the case, and they seem to consume it with impunity. There were lots
of field-mice among the mat-grass, so numerous were they that it was
not unusual to tread them to death. On the castor-oil trees the averde-
vatts were twittering, the partridges calling from the hills, and the
doves cooing from the cliffs. I also found the wild tobacco here, bear-
ing an elegant tubulated flower, with an exquisite odour: we often
attempted to dry and sweat its leaves, and manufacture them into
cigars and cannister, but could never succeed; the negroes, however,
would roast them over a slow fire, and make excellent snuff from them,
exactly resembling Lundyfoot's. As I wound up the Valley, the
caverns, the resort of the wild cats, and the holes which the rabbits had
burrowed—the beds of rushes wherever a spring existed—the tufts of
aloes, with their long stalks of flowers—the plots of Indian shot, a lilia-
ceous plant, with bright scarlet flowers—a solitary pomegranate or peach
tree, together with the bubbling, or bounding, or rushing of the waters,
as the stream would be obstructed in its course by stones, or leap from
jutting rocks, or run uninterrupted by impediments, and the glorious
amphitheatre of the hills and precipices, formed the different parts of
the wild and picturesque scenery that everywhere met my view.

Some misunderstanding having occurred among the officials at
Rupert's Station, the storehouse-keeper there was dismissed, and Mr.
Augustus Kennedy, who had succeeded Lieutenant Matthew O'Connor
in that capacity at Lemon Valley, was transferred thither, his place
being filled up by his father, who had been a captain in the old St.
Helena Corps of Artillery. Many dismissals took place likewise at our
Station. The two O'Connors, young Brown, Conolly, and Mrs. Weller
were removed; and the salaries of those who were retained were con-
siderably reduced. Even Mallet, who had taken charge of the
"Minerva," and who, after he got strong, had rendered himself useful,
was ordered to be struck off the list of overseers, in order to make
room for a Mr. Robert Seale. The following is an extract from a
letter I received on the occasion:

"As Mallet is a high-priced overseer, the Collector requests you
will notify to him and all the others, that they will be discharged from
and after to-morrow. Mr. Young will send to Lemon Valley, as an
assistant to Mr. Kennedy, a young gentleman, the son of the late
Colonial Secretary, and nephew of the present, and desires he may
be placed on the Establishment as a second-class overseer, at 3s. per
diem."

In this transaction, it will easily be perceived that Mr. Robert Seale
was put upon the Establishment on account of his family connexion.
The Collector of Customs had not the art to conceal this fact, for he
makes pointed allusion to it. In serving, however, his friends, he ought
not to have neglected the interests of the Establishment over which he
was commissioned to preside; and his friends might have had a little
more regard for him than to have taken advantage so far of his kind-
ness as to have made a regular catspaw of him. There was something
unjust, too, in the measure of superseding an old servant in order to
make room for a stranger; for Mallet was ordered to be discharged,
without being asked if he would accept a smaller salary. A pretext also was invented, as if Captain Kennedy required assistance in his duties of clerk and chief overseer, and Mr. Seale was sent especially for the purpose of affording him that assistance. Captain Kennedy required no aid, and never asked for any; and if he had, the Collector must have been conscious that Mr. Seale was utterly incapable of being of any use to him, for he was deformed and paralytic. Overseers notorious for their incapacity and drunkenness, and blood-selling Portuguese who had been taken engaged in the Slave-trade, had been ridiculously and shamefully put on the Establishment; but the appointment of Mr. Robert Seale, was the crowning farce of the whole, and showed how much the Establishment could be trifled with. Of course, instead of inspiring respect, Seale only served to excite the mirth and ridicule of the Africans, who would mimic his actions, imitate his gait, speech and manners, and make sport of his deformities. When the poor lad was removed to Rupert's Station, he fared still worse from their pranks; for, not content with mocking his eccentricities, they would put prickly pears, old bones, and all sorts of things into his bed, and annoy him by many other mischievous contrivances. Far be it from me to be the cause of inflicting pain on the unfortunate—they are objects of commiseration: I will refrain therefore from describing his infirmities, although the picture would be the keenest satire on the Establishment, and the severest censure on its conductors. I cannot, however, avoid mentioning that in the opinion of the world it would have been more honourable for his uncle, who received £900 a-year from Government, to have granted the paltry pittance of his nephew's salary out of his own enormous income, than have burthened the Establishment with his maintenance, physically and mentally incapable as he was of rendering the least service in recompense; and it would have been kinder to the lad to have allowed him to remain in the privacy to which he had been accustomed, than to have exposed his misfortunes to public view.

