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PROTECTORS OF SLAVES REPORTS.

RETURN to an Address to HIS MAJESTY, dated 15 December 1830;—for

COPY OF ANY REPORTS

WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED

FROM THE PROTECTORS OF SLAVES

IN THE COLONIES OF

Demerara, Berbice, Trinidad, St. Lucia, the Cape of Good Hope and Mauritius,

Since the last similar REPORTS presented to Parliament from each of these Colonies respectively; together with Copies of the Proceedings and Decisions in each case of Complaint between Masters and Slaves, whether the Proceedings may have terminated before the Protector, or may have been referred to Colonial Magistrates, or other Public Officers or Courts.

PART VI.—MAURITIUS.

Colonial Department, }
Downing-street, }
3 March 1831. }

HOWICK.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
10 March 1831.

SCHEDULE.

PART VI.—MAURITIUS.

No.

- 1.—Copy of a Despatch from Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B. to Secretary Sir George Murray; dated 3d September 1829: (Seven Enclosures) - - p. 3
 - 2.—Copy of a Despatch from Viscount Goderich to Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B.; dated 15th January 1831 - - - - - p. 84
 - 3.—Copy of a Despatch from the same to the same; dated 15th January 1831 - p. 90
 - 4.—Copy of a Despatch from Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Colville to Sir G. Murray; dated 25th January 1830: (13 Enclosures) - - - - - p. 97
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 PROTECTORS OF SLAVES REPORTS.

 PART VI.—MAURITIUS.

N^o 1.

DESPATCH from Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B. to Secretary
Sir George Murray, &c. &c. &c.

(With Seven Enclosures.)

Sir,

Mauritius, 3d September 1829.

THE regular period of the year having arrived, at which the Protector of Slaves is directed to make up his Report of the duties performed by him in the six months preceding, I have thought it desirable that, although the office had existed here but little more than three, the Report should still be furnished up to the 24th of June; and have now the honour to transmit the same, with its explanatory documents, in number 13. I further do myself the honour of inclosing to you a Return, which it was not within the functions of the Protector to furnish, being one stating the whole of the manumissions which have taken place under this government within the last 12 months, and which I trust cannot fail of being satisfactory to you.

In respect of the Protector of Slaves himself, I beg to be allowed to express myself as assured of the zeal and correctness of intention with which he is carrying on the duties of an office in which every thing is quite new to him; and as hoping that, unfavourable as his Report is in some particulars, it may, even on his part, be considered as holding out the prognostic of improvement; while, on my own, I entertain not the least apprehension that the succeeding ones will become more and more creditable to the colony.

For what I have to say in explanation of such opinion, it appears to me that the mode of giving my remarks upon the distinct paragraphs of the Report may be the most desirable one to you, and in that idea I have the honour to annex a Paper in that form.

The transmission of this despatch having been unavoidably delayed until the present time, I am enabled to inclose, for the information of his Majesty's Government, an Ordinance, No. 49, which has passed the council and been promulgated in this colony, being to correct an error in the 21st Article of the French version of Ordinance, No. 43. (See remarks on paragraph of Protector's Report, No. 14.)

I take advantage of the same occasion to apprise you, that on the representation of the Protector of Slaves, that the employment of a third clerk in his office was indispensably necessary, I have authorized Mr. Thomas to engage one at a salary of 7*l.* a month, over and above the establishment reported to you in my despatch of the 22d of February last, No. 11; and I have further the honour to acquaint you, that in consequence of the accompanying correspondence which has passed between the Protector of Slaves, the Chief Judge, the Procureur-general and myself, I have allowed Mr. Thomas to employ an *avoué* (to be paid by Government) in all cases, where such legal assistance shall be requisite, in order the better to enable the Protector to defend the interests of his clients, the slave population. (See remarks on paragraph of Report, No. 20.)

The Procureur-general having now furnished the explanations which I had called for through the Chief Judge, in consequence of the observations contained

No. 1,
with 13 Papers of
Reference.
No. 2.

No. 3.

No. 4.

No. 5.

in the 8th and 9th paragraphs of the Protector's Report, copies of my letter to Mr. Blackburn, and of his Honour's reply, and the originals of M. Foisy's explanations are herewith forwarded.

Nos. 6 & 7.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
(signed) *Charles Colville.*

REPORT of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves, to His Excellency Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B. Governor and Commander-in-Chief, &c. &c. from 20th March to 24th June 1829 :—(With 13 Papers of Reference.)

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Par. 1. IN compliance with the 10th Article of the Ordinance in Council, No. 43, published on the 7th February last, for the amelioration of the condition of the slave population of this colony and its dependencies, the Protector and Guardian of Slaves has the honour to present to his Excellency the Governor this his first Report of the manner in which the duties of his office have been fulfilled since the 20th of March, the day on which the Ordinance came into legal operation.

2. Previous, however, to entering into the detail of his Report, the Protector would offer a few preliminary remarks on the circumstances that occurred previous to the promulgation of the Ordinance, in order to show their connection with the opposition made to the first measure adopted by him, with a view to facilitate and insure an efficient discharge of the arduous and important duties imposed upon him.

3. The unavoidable delay in publishing the Ordinance would, it was expected, by allowing time for reason and reflection to overcome prejudice, have tended to calm the excitement which was so unequivocally manifested by the planters on the Protector's arrival; an excitement which had its origin in an erroneous opinion of the nature of the Protector's functions, as well as in an unfounded rumour, attributing to him a bias unfavourable to the best interests of the colony.

4. But the advantage thus anticipated was not altogether realized; for although, in the interval between the arrival of the Protector and the promulgation of the Ordinance, much had been successfully done by his Excellency towards allaying the groundless fears and apprehensions of the planters, the discontent manifested itself anew upon the appearance of the Government Order of the 13th February; which, although bearing date sooner, was published coeval with the circular letter (a copy of which is annexed, No. 1) addressed by the Protector to his assistants, announcing, among other matters, his intended visit to the respective quarters of the island, for the purpose therein mentioned.

5. This appeared the more extraordinary when it was remembered, that soon after the Protector's arrival, when his Excellency presented him to a deputation of planters delegated to convey to his Excellency their fears on that occasion, they expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the explanation the Protector then gave, relative to the attributions of the office he was about to assume, and in which he distinctly told them, that although it would be his duty to protect the slaves from any oppression or injury to which their unfortunate situation might expose them, and in all cases to obtain for them strict justice, yet it was not intended that he should defend their cause, right or wrong; on the contrary, it would be his special care to impress upon their minds, that the measure of protection afforded to them would be proportionate to their good conduct, industry and obedience to their masters.

6. Under these circumstances the Protector was totally unprepared for the opposition that was made by the planters to his intended visit to the respective districts; a measure which he then felt assured, and which subsequent occurrences have proved, would have been beneficial both to the master and the slave; and although the dissatisfaction it produced appeared at the time to render a suspension of it desirable, it was a source of gratification to the Protector to know that the measure was not disapproved of by his Excellency, to whom he had the honour of addressing a letter, dated the 14th March, wherein the Protector's sentiments on this subject are so fully explained, as to render further remark unnecessary.

Having thus premised, the Protector will now proceed to advert to the different branches of his official duty, as enjoined by the Ordinance; the first and most prominent of which relates to

COMPLAINTS.

7. Which amount in number to 43, agreeable to the accompanying Abstract, No. 2, and which are circumstantially detailed in the Appendix annexed to it. Of these, 21 were found, some groundless, and others correct but frivolous, and the parties admonished according to circumstances; 13 were proved to be false and malicious, and in some instances attended by a disposition to tumult and insubordination, and therefore were awarded different degrees of punishment, which was invariably inflicted at the respective plantations, as an example to the rest of the slaves, in their presence, and in that of the Assistant Protector of the district, who was uniformly directed to assemble them, and by addressing them in the Creole dialect, to make them clearly understand, that it was with regret the Protector saw himself compelled to have recourse to such measures; but that he thought he could not better discharge the arduous duty confided to him, than by bringing them to a full sense of their duty to their masters,

No. 2.

masters, and to those acting under their authority; and that it was upon the exact observance of those duties, and upon their good conduct and industry, the title of the slaves to the beneficent intentions of His Majesty's Government could be best founded; and that although the Protector was always disposed to act the part of a father and a friend towards them in all cases where his interference could be justly required, yet that he should expect from them in return the conduct of good and dutiful children, and as such it was his determination to discourage and suppress all false and malicious complaints, and above all, the least disposition to insubordination and tumult. Four cases of this latter kind did however occur; two (Nos. 19 and 30) in the quarter of Grand Port; another (No. 27) in that of "Rivière du Rempart;" and the last (No. 33) at Flacq. To this last place the Protector proceeded, and investigated the complaint in person, assisted by his assistant of the district, and caused three of the ring-leaders to be punished on the spot, as is set forth in the Appendix. One case only (No. 38) has occurred to call for the infliction of the full number of stripes which the law permits the Protector to award, and which was on a slave belonging to Mons. Daubigny, of Flacq, whose complaint was not only false and malicious, but his general conduct was marked by so many acts of insubordination, theft, and attempts to entice his comrades from their duty, that the Protector deemed it highly necessary to make a severe example of him by ordering him to receive 50 stripes.

8. "There are nine cases denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution, and one remains to be sent to him. On reference to the annexed List, No. 3, it will be seen, that judgment has been given in five of them, whereby, in two cases, the owners were condemned to pay each 2*l.*, being the minimum of the penalty imposed for putting chains on children under the age of 15, and that in each of the other three a penalty of 20*l.*, with costs, was exacted, being also the smallest fine (the maximum being 200*l.*) for excessive and illegal punishment.

Extract sent to
Chief Judge for
Procureur General's
Report.

9. "In offering an observation upon these proceedings the Protector would disclaim any intention to question in the remotest degree the impartiality of these decisions; but looking to the slow and tedious mode of procedure by *procès-verbal*, and written interrogatories practised in the Court of first instance, it were not surprising if many circumstances, bearing essentially on the turpitude of the case, were, from not being recorded in evidence, to escape attention; it is to this cause the Protector would attribute the absence of discrimination that appears in awarding the penalties in the cases alluded to. He is not aware whether the amount of the penalties, which, at the instance of the Ministère Public the Court is prayed to inflict, be the result of his own reflection, or of directions from his Principal the Procureur-General; in either case public justice is thwarted unless the fine be apportioned to the different shades of guilt which mark the offence. Hitherto the judgments of the court in these cases have not been notified in the usual, nor indeed in any other, form to the Protector, nor has he received any notice of trial in either, although the cause of action was denounced by him. The interest of the slave, as well as that of the Public, would appear to require the observance of these formalities, whilst a liberal interpretation of the spirit of the 8th article of the Ordinance would seem to command it. Be that as it may, the Protector feels it to be his duty to state, that upon special application being made to the Procureur-General for information upon some of these identical cases, with a view to report their final result, it has been tacitly denied him, and his letters upon that and other official business for the last two months have been treated with such apparently intentional silence, that the Protector feels himself called upon, on public grounds, to report the same to his Excellency as the cause of any inefficiency that may appear in this Report, with reference to a detail of the legal proceedings in these cases, and as being injurious to the interests of the slave population, and to those of the community, so far as they are concerned with the department over which the Protector presides. An instance of the latter might be cited in the person of the Protector himself, originating in the complaint, No. 6, of List No. 3, to which it is necessary to allude, not only on this account, but also on that of the contradictory evidence connected with it. It is that made by a slave-girl named Celine, aged 10 years, against her master, Sieur Lacondray, a broker, residing in Port Louis, for cruelty. It is fully detailed in the Appendix. But, however true it may be that the girl was cruelly beaten, there is nothing to oppose to the master's extraordinary denial, supported by that of his two slaves, said to have assisted at the punishment, but the child's own declaration, and the fact certified by the surgeon, that when she presented herself at this office she bore on her person marks of a recent flogging, inflicted with considerable severity. It is, therefore, one of those cases provided for by the 19th article of the Ordinance, in which the "*onus probandi*" lies with the master. The investigation of this case occupied much of the Protector's time, during which the owner became impatient at the close and minute examination to which he and his two slaves were necessarily exposed; and he gave vent to his feelings in language by no means measured. That the Protector should be occasionally exposed to the petulance of the slave-owner will not appear singular, when the invidious nature of his office is considered; but he was not prepared for the premeditated insult offered in a letter subsequently addressed to him by the Sieur Lacondray, wherein he charges the Protector with an attempt to suborn one of his slaves; a charge which it was not prudent to overlook. Therefore, on denouncing the case of Celine for prosecution, the Protector waited upon the Procureur-General in person, to consult him confidentially as to the means it might be advisable to adopt against Mr. Lacondray, for having written the letter in question; and he having then business of a pressing nature on hand, the letter was left with him under a promise that it should receive his early attention. But the Procureur-General has ever since ceased to communicate with

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.
End of Extract.

the Protector officially or otherwise; and notwithstanding *repeated* application has been made to him to return the letter, for the purpose of founding an action upon it against the Sieur Lacondray, he perseveres in his silence, thereby depriving the Protector of the means of courting the inquiry he is desirous should be made into his conduct, and screening Lacondray from the consequences of his *offence*."

10. The greffiers of the courts of justice have given to the Protector, from time to time, 24 hours notice of trial of actions and prosecutions against slaves for criminal offences, and of the judgments passed; but the Protector has not been called upon in his official capacity to follow up any process in the name of the slave, it being the peculiar province of the Procureur-General to prosecute, and of the master of the slave, by his counsel, to defend, or in default of which the court will assign to him an advocate. This branch of the Protector's duty has therefore been necessarily limited to attendance in court, and to consultation with the advocate during trial.—List, No. 4.

11. In addition to the complaints reported in the accompanying abstracts, the Protector has had to decide a number of others from the domestic slaves in Port Louis, but they have generally been of so tedious and trifling a nature, arising from the ill humour of one and the obstinacy of another, that by summoning the proprietors forthwith, and hearing the case *vivâ voce*, he has been enabled to settle the affair at once to the satisfaction of both parties; and in more than one instance he has had the gratification of being told, that his expostulation and advice had succeeded in reclaiming from habits of drunkenness, gambling and their concomitant evils, slaves, whose masters being unwilling to punish them were desirous of trying the effect of his admonition; and it is only in such cases that the Protector has felt himself called upon to entertain at all the complaints of masters against their slaves, for, as he stated in a letter which he had the honour of addressing to his Excellency the Governor on the 7th March, were he to act otherwise it would excite the mistrust of the slave, discourage him from making his grievances known, and induce him to look upon the Protector in any other light than that of a friend and guardian.

12. The number of complaints brought by slaves against their masters will, it is presumed, not be thought great, when it is considered, that with the exception of the trivial cases mentioned in the preceding paragraph, they amount only to 43, from a population of upwards of 80,000 souls in the space of three months; and the Protector is well persuaded that the number would have been still less if the planters had complied with the wishes of Government as expressed in his Excellency's order of the 9th January; or if they had been satisfied to see the duty it inculcates performed by the Protector, and which was the declared object of his intended visit to the different districts of the island. At the same time the Protector thinks it but just to observe, that the complaints are confined to the slaves belonging to the smaller plantations and people of colour, none having been yet received from the more extensive establishments, several of which are, to the Protector's knowledge, conducted with much attention to the comfort, happiness and moral improvement of the slaves.

The next branch of the Protector's duties that presents itself for observation is that connected with,

ENFRANCHISEMENTS.

13. THE accompanying list, No 5, contains the names and other particulars of slaves whose definitive acts of manumission have been registered in this office. The total number is 28, of which 8 are males and 20 females. In addition to these it will be seen by the list No. 6, that there are 101 more in legal progress of manumission, of which 33 are males and 68 females.

Part of these enfranchisements have been applied for by individuals who have lived for many years in a state of freedom, under the sanction of either a deed of gift, the last will and testament of their owners, or the purchase of their own freedom; but such purchases being by the then law of the colony illegal, the slave was compelled to content himself with the permission to labour for his own account, until he possessed sufficient means to defray the expense then necessary to obtain the act of enfranchisement.

This observation applies to many of the manumissions where the considerations are stated to be "Deed of Gift," and with respect to those granted by will, in which, as well as in other cases where the Protector has been called upon to interfere "*ex officio*," instances of the most culpable neglect on the part of executors and procurators have come to the Protector's knowledge, whereby slaves have been deprived of their liberty for years after the death of their benefactor, and in some cases have remained in slavery for life, leaving a hapless progeny in the same state of bondage, at an age too young to be sensible of, and without friends to assert, their title to the boon bestowed upon their parents; and this has gone on until even a third generation has borne the yoke entailed upon it by fraud and injustice.

No opposition has been made to any of the enfranchisements hitherto commenced under the auspices of the Protector; but there are several cases which will be contested, to be brought forward as soon as the nomination of an Avoué to this Department shall take place.

In carrying into effect some of the obligations imposed by the new Ordinance on persons desirous of manumitting their slaves, questions have arisen with respect to the provisions of the clauses 20 and 23 of *Art. 32*, one of them was exemplified in a letter addressed by the Protector to the chief secretary on the 13th instant, in the case of *Lysée Amadée*, and others of the same nature are likely to occur. By the Article 20, the master is required in enfranchising slaves under 14 years of age to enter into a bond for their maintenance and support until they arrive at that age; and by Article 23, all children who shall be under the

the age of seven years at the period of the enfranchisement of their mothers, are declared free "*de jure*," and the deed of manumission as valid with regard to them as if their names were inserted in it. Now, in the case of a Proprietor being desirous of giving liberty to a female slave having one or more children under seven years, he will refuse the grant if he finds that in addition to it he must burthen himself and his heirs with the obligation of maintaining and supporting such child or children until they arrive at the age of 14, although neither mother nor children remain any longer under his roof; therefore to refuse the deed of manumission to the mother, unless such obligation be entered into, will be virtually to consign both mother and children to indefinite bondage.

The transactions that next claim notice are those connected with the

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" PUNISHMENT RECORD BOOK,"

14. Of which separate forms for males and females were printed and sent to the Assistant Protectors of the respective quarters, to be distributed among the planters and others for adoption, as enjoined by the 21st article of the Ordinance.

A refusal, however, to receive these forms has been, with few exceptions, general throughout each district, save those of Plaines Wilhems, and Rivière du Rempart; and the Protector has reason to believe that no other form has been adopted, and that the observance of the law with respect to the registration of punishments, has been complied with but in few instances, two only have come to the Protector's knowledge, and of these copies are annexed, Nos. 7 & 8; one is from the plantation of Agaléga, one of the Seychelles Islands, belonging to Mr. L. Barbé, whose manager appears to have been desirous of observing exactly the Ordinance, and to have acted with moderation and justice in awarding the punishments he thought it necessary to make. He has, however, in one instance overstepped his authority in the last case he has recorded, of a female found guilty of theft, whom he punished with nine stripes on her shoulders, such punishment being illegal, except by the Protector's orders. The Protector considering the insular situation of the plantation, at a distance of 500 to 600 miles from Port Louis, and the infrequency of communication with it, thought it necessary to overlook the infraction, cautioning him, however, against a repetition.

The second is from Mr. Sturbel's plantation, in the district of Savanne, and was demanded for the purpose of supporting an accusation for which Mr. Sturbel is now under prosecution, at the instance of the Protector, on two of the cases of punishment recorded in it.

The Protector has lately availed himself of occasions that offered, to call upon several planters in different districts for the production, and for copies, verified upon oath, of the "Punishment Record Book," kept in their plantations, as by law required; and the answer given was, in some instances, "That no book was kept, no punishments having been inflicted beyond nine lashes, which they considered not necessary to register;" and in others, "That not having had occasion to punish any slave since the new law came into operation, such a book was not necessary." It were useless to remark on the fallacy of such reasoning, or to show the facility it affords to the infliction of illegal punishment without a probability of detection. The Protector has therefore deemed it necessary to denounce these defaulters to the Procureur-General for prosecution; but the fine attached to the offence is too trivial to operate as a remedy, and however unlikely it may seem, that neither one nor the other of the punishments directed by Art. 17 & 21 to be registered, have not taken place, the wording of the article makes it doubtful whether any penalty attaches to the occasion, in cases where a declaration is made (true or not) that no punishments have been inflicted.

The Protector's attention has been latterly given to a consideration of the Ordinance No. 20, dated the 13th December 1826, commonly called the

" CHAIN ORDINANCE,"

15. And which is still in force. The wording of it appears to be so equivocal with respect to the authority given to masters to place irons on their female slaves as to render it liable to misinterpretation. It is the clause which relates to the weight of the fetters and iron rings permitted to be placed on the legs of slaves, and runs thus:

" Le poids du sabot ou anneau placé au pied de l'esclave ne pourra excéder trois livres pour les esclaves mâles au dessus de quinze ans; le sabot ou anneau ne pourra être mis aux negresses et aux noirs au dessous de quinze ans,"

and consequently gives rise to the question, whether it means to prohibit fetters or rings being placed on *females* of any age whatever, and only on *males* above 15 years? or is it, that they shall not be placed on males or females under 15 years? The Protector gives it the former interpretation, which many are not disposed to admit; it were therefore desirable it should be more clearly defined. There is another subject connected with this Ordinance to which the Protector's attention was directed by a report made to him thereon by the Chief Commissary of Police, relative to a practice stated to prevail of putting irons on slaves employed in navigating in small boats and coasting vessels, by which their lives are endangered in case of accident, which is frequent along the coast. The Commissary had some time last year a correspondence on this subject with the Procureur-General, whose attention it appears to have escaped. A copy of it was sent to the Protector, who having transmitted the whole in his letter of the 28th ultimo to the Chief Secretary for the information of the Governor, would now suggest such remedies as may appear to his Excellency necessary to put a stop to so dangerous a practice.

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The Protector would also recommend the abolition of the use of an instrument called "Bar de Justice," a sort of iron stocks used as a punishment for females. It consists of an iron bar from 8 to 10 feet long, to which are attached iron rings, which are fixed a little above the ankle by means of a small bolt. In this machine females may be confined for a length of time, night or day, in a sitting or recumbent posture, as it admits of their doing needlework and other employment of that nature; and this sort of punishment is continued at the mistress's pleasure, as the service of the slave is not lost whilst the punishment is going on.

The Protector will next proceed to remark on the general treatment of the slaves, with reference to food, clothing, and the time allowed them for meals.

With every desire to fulfil the strict injunction laid upon him, with respect to the execution of this part of the Ordinance, the Protector finds it extremely difficult to detect a contravention of it, although there is scarcely a complaint made by a slave against his master which does not contain a charge of his being badly fed. In most instances the Protector has found these charges false; and when suspicion has rested, which is sometimes the case among the people of colour, he has been compelled, from the difficulty of obtaining proof, to content himself by a severe admonition to the parties, and which has generally had the desired effect.

16. The same observation applies to the time allowed for meals, which is also a frequent complaint among them, and is equally if not more difficult to be verified than that with respect to food; for a negro has no idea of measuring time; and there is no subject whatever upon which he is so likely to deceive himself. With respect to clothing, it will not have escaped His Excellency's attention that it is generally bad; and if the planters were required to give their slaves a shirt and trowsers twice a year, the indecency which meets the eye so constantly might probably be obviated, by adopting along with it regulations to compel the slave to wear and take care of it. They also complain often of being compelled to work on Sunday's beyond the time required by the exceptions contained in the 14th Article of the Ordinance. The Protector is of opinion that this will continue to be a source of complaint and discontent between the master and slave, on account of the latitude of construction of which the exceptions are susceptible; unless the Sunday "corvées" (gathering food for and cleaning the horses, oxen, &c.) be directed to be performed in the afternoon of Saturday; a measure which he would submit to consideration; whilst at the same time he begs reference to the following statement of the rate of wages allowed to slaves for Sunday-labour for the present half year, agreeable to the 15th Article of the Ordinance; viz.

To male slaves of the first class	-	-	-	-	50	sols per diem.
- ditto - of the second class	-	-	-	-	40	-
To female slaves	-	-	-	-	40	-
To children of both sexes, according to age	-	20	to	25	-	-
To commanders	-	-	-	-	4	livres per diem.
To chefs d'Ateliers	-	-	-	-	7½	-
To ordinary mechanics	-	-	-	-	4	-

17. No application has been yet made to the Protector for marriage licenses; nor does it appear, by the information he has received from the respective clergymen of the colony, that any have been solemnized; but information has reached him from the assistant-protector of the quarter of Plaines Wilhems, that several marriages are contemplated between slaves in that quarter; yet the Protector has observed generally an unwillingness on the part of slaves about to be manumitted to enter into that bond of union. Hence it may be asked, how far it would be desirable to make marriage a condition to freedom where parties have previously cohabited, and have children?

18. The Protector has received from the Vicar Apostolic, and the two Protestant clergymen of the colony, communications containing the names of several slaves certified by them as sufficiently instructed to know the nature and obligation of an oath. The same are registered in this office in a book kept for that purpose, and of which the annexed List, No. 9, is a correct extract.

The amount of money hitherto deposited in the

SAVINGS BANKS

19. Is but small; an account thereof will be found in the accompanying Statement, marked No. 10. Upon this establishment the Protector would beg to remark, that should it appear hereafter desirable to increase the interest to the legal rate of the colony, the amount of the deposits would augment considerably.

20. The next and last branch of his duty to which the Protector would solicit His Excellency's attention is that by which he is required to act "ex officio," in quality of "Patron d'office," in civil actions, with reference to enfranchisements of slaves.

He has not yet instituted any action upon cases that have originated with himself; but several, as he has already observed, are in preparation, and only await the appointment of a solicitor or avoué, to be commenced. There are also many other cases of enfranchisement, in which proceedings were had previous to his arrival, some of which are undecided, and others wherein the decision of the courts have been appealed from to the King in Council, all which likewise await the above nomination. There are two other cases in which the Protector was called upon to appear as "Patron d'Office," instead of those who had already

already acted in that capacity, but whose functions merge legally in those of the Protector. As all these proceedings may be attended with expense, the Protector would solicit his Excellency's attention to the subject.

21. The chief commissary of police has submitted to the Protector's perusal, the inquiries instituted by the civil commissaries of districts with respect to the deaths of five slaves, (four males and one female,) who committed suicide within the last three months. These proceedings having been officially reported by him to the Procureur-General, who is specially charged therewith, the Protector has only to remark, that in three of the cases it appears a bottle that had contained arrack was found near the body of each, and the commissary takes the opportunity of observing, "that it is the case generally on such occasions, and that the cheapness of that destructive beverage, and the facility with which it is obtained, is the bane of the slave population of this colony." The Protector has had frequent occasion to witness the melancholy truth of that observation; and were he not aware that the evil has already occupied the Governor's attention, it would have formed a special subject of this Report, as well with reference to the calamitous consequences alluded to, as to the numerous cases of apoplexy which occur among the slave population, and which are in almost every instance to be ascribed to the immoderate use of that unwholesome liquor, and which tends to every species of demoralization.

The Protector has also been called upon to assist in an inquiry instituted by the King's Proctor, touching the death of a slave named Marceline, who died on board the brig "Martha," captain Davies, on her passage from Madagascar to this island, and whose death, according to a declaration made at the police-office by three slaves belonging to the same owner, and serving on board the said vessel, was supposed to have been occasioned by the ill treatment of Captain Davies.

After a minute investigation of the case, in which Dr. Shanks, acting chief medical officer, and Dr. Hart, police medical officer, assisted professionally, it was decided there was no ground whatever for the supposition, and that the man died of a rupture with which, as his owner admitted, he had been afflicted for many years.

The Protector regrets that the multiplicity of his avocations, which have occupied, and still continue to occupy, his and his assistant's time, far beyond the hours fixed by his Excellency, for the daily performance of his duties, have prevented him from giving that attention which he was desirous of showing to the progress of the

MORAL IMPROVEMENT

22. Of the slaves. He is therefore necessarily compelled to refer to the information contained in the accompanying documents, Nos. 11, 12 & 13, addressed to him by the Vicar-apostolic, and the only two Protestant clergymen of the colony, in answer to the application he made to them on this subject; in doing which it may be permitted him to remark, that from the cursory observation he has made on the character of the slave population of the colony, consisting of Africans, Madagascars, Indians from the coasts of Malabar and Coromandel, and their Creole progeny, he is of opinion, notwithstanding their rude and uncivilized origin, they are far from being altogether intractable. Various shades of character are of course observable among them, and although the Protector is aware that in general these are bad, yet he thinks they are susceptible of gradual amelioration. Let the very limited means of moral and religious instruction now afforded to them be extended; let the planters second, by a cordial co-operation, the beneficent intentions of Government; let precept and example go hand in hand; diminish the incitement to inebriety and disorder afforded by the canteens, and a great change will certainly, but gradually, be effected, and a moral and industrious population succeed to the present degraded race.

How far the Protector's efforts and anxious solicitude in the various branches of his duty may have contributed hitherto to inculcate industry, obedience and good conduct to the slave, and humanity and forbearance to the proprietor, he will not presume to anticipate. The time that has elapsed since he assumed the functions of office is too short to produce any visible effect; but he can confidently appeal to public opinion for the fact, that as far as regards the planter, confidence and tranquillity are succeeding fast to fear and apprehension, and will, it is to be hoped, induce him to lend a helping hand to raise the slave gradually from the degradation he is now in, to that state of civilization which can alone fit him for the enjoyment of the advantages which the wise and paternal Government of His Majesty would bestow upon him.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of slaves.

Sworn to before me at the Government House, Port Louis, this 13th day of July 1829.

Charles Colville, Governor.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT of COMPLAINTS preferred to the PROTECTOR and GUARDIAN of SLAVES, from the 20th March to the 24th June 1829; for Details of which see Appendix (A.)

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Slave.	Name of Proprietor.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
1. 15.	March 20 -	Jeanne - -	Mad ^{me} Dupré, Plaines Wilhelms.	-- ill-treatment; and being obliged to pay for the loss of certain poultry belonging to her mistress.	March 24.
		How DISPOSED OF.—The Protector having satisfied himself of the groundless nature of the complaint dismissed the case. Sentencing the negress to one week's solitary confinement, and recommending her to abstain from her vicious habits of drunkenness.			
2. 15.	- 22 -	Joaki - -	Sieur Cheneau, Rivière Noire.	-- punishment, without reason, and being employed until noon on Sundays.	March 25.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Joaki, failing to substantiate any part of his complaint, and the Assistant-Protector of the quarter having stated that Mr. Cheneau is known to be attentive to the comfort and good treatment of his slaves, the protector directed complainant to receive 25 lashes of a cat-o'-nine tails, in the presence of his comrades, and cautioned him as to his future conduct.			
3. 15.	- 22 -	Aurélie - -	Mad ^{lle} E. Adam, Port Louis.	general ill-treatment - - -	- -
		How DISPOSED OF.—Negress returned to her mistress, her complaint being groundless. The latter recommended to be kind and considerate in the treatment of her slaves.			
4. 16.	- 22 -	Henry - -	Marie Sard, Savanne	- - - ditto - - -	March 22.
		How DISPOSED OF.—This complaint was transmitted to the Protector by the Assistant-Protector of the district of Savanne. Who, having informed himself of the false nature of the accusation, ordered the boy Henry to be punished with 12 stripes of the cane; which sentence was approved by the Protector.			
5. 16.	- 31 -	Adèle - -	Mr. Theodore Mothé, Pamplemousses.	-- beating her with considerable violence with a horse-bridle.	April 3.
		How DISPOSED OF.—This case being an infraction of the 18th article of the Ordinance, N° 43, and the Protector considering the defence of the master by no means an exculpation of his conduct, transmitted the documents relating thereto to the Procureur-General for prosecution.			
6. 17.	- 20 -	Jean - -	Sieur Lanongarède, Port Louis.	-- unlawfully placing irons on complainant's feet.	April 13.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Master fined in the sum of \$. 10 for an infraction of the Ordinance, N° 20. Boy released on his master's paying the penalty into the "Caisse de Bienfaisance."			
7. 17.	- 26 -	Therisia - -	Mr. Michel, Pamplemonsses.	-- repeated punishment, and too much work.	April 7.
		How DISPOSED OF.—The Protector not considering the complaint of Terisia altogether groundless, though she had often failed in her duty towards her master, dismissed the case, by admonishing the negress to be careful in the fulfilment of her duty hereafter, while Mr. Michel was enjoined to show every kindness and humanity in the treatment of his slaves.			
8. 18.	- 28 -	Lizé - -	Zélie Gertrude, Port Louis.	-- placing in irons a boy under the age of 15 years.	April 25.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Transmitted to the Procureur-General for prosecution. The boy returned to his master, who paid a fine of 10 \$. into the "Caisse de Bienfaisance."			
9. 19.	- 26 -	Hélène - -	Mr. Jean Guilbot, Port Louis.	insufficiency of food.	
		How DISPOSED OF.—Returned to her master on his paying hospital and bagne charges, and pledging himself for her being carefully treated in future.			
10. 19.	April 3 -	Casimir - -	Sieur Eremaux, Rivière Noire.	-- punishment of five stripes of a cord.	April 5.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint unfounded, the slave having no mark of punishment whatever on his person. Returned to his master, with a recommendation not to appear again before the Protector with so frivolous a complaint.			

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Slave.	Name of the Proprietor.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
11. 19.	April 3 -	Roselia - -	Mr. Collier, Port Louis	- - gagging the child's mouth, and other slight punishment.	April 5.
How DISPOSED OF.—Returned to her master, the case being too frivolous for further investigation, Mr. Collier having at the same time promised to abstain from similar punishment for the future.					
12. 20.	- 7 -	Socrate - -	Monsieur Brue, Rivière Noire.	- - insufficiency of food, and work too laborious for his age.	—
How DISPOSED OF.—Returned to his master, to be employed on the lightest description of work that may be found for him.					
13. 20.	- 8 -	Maurice - -	Mad ^{lle} C. Wilhomme, Plaine Vert.	- - work too laborious for his state of health.	April 10.
How DISPOSED OF.—Returned to his master, to be employed on the lightest description of work that may be found for him.					
14. 20.	- 10 -	Melanie - -	Mad ^{lle} Descia, Port Louis.	- - sent to seek for work out of doors, and obliged to bring to her mistress four francs per day.	April 13.
How DISPOSED OF.—The complaint being groundless, the negress was punished with 10 days solitary confinement; at the same time the mistress was recommended never to impose on her slaves the obligations alluded to, as such a practice might induce those who could not honestly get the money to obtain it by theft or other improper means.					
15. 21.	- 10 -	Charles - -	Madame Beguinot, Flacq.	constant ill treatment - -	April 13.
How DISPOSED OF.—The complaint being groundless, the boy was returned to his mistress, from whom he had stolen a pair of drawers; but having already been punished by her for this offence, the Protector directed that he should receive no further correction.					
16. 21.	- 11 -	Caprice - -	Ana Saury, Port Louis	- - being obliged to seek employment out of doors, and to bring his Master 3 ½ francs a day.	April 12.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complainant labouring under imbecility of mind, and the master having fully satisfied the Protector, that instead of being employed as he stated, Caprice was carefully treated. The case was dismissed, and the slave returned to his master.					
17. 22.	Mar. 30 -	Hilaire - -	Mr. Sibire, Rivière Noire.	- - excessive punishment with a cart-whip.	May 23.
How DISPOSED OF.—Transmitted to the Procureur-General for prosecution, under 17th Art. of Ord. 43. Slave returned to his master on the 23d May, Mr. Sibire having paid the fine of \$. 100.					
18. 23.	April 12 -	Aglai - -	Mademoiselle Descia, Port Louis.	- - punishment on the breech with a cane.	May 7.
How DISPOSED OF.—The mistress having much cause to be dissatisfied with the conduct of her slave, and the punishment inflicted being light, the Protector dismissed the case, cautioning the mistress to be more circumspect in future, and severely reprimanding the negress on her vicious habits, recommending her to quit them on pain of severe punishment.					
19. 24.	- 13 -	Zephirin, and seven others.	Sieur Dalois, jun., Grand Port.	insufficiency of food - - -	April 14.
How DISPOSED OF.—This complaint being proved to be entirely false and malicious, the Protector, to mark his displeasure at this attempt to impose upon him, directed each of the individuals complaining to receive 30 stripes of the cat-o-nine-tails on the habitation of their master, and in the presence of their comrades.					
20. 24.	- 13 -	Nanette - -	Sieur Garrien, Pamplonsses.	- - frequent punishment and insufficiency of food.	April 25.
How DISPOSED OF.—Transmitted to the Procureur-General for prosecution under the 18th Article of the Ordinance in Council, No. 43.					
21. 25.	- 15 -	Cupidon - -	Mr. Jean J. Amelin, Rivière du Rempart.	- - severe punishment and insufficiency of food.	April 26.
How DISPOSED OF.—Cupidon, who was sent to the civil hospital died there on the 26th April; not from any punishment inflicted on his person, but (according to the opinion of the medical officer in charge of that establishment) from a depraved habit of body, paralysis, and other constitutional causes.					

(continued)

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No. and Page in Appendix.	Date Complaint.	Name of Slave.	Name of Proprietor.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
22. 26.	April 18 -	Celine - -	Mr. Denis Lacondray, Port Louis.	excessive punishment - -	April 28.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-General as an infraction of the 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.					
23. 28.	- 21 -	La Rose - -	Mr. Castera, Flacq. -	- - being punished without reason by the econome of his master.	May 2.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint groundless. Protector directed La Rose to be returned to his master, but not to receive any further punishment, in consequence of his having been already corrected for inattention to the orders of his master. He was severely reprimanded, and cautioned as to his future conduct.					
24. 28.	- 21 -	Alexis - -	Sieur Comty, Port Louis.	- - receiving 50 lashes of the whip, and being afterwards attached to a weight of 50 pounds.	April 27.
How DISPOSED OF.—The Protector having fully satisfied himself of the groundless nature of the accusation, intended to punish the complainant; but the master interceding for Alexis, begged that he might for this offence receive a severe reprimand only; hoping by such means to break him of his habit of marooning. The Protector granting the request, thus dismissed the case.					
25. 29.	- 22 -	Elizabeth -	Madlle. C. Lechelle, Port Louis.	- - being kept at work, and without food, the whole of Sunday.	April 24.
How DISPOSED OF.—The statement of Elizabeth being false and exaggerated, she was severely reprimanded and returned to her mistress. The case was then dismissed.					
26. 29.	- 22 -	Denis - -	Sieur B. Ducondray, Pamplemousses.	- - complains of having received eight or nine stripes of the cane.	April 25.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false and frivolous. The Protector ordered 25 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails to be inflicted on the slave as a punishment for insubordination of conduct proved by the master against complainant.					
27. 29.	- 27 -	Alexander, and nine other slaves.	Madame Ligerau, Rivière du Rempart.	- - deprived of Sundays; overworked, and insufficiency of food.	April 28.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint altogether groundless. Three of the ringleaders to receive 25 lashes each; four others to be confined in the stocks six nights, and the women to be confined separately for four succeeding Sundays on the estate of their mistress.					
28. 30.	- 29 -	Augustine -	Madlle. Lolotte, Fort Louis.	- - being punished with 30 stripes of the cane, and being confined to the room by a chain.	May 1.
How DISPOSED OF.—It appearing that the complainant had lately given her mistress much cause to be dissatisfied with her conduct, by her habit of marooning, was severely reprimanded for this fault, as well as for appearing with a false accusation against the said Mad. Lolotte, and threatened with severe punishment in the event of her repeating the offence.					
29. 30.	- 29 -	Prosper - -	Madame Chazel, Plaines Wilhems.	- - punishment of 60 stripes of the cane.	May 11.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false in every particular, and complainant proved to be a bad character; he was therefore sentenced to receive 30 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails on the estate of his mistress, and in the presence of his comrades.					
30. 32.	- 8 -	A body of fifteen slaves.	Madame de Bissy, Grand Port.	- - insufficiency of food, and not being allowed time to attend to the calls of nature.	April 15.
How DISPOSED OF.—The complaint of these Slaves being false and frivolous, and their offence having been increased by their tumultuous conduct, the Protector, to suppress every attempt at insubordination, directs that each of the complainants shall be punished with 30 lashes of the cat o' nine tails, on the estate of their mistress, and in the presence of the Assistant Protector of the district.					
31. 32.	- 15 -	Mercure - -	Mr. Jean J. Mamet, Flacq.	- - punished without reason, and being deprived of Sundays.	April 22.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false and exaggerated. Slave to have been punished, but was discharged with a severe reprimand only, at the request of his master.					

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Slave.	Name of Proprietor.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
32. 33.	April 22 -	Adéline and two children, and Pierre Louis.	Madame Sturbel, Savanne.	- - flogging Adéline, and inflicting a punishment on Pierre Louis, too severe for a boy of his age.	
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Transmitted to the Procureur-General for prosecution under 17th and 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.</p>					
33. 35.	May 11 -	Cacala and 10 others, slaves of	Sieur Castera, Flacq.	- - general ill-treatment; want of the usual hours of repose; and also deprived of Sundays.	May 12.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint generally unfounded. Three of the ringleaders punished with 25 lashes each, and one negress punished with confinement for four successive weeks, from Saturday evening until Monday morning.</p>					
34. 37.	- - -	Rasaffe - -	Madame Collique, Port Louis.	- - beating complainant in the face, and cutting her finger with a knife.	May 12.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false and frivolous. Negress directed to be confined in the stocks at her mistress's house for three days.</p>					
35. 37.	- 12 -	Rosalie - -	Sieur Julien, Port Louis.	- ill-treated and over-worked for her state of health.	May 20.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Rosalie's complaint of ill treatment being unfounded, but her state of health somewhat delicate, she was returned to her master under a promise of giving her medical assistance and careful treatment, and of not employing her in any work until she shall be recovered.</p>					
36. 38.	- 19 -	Francisque -	Madame de la Tour de St. Igest, Flacq.	- - undue punishment from the commandeur of the estate.	May 27.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint altogether false; and as the proprietor would have had a right to punish his slave with 25 stripes, the Protector taking the character of complainant into consideration, sentences him to receive that number of lashes of the martinet on the estate of his mistress.</p>					
37. 38.	- 19 -	Alfrida - -	Mr. Gaud, Fort Louis.	severity of punishment - -	- - returned to the police, May 24.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—The general conduct of complainant appearing to have been extremely bad, and her complaint quite groundless, the Protector directed the master of the girl to confine her for the four following Sundays alone, and in the granary of his house.</p>					
38. 39.	- 21 -	Jean - -	Mr. Daubigny, Flacq.	- being constantly menaced by his master, and deprived of Sundays and hours of repose.	June 3.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—The complaint of Jean being not only unfounded, but of a most malicious character; and complainant having also committed many acts of insubordination on the estate of his master, the Protector thought it necessary to make an example of this slave, by directing a punishment of 50 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails to be inflicted on him, in the presence of his comrades: all of whom (without exception) bore testimony against him.</p>					
39. 40.	- 28 -	Romeo - -	Mr. Sturbel, Savanne.	- - excessive punishment with a cart-whip.	June 8.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Transmitted to the Procureur-general for prosecution under the 18 Art. of the Ordinance, No. 43.</p>					
40. 41.	- 14 -	Scapin - -	Mr. Charles Beguinot, Flacq.	- - having been punished for a theft not committed by him.	June 12.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complainant having altogether failed in clearing himself from the offence for which he was punished by his master, and having, on the contrary, endeavoured to impose on the Protector other false statements relative to the theft in question, was sentenced to receive 25 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails on the estate of his master, to whom he was delivered on the 27th May.</p>					

(continued)

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No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Slave.	Name of Proprietor.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
41. 43.	June 2 -	Charlot - -	Mr. Romieu, Plaines Wilhems.	- - constant ill treatment, and putting out his left eye with the handle of a whip.	June 19.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint entirely false. Charlot punished with 20 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails, by Protector's order, on the establishment of his master, and in the presence of the other blacks of the plantation.</p>					
42. 43.	- 3 -	Ally - -	Mr. Martin, Pamplemonsses.	- - for receiving 25 stripes of the cane, and being afterwards placed in irons.	
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Although complainant has given, by inattention to his duty, much cause of dissatisfaction to his owner (who appears to be Madame Carré, and not Mr. Martin, against whom his complaint is made), the Protector, seeing that an infraction of the law regulating the weight of irons to be placed on the feet of slaves has been made in this case, deems it his duty to transmit the same to the Procureur-General for prosecution.</p>					
43. 44.	- 6 -	Hypolite - -	Mr. Regnault, Port Louis.	- - being obliged by his Master to drink a mixture composed of arrack and human excrement.	June 10.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—False and groundless. Complainant having the vicious habit of drinking arrack, was given by his master a mixture of arrack and ipecacuana, for the purpose of breaking him of this vice, as proved by the boy's sister, and other witnesses cited by the boy to prove his accusation against the master. Protector ordered complainant to be well whipped with a birch-rod at the Bagne, and then to be returned to Mr. Regnault.</p>					

Appendix (A.)

Complaint, No. 1.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
20th March 1829.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.
Report from
Protector of Slaves.

THE negress *Jeanne*, belonging to Madame Dupré, residing in the quarter of Plaines Wilhems, states, that her mistress had charged her with the care of the poultry yard, and that notwithstanding her having this charge, she is obliged to go and work on the habitation: that on her return to the poultry yard, she discovered some fowls to be missing. She apprised her mistress of this, who not only insisted upon complainant's paying for them, but gave her several blows with a stick and a shoe. That on the Saturday following, (eight days afterwards), some one had taken (during her absence), the lock off the poultry yard: that she also told this to her mistress, who again beat her, and insisted upon being reimbursed the price of the lock: that having no money, her mistress took a pig, the only thing belonging to the said *Jeanne*, and appropriated it to herself; and that on the following day (Sunday), complainant was obliged to prepare two large baskets of maize. That at 11 o'clock, finding means to escape, she took her infant and repaired to the police, there to make her complaint.

By a certificate from the police it appears, that on examination of her person, *Jeanne* discovered no mark whatever of having received the blows complained of. That she was in a good state of health, though badly dressed.

A certificate from the medical officer attached to the police also verifies the foregoing. The complaint was therefore transmitted to the assistant-protector of the district, with directions to him to call upon Madame Dupré for her reply to the charge preferred against her.

Result.—The reply of Madame Dupré, as taken and verified by the assistant-protector, proving the complaint to be, beyond doubt, altogether groundless. The protector admonished *Jeanne* as to her bad conduct generally, and more particularly on her vicious habit of drinking, and sentenced her to one week's solitary confinement with hard labour.

Complaint, No. 2.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
31st March 1829.

Joaki, a slave, aged 40 years, belonging to the *Sieur Cheneau*, presented himself at the office of the Chief Commissary of Police, and declared, that he left the habitation of his master, situate in the quarter of Rivière Noire, yesterday evening, for the purpose of complaining against the said *Sieur Cheneau*, for beating him without reason, and employing him until noon on the Sabbath. That on Monday last he received 25 lashes on his breech, only because he had quitted his work during a heavy shower of rain. That the day before yesterday he again received 20 lashes for not having changed his shirt for a clean one; and that he yesterday received a further punishment of 10 lashes for having quitted the work allotted to him in the field.

The slave having nothing more to complain of, was examined by Dr. Hart, whose certificate states, "that he does not exhibit a single mark of punishment on any part of his body, and that he appears to be in good health and well fed."

The complaint of the slave, together with the certificate of Dr. Hart, was transmitted to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter, with instructions to him minutely to inquire into the circumstances of the case; and by whose report it appears, that the *Sieur Cheneau* declares the said *Joaki* to have been in no one instance punished. That on being desired to put on a clean shirt (a practice enjoined on all his slaves once in the four and twenty hours), *Joaki* showed much ill humour, and on being threatened with imprisonment, declared that he would not change his shirt, because he did not choose to do so. That in short, to avoid other measures, *Joaki* was put into the cave, and on being shortly afterwards released, he left the habitation, and had not since returned to his master, who further declares him to be a most mutinous subject, and therefore requests that he may receive such punishment as the constituted authorities may think fit to award to him.

Result.—The Assistant Protector having added his own assurance that he knew the *Sieur Cheneau* to be most attentive to the comfort and good treatment of his slaves. The Protector thinks the case one which calls for punishment, and therefore sentences the complainant to receive 25 stripes of the cane, in the presence of the other slaves of the plantation.

Complaint, No. 3.

Protector of Slaves Office, 22d March 1829.

Aurélie, a creole aged 14 years, belonging to Mad^le E. Adam, of Port Louis, complains that her mistress is dissatisfied with every thing she does in the kitchen, as well as with all commissions entrusted to her, and that on this account her mistress beats her with
a cane

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

a cane without ceasing: that on her applying to be sold to Miss Allen (who has long wished to buy her), her mistress refused to do so; and further, that hearing of her mother's being ill at Grande Rivière, complainant repeatedly asked permission to go and see her; she was, however, always refused, and moreover again punished by being beaten with a cane.

On being asked who induced her to prefer this complaint, Aurélie replied, that it was a neighbour of her mistress, named Elizabeth, who had witnessed her ill-treatment, and therefore recommended her to make the present complaint.

On examination of the person of Aurélie, a slight mark was visible on the left breech, as well as one on each of her arms, which appeared to have been made by a cane about 15 days past. In other respects she appears to be in excellent health, and comfortably clothed. All of which is certified by a certificate from the examining surgeon, Dr. Hart.

Result.—The Protector having called before him the respective parties, found by the proces-verbal of their examinations that the statement made by the complainant was incorrect: that the girl, instead of being kept from visiting her mother, had immediate permission to do so; and that instead of returning, as she was desired to do, on the following evening, she absented herself for several days. The Protector, therefore, reprimanded the negress on her want of assiduity in the discharge of her duty towards her mistress, and recommending the latter to be kind in the treatment of her slaves, dismissed the complaint, ordering the girl to return to her duty.

Complaint, No. 4.

[Transmitted to the Protector by the Assistant-Protector for the Quarter of Savanne.]

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
22d March 1829.

Henry, a slave aged about 10 years, complains that he experiences great misery from his mistress, Marie Sarde, a free woman of colour, living in the quarter of Savanne, and also from a man of colour, named Antoine Geuce, living with her: that he is obliged to sell his manioc, and not having enough to subsist upon, that he is forced to dig in the old potatoe grounds in order to find any potatoes that may have been left there: that he has nothing but potatoes given him, and not enough of those to live upon; and that he has not Sunday to himself until after the hour of breakfast.

The boy having presented himself in a state of nakedness (except having a slight wrapper round his waist), was asked the reason of this; to which he replied, that his mistress had given him a checked shirt on new-year's day; but having no other clothing, he had left that in his hut.

On examining complainant it did not appear that he bore the mark of punishment in any shape whatever; he was fat, and apparently in an excellent state of health. The Assistant-Protector not being satisfied with the complaint thus made against his mistress by Henry, called for her reply to the same. Her declaration proves the falsity of his statement, as does also that of the manager of the estate: it shows that the slaves employed by Marie Sarde are kindly treated, and that they are abundantly fed with manioc, potatoes and maize: that the young Henry has ever been an ill-disposed boy and full of malice, constantly stealing from the other blacks: that on his mistress sending him yesterday morning to remove the weeds from around the house, he went off in great ill-humour, and only returned after having made the foregoing false and malicious representations against her.

Result.—The Assistant-Protector not only finding the boy's complaint false in every point, but that he had repeatedly behaved himself in a very improper manner, directed him to be punished with 12 stripes of the cane, and warned him as to his future conduct towards a mistress who had always shown herself kind and considerate in the treatment of her slaves. The Protector approved the sentence.

Complaint, No. 5.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
31st March 1829.

Adèle, a negress, aged about 20 years, and belonging to Mr. Theodore Mothé, of the quarter of Pamplemousses. On appearing to make a complaint against her master, was asked why she had not presented herself to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter, to which she replied, that her master was too friendly with the Assistant-Protector. Demanding the nature of her complaint, Adèle states, that her master beat her with a stick and a large cord on her back, her shoulders and her face, because she was rather later than usual in attendance upon his children. It was not later than the usual hour of supper when she was in her hut; but her master's children happening to awake on that evening, she was called by him, and delayed for an instant to go into the house. Being desired on the following morning to take the child, she replied she could not carry it, because her arm was inflamed, and very painful, in consequence of the blows she had received from him. That the said Mr. Mothé began again to beat her with a horse-bridle, after which she left the habitation to come and make her complaint. She has nothing else to say.

Dr. Hart's certificate proves that Adèle has a wound at the outer angle of the left eye, attended with swelling and discolouration. Both her arms are swollen, painful and discoloured

coloured, so as to render it necessary to place one (the left) in a sling. The examining surgeon consequently recommends her being sent to the hospital.

This certificate, together with a proces-verbal of the complaint, were sent to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter of Pamplemousses, with instructions for an inquiry into the affair. Mr. Mothé, in his reply, declares that Adéle was charged with no other occupation than that of taking care of his two children, one of whom is but two months old: that on the night of the 22d or 23d of this month she absented herself, and did not return to his house until two o'clock in the morning; that on her return he asked her from whence she came, without obtaining any reply. That he told her to take the youngest of his children, which she did, with much ill-humour and murmuring, on which he desired her to be silent, but she would not; he then threatened her. At this instant the said Adéle threw the infant she held in her arms on a mattress which was in the room, and ran out of the house. That declarant followed, and brought her back; then took the reins of the bridle of his horse, and with them gave her several blows on her shoulders, back and arms. Mr. Mothé further declares, that this correction was the result of a passion in which the negress had put him; had he reflected, he should have employed other means of correcting the bad conduct of Adéle, who might, in throwing the child on the mattress, have lamed, or even killed it. Added to which, the negress left the door of his house open, thereby exposing him to the danger of being robbed.

This case being an infraction of the 18th article of the Ordinance, No. 43, and the Protector considering the defence of the master by no means an exculpation of his conduct, conceived it his duty to transmit the documents relating thereto to the Procureur-General, in order that legal steps might be taken in the matter.

Complaint, No. 6.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
20th March 1829.

Jean, a creole boy, aged 11 years, and belonging to the *Sieur Lanougarède*, of Port Louis, states, that he has left the shop of his master, *Mr. Larcher*, a shoemaker, with whom he is an apprentice, to complain of being obliged to carry water in a barrel; that when the barrel is filled it is too heavy for him to lift; that then the said *Sieur Larcher* threatens, and even beats him. *Jean* also states, that being afraid of his master, he marooned 15 days past, and that on his return the *Sieur Larcher* put on his ancles the irons he now wears, and which he has continued to carry for a fortnight past. That at night he is made to sleep in a cellar, on a leathern apron, and in the morning his irons are replaced. His allowance of food is three maniocs per day.

The certificate of the examining surgeon states that *Jean* does not exhibit any symptom of bad or improper feeding; but if the vessel in which he carried the water be of the ordinary size, he considers it too great a burthen for a lad of his age.

The *Sieur Larcher*, having been summoned to attend at the Protector's office, appeared and declared that *Jean's* complaint against him is false; that he has never been sent to fetch water in a barrel; but admitted that he had been placed in chains, because he could not otherwise be kept at his work. He further declares, that *Jean* is in the constant habit of absenting himself without leave, and of thieving from his comrades: that he has never struck the boy, who has been away since the evening of the 17th instant, when he was arrested by the Police; and that the irons put on him do not weigh more than three or four pounds.

The *Sieur Lanougarède*, owner of the boy, also declares him to be of a very bad character, and capable of making a false complaint, in corroboration of which he produces a copy of a groundless accusation preferred against him in the Office of the Police by the said *Jean*, in the month of December last.

The Protector, notwithstanding the evidence brought forward of the bad disposition of the boy, considers it necessary to put the case into the hands of the Procureur-General, placing irons on the feet of a slave under the age of 15 years being in contravention of the Ordinance, No. 20, of the 13th December 1826.

Result.—April 13th. The boy's master was fined in the sum of \$ 10, which being paid into the "Caisse de Bienfaisance," *Jean* was returned, in conformity with the desire of the substitute of the procureur-general.

Complaint, No. 7.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 26th March 1829.

Thérésia, a negress, aged 25 years, belonging to *Mr. Michael*, of Pamplemousses, says, that she quitted her master on the 9th instant, because he sent her to look for a negress named *Azémia*, who was marooning, and that she did not return, knowing that if she went back without *Azémia*, she would be whipped and put into the block instead of her; that her master made her rise every morning at three o'clock to milk the cows; that he made her cook and spread the table, and if his breakfast was not ready by eight o'clock, she was beaten; and after having served breakfast, she was sent to dig in the fields until noon, when she returned to prepare dinner; and further, that her master had often flogged her, marks of which she then bore on her breech.

The certificate of *Dr. Hart*, who examined *Thérésia*, states, "that she exhibits a great many marks upon almost every part of her body, particularly on both sides of her breech, but none that appear to have been recently inflicted."

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In the reply made by the master of Thérésia, he states, that the negress is incorrect in her statement, inasmuch as it was on the 10th, and not on the 9th March, as she says, that she was sent to look for Azémia; and that it was not him, but her mistress, who sent her, and by whom she was offered a dollar if she would bring Azémia back.

With respect to the 2d charge, namely, her being obliged to rise every morning at three o'clock to milk the cows, he replies, that for a month past he has given up selling milk, in consequence of the numerous difficulties he has been exposed to by the desertion of his blacks; that he does not employ his slaves after the hour of four, when they return to their huts, and sleep in the morning until seven o'clock.

In reply to the 3d part of the complaint, in which Thérésia says she is obliged to cook and spread the table, and if that be not done by eight o'clock, that she is beaten, Mr. Michel offers the evidence of his neighbours to prove that he never breakfasts before half-past ten or eleven o'clock; that he dines at four, and that his daughters, who have been brought up in habits of industry, are the first to help, whether it be Thérésia or Sibane, in their domestic employment.

4th. As to her being obliged, after having served breakfast, to dig in the field until dinner-time, it is false, since he has no ground under cultivation, excepting a small piece employed for the growth of potatoes.

5th. With respect to having been several times punished for nothing, he states, that the fact of her having no recent marks of punishment on her person would make it unnecessary to reply to this charge; that she might have been punished by her former master; but that, although she has been guilty of making a previous false accusation against him, and has often left the house without leave, she has not yet received any punishment from him.

In reply to the statement of the negress, that she had not preferred her complaint to the Assistant-Protector of the district because he was the friend of her master, Mr. Michel declares, that he has never had any communication with the Assistant-Protector, other than that called for by the latter in his public character.

The Protector having considered the complaint and the reply thereto, is of opinion, that the error made by complainant in her declaration with respect to the time at which she was menaced, that is to say, on the 9th instead of the 10th, according to Mr. Michel, does not prejudice her case, because the incapacity of these people for all sorts of calculation is well known. 2d. The same opinion would apply to Mr. Michel's remark, that it was not himself, but his wife, who ordered Thérésia to go in search of Azémia; Mr. Michel being, of course, responsible for the actions of his wife. 3d. That the observations of Mr. Michel with regard to the recompense of a dollar, promised by his wife to Thérésia, should she bring back Azémia, might be true, but it is not proved by the proces-verbal of the interrogation of Augustin, who replied to a question put to him on this point, "that his mistress ordered Thérésia and Sibsan to go and seek for Azémia."

Result.—Under these circumstances, the Protector considering the complaint of Thérésia not altogether groundless, directed her to be returned to her master. She was admonished to be careful in the fulfilment of the duty she owed to him; whilst Mr. Michel was at the same time enjoined to show every kindness and humanity in the treatment of his slaves.

Complaint, No. 8.

Protector of Slaves Office, 27th March 1829.

Lizé, a negro boy 11 years of age, belonging to *Zélie*, a free woman of colour living in Hospital-street, Port Louis, having been found in the street by an Officer of Police with irons on his feet, has been sent to the Protector for inquiry into his case.

On asking him for what reason his mistress had put him in chains, he replied, that it was because he lost 100 sous which she gave him to pay to a shoemaker. Again questioning him on this point, he states, that he paid the money to the shoemaker, and that his mistress put the chains upon him because he had broken a bowl, and then fearing a further chastisement, that he ran away from her house. He has nothing more to say.

The boy bears marks of having a long time since received some stripes of a cane, but no evidence of recent punishment.

The mistress having attended, in conformity with a summons from the Protector, was questioned as to why she had put so young a boy as *Lizé* in chains, to which she replied, that it was his masters *Louis* and *Désiré*, with whom he had been placed as an apprentice, to learn the trade of shoemaking, who had put the chains upon him (though by her desire) and that they had done so because they could not otherwise keep him at his work; that he had frequently absconded, as proved by a certificate produced from the Office of maroonage.

On being asked if she was not aware that the law forbade her taking this mode of punishing a boy of his age, she replied, that she was ignorant of it; and being further interrogated as to the marks of punishment about him, she declared that he had never been beaten by her; and that those are marks of a punishment received from his former master.

Result.—The Protector viewing the case as an infraction of the Ordinance 20, of the 13th December 1826, transmitted the documents relating thereto to the Procureur-General, in order that the parties might be proceeded against as the law might require.

April 25.—It having been signified to the Protector by the Procureur-General's Substitute in the Court of First Instance that the boy's mistress had been fined in the sum of \$10, (10 Spanish dollars,) the boy was returned to her on payment of bague charges, &c.

Complaint, No. 9.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
28th March 1829.

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Hélène, a negress, aged 30 years, belonging to Mons. Jean Guilbot, living in Port Louis, states, that she left her master three weeks past, because on her telling him that she was ill and could not work, he replied, that if she did not work he would put her in chains. Having been so menaced, she quitted him at the same time. She also declares that her master allows to seven slaves (three of whom are children,) only three pounds and a half of rice per day for all of them.

On her being asked why she had not presented herself before, she replies, that it was from fear of being arrested by the gend'armes; and on being interrogated as to where she had been, and how fed during her absence from her master's, she states, that she slept under the veranda of her master's house, and that she provided herself with provisions by selling her necklace for fifty sous, to a black whom she does not know. And on being further questioned as to where she had passed her days, and whether she had been ill during the whole of her absence, she replied, that she passed her days in the little wood near to the "Rivière des Latiniers," and that she has been suffering ever since she quitted the habitation from the same malady.

Dr. Hart, the surgeon of the police, having examined the person of *Hélène*, certifies, "that she has a swelling below her hip joint, attended with some pain and copious discharge, and therefore recommends her being sent to the hospital. She appears to have been well fed and well clothed."

The *Sieur Guilbot* having been questioned as to the quantity and nature of the food given to his slaves, declares, that in quantity they have as much as they can eat: that he does not allow any waste, but if at any time they want more they always have it, and that he sometimes allows them meat, &c., and always the remains of his table.

On asking whether in reality the negress *Hélène* did sleep under the veranda of his house during the time she absented herself from her work, he replies, nothing can be more false; she lodged night and day with her husband, named Benjamin, who lives with Mr. *Jacotte*.

And with respect to her illness, he states, it was so much less severe than it had been, that according to the certificate of Mons. Bergsten, a medical man, she might be employed about any light work, and with this view he sent her to Mr. Duprat, from whom, however, she had escaped, since which he has seen nothing of her.

Result, April 8th.—The negress *Hélène* having been discharged from the hospital to the bagne, was this day delivered to her master upon his paying hospital and bagne charges. The Protector, however, first warned the master to be more circumspect hereafter in his conduct to this woman, whose general appearance, and the malady with which she is afflicted, indicate bad treatment in point of food, and inability to do any hard work; and he desired that for the future the master should allow her and his other slaves the usual quantity of a pound and a half of rice per diem. The Protector at the same time cautioned the negress as to her future conduct towards her master, and particularly with respect to her absenting herself from his house to go to the person she calls her husband, and other blacks, conduct which has been the cause of her late illness.

The master then paid the hospital and bagne charges, and the case was thus dismissed.

Complaint, No. 10.

Protector of Slaves Office, 30th March 1829.

Casimir, aged about 22 years, belonging to the *Sieur Erenaux*, residing at the Pondrière, in the quarter of Rivière Noire, states that he left the habitation of his master at 10 o'clock this morning, to complain of having received five stripes of a cord on his breech, for not taking care of the fruit trees under his charge.

On being reprimanded for quitting the habitation of his master, and coming to me without first making his appeal to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter, he replies that he erred in ignorance, supposing that he had a right to come to the Protector whenever his master "lui fait misère," to use his own words.

Result.—Having examined the person of *Casimir*, and found him to be without any mark whatever of punishment, but on the contrary, to have the appearance of being well fed, though indifferently clothed, he was returned to his master, and recommended to be careful and industrious for the future, and at the same time to be cautious in again appearing before the Protector with a complaint of so frivolous a nature as the present.

Complaint, No. 11.

Protector of Slaves Office, April 3d, 1829.

Jean Marie Meurier, a free man of colour, and a shoemaker, living in Moka-street, Port Louis, brought with him to the Protector a negress girl, aged about five years, named *Rosalie*, belonging to Mr. Collier, also of Port Louis. The little girl having her hands tied behind her, and her mouth gagged with a piece of cotton stuff and a small cord. The said *Jean Marie* declares, that *Rosalie* is his daughter by a negress named *Celestine*, belonging to the said Mr. Collier. That yesterday, on passing near the house of her master, he saw his child

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child with her hands and mouth tied in the manner described, and that he therefore brought her here in order to prefer a complaint against her master.

Being asked for what offence she had been thus punished, the child replied for none.

The Protector finding considerable difficulty in obtaining any satisfactory explanation from Rosalie on the nature of this affair, thought it expedient to request Mr. Collier to attend at his office on the following morning, which that gentleman did, then acknowledging it to be true that the child had been so gagged for having told a falsehood, a mode of punishment always adopted by himself and family towards the young slaves of the house when detected in similar offences; and Mr. Collier further states, that he was not conscious of committing an act of too great severity in thus punishing the child.

Result.—The Protector having explained to Mr. Collier, that the Ordinance 43 of the 7th February last, forbids the punishing of any female slave under the age of 12 years, otherwise than in the same manner, and to the same extent that free children would be punished under similar circumstances; and having also recommended him to observe the enactments of the said law, dismissed the complaint.

Complaint, No. 12.

Protector of Slaves Office, April 7th, 1829.

Socrate, a Mozambique slave, aged 60 years, belonging to Mons. Brue, of the quarter of "Rivière Noire," states that he is come to complain against his master for ill treatment. That he is made to work too much, being employed from gun-fire in the morning until gun-fire at night; that he is never permitted to go into the court to dine, but that he eats in the fields; and that digging is too labourious a work for a man of his age. Complainant quitted the habitation of his master on Saturday night last, and was yesterday sent from the Police to the bagné.

Seeing the slave to be exceedingly thin and ill-clothed, he was questioned as to the nature of the food he received. He replied that he was fed on rice, three bowls of which were allowed for every four slaves on working days, and two bowls on Sundays. Complainant states his health to be good, excepting that he is weak from age, and not able to dig, because that exertion brings on a pain in his loins. The certificate of the examining Surgeon proves the inability of complainant to work for any length of time during the day, and therefore recommends his being employed in a manner not requiring much bodily exertion.

M. Brue having been requested to attend at the office of the Protector, heard the complaint preferred against him. He positively denies the accusation of *Socrate* respecting his insufficiency of food, the allowance for each of his slaves being one pound and a half of rice per diem; Sundays and other days alike. He likewise states that complainant has been a maroon at intervals for the last month, which, coupled with his age, may account for his thin and emaciated condition. M. Brue, however, appeared satisfied of the impropriety of putting a man of *Socrate's* age and weakness to hard labour, and promised to take measures for his being hereafter employed on the lightest description of work on the plantation, such as sweeping the court and plantation yard, or as herdsman. With this, however, the slave was not satisfied, until the Protector informed him that he must submit to it, so long as he had no sickness or other bodily complaint to prevent him. The case was thus dismissed.

Complaint, No. 13.

Protector of Slaves Office, April 8th, 1829.

Maurice, a creole slave, aged 60 years, belonging to Mademoiselle Catherine Wilhomme, residing at "Plaines Vertes," states, that he comes to complain that his mistress obliges him to take care of her cows, notwithstanding the malady with which he is afflicted, and which renders him incapable of remaining in an upright position or of walking, without great difficulty. He therefore prays that she may be requested to set him to some other description of work, as soon as he may be capable of performing it; his illness at present preventing him from doing any thing, from the severity of pain he suffers on the slightest movement. Complainant quitted the house of his mistress this morning, coming direct to the Protector's office.

Result.—The mistress of *Maurice* has been recommended, and has promised, not to employ him on any other than the lightest description of work, and particularly to abstain from giving him that to do which would require his being in an upright posture, the nature of his complaint (rupture) rendering him quite incapable of any such employment. The slave being ready to return to his mistress, the case was dismissed.

Complaint, No. 14.

Protector of Slaves Office, April 10th, 1829.

Mélanie, aged 35 years, belonging to Mademoiselle Descia, living in the West Camp, states, that her mistress obliges her to leave home to seek for work, and to bring her four francs every day, whether she may have been employed or not; that in order to satisfy this tax on her labour, she has at times found herself forced to sell her clothes, so that at present she is almost without any. She also complains of being kept in a state of anxiety respecting her daughter, who is absent, as well as of being beaten by her mistress, and otherwise maltreated whenever she fails to produce the four francs a day.

Having

Having invited the said Mademoiselle Descia to repair to the Protector's office, and having read to her the complaint of Mélanie, she declares all that the negress has said to be false. That it is now 15 days that Mélanie has been absent without leave; that she has never obliged her negresses to seek for work elsewhere, because, being a washerwoman, she has always employment for them at home; and as far as regards the daughter of Mélanie, she is now in the bagné.

Result.—The negress having prevaricated greatly when in the presence of her mistress, with respect to her declaration of yesterday, and having no mark whatever of punishment about her person, the Protector, believing the complaint to be entirely groundless, directed her to be punished by being kept 10 days in solitary confinement; the mistress being at the same time recommended never to impose upon her slaves the necessity of bringing to her a daily price of their labour, as such a system, if practised, might induce those who could not honestly procure the money to obtain it by theft or other improper means.

Complaint, No. 15.

[Transmitted to the Protector by the Assistant-Protector of the District of Flacq.]

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 10th April 1829.

Charles, aged between 12 and 13 years, and belonging to Madame Beguinot, complains, that his mistress is continually maltreating him without any motive or reason whatever; that coming this morning to the habitation where he was at work, she caused him to be punished by the slave Alcindor, pretending that he had done no work, although he had been doing as much as others: that seeing the injustice of this treatment, he quitted the habitation in order to come and make his complaint. Charlotte, Petronille, Eufrosine, Perrine, and Talienne (his grandmother) were present when he was punished.

Charles exhibited several marks of the cane on his back, but in other respects his health appeared good, and he was well dressed.

Madame Beguinot, having attended at the Protector's office and heard the complaint of the slave, declared, that yesterday morning, between the hours of seven and eight, the said Charles was sent by her to carry two pairs of drawers and two waistcoats to the negress Perrine, for the purpose of being washed: that at 10 o'clock he had not returned, but arriving a few minutes afterwards, he was reprimanded for not being more expeditious. On the following Tuesday being again at the habitation, she had occasion to chide Charles for neglecting his work, and she then gave him a slight tap with her hand, upon which the boy became impertinent, and menacingly demanded what right she had to strike him, and immediately afterwards ran away. Feeling it impossible to put up with so much insolence, Madame Beguinot ordered the negro Alcindor to catch Charles and to punish him, which was done. Some hours afterwards she was told he had absconded, the reason of which she firmly believes to be, because he had stolen a pair of blue drawers which he had been charged to deliver to the washerwoman, Perrine.

Result.—August 13th. The Protector having examined this complaint, was about to send it back to the Assistant-Protector, for the purpose of examining the slave Alcindor, by whom the punishment was inflicted, and the woman Perrine, to whom the boy is said to have delivered a pair of drawers less than the number given him for that purpose by his mistress. But this was rendered unnecessary by the appearance of Madame Beguinot and the slave Alcindor, the latter acknowledging to have whipped the boy with a bunch of twigs (and not with a cane, as Charles had asserted) by order of his mistress, for, as he understood, being behind-hand with his work, and stealing a pair of drawers. The girl Perrine had marooned, and could not be produced; but the Protector having heard the mistress's further statement, which went to criminate the boy, as having been punished for theft some time ago, and which on reference to the Police was found to be the fact; and having ascertained that the boy's grandmother had instigated him to make this complaint, and countenanced him in his insolent behaviour to his mistress, the Protector under these circumstances dismissed the complaint against the mistress, but forbade any further punishment to the boy, on account of that which he had already received, cautioning him at the same time as to his future conduct and behaviour.

Complaint, No. 16.

Protector of Slaves Office, 11th April 1829.

Caprice, a slave aged 50 years, belonging to the Sieur Ana Samy, a free Indian, living in the Camp Malabar, complains, that his master obliges him to find employment, and to bring him daily three livres and nine sous by six o'clock in the evening, and that, when he is unable to obtain this sum, his master beats him: he also states that his age, together with the loss of the use of one hand, render him incapable of earning this sum.

Having examined the body of the complainant, and no mark whatever of punishment having been found upon it, and it appearing that Caprice was labouring under great imbecility of mind, the Protector requested the attendance of the Sieur Ana Samy at his office, to explain the circumstances complained of. Ana Samy declared, that instead of being sent out to seek for work, he is retained in his master's house, and employed in no other manner than bringing water, when he chooses to do so. The slave was then returned to his master, who promised to keep him in the house, and to take all care of him under his present unhappy condition.

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Protector of Slaves.

Complaint, No. 17.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
30th March 1829.

Hilaire, a slave belonging to Mr. Sibire, residing at "Morne," in the quarter of "Rivière Noire," states, that his master was in a passion with him on Saturday morning, the 21st instant, because he had not taken precaution to prevent the cattle from entering into the court during the night; upon which he told his master that he slept and did not hear the oxen, independent of which, that it was not his work to take care of them, as they had a keeper expressly for that purpose. His master then caused him to be led away by the commander, named Casimir, and then began to flog him with a cart-whip, giving him about 25 lashes. That after this punishment the commander obliged complainant to lay himself on the ground, his arms and legs being held by two other blacks, the one named Joaki the other Mardi, and then gave him about 50 lashes more with the same whip; in consequence of which complainant found himself in an unfit state to do any thing on that day. On the following morning he repaired to his old master, Monsieur Fortier, living at Tamarin, for a letter to carry back to his master, requesting pardon; instead of obtaining forgiveness, however, he was farther menaced, and he therefore left the habitation on Wednesday the 25th instant.

Being interrogated as to where he had been since Wednesday, he replied in the fields; and that he had fed on fruits. Complainant did not state his case to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter, being ignorant that he ought to do so. Dr. Hart being called upon to examine *Hilaire*, delivered to the Protector the following certificate:

"I certify having examined *Hilaire*, a slave, belonging to Mr. Sibire, and find both sides of his breech actually covered with cuts or marks, which he states were inflicted with a cart-whip. He has also some marks on his right shoulder. He is also ill from fever, and, in consequence, I would recommend him to be sent to the hospital."

(signed)

H. Hart, M. D.

Surgeon to the Police.

This complaint having been transmitted to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter, with directions to him to inquire into and report to me upon the same, that officer repaired to the plantation of the said *Sieur Sibire*, to whom he communicated the complaint of *Hilaire*. In reply to which, Mr. Sibire states it to be true, that he did punish the complainant, but it was after he had repeatedly pardoned him for the same offence. That the fault for which his slave had been corrected was not as he pretends, viz. for having neglected the oxen, of which he had not the charge; but for repeatedly absenting himself for whole nights, in opposition to the positive injunction of his master, who prohibited his sleeping out without first obtaining his permission, which he was always ready to grant when reasonably sought for.

The *Sieur Sibire* then states, that when the oxen broke out of the place in which they were kept, they spread themselves around the house, and some were even under the veranda. That being awake by the noise, he arose and called *Hilaire* (it might be about midnight), who was not to be found either in his hut or in the kitchen, where he generally slept, or on any part of the premises, and the keeper of the oxen being drunk in his hut, Mr. Sibire himself was obliged, with the assistance of the black, Mardi, to collect the cattle, and reconduct the cattle to the court-yard. That, towards two o'clock for the second time, and at four o'clock for the third, the oxen again escaped; when *Hilaire* was called in vain, and at point of day Mr. Sibire saw him coming from Mr. Colomb's (a neighbouring planter), when he seized the slave *Hilaire*, who, for this time, he could not excuse without compromising his authority, notwithstanding which, from a feeling of indulgence and consideration towards him, as his only servant, his intention was, rather to frighten than to hurt him, by inflicting on him only a few stripes of the cane. That he therefore said to a slave belonging to Mr. Colomb, named Joaki, then living on his plantation, "Bring that black!" going into his house at the same time for the purpose of finding a cane. That during this interval he heard *Hilaire* say to Joaki, "Let me go!" upon which Joaki did let him go. The slave then took to his heels; observing which, the *Sieur Sibire* followed him, crying "Stop him, stop him!" to all his blacks, who made no efforts to do so, or at least did not move with any apparent will to obey him. Declarant, however, soon overtook *Hilaire*, who, seeing himself on the point of being caught, threw himself into some thick brush-wood; on which declarant, addressing himself to his slaves, said, "You would not stop *Hilaire*, who passed near to you; very well: he is there, and if you do not bring him to me, you shall all be punished." Upon this one of them brought *Hilaire*, when declarant, having a whip in his hand, gave him about a dozen lashes across his shoulders and over his shirt: that when arrived at the habitation, he caused him to receive 25 lashes of the whip; in doing which he is aware that he committed an infraction of the late Ordinance, but he found himself without a martinet, besides which the correction was so light, that even on the same evening *Hilaire* left the habitation to go to Mr. Fortier's, nearly nine miles distant. Declarant further states it to be false that *Hilaire* brought a letter from Mr. Fortier.

It is true that that gentleman did write a letter, requesting pardon for *Hilaire*, which was brought by a young black instructed to accompany him; *Hilaire*, however, followed the boy until within a mile of the house, and leaving him there, marooned.

It was here observed to Mr. Sibire, that notwithstanding his *great cause* of complaint against the slave, the mode of punishment adopted by him, could not be viewed in any other

other light than a contravention of the 17th Art. of the Ord. No. 43. In answer to which Mr. Sibire admitted that he had some knowledge of this Ordinance, but he was ignorant of its being in full force, thinking that the representations made thereon to his Excellency the Governor, would have arrested its being carried into execution.

A lengthened examination of several slaves brought forward by Mr. Sibire then took place, by whose evidence it clearly appeared that the complaint of Hilaire was generally exaggerated, and in some instances groundless. The fact, however, of his being punished in the manner and to an extent unauthorized by law, obliges the Protector to transmit the case to the Procureur-General, in order that the said Sieur Sibire may be proceeded against for an infraction of the 17th Article of the Ordinance 43, of the 7th February 1829.

Result.—May 23d. It having been signified to the Protector that the Sieur Sibire has paid the fine of 100 dollars, or 20*l.* sterling, into the hands of the Substitute of the Procureur-General, the slave Hilaire has this day been returned to his master.

Complaint, No. 18.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
12th April 1829.

Aglaré, a creole negress, aged 22 years, and belonging to Mademoiselle Descia, of Port Louis, states that her mistress, who has lost two silver dishes, accuses her of having stolen them, in consequence of which, and fearing to be beaten, she marooned about two months past: that on returning to her mistress, at the expiration of five days maroonage, she received from the slave, Natub, by order of her mistress, 25 stripes of the cane on her breech, notwithstanding her declaration that she had not taken the dishes, nor did she know by whom they were stolen: that a fortnight ago she again received many stripes of the cane from the said Mademoiselle Descia, for having, as her mistress says, taken away a black knife, but which declarant says she never did take. *Aglaré* further complains of having no time allowed her for rest; that on Sundays even she is obliged to work in her turn with the other negresses (six in number) who are let out to such persons as will hire them for washerwomen or ironers, at four francs a-day, and that they are sometimes obliged to go out to seek employment, when they are forced to bring home, as the price of their labour, four francs a-day, whether they succeed in finding employment or not.

Dr. Hart, the medical attendant of this establishment, being called on to examine the person of *Aglaré*, certifies "that she has marks of punishment on both sides of her breech, and also on her shoulders, but they do not appear to have been inflicted with great severity; being, however, in the fourth month of her pregnancy, Dr. Hart is of opinion that punishment should not be inflicted."

Mademoiselle Descia having been summoned to attend at the office of the Protector, to answer to the complaint preferred against her, presented a paper, enumerating many offences with which she charged the said *Aglaré*:

1st. For having obtained from Mr. César, a clerk in the post-office, certain sums of money under false pretences.

2d. Her having on another occasion, when sent to collect the wages due to her mistress for the hire of her slaves, appropriated one-third of the sum received to her own use.

3d. That she has constantly been in the habit of marooning; and that on absenting herself in February last, *Aglaré* took with her the silver covers above alluded to, the knife, money, from her bazar account, and a large silver spoon.

4th. That from carelessness she allowed her mistress' house to be endangered by fire, which was only extinguished by the assistance of a slave accidentally passing by; in short, that she is subject to deprecation in every way from the said *Aglaré*.

Mademoiselle Descia being interrogated as to the period at which *Aglaré* obtained the money from Mr. César, replied 15 months past; and on being asked the name of the person from whom she received the money stated to have been applied to her own use, the mistress replied it was from Madame Merle, the place of whose residence, however, she does not know. The occurrence took place about five months past; and being questioned as to the number of times *Aglaré* had marooned, her mistress cannot tell; she is always marooning; she has frequently been denounced as a thief to the police; she has never, however, been punished by that department, but always by the said Mademoiselle Descia, her mistress.

On being asked what evidence could be produced of *Aglaré*'s having committed the last theft complained of, her mistress says, that she herself gave the spoons to be washed, and that all were returned excepting one; that the negress had not been punished for this offence, but for having stolen a pair of silver covers between the 25th January and 11th February last, and had then received five or six stripes of the cane on the shoulders, at which time the said Mademoiselle Descia was ignorant of *Aglaré*'s pregnancy, otherwise she would not have inflicted the punishment.

Result.—The Protector having duly considered this complaint, and the answer given thereto, is of opinion, that the several charges of theft and swindling made by the mistress against *Aglaré*, for which she acknowledges to have punished her about two months past, are too general to be admitted as evidence of the slave's guilt, more especially as on being called upon to produce proof of any one specific charge, she failed in doing so. With respect to the punishment inflicted on *Aglaré* in February, it occurred before the Ordinance, No. 43, came into operation, and consequently cannot be taken cognizance of; and as Mademoiselle Descia assured the Protector that she was ignorant of her slave's being pregnant

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pregnant when she chastised her on the 25th March with a cane on her shoulders, which punishment, according to the Surgeon's certificate, was slight, the Protector did not deem it necessary to send the case to the Procureur-General for prosecution, but dismissed it, admonishing Mademoiselle Descia as to her future conduct towards her slaves, pointing out to her the only punishment the law allows to be inflicted on female slaves; and warning her, at the same time, against the practice her slaves complain of, but cannot prove, of sending them to seek for work, and taxing them to pay her (whether employed or not) four francs per day.

Complaint, No. 19.

[Transmitted to the Protector by his Assistant for the District of Grand Port.]

Protector of Slaves Office, 13th April 1829.

Zephirin and *Petit Jean*, creoles, *Papillon*, *Jean*, *Pierre* and *La Fortune*, Madagascar blacks, *James* and *Agar*, natives of Mozambique, all slaves of the *Sieur Dalois*, jun. of the quarter of Grand Port, presented themselves to complain of the insufficiency of food allowed as their daily rations, producing at the same time some indifferent potatoes, which they declared to be the allowance for each man. This ration having been weighed by the Assistant-Protector, was found to be one pound and a half.

On its being observed to the complainants that they all appeared to be in excellent health and good bodily condition, which was somewhat surprising, considering the quantity and nature of the food allowed to them, they again affirmed it to be all they received from their master, and that what else they got was from their comrades, who were living on other estates, and who were better treated than themselves, particularly those on the estate of the *Sieur Bardet*, jun. and *Adolphe Dalais*, of the "Cantons des Marres." That on Sundays, when they could absent themselves, they sought food by digging in an old potatoe field; but this resource, they observed, was very precarious, as they shared the produce of their search with their comrades employed in the forest, and who are obliged to render a daily account of their work; that is to say, each sawyer must cut 100 feet of plant, and each squarer 40. The complainants further observed, that such slaves as do not complete this service are obliged to work on Sundays; that which would be but just, they observed, provided each black had a ration proportioned to his labour, which ought to be at least two pounds of maize for those working in the woods. They have no other cause of complaint than that stated.

The Assistant-Protector here observed to them the impropriety of leaving their work and the habitation of their master in so great a number, when one or two individuals would have been sufficient to represent their complaint, and that in future they must be careful of offending in like manner.

The *Sieur Dalois* having been called upon for a reply to this complaint preferred against him, declares the same to be entirely false, each of his slaves having, in addition to the ration of potatoes produced by complainants, one pound and a half of rice per diem (a fact amply proved by the declarations of three of his slaves examined on this point by the Assistant-Protector, and other incontestible evidence): that in fact, of potatoes they have generally more than they can eat; but as there are few of his slaves who do not possess two or three pigs, the surplus of their food is given to those animals; although the practice is not authorized on the estate, declarant has never positively forbidden it, seeing the facility and advantage it affords his blacks in rearing poultry, pigs, &c. With respect to the people employed in the forest, they have equal if not greater advantages, from being allowed to dispose of the slabs of the timber they work up; (this fact is also proved by the declaration of the persons accustomed to purchase the same). Declarant further states, that his slaves have an uninterrupted enjoyment of the Sabbath; that he does not believe 100 stripes of the cane to be inflicted on the whole of his establishment throughout the year, and that the whip is never allowed as an instrument of punishment under any circumstances whatever.

Result.—The Protector having taken this case into his consideration, pronounces the complaint to be not only false but malicious, and he therefore directs the Assistant-Protector to cause the eight individuals complaining to be punished on the estate of their master with 30 stripes of the cat-o'-nine-tails each; the same to be inflicted in the presence of the Assistant-Protector, who, should there be any extenuating circumstances in favour of any, or all, of the delinquents, is instructed to diminish the number of stripes at his discretion. He is at the same time instructed to request the master to assemble all his slaves to witness the punishment; and he is also to impress on their minds that the Protector, although ever ready to stand forward as the guardian and friend of the slaves, is determined to put down all attempts to impose upon him by false and malicious representations, such as those made by the complainants.

Complaint, No. 20.

Protector of Slaves Office, 13th April 1829.

Nanette, a creole girl, aged about 12 years, and slave of the *Sieur Garrien*, of Long Mountain, states, that her mistress is continually beating her; that she is expected to clean the room, bathe the child, work at the needle, bring water, and after that take the infant for a walk every day; that not being allowed a sufficiency of food, complainant left her master's house on Saturday last, coming here of her own accord, and not by the advice
of

of any one. The exact quantity of rice allowed to each of his slaves by her master complainant does not know, but it is certainly not enough to support her. Her mistress beat her on Saturday last with a cane, and on the breech; the number of stripes she does not recollect. She is often beaten, but on Saturday her punishment was so severe as to induce her to escape, in order to make her complaint.

The certificate of the examining Surgeon states, that he "finds marks of severe punishment on her breech, arms and shoulders; that her general appearance is emaciated, and that she is ill clothed."

Mr. Garrien, in answer to the charge brought against him, declares that the statement of Nanette, as to the quantity of food allowed to her, is false; that she has a pound and a half of rice per diem, *but this not sufficing*, she seeks the roots of maniocs, potatoes and other vegetables, which she eats in their raw state, although forbidden to do so.

With respect to her clothing, she has linen enough, but which they are obliged to lock up to prevent her stealing it. Declarant further states, that it was on account of her constantly marooning that she was punished by her mistress, who hoped by this means to retain her in the house.

The Protector considers the assertion made by the master, in his answer to the charge respecting food and clothing, to be contradicted by the reduced and emaciated state of the girl, whose disposition to eat raw maniocs, potatoes and other vegetables, arises, in his opinion, from the want of food and sufficient nourishment, instead of the enormous appetite to which the master attributes it. Adding these circumstances, therefore, to the fact of the girl's having been very severely punished, in contravention of the 18th article of the Ord. 43, the Protector conceives it his duty to denounce the complaint to the Procureur-General, for such proceedings as he may deem fit to take therein. The case was accordingly transmitted to that officer on the 25th April.

Complaint, No. 21.

Protector of Slaves Office, April 15th, 1829.

Cupidon, aged about 55 years, a slave belonging to Mr. Jean Joseph Amelin, of the quarter of "Rivière du Rempart," was this day sent to the Protector by the Chief Commissary of police. He states, that he quitted the house of his master about a fortnight past, because he had been too severely beaten for not doing his work; the reason of which was, that being unwell, he could not work. He also complains of having been punished with a stick and a cane.

On being interrogated as to where he had been since he left his master, he replied, in Port Louis; that he has slept in the streets, and has received sustenance from a comrade of his acquaintance. Complainant states, it is now fourteen days since he was last punished, and then it was by his master's orders; that there were many persons present when he received this correction, viz. Appolon, Azor, Barrack, and others, and that he received 50 stripes on all parts of his body. And asking him whether the punishment complained of caused his lameness, he replied, "Yes, yes;" and states that he has since been attacked with fever.

Cupidon also complains of being badly fed, having only one small bowl of rice per day, and that he works on Sundays as he does on other days, from four o'clock in the morning until seven in the evening, without having allowed to him sufficient time for meals.

The person of Cupidon exhibiting many marks of severe (though not of recent punishment,) and his being in a state of weakness so great as to prevent his standing on his feet, the medical man in attendance was called upon to report on his case. His certificate states, "that the slave bears marks of severe but not recent punishment on his breech and thighs, and that he is also labouring under extreme and general debility, which requires immediate hospital treatment."

19th April.—The complaint having been transmitted to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter, for investigation into the circumstances stated therein, was this day returned to the Protector, accompanied by a declaration from the Sieur Amelin, stating that the complainant is a very bad subject, from whom he can obtain no work whatever: that Cupidon had been for some time charged with the care of the hospital, but that his ill treatment of the invalids obliged his master to withdraw him from that duty: that under a promise of better conduct, he was afterwards placed in charge of a canteen, from which, however, he ran away, taking with him six dollars, the produce of arrack sold on declarant's account: that during his maroonage he represented himself to be a free man, and thereby entered into the service of an inhabitant of Grand Port, with whom he remained three months, but who at the expiration of that time found so great cause of complaint against him, that he was delivered into the charge of the police, and at his arrival at Port Louis was declared a slave, and the property of the declarant; upon which, in consequence of his emaciated appearance, he was liberated without receiving any punishment. For two months afterwards every possible care and attention was administered to the complainant. Scarcely recovered, however, he left the habitation of his master; the weather at this period being bad, and Cupidon not knowing where to go, he begged shelter of the commandeur of the Sieur Daruty, whom he had previously known; this person informed declarant of Cupidon's retreat, who was then brought back to the estate and punished with 30 stripes of the cane, as an example for the other blacks. That to prevent his future desertion he was employed in light work about the premises, and made to sleep in a "case," from which, however, he

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he has again escaped. Declarant further states, that the complaint is false, and made only with a view to annoy him, and he therefore begs that the Protector will award to the said slave such punishment as the case may appear to call for, when he shall have further evidence from other blacks of the establishment of its groundless nature.

Result.—26th April. The Protector, having this day received from the civil hospital a report of the death of the said Cupidon, which, according to the opinion of the surgeon in charge of that establishment, originated in a “depraved habit of body, paralysis and other constitutional causes, and not from any punishment inflicted on his person,” informed his late master of the event; and thus terminated the investigation of the matter.

Complaint, No. 22.

Protector of Slaves Office, 18th April 1829.

Céline, a negress, aged about 10 years, and belonging to Mr. Denis Lacondray, residing in Port Louis, appeared at the protector’s office on the 4th instant, and stated, that on the Saturday preceding her mistress gave her 15 stripes with a cane on her breech, in consequence of which she suffered much pain during the whole of that day: on the following morning she escaped to a house at Grande Rivière, where complainant met a woman named Marie, who recommended her to make a complaint at this office. Interrogated as to the reason of her mistress thus punishing her, complainant replied, it was for not sewing well, notwithstanding she did every thing in her power to content her mistress. A negress, named Manon, was present when the punishment was inflicted.

Dr. Hart, being called upon to examine the person of the said *Céline*, delivered a certificate, of which the following is a copy:—

“I certify having examined *Céline*, a negress belonging to Mr. Denis Lacondray, and find a great many marks of punishment on both sides of her breech, apparently inflicted with considerable severity.”

The Protector having invited the *Sieur Denis Lacondray* to attend at this office, and having also made him acquainted with the complaint of his slave, he states, that the little negress does not belong to him, but to *Madame Lisé Letort*, his natural daughter, with whom the girl has always lived; that the said *Madame Lisé Letort* now resides with him, as does also the complainant; the latter, however, about 15 days past, was sent to his country-house at “*Pointe au Sable*,” to be there placed under the superintendence of a woman named *Manon*, belonging to *Mademoiselle Demay*, a friend of Mr. Lacondray, and the mother of *Madame Letort*. Declarant also states, that the complainant has not been punished in his house, nor by any person in it, since *Mademoiselle Demay*, nor *Madame Letort*, nor himself, have been in the country during the last 10 days. Mr. Lacondray does not recollect the precise time at which he last saw complainant, but remembers it to have been on the day she was returned from the office of police, where she had preferred a complaint against him, the nature of which he does not know, the Commissary of police never having given him intimation of the same. On complainant’s arrival at his house, she was confined in the block; declarant was not at home at the time, but she was placed there by one of his servants, who had orders so to confine all slaves who should be brought back from maroonage: that 15 days afterwards *Céline* was sent to his country-house, where declarant has seen her once or twice since. At this time *Céline* had not received any punishment, neither had declarant given any orders for her being corrected, nor does he believe that any such instructions were given either by her mistress or *Mademoiselle Demay*; in short, that he is ignorant of her having received any punishment whatever beyond that of being shut up in the granary by his orders.

Declarant being asked if he knew whether *Céline* had been punished by the negress who has the care of his house in the country, replied, that he did not believe she had; and that he has no knowledge of her having received any punishment or correction in his house in town or in the country, either by his own orders, those of *Madame Letort*, or *Madame Demay*, or of any other person whatever.

The contradiction thus given by the declaration of Mr. D. Lacondray to that of *Céline* induced the Protector to call the complainant again before him, when she further declared, that she thought herself the slave of Mr. Lacondray, whom she always regarded as her master; that she well knows *Mademoiselle* or *Madame Letort*, though she did not know she belonged to her; her orders, however, were always obeyed, as were those of Mr. Lacondray and her mistress.

Explaining to *Céline* the contradiction given by Mr. Lacondray to the correction she complains of having received by his orders, she was again asked by whom that punishment was inflicted, and replied by the black, *Frederick*, at the habitation of her master at “*Grande Rivière*,” by his orders, and in his presence, as well as in that of *Manon*, a negress, belonging to him; and farther, that her master had come to the habitation in order to see her punished. *Céline* also states, that she has marooned but once; and that the reason for which she has been punished is because she did not do her needle-work to the satisfaction of her mistress, the wife of Mr. Lacondray.

On the 10th April *Céline* was again examined, at the request of Mr. Lacondray, and the following questions were then put to her:—

Question. By whom was *Madame Letort* served during the time she remained at the house of *Madame L. Salter*?—*Reply.* By myself and *Héloïse*.

Q. When

Q. When you were first at the police office, by whom were you advised to make your complaint against me?—*R.* By a woman who lives near to the church, whose name I do not know, but whose husband has quitted the colony.

Q. Should you know Marie again, were you to see her?—*R.* Yes.

Q. Did any other person advise you to come to the Protector?—*R.* Yes; Seraphine, a negress, who sells cakes close to the church.

On the 16th April Céline was again brought before the Protector, and on being asked where Marie lived, and whose slave she was, replied, Marie lives near the church, but to whom she belongs complainant cannot tell; she first met her near Grande Rivière, afterwards near to the church. Complainant did not know Marie before; but was recommended by her to make the present complaint, from her having shewn to Marie the marks of the punishment she had received. It was early in the morning of the day she came to the Protector that she saw Marie, who was then employed washing in the river. Complainant has known Seraphine a long time; she also advised her to come to the Protector to complain. When complainant at her last examination said that the *husband* of Marie had left the colony, she meant to say that the *master* of Marie was gone.

Complainant still persists in declaring that Frederick flogged her by her master's order, and that Manon was present at the time.

Frederick, a slave belonging to Mr. Denis Lacondray, and who is stated by Céline to have *inflicted* the punishment complained of, was examined by the Protector, and declared as follows:—

Declarant knows Céline, but does not recollect the day on which she was sent to the habitation in the country. She was conducted thither by a black belonging to the habitation, whose name he does not know; neither can declarant tell by whose order Céline was sent to the country. It was three weeks afterwards that he saw her there, and then he went with his master in his gig, and staid about half an hour. On that occasion Céline was sitting at the door of the saloon at needle-work; declarant did not speak to her, neither did he hear his master speak to her. He does not know whether his master ordered Céline to be confined in the granary, nor has he at any time whatever seen Céline punished, or even heard of her being corrected, either by the order of Mr. Lacondray, his mistress, or any one else. No one was present when he saw Céline, excepting Manon, who was at work by her side. Declarant never punished her himself, nor ever knew of any intention on the part of his master that he should do so.

On being asked if he knew the Bagnoir, near to the basin, close to which Céline says she was punished, declarant replied, that there are many Bagnoirs at the habitation, but that he does not remember that of which Céline speaks.

Having terminated the interrogation of Frederick, Manon, another slave belonging to the Sieur Denis Lacondray, and a negress, said to be present at the punishment of Céline, was next examined. She states that the complainant remained with her at the habitation only three days: that the Sieur Lacondray never ordered declarant to confine Céline in the granary either by night or by day: that she does not know the place called Bagnoir, where Céline says she received the punishment; there are several Bagnoirs. Declarant never saw Céline punished, neither does she know any person living at Grande Rivière with whom Céline can be acquainted, except a free woman named Adélaïde, living near to the habitation, who told her one morning that Céline had been to her house to ask, in the name of Manon, for some salt meat, which having obtained, she departed. Declarant never heard of Céline's being punished either by her master's orders, or by the orders of any one else; and further, that when Céline left the habitation she had none of the marks of punishment about her that are now to be seen.

On the 18th April Seraphine was called upon by the Protector to depose as to the fact of her having met the complainant after she had quitted the habitation of her master. She declares that she found complainant near the door of the church, crying, and much distressed, saying that her mistress was very cruel; and on examining her breech, declarant saw marks of very severe punishment. A negress passing at the moment, and observing the situation of the child, led her to the police. About eight days afterwards (for the second time) Céline was seen by declarant in an apparently distressed condition, and on being asked what was the matter, she repeated the same story to declarant. Céline then told her that she had been taken to the police, and was afterwards conducted by Mr. Vinay to her mistress, who was recommended not to punish her with such severity; notwithstanding which she was sent to the habitation to be punished, and afterwards put in the block, from which, however, she found means to escape. Declarant further states, that having again examined the person of Céline, she was astonished to see a child suffering so much from punishment as to be scarcely able to walk: that she then recommended Céline to return to her master to ask his pardon, at which moment a Mozambique black gave her into the hands of a gend'armes, who was before the door of the Protector's office, in order that she might make her complaint to him.

Result.—Contradictory as all the evidence taken in this case is, no doubt can be entertained of the girl Céline having been severely punished; and as by the 19th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43, the master is bound to prove that the punishment was not inflicted by him or by his orders, the Protector has no hesitation in denouncing the case to the Procureur-General for prosecution, as an infraction of the 18th Article of the above-mentioned Ordinance. Denounced accordingly, on the 28th April.

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Complaint, No. 23.

[Transmitted to the Protector by the Assistant-Protector of the Quarter of Flacq.]

Protector of Slaves Office, 21st April 1829.

La Rose, a slave belonging to the *Sieur Castera*, of Flacq, complains, that although he works with much willingness, his master beats him: that he has been put under the directions of the econome, in order to be brought under subjection: that for no reason whatever the said econome gave him, while at work, several stripes of the cane over his pantaloons: that he has neither Sunday to himself, nor the regular hours of repose he ought to have, being employed on Sunday morning in cleaning the cattle, removing the ticks from them, &c. He has nothing else to complain of.

The person of *La Rose* was then examined; several marks of punishment were discovered, all slight, and none recently inflicted.

The *Sieur Castera*, in reply to this complaint, declares, that the punishment inflicted on complainant was eight stripes of the cane, for having, in opposition to orders repeatedly given, left his tools in the field in which he had been at work, instead of bringing them back to the habitation: that immediately after he had received the punishment, he marooned. On the ninth day afterwards complainant was taken in the act of stealing maniocs belonging to the *Sieur Mamet*, for which he received nine lashes with a cat-o'-nine-tails. After this second correction he remained at his work for two days, and then again marooned. As to that part of the complaint stating that Sundays and the usual hours of rest are not allowed him, *Mr. Castera* declares the accusation to be false, his slaves never being employed on Sunday in any other manner than that allowed by the Ordinance, No. 43; viz. in cleaning and providing the cattle of the establishment with food, a work always finished by nine o'clock in the morning, after which his slaves are at liberty to go wherever they please.

The econome of the estate was then examined, whose evidence agreeing in all its points with that contained in the preceding declaration of *Mr. Castera*, and more particularly with respect to the punishment of *La Rose*, and the unfounded assertion, that he is deprived of his Sundays and the usual hours of rest.

Result.—The Protector, under these circumstances, thought proper to dismiss the case, by ordering the slave to be returned to his master, who was at the same time informed, that as *La Rose* had already been punished for the offences of marooning and stealing maniocs, as admitted in his (the master's) declaration, no further punishment ought now to be inflicted.

The slave, however, was cautioned as to his future conduct, and particularly on the consequences that must fall upon him should he follow his habit of marooning, or appear before the Protector with any more exaggerated or false complaints.

Complaint, No. 24.

Protector of Slaves Office, 21st April 1829.

Alexis, a creole belonging to the *Sieur Compty*, living in Port Louis, states, that having about two months past neglected the usual evening muster on the estate of his master, he became afraid to show himself, and therefore remained absent from work for the space of two days; at the expiration of this time he returned to the plantation, and begged forgiveness of his master, who, in lieu of granting him pardon, ordered him to receive 50 lashes with the whip. He was then put in the block, and on the following day was attached to a weight of 50 pounds by a chain fixed around his neck, and with this weight was constantly kept at work until Saturday morning last, when he escaped and went to the mountain touching the Peterbooth, where he broke his chain and left it with the weight; both of which he can find and bring to the Protector, if required.

Examining the person of *Alexis*, many marks of severe punishment were apparent on his breech, though none of them recent enough to verify his declaration with regard to the flogging he states to have received from his present master.

Persisting in his statement respecting the chain and weight, the Protector caused *Alexis* to be taken by a guard to the spot in which he says he left it, for the purpose of ascertaining the correctness of his statement in this particular point: *Alexis* returned without having found either chain or weight.

The *Sieur Compty* being called upon to answer the complaint of his slave, declares the whole of it to be false, inasmuch as he does not under any circumstances allow the use of the whip for the purpose of punishment, neither has he ever had belonging to him a weight or chain such as those described by complainant, who appears to be a slave of very bad character, constantly marooning and thieving from the other blacks of the estate.

Result.—The Protector having fully satisfied himself of the groundless nature of the accusation, intended to order complainant to be punished on the estate of his master, and in the presence of his comrades; but the master interceding, begged that he might for this offence receive a severe reprimand only, and be cautioned as to the punishment which would follow a repetition of it, hoping by these means to break him of his marooning habit. *Mr. Compty's* request being acceded to, the complaint was dismissed, and the slave returned to his master.

Complaint, No. 25.

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Protector of Slaves Office, 22d April 1829.

Elizabeth, a negress, aged 30 years, belonging to Mademoiselle C ezarine Lechelle, living in Port Louis, complains of ill treatment received from her mistress, who ordered her to rise very early on Sunday morning last, to iron linen until seven o'clock, when her mistress directed her to leave that work, and accompany Mademoiselle Marie to church, and then to return, in order to finish her ironing. After doing as she had been bid, complainant returned to her work, (which might have been at about 10 o'clock), at which she was kept until six in the evening, without taking any nourishment, although the other slaves were allowed to go and take their rations, her mistress saying, "you shall have nothing to eat the whole day, therefore content yourself with having been out walking all the morning." To this complainant replied, that it was by her orders she had been to the church, on which her mistress flew at her, caught her by the hair, and pushed her several times against the planks of the room, striking complainant also with her fist, and kicking her about the body, and after having thus chastised her, said to complainant, "go to the police if you choose, and there make your complaint," which the complainant immediately did.

Result.—The examining Surgeon, after a most careful examination of the person of Elizabeth, failed to discover any mark whatever of the blows and kicks complained of; and the Protector thinking it necessary to call before him the mistress of the slave, satisfied himself that the whole statement was false and exaggerated. He therefore severely reprimanded the negress, and returning her to her mistress, dismissed the complaint.

Complaint, No. 26.

[Sent to the Protector from the Quarter of Pamplemousses]

Protector of Slaves Office, 22d April 1829.

Denis, a creole slave, aged 19 years, belonging to the Sieur Bourgault Ducoudray, of Pamplemousses district, states, that being employed this morning with other blacks in cleaning a piece of young canes, his master told him that he was lazy, and did not work; to which complainant, however, made no reply. That immediately afterwards Laurie de Bailler seized him, upon which his master ordered the commander to bring a twig, with which he gave complainant eight or nine stripes on the back. He has nothing else to complain of, being well fed, and having Sunday, and hours of repose to himself.

Being examined, there were found upon his breech two or three slight marks of correction.

Result.—The Protector having received an explanation from Mr. Bourgault, in answer to the complaint of his slave, was convinced by it of the false and frivolous nature of the accusation; and seeing, moreover, that Denis had been instigated by other blacks of bad character to make the complaint, he directed Denis to be returned to his master, to receive, in the presence of his comrades, 25 lashes of the cat-o-nine-tails, the Assistant-Protector of the district being instructed to attend at the punishment, and to use his best endeavours to impress upon the minds of the slaves assembled on the occasion, the determination of the Protector to put down by severe punishment every thing like insubordination or neglect of duty towards their masters, more particularly when their alleged complaints are proved to be of so groundless a nature.

Complaint, No. 27.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 27th April 1829.

The slaves named *Alexander, Adonis, Mathurin, C ezar, Jupiter, Clement, Camille, C ecille, Calle* and *Augustin*, all belonging to Madame Ligerau, residing in the quarter of "Rivi ere du Rempart," appeared at this office to complain of having neither Sunday, nor hours of repose allowed them during the day, nor time even to take their meals. That they are obliged to rise at three o'clock in the morning, and work from that hour until nine o'clock in the evening.

It was here observed to the complainants, that at three o'clock in the morning it must be much too dark for work; but they replied, they were employed in collecting grass for the cattle until waggons came to take it away. Complainants state, that they are allowed three maniocs a day each as their ration, one of which was weighed by the Protector and found to be 12 ounces.

On the following morning Mr. Mathurin Ligerau appeared at the Protector's office, who (acting on behalf of his mother, the said Madame Ligerau) having heard the complaint of his slaves, declared the same to be entirely without foundation. That on Sundays the slaves are never employed after eight in the morning, until which hour they are employed in collecting grass, and taking care of the cattle: that they have their hours in the same manner as the slaves of the neighbouring plantations, viz. two hours for dinner, and three quarters of an hour for breakfast; that they do not rise in the morning until day-break, and that they do not work after sunset.

Edward, a free man, living in the district of Flacq, and a neighbour of Madame Ligerau, also deposed upon oath, that he has frequently visited her estate, but has never seen her slaves working out of time; that they rise at break of day to collect grass for the animals, and

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and then go to their work in the fields : that they have their hours of breloques as other slaves have, and that the Sunday work on the establishment never continues later than eight o'clock in the morning. Deponent further declares, that no one can be better able to give information on the manner in which the establishment of Madame Ligerau is conducted than himself, since he was employed for the space of nine years on the same.

The commandeur of the establishment, named Lindor, was then examined, who, hearing the complaint made against Madame Ligerau, deposed upon oath, that his comrades had endeavoured to impose upon the Protector a false statement against their mistress: that the corvée of which they complain, never lasts longer than eight o'clock in the morning: that the provisions are good and sufficient in quantity; and that as to the hours of rising and breloques, they are always regulated by the clock of Messrs. Damain, on which establishment the blacks are well fed and well treated in every respect; that, in short, he cannot understand how the said slaves of his mistress could dare to make the present complaint.

Result.—Four other witnesses being examined, and their evidence perfectly agreeing with the foregoing, clearly substantiated the groundless nature of the complaint, and the general bad character of several of the complainants. In consequence of which, the Protector ordered three of the ring-leaders to receive 25 lashes each, on the establishment of their mistress; four others to be confined in the stocks six nights, and the women to be confined separately for four successive Sundays on the habitation.

Complaint, No 28.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
29th April 1829.

Augustine, aged 22 years, and belonging to Mademoiselle Lalotte Egron, a free woman of colour, living in Port Louis, states, that about two months past she absented herself from the house of her mistress in consequence of being ill-treated; that after remaining away one month, she returned to beg pardon, instead of which she received 30 stripes of the cane on her breech, and after this punishment her mistress put a chain on her, which was fastened to one of the rooms of the house, where she is obliged to work at her needle night and day; that she has even passed several nights at work without being able to obtain the least repose. Complainant also states, that she received a blow with a stick in the mouth, which broke one of her teeth; that she is badly fed, and has no repose, not even on Sundays. Complainant quitted her mistress about a week past.

The certificate of the examining surgeon states, that Augustine has some slight marks of punishment on her breech, apparently of long standing. The surgeon is also of opinion, that the wound in her neck is the mark of an old ulcer, as the negress has several of the same description on various parts of her body.

The mistress of Augustine appearing before the Protector declared, that the complainant escaped from the chain by which she had been confined to the house 12 days past. That she has been 17 years in declarant's service without discovering any incorrectness of conduct, but that within the last 12 months she has become completely changed. That she has been a maroon four times during this period, on one occasion remaining away six months, only because she had received two or three slight slaps of the hand for staying out of the house until a late hour of the night, in opposition to her positive orders. Declarant further states, that not being able to keep her negress within doors, she was obliged to chain her. She denies altogether ever having struck complainant with a stick.

Result.—The Protector, after having reprimanded the slave, and threatened her with severe punishment in the event of her again offending in the like manner, or giving to her mistress any cause of complaint against her, dismissed the case and directed the negress to be sent back to her mistress.

Complaint, No. 29.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
April 29th, 1829.

Prosper, a creole, aged 30 years, and belonging to Madame Chazal of Vacois, in the quarter of "Plaines Wilhems," states, that during the last three years he has been employed in the woods, cutting shingles. That having broken his cleaver, he dared not return to his mistress to say so; but repairing to a woman of his acquaintance, he borrowed another. On his return in the evening, he told his mistress what had happened; she directed the tool to be repaired. It was unserviceable, however; he therefore continued to use that which he had borrowed, requesting a negress to go to his mistress and ask for the cleaver which had been mended. This, after some days delay, was done; the woman receiving and bringing away the tool. But what was the astonishment of Prosper when he found that his mistress had ordered the commandeur to give him 50 stripes of the cane on the back, immediately after which her son gave him 10 more. The said Prosper asking the reason of this punishment, was told it was because he had instructed the woman to come and ask for the "cleaver." He further states the punishment to have been inflicted upon him on Monday last, and that he left the house of his mistress yesterday, coming straight to the police, from whence he has been sent to the Protector's office. Declarant also states, that he is obliged to work on Sundays until three o'clock in the afternoon, his mistress promising

missing to pay him for such work : but he has never yet received any recompence on that account. The son of his mistress, the commandeur, and the black, Belloni, were present. Complainant states, that he has marooned but once.

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The following is the certificate of Dr. Hart, who examined the person of Prosper :

Port Louis, April 29th.

" I certify having examined Prosper, a slave belonging to Madame Chazal, and find several marks on his back and shoulders, and also on his left arm, all of which he states were occasioned by his having been punished with the branches of a tree; but the flogging does not appear to have been attended with any unusual severity."

(signed) *H. Hart, M. D.*
Surgeon to the Police.

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René, a slave belonging to Madame Chazal, was examined by the Assistant-Protector, and declared, that he knew Prosper, whom he punished during the last week with 15 stripes of the cane, by order of Mr. Furcy, the son of Madame Chazal; after which the said Mr. Furcy, taking the cane in his own hand, gave Prosper three or four stripes more, and then sent him away.

Declarant being asked with what instrument complainant had been punished, replied, with a small twig taken at the moment from a young tamarind tree; Mr. Furcy and the black, Benoni, were present, but Madame Chazal was not present at the correction. Declarant cannot say for what offence complainant was corrected; but states that the slaves of the plantation do not work on Sundays after the hour of seven or eight o'clock in the morning; but if it does happen that an individual works longer than this, his mistress always satisfies him by ordering double rations, a glass of arrack, salt, and other things to be issued to him.

It was here observed to declarant that Prosper complains of being made to work on Sundays until three o'clock in the afternoon, and that he received no recompence for such labour. Declarant was therefore called upon to say what he knew with respect to this charge; declarant replied, that he could say nothing about it, except that he never heard any one of his comrades, not even Prosper himself, make any complaint of this nature. Declarant does not consider the complainant to be habitually a maroon; he recollects his marooning once, when he staid away for several months.

Benoni, another slave of Madame Chazal's, recollects Prosper's being punished in the beginning of the last week by René, under the orders of Mr. Furcy Chazal; that he received several stripes with a tamarind twig, but so lightly, that Mr. Chazal, taking the twig from René, gave complainant 10 or 12 stripes, and then sent him away; René inflicted four or five stripes at most. Mr. Furcy Chazal, René, and declarant were present at the punishment. For what offence Prosper was punished, declarant cannot tell. Respecting Sunday labour, declarant states that the slaves on the estate are not accustomed to work after the hour of seven in the morning; should they by chance work later than that hour, they always receive a satisfactory compensation. Declarant does not believe that his mistress could treat complainant in any other manner than she treats the rest of her slaves. He thinks it likely, however, that Prosper, who was once engaged until past noon in repairing a carriage, was desirous that Madame Chazal should give him four francs and a bowl of salt.

The complaint of Prosper having been communicated to Madame Chazal, and that lady requested to reply thereto, the following explanation, dated 3d instant, was received from Mr. Furcy Chazal, her son, who, acting on her behalf, declares, that as he was taking from the store-room the implements necessary for the next day's supply of the shingle-cutters at work in the forest, complainant informed him that his "cleaver" belonged to an old inhabitant of the quarter, named Madame Jean Paul, who had lent it to him some time past; upon which Mr. Chazal observed, that he would write to this lady, requesting her to spare him the tool, and in the meantime he would give him another. Complainant, however, said this was too heavy, declaring that he neither could nor would use it; and, in short, complainant refused to obey his master's directions. On the following day, two women (strangers) presented themselves to Madame Chazal, requesting to know what was required of them. Surprised on her part, Madame Chazal, after informing herself of the names and residence of the women, learnt, that they had been sent by another negress, instructed by Prosper to ask in the name of Madame Jean Paul for the cleaver which had been lent to complainant. These negroes had forgotten the greater part of the message given them, and were about to retire, when Prosper returned from his work. On being reprimanded with respect to his insubordinate conduct, and his audacity in sending the negroes on such a message, complainant became so insolent that his master felt himself obliged to direct René to punish him with 15 stripes of the cane, or rather, a small twig which was broken from a tree for the purpose; and that in consequence of the indifference and lightness with which René inflicted the punishment, declarant took the twig from his hands after René had given him two or three blows, and then gave complainant about a dozen more himself.

With respect to the charge brought against Madame Chazal relative to Sunday labour, declarant positively denies it, and states, that if by accident any one of her slaves happens to be employed beyond the usual time, he is always paid to his satisfaction, as may be proved by every slave on the establishment; and declarant further states, that the slave

Prosper

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Prosper has never had withheld from him any reward whatever to which he has been entitled.

Result.—The Protector having considered the evidence thus adduced, is of opinion that the complaint of Prosper is altogether groundless, as proved by the declaration of the master and those of his slaves. Prosper has also been proved to have been guilty of much ingratitude towards his mistress; and further, to have suborned two negresses to support his false accusation. Complainant is therefore ordered by the Protector to receive 30 lashes of the cat-o-nine-tails on the estate of his mistress, and in the presence of the other blacks of the establishment.

Complaint, No. 30.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
8th April 1829.

A body of 15 slaves from the establishment of Madame de Bissy, of the quarter of Grand Port, presented themselves in a tumultuous manner, preferring a complaint of bad treatment received from their mistress. The Assistant-Protector of the quarter having signified to these slaves his displeasure at their thus leaving the habitation of their mistress, directed that three individuals should be selected to make known to him the grievance of which they came to complain, and ordered the others to return peaceably to their work.

Salamine, a Mozambique, aged about 35 years, was then examined: he declared that he had but one cause of complaint, viz. that the overseer did not give him time to attend to the calls of nature.

The second, named *Jean Baptiste*, a creole, aged 22 years, complained of the same thing; adding, that the work of looking after the cattle, and providing food for them on Sundays, continued until too late an hour.

The third complainant, named *Arthur*, a creole, aged about 35 years, states precisely the same thing; adding, that five bowls of maize, allowed him as his week's provisions, was insufficient.

Such is the nature of their complaint, and that of which their comrades have to represent.

The Assistant-Protector having summoned the *Sieur Rozemont*, manager of the estate of Madame Bissy, to appear at his office, and having read to him the foregoing complaint, received his declaration, stating, that when declarant entered on the establishment of Madame Bissy the greatest disorder reigned throughout the management of her affairs: that lady, always absent from the estate, had employed persons but ill capable of taking care of her interests. The slaves, from example, had acquired the habit of absenting themselves in parties from their work, under the pretext which now forms the ground of their complaint. It was soon perceived by declarant, however, that such was not the object of their frequent absence; and in order to put a stop to imposition, declarant issued orders to do away with such practice, by allowing only one slave to absent himself at a time. This change gave great dissatisfaction to the blacks; but the work of the estate went on well, and declarant persisted in his resolution; in consequence of which, the said *Sieur Rozemont* declares, that during the last month he has not once had occasion to overlook the slaves himself. As far as regards their food, their complaint is unjust, it ever having been declarant's custom to allow two pounds of maize to each man, thereby giving the slaves an opportunity of rearing poultry and pigs in abundance. The Sunday-work of which they complain is also exaggerated; it consists only in freeing the cattle from the insects attached to them, and the time occupied in this work is very inconsiderable.

Result.—The Protector having considered with attention the nature and circumstances of this case, views it as one in which the law authorizes him to make an example of the complainants; they not having only brought a false and frivolous accusation against the said manager, but having also aggravated the offence by their tumultuous conduct; and in order, therefore, to suppress the least tendency to insubordination, he directs that the 15 slaves shall be punished on the estate of their master, and in the presence of all their comrades, with 30 lashes of the cat-o-nine-tails each, the Assistant-Protector to be present, who is to take this opportunity of impressing upon the minds of the slaves, that the only terms upon which they may hope for the support of the Protector (and which he is always ready and desirous to afford when their complaints are founded), is the quiet and full discharge of the duty they owe their masters, and those placed in authority by them.

Complaint, No. 31.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
15th April, 1829.

Mercure, a Mozambique, aged 30 years, belonging to Mr. Jean Joseph Mamet, of the quarter of Flacq, complains of constant ill treatment received from his master, notwithstanding he does all in his power to content him. That he is beaten with a stick and cane; and that he has never marooned.

On complainant's being questioned as to the manner in which he had obtained the blow, causing the swelling on his arm, complainant replied by a stick, and from his master, who, not content with complainant's manner of digging, daily threatened him unless he worked better, which he was unable to do, in consequence of the inflamed state of his arm. *Mercure* also states that the commander, and the slaves *Salomine*, *Louis*, *Isidore* and

and Flore were present when he received the blow on his arm. That his master does not allow him his Sundays, all the slaves being obliged to work on that day until past 12 o'clock at noon. That he has only half an hour allowed for each meal, and that the slaves of the plantation are forced to work from gun-fire in the morning until six in the evening.

The examining Surgeon, in his certificate on the case of complainant, states, that he finds "marks of punishment on his back apparently of a week's duration, and an extensive swelling on the left arm, which requires medical treatment." Mercure was consequently sent to the civil hospital, and his complaint transmitted to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter of Flacq, to be inquired into by him.

On the 22d April the complaint was returned, accompanied by the proces-verbal of a declaration made before the Assistant-Protector by the said Sieur Jean Joseph Mamet, in which he states, that he has no slave of the name of Mercure, but supposes the complainant to be Hercule, who has absented himself from the plantation since Tuesday last. That the complaint is false. Declarant admits it to be true, that about a week past, being with his slaves on a plantation, and perceiving that Hercule relaxed from day to day in his work, he ordered the commandeur to give him five stripes of the cane; but with respect to the blow on his arm, which complainant states to have been received from the declarant, it is entirely false, the swelling having been occasioned by a boil, which discharged itself on Monday last (the truth of which is easily proved); and then, seeing Hercule to be in a state unfit for work, declarant sent him to the house, to be taken care of by Madame Mamet until he should be recovered; complainant taking with him a box containing his linen, &c., which was also received into the house. Complainant, however, from time to time withdrew its contents, and on Tuesday morning left the house of his mistress. Declarant states it to be equally false that Hercule is deprived of his Sundays, or that he has only half an hour allowed him at each of his meals. The whole of his slaves may be called upon to prove that they have no other employment on Sunday than that of supplying his house and themselves with water for the day, and the cattle with grass, a work occupying but a very short time. On other days, as declarant's slaves have always task-work to perform, they begin at what hour they please, and take their meals in the same way. And as to Hercule's assertion, that he received the wound on his arm from the blow of a stick, given him by declarant in the presence of the commandeur, Salamine, Louis, Isidore and Flore, declarant states, that those slaves, if interrogated, will sufficiently prove the falsity of the accusation. The slaves above-named were then individually examined. Alexander (the commandeur) declares it to be false that complainant was struck by his master; but states that the inflammation on his arm arose from two boils. Declarant inflicted a correction of five stripes of the cane on Hercule, because he was lazy, and never finished his work like his comrades. It is also false that they are deprived of Sundays, and necessary time for repose. They breakfast and dine at the hour they please, always having task-work allotted them, a kind of labour they much prefer, as it allows them to regulate their own time; and as for Sundays, they have only to supply the cattle with food, and themselves and their master's house with water.

Salamine and Louis were then examined, and their evidence agreeing in every particular with that of the preceding declarant, induced the Protector to think further investigation of the complaint unnecessary.

Result.—The complaint being evidently false and malicious, it was the Protector's intention to mark his opinion of it as such, by ordering the complainant to be slightly punished on the estate. At the request of his master, however, Hercule has been discharged with a severe admonition and caution as to his future conduct.

Complaint, No. 32.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
22d April 1829.

Adeline, a negress, aged 23 years (with her two children), and *Pierre Louis*, aged between 14 and 15 years, both slaves of Madam Sturbel, of the district of Savanne, appeared before the Protector to lodge a complaint against their said mistress.

Adeline, on her part, states, that her mistress imposes on her the task of making four sacks a day, (the usual task allotted to those negroes who have no children to nurse,) and that notwithstanding she does complete her work daily, complainant is continually beaten by her mistress on account of Pierre Louis, who has been put under her orders; that he being only between 14 or 15 years of age, is quite incapable of completing four sacks a day. That the said Madame Sturbel ordered the commandeur, Jean Baptiste, to give complainant 25 stripes of a large cane on her breech on Wednesday last, in her presence, and in that of Georgette, Madelaine, Justine, Christine and Victoire: that she remained on the estate until Monday following: that on Sunday her mistress made complainant's child (three years and a half old,) work in collecting the "vacois" leaves; and the child not having satisfied her mistress in her manner of executing this work, received about a dozen stripes of the same large cane. On Monday morning, complainant consequently left the habitation with her two children, (one at the breast, the other, named Elizabeth, above alluded to,) for the purpose of preferring this complaint. Adeline further states, that she did not present herself to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter of Savanne for fear of being sent back to her mistress, who not only obliges her, but all the other

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negresses to work until seven o'clock on Sunday morning, in making each a sack; in the event of their not completing which, they are placed in the block.

Pierre Louis, on his part, states, that his mistress would oblige him to make four sacks a day, which is more than he can do, in consequence of his age and want of strength; and that not being able to accomplish this work, he is beaten on the breech two or three times a day. That on Wednesday last, a black, named René, was directed by his mistress to give him 25 stripes of the cane, in the presence of Caroline, Jean Marie, Madeline and Georgette, and that Madame Sturbel was herself present at this punishment.

Dr. Hart's certificate is as follows :

" I certify having examined Adeline, a slave belonging to Madame Sturbel, and find she has a few marks of punishment on her breech, but not inflicted with much severity.

" I have also examined Pierre Louis, a slave belonging to Madame Sturbel, who has several marks on his breech, but particularly on the right side; but I have some doubt of these being the result of blows with a rattan or whip, as stated by the boy, although I am unable to state in what manner those marks have been occasioned.

" Port Louis, 22d April 1829.

(signed) " H. Hart, M. D.
" Surgeon to the Police."

28th April.—The preceding complaint having been transmitted to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter of Savanne, with instructions to him minutely to inquire into the circumstances complained of, the same has this day been returned to the Protector, accompanied by the declaration of Madame Sturbel, together with a proces-verbal of the examination of her slaves, Jean Baptiste, René, Georgette, Madeline, Justine, Christine, Victoire, Caroline and Jean Marie.

Madam Sturbel declares, that four days before the complainant left the estate she had a dispute with her husband, named René, and was beaten by him, in consequence of which she did not produce on the following day (Saturday) her task of four sacks. Complainant was therefore called before declarant, and reproached for her want of exactitude in her duty, (Adeline being at that time 18 behind-hand in the number of sacks due from herself and the children under her superintendance). That on Sunday morning, in order to have the place cleaned, she directed the women to sweep up the ends of the vacoua leaves, and the children to collect together such pieces as were serviceable. Declarant being in the veranda at this time, and having in her hand a cane which she generally carried, gave the complainant and her child, on passing them, several stripes, because the latter would not obey her. With respect to the correction on her breech, and of which there appear marks, complainant brought it upon herself by being out at nights, and leaving the infant in her hut, and having already lost one child in consequence of her libertinage. That the punishment of which she particularly speaks as having received on Wednesday last (ten stripes of the cane), was for being out at nights and returning late in the morning. That the children whom Adeline ought to instruct in making sacks, not doing their work, are by complainant beaten when she is angry. It was with a view of keeping complainant at home that the negress Adeline was corrected. Declarant further states, that Pierre Louis was punished by the black, René, because he would not do his work with attention, and that the marks which are particularly observable on his right side arise from his having been held by the hand when punished by René, the blows consequently falling heavier on one side than the other.

Jean Baptiste, commandeur, recollects complainant's being punished by him with 25 stripes of a small rattan of rose twigs, on Wednesday of the week preceding the Sunday on which Adeline left the establishment of her mistress. Declarant does not remember the child Elizabeth's being corrected; but Pierre Louis, when he has neglected his work, has been several times punished with the cane. On Sunday morning the negresses render an account of the sacks made during the week, and they are put in the block when behind with their work.

Georgette, a domestic servant of Madame Sturbel, deposes, that she saw the negress Adeline receive 25 stripes of the cane on Friday, as well as Pierre Louis; but that the said Adeline was not corrected on the Sunday of which she speaks; and that her little child only received some blows of a ruler from her mistress. Deponent well knows, that on Sunday morning those who have not finished their task for the week are obliged to complete it, or go to the block.

Madeline, an old negress, charged with the superintendance of the sack-makers, states, that Adeline was punished because she did not keep those placed under her charge properly at work. Declarant does not recollect the precise day on which she was punished. It is not true, however, that the child Elizabeth was corrected by the commandeur; Madame Sturbel herself certainly gave the child some blows.

Justine can say nothing relative to the punishment of Adeline, her child, or Pierre Louis, because she was at the hospital when it took place. On Sundays all the sack-makers are called upon to make one sack, and those who have not completed their week's task are put into the block.

Christine declares, that Adeline was beaten with a cane on Wednesday and on Friday before her departure, but that her child received only a few blows of a ruler from her mistress

mistress on the Sunday morning; that Pierre Louis had received only 10 stripes of the cane three times during the week.

Victoire, a Madagascar negress, only heard that Madame Sturbel had beaten Adeline and her child, and that Adeline had consequently left the establishment.

René was then examined. He states, that he had a dispute with Adeline, his wife, who scratched him very much in the face; that during the week his mistress twice ordered him to flog Adeline, once in the veranda, and once in her own room; declarant also corrected Pierre Louis, by his mistress' order; and that on Sunday Madame Sturbel gave Adeline and her child Elizabeth some blows with a ruler, after which complainant left the habitation.

Jean Marie well recollects that Pierre Louis has been beaten often enough, because he did not complete his task: that instead of bringing three sacks, he hardly ever brought more than two finished, and one partly so. Declarant also recollects René's flogging Pierre Louis on the day alluded to.

Caroline states, that Pierre Louis is often beaten because he does not do his work, and that on the day mentioned he received a strong correction from René, because he idled away his time. All the young blacks of the establishment are put under the direction of Adeline, who makes them work according to their abilities.

The Protector, with this evidence before him, and an admission on the part of Madame Sturbel as to the manner in which she had punished her female slave, Adeline, cannot view the case of the complainant Adeline otherwise than as an infraction of the 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43. With respect to that of the boy Pierre Louis, it would appear that he has not only been punished with too great severity for a boy of his age, but that he has also been flogged several times in one week, and even more than once in the same day, consequently without giving that time required by law between one correction and another. The Protector therefore considers it his duty to transmit the case to the Procureur-General, for prosecution against the said Madame Sturbel, under the 17th and 18th Articles of the Ordinance in Council, No. 43.

Complaint, No. 33.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
11th May 1829.

Cacala, a slave aged about 50 years, and belonging to Mr. Castera, of the quarter of Flacq, declares that he is continually maltreated by the econome, Mr. François, as well as by his master, both of whom are ill-disposed towards him: that during the last week he received several blows of a cane on his back, by order of the said Mr. François, for not hearing him when called; one of these blows cutting into his flesh, caused a swelling which gives him much pain: that he is allowed but one pound of rice per day, and scarcely time to take his food before he is called by the econome to go to work: that for nearly two years past he has received no clothes from his master, and that he is frequently obliged to clothe himself with coarse sacking: that he is allowed no breloques, and that he is obliged, with the other blacks of the plantation, to rise at three in the morning, and continue employed until gun-fire, or eight in the evening: that with the others he works on Sunday until noon, and sometimes until one o'clock in cleaning the cattle, and the yards in which they are kept. Declarant also states he did not know that he ought to have made his complaint to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter of Flacq: that he quitted the estate of his master on Saturday last, and appeared at the police office yesterday.

Dr. Hart, who examined the person of the complainant, delivered the following certificate:—"I certify having examined *Cacala*, a slave belonging to Mons. Castera, and find that he has several old marks of punishment on his back, shoulders and breech; he appears about 45 or 50 years of age, looks thin and emaciated, seems ill fed, and badly clothed."

On the following day ten individuals, all slaves belonging to the said Mr. Castera, also presented themselves at the Protector's office, complaining that their master allowed them no breloques, nor time to take their food: that he obliges them to cook their rations in the evening, in order that they may take them to the fields on the following morning: that they have only a quarter of an hour, or half an hour at most for breakfast, and the same time for dinner: that they are not allowed, under a pain of being punished with 25 stripes of the cane, to take their food in the court-yard: that on Sunday they are obliged to clean the cattle, on which they are employed until one, and sometimes two o'clock in the afternoon: that a day never passes without their being beaten, either by their master or his econome with a stick or cord; the stick they have brought expressly to show to the protector: and that on asking why they are punished with such a stick, their master replies "What, you will talk with me! Go to the police, and there ask why I beat you." That it is quite impossible to please Mr. Castera, who even beats them while at work: that having been so frequently called before the police, their master no longer beats them with a cane, because it leaves marks, while the stick causes only inflammation and some black spots.

On being asked why they had dared to leave their work on the estate in a body, and if they did not know that such a practice was altogether forbidden, they replied, if two or three only had come, the Protector would not have believed them, but would have said it was only those two or three who were ill-treated, and not all of them; besides which, they did not know they ought not to have come in a body. Complainants further state, that

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their master has 150 head of cattle to be cleaned every Sunday morning. They are 16 blacks, and 12 on the estate, who are all employed in this work, which generally occupies them from sun-rise until noon, and sometimes later, after which they have nothing to do.

Estasie, one of the complainants, further declares, that the marks which she bears on her breech are the result of a flogging of 25 lashes with a cart-whip, which she received from her master about a month past, and at which almost all the slaves were present. She further states, that she was punished in the field at the time they were working, stretched on the ground, with her hands held by Courcier, now present, who confirms what complainant states.

The complainants were then examined by Dr. Hart, whose certificate states, "that Antoine has slight marks of punishment on the right side of his breech. Bourdeaux, a negro, has several marks on both sides of the breech, apparently very old. Guillaume has several old marks also on his breech. Jean Louis has no marks whatever. Courcier has very extensive marks of laceration on his shoulders and breech, apparently very old. *Estasie*, a negress, has slight marks on her breech; she appears weak and emaciated, and apparently ill-fed. *Toinette* exhibits marks on her breech and back, apparently old. *Perrine* has some very old marks on her breech; *Celestine* also exhibits some very old marks on her breech. All the above, except *Estasie*, appear well fed and tolerably clothed. *Perrine* seems old, and should be exempt from hard labour."

May 14th.—The Protector being of opinion that a personal investigation of this complaint might be attended with good effects, more particularly as the present instance is not the first in which the *Sieur Castera* has been complained against by his slaves, repaired to the estate, accompanied by the Assistant-Protector of the district of Flacq, and there calling before him the complainants, and reading to them the substance of the depositions made by them at his office on the 11th instant, received from each a declaration that such was the complaint they meant to make.

The Protector then proceeded to examine the other blacks on the establishment of *Mr. Castera* (16 in number, not parties in the said complaint), by whose evidence that part of the complainants' statement respecting the constant punishment inflicted by their master was proved to be completely false, more especially that part in which *Estasie* states that she received 25 lashes with a cart-whip, since all the slaves of the establishment, not even excepting the complainants, now agree in stating that the said *Estasie* had been corrected for marooning. The precise period at which the punishment took place they do not recollect; it was before a certain field of maize, now in flower, was planted, and must consequently be at least four months ago. And further, that the punishment was inflicted with a cane and not a whip. Two other negroes being examined on this point, declared that *Estasie* was punished on Monday last, thereby proving to the Protector, beyond all doubt, the false and malicious nature of *Estasie's* statement.

The slaves being next examined on the quantity of food allowed them, declared that they were perfectly satisfied with it, and that they were allowed their breloques and Sundays: that they breakfast and dine according to the clock of *Mr. Carles*; but that the econome does sometimes make them rise before the bell of that establishment sounds for the people to return to their work. The econome denies this; and the *Sieur Castera* admits that he does not exactly know the time his slaves have for repose, having given orders that the same shall be regulated by the bell of *Mr. Carles*, in consequence of the good order observed on that establishment. With respect to Sunday labour, which consists only in cleaning the oxen and providing them with food, complainants persist in saying it continues until mid-day, and sometimes later; but that when *Mr. Castera* is himself present, the same work is finished by eight or nine o'clock in the morning: this the other slaves of *Mr. Castera* confirm. With regard to the hours of daily labour, it is admitted by all that they begin at sunrise and cease at sunset.

Interrogated as to the truth of complainants, in stating that they were beaten with a large stick, such as that now produced to them, and also with a cord during the time they were at work in the field, the commandeur and the other slaves (not complainants) positively declare that neither their master nor the econome ever used such a stick for that purpose; and that the stick produced is one which was taken from the room of her master by *Toinette*, one of the complainants, at the time she left the habitation with the others to complain.

The said negress being asked her reason for quitting the house of her master, in which she was a domestic servant, replied, with much impertinence, that she had no Sunday: on which it was observed to her, that this was no cause for complaint with her, since by the Ordinance 43 her duty was to be in attendance on her master.

With respect to the prohibition stated to be placed on the slaves entering the court-yard to take their meals, the commander and other slaves of the establishment state, that no such regulation exists or has existed: that it is permitted to them to dine in the court, and for the reason that they may be ready to attend the summons to work when the clock strikes; but that when working on the plantations remote from the house, they prefer taking their food there.

Result.—Considering from the foregoing evidence the complaint to be unfounded, and finding that the slaves *Guillaume*, *Courcier* and *Antoine* were the instigators of the desertion; and also in consequence of their insolent and unbecoming manner towards those employed in the investigation of this complaint; the Protector sentenced each of them to receive

receive 25 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails, in the presence of the whole establishment of their master, the said *Sieur Castera*.

Having also established proof that the declaration of *Estasie* is false and malicious, and thereby tending to injure the character of her master, she was sentenced, as well as *Toinette* (who excited the girl *Adeline* to follow her), to solitary confinement, from Saturday evening until Monday morning, for the four following weeks, the *Sieur Castera* being recommended to take care that they are confined in a dry healthy place, and furnished with all necessary food.

The other complainants appearing to have been completely imposed upon by their comrades *Guillaume*, *Courcier* and *Antoine*, were reprimanded and enjoined to better conduct, on pain of future punishment, in the event of their again coming to the Protector with an unfounded complaint; at the same time they were made to understand, that whenever they may be subject to treatment affording just cause of complaint, they will always find in the Protector an attentive and ready friend.

The slave *Cacala*, whose complaint (made on the 11th instant) was also unfounded, was, in consequence of his age, exonerated from punishment, and recommended to his master to be employed in some light description of work.

The Protector then reprimanded the economer of *Mr. Castera* for not observing with more punctuality the instructions given him with respect to the hours of "breloques," an invasion of which, under any circumstances, could not be admitted, and in the event of a recurrence would be severely visited by the Protector.

Complaint, No. 34.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
11th May 1829.

Rasaffe, a slave belonging to *Madame Collique*, of Port Louis, complains that her mistress yesterday gave her a blow in the mouth with her hand, and that she also cut complainant's finger with a knife, because she had not cleaned a buffet, notwithstanding her assuring *Madame Collique* that she had cleaned it. The slaves *Victoire*, *Celine*, *Nemorin* and *James*, who were present when this happened, can attest to the truth of her story.

Madame Collique states, that she struck complainant in consequence of her extreme impertinence and menacing manner, but denies having struck, or thought of striking her with a knife. At the time this occurred, declarant had many knives and forks and spoons in her hand, and believes that the wound on the slave's finger must have been occasioned by the girl's endeavouring in her rage to seize *Madame Collique* by the arms.

The mistress' statement of the impertinent conduct of *Rasaffe*, and particularly that part stating her having menaced declarant, being supported by the evidence of the slaves named by *Rasaffe*, in her complaint, the Protector dismissed the case by directing the negress to be confined in the block for three days.

Complaint, No. 35.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
12th May 1829.

Rosalie, a negress, aged 20 years, and belonging to the *Sieur Julien*, a man of colour, living in the Camp Malabar, states that she is obliged to work harder than her present ill state of health can support. That when she tells her master so, he beats her with a stick, and tells her she shall work. Complainant further states, that her sight being defective, she sometimes fails to see clearly that which her master wishes to have done, and that he then throws snuff into her eyes; in short, complainant is afraid to return to his house.

Having found *Rosalie* to be in a state of great weakness, and to be affected with some disorder of the eyes, *Dr. Hart* was called upon to report on her state of health. His certificate is as follows:

Port Louis, 12th May 1829.

"I certify having examined *Rosalie*, a negress belonging to *Monsieur Julien*, who exhibits very slight marks of punishment on her back. She is affected with paralysis, and appears debilitated to such a degree, that I would recommend her to be sent to hospital, being wholly unfit for work of any kind.

(signed)

"*H. Hart*, M. D.

"Surgeon to the Police."

20th May.—The master of *Rosalie* having appeared at this office, and satisfied the Protector that that part of complaint relative to ill-treatment was altogether groundless, and having, in conformity with the opinion of *Dr. Hart*, promised to abstain from imposing any labour whatever on the complainant during the time she may remain in her present weak state of health, the Protector dismissed the complaint; but sending *Rosalie* to the civil hospital, to be there treated at her master's expense. The negress discharged from the hospital, and returned to her master on the 20th May.

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Complaint, No. 36.

[Transmitted by the Assistant-Protector of the Quarter of Flacq.]

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 19th May 1829.

Francisque, a Mozambique, aged 50 years, belonging to Madame de La Tour de St. Igest, complains, that the Commandeur Bastien beat him yesterday with a stick while employed with other slaves in attending the masons at work on the establishment. The said commandeur passing the place at which they were employed, and seeing them to be without mortar, and attending only the chief mason, said, "Since you have no work here, follow me to the habitation." Complainant replied, "he could not quit without being ordered to do so by the chief mason." That when he was told by him to go, he obeyed. Bastien then beat him in such a manner, that complainant escaped, in order to come and make his representation of the treatment he received. Petit Jean, René, Roger and Felix, were present at this affair. Francisque has nothing else to complain of.

On examining the person of complainant, it appeared that he had three slight marks of the cane on his shoulders; but in other respects he showed no signs of ill-treatment, or of being ill-fed.

Bastien, the commandeur, together with the three slaves by the complainant, were then examined by the Assistant-Protector. Bastien declares, that he never struck complainant with a stick, or otherwise ill-treated him; that this is a very false black, and that the circumstances which occurred were these:—That on Monday last, observing the blacks, whose duty was at that time to attend the masons, to be without work, he ordered them to follow him to the wood, from which he had directions to bring some timber; all obeyed, excepting complainant, who said, however, that he would follow. Declarant, on his return from the wood, found that Francisque had not obeyed his instructions; on being sent for, he said he had been employed in bringing stones for the mason; it was proved, however, that Francisque had not been seen by them since he was directed to follow declarant to the wood: that, after this, he ordered complainant to take his pioche, and go to the habitation: waiting a long time, and not finding Francisque obey him, he sent in search of complainant, who was found asleep in some neighbouring brushwood; and it was for these repeated offences that he was punished with four stripes of the cane: and declarant further states it to be false that complainant was punished in any other manner.

The black, Petit Jean, states that he was present at the punishment of complainant, which was inflicted for disobedience of orders, and because he was found asleep in the wood. Declarant further states (in reply to the Assistant-Protector's questions respecting the extent and nature of the punishment), that complainant was corrected with a cane, and received four stripes only; that Roger, Felix and René could not have seen the punishment, because they were all three employed at that time in the sugar-house.

Roger, Felix and René individually declared that complainant was wrong in citing them as witnesses of the punishment he received, all three of them being employed in the sucrerie, from whence they could not observe that which was passing without; they heard it said that Francisque had received several stripes of the cane, and afterwards heard that the number was four. Declarants never heard that complainant had been otherwise ill-treated by Bastien. Francisque was known amongst his comrades as a thief and an ill-disposed man, and had stolen from Roger two iron pots, and from Felix two days' provisions; all of which, however, complainant denied.

Result.—As this complaint was proved to be false, and as the master would have had a right to inflict upon the slave Francisque 25 lashes for his idle and perverse conduct, the Protector ordered the said complainant to be punished with that number of lashes in the presence of the other blacks of the establishment.

Complaint, No. 37.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis,
May 19th, 1829.

Alfrida, a creole girl, aged about 15 years, belonging to Mons. Gaud, of Port Louis, has this day been arrested by the police as a maroon, and sent to this office to prefer a complaint against her master for excessive punishment received from him. Complainant states, that she marooned about two months past, in consequence of having received 25 stripes of the cane on her breech by order of her master, who suspected her of stealing a cake of chocolate, which she positively denies to be true. Complainant was ordered by her master to be stretched on the ground, with her hands and feet held by the slaves Louis and Sansouci, who can prove the fact, as well as that of her being punished in the presence of all the blacks of the establishment: that before her maroonage her mistress shut her up every night in the granary, forbidding her to leave the house, though for what reason this was done complainant cannot tell; and that her master daily threatens her with punishment unless she discovers to him the person who stole the chocolate.

On being asked by whom the punishment complained of was inflicted, Alfrida replies, by Felix, in the presence of Biguette, Phrasie and Justine; and on being interrogated as to the period which elapsed between her being accused and punished for the theft, she replies, that she was accused at seven o'clock on Saturday morning, and punished one hour afterwards.

The following is the certificate of the examining Surgeon :

" Port Louis, 20th May.

" I certify having examined Alfrida, a negress, belonging to Monsieur Gaud, and find she has marks of punishment on both sides of her breech ; but apparently not inflicted with great severity. She appears in good health, and to be well clothed."

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On the following day Mr. Gaud appeared at this office, agreeable to the Protector's request, declaring, that the whole complaint was false and malicious : that he purchased this girl about 18 months past, from a Mr. Bickagee, with an excellent character : that she soon forfeited that character, by a disposition to pilfer, and (although so young) to libertinage : that she was detected in the act of forcing her mistress' wardrobe, but forgiven for it. It is true, that she has frequently been locked up in the granary, on account of continually absenting herself from the house at night. That about 6 or 7 months ago she was detected with part of her young mistress' clothes upon her, which she had clandestinely taken from her drawers ; for this offence her mistress ordered her to be punished : that she marooned soon afterwards, and was absent about a month : that shortly after her return she stole eight francs from the slave named Felix, for which she was punished by her mistress' order. This happened about two months after her first punishment, and that it must have been the latter end of January or the beginning of February last. Declarant does not know how many stripes of the cane complainant received, but her mistress says not above a dozen at each time. That on the 14th March she was detected by declarant stealing two cakes of chocolate, for which he gave her a few strokes of the cane on her shoulders, and over her clothes. That, fearing further punishment, complainant marooned on the same morning, and has been absent ever since, now bringing this false accusation against him as an excuse for her marooning.

At the Protector's request, the other slaves of Mr. Gaud were sent for, and all (excepting Sansouci, who was in the country) appeared ; viz. Felix, Louis, Brigette, Euphrasia and Justine, who all declared that they never saw Alfrida punished as she has stated to have been. That the last time she was punished was before she last marooned : that she then received 10 stripes of the cane on her breech, by order of her mistress, for stealing some money from Felix : that Louis punished her in the court-yard, in presence of her mistress, and all of the declarants : that she was corrected once before that (a long time since), before New Year's Day, for wearing Mademoiselle's clothes : that complainant then received ten or twelve stripes of the cane from Felix, by her mistress' order : that her last punishment was for stealing money ; her master then beating her on the shoulders and upon her clothes with a cane, on the same morning that she stole the chocolate. Declarants are sure that complainant took it, as it was under her care, and no one else could have got at it. On again questioning them as to the time at which she was corrected for taking the money of Felix, declarants all agree in stating, that it was about six weeks or two months after New Year's Day, and that complainant was not punished on the 14th March, the day she last marooned, except by a few strokes of the cane, as above stated. They also declare complainant to be a great pilferer, and a very bad girl in other ways.

Result.—The Protector taking the above circumstances into consideration, directed that Alfrida should be confined to the house for the four following Sundays, or in the granary, and alone, for having endeavoured to impose upon him with a false complaint against her master, cautioning her at the same time as to her future conduct, which appears to have been hitherto extremely bad ; complainant was then sent back to the police, whence she had been sent to the Protector's office.

Complaint, No. 38.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 21st May 1829.

Jean, a Mozambique, aged about 50 years, belonging to Mons. Daubigny, of " Montagne Blanche," in the quarter of Flacq, complains that he is continually menaced by his master, without his knowing wherefore, notwithstanding the good character given him by his commandeur. That he is badly fed, has no breakfast ; generally dines at noon, and has his supper at gun-fire. Like the rest of the slaves, declarant is obliged to remain until noon of the following day without food ; that he has as his daily rations no more than two small measures of rice, which is insufficient for him ; and that scarcely has he began his repast before he is sent away to work by his master. That since declarant has lived with Mr. Daubigny he has received no clothes ; that he is consequently obliged to wear old bags. He also states, that he has no breloques ; that himself and the other slaves are forced to work on Sunday, from six o'clock in the morning until two and sometimes three o'clock in the afternoon, either in cleaning the cattle, bringing wood, or cleaning the garden ; that at five o'clock in the evening they are employed in procuring wood for the kitchen, and grass for the horses, which work continues until seven o'clock : that finding himself thus treated, he left the plantation of his master about three weeks past, in order to come to Port Louis to make his complaint. On being questioned as to where he has been during his absence from the plantation, declarant replies, that three days after quitting his master he went to the Peterbooth, where Mr. Daubigny has another estate, which is left in the care of two negresses, named Brigette and Marie Joseph, and a black named Cassimir : that he was detained there by a wound on his foot. Declarant did not present himself before the Assistant-Protector of Flacq for fear of being sent back to his master.

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The examining Surgeon in his certificate states, that he does not find any mark of punishment on the complainant, nor any appearance of his being ill-fed.

29th May.—The complaint of Jean having been transmitted to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter of Flacq, for investigation into the circumstances therein stated, was this day returned to the Protector, accompanied by a declaration made by the said Sieur Daubigny, in which he expresses his surprise that the complainant, whom he has had with him from infancy, and towards whom declarant has shown nothing but the greatest kindness, should have brought so unjust and so unmerited an accusation against him, the groundless nature of which, those of his slaves who have followed him to the Assistant-Protector's (14 in number) can easily prove. Declarant states, that the whole of his blacks begged to follow him for this purpose, and would have been brought forward, but for the necessity declarant was under of leaving a part of his people for the protection of his estate. The Sieur Daubigny further declares, that the complainant has for a long time past been insubordinate; and has several times endeavoured (though without effect) to engage others of his slaves to join in his evil designs: that the blacks belonging to declarant are well fed, and well clothed: that they enjoy the privilege of rearing pigs and poultry, in order that they may obtain the means of procuring other gratifications: that his people are never required to work in wet weather; that they rise at day-break, and cease their labours at sunset: that during the week, and on Sunday morning, they bring in the quantity of grass necessary for the cattle, which work, together with cleaning the oxen, never employs the slaves later than eight o'clock in the morning: that the said Jean left declarant's house on the 6th instant, after being one month without doing any description of work whatever, in consequence of a slight wound he received on the foot: that complainant stole a copper saucepan from the house of the commandeur, which was used for distributing, and not for measuring the rations of his slaves, as falsely stated by complainant: that complainant, being ordered to wash a manioc trough, refused to do it, for which act of disobedience, however, he received no punishment. Declarant, in short, to make the abominable character of Jean more apparent, here produced a list of offences committed by the complainant, but for all of which the said Jean (through a mistaken feeling on the part of Mr. Daubigny) has received pardon.

Determined not to allow Jean to remain any longer on the estate, and fearing, should he be sent back, that he will immediately maroon, Mr. Daubigny was desirous that complainant (in addition to the punishment that may follow this malicious accusation,) should be confined by a chain, in conformity with the law, until sold by his master.

The slaves named Grand Jean, Jean Louis, René, Jean Pierre, Carambo, Hector, Julien, Petit Jacques, Marcelin, Magdeline, Victoire, Fené, Melanie and Marguerite, were then separately examined on the subject of the said complaint, all of whom unhesitatingly declared that the same was false and wicked in every way; that Jean has always been a bad man, and that they do not know why their master, of whom they have nothing to speak but praise, should have kept him so long. Declarants state, that the complainant has repeatedly endeavoured to withdraw them from their duty; that they have breloques and Sundays quite to their satisfaction, always finishing their corvée by eight o'clock in the morning; that they are well fed and well clothed. Grand Jean, the commandeur, further declares, that instead of expressing himself as contented with the complainant, he has always told his master that he could do nothing with Jean, who is a drunkard and a thief, on which account declarant has often recommended his master to send him away, lest mischief should arise from the bad example he set to the other blacks of the establishment: that he has repeatedly been reproached by declarant with want of gratitude towards a master, who has not only bred him up, but who has always treated him with more than common kindness. Declarant further states, that when Jean left the habitation he had with him a new pair of blue trowsers and a new cotton shirt.

The slaves above-named were afterwards examined, and found to be in excellent health, very well clothed, and perfectly happy.

Result.—The Protector having given much attention to this case (as well as to other circumstances which had come to his knowledge, relative to the manner in which the slaves on the estate of Mr. Daubigny are treated), views it not only as an unfounded complaint, but of a character altogether malicious; he, therefore, in exercising the power given him by the law, directs the said Jean to be punished with 50 stripes of the cat-o'-nine-tails on the estate of his master, and in the presence of his comrades, the Assistant-Protector being instructed to make those slaves who may be present at the punishment well understand, and Jean in particular, the regret he feels at being obliged to make so severe an example, which he trusts, however, will convince them of the necessity of observing that good conduct and attention to their duties which can alone ensure that care and consideration which the Protector is ever desirous to afford to them.

Complaint, No. 39.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
May 28th 1829.

Romeo, a Mozambique slave, aged 35 years, belonging to Mr. Sturbel, of the quarter of Savanne, complains that his master ordered the commandeur, named Cadet, on Saturday last, to lay complainant on the ground, and in that position, with his hands and feet held by Télémaque and Joussaint, to give him 40 lashes with a cart-whip, for having badly cut
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a piece of wood on which complainant had been set to work by his master: that the punishment took place in the forest, where he had been working; and that he is badly fed, receiving only two maniocs a day as his rations. Complainant states, that he left the habitation of his master on Saturday last, the day on which he was punished; that not being able to walk, he remained in a wood near the house of his master until yesterday morning, when he came to the police to prefer his complaint, and was sent to this office from thence. He did not go to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter, fearing to be sent back to his master. Mr. Dubois, Mr. Sturbel, and the two slaves before-mentioned, were present at the punishment; the other slaves, being at work in the wood, could not observe what was passing.

The following is the certificate of Dr. Hart, the examining Surgeon:—

“ I certify having examined Romeo, a slave, belonging to Mr. Sturbel, and find extensive marks of punishment on both sides of his breech, but particularly on the right side; these are marks of old and recent punishment, all apparently inflicted with great severity; he appears to be ill-fed also.

(signed) “ H. Hart, M.D.
“ Surgeon to the Police.”

The foregoing complaint having been transmitted to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter for investigation into the same, has been returned to the Protector, accompanied by the reply of Mr. Sturbel, in which it is declared, that since the 20th May the complainant Romain (alias Romeo) and his comrade Hippolite, both good sawyers, were set to work on sawing a fine tamatacca-tree for the purpose of ship-building, the same being 22 feet in length by 12 in diameter; that, after beginning their work well, Hippolite became sick, in consequence of which he was replaced by another sawyer, named Télémaque, with whom Romain (alias Romeo) did nothing but spoil every plank they cut until Saturday, the 23d instant; the slaves, however, had assured declarant that the work was going on well, of which he made daily inquiry: on this day, going with the Sieur Dubois to inspect the planks, declarant was surprised to find that his confidence had been abused, the whole, excepting the plank cut on the first day, being so entirely spoiled by bad sawing as to be quite useless; as a punishment for this fault, and in the presence of the Sieur Dubois Dumillac, declarant caused both the slaves, Télémaque and Romain, to receive from his commandeur Cadet 40 lashes of the whip, not yet having been able to procure a cat-o'-nine-tails: that Romain marooned on the same day.

The persons above-named as having been present at the punishment, attested to the truth of declarant's statement, as did also the commandeur Cadet, Joussaint, a slave of Mr. Dubois, Télémaque, César and Hippolite, all sawyers. The Assistant-Protector having asked Cadet if he continued to use a whip in the punishments inflicted by him, was answered that he did not, and at the same time was shown a cat-o'-nine-tails, formed of dried hide, and having three knots in each tail.

The said slaves being then interrogated as to their daily provisions, declared that they received every evening two maniocs and one pound of rice for those who worked in the woods, and after finishing their work, a small glass of arrack; the slaves of the habitation being allowed two maniocs, weighing two pounds.

The slave Télémaque was then interrogated as to the correction he received, and the destruction of the wood he had been sawing with Romeo. He replied, that he felt he had done wrong in not informing his master of what had happened in the beginning, and that it was for this fault he received 40 lashes of the whip, of which the Assistant-Protector states some slight traces to remain, but now cicatrized. Télémaque and César also state, with respect to their rations, that those slaves who are employed in the wood receive every evening two loaves of baked manioc, and one pound of Bengal rice, and when they work well, they get arrack. The Assistant-Protector farther states, that the whole of the slaves on the estate of Mr. Sturbel appear to be in good health and condition.

Result.—The Protector, in considering the evidence before him, is of opinion that the complaint of Romeo, with respect to the insufficiency of food allowed him, is unfounded. With regard to the punishment complained of, Mr. Sturbel having admitted that he not only corrected Romeo in the manner described, but that he also punished the slave Télémaque in the same way, it becomes the Protector's duty to transmit the case to the Procureur-General for prosecution against the said Sieur Sturbel, under the 18th Article of the Ordinance in Council, No. 43.

Complaint, No. 40.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
14th May 1829.

Scapin, a slave belonging to Mr. Charles Beguinot, living at “Trois Îlots,” in the quarter of Flacq, states that he was sent with a parcel of linen to wash at a neighbouring river; that the river became swoln by a sudden rain, so as to overflow the place where he was, and wash away nearly all the clothes, except a few, which he saved, and returned to his master, who became furious, and beat and kicked him, saying that he told a lie: that on the next day he went to seek for the linen he had lost, but could find none: that he was soon after arrested by another of his master's blacks, who re-conducted declarant to the house, and then placed him in the stocks. On the following morning (Monday), his master

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gave him about 20 strokes with a stick, and also several kicks and blows : that he was wounded on the forehead, and on one of his ears : that his master soon after released him, and sent him to bring manure, when complainant took the opportunity to escape, and came to make his complaint. Scapin further states, that he was gagged, to prevent his crying out when punished, and that his mistress, Philip and Piton were present when his master beat him.

The complaint of Scapin having been sent to the Assistant-Protector of the quarter of Flacq, to be investigated by him, has been returned, together with a proces-verbal of the examinations taken by him.

Mr. Charles Beguinot declares that complainant was sent on Saturday the 9th instant with 60 pieces of linen to wash in the river ; that he did not return till supper-time, when it was too late to examine the clothes that had been returned. The next morning, however, declarant's housekeeper found a great deficiency in the linen, and that which was brought back had been very ill washed. Complainant was then called for by his master, but he was missing, and declarant consequently presumed that he had stolen the linen, as he had been guilty of many thefts before. Declarant then sent one of his blacks to seek for Scapin, who was found in a canteen, drinking with other slaves. Scapin returned with the man sent for him as far as Madame Blaise's, but refused to go further ; upon which his companion had recourse to force, and with the aid of two of Madame B.'s slaves, succeeded in getting Scapin home, and putting him in the block. That while placing him there, the complainant made all the resistance he could, when he was pushed by the other black so strongly, that he fell on the stocks and cut his ear and forehead. On the following morning he was interrogated as to what he had done with the linen which was given him to wash ; and he replied, that while washing, the river swelled and carried away the greater part of it. When it was observed to him that there had not been sufficient rain to cause the river to swell to such a pitch so suddenly as to prevent his saving the linen, he replied, that he had divided the things into two parcels, one of which he carried to the house, and that when returned for the other, he could not find it, alleging that without doubt two free women (Helene and Marie Jeanne Fisteau), who washed near him, had stolen the linen. That declarant's housekeeper went immediately to the house of these women, but did not find them at home. She was told that one of them was for some days at Grand River, visiting a sick child, and that the other was at Port Louis. Declarant states, that he pressed Scapin again to tell him truly what had become of the linen, offering him even money to re-buy them, as his children had nothing to put on. The slave's answer was, that he could not say anything more than he had already said ; upon which declarant losing all patience, gave him a few strokes with a cane, in order to make him tell. All was however useless. He then sent Scapin to his work, from which he marooned on the same evening. That it is false that he gave complainant kicks and blows, much less that he beat him with a stick ; and that it is still more false that he gagged him, as he is not capable of such cruelty.

Piton the black, named by complainant as having been present when his master punished him, declares that he was not present, and did not see his master beat Scapin with a stick, or with kicks or blows ; that he was sent by his master to arrest Scapin, and saw him put into the stocks. That on Monday morning declarant went to work, as did also Scapin, when declarant saw a wound on his forehead, and asked him how he came by it ; he replied that his master had struck him, but without saying how or with what ; and that it was not true, as Scapin had stated, that he was present when his master beat him.

Philippe declares, that he was not present when his master beat complainant. He was the guard of the fowl yard, and was on guard when Scapin was put in the stocks ; that he does not even know the hour when it took place ; and that Scapin tells a lie when he says that declarant and Piton were present when his master beat him.

After having placed before him and fully explained the answer of his master, and the denial of the witnesses, whom he said were present when his master beat him ; and after having shown him the absurdity of his statement with regard to the linen, he was pressed once more to tell the truth in saying what he had done with the linen, as it was totally impossible to believe his former story. Complainant then said that all that he had before said was untrue ; that he had washed the linen, and made them up in two parcels to carry home ; that when he was about to leave the river, a free woman, named Marie Jeanne, who was washing near him, enticed him to sell to her one of the two packages, telling him that she had no money then, but that on her return from the Great Beach on the morrow, she would give him a dollar, telling him at the same time to say nothing about it to any one. That he (complainant) consented, and returned to his master with the other package ; and on the following day went to Marie Jeanne's house in order to get the dollar, but her husband told him she had not returned : that he has since seen nothing of Marie Jeanne.

In consequence of the above, a search-warrant was obtained to search the house of Marie Jeanne, but nothing was found ; and Scapin, on being interrogated, declared that it was not that Marie Jeanne he meant, but another Marie Jeanne, who lives at "Trois Islots," and which the Commissary Civil declares is no doubt a falsity on his part.

June 12th. *Result.*—The Protector, assisted by the Chief Commissary of police, having in vain endeavoured, by a diligent investigation of the affair, to obtain the slightest evidence against the free women charged by Scapin as the receivers of the linen, has instructed his Assistant-Protector for the quarter of Flacq, to continue his inquiry into the circumstances of the case as far as he may be able ; at the same time he is to cause the complainant to be taken to the estate of his master, there to receive 25 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails, which punishment

punishment the slave will be made to understand is inflicted for the offence of his bringing to the Protector so false and groundless an accusation against his master, and also for endeavouring to impose upon him, by complainant's declaration against Marie Jeanne, (in his second examination) and which is proved to be untrue by a third investigation of the matter, entered into by the Chief Commissary of police at the request of the Protector.

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Complaint, No. 41.

Protector of Slaves Office, 2d June 1829.

Charlot, a Mozambique, aged about 45 years, and belonging to Mr. Romieu, of the district of Plaines Wilhems, states, that he has been 10 years with his present master, and all this time employed as commandeur, and that he has ever behaved himself well; that for the last three months his master has shown himself discontented with him, and has ill-treated him by menaces, &c. in spite of all his endeavours to please him, and complainant cannot tell why: that about six months ago his master put his left eye out with the handle of a whip, by pushing it into his eye; that he is constantly ill-treated with kicks and blows of fists and sticks, and menaces to take out his other eye, which he fears he will one day or other do: that seeing himself thus treated, he marooned: that he was arrested and taken to the police: that his master came to conduct him thence to the habitation, and that immediately on arriving there he marooned again, and came to the police, who sent him here to make his complaint; and that he has never been a maroon but once.

Mr. Romieu, in his reply to the several charges brought against him by the complainant, declares, that *Charlot* was one of the blacks on the plantation which he bought eight years ago: that he was then commandeur, and remained so for three years: that having since then found out his incapacity for such charge, and that he vexed the other slaves by his pretensions to sorcery, and set them a bad example by getting drunk, he determined to deprive him of his situation, and has only since employed him as gardener, and sometimes at other work: that complainant soon after began to maroon, and has been so at least five or six times within that period; the last time he marooned was in the month of May past; on the 1st June following complainant was given up to declarant by the police, and by his solicitation, without punishment by chain or otherwise: that instead of returning to the plantation, he again ran away, although his master had promised not to punish him for the last maroonage: that with regard to poking his eye out with a stick, it is a glaring falsehood; declarant believes, without positively asserting it, that his black's eye was out when he bought him, but he is sure it was so in October 1826, when he last registered him; yet he is quite ignorant by what accident *Charlot* lost his eye. Declarant disdains, however, to make any answer to the pretended bad treatment he is accused of; that it may be easily estimated, from the manifest falsehood of the statement about poking his eye out, whether the complainant's story be true or not; for he says it was poked out by his master five or six months ago, notwithstanding it was one of the marks made in his registration in October 1826.

Result.—After a long and patient investigation of this case, it is found to be altogether false, not only by the master's answer, but by the very witnesses cited by complainant to support his statement, and also by the certificate of the examining Surgeon, who found no marks of punishment on his person, excepting a few very slight, and of very long standing; the Protector therefore, in order to mark his displeasure of complainant's conduct, and to set an example to the other slaves of the establishment, ordered him to receive 20 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails, as soon as the slave shall be sent back to his master.

Complaint, No. 42.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
June 3d, 1829.

Ally, a slave, aged about 45 years, and belonging to Mr. Martin, an inhabitant of Long Mountain, in the district of Pamplemousses, states, that on Friday last he observed one of the cows belonging to his master to be missing; that after conducting the others home he went in search of the lost one, but could not find her. He told his master this, who sent him again to look after it, at the same time threatening him. Complainant continued out all that night, the next day, and the following night, searching in every part without being able to find the cow, and he was therefore afraid to return to his master without her. On the third day complainant met a slave named *Hercule*, who told him that the cow had been brought back to his master. Complainant then returned to his master, and on his way met a slave named *Dimanche*, who arrested him, saying that he was sent for that purpose by his master, Mr. Martin, who was directed to arrest him as a maroon and conduct him to Mr. Martin: it might then be about five o'clock in the evening. Complainant states that his master then made him lie down on a ladder, causing his hands and feet to be tied to it by a slave named *La Rose*; ordering another slave, named *Cupidon*, to inflict upon him 25 lashes with a cane, and immediately afterwards put a chain upon his legs, and shut him up in a separate room. On the following morning complainant was released and sent to look after his linen, which he had left in the field where he slept during his absence from his master's. After having found his linen, he determined to come to the police to complain: he arrived there on the 1st instant with his chains on; that they were taken off by the police, and were found to weigh 4 lbs. 10 oz., a greater weight than that allowed by law,

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law, and he was consequently sent to this office. Complainant further states, that he is not allowed his Sundays, and that he is obliged to guard the cows the whole of that day.

The examining Surgeon, in his certificate, states that he finds marks of punishment on complainant's breech, but not of recent infliction, and that the skin is abraded in two or three places above the ankles, occasioned apparently by wearing irons.

The complaint of Ally was then sent to the Assistant-Protector of the district of Pamplémousses, who, calling upon Monsieur Martin for his reply to the same, received from Madame Carré (to whom, it appears, the slave in reality belongs) the following declaration: Madame Carré states, that about two months ago the said Ally made a false complaint against her before the police: that he is a bad subject and a rogue: that a short time past he marooned, taking with him 12 bottles of milk, and the money that had been given him to purchase provisions for declarant; a long time afterwards he was captured, the expenses attending which declarant had to pay. He complains of, 1st, having been flogged; 2dly, that he was put in chains; 3dly, that he has not his Sundays. With regard to the first charge, he deserved it because he had marooned. Again, one evening a cow, ready to calve, was missing; when asked where she was, complainant insolently replied, he knew where she was; that she was in the garden, and that he would go for her. Complainant made a sign of going for her; but before he had gone 50 paces he returned, went to his room, and took away his linen. He never intended to go and look for the calf; his intention is well known; it was to steal the calf, which he probably knew would be dropped that evening. It was not till the 30th that the cow found her way to a Mr. Leblane, who told declarant of it on the 31st. A black was then sent to bring her home, and was told to ask Mr. Leblane to permit two of his slaves to assist in rescuing a bullock that had fallen into a canal on the night of the 30th. The cow was brought back without a calf, and Mr. Leblane sent three blacks instead of two, who immediately got the bullock out of the canal; but the animal having remained in it all the night, in want of Ally's assistance, died during the morning. When the three blacks returned to Mr. Leblane, they did not say that Ally was a maroon, and that they should have 100 sous if they arrested him; which, in fact, they did whilst he was ascending the mountain. He had then none of his linen about him; but he had a pair of pantaloons that did not belong to him. On being asked where his linen was, he refused to tell; then there being no doubt that he intended to maroon again, he was flogged.

There was also strong presumption against him with regard to the calf, it therefore became necessary to confine him for one or two days, in order to oblige him to tell whether the cow had calved or not. Not having any stocks in the house, nor any room sufficiently secured to place him in, complainant was put into chains, which declarant found on the habitation a short time back. Declarant was then, and still is, ignorant of the weight of chains allowed by law. On the morning of the 31st May complainant was sent to look for his clothes, since which he has not been seen. It was the crime he committed that obliged him to quit, believing that he would find a protector who would excuse the frightful act he has committed. This unfortunate black has caused declarant a loss of \$ 300 at least, by the loss of the calf and the ox. And further, declarant, as proof of the complainant's bad character, refers to the Maroonage List, and to the false complaint he made about six months ago.

Declarant, in reply to a request from the Assistant-Protector to be furnished with an extract from her "Record Book of Punishments," states, that she is ignorant of the register inquired for. Declarant has no blacks named Hercule and Dimanche. With respect to La Rose and Cupidon, it is quite impossible for declarant to send them to the Assistant-Protector, because one goes to town to sell milk and bring her provisions, and the other attends as guard of the cattle.

Mr. Martin (to whom complainant says he belongs) states, that the black does not belong to him, but to Madame Carré. Complainant also tells an untruth in saying, that declarant has two blacks, named La Rose and Dimanche. Declarant states that he has no such blacks.

Result.—The Protector, although he sees in the reply of complainant's mistress great reason to believe that inattention to his duty, and other bad conduct, brought upon him the punishment complained of, is called upon to denounce the case to the Procureur-General, for prosecution against the said Madame Carré, for having put irons on the feet of a slave of much greater weight than that allowed by law, as well as for not keeping a "Register of Punishments," as directed by the 21st Article of the Ordinance, No. 43, of the 7th February last. The case will accordingly be transmitted to the procureur-general on the instant.

Complaint, No. 43.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis,
6th June 1829.

Hypolite, a boy aged between nine and ten years, having been arrested by the police as a maroon, and having there declared that he marooned because he had been ill-treated by his master, Mr. Regnault, residing in Port Louis, was sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of police. Hypolite states that his master flogged him with a horsewhip, and immediately afterwards obliged him to drink a mixture composed of arrack and human excrement; that for refusing to take this mixture he received several stripes of the horsewhip on his back, until at length he consented to take it. Declarant says, he was punished because he ran away

away about eight days past, when his master accused him of stealing 100 sous from his sister, and was threatened with being beat unless he told who took the money. After two days absence declarant's brother took him back to his master. On being asked for what reason his master obliged him to drink the said mixture, declarant states, that on the preceding evening he complained to his mistress of a head-ache, and that on the following day his master forced him to drink it, saying it was tea.

The mixture stunk very much, and a moment after declarant had taken it, Marie Louise told him it was human excrement he had taken.

His sister, named Charlotte, his mistress, and her children, were present when he drank it.

Mr. Regnault having been sent for by the Protector, attended at this office to answer the complaint preferred against him; after hearing which, he stated that he certainly did punish complainant with a small "cravache," and some stripes of a "martinet" of three tails, for having lost his linen, and being a long time absent when sent on a commission; but this was 15 or 20 days past. On the following day declarant observed that Hypolite was drunk; the next day he gave the boy a little arrack mixed with ipecacuana, for the purpose of making him vomit, and to break him of his vicious habit of drinking arrack and wine, which he stole in the house. Declarant did not give the complainant arrack mixed with human excrement, as stated by the boy; he is too humane to commit such an act. Complainant stole 100 sous from his sister, for which offence, however, he was not punished, as he states himself to have been.

Charlotte was next examined. She was present when her brother drank the mixture alluded to, though she did not know what it was until he told her it was human excrement; she thinks complainant was punished for neglecting his linen; declarant does not know why he was made to drink the arrack; she has never seen her brother tipsy, though she has heard her master say he was fond of drinking.

Marie Louise being interrogated as to the truth of her having told complainant that he had drank a mixture of arrack and human excrement, declares that she never said any such thing; nothing can be more false than complainant's assertion that she did tell him so; she perfectly well recollects her master's giving Hypolite arrack and ipecacuana, to break him of drinking arrack and other things; and she further states, that she has several times seen him tipsy.

Result.—10th June. This complaint is considered false and groundless. The master's character is too respectable to admit the charge for a moment; independent of its being disproved by the witnesses cited by the boy. The fact turns out to be, that Hypolite, even at his tender age, is given to tipple arrack, and the master, with a view of reclaiming him from that vice, put some ipecacuana in some arrack, and made him drink it. The boy's sister proved her being sent for the drug, and the other girl denied her ever having told him it was "human excrement," besides which, it is not improbable that an equivoque might have occurred, even if she had told him that what he drank was a mixture of arrack and ipecacuana, from the similarity in the negro pronunciation of that word and the term used for human excrement. There were other instances of great depravity proved in the boy's conduct; the Protector therefore ordered him to be well whipped with a birch rod by the keeper of the bagne.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 22d June 1829.

The Protector having this day received a certified copy of an extract, verified on oath, of the "Record Book of Punishments," kept on the estate of Mr. Sturbel, of the district of Savanne, by which he acknowledges to have illegally punished not only the slave named *Romain*, alias *Romeo* (whose case was denounced on the 8th instant), but also another slave, named *Télémaque*, who was punished in the same manner and at the same time as *Romain*, considers it his duty to denounce this last case to the Procureur-General for prosecution; and in doing so, would submit, that the said Mr. Sturbel has in both these cases been guilty of three distinct infractions of the law; viz.

- 1st. For having caused to be inflicted on each of these individuals a greater number of stripes than the law allows;
- 2d. In having caused such punishment to be inflicted with a cart-whip, an instrument expressly prohibited to be used;
- 3d. In having caused the said punishment to be inflicted before the time of 24 hours, as required by law, had expired after the committal of the offence for which the punishment was inflicted;

And that he has therefore rendered himself liable to three separate penalties in each case.

In addition to the preceding, there are eight complaints, of prior date to the 24th June, still in course of inquiry, the decisions on which cannot be included in the present Report.

With reference to the irregularity in their dates which some of the complaints bear in the Appendix, it arises from the impossibility of calculating with any certainty the period at which documents transmitted to the Assistant-Protectors of distant quarters may be returned to the Protector's office.

LIST of COMPLAINTS transmitted by the Protector and Guardian of Slaves to the Procureur-general for Prosecution, from the 20th March to the 24th June 1829, inclusive.

When Sent.	NAME OF SLAVE.	NAME OF MASTER.	NATURE OF COMPLAINT.	When Returned.	NATURE OF DECISION.	REMARKS.
1829: March 26	Jean	Le Sieur Lanougarède, (Port Louis.)	-- as an infraction of the Ordinance No. 20, by putting irons on the feet of complainant, he being under the age of 15 years.	April 13	-- the boy Jean to be returned when his master shall have paid the penalty of \$.10.	In these two cases, judgment was given by default, and the parties fined in the minimum of the penalty; but the only notice given thereof to the protector, was a signification on a mere slip of paper of the penalties having been paid, and an authority to give up the slaves to their owners.
- 30	Lisé	Mad ^l e Zélie Gertrude (Port Louis.)	-- ditto	- 25	-- ditto	
April 3	Adèle	Mr. Molet (Pamplemousses.)	-- beating complainant with considerable violence with a horse bridle, an infraction of the 18th Article of Ordinance, No. 43.	June 5	-- to be returned to his master, the penalty of \$.100 having been paid into the hands of the substitute of the procureur-general.	-- this case was defended, and the master cast in the lowest penalty of 20% and costs.
- 13	Hilaire	Le Sieur Sibire (Rivière Noire.)	-- excess of punishment. Transmitted to the procureur-general for prosecution under the 17th Article of Ordinance, No. 43.	May 23	-- ditto	-- the master was cast in the lowest penalty of 20%, having suffered judgment to go by default.
- 25	Nanette	Le Sieur Garrien (Montagne Longue.)	-- excess of punishment and other bad treatment. Under the 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.	-	-- ditto	-- ditto
- 28	Céline	Le Sieur D. Lacoudray (Port Louis.)	-- excessive punishment	-	-- ditto	-- ditto
May 15	-- Adeline, and Pierre Louis.	Madame Sturbel (Savanne.)	-- excess of punishment, in contravention of the Articles 17 and 18 of the Ordinance, No. 43.	-	-- ditto	-- ditto
June 18	Romeo	Mr. Sturbel (Savanne.)	-- for inflicting 40 lashes with a cart-whip. 18th Article of Ordinance 43.	-	-- undecided.	-- ditto
- 22	Télémaque	Mr. Sturbel (Savanne.)	-- for inflicting 40 lashes with a cart-whip, and not allowing the period required by law to expire before the said punishment was inflicted, after the offence was committed.	-	-- ditto	-- ditto

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, }
24th June 1829.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

RETURN of CRIMINAL ACTIONS against SLAVES, of which Notice was given to the Protector, tried in the Courts of First Instance and of Appeal, between the 20th of March and the 24th of June 1829; with the Results thereof.

Date of Commencement of Process.	Date of Notice to the Protector.	Date of Trial.	NAME OF SLAVE.	NAME OF PROPRIETOR.	BY WHOM PROSECUTED.	NATURE OF OFFENCE.	SENTENCE.	REMARKS.
1829: March 25 -	1829: March 26 -	26 -	Bernard	Sieur Sidney Jumeau	Françoise Céley	-- stealing a bag containing \$50, a knife, and other articles.	-- two months imprisonment.	No notice has been received by the protector of any action against a slave or slaves having been brought before the Court of Appeal.
- 26 -	- 27 -	- 27 -	Edmond	Madeline Perrine	Sieur Julot	stealing two breast-pins	acquitted.	
April 2 -	April 3 -	3 -	François	Sieur Lesieur	Ministère Public	-- stealing a certain quantity of leather.	-- three months imprisonment.	
- 2 -	- 3 -	- 3 -	Paul	Madame Asséma	- - ditto	-- stealing an iron belonging to François Arlanda.	-- six months imprisonment.	
- 2 -	- 3 -	- 3 -	Rablée	Mons. Lagoardette	- - ditto	-- stealing a box, said to contain jewels to the value of \$ 200.	not received.	
- 7 -	- 8 -	- 8 -	Jasmin	Sieur Victor Chauvet	- - ditto	-- taking the ear-rings from the ears of two children in Moka-street.	-- three months imprisonment and expenses.	
- 9 -	- 10 -	- 10 -	Baba and Noël	Ally Ramsamy	Sieur Herchenroder	-- stealing manioc, belonging to his master.	not received.	
- 24 -	- 24 -	- 24 -	Pauline	Sieur Bastil	Sieur Bastil	-- stealing a piece of timber of 8 feet in length.	-- one month imprisonment.	
- 24 -	- 24 -	- 24 -	Séraphine	Jeanne César	Ministère Public	stealing a sack of rice	- - - ditto.	
- 30 -	May 1 -	1 -	Jean François	Vénéré Cato	- - ditto	-- stealing a coat, pair of trousers, and other articles of dress.	not received.	
May 4 -	- 8 -	- 8 -	Marcelin	Sieur Suzor	Pierre Folin	stealing a gun	-- three months imprisonment.	
- 25 -	- 2 -	- 2 -	L'Eveillé	Sieur Duponsel	Ministère Public	-- attempt to violate the person of Elizabeth, a Government slave.	acquitted	
June 1 -	June 5 -	- 5 -	Alcindor	Sieur Eugène Duval	- - ditto	- - having short weights in his possession for use in the bazar.	not received.	
June 1 -	- 5 -	- 5 -	Adonis	Emilie Cabon	- - ditto	-- stealing a kettle of the value of \$6.	not received.	

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, }
 24th June, 1829.
 R. M. Thomas,
 Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

LIST of SLAVES who have presented their ACTS of ENFRANCHISEMENT to the Protector and Guardian of Slaves for Registration in his Office, from the 20th March to the 24th June 1829.

No. in the Protector's Office.	No. in Chief Secretary's Office.	Date of Enfranchisement.	Name of late Proprietor or Person Enfranchising.	NAME OF SLAVE.	Age of Slave.	CASTE.	When Received at Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	REMARKS.	
1	440	March 19 -	Jacques Geraud -	Coralie Angélique Marie Felicia Angélique Evevor Angélique Heloise Angélique Ernest Angélique Larose Vaillant	25 8 7 5 3 62	Creole ditto - } children ditto - } of ditto - } Coralie. ditto - } Indien - -	May 4 -	May 5 -	May 6 -	The definitive Act of enfranchisement in these cases having been granted before the Protector assumed the duties of his office, no proceedings relative to them were taken by him, other than registering them in this office.	
2	456	April 28 -	La Dame Veuve Seigny - (Port Louis.)	Guillaume Cérifaf Virginie Jeauga Jean Ch' Jeauga Ernestine Jeauga	32 24 9 7	Creole ditto - } ditto - } children of ditto - } Virginie. Creole - -	- 20 -	- 20 -	- 27 -		
3	452	March 29 -	Virginie Christine -	- - - Founding Heloise, or Heloise Godin -	14	Creole - -	June 12 -	June 12 -	June 12 -		
4	453	April 2 -	Charles Felise Ervignard - (Flacq.)	Charlotte La Gaule -	37	ditto - -	- 22 -	- 22 -	- 22 -		
5	454	April 17 -	Matricule Department -	Thérèze Perrine -	22	Creole - -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 2 -		deed of gift of owner.
6	427	March 17 -	Pierre, (Riv. du Rempart.)	Alfred Modeste Felicite Marie - { Chiffone Marie - Françoise Dauphine -	1 52 14 37	ditto - - Indienne - - ditto - - Malgache - -	- 3 - - 3 - - 11 -	- 3 - - 3 - - 11 -	- - - - 9 - - 11 -		ditto, not yet delivered. by will. deed of gift of owner.
7	462 467	May 26 - June 2 -	François L'Avocat - (Rivière du Rempart.) Hélène Laval, (Port Louis) Julien Lamothe - (Pamplemousses.)	Louisa Lissé - Françoise Lamothe - Génévive Chéri -	25 19 22	Creole ditto - - ditto - -	- 11 - - 12 - - 12 -	- 11 - - 13 - - 13 -	- 11 - - 16 - - - -	ditto. ditto. ditto, still to be delivered.	
8	469	- 2 -	Jacques Demouhy - (Port Louis) Auguste Gourel St. Perue (Port Louis.)	Sophie Carnaval	65	Malgache - -	- 13 -	- 13 -	- 15 -	ditto.	
9	473	- 11 -	Protector of Slaves (ex officio)	Lisette Victor - Jeanne Thérèse Philogène - Marie Emilie - Alexandrine - Pierre L'Eveillé	38 30 14 10 7 50	Indienne Creole ditto - } children of ditto - } Jeanne. Indien - -	- 19 -	- 20 -	- - -	- - ditto, enfranchised by the Protector.	
10	474	- 11 -	Protector of Slaves (ex officio)	Marie Martingo	50	Malgache - -	- 19 -	- 20 -	- - -	ditto, by purchase.	
11	476	- 19 -	- - ditto - -	- - -	- -	- - -	- 23 -	- 23 -	- 23 -	by will.	
12	477	- - -	- - ditto - -	- - -	- -	- - -	- 23 -	- 24 -	- - -	- - deed of gift of owner, enfranchised by Protector.	

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, }
24th June 1824.R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 6. -- LIST OF SLAVES REMAINING IN LEGAL PROGRESS OF MANUMISSION,

On the 24th of June 1829.

Date of Application.	NAME OF THE SLAVE.	No.	NAME OF THE OWNER.	If by Purchase, Amount Paid.	REMARKS.	
1829: March 27	Françoise Tenedos - -	1	John Croush - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.	
April 3	Geneviève and Anne Marie	2	Angélique Maudave - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
4	Galathée - - - -	10	Lindor Arcaste - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto, his wife.	
-	Antoinette - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
-	Charlette - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
-	Louise - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
-	Elize - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
-	Augustine - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
-	Pierre - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
-	Eléonore - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
-	Jean Charles - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
-	Amélie - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto	
13	Coralie Julie - - - -	1	Ollivier Fleury - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
14	Honorine Finette - - - -	1	François Vilbro - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift by her late Mistress, Mad ^{lle} Egerie Richard.	
25	{ Couronne Cézar, and her child Elodie Cézar - }	2	Eléonore Jalabert - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.	
28	{ Pouponne Pepin, and her child Rosalie Pepin - }	2	Adolphe Collet - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
30	{ Eléonore Marie, and her child Charles Louis - }	2	Late Madame Plaideau - - - -	- - - -	To be enfranchised by the Protector, agreeable to the conditions under which the said Eléonore was sold to Madame Plaideau.	
May 1	Louis Radegoude - - - -	1	Pierre Féline - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.	
2	Marie Elina L'Etourdie - -	1	Jean Bap ^{te} Hon ^e Dessavoyes - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
4	Thomas Latour - - - -	1	Jean Ortus - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
5	{ Marie Lyonnais, and her children Alfred and Emilien - - - - }	3	Jean Comera - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
6	Perrine Alexis - - - -	1	Louis Mouton - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
-	Aurélié Jeanne - - - -	1	Antoine Banzigon - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift of her Father.	
-	Jean Baptiste Henriette - -	1	Eléonore Lecoq - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.	
-	Françoise St. Cloud - - - -	1	Jean Groutsche - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
7	Jean Florine - - - -	2	Lindor Congo - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
-	Virginie Florine - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
8	Mathurine Louise - - - -	1	Marie Elise Cocotte - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
-	Zémire Fanny and - - - -	2	Lise Zémire - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
-	Victor Fanny - - - -		- - ditto - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
-	Marie Thérèse Zerbinette, and Ernestine (her child) }	2	Leonard Couturout - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
-	Marie Pauline - - - -	1	Aline L'Eveillé - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
9	Charles Bacchus - - - -	1	Mirza - - - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
11	Marie Labelle - - - -	1	Eloi Sandapa - - - -	- - - -	In conformity with the Will of his Aunt.	
12	Zéline Madelon - - - -	1	Veuve Lambert - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.	
-	Marie Louise Samba - - - -	1	Late François C ^e Perombelon - -	- - - -	- - ditto.	
13	Louis Bouvery - - - -	3	{ Belonging to the late Bartelemy Bouvery, who at his death willed the said Ang. Bouvery her freedom - }	- - - -	{ Enfranchisement to be proceeded in by the Protector ; the terms of the Will not having been carried into execution.	
-	Charles Bouvery, and Angélique Bouvery, (their mother) - - - -			- - ditto - - - -		- - - -
-	Eulalie Arthemise - - - -			- - ditto - - - -		- - - -
-	Chéry Arthemise - - - -	3	Gervais Duval, (fils.) - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift of the Father.	
15	Jeannette Bonnemère - - -	2	Veuve Leverger - - - -	- - - -	Deed of Gift of Mistress.	
-	Joséphine Bonnemère - - -			- - ditto - - - -		- - - -

(continued.)

COPIES OF REPORTS FROM

Date of Application.	NAME OF THE SLAVE.	No.	NAME OF THE OWNER.	If by Purchase, Amount Paid.	REMARKS.
1829: May 16	Nicholas - - -	1	Julie Pissot - - -	- - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.
- - -	{ Anne Marie, dite Bonne - Coralie, dite Bonne - }	2	{ Children of Auguste, a slave belonging to the late Gaignard - - - }	- - -	{ Purchased by the father in 1823, with an intent to en- franchise them, but the law at that period not permitting one slave to possess others, the Pro- tector is called upon to proceed in the enfranchisement under the Ordinance 43.
- 19	Louis Travailleur - -	1	Charles Julien Collard.	\$. 500	Deed of Gift of Owner.
- - -	Marie Virginie Jeanne -	1	Aly Lebegue - - -	- - -	
- - -	{ Marie Céleste - - - Sylvère Céleste - - - Dalrazy Céleste - - - M ^{le} Prudence Céleste - - - Eugénie Céleste - - - }	5	Théophile Tamba - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- 20	{ Louison Dauphine and Victor, her son - - - }	2	{ Louise Catherine Dau- phine (her mother) - - - }	\$. 300	{ Enfranchisement to be pro- ceeded in by the Protector as "Patron d'Office."
- 21	Rosalie Danseuse - - -	1	Cazaubon - - -	- - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.
- - -	Firmin - - -	1	Pierre S ^t Mart - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	Gabrielle - - -	1	Joséphine Robillard - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	Brigitte Flore - - -	1	George dit Alexandre - - -	- - -	{ Deed of Gift of Owner, with a view to Marriage.
- 22	Coralie Fanchonette - -	1	Antoine Legrand - - -	- - -	- - ditto - ditto.
- - -	Bienaimé and Télémaque -	2	Veuve Aug ^{te} Mallet - - -	- - -	{ In conformity with the Will of their late Master, by the Protector, as "Patron d'Office."
- 23	Sidouie Labonne - - -	1	Eugène Grancourt - - -	- - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.
- - -	Perrie Jean - - -	1	Feu Alexis Samba - - -	- - -	{ Enfranchisement to be pro- ceeded in by the Protector as "Patron d'Office," in conformity with the Will of the late bro- ther of the said Pierre Jean.
- 26	{ Marie Rève - - - Mathurine Rève - - - Laurestine Rève - - - Alfred Rève - - - }	4	François Gouvary - - -	- - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.
- - -	Eliza Reine - - -	1	J ^{es} Jacques Le Brun - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- 29	Isidore Carbonari - - -	1	Edouard D ^{rs} Burguez - - -	- - -	{ The said Isidore engaging himself to serve Mr. Burguez for the term of three years from this date.
June 2	Julie Charlotte - - -	1	Joséphine Bellamy - - -	- - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.
- 3	Augustin Alzire - - -	1	Baptiste Martin - - -	- - -	- - ditto, of his Father.
- - -	Marie Magdelonette - - -	1	Julie Magon - - -	- - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.
- - -	Zoé Laperle - - -	1	Juliette Mouria - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- 4	Madeleine Constant - - -	1	Modeste Curtat - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	Perrine Alexis - - -	1	Louis Mouton - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- 5	Marie Louise Samba - - -	1	Feu Charl ^e F. Pérombelon -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	Suzanne La Bonne - - -	1	François Guillemaux - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- 6	Adolphe Artidor - - -	1	Marie Lafond - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	Cupidon L'Amour - - -	1	F. J. Deschiens - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- 9	Reine Gérard - - -	1	Marie Gérard - - -	\$. 150	Owner and Slave are sisters.
- - -	{ Julie Bonnefemme - - - Emile Bonnefemme - - - }	2	M ^{le} A ^{te} Yac ^{te} Blevec - - -	- - -	Deed of Gift of Owner.
- - -	Félicie Julie - - -	1	Julie Veuve Lindor - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	{ Thérèse Reine, and Al- fred Reine - - - }	2	Mahé Sidney - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- 10	{ Emilie Labelle and Po- lidor Labelle - - - }	2	L ^e A ^{te} Montenet - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	Jeanny Jackson - - -	1	F ^e Mich ^l Saverimouton - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	Aurélié Victoire - - -	1	Zépher Pinaud - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- 17	Pèdre Bonhomme - - -	1	Paulin Duclos - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	Charité Félicité - - -	1	J ^e B ^{te} Petit Bien - - -	- - -	- - ditto.
- - -	SérAPHINE Française - - -	1	Feu François Pitchen, aîné	- - -	- - ditto.

No. 7.—ÉTABLISSEMENTS D'AGALEGA.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

EXTRAIT du Livre pour l'Enregistrement des Punitions, conformément à l'Ordonnance No. 43, 7th Février 1829.—No. 1. Prem^r Semestre.Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Samedi, 21 Mars 1829.

A mon retour de l'île du Nord, le 15 du courant, on me fit le rapport qu'on avait volé le miel d'une bombarde que j'avais fait arranger depuis peu avec défense expresse à tout le monde d'y toucher.

J'ordonnai aux commandeurs de faire des enquêtes pour connaître le coupable, et je donnai huit jours pour cela.

Hier 20 le commandeur André me rapporta que c'était suivant le dire de la pluralité, Victorien Joson et Zéphir du Sud.

J'ordonnai qu'on les arrêtat sur le champ, et qu'on les mît au bloc, et le matin à huit heures, je les fis venir sur la place devant tous les habitans d'Agaléga rassemblés, afin d'instruire leur procès.

André Andrien, commandeur, âgé de 53 ans, a la parole. Il déclare que René Gaigui, sous-commandeur, lui a dit tenir de Pluton de Payen, que c'était Dimanche, 15 du courant, que les deux prévenus avaient pris le miel. Pluton dit le savoir de Louise Joseph, Louise de Fanchon Lundi, Fanchon de Pierre Rigodon, Rigodon de Louise Joseph; Louise répète le tenir de Fanchon et aussi de Charlette, qui lui avait dit que le miel était doux, qu'elle en avait mangé tant qu'elle avait pu; Victorien Joson, son frère, lui avait donné dans un petit hangard de gardien de mays, et lui, Victorien, avait été avec Zéphir dans un hangard à Copras (Jardin Adonis). Honorine du Sud, fille de Zéphir du Sud, avait dit à tous ses camarades qu'elle avait goûté du miel, et d'après son aveu, Charlette Drafam lui avait défendu de parler, mais trop tard à ce qu'il paraît, car tous les noirs et les enfants le savaient. Enfin tous chargeaient Victorien Joson et Zéphir du Sud, deux noirs, bons sujets du reste, et qui se distinguent même par leur bonne conduite et leur exactitude au travail.

Ils n'ont pu produire aucun témoins à décharge; eux seuls se défendaient, et donnaient pour raison (Victorien surtout) que puis qu'on ne les avait pas pris sur le fait on ne pouvait les accuser, mais ils furent jugés coupables à l'unanimité.

Je les ai donc condamnés à huit jours de prison, préférant cette punition à la fustigation, la trouvant plus convenable pour deux noirs qui n'ont jamais été fouettés, et en qui j'ai reconnu quelques sentiments d'amour propre.

Ce délit était d'autant plus grave à mes yeux de la part de Victorien que c'était le premier essaim qui s'était fixé dans la forêt depuis que j'avais introduit des mouches dans la colonie, et que j'avais été avec Victorien lui-même, Julien, Augustin et Jⁿ Pierre, scier l'arbre dans le creux duquel s'étaient fixé ces mouches, pour le mettre horizontalement sur deux fourches, afin qu'elles pussent travailler plus facilement, et qu'elles fussent à l'abri de la pluie. Je leur avais dit que je ferais porter incessamment cette bombarde dans la bour, et qu'aussitôt qu'elle serait pleine, ce qui ne devait pas tarder, je comptais envoyer le miel à Madame Barbé; mais Victorien ayant voulu sans doute y goûter avant, et ne sachant pas trop bien comment s'y prendre a si bien fait que tout l'essaim a disparu, et que la bombarde s'est trouvée vuide de mouches, de miel, et de cire.

Mardi, 24 Mars.

Victorien et Zéphir voulant avoir leur grâce, se sont fait conduire près de moi ce matin, et m'ont demandé pardon. Je ne leur ai accordé qu'à condition qu'ils feraient amende-honorable devant tous leurs camarades; ce qu'ils ont fait de suite, après quoi je les ai renvoyés à leur travaux habituels.

Mardi, 21 Avril.

Neufs coups de rotin à Alphonse Vincent, par Philippe Auguste, devant Tamby Grand Jean, Eugénie Jean, Céleste Andréon, Pauline Hyppolite et Pierre Rigodon, lesquels deux derniers l'ont arrêté, et conduit ce soir devant moi pour avoir, pendant trois jours, malgré les menaces qui lui avaient été faites, laisser les perdrix et les poules arracher tous le petit mays planté dans le jardin de Jean Marie Jean, dont il était le gardien, et pendant tout ce temps avoir été dans le jardin de Caroline Prosper, casser le may vert, l'avoir fait griller et mangé tant qu'il en eût une indigestion, et qu'il allât (ce qui ne pouvait être que par malice,) faire ses *nécessités* dans un puit non loin de là, dans lequel les noirs puisent de l'eau lorsqu'ils travaillent de ce côté du bois.

Jeudi, 30 Avril.

Neuf coups de rotin à Victor Tamby, Henri Gaigui et Laurent Gaigui, par René Gaigui, sