of Charaibs 4000.

Blacks and Charaibs always at war.

1762. Island taken by the English from the French, who had violated their contract and obtained a settlement.

Population 800 whites, 3000 slaves.

Value of exports £63,325 per annum.

1763. February 10, St. Vincent ceded to Great Britain by treaty.

French population between 4000 and 5000 ; Charaibs 1000 fighting men.

Many French sell their property and leave the island ; number of black Charaibs 2000.

1763. Population 695 whites; 1138 free negroes, 3430 slaves.

General R. Melville appointed Governor.

1764. Population, 2104 whites, 7414 slaves.

Proclamation issued for sale of the Crown lands—20,000 acres granted to Mr. Swinbourne, 4000 to General Monckton, 20,538 sold by auction for £162,854. 11s. 7d.

Duke of Montague's claim to the island judged invalid.

Island produced 12000 andouilles of tobacco, 7900 cwts. of cocoa, 14,700 cwts. of coffee.

1767. An act passed declaring slaves to be real estate.

1768. Charaib lands in St. Vincent ordered to be surveyed and sold; commissioners proceed to survey them; Charaibs express their dissatisfaction.

1769. Charaibs express more discontent; prepare for rebellion; commissioners cease surveying; peace agreed upon until the King's pleasure should be known.

1771. Commissioners propose an exchange of lands favorable to the Charaibs; Charaibs refuse and deny their allegiance to the King of England.

1772. Dr. G. Young, superintendant of the Botanic Garden, receives a gold medal from the Society of Arts, for the flourishing state of the garden.

French instigate the Charaibs to revolt; war between the English and Charaibs; British troops arrive.

1773. English House of Commons decide that the

conduct of the British to the Charaibs is dishonourable ; peace made accordingly ; treaty consists of 24 articles, signed by the Charaibs and General Dalrymple.

1773. Loss to the English in the war 150 killed and wounded, 110 by climate, 428 upon the sick list.

1779. High dissensions between the Governor and the people.

Assembly dissolved ; Charaibs and French act in concert ; French take the island without firing a shot ; terms of capitulation favorable to the inhabitants signed by Governor Morris and the French commander.

1780. Tremendous hurricane ; every building blown down ; two French frigates entirely destroyed.

1783. Island delivered up to the English, by the eighth article of the treaty between France and England ; planters seek the friendship of the Charaibs.

Edmund Lincoln appointed Governor of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Act passed allowing neutral ships to trade to St. Vincent.

1787. Annual imports of slaves to St. Vincent in a medium of four years 1825, exports 300.

Population 1450 whites, 300 free people of color, 11,853 slaves.

Methodist missionaries land, and receive permission from the legislature to preach in the Court House on the Lord's Day.

1788. Slaves forbidden to grow cocoa, coffee, cotton, or ginger.

1788. Valuation of property in St. Vincent; patented estates taxed by acre £25,000, negroes 15,000.

Methodists commence the instruction of the Charaibs.

1789. St. Vincent exports 6400 hhds of sugar.

1790. Methodists fail in their mission to the Charaibs; French priests tell the Charaibs they are spies; number of Methodists increase greatly in the island.

1793. Three hundred bread-fruit plants left here by Captain Bligh for the purpose of being distributed among the islands.

An act passed prohibiting the Methodists to preach without a license.

Act disannulled by his Majesty.

1794. March 5, Charaibs suspected of a design to revolt; Charaibs revolt; Charaibs, assisted by the French, make war.

1795. Governor Seton succeeded by Brigadier General Meyers.

Charaib war continues.

General Stewart arrives.

1796. General Hunter arrives; Charaib war continues.

General Abercrombie arrives; Charaibs totally subdued.

Four thousand six hundred and thirty-three Charaibs sent to the Island of Baliseau; war ceases.

1797. W. Bentick, Esq. appointed Governor of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

1798. Value of the slaves in St Vincent £474,120.

1798. Number of Methodists more than 1000.
1799. St. Vincent exported 12,120 hhds of sugar.
1800. Produce of St. Vincent 16,518 hhds of sugar.
Number of Methodists more than 2000.
1801. Act passed for meliorating the condition of slaves.
Produce 17,908 heavy hogsheads of sugar.
1803. Imports of slaves to St. Vincent in a medium of two years 1540; no exports.
1804. Magazine door in Fort Charlotte forced open by lightning, several hundred barrels of gunpowder in the magazine at the time.
Methodists add 300 to their society.
1805. St. Vincent exports 17,200 hhds of sugar.
Population 1600 whites, 405 people of color, 16,500 slaves.
1808. Sir Charles Brisbane, Knight, Captain, Royal Navy, appointed Governor and Commander in Chief.*
1812. A terrible eruption of the Souffrière Mountain on the 30th April.

* It is but a few months ago that Sir Charles Brisbane died in St. Vincent, after having remained Governor upwards of twenty-one years.

CHAPTER V.

CHRONOLOGY OF GRENADA, FROM ITS DISCOVERY TO
A. D. 1813.

AUTHORITIES.

Parliamentary Documents,	Raynal, Du Tertre,
Colonial Returns, and	Coke,
African Institution Reports.	Edwards, and Southey.

1498. AUGUST, Christopher Columbus discovered Grenada, and called it *Ascension*.

1596. Captain St. Keymis touched at Grenada, in the ship *Darling*, from Guiana.

1650. Du Parquet, the French Governor of Martinique, lands in Grenada, exterminates the Charaibs, builds a fort, and establishes a colony.

1656. Population consists of 300 persons; M. Vau-minier Governor; every house fortified.

Du Parquet sells the island to Count Cerillac for 30,000 crowns.

