

Mandingo or **Jalof**, on the western coast. Nowhere is the true Negro seen in thorough-bred perfection, from the country of the **Macua**, near Cape Delgado to Cape **Gardafui**. White and brown are the general colours of humanity along that coast.

It is true that the slave-trade prevails along this coast, but it is of mitigated description to that of Western Africa. It does not appear to create much impediment to a progress through the country ; neither is it productive of much violence. The more civilized and brown nations of the interior-the **Moziva**, **Monomæzi**, **Wambungo**-are seldom seen in slavery, as they never sell one another, and are rarely taken prisoners ; and the **M'iao**, from whom the slaves are principally taken, regard servitude as a good profession-the far greater number of them being sold by their parents, with their own consent. The proportion of voluntary slaves in the dominions of the **Imaun** of Muscat is very great, and the preference given to them constantly increasing. The horrors of the slave-trade on the eastern shore are encouraged only by Europeans ; and it is only the existence of the Portuguese colonies which perpetuates the infernal commerce in man in its worst and most degrading and barbarizing form. The dominions of the Heathen of Muscat form a strange contrast with those of the Christian potentate : in the former trade flourishes, ports are full, communication with all parts of the world is carried on, civilization increases, and perfect freedom of trade is established every where ; in the latter, commerce is stagnant, mutual confidence gone, gloom, desolation, and crime are paramount. The interests of humanity demand that the civilized powers of the world should insist on Portugal evacuating a country, **which**, after an inglorious -possession of more than three centuries, she has ruined, and over which it would require almost as many centuries to pass, when released from her blighting influence, to restore to the opulent and civilized appearance which, towards the close of the fifteenth century, surprised and delighted the early Portuguese voyagers.

The trade of Eastern Africa has, from the earliest times, been considerable. As **far** back as history makes us acquainted with it, we find it frequented, and even ruled by the Arabs. Hence the early trade between this coast and Arabia, from whence there was an easy **voyage** to the northern coast of Western India. As the Arab vessels which carried on this traffic were manned by Africans, a direct communication was soon the consequence between their country and India, which continues to the present day. Recent events indicate that an important revolution is about to take place in the **circumstances** of Eastern Africa. The encouragement of our Indian trade with it, ought therefore to be

an established point in our national policy. In this view, the possession by the Indian government of the island of Socotra, situated almost at the mouth of the Red Sea, and equidistant from Kossair, Bombay, and Zanzibar, and inhabited by a wild but, simple people, of Abyssinian origin and Christian feelings, is of paramount importance. Under proper management, the commercial importance of this island might be re-established. As a depot it is essential to the permanent success of steam navigation between Bombay and Suez, and, if established as a free port, might form a large commercial exchange for the commerce of three continents. But the mention of Socotra brings us to a consideration of the ports of the Red Sea. Before touching on them, we cannot take leave of the eastern coast of Africa without quoting the following excellent advice, from the pen of a most competent authority :-

“ If our enterprising countrymen should think of exploring the rivers of Eastern Africa, with commercial views, we recommend them strongly to begin with the **Pangány**. That river is said to have depth of water **sufficient** for the largest vessels for three long days (that is from eighty to one hundred miles) up to the rapids. The country on its banks, near the coast abounds with the finest **copal**. The rapids are, we believe, navigable with rafts. **Above** them the river becomes both broad and deep, encircling in its winding course a great number of islands, which are all comprised in the kingdom of Cazita, the most populous part of Eastern Africa known to the Arabs. The M'sambara, who occupy Cazita, are said to take the field against the Galla, at times, with an army of 100,000 men. Such are the accounts of the Arabs. The river **Pagány** is not within the acknowledged dominions of the Sultan of Muscat, nor is it, we believe, much navigated by the Arabs of **Mombása**, who supinely allow the produce of the interior to find its way to the coast as it best can. It is possible that the **Pangány** might be ascended to Cazita with little difficulty, and in such a case, it is obvious enough that both the native and foreign merchant would find it more advantageous to **traffic** there than on the coast. The Livuma and the Lufigy are worth exploring, particularly the latter ; but we are apprehensive that its exploration might prove a tedious and laborious undertaking. ”

[To be continued.]

THE FRENCH COLONIES.-ART. IV.

MARTINIQUE.-LEGISLATIVE POWER, ETC.

(Continued from Page 324.)

The total number of officers employed in the financial department, was in 1836, 122, divided as follows :-

1. **Registration and preservation of deeds, &c.**—

1 examiner of **registering**—6 receivers of registering (2 at Fort Royal, 2 at St. Pierre, 1 at **Marin**, and 1 at Trinity ; at Fort Royal and St. Pierre, one of the two receivers is also keeper of mortgages)-4 supernumeraries, appointed at Fort Royal and St. Pierre. Total 11.

2. **Customs-in the public offices**—

1 **manager** of customs-1 inspector-2 resident under inspectors (chefs de bureau at St. Pierre and at Fort Royal-7 searchers (4 at St. Pierre, 1 at Fort Royal, 1 at Trinity, 1 at **Marin**)—5 receveurs aux declarations (2 at St. Pierre, 1 at Fort Royal, 1 at Trinity, and 1 at **Marin**)—2 clerks (a la direction) -2 clerks (aux declarations at St. Pierre-1 clerk (aux expéditions at Fort Royal-Active service : 1 'captain of **pinnaces**—2 1 st lieutenants-7 brigadier-generals (4 belonging to the land-brigade, 3 to the **pinnacle** service-36 **overlookers** (18 belonging to the land-brigade and 18 to the **pinnacle** service —1 commander-32 able seamen for the **pinnacle** service. Total 100.

The organization of the persons belonging to the custom-house, in the French Antilles, is regulated by a royal ordinance of the 25th Oct., 1829. Another royal ordinance of the 26th Nov. 1830, regulates the treatment and the indemnities allowed to the officers and agents of this service. The law of the 24th April, 1833, has exclusively reserved to royalty the nomination of the salaries of the officers of the customs.

3. **The treasury**—

1 treasurer-2 crown solicitors (1 at St. Pierre and 1 at Fort Royal —8 porters. Total 11.

The number of persons belonging to the ecclesiastical government were, in 1836, composed of 25 ecclesiastics, viz.

1 **préfet** apostolique-24 priests. Total 25.

According to the decree 'of the 24th April, 1833, the expenses of judicial proceedings are fixed by the administration of the king.

In 1836, the number of persons having connexion with the courts of justice were 39, viz. :-

1. Cour Royale—

9 counsellors—3 audit counsellors-1 attorney general-1 substitute of the attorney general-1 registrar-1 head clerk or secretary-1 junior ditto. Total 17.

2. Tribunaux de premiere instance—

2 royal judges—3 lieutenant judges (lieutenant de juges)—4 judge auditors—2 crown attornies (procureurs du roi)—2 substituts du procureur du roi-2 registrars. Total 14.

3. Tribunaux de Paix—

4 justices of peace-4 registrars. Total 8.

The police in 1836 was composed of 166 persons,

1. Horse police—

1 commander of the squadron-1 captain-2 lieutenants—4 marechaux des legis—12 brigadier-generals-80 gend'armes. Total 100.

2. Mountain chasseurs-

2 brigadiers—2 under brigadiers-12 chasseurs. Total 16.

3. Surveillance of the towns and counties—

2 commissaries of police (1 at St. Pierre and 1 at Fort Royal)—30 clerks of the police-4 brigadiers and under-brigadiers—14 archers. Total 50.

The number of persons in 1836 of the service of bridges and shipways were 6, viz. :-

1 head clerk, chief accountant-4 assistant clerks- 1 garde du genie.

3 persons were paid as teachers of public instruction in 1836, viz.

2 masters for the sole instruction of boys---1 mistress for the ditto of girls.

The number of the different agents of the colonial service employed in 1836 were 20, viz.:

10 doorkeepers and porters—1 patron (captain) of the governor's barge-1 inspector of blacks (du magasin general)—2 stowage masters-1 gardener, head of the jardin des plantes at St. Pierre—2 interpreters of the English and Spanish languages—1 secretary of the cabinet of commerce—1 commander of the galley crew -1 executeur des hautes-oeuvres—in all 20.

Recapitulation of the number of persons paid by government throughout the different departments :—

Colonial government 3—military services 2020—commissariat of marine 31—service des ports 19—service de santé 45—direction of the interior 40—administration of justice 122—ecclesiastical government 25—judicial ditto 39—police 166—service des ponts and chaussées—public instruction 3—different agents 20. Total 2539.

[The preface contains the general basis of legislative enactments of Martinique, the application to the colony of the royal codes, and the laws concerning the slaves, the details of which are here given.]

The civil code was published at Martinique the 7th Nov. 1805, [*le 16 Brumaire* an. xiv.] The code of civil proceeding has been applied to the colony by a royal ordinance of the 29th Oct. 1828, but with numerous modifications. Martinique had been formerly ruled according to a civil proceeding, by an ordinance of 1667.

After the local act of the 7th Nov. 1805, respecting the promulgation of the civil code at Martinique, *l'Expropriation forcée*, ought to have been adopted there, a year after the general peace. Any efficient proceeding in this respect has not as yet been carried into effect. Martinique is governed by a declaration of the king of the 24th August, 1726. The law of the 8th of March, in 1810, on *l'Expropriation*, on account of its public utility, has been put in practice in Martinique, with some trifling modifications.

The application to Martinique of the 18th chap. of the civil code, relative to privileges and mortgages, took place at the same time as the publication of this code, but with the adjournment of one year after the general peace, to be put in force by articles 2168 and 2169 of the same chapter, which chiefly support “Expropriation force.”

La Conservation des Hypothèques institution in Martinique may be traced back to the 7th Nov., 1805, has been latterly organized by a royal ordinance of the 14th June, 1829.

L'Enregistrement, was established in the colony by a royal ordinance of the 31st Dec., 1828. The dispositions of this ordinance have been modified and completed by a decision of the king, of 28th Sept., 1830, and by two royal ordinances of the 1st July, 1831, and 16th May, 1832.

The code of commerce had not been put in force at Martinique.

Le Code d'instruction criminelle, has been applied to the colony by a royal ordinance of the 12th Oct., 1828, and *Le Code penal*, by an order of the 29th Oct. of the same year. The law of the 22d April, 1832, modified by these two codes, has been applied to Martinique, by the law of 22d June, 1835.

The regulation of the customs at Martinique has not been as yet determined by any special act ; it is directed according to the old commercial regulations of the colonies, by the laws of customs made for the mother-country, according to the ordinances of 1681 and 1687, by letters patent of 1727, and by the laws of the 17th July, and 22nd August, 1791, and 28th April, 1799. These laws have not been promulgated in the colony ; but they conform to them in general, though they are sometimes made subservient to acts of local authority, notified by a decree of the governor of Martinique, dated 8th November, 1828, relative to seizures, and to compiling *procès-verbaux* of customs,

JUDICIAL ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

The judicial organization and the administration of justice are at present regulated at Martinique by a royal ordinance of the 14th September, 1828, modified, in some respects, by two subsequent ordinances of the 10th October, 1829, and 15th February, 1831.

Justice at Martinique is administered by tribunals of peace, by tribunals of the first order, a royal court, and two courts of assizes. The privy council, the committee of prizes, and the "council of war," take cognizance of matters which are especially allotted to them by the royal ordinance of the 9th February, 1827, relative to the government and administration of Martinique, and for the laws, ordinances, and rules in force in this colony.

The island of Martinique is divided into four cantons with justices of peace, whose chief residences are at Fort Royal, **Marin**, Trinity, and St. Pierre. Each of the four tribunals of peace is composed of a justice of the peace, *un suppléant*, and a clerk. The power of the tribunals of peace in the colony is regulated by an organic ordinance of the 14th September, 1828.

There are at Martinique two tribunals of the first order. The jurisdiction of the first comprises the cantons of Fort Royal and of **Marin** ; the seat of the tribunal is at Fort Royal.

The jurisdiction of the 2nd comprises the cantons of St. Pierre and Trinity ; the tribunal-seat is at **St. Pierre**.

Every tribunal of the first order is composed of a royal judge, of a deputy-judge, and of two judge advocates. There is in almost every tribunal a king's attorney, a deputy-king's attorney, a registrar, and a resident clerk.

The judge royal only presides in matters which are under the sur-

illiance of the tribunal of the first order. When he is unable to attend, he is succeeded in his duties by the deputy-judge.

