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3.

## FURTHER PAPERS

RELATING TO THE TREATMENT

OF

## SLAVES IN THE COLONIES:

(St. Christopher's.)

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*Ordered, by the House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*28 May 1818.*

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## LIST OF PAPERS.

Presented to the House of Commons, in consequence of an Address to His Royal Highness The Prince Regent, voted on the 22d May 1817;—*for*,

## A COPY OF THE CORRESPONDENCE

Which has passed between the Governor of the Island of SAINT CHRISTOPHER and the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department; relative to the Trial of the Reverend *Henry Rawlins*, for Murder:—*viz.*

- 1.—Extract of Letter from Governor Probyn to Earl Bathurst, dated St. Kitt's, 17 October 1817 - - - - - p. 3
- 2.—Copy of Letter from Governor Probyn to the Bishop of London, dated 20 November 1817 - - - - - *ibid.*
- 3.—Copy of Letter from Earl Bathurst to Governor Probyn, dated 10 January 1818, *ibid.*
- 4.—Extract of Letter from Earl Bathurst to Governor Probyn, dated 10 January 1818 (separate) - - - - - p. 4
- 5.—Copy of Letter from Governor Probyn to Earl Bathurst, dated 21 March 1818, with Two Enclosures. - - - - - *ibid.*
  - Evidence on the Trial of Creole Jack, a slave belonging to Hutchinson's Estate, the property of Henry Rawlins, Esq. - - - - - p. 5
  - Evidence on the Trial of the Rev. W. H. Rawlins, for the murder of a slave - - - - - p. 8
- 6.—Extract of Letter from Governor Probyn to Earl Bathurst, dated 18 March 1818 (separate) - - - - - p. 10
- 7.—Extract of Letter from Governor Probyn to Earl Bathurst, dated 19 March 1818 (separate) - - - - - *ibid.*

Colonial Department,  
Downing-street, May 27, 1818. }

HENRY GOULBURN.

—3.—

## FURTHER PAPERS

Relating to the Treatment of Slaves in the Colonies.

(St. Christopher's.)

—1.—

Extract of a Letter from Governor Probyn, to Earl Bathurst;  
dated St. Kitt's, October 17th, 1817.

A REPORT being circulated that a Slave on an estate on this Island, belonging to Mr. Henry Rawlins of Nevis, had died in consequence of cruel treatment and severity, the magistrates took every step to inform themselves of the same; and after having thoroughly investigated the matter, found sufficient proof against the manager of the estate; and he was tried for *murder*; but after a long trial, the jury brought in their verdict guilty of *manslaughter*; and he was sentenced, three months imprisonment, and fined two hundred pounds; but acquitted him of the murder.

I have acquainted the Bishop of London with the same; and here, with every deference and submission to your Lordship, I cannot but express to your Lordship, my opinion, that clergymen should not be allowed to act as managers on any estates. I have also thought it proper to give your Lordship the result of the trial, lest any incorrect account might be taken to England.

—2.—

My Lord,

Saint Christopher's, 20th Nov' 1817.

AN unhappy occurrence which has taken place in St. Christopher's, induces me to trespass on your Lordship's attention.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> William Henry Rawlins, a clergyman, ordained I believe by your Lordship, has been convicted of manslaughter, for the death of a slave under his management, as director of a plantation in this Island, occasioned by severe ill usage. Mr. Rawlins has no benefice; yet as Governor of this colony, which is considered to be within your Lordship's diocese, and superintendence, I have thought it necessary to make you acquainted with the circumstance.

I have the honor to be, &amp;c.

To the Lord Bishop of London.

(Signed) *Tho' Probyn.*

—3.—

Sir,

Downing-street, 10th January 1818.

I have received your letter of the 17th October, in which you have noticed the trial of the reverend Mr. Rawlins, for the murder of a slave, and his subsequent conviction of manslaughter; and I am to desire, that you will furnish me, as soon as possible, with full and detailed minutes of the evidence delivered on the trial.

I am, &amp;c.

Gov' Probyn.

*Bathurst.*

(Separate.)

— 4. —

Extract of a Letter from Earl Bathurst to Governor Probyn,  
dated Downing-street, January 10th, 1818.

“ My Dispatch of this date, will convey to you my desire that the minutes of Mr. Rawlins’ trial should be sent home; and I think it desirable that you should know, by a separate communication, what is reported concerning that business; as your dispatch seems not to consider the transaction in so very serious a light, as it must be considered, if the accounts which have been by private channels given of it are true.

“ It is stated, that there was a previous trial, in which it appeared that Mr. Rawlins had endeavoured to cast the crime upon the Driver; that he had induced some slaves to swear against the driver, whose life would have been forfeited, had he been found guilty; and that he was acquitted by some of their testimony being contradicted, and the rest acknowledged by the slaves themselves to have been false.

“ It is further stated, that the body of the unfortunate victim was buried without any coroner’s inquest, in direct violation of the law of the Island, in cases (as this was) where a slave dies without having been attended, previous to his death, by a medical person;—on the whole, it is stated to have been proved, that the most horrid cruelties had been inflicted on this unfortunate individual. The Jury found Mr. Rawlins guilty of manslaughter. If this statement be true, or in any way approaching to truth, Mr. Rawlins could not have been guilty of manslaughter; it must have been murder, or an Acquittal.”

— 5. —

My Lord,

St. Christopher’s, March 21, 1818.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship’s letter of the 10th January, N<sup>o</sup> 28, desiring to be furnished with Minutes of the Evidence delivered on the trial of the Reverend Mr. Rawlins.

Upon this subject, I beg leave to state, for your Lordship’s information, that in the month of September last, information having been given to a gentleman of the island, by a slave belonging to Hutchinson’s estate, that a negro man had died there in the field, after having been recently severely punished, and that he had been buried without any inquest being taken; that gentleman thought it his duty to communicate the intelligence he had received to one of the Judges of the court of King’s Bench and Common Pleas of the Island.

A meeting of the Judges took place in consequence; at which the Attorney and Solicitor General were desired to attend, when it was determined that the justices of peace should go to the estate with a coroner and medical gentlemen, with directions to have the body taken up and examined, and to cause an inquest to be taken on view of it. This was done accordingly; and the inquest, with the depositions of the medical men as to the appearance of the body, was returned to the proper office.

The crown officers not being satisfied with the verdict of the coroner’s jury, obtained a warrant for the apprehending of the manager and overseer of the estate, in order that they might be examined touching the death of the slave.

Their examinations were taken, and several of the negroes belonging to the estate were also examined before the justices of the peace. From the examination of a slave called “ Tom Titley,” who had been chained to the deceased, the magistrate thought there was ground for prosecuting *Creole Jack*, the driver, for the murder of the deceased. The prosecution was conducted by the Attorney and Solicitor General; and the prisoner was acquitted. Minutes of the trial of *Creole Jack* are sent herewith.

The Attorney and Solicitor General also thought it proper to present a Bill to the Grand Jury, against the Reverend *William Henry Rawlins*, the manager of the estate, for murder of the slave. The Grand Jury found the Bill for murder.

Mr.

## Christopher's.] TREATMENT OF SLAVES IN THE COLONIES. 5

Mr. Rawlins was arraigned, and tried for Murder. The Jury acquitted him of the murder, but found him guilty of Manslaughter. The prisoner prayed the benefit of the statute; and was sentenced to three months imprisonment in the common gaol, and to pay a fine of two hundred pounds current money.

The Minutes of Evidence given on this trial are also sent herewith.

I have, &c.

To the Right Honourable  
the Earl Bathurst,  
&c. &c. &c.

*Tho' Probyn,*  
Cap' Gen'.

(1.—In Governor Probyn's, of 21st March 1818.)

EVIDENCE on the Trial of *Creole Jack*, a Slave belonging to Hutchinson's Estate, the property of Henry Rawlins, Esq. on the 27th day of September 1817.