A rapacious man made Governor, and shot by the inhabitants.

1664. Inhabitants complain of their Governor the Count de Cerillac; De Tracy goes to their relief, finds the people reduced from 500 to 150, deposes

Cerillac, appoints M. Vincent Governor, restores tranquillity, and leaves the island.

Act passed forbidding persons of the reformed religion to assemble.

1700. Population 251 whites, 53 free people of color, 525 negro slaves.

1714. Count de Cerillac transfers his property in Grenada to the French West India Company; trade opened in consequence; Grenada begins to flourish.

1753. Population 1263 whites, 175 free people of color, 11,991 slaves.

The island contained also 2298 horses and mules, 2456 horned cattle, 3278 sheep, 902 goats, 331 hogs.

The cultivation rose to 83 sugar estates, 2,725,600 coffee trees, 150,300 cocoa trees, 800 cotton trees.

Stock of vegetable provisions was 5,740,450 trenches of Casada, 953,596 banana trees, and 143 squares of potatoes and yams.

1763. Grenada produces 11,000 hhds of sugar.

Island ceded to Great Britain by ninth article of the treaty of 10th February.

Proclamation ordered for establishing the government of the island.

General R. Melville appointed Governor.

1765. First assembly called this year; 4½ per cent. duty demanded by Great Britain; resisted by the inhabitants; cause tried in the Court of King's Bench.

1765. French inhabitants petition for the rights of a British subject.
1766. Several sugar works destroyed by an earthquake, hills thrown down, roads rendered impassable.
1767. Between 6 and 700 slaves desert from their masters, and, taking possession of the mountains, commit great depredations.
Troops sent to suppress them.
1768. Roman Catholics admitted to council and assembly; great dissensions in consequence; cultivation impeded, commerce injured, and the appointment of island clergy protracted.
1769. French smuggling schooner captured by the Grenada Custom House schooner.
1770. Sugar ant makes its appearance; supposed to have been imported from Martinique in some smuggling vessel.
1771. December 27, The town of St. George reduced to ashes by fire, with the exception of a few buildings; damage estimated at £200,000 sterling.
W. Leybourne appointed Governor.
1773. James Forthton, Esq. dies here, aged 127; he was a native of Bourdeaux, and had been a settler in the West Indies since 1694.
1774. Judgment pronounced against the crown relative to its right of the 4½ per cent. duties; duties abolished in consequence.
1775. November 1, Town of St. George destroyed by fire; damage estimated at £500,000.

1776. Grenada produced 16,000 hhds. of sugar this year.

Lord Macartney appointed Governor.

Exports from Grenada and its dependencies valued at £600,000 sterling; number of negroes 18,293.

1777. White population 1300.

1779. July, Grenada taken by the French; Lord Macartney surrenders at discretion; 100 pieces of cannon, 24 mortars, and £40,000 worth of shipping fall into the hands of the enemy.

Count Durat appointed Governor by the French; hard terms laid on the English inhabitants.

Number of slaves 35,000.

1780. A dreadful hurricane, but in this island productive of good effect: it carries away the sugar ants, for the removal of which the legislature had voted £20,000.

Nineteen sail of loaded Dutch ships stranded and beat to pieces by the gale.

1783. Grenada restored to Great Britain by the eighth article of the treaty of peace.

Major General Matthew appointed Governor.

Act passed for allowing the importation of goods from Europe to Grenada in neutral vessels.

1784. Civil and religious order established—five protestant clergymen appointed to do duty in the island—salaries granted to Roman Catholic priests.

A tax of 1s. 6d. currency per head laid on all slaves to support the clergy.

1784. Number of slaves imported to Grenada 1688.

Act passed for regulating the fees of the clerk of the market; eighteen pence granted him for all slaves flogged.

Twenty thousand pounds voted by the Assembly to join the Lagoon to the harbor of St. George.

1787. St. George declared a free port.

Import of slaves to Grenada in a medium of four years 2583, exports 170.

Population 996 whites, 1125 free people of color, 23,962 slaves.

Grenada produced and exported 13,500 hhds. of sugar.

1788. November, Amelioration slave act passed by the Assembly.

Slaves may not be compelled to work out of the proper season—proper time given for rest and meals—penalty for debauching a married slave £165 currency.

Valuation of property in Grenada; patented estates taken by acre 89,000; number of negroes 20,000.

Number of slaves 26,775; free people of color 1115; value of a male negro £40; a young female £38; Grenada contains 80,000 acres of land, 45,000 in a state of cultivation.

1789. Law passed to provide guardians for the protection of negroes; a lady fined £500 for cruelty to a slave.

Coke reports that the inhabitants of Grenada treat their slaves with less severity than those of other colonies.

1789. Grenada exported 1500 hhds. of sugar.

1792. One third of the town of St. George destroyed by fire.

Ninian Hume, Esq. appointed Lieutenant-Governor.

1793. White population of Grenada 1000.

Methodist chapel finished.

Act passed allowing £200 a year to Roman Catholic clergymen.

1794. Insurrection of the slaves and French inhabitants commenced at Gauyave.

1795. A detachment of French troops from Guadeloupe joined the insurgents ; English compel the enemy to take refuge in the mountains.

1796. General Nicholls receives reinforcements, takes Fort George by storm. French surrender all their posts by capitulation. Fedon, chief of the insurgents, escapes to the woods.

June 20th, Fifty French inhabitants, who had joined the insurgents, were put to the bar and condemned to execution.

July 1st, Fourteen executed on the parade ground at St. George, the rest respited by Lieutenant Governor Houstoun.

September 30th, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Green appointed Governor.