The power of the tribunals of the first order is supported by an organic ordinance of the 14th September, 1828.

The number of cases brought before the tribunal of the first order, at Martinique, in 1833, appears to have been 2,204 ; namely, from St. Pierre, 1,240 ; from Fort Royal, 964. In comparing these numbers with the "General account of the administration of justice, civil and commercial, of France," for the same year, it has been found, that the tribunals of the first order in Martinique are often engaged in transactions as numerous and important as at any of the tribunals of continental France.

There is at Martinique a royal court, the seat of which is at Fort Royal. It is composed of nine counsellors, and of three audit-counsellors. There is also in the court an attorney-general, an assistant attorney-general, a registrar, and a resident clerk.

The power of the royal court is regulated by an organic ordinance of the 14th September, 1828.

From the 1st January, 1830, to the 31st December, 1836, 120 charges of the police were made at Martinique against the white inhabitants, and 332 against free coloured individuals.

The number of cases, civil, commercial, &c. inscribed in 1833 on the rolls of the Royal Court of Martinique, were 389 ; viz. cases civil and commercial, 147 ; cases relating to punishment, 98 ; cases tried, 144. In comparing these numbers with those of the same nature which appear in the general account of the administration of justice, civil and commercial, in France for the same year, we find that the Royal Court of Martinique occupies, with respect to the twenty-seven royal courts of the kingdom, the twenty-sixth rank for civil affairs, the twentieth rank for cases relating to punishment, the twenty-second ditto for cases (*mises les accusation*) ; that is to say, that two, six, and eight courts on the Continent are classed below it, as to the number of inscribed cases, although having occasionally double, and sometimes nearly treble of its own.

There are at Martinique two arrondissemens, with two courts of assizes, the seats of which are at Fort Royal. and St. Pierre. Each of them comprises the respective jurisdiction of the tribunal of the first order, in one or other of these two towns.

Each court of assizes is composed of three counsellors of the royal court, and of four members of the college of assessors, which is composed of sixty members of Martinique. The attorney-general, or his substitute, conducts the business at the court of assizes.

The members of the royal court and the assessors speak severally on the nature of the case in question, and on the application of punishment. From the 1st of January, 1830, to the 31st of December, 1836, the courts of assizes of Martinique have tried thirty cases against the white inhabitants, and 144 against free individuals of colour.

The number of cases tried by the two assize courts of Martinique were, in 1833, fifty-seven; namely, at Fort Royal, twenty-six; at St. Pierre, thirty-one. Of fifty-seven criminal cases judged at Martinique in 1833, forty have been followed by sentences of condemnation; of which eight for crimes against persons, thirty-two for crimes against property. To which may be added, twenty-four for various other crimes; of whom five were of European origin; fifteen free persons of colour of the ancient class of inhabitants; and four slaves. Grand total, sixty-four.

TRIALS OF THE COURT OF ASSIZES OF MARTINIQUE FOR 1833 :
Stating the Crime, the Class, and the Sex of the accused, condemned, and acquitted.

NATURE OF CRIMES.	Number of Cases of Accusation.	ACCUSED.				TOTAL.	ACQUITTED.				TOTAL.	CONDEMNED.				TOTAL.		
		Free People.		Slaves.			TOTAL.	Free People.		Slaves.		TOTAL.	Free People.		Slaves.			
		Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.			Men.	Women.	Men.			Women.	Men.	Women.		Men.	Women.
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS.																		
Poisoning	4	.	.	1	4	5	.	.	1	4	5	.	.	.	.
Murder	3	1	3	.	.	3	2	.	.	2	1	.	.	.	1			
Infanticide	1	1	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.
Accidental Homicide	1	1	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	1			
Wounding	7	5	3	1	7	11	2	1	3	6	1	.	4	.	5			
Rebellion	2	1	1	.	1	2	1	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	1			
Marrouage armé	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.
False Witnesses	1	.	1	.	.	1	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
	20	8	9	1	10	5	25	6	1	5	5	17	3	5	ii-			
	20	8	10		15	25	7	10	17	3	5	8						
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY.																		
Simple Theft	3	3	1	.	3	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	2	.	3			
Burglary	29	26	15	32	10	57	2	5	2	9	13	7	8	18				
Poisoning Animals	2	1	.	1	4	5	.	1	2	3	.	.	2	.	2			
Forgery in Commercial Transactions	1	1	1	1	.	2	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	2
False Money	1	.	.	.	1	1	2	.	1	1	2	.	.	.	.
Extortion	1	1	3	.	.	3	2	.	.	2	1	.	.	.	1			
	37	32	20	2	40	11	73	4	1	9	3	17	16	1	31			
	37	32	22		51	73	5	12	17	17	39	56						
Grand Total of the different Sorts of Crimes	57	40	29	3	50	16	68	10	2	14	8	54	19	1	36			
	57	40	32		66	38	12	22	34	20	44	64			I-			