About two months after Robert Seale had been sent to Lemon Valley, I received a visit from Lieutenant Middlemore, son to the Governor of the Island, and Lieutenant Wilcox, of the Waterwitch—the same who had been my companion for three weeks at the beginning of the quarantine. On conducting them up the Valley to point out everything worth noticing relating to the Establishment, we met Seale; and Lieutenant Middlemore was so struck with his appearance, that he inquired what he was doing there. On informing him that the cripple was an overseer, he was uncommonly indignant, and repeated he would inform his father of the circumstance. The day after, I received a letter from the Governor, ordering me to dismiss Seale immediately. This occurred on the 24th July, 1841. It is a fact, however, that on the 22d April following, when Major-general Middlemore had left St. Helena, and shortly after the arrival of the present Governor, Colonel Trelawney, R.A., the same Seale was again placed on the Establishment—this time, it was thought, through the influence his relative the Colonial Secretary possessed over the new Governor.
A great number of tents were erected for the accommodation of the people who had been located on board of the "Louiza," "Marciana," and "Minerva," those vessels having been sent up to town to be sold and broken up. The appearance of the Valley became quite changed, and a visitor might now have imagined it an encampment of Arabs in the desert. On the flat bit of ground just above Mrs. Renton's garden, three tents were constructed, and two in the yard of the fisherman's hut, which I had hitherto occupied, but which I was obliged now to leave, fearing a too close contiguity; and I henceforth took up my residence in the little wooden house further up the Valley. Chamberlain's cottage was converted into an hospital; the two rooms of which it was composed, with the outhouses, were quickly tenanted; for we had still plenty of sickness, although nothing of an infectious nature. Along the hill-side on which Chamberlain's cottage stood, a dozen of banyan or Indian fig-trees had been planted many years ago. They had now grown to a large size, their immense spreading branches being only equalled by the dimensions and length of their roots, that would twine round stones, shoot into the earth, rise up again, grasping in their embrace some huge rock, and then run upon the ground, exposed to view, for many perches. The tree which was nearest to the hospital was the largest of them all, but it was blasted—not a green leaf was on its boughs, and it stood there, with its naked arms, a picture of desolation and a ghastly emblem of death, not an inappropriate sign-post to indicate the character of the contiguous building. When the Java sparrows would every evening seek the shelter of the banyans, to feed on the figs and chaunt their vesper song ere they roosted for the night, they would carefully avoid, so it was said, the blasted tree, even some years before it became withered. The popular tradition relates that a female slave was once tied up to it, and nearly flogged to death by her mistress; and that immediately afterwards it began to decay, and was so cursed by this act of female cruelty, that not a bird would henceforth perch on its boughs. A small shed was knocked up for a laboratory, where the medicines for the use of the hospital were kept; and behind the premises a kitchen was built, with a capital boiler, large enough to cook provisions for three hundred persons, and all other requisite culinary apparatus; while before the door, where pumpkins, calavanchas, and yams used to be cultivated, three additional tents were got up, to afford increased accommodation to the sick.