1797. Methodists amount to 116.

Act passed imposing a tax on manumissions of £100 per head.

1798. Value of slaves in Grenada estimated at £957,040.

1799. Grenada exported 12,000 hhds. of sugar.

1802. February 2nd, Colonel Thomas Hislop appointed Lieutenant Governor of Grenada.
1803. Import of slaves in a medium of two years 1097, export 2.
1804. Major General Stewart appointed Lieutenant Governor.
1805. Brigadier General Frederick Maitland appointed Governor.
Grenada exports 14,000 hhds of sugar.
Population 1100 whites, 800 people of color, 20,000 slaves.
1806. Act passed to prevent the too frequent manumission of slaves.
1812. Eruption of the Souffrière at St. Vincent mistaken for distant cannon, militia turned out in consequence.
1813. Sir C. Shipley appointed Governor.

CHAPTER VI.

CHRONOLOGY OF DOMINICA, FROM ITS FIRST
DISCOVERY TO A. D. 1814.—
AUTHORITIES.

African Reports,	Raynal, Du Tertre,
Colonial Returns,	Coke,
Atwood's Dominica,	Edwards, and Southey.

1493. ON Sunday, 3rd November, Christopher Columbus saw this island, and called it Dominica from its being discovered on the Lord's day.
1514. The fleet of Pedro Arias from San Lucar arrived at Dominica on 3rd June, where it remained four days, taking in wood and water.
1520. To the Licentiate Antonis Serrano was given the power of Governor of Dominica and many other Islands.
1568. May 27th, Several English ships touched at Dominica and trafficked with the natives.
1585. Sir R. Grenville with an English fleet touched at Dominica on the 7th May.
1590. Mr. Whyte on his fifth voyage to the West Indies anchored at Dominica and trafficked with the savages.

1592. Two English ships arrived at Dominica and captured a slave ship with 270 negroes on board.
1595. May 8th, An English fleet touched at Dominica and remained till the 14th, refreshing their crews.
1596. January, Captain Laurence touched here on his way to England.
May 23rd, Earl of Cumberland arrived here and remained till 1st June.
1597. May 13, Mr. J. Masham touched at this island on his return from Guiana to England.
1603. June 17th, Captain Gilbert touched here.
1606. August 12th, Captain Chalons of the ship Richard, in passing Dominica, took on board a Spanish friar who had been sixteen months a slave to the Caraihs.
1607. Some English ships touched at Dominica and trafficked with the natives.
1632. At the commencement of this century a few French settlers arrived in Dominica, and were well received by the natives. In this year their number amounted to 349.—Dominica also contained 938 Caraihs, 23 mulattoes, and 338 slaves.
1635. The Charaihs of this island joined those of St. Vincent, and went to attack the French at Martinique.
1639. M. du Parquet, the French Governor of Martinique, in passing this island was fired at by the Charaihs, but no war ensued.
1640. An English ship becalmed off Dominica tried to carry off some of the Charaihs, who in revenge

attacked the English colony of St. Lucia, and laid all waste with fire and sword.

September 15th, M. Auber, Governor of Martinique, agreed with the Caraibs of Dominica to be with them on terms of peace, and kept his promise.

1653. In revenge of an injury they had sustained, the Caraibs of Dominica attacked and killed all the French at the Island of Mariegalante, and were shortly after themselves attacked and defeated by some French who came to Dominica for that purpose.

1660. By the treaty of 31st March it was agreed that this island and St. Vincent should be given up to the Charaibs.

1666. Mr. T. Warner, the Caraib Governor of Dominica, taken by the French and put in irons.

The Caraibs of this island joined those of St. Vincent and made war upon the English settlements, burning the towns, plundering the men, seizing the women, and feeding upon the bodies of children.

1667. In the month of December Lord Willoughby procured the release of Mr. T. Warner, and reinstated him in the government of the Charaibs at Dominica.

1668. Lord Willoughby established peace with the Charaibs of this island through the medium of Mr. Warner, in the month of February.

1673. King Charles, by a new commission, appointed Lord Willoughby Governor of Dominica and some other islands.

1675. Lord Willoughby died, and was succeeded by Sir J. Aikins; Colonel T. Warner, the Lieutenant Governor of Dominica, died also.

1731. The English and French Kings issued orders to the respective Governors of Barbados and Martinique, that the Island of Dominica should be evacuated by the French and English inhabitants, and left in the entire possession of the Charaibs.

1740. A fleet from England, commanded by Sir Charles Ogle, touched at Dominica; and on the 20th December Lord Cathcart, General of the land forces, died here of a dysentery.

1748. On the 7th October, by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, Dominica was declared a neutral island belonging to the Charaibs.

1759. Guadaloupe taken by the English, and many of the inhabitants, by the treaty of capitulation, were sent to Dominica. Roseau, the capital, much improved; the population increased, and a French Governor appointed.

The Griffin man-of-war, Captain Taylor, landed at Roseau to demand an English schooner that had been taken by a French privateer, and was under the guns of the town. The Governor refused, and Captain Taylor boarded and destroyed the privateer, and dismounted some of the guns from the battery.

1761. On the 6th June, Sir James Douglas and Lord Rolls took the island of Dominica from the French by assault. The inhabitants were to receive protection during the King's pleasure, and the Charaibs to deliver up their arms to the English.

1763. The population of Dominica was returned at 1718 whites, 500 free negroes, and 5872 slaves.

February 10th, by the 9th Article of the Treaty of Peace between England and Spain, the island of Dominica was ceded in full right to Great Britain.

October 8th, General Melville appointed Governor of Dominica.