1st. *Eugene Moriarty*, sworn; said, He is the overseer, and lives upon Hutchinson's Estate; has lived there six months; knew Congo Jack; he is dead; died about three weeks ago: does not know the circumstances under which he died; heard he was punished before he died, and saw him cart-whipped; the cart whipping was inflicted on the morning of his death, before breakfast, between seven and eight o'clock; punished by the order of the Rev. Mr. Rawlins, the manager; saw him receive nine or ten lashes; the punishment was continued after witness went away; heard the lashes after he went away; did not reckon the lashes, and cannot say upon his oath how many lashes deceased received; the punishment continued two or three minutes; was punished because he would not work; alleged, as a reason for not working, that he was sick and hungry; deceased was lying on the ground; was not thrown down; was not made to lie down, and was not held down; cannot say particularly whether he was thrown down, as he could not distinguish all that was passing in a gang of negroes; Mr. Rawlins desired him to be flogged; the witness saw him after he was flogged; he looked very well, and able to do his work; he was not held down to be punished; saw him afterwards at his work; observed no bruise on his face, or any blood; saw no violence used by any person on that day, except the punishment aforesaid; saw him at twelve o'clock the same day, and he appeared very well; did not appear overcome with his work; no violence was used to him by any person at that time; he was under the direction of Big Stephen at that time; he had been before under the direction of *Creole Jack*; saw him afterwards at the sick house, and the sick nurse told witness deceased was dead; did not examine deceased; did not see any marks of violence on deceased; he was covered; he was buried; he was buried by two negroes, Bourke and Philip, by direction of Mr. Rawlins he supposes; was buried behind the boiling-house under a tamarind tree; there was no examination of deceased that witness heard of; the deceased had been absent from the estate as a runaway; was brought home the Wednesday preceding his death, and was locked up in the stocks; on Thursday morning he went to his work; did not see him punished on Thursday; saw him at 12 o'clock; did not observe that he had been punished; had his clothes on; did not observe any indications of punishment; heard he was flogged in the morning, but when witness saw him, did not observe that he was; does not know if deceased had had his allowance when he complained of being sick and hungry; witness does not share the allowance; when deceased was brought home, he was put in the stocks, with one foot in; he was not chained on the night he was brought home; he was chained on the next day to another man who had run away; chained with a single chain to Tom Titley; when he was flogged on Friday he had a jacket on, and a piece of bamboo reaching to his knees; does not know whether the bamboo was taken off; cannot say it was; does not think his jacket was taken off; there was no free man present at the flogging; saw one after the flogging; his name was William Sprott; saw him speaking to Mr. Rawlins immediately after the flogging, at the boiling-house door; he was flogged by *Creole Jack* and another driver; *Creole Jack* was flogging him when the other driver was called; both were flogging deceased at the same time; the prisoner, *Creole Jack*, is a driver; knows of no grudge between the deceased and the prisoner; saw the deceased dug up; saw a blow on his eye, and the marks of a stick on his breast; did not observe any blows on him of  
that

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that nature after he was flogged; the marks on his breast were black; deceased was not perfect black; he had a yellow cast; deceased did not struggle while he was flogging; was not held down when he was flogged; saw no other violence used than that described; there were two gangs working on the day of the deceased's death, one under Stephen and the other under Creole Jack the prisoner; Stephen told witness, that deceased had drank a quantity of water, which occasioned the deceased's death; saw Sprott speak to Mr. Rawlins after the flogging of deceased, and not before; he is certain of this, and did not see him on the estate before the flogging, but heard he was upon the estate; Sprott spoke to Mr. Rawlins, and walked away; does not know whether Sprott then went off the estate; no medical man called in to deceased, to deponent's knowledge; such a thing might have happened without the knowledge of the deponent.

*Examined by Mr. Caines.*—On Wednesday deceased was brought home at night and put in the stocks; on Thursday he did not see deceased flogged, but heard that he was; saw him flogged on Friday by two drivers; prisoner bore no grudge to the deceased; never knew prisoner beat deceased without his master's order; Stephen told witness, that deceased drank a quantity of water, which occasioned his death; does not know if deceased was bathed by the sick nurse after his flogging; does not know if other negroes were bathed by the sick nurse after flogging.—On Friday saw deceased, after he was flogged, going to his work; saw deceased after four o'clock in the afternoon; deceased got nine or ten blows between the two drivers; went to the boiling-house to see melasses taken out; the negro took the melasses up with a pail with a long handle, the man was obliged to scrape the melasses up; the punishment continued while the melasses were taking up, but was finished before the melasses were taken out; when witness last saw deceased, he was going under the direction of Big Stephen; never observed any cruelty or barbarity in prisoner's conduct; knows a woman of the name of Cloe; there were two Cloe's; knows no woman named Caroline; knows a man named Atty, was buried behind the boiling-house; knew a boy named James, he died at the same time with Atty, and buried in the same place; knew Prince, he is dead; prisoner not accused of his death; knows nothing of Sue and Bell; has been on the estate about six months; is certain that he did not see William Sprott until after the flogging; did not hear William Sprott ordered away from the ground where the flogging took place.

2d. *William Sprott* sworn:—said, He lives in Old Road, is a shoemaker by trade; was present at Hutchinson's estate on a Friday, about the 5th September; does not know if a negro, called Congo Jack, was flogged, or any other; went to Mr. Rawlins to obtain a warrant, saw him at the boiling-house door, no one present but he and Mr. Rawlins; knows Mr. Moriarty, does not know if he was present with Mr. Rawlins, and if he had been there he must have seen him; does not know what time it was in the morning; there were no negroes out with Mr. Rawlins; he went for a warrant, and Mr. Rawlins said he could not attend to him, he had his own business to do; went immediately from the boilinghouse-door from the estate to Old Road; saw prisoner following the negroes, who were carrying out dung; did not see the prisoner at the boiling-house-door, did not stop a minute at the door; heard a cracking of a whip in the pen, cannot rightly say how long the cracking lasted, may have lasted a minute, appeared to have been in the pen; heard the cracking of a whip, heard the noise of a whip before he spoke to Mr. Rawlins, it lasted about a minute, the sound of the whip was in the direction of the pen; heard no cracking of the whip after he left Mr. Rawlins; never had any conversation, in which he told any one that he had seen or heard a flogging on that day; it was before the witness's breakfast-time, it was before the negroes broke off for breakfast-time.

*Examined by Mr. Caines.*—Never saw Mr. Henry Sprott since he went to William Henry Rawlins, until this day.

3d. *Charlotte*, a slave, sworn:—said, She belongs to Hutchinson's estate, and is the sick nurse; knew Congo Jack; he is dead; he had run away; was brought home on Thursday; was brought home two days before his death; did not hear him make any complaint; next morning was taken out to work, and Mr. Rawlins gave him a few lashes; she boiled the food and gave it him; he had his breakfast on Friday from witness; witness was not present when he died; she

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she was out buying things, and when she came back, found deceased dead in sick-house; saw a blow on his eye and a scratch near his mouth, like a lick; knows of no other blows given to deceased but those she has described.

*Examined by Mr. Caines.*—Deceased was not bathed by witness, because he did not complain; the last person she bathed was her brother, named George; every thing she has said is true; does not know how deceased came by his death; knows of no lashes but those given by order of Mr. Rawlins; Jack Creole flogged deceased; she gave deceased his breakfast on the morning he died, but he did not complain of any thing; when deceased came home, his skin shone, by which is meant that he was in good health; knows of the death of Cloe; she died in the field when she was tying canes; she was witness's sister-in-law.

*Tom Titley*, sworn:—said, He was born in this Island, and is a slave belonging to Hutchinson; was on the estate when Congo Jack was brought home; was brought home two days before his death; saw him, and did not hear him complain of any thing being the matter with him; he was put into the stocks; staid there till next morning; was flogged next day by the prisoner; no one else flogged him that day; prisoner had orders to flog deceased by Mr. Rawlins; deceased was flogged with a long cart-whip; does not know how many licks he got; was flogged next day; does not know by whose directions; was chained to deceased on Thursday before breakfast; was put into the sick house at night with the deceased; next day, the negroes were carrying dung, when Jack ran them all down; he began to lick Congo Jack; does not know what he licked him for; licked him with a cart-whip; did not count the licks; licked him with a cart-whip all the time he was carrying dung; deceased cried out that he could not go any more, he was sick; he called out for water; he lay down in the field, and could not do any thing; lived until the negroes went for cow meat; was chained with witness when he died; prisoner beat deceased with a stick which drivers walk with; he had his whip round his neck; beat deceased with a stick on his head, on his shoulders, on his side, on his back; did not strike deceased in the mouth; neither Mr. Rawlins nor Mr. Moriarty were present; Mr. Moriarty was not present when prisoner struck deceased with the stick; no one else struck the deceased but the prisoner; witness did not see Billy Sprott that morning or on that day; prisoner and deceased had no quarrel; does not know what prisoner beat deceased for; after the decease of Congo Jack, Mr. Rawlins examined his body, and his skin began to bark off; the overseer was not present; deceased was buried the same night; he was buried by Bourke and Philip almost at night; he was chained to deceased when he died. The deceased called for water, but he died before it came; the licks killed deceased; Mr. Rawlins asked Big Stephen what was the matter with deceased, and he said he did not know.

*Examined by Mr. Caines.*—Big Stephen did not beat deceased; witness has a cut over his eye, which he got in running; he was flogged for running away; the nurse bathed witness two nights after he was flogged; Big Stephen did not flog deceased on the day of his death; prisoner carried dung with the gang before breakfast; Mr. Rawlins took the whip from Creole Jack, and drove the gang for half an hour; Mr. Rawlins returned the whip to prisoner, and told him to drive them so; prisoner drove the gang like his master; drove them all the same.

*Mary Ann*, sworn.—Said, Congo Jack was brought home on Wednesday; was put in the dungeon in the sick house; nothing was done to deceased on Thursday; Mr. Rawlins made Jack lick deceased for running away; the day deceased died, he lay down in the path, and laid down his basket, and prisoner licked him to make him budge up; did not see deceased die; they were sent off for cow meat; did not see Creole Jack beat the deceased any more than to make him budge up.

*H. Sprott*, sworn.—Said, he knew the prisoner from his infancy; a very good boy; left him in the house when he quitted, with a recommendation to continue him in Mr. Rawlins's service.

The Prisoner was acquitted.



(2.—In Governor Probyn's, of the 21st March 1818.)

EVIDENCE on the Trial of the Rev. *W. H. Rawlins*, for Murder of a Slave at St. Christopher's, 16th October 1817.

1st.—*Eugene Moriarty*, sworn; said, He is overseer on Hutchinson's estate; was living there as overseer at the time of the death of Congo Jack.

Mr. Rawlins, the prisoner, was then manager of that estate; Congo Jack was brought home as a runaway on the Wednesday immediately preceding his death; he died on Friday the 5th of September; Mr. Rawlins and the witness were both on the estate at the time Congo Jack was brought home; Congo Jack was put into the stocks by Mr. Rawlins's order; the stocks are adjoining the sick-house; the deceased was not put in chains on Wednesday night, but the next morning he was chained to another slave, called Tom Tittley, by Mr. Rawlins's order; Tom Tittley was chained for having run away; the witness understood Congo Jack was flogged on Thursday by Mr. Rawlins's order, but he cannot say to what extent; he was not present; Congo Jack was locked up that night; he continued chained to Tom Tittley; he did not complain of any thing ailing him on Wednesday or Thursday, but appeared to be in good health; he worked at his usual employment on Thursday; he went into the field at about five o'clock in the morning; the witness cannot tell when Congo Jack left off work on Thursday; he did not leave off work on that day at noon, when the other negroes did; the witness saw him at work in the afternoon with the rest of the negroes when they had turned out; he was locked up on Thursday night, and continued chained to Tom Tittley; the negroes turned out to work between five and six o'clock on Friday morning, and the deceased turned out with them; he was cart-whipped between seven and eight o'clock that morning, by Mr. Rawlins's orders, because he would not do his work; he said he was sick and hungry; he was cart-whipped first by a driver of the name of Creole Jack, and then by another driver called Big Stephen; Creole Jack was first flogging him, and then Big Stephen was called; they both flogged him together; he was chained to Tom Tittley at the time he was flogged; the witness saw Congo Jack afterwards at four o'clock in the afternoon; he was then dead; the witness was not present when he died; heard that he died in the field: the witness did not inquire into the occasion of his death, or examine his body; the witness did not hear that any medical man examined his body; he was buried on Friday evening; the witness did not hear of his having any quarrel with any of the other slaves; he the witness was on the estate when the coroner and magistrates had the body dug up; he then saw the mark of a blow on his breast, and another on his eye; they appeared to be the marks of violent contusions; the witness did not go near enough the body to observe any more; Mr. Rawlins was present on Friday when the deceased was flogged; he the witness saw nine or ten given by both drivers; he the witness was not present during the whole time of the flogging; he went away into the boiling-house; he went there to give out molasses; he heard the whip going while he was in the boiling-house; he was there about ten minutes; he heard the whip going for about two minutes after he went into the boiling-house.

*Cross examined by the Prisoner's counsel.*—He said, he saw Congo Jack after he was whipped; he saw no bruises on his eye or breast then; his jacket and bamboo were on when he was whipped; he the witness went into the boiling house of his own accord, was not sent there; he saw Congo Jack at work after he had been flogged, he appeared to work very well for part of the day; he had run away about three or four months; he was not chained the first night; he was afterwards chained to prevent his running away; does not know if had his food on Thursday; he did not complain of not having had it; it is usual for the people who are locked up, to have their food prepared for them by the sick nurse, it is her business to do so. The witness has reason to believe the confined people had their provisions on Thursday from the sick nurse; Congo Jack was flogged in the pen, Big Stephen and Creole Jack were both in the pen; Big Stephen was not sent for for the purpose of flogging the deceased; Creole Jack was a man of good character. Witness never heard the prisoner give directions to beat the slaves with sticks or cudgels; direct

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directs them to be flogged; the prisoner would not have tolerated Creole Jack's beating them with a cudgel. The witness did not when in the boiling house, hear any violent screams of the deceased when he was punished; he did not hear that Congo Jack was complaining on Thursday; did not observe that the deceased appeared sick on Friday. Negroes are apt to complain of being sick when about to be punished. There were about 50 negroes employed carrying out dung; he thinks they ought to have done more work than was performed. The negroes have their breakfast regularly; it was not withheld from Congo Jack; does not think the prisoner would give such an order. The deceased was an hearty man, as able to work as any of the negroes; as stout as Tom Tittley; the gang did not complain of being over worked. Witness did not hear Mr. Rawlins give directions to Creole Jack or Big Stephen to punish any of the negroes excessively; he never heard Mr. Rawlins tell Creole Jack, that if he did not punish the deceased he would punish him; he did not hear the prisoner make use of any angry expressions towards Congo Jack; when he caused him to be flogged in the pen, it was to make him do his work. The witness thinks Mr. Rawlins is not a man to make a slave work beyond his strength or the danger of his life. When the deceased was punished in the pen, he was not held down; the punishment was not of a cruel nature, from what he saw of it. Witness saw the deceased after nine o'clock, and again at eleven. When he saw the deceased at 11 o'clock, he did not appear as strong as in the morning. The witness did not remain long with the gang; when the deceased was flogged in the pen, it was to make him get up.

*William Sprott.*—On the 5th of September witness was on Hutchinson's estate between 7 and 8 o'clock; did not see any person punished; went up to the great house, and was told Mr. Rawlins was in the boiling-house, where he went down and saw him; went for a warrant, which Mr. Rawlins told him he could not give him, as he had his business to do; could see the pen; Mr. Rawlins was standing at the boiling-house; does not know if any one was punished; heard the cart-whip about a minute; all the sound of the cart-whip he heard was when he was there, was what he has mentioned; heard no noise of any person being punished; no screaming or crying.

