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SLAVE TRADE.

Further RETURN to an Address of the Honourable House of Commons,
dated 12th February 1827;—*for*,

COPIES OR EXTRACTS

Of any Correspondence respecting the Slave Trade,
received from the Governor of the *Mauritius*, and not
already laid before the House.

(MAURITIUS CORRESPONDENCE.)

[*Supplemental Paper to N° 68; ordered to be Printed, 15 February 1827.*]

Colonial Department,
Downing-street,
5th March 1827. }

R. J. WILMOT HORTON.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
8 March 1827.*

Copy of DEPOSITION of Private *Richard Storey*, of the 82d Regiment of Foot; enclosed in a Letter received from Lieut. Gen. the Honourable Sir *G. L. Cole*, dated 4 September 1826.

RICHARD STOREY, formerly a corporal, but now a private in the 82d regiment of foot, stationed at Mauritius, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith, That to the best of his recollection, about the middle of the month of January 1821, he (being then a corporal) commanded a party of his regiment (consisting of privates *James Scott*, *P. Sullivan* and *John Hunt*, (now deceased) and which latter was replaced by *C. Alcock*) who were stationed at the post of Pass St. Martin upon the Belle Ombre estate, where deponent and his party remained till about the beginning of April following, when they were relieved from said Pass St. Martin, and returned to the post of Jacoté; and that about three weeks afterwards, said deponent (with privates *David Evans* and *Thomas Viners*) took charge of the post of Baie du Cap, where he, deponent, remained about a fortnight only, having been relieved in consequence of illness.—That one day, during the period the deponent was stationed at the post of Baie du Cap, the wind blowing fresh, he perceived a suspicious looking schooner beating off the coast between Jacoté and Baie du Cap; and that he, deponent, immediately proceeded to Jacoté, and reported the same to his officer, Captain Bence, who observed that he had also seen her, and ordered deponent to return to his post at the Baie du Cap, and keep his men upon the alert.—That he arrived again at his post of Baie du Cap, about six o'clock the same afternoon, and towards dusk in the evening the said schooner appeared coming closer towards the reef, where there is an entrance between Belle Ombre and Baie du Cap, and remained tacking about nearly two hours and a half, when she stood off towards Morne Brabant.—That, from a rock near deponent's post, and it being moonlight, he saw said schooner returning from Morne Brabant, but that she stood out to sea, and he, deponent, entirely lost sight of her.—That the said schooner was not near enough for deponent to hail her, neither did he order his men to fire at or over her, nor did he see any boat land from her, or attempt to land from her. That he knew the schooner, then called the Belle Ombre schooner, and that he, deponent, was sufficiently near to the suspicious schooner to declare his belief that the suspicious schooner was not the schooner known by the name of the Belle Ombre schooner; and that whilst he was stationed as aforesaid, he always visited the said Belle Ombre schooner on her coming in, and never upon any occasion met with any difficulty or obstacle whatever to his said visits on the part of any one.—That deponent has no knowledge or suspicion whatever, that any new slaves were landed on that part of the coast while he was stationed there; and that on the occasion referred to, of the suspicious schooner, he, deponent, made no report to Mr. Blancard, the civil commissary of the district; and that the only communication he
ever

THE SLAVE TRADE AT MAURITIUS.

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ever recollects to have made to that officer was upon another occasion, when a large boat having been absent from its moorings near deponent's post during the night, he reported the same to Mr. Blancard, who replied that he had himself given such permission, to enable the boat in question to take in wood further up the river. That deponent's officer (Captain Bence) generally visited his post every week; a written report being also made to his said officer every Saturday, and a special report being made upon every particular occasion, such as on the occasion of the schooner mentioned in the deponent's deposition,

(signed)

Rich^d Storey.

Sworn before me at Mahébourg Mauritius,
this sixteenth day of August 1826.

(signed)

John Finnis,
Act^s Chief Com^r of Police,

SLAVE TRADE.

FURTHER RETURN

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