The island disposed of in allotments to British subjects; only 10,541 acres left to the French inhabitants, then 343 in number, for the cultivation of coffee.

1764. In March His Majesty's lands in Dominica were put up for sale, with the exception of a few small districts.

1765. In April and May several violent shocks of an earthquake were felt at Dominica.

1766. The population of Dominica was returned at 2020 whites, and 8497 slaves.

By an act of parliament Dominica made a free port. The act revoked shortly after.

1768. March 8th, W. Young, Esq. appointed Lieutenant Governor of Dominica in the room of G. Scott, deceased.

1770. October 18, W. Stewart, Esq. made Lieutenant Governor, vice Young, sent to Tobago. This year the exports from this island to England and North America amounted to £62,861. 15s. 8½d.

1772. Eighteen vessels driven on shore here and lost by a heavy gale of wind.

1773. Population returned at 3350 whites, 750 free negroes, and 18,753 slaves. Dominica stated to require an annual supply of 6000 negroes.

1775. T. Shirley, Esq. appointed Governor, vice Sir W. Young, resigned.

1778. War between England and France. Dominica suddenly taken by the French in the month of September. Other West India islands ignorant that hostilities had commenced.

£4400 currency levied upon the people of Dominica for the French troops. 5000 men left in the island by the French, and Marquis Duchilleau appointed Governor. Severe laws passed against the British inhabitants.

1780. Twelve hundred sick from the Spanish fleet, then in conjunction with the French, and cruising off the island, were landed at Dominica.

Population of Dominica 1066 whites, 543 free negroes, 12,713 slaves.

1781. Roseau set on fire by the French, supposed by the orders of Marquis Duchilleau, the Governor; 500 houses burnt down; property destroyed to the amount of £200,000.

Marquis Duchilleau succeeded by the Count de Bourgoinne, who was recalled, and M. de Beaupe appointed Governor.

1783. By preliminary articles signed at Versailles in January, and ratified at Paris in September, Dominica was restored to Great Britain.

John Ord, Esq. appointed Governor. Roseau again declared a free port.

1784. January, The English, according to the Treaty, entered Dominica, when it was evacuated by the French. J. Ord, Esq. the new Governor,

landed, and was joyfully received by the inhabitants.

1785. The Charaibs and runaway negroes in Dominica committed great depredations. They were soon defeated by 500 men raised by the legislature, 150 of them killed, and Balla, their chief, gibbeted alive.

1787. Dr. Coke, with three more Methodists, arrived in Dominica, and preached for three days, when they departed without leaving a missionary behind them.

Imports of slaves to Dominica, medium of four years, reported 6203, exports 4960.

Population this year 1236 whites, 445 free people of color, 14,967 slaves.

In August all the buildings on Morne Bruce, the shipping, and some houses in Roseau, were destroyed by three gales of wind, on 3d, 23rd, and 29th.

In this year Dominica produced 18,149 cwt. of coffee.

1788. The Legislature passed an act for the amelioration of the condition of the slaves.

The valuation of British property vested in Dominica was patented estates, taxed by acre, 100,000, negroes 22,083.

The population was returned at 236 whites, 445 free negroes, 14,967 slaves.

December 19th, Mr. M'Cornock, a Methodist missionary, came to reside here, and made 150 converts.

1789. 6400 hhds. of sugar were exported from Dominica.
1791. A vote of thanks was passed by the Assembly to Sir John Ord, for suppressing a dangerous revolt of the slaves.
1793. Sir J. Ord was recalled from Dominica to answer some charges brought against him by the Assembly.
1795. Victor Hughes sent a detachment of troops to assist the French and runaway slaves against the English at Dominica: they were defeated, and 600 French inhabitants sent to England.
1796. The Methodists in Dominica had nearly 80 in class, when their minister, being deemed a suspicious person, was ordered into the militia to learn the use of arms, and his petition to the contrary rejected.
1797. The fine for the ill-treatment of a slave in Dominica was £100 currency.

The Legislature of Dominica received, through the Governor, a proposition from parliament "to adopt such measures as shall appear to them best calculated to obviate the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the negroes, gradually to diminish the necessity of the slave trade, and ultimately to lead to its complete termination."

March 8th, the honorable A. C. Johnstone was appointed Captain General and Governor in Chief of the island of Dominica.

1798. The slaves in Dominica were 14,967 in number, valued at £578,680.

1799. Amelioration Slave Act passed respecting the attendance of the negroes at divine service.

Dominica exported 5200 hhds. of sugar.

1800. The Methodists increased in numbers, and bought a piece of land, on which they began to build a new chapel.

1802. On the 27th September Colonel Provost was appointed Governor of Dominica.

An act was passed by the Legislature for building a church.

The Secretary and Register's Office destroyed by fire.

The 8th West India Regiment mutinied.

1803. April, The Methodists amounted to 700; the country negroes built places of worship at their own expense.

June, Methodists increased to 900; an acre of Crown land was granted them by the Governor to build a chapel on at Prince Rupert's.

Slaves imported this year 550, exported 34.

1805. Dominica attacked by the French. Roseau burnt. The Governor obliged to retreat to, and defend Prince Ruperts'. A contribution of £7000 levied by the enemy on the inhabitants; many atrocities committed; town and commissariat stores plundered by the enemy, who departed on the 27th February, five days from the period of their first appearance off Roseau.

May 10th, Brigadier General Dalrymple arrived at Roseau to supersede General Provost in the command, who had leave of absence.

1805. Dominica exported this year 4,600 hhds. sugar.
Population reported 1594 whites, 2822 people of color, 22,083 negroes.

1806. The Napoleon privateer captured off this island by the Wasp, Captain Bluett.

An attack on Dominica projected, but discovered and baffled by the active measures of General Dalrymple.

9th September, A dreadful hurricane committed terrible devastation in the island; the towns, garrisons, and estates, sustained the greatest injury; Roseau river overflowed and inundated the capital; a number of houses were carried away, and 131 persons killed.

1808. The importation of slaves ceased to be legal on the 1st January.

May 27th, Brigadier General Montgomery appointed Governor of Dominica.

1810. The second division of the British army, destined for the capture of Guadaloupe, sailed from Dominica on the morning of the 26th February; the first division sailed in the afternoon; Prince Rupert's had been their head-quarters.

1811. February 19th, Population of Dominica 1525 whites, 2988 free people of color, 21,728 slaves. No church in Dominica. Governor Barnes dissolved two houses of assembly for refusing to vote the necessary supplies.

1812. June 1st, Colonel Ainslie appointed Governor of Dominica.

1813. January 30th, Lieutenant General Frederick Maitland appointed Governor.

Dominica experienced two hurricanes; several houses blown down.

Five hundred runaway slaves made nightly incursions from the mountains, and threatened the destruction of the colony.

1814. Governor Ainslie recalled to give some explanation relative to the operations carried on against the Maroons; two addresses, from the white and colored inhabitants, presented on his departure.

July 12th, Jacko, the runaway chief, surprised and shot by a party of Rangers, after a desperate resistance: he had lived in the woods upwards of forty years.

CHAPTER VII.

CHRONOLOGY OF ANTIGUA, FROM ITS DISCOVERY TO
A. D. 1810.

AUTHORITIES.

Reports of the Wesleyan Methodists,
Parliamentary Documents,
African Institution Reports,
Colonial Returns,

Coke,
Edwards,
and
Southey.

1493. CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS discovered Antigua.

1521. The Licentiate, Antonio Serrano, was endowed with the power of Governor; Antigua till this period had belonged to the Charaibs.

1629. M. D'Enambul lands with 150 men; but finding the island worse than he expected, deserts it immediately.

1632. Sir Thomas Warner sends his son with a number of followers from St. Kitts, to establish a settlement in Antigua.

1640. English attacked by Charaibs, 50 killed; Governor's wife taken.

Population about 30 families.

1650. Inhabitants acknowledge the authority of the crown; rade prohibited in consequence.

1663. Lord Willoughby obtains the island by a grant from King Charles II. Mr. H. Willoughby ap-

pointed Governor; French settlers retire from the island.

1666. Antigua taken by the French.

1667. Antigua restored by a treaty of peace.

1673. Number of negroes amounted to 500.

1674. Colonel Codrington arrives from Barbados; plants sugar with success.

1681. Island desolated by a tremendous hurricane.

1689. Inhabitants of Anguilla removed to Antigua.

Colonel Hewetson sails to attack Guadaloupe, and returns to Antigua with plunder.

Sir T. Thornhill arrives and lands troops; guards stationed at the bays and landing places to defend the island against the incursions of the French and Indians.

1690. Antigua nearly desolated by an earthquake; number of whites in the island, 6000.

1704. Sir W. Mathews appointed Governor, vice Codrington.

1706. Mr. Park made Governor, vice Sir W. Mathews.

1707. Population 2892 whites, 12,892 negroes.

1710. December 7, Five hundred inhabitants appeared in arms against the Governor; Mr. Park is killed; British Government convinced of his misconduct; insurgents pardoned.

1720. Population 3672 whites, 19,186 negroes.

1724. Governor Hart reports the population 5200 whites, 1400 militia, 19,800 negroes.

1725. During the last four years the importation of slaves to Antigua amounted to 5600.

1728. August 19, Lord Londonderry, Governor of the Leeward Islands, lands at Antigua, and is detained in the roads by a hurricane.
1729. Population 4088 whites, 22,611 negroes.
1731. Scarcity of water so great that a single pail was sold for three shillings.
1732. The Moravian brethren send missionaries to Antigua.
1734. Population 3772 whites, 24,408 negroes.
1736. Strength of Antigua consists of Monk's Hill Fort with 30 guns, a fort at the mouth of St. John's River with 14 guns, and seven more batteries mounted with 26 guns.
- Plot by the negroes for murdering the whites discovered.
1737. Continued execution of the slaves concerned in the plot formed for murdering the whites, on the 15th January.
1740. Antigua suffers from a hurricane.
1747. Lieutenant Colonel G. Lucas, the Lieutenant Governor of Antigua, died at Brest, being taken in an Antigua ship.
1755. Malignant fever rages.
1756. Population 3412 whites, 31,428 negroes.
1759. Governor Thomas issued a proclamation encouraging proprietors to send their slaves to Guadaloupe.
1760. Mr. N. Gilbert, speaker of the House of Assembly, forms a society of 200 Methodists, the first in the island.
1761. An act passed respecting the manumission of slaves.

1768. £1000 a year voted to Governor Woodley, in addition to his former salary of £1200; also a government house.

1769. August 17th, St. John's, Antigua, nearly destroyed by fire; custom and store houses burnt; government order £1000 to be distributed among the sufferers; 260 houses consumed.

1770. £346. 2s. 6d. collected at Liverpool for the sufferers by the fire at St. John's.

Value of exports from Antigua to Great Britain £430,210; to North America £35,551 7s. 6d.; to the other islands £229 10s.

1772. The Chatham, Admiral Parry, with the Active and Seahorse frigates, driven on shore at English Harbor by a gale.

August, All men of war driven on shore by a gale, and many ships founder their anchors in St. John's Harbor.

Lieutenant General Oughton appointed Lieutenant Governor, vice Lord Hawley, deceased.

1774. Population 2590 whites, 37,808 negroes.

1775. Assembly thank his majesty for appointing Sir Ralph Payne Governor, and petition for his return to the Leeward Islands.

1776. W. M. Burt, Esq. appointed Governor of the Leeward Islands, in room of Sir R. Payne.

1778. Mr. Baxter, a methodist preacher, arrives and establishes a society.

1779. Antigua in great distress for water, happily relieved by abundance of rain.

Antigua exports 3382 hhds. of sugar.

1779. Mr. Baxter increases the Methodist society to 600.

1780. Near one fifth of the negroes stated to have died by dysentery in this and the two preceding years.

1782. Antigua produced 16,200 hhds. of sugar.

1783. Methodist chapel completed ; society greatly increases to upwards of 1000 members.

Antigua produced 3900 hhds. of sugar, being 12,300 less than last year.

1785. By an act of the Assembly a jury of six white inhabitants were ordered for the trial of capital offences ; also the evidence of one slave against another to be admitted, but not against a free person.

1787. Imports of slaves to Antigua in a medium of four years 768, exports 100.

Population 2590 whites, 1230 free people of color, 37,808 slaves.

Number of slaves under the care of the Moravian Brethren 5465. Number of Methodists 2000.

Antigua produced and exported 19,500 hhds. of sugar.

1788. Valuation of property in Antigua, patented estates taxed per acre £69,277 ; number of negroes 36,000.

1789. Five hundred and seven Moravians baptized in St. John's ; 217 in Gracehill.

In February the number of Methodists in society were 2800, of Moravians 2000.

Antigua exported 12,000 hhds. of sugar.

1791. Moravian congregation at Gracehill and St. John's consisted of 7400 persons; number of missionaries only 5.

1792. Six hundred and forty negroes baptized by Moravians.

Three thousand nine hundred hogsheads of sugar exported.

Several plantations destroyed by a hurricane on the 1st August.

1793. Number of Methodists in Antigua 2240.

A fever brought into the island by H. M. ship Experiment from Grenada.

1798. Value of slaves estimated £1,512,320.

1799. Antigua exported 8300 hhds. of sugar.

1802. Eight hundred new members added to the Society of Methodists in the last eighteen months.

1803. Society of Methodists amount to 4000.

Import of slaves in a medium of two years 436, export 100.

1804. Three hundred Methodists had died; society consists of 22 whites, 3516 blacks and people of color.

1805. Antigua exports 3200 hhds. of sugar.

Population 3000 whites, 1300 people of color, 36,000 slaves.

1810. Population 3000 whites, 37,000 slaves.

Sugar exported 16,000 hhds.

CHAPTER VIII.

CHRONOLOGY OF TRINIDAD, FROM A. D. 1498 TO A. D.
1815.

AUTHORITIES.

Naval History,
Public Papers,
Colonial Returns,

Raynal,
Coke, and
Southey.

1498. July 1, COLUMBUS discovers Trinidad.
1501. A Spanish ship arrives, and the crew, pretending to commence a settlement, collect and massacre a number of natives; take 180 prisoners.
1533. The supreme council of the Indies declared it lawful to make slaves of the Indians of Trinidad. Since the year 1510 the Spaniards had effected something like a settlement, which they afterwards deserted.
1593. Sir Robert Dudley, with a British ship, landed at Trinidad, and remained forty-two days with the Indians. Sir W. Raleigh also landed there this year.
1609. September 18, Captain Harcourt, in the Dartmore, touched at Trinidad, where he found three English ships.

* * * * *

1629. An abbey built by the Spaniards, who had conquered the Indians and effected a settlement.

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1674. Trinidad sacked and plundered of 100,000 pieces of eight, by a French expedition under Le Sieur de Maintenon.

After being thus plundered by the French, Trinidad again returns to its original masters, the Spaniards, and nothing of any interest occurs until after it is wrested from them by the English.

1797. Island of Trinidad taken by the English under Sir R. Abercrombie and Rear Admiral Hervey; Sir J. Picton appointed Governor.

Population 2151 whites, 4476 free colored people, 10,009 slaves, 1082 Indians.

1798. Population 2186 whites, 4799 free people of color, 11,021 slaves, 1005 Indians.

1799. Trinidad exported 4500 hhds. of sugar.

Population 2128 whites, 4594 free colored people, 13,311 slaves, 1143 Indians.

1800. Population 2140 whites, 4582 free people of color, 15,810 slaves, 1149 Indians.

1801. Population 2153 whites, 4909 free colored people, 15,975 slaves, 1202 Indians.

1802. By 4th article of the treaty of Amiens, the full property and sovereignty of the island of Trinidad is ceded to his Britanic Majesty.

June 29th, W. Fullarton, Esq., Samuel Wood, Esq., and General Picton are appointed commissioners for executing the office of Governor of Trinidad.

1802. Population 2261 whites, 5275 free colored people, 19,709 slaves, 1232 Indians.

1803. April 28th, Inhabitants of Trinidad present General Picton with a sword, on his resigning the government, and petition him not to resign.

July 12th, Another party address Colonel Fullarton against Picton, and express discontent at his conduct.

Import of slaves in a medium of two years 4616; export 33.

1805. Trinidad exports 12,000 hhds. of sugar.

Population 2261 whites, 3275 colored people, 19,709 slaves.

1806. A proclamation is issued by Governor Hislop, respecting the civil and criminal courts of Trinidad.

1808. April 24th, Fire breaks out in the night; all the public buildings and nearly all the town consumed by the flames; the damage estimated at half a million sterling.

1809. Port of Spain, a second time, nearly destroyed by fire.

1810. Number of slaves in Trinidad reported to be 20,729.

1811. Population 2617 whites, 7043 free colored people, 1716 Indians, 21,143 slaves.

1812. Fifty thousand pounds sterling granted to the inhabitants of Trinidad, by parliament, to rebuild the public edifices and assist the sufferers by the fire of 1809.

Quantity of land cultivated in Trinidad 174,823 acres.

1815. By an order in council, a poll-tax of two dollars on each slave, is imposed in his Majesty's name on the British subjects in Trinidad.

I regret much that I am not able to continue the chronology of this island up to a later period, for it has now become one of the wealthiest and most flourishing colonies of Great Britain. It is indebted for many of its late improvements to the skill and exertions of its excellent Governor, Sir Ralph Woodford, who about two years back died on his passage to England, mourned and regretted as he was respected and beloved by all who knew him.

CHAPTER IX.

CHRONOLOGY OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, FROM A. D. 1623
TO A. D. 1805.

AUTHORITIES.

Public Documents,	Rochefort, Bryan, Edwards,
Colonial Returns,	Labat, Du Tertre, Raynal,
Reports of African Institution,	Campbell, Coke, and Southey.

THE Island of St. Christopher is called after Christopher Columbus, who discovered it, though at what period is not exactly known. The first attempt to make any settlement appears to have been in 1623, from which time the chronology commences.

1623. Mr. Thomas Warner arrived here from Virginia, with 15 companions, and found three Frenchmen; they build a fort and a house, and commence planting; by September they have a crop of tobacco; crop destroyed by a hurricane.

1624. March 18, Captain Jefferson and three others arrive here in the ship Hopewell; they find Captain Warner and the few colonists with another crop of tobacco.

1625. M. D'Enambuc, with some of his countrymen, arrives from Dieppe, and determines to establish a colony with the English in St. Christopher's.

1625. French and English informed of a plot by the Indians to kill them; they are attacked by the Indians and gain the victory.

D'Enambuc and Werner agree together to inhabit the island, and project a division of lands.

D'Enambuc sails for France; Warner for England; Warner is knighted by Charles I. and sent out Governor of St. Christopher's.

1627. May 8, D'Enambuc and De Rossey arrive from France in the ship *Cardinale*, with 16 followers, and fix their quarters at Capsterre.

Sir T. Warner receives the French with kindness, and, after a few days, in the names of their respective sovereigns, they divide the island between them.

Sir T. Warner had 400 men, and was well provided with necessaries.

1628. Du Rossey returns with a small reinforcement from France; D'Enambuc embarks for France.

1629. August, Messrs. De Cusac and D'Enambuc arrive from France with six sail of the line and 300 colonists; they attack the English for having advanced beyond their limits; English are defeated; former treaty of division of the island renewed.

Island is attacked by the Spaniards; all the French driven out of it; many of the English are sent home and many taken prisoners; the rest are left behind, and the Spaniards embark for Brazil; 350 French, under M. D'Enambuc, return to St. Kitts, and reestablish their colony.

1630. English colonists amount to 6000, French to

- 360 ; French go armed, and spread terror among their neighbours.
1635. French receive large reinforcements from Dieppe and Havre de Grace ; great dissensions between the French and English respecting the division of land ; English yield to the proposal of M. D'Enambuc ; a fig tree is made the boundary mark.
1637. English population in the island estimated at between 12 and 13,000 souls.
1639. By consent of the French and English Governors a proclamation was issued forbidding the cultivation of tobacco for 18 months.
- De Poincy arrives as Governor from France.
- Fifty negroes revolt from the French colonists ; the revolt is quelled.
1641. De Poincy executes Maret, one of his old captains, on mere suspicion of crime ; this and other violent proceedings cause discontent.
1642. M. Renou, the French judge, is assassinated ; M. Clerselier succeeds him.
- A tremendous hurricane, 23 laden vessels wrecked at St. Kitts, houses blown down, plantations destroyed, salt ponds overflow.
1645. M. de Thoisy is appointed to succeed De Poincy as Governor ; he arrives for that purpose on the 25th November ; his landing is opposed both by French and English, and he is forced to return ; De Poincy still continues Governor.
1646. M. Parquet, Governor of Martinique, on behalf of De Thoisy, arrives at St. Kitts, and seizes

De Poincy's nephews, but is soon after attacked and defeated by De Poincy at the head of 2000 English besides French.

1646. The English general's house, where Du Parquet had sought refuge is invested by De Poincy, and Du Parquet seized and sent to prison.

1647. Dissensions continue; De Thoisy arrives, is seized, and imprisoned by De Poincy; is afterwards released, and sent off the island; M. du Parquet is also released and sent away.

An epidemic disease rages in the West Indies; between 5 and 6000 persons die of it in St. Kitts.

1651. M. de Poincy buys of the French West India Company their share of the Island of St. Kitts.

M. de Montmagny arrives as Governor, but lives as a private gentleman.

1652. Sir George Ascue, on the part of the Protector, arrives off this island; the English of St. Kitts submit without opposition to the authority of Cromwell.

1653. The King of France makes a request of St. Kitts to the Knights of the Order of Malta.

1655. Regular articles respecting the division of lands in St. Kitts, and the various rights and privileges of the English and French inhabitants were drawn up and signed by the Governors on behalf of their respective sovereigns.

1660. April 11, M. de Poincy dies, aged 77; is succeeded by the Chevalier de Sales; slight dissension in the colony respecting the new droits.

1664. All the stores of the Dutch merchants at Basse Terre are destroyed by fire; loss amounts to 2,000,000 of livres.

Island suffers by an earthquake.

1665. French West India Company purchase from the Knights of Malta their share of St. Kitts; they confirm M. de Sales as Governor.

Dec. 13, M. de Chambre, Agent-general for the Company arrives, and takes possession of their share of the island.

1666. Treaty signed by the English and French authorities in St. Kitts, declaring that neither could make war upon the other without three days' notice.

Colonel Wats, the English Governor, sends word to the French that war had been declared between France and England; three days after this hostilities commence in the island between the two powers; the French are victorious, and gain sole possession of St. Kitts; M. St. Laurent acts as their Governor; nearly all the English are either sent off the island or leave it of their own accord; Colonel Wats and de Sales, the French Governor, were both killed in action.

A dreadful hurricane in the other islands, slightly felt here.

1667. English make an unsuccessful attack upon St. Kitts.

Admiral Harman destroys the French fleet at that island.

1667. St. Kitts suffers extreme misery from a close blockade and want of supplies.

All the buildings blown down by a hurricane.

July 21, Treaty of peace signed between England and France; all that part of the island which was in possession of the English in 1665 again restored to them.

Dec. 26, Peace published at St. Kitts; English prisoners liberated.

1668. Lord Willoughby sends to demand the surrender of the English part of the island; the Governor refuses to comply till the arrival of the French general; treaty not complied with till the 1st of June.

1672. Population as follows; men able to bear arms 496, negroes 352.

1689. In consequence of the Revolution in England in 1688, the French declaring themselves in favor of James, attacked the English, and expelled them from the island.

May 17, War declared between England and France.

July 29, St. Kitts surrenders to the French; the English are sent off the island.

1690. June 20, An English fleet arrives.

June 21, English attack St. Kitts, and, by July 14th, make a complete conquest of the island, and Lieutenant-colonel Nott is left commander of the garrison.

1702. War declared between England and France; English fleet arrives off St. Kitts; and Count de

- Gennes, Governor of the remaining French lands and inhabitants, surrenders all to the English; the French are sent off the island.
1706. French make a descent and are repulsed; but burn some plantations and plunder the inhabitants.
1707. Population 1416 whites, 2861 negroes.
1712. June 6, Queen Anne, in her speech to Parliament, states that France agrees to cede St. Kitts entirely up to the English.
1713. April 11, By art. 12 of the peace of Utrecht St. Kitts was ceded to the English.
1720. Population 2740 whites, 7321 negroes.
1724. Population 4000 whites, 1200 militia, 11,500 negroes.
1729. Population 3677 whites, 14,663 negroes.
1731. The magazine on Brimstone Hill, of 150 barrels of gunpowder, is fired by lightning and blows up.
1732. Forty thousand pounds, arising from the sale of lands in St. Kitts, are voted to George the Second as a marriage portion for his daughter.
1734. Population 3881 whites, 17,335 negroes.
1736. St. Kitts contains the following fortifications: Brimstone Hill, 49 guns mounted, Charles Fort, 40 guns, Londonderry Fort and six small batteries, mounted in all with 43 guns.
1737. A hurricane experienced.
1747. Two severe hurricanes; fourteen sail of ships lost here.
1756. Population 2713 whites, 21,891 negroes; white women exceed the men by 321.

1760. In Basse Terre 200 persons die of fever between July and November.
1765. The inhabitants, in opposition to the stamp act, burn all the stamped papers in the island.
1766. Tremendous hurricane; thirteen ships driven on shore and lost.
1769. Disturbances in the House of Assembly.
1770. The exports from St. Kitts were valued at £367,074.
1772. A tremendous hurricane; nearly all the buildings at Basse Terre, Sandy Point, and Old Road are blown down; several persons killed; damage estimated at £500,000 sterling.
1774. Population 1900 whites, 23,462 negroes.
1775. Moravian missionaries began their labors in St. Kitts.
1780. Terrible hurricane; several vessels driven ashore.
1782. St. Christopher's taken by the French; injury done to the English settlers estimated at £150,000 sterling.
1783. By art. 8. of the treaty of peace signed at Versailles, on the 28th January, St. Kitts is again ceded to Great Britain.
1787. Import of slaves to St. Kitts, in a medium of four years, 658, exports 102.
- Population 1912 whites, 1908 free colored people, 20,435 slaves.
- First Methodist missionary established at Basse Terre.
1788. Sugar crops fail; planters try the cultivation of cotton; number of slaves 23,000.

1789. May 21, Moravians lay the foundation of their chapel.

St. Kitts exported 11,000 hhds. of sugar this year.

1790. Number of negroes baptized by the Moravians 400.

1791. Moravian congregation consists of 624 persons.

1792. A tremendous flood carries away many buildings, and several lives are lost ; great damage sustained.

1793. Island suffers by a hurricane ; near 30 sail of ships are lost or stranded.

1798. An extraordinary legislature convened at St. Kitts, and an act passed for the protection and preservation of slaves.

Value of slaves in St. Kitts this year £817,400.

1799. St. Kitts exported 9900 hhds. of sugar.

1802. Number of Methodists amount to 2587 ; population 4500 whites, 500 free colored people, 25,000 slaves.

1803. Import of slaves in a medium of two years 971, export 124.

1804. Thirteen sail of vessels wrecked here by a hurricane.

1805. A French squadron stood in for Basse Terre, and, having landed 500 men who extorted £18,000 from the inhabitants, re-embark them and set sail without attacking the fort ; six merchant ships are towed from their anchorage set on fire and allowed to drift to sea.

St. Kitt's exported 8000 hhds. of sugar ; population 1800 whites, 198 colored people, 26,000 slaves.