*Doctor Thomas O'Maley.*—Was called upon on the 9th September to attend a coroner's inquest on Hutchinson's, and did attend in consequence; reached the estate at about 12 or 1 o'clock; was accompanied by Doctor Swanston, and they met Doctor Clifton at the estate; deceased was taken out of the grave and examined by witness; had several marks, one on his right eye, one on the right jaw, one on the right arm, one on the right breast, one on the right side of the belly, and some on his thighs; there might have been others, but those described were the most remarkable; two of his teeth were broken; they were recently broken; did not dissect the body to examine the stomach; the contusions must have been severe; the body was in a state of putrefaction; could not ascertain the precise cause of the deceased's death.

*Cross examined by the Prisoner's Counsel.*—Is of opinion that some of the blows given, must have been inflicted by some other instrument than a cart-whip; hunger does not usually accompany sickness; did not discover any marks to account for the death of the deceased; there is an intimate connection between the surface and the vital parts; but witness is not prepared to say, whether the state of the deceased's body, from the blows that he appeared to have received, occasioned his death; keeping up a constant irritation, both of mind and body, may occasion death; does not know of an instance of sudden death happening by taking a quantity of cold water into the stomach, but he cannot deny the possibility of such an event.

THIS was all the Evidence on the part of the Crown; the Prisoner produced none; the Jury acquitted him of Murder, but found him guilty of Manslaughter.

(Separate.)

—6.—

EXTRACT OF A LETTER from Governor Probyn to Earl Bathurst,  
dated St. Kitt's, March 18th, 1818.

“ IN respect to the business of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Rawlins, my Lord, it is nearly as your Lordship describes ; but in the beginning, after it was found that the slave had been buried without an inquest, and some reports in circulation of ill usage, the magistrates went down to the estate, had the body taken up, examined by two surgeons ; when several marks of violence appeared on him, an inquest sat, and, to the astonishment of every person, they gave it in, “ Died by the visitation of God.” This circumstance gave me great uneasiness ; and I determined that a more strict investigation should be made, in order to bring Mr. Rawlins to a trial ; but on speaking to the Attorney General, he informed me, that steps were already taken for that purpose. In the mean time the driver, who had absconded, gave himself up to justice ; was tried ; and acquitted. A true bill having been found by the Grand Jury, immediately after this, against the Reverend Mr. Rawlins, he was brought to trial, and found guilty of Manslaughter ; was sentenced, three months imprisonment in the gaol of Basseterre, and to pay a fine of Two hundred Pounds. Had he been found guilty of the murder, which I had little doubt he would be, I have no hesitation in saying, he would have received no mercy from me, where he had shown so little ; and had he possessed any benefice in these islands, I should at once have deprived him of it. Since the time of his confinement has elapsed, he has not been noticed by any individual, excepting his own father.”

(Separate.)

—7.—

EXTRACT OF A LETTER from Governor Probyn to Earl Bathurst,  
dated St. Kitt's, March 19, 1818.

“ UPON reading over again your Lordship's letter, I find I have omitted replying to one very essential part of it, in the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Rawlins's business, relating to the trial of the Driver having taken place previous to his. It did so, my Lord ; and the circumstances were nearly as follows :—At the time the negro died in the field, he was chained to another slave, who after the inquiry being made, how the deceased came by the contusions on his head, and other bruises, said, It was in consequence of the driver having punished him so unmercifully ; on which the driver left the estate ; and upon the trial the slave gave the same testimony, and I am well informed that nothing came out on the trial, from which it could be inferred that the master had induced the witness to appear against him.”

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3.

**FURTHER PAPERS**

RELATING TO THE TREATMENT

OF

**SLAVES IN THE COLONIES:**

(St. Christopher's.)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
28 May 1818.*

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