As much to occupy the Africans as to embellish the grounds around my new dwelling, I employed a party of men every day, for about a month, in repairing the old wall, which had in former times been constructed close to the house, enclosing a field of about an acre and a half, and in digging and planting the enclosed area. This space I converted into a garden, which, in the course of fifteen months, eclipsed every spot in St. Helena for its fertility, and the variety of its productions. I opened trenches to admit the water from the stream higher up the Valley, and conveyed it through every portion of the garden above the house; the space below was irrigated by conducting the
water from the cascade into different channels, traversing the grounds in all directions. I had an alley of bananas through the whole extent of the place. Their large, wide leaves meeting at the top, afforded shade, and, stirred by every breath of wind, rustled and flapped in obedience to the breeze; on their flowers bees would be continually clustering, and their fruit was both fragrant and delicious. I planted two hundred and fifty Muscadel vines, that bore grapes not inferior to the productions of any vineyards in Spain. Peach, fig, pomegranate, chirimoyia, and loquat trees I also introduced into the premises; some of them bore their first fruits before I left the island, and all have thriven well since, as I have been informed. Of beans, lettuce, cucumbers, tomatoes, chillies, and other vegetables, I raised an abundance for myself, and plenty to spare to the negroes. There were at Chamberlain’s cottage six large lemon trees, that had become nearly withered from neglect. As it was necessary to remove them in order to make room for the tents which were erected there, I transplanted them, having first reduced them to one-half their size, to my garden, and had the satisfaction, the ensuing season, to see my labour rewarded, for they were covered with verdure. I did not forget to ornament this now delightful retreat with flowering shrubs; wherever these would grow, they were introduced. In a short time the moon plants grew up, and formed a little bower, surrounding my house with their glossy leaves and pure white pendent corollas. The Indian lilacs presented everywhere their long clusters of purple flowers, exhaling, with the moon plants, a most grateful odour. In the serene moonlight nights, the perfume from the last-mentioned plants, as their name implies, would be the most exquisite, and, mingled then with the aroma from the nyctalagos and beds of mignonette, formed a combination of sweets worthy of Paradise. On such nights it was my custom to walk for hours together, enjoying the pleasures that nature afforded. A Manilla cheroot would then be my constant companion; and, as its soothing influence would calm the perturbations of the mind, annoyed by some troublous occurrences of the day, it would dispose it to a pleasing state of contemplation, completely in harmony with the placid and lovely grandeur of the scenery around me. Every tree, shrub, and plant received water by the numerous channels which intersected the garden. Like the Egyptians of old, I could say, “With a kick of my foot I could water my land;” for I had only to remove with my foot the mound of clay which obstructed the entrance of the water, to have it come rushing in, and flowing through every plot and parterre. The immense labour of watering was thus saved; and in the driest seasons, when vegetation elsewhere was brown and withered, the greenness and freshness of my garden were as vigorous as ever. My garden henceforth became the theme of conversation throughout the island, and many came to see it. On one occasion I was honoured with the visit of His Excellency the Governor, who was delighted to find fertility in a spot naturally so wild and barren, and was pleased to pass very handsome encomiums on my industry and taste in thus reclaiming a
AFRICAN ESTABLISHMENT AT ST. HELENA.

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wilderness. I had indeed converted a field, covered with rocks and stones, into a beautiful and fruitful garden, teeming with the richest productions of a tropical soil.

In order to avail themselves of the labour of the grown-up males among the Africans, the Colonial Government ordered all the men and boys above fourteen years of age at Lemon Valley, with the exception of those who were required to do the hard work, to be transferred to Rupert’s; and all the women, girls, and small boys, to be sent from thence to our Station. The men, who were now almost all of them located at Rupert’s, were delivered up to the tuition of the engineers, who came every morning at eight o’clock, after the negroes had got their breakfast of coffee and biscuit, to conduct them to Sandy Bay, exactly on the opposite side of the island, at a distance of nine miles, over high hills and deep valleys. There they had to work all day at carrying limestone, without anything to eat till their return to the Station, which was at about eight r.m., and often much later. They then partook of their substantial meal of sugar and rice, those articles then constituting their dinner by the especial recommendation of the Governor, as will be related. After a walk of eighteen miles, on such mountainous ground as is found everywhere in St. Helena, climbing up hills of an elevation of 2,000 feet, and descending valleys of corresponding depth, and, besides the walk, working all day at the severe toil of carrying limestone, the animal economy, it might be supposed, wanted something more nourishing than sugar and rice. Colonel Trelawney, the Governor, thought, however, otherwise; and this was the diet these hard-working Helots of British philanthropy received from the hands of their taskmasters. Could the Portuguese have treated them much worse? This was, indeed, teaching them to be engineers with a vengeance! Let it be remembered, that at this time they had no pecuniary remuneration for their work, as may be alleged. No; nothing! Subsequently, when they were employed breaking stones and repairing the roads, they were allowed something, which just amounted to half a stick of tobacco, of the value of a halfpenny, to those who were diligent; but I think it was never given to them as wages, for most inadequate it would have been, but as a gratuity, to encourage them to work. Surely it was never the intentions nor the commands of the Home Government to feed and work the Liberated Africans in this way!

To describe the duties exacted from the Medical Officer who was appointed to the situation of surgeon to the Station at Rupert’s Valley, would be a difficult task. He was not required to attend upon the sick; for as the Africans fell ill, they were sent in boat-loads to the hospital at Lemon Valley. Nevertheless, he was supposed to be their medical attendant, and paid as such by the Government. Indeed, it would take an ingenious imagination to discover what Mr. Henry Solomon had to do in the Liberated African Establishment. It would be about as easy to write a history of St. Helena before the Flood as detail the functions which he performed in his present office. Literally meaning, if not speaking, he was neither the Surgeon of the Station,
nor the Clerk, nor an Overseer—and, of course, he was not a Matron; the only word fit to describe him is cypher, and his situation may be best defined by calling it a sinecure.

For four months after the expiration of the quarantine, no slave-vessels, having infectious diseases, arrived at St. Helena. Three, however, came in with pretty full complements of slaves, amounting to 774, and of course had about the usual quantum of disease on board, small-pox being excepted. These vessels, the Euro, Boa Nova, and Triumph, landed their living cargoes at Rupert's, the sick amongst whom, after lying for a few days there, were transferred to Lemon Valley to be attended on by me. It was during the short period from the 16th March, the date of the arrival of the "Minerva," to the 15th August ensuing when the memorable "Corisco" came in, that Mr. Solomon was employed in some degree, if ever he was; his arduous labour then consisted in pointing out the sick with a stick, and ordering them to be sent off to Lemon Valley; subsequently even this trifling duty was performed by Mr. Augustus Kennedy, the clerk, or Charles Tracey, one of the overseers. As may be imagined, the Government launch in the charge of the Harbour-master was frequently in requisition, conveying from Rupert's to Lemon Valley, 50, 60, and even 100 sick Africans at a time; and it was a daily spectacle to see parties of from five to fifteen arrive. This occupation of conveying sick and dying negroes was not much relished by the Lascars in the marine department, who grumbled and growled excessively about it: they were not very desirous of officiating as Charons to people blacker than themselves, and would have gladly resigned them to the care of that fabulous personage. There was something in these transportations, as they may most emphatically be called, not unlike what the classical scholar might suppose to take place at times in Pluto's dominions. The large barge moving slowly on, impelled by the intermittent movements peculiar to Oriental boatmen when rowing—the monotonous song of the Lascars sung to keep time with the strokes of the oars, their outlandish dress and appearance being of Malay extraction, and the immense crowd of unearthly-looking passengers, dull, listless, quiet, many of them all but inanimate, a few completely so, might be taken not inaply for Charon's boat gliding heavily on the thick waters of the Styx, rowed by the pilots of Hades, and carrying a full cargo of human souls to the regions beyond.

This system of transporting the sick was unfortunately always practised, in spite of the horrors attending it. For the sake of humanity it ought never to have been sanctioned; and when the sufferings occasioned by it were made known, as they were repeatedly, it ought instantly to have been abandoned. The accommodations at Rupert's for lodging the sick were more ample and comfortable than what we possessed at Lemon Valley. Why, then, could they not have been permitted to remain there, instead of tossing them about in boats, exposing them to the weather, and subjecting them to knocks and blows, which they could not fail to receive during the traject? If Mr. Solomon was too fine a gentleman to attend upon them, many other surgeons might
have been procured who would have been glad to accept of his situation, and who would have conscientiously discharged its duties. It was one of the most cruel and heartless measures that could have been devised, transcending the horrors attending the transportation of criminals; and as it was resorted to not from necessity, there was no excuse for it. It was the cause of aggravating the complaints of the Africans, but that was not the extent of the evil. As the most miserable and emaciated beings, in the last stage of scurvy and dysentery, unable to move, with just vitality in them, and that was all, would be put into the boat, and the usage they experienced during the removal being anything but gentle, it is not astonishing that the last flickering spark of life should be often extinguished in them, and that two or three should die in the boat during the passage, and a few more on the rocks, where they were landed, after their arrival. Indeed, such was always the case, and the mortality would not cease there, for some more deaths were sure to take place within twenty-four hours after their admission into the hospital. Such were the lamentable results that accompanied these truly Stygian expeditions.

The Africans liberally availed themselves of the liberty they enjoyed to indulge in their rambling propensities through the island. No sooner was the cessation of quarantine announced, than they started off in all directions, some in the expectation of finding their way home to their countries, but most of them, I imagine, having given up the idea of being able to effect their return, contented themselves with examining what was to be seen, and seizing whatever they could find worth taking possession of. Some contrived to enter the gardens and fields of the farmers, and steal pears, peaches, yams, and chillies; a few were accused of lifting the poultry and eggs; but I suspect these depredations were not carried to any great extent, and that the principal part of the negroes contented themselves with despoiling the brambles of the blackberries, gathering of water-cresses, bitter-sweet, and chenopodium, catching of mice, and collecting of crickets and grasshoppers. It was diverting to see the groups arrive at the Station on their return from their excursions. Perhaps a dozen women would come, with their gowns drawn up, full of water-cresses, and large bundles of bitter-sweet, tied in dirty handkerchiefs, balanced on their heads, accompanied with a troop of girls, loaded with tin pots, holding their insect prey, while a parcel of boys would bring up the rear with a string or two of field-mice. What cooking would ensue when these expeditions had been successful! The crickets would be stewed entire in a gravy composed of beef or mutton fat, a stock of which was generally kept on the head, the cleanly cook having nothing to do but extend his fore-finger to his woolly hair, and cut off a slice of the lump of fat he had deposited there, with as much confidence in its retaining its savour and oleaginous qualities as if it had been looked up in a cool larder. It is quite a common practice with them to gather round the pots, when the meat has done cooking, and skim off the fat from the gravy, which, when cold, they will rub their bodies with till their skins shine in the sun like polished ebony; if any remains, they form it into a ball, and stick
it on the hair of their heads, to be used in a similar manner on a future occasion, or perhaps to serve as lard to cook the most delicate dishes with. The bitter-sweet and chenopodium were generally boiled into a mess like spinach. They had, however, a peculiar way of preparing the water-cresses. These would be boiled, then spread out upon stones to dry, then exposed to the fire till they became crisped, and lastly pulverised by rubbing them between the palms of the hands. This powder constituted their pepper, and was sprinkled copiously over their rice, meat, and everything else. As for the mice, they, as well as the rats and cats which the negroes would occasionally get, were not very carefully cleaned previous to cooking; the hair being roughly singed off, they were laid on the live embers, and baked brown; and were considered by them as luxurious feeding, as young sucking pigs are in England. Such were the delicious articles always introduced at their feasts: if rejected by us, they were as highly relished by them. Frogs are esteemed by Frenchmen; macaroni by Italians; onions by Spaniards; curry by Hindoos; pilau by Arabs; albicore by Yam-stocks (the natives of St. Helena); pork and treacle by Yankees; and roast beef by John Bulls. With a bottle of Cape wine, and the messes I have described, the negroes would not envy the gods in Elysium their ambrosia and their nectar.

Certainly, the greatest enjoyment of a negro is to sit near a fire, half naked, with his bare legs extended close to the burning embers, the sweat oozing in odoriferous drops from his face and body, and his eyes fixed attentively on the simmering pot that contains the materials of his repast. For whole hours together will you find him so engaged, in perhaps precisely the same attitude. This occupation, together with that of eating, or rather cramming, smoking, sleeping, and the indulgence of another animal propensity, constitutes his highest delight, and is considered by him as the grand object of life. If there exists a religion amongst them, which I greatly doubt, teaching them that there is a future state of being where man experiences an increase of either happiness or misery, it must, to suit their ideas of felicity, make of heaven a cook-shop, kitchen, and dormitory!

At other times the Africans would return from their rural peregrinations completely metamorphosed in appearance. With the yellow and red ochres, and black mineral earths, which they would find in the caverns of the mountains, they would paint their faces and breasts, making streaks or patches of different colours, sometimes adding the ornament of a periwig daubed over with clay. The dandies among them, spurning the last fashion as low and vulgar, would, instead of it, shave the hair off their heads, and smearing it with the black earth, dust over it the pollen of flowers, their bald pates appearing like ebony balls sprinkled over with gold-dust. They would also stick here and there the large yellow anthers of lilies on different parts of the face to represent beauty-spots. I suspect the pollen and anthers were used as substitutes for gold-dust and tinsel, with which the grandees of their country adorn their persons in the manner described, and which custom the negroes in the present instance derived from them. A usage drawn from such
high authority could not fail to be admired by the aspiring geniuses amongst them, who, like their booby representatives at home, were very aristocratical, and fond of wearing some badge of distinction. It was on this account, no doubt, that they principally prided themselves on their pollen-powdered heads, and anther-tinselled faces.

When an inhabitant of the island wished to obtain the services of a Liberated African, he made an application to the Collector of Customs, and a paper signed either by the Collector, his first clerk, or the clerk of the department of the African Establishment at the Custom-house, was delivered to him, containing words to the following effect:—

"Please deliver to Mr. ——— a Liberated African (man, woman, boy, or girl, whichever it might be that was required), reporting particulars."

This was handed to the applicant, who, on the delivery of the order to the officer in charge of the Station, proceeded to select an individual, and having procured his or her consent, without further trouble took the person away from the Establishment. Of the 286 Africans who, up to September 1843, thus entered into service, I know of but one who was brought up by his master to a mechanical trade; and he was taught to be a cooper, and was very clever at his business for the little instruction he received. The whole, then, with that single exception, were employed as domestic servants, or as labourers for digging the potato-grounds, or looking after the sheep and cattle of the farmers. Though 286 be the number of Africans assumed to have been appren-
ticed, yet it would be more correct to increase it to double or treble the amount; for their masters, when tired of them, returned them to the Establishment, and took others; and these again were exchanged for a third lot, and so on indefinitely. To explain the reason of this is very easy:—the wages of a labourer in St. Helena are from 2s. to 2s. 6d. a day; to save which, Africans are got, and made to do the work, for which they receive food, and sometimes a penny a week to buy a stick of tobacco with: some masters were more generous, and gave 3d. a week, and a few perhaps carried their prodigality so far as to give 1s. After a month or two, the negro became more handy and skilful, and finding, though he performed as much work as a native labourer, that he received but 3d. a week, while the other was paid at the rate of perhaps 2s. a day, would become discontented, turn idle and impudent, so that his master, instead of increasing his wages, which would have satisfied the negro, preferred sending him back to the Establish-
ment, as he could procure another in his place, out of whom he could get two or three months' labour at the same cheap rate, and then exchange him for a third, and so on.

Whenever an African servant by hard work or exposure to the weath-
er became sick, his master would call at the Custom-house, and pro-
cure an order to exchange him, or return him to the Establishment; so that the poor creature would be forced to walk (perhaps little able to do so) to the Lemon Valley Hospital to be cured at the expense of Government, or die and swell the number of deaths at the Station, although his disease may have been contracted while at service. When a servant has become ill in his master's house, there seems to be some-
thing very mean and revolting in the practice of turning him out, and getting rid of him. Surely the common dictates of humanity ought to tell the unfeeling master, that a servant who has contracted illness in his service is entitled to his hospitality, care, and attention, until restored to health. If his conscience is not convinced by such charitable arguments, the regulations respecting the apprenticeship of the Liberated Africans ought to have compelled him to afford shelter and medical attendance to his sick servants, and to get them cured at his own expense.

It is singularly true, though lamentable to relate, that the persons who, above all others, should have discouraged and put a stop to this system, practised it most. No poor farmer, for whom there might have been an excuse on account of his poverty, ever sent his sick negro servants to the hospital belonging to the Establishment, to the same extent as Colonel Trelawney, the governor, and his son-in-law, and private secretary, Captain Young of the Royal Artillery.

Verbal orders were repeatedly given by the Collector of Customs to receive no more Africans from service on the Establishment; but they were as often broken by his permitting masters to return them; and the annexed note sent to me by the first clerk of the Customs' Department will illustrate the manner in which commands and instructions issued at one time were contradicted and altered immediately afterwards.

"My dear Sir,—After the many debates which have occurred on the subject of masters returning their servants to the Stations, it may seem strange that the negro girl whom I have had so long should be amongst the number; but as I think this will not be a solitary instance soon, I am induced to apprise you of the cause of the alteration in our sentiments on this subject.

"The Collector is preparing printed circulars to send to each possessor of Liberated African servants, requesting to know if they wish to retain them or not, and upon what terms. If not, the question arises for the Governor's decision, what is to become with them? Notwithstanding the fine talk, 'they are free,' &c., the practical result will be, they are free to do what? Starve! This must not be, and the inevitable consequence will be—they must return to the Stations.

"As an illustration of this, I will mention that one of the Governor's boys abscended from him to Rupert's on Friday. I sent him back. His Excellency would not keep a negro who had once quitted his service—and who can compel him (or any one) to do so? Acting by this guide, I have taken advantage of a fit of the sulks of my little negro girl, who said she wished to go to Lemon Valley, to obtain the Collector's permission for her to do so.

"16th Augt. 1842. "Yours faithfully,
"G. M'Henry, Esq. M.D. C.M. &c. &c. (Signed) "S. F. Pritchard."
"Lemon Valley."

At length, after abolishing and reviving alternately some dozens of times the system of receiving at the Stations negro servants from service, I was favoured with the following very precise commands:

"Custom-house, St. Helena, 3d October, 1843.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you, that from and after this date no Liberated African is to be received at your Station from service on any account whatever; and should a deviation of this order ever occur, the overseer in charge will be surcharged in the amount of issues on this account.

"G. M'Henry, Esq. M.D. C.M. "I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Surgeon Supt. "Your most obedient Servant,
"Lemon Valley." (Signed) "Jno. Young, Coll."