In comparing these numbers **with** the population of the colony, the result appears to be :—one crime for 2,847 individuals of all classes.

Robbery, incendiarism, poisoning animals, and sometimes slaves, are the most general crimes committed by the negroes.

Annexed is a table of criminal condemnations, pronounced by the **Courts of Assizes** of Martinique against individuals of that class, from 1833 to 1835.

NATURE OF PUNISHMENT.	1833	1834	1835	Total.
Condemned to death	—	10	2	12
Condemned to corporal punishments, &c	40	25	39	104
Condemned to prison	4	5	3	12
	44	40	44	128

From January 1st, 1830, to December, 31st, 1836, 246 criminal decrees were issued against slaves.

In 1836, no condemnation to death had taken place in Martinique.

From 1833 to 1836, the number of slaves condemned judicially to corporal punishment or imprisonment were as follows :—

NATURE OF PUNISHMENT.	1833	1834	1835	1836	Tot.
Condemned to imprisonment			2	5 4 2	13
Condemned to corporal punishment		5	4	4 2	15
Total.....	7	9	8	4	28

The royal ordinance of the 15th February, 1831, provided that henceforth the profession of advocate should be freely exercised in the French colonies, according to the rules and regulations in force in the mother-country ; but it at the same time provided that they should preserve the title-deeds of their offices from the time of the promulgation of the ordinance ; so that they might equally have the power of exercising the profession of advocate.

On the 1st of January, 1834, Martinique possessed 17 passed advocates, 4 studying for advocates, and 14 solicitors, having a right to plead as advocates. The number of solicitors at Martinique is seated at 18 ; 8 of whom are in the arrondissement of Fort Royal, and 10 in that of St. Pierre. There are no solicitors “ specially ” attached to the

Royal Court ; those of the tribunals of the first order are generally all competitors for it.

MILITARY FORCES.

The military forces of Martinique are composed, 1. of troops of the garrison ; 2. of bodies of gens d'armes on horseback ; 3. of local military ; two regiments of marine infantry, bearing numbers 1 and 2, have been specially raised for the ordinary service of the garrisons of the French colonies, by a royal ordinance of the 14th May, 1831. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd battalions of the 2nd regiment, form the garrison of Martinique.

These regiments are recruited, as those of the land-army, by annual nomination and voluntary enlistments.

The regulations announce the pay and indemnities, and supplementary distributions of food.

The effective service in the colonies is considered beneficial to the country on account of the retirements and the military rewards. The effective troops, intended to form the garrison of Martinique, was fixed thus for the year 1836 :—

STAFF (Etat-Major)	Officers.	Sub-Off. and Soldiers.	Total.
General staff at the fortresses.....	4	—	4
Special staff of artillery.....	2	3	5
Special staff of fortification.....	1	3	4
	7	6	13
TROOPS.			
Infantry.....*	77	1696	1773
Artillery of marine {	Gunners.....	200	209
	Assistants.....	25	23
Total	86	1921	2007
Grand Total	93	1927	2020

The numerous alterations introduced for several years successively in the diet, clothing, and lodgings of the soldiers have had the most beneficial effects on the health of the troops. From a calculation made during a period of five years (from 1831 to 1835), the mortality amongst the troops at Martinique is not more than $6\frac{44}{100}$ on every 100 ; it was formerly more than double this number,

The gens d'armes of Martinique is composed of 3 officers, and 97 non-commissioned officers and gens d'armes. Independently of this corps there is at Martinique two brigades of chasseurs de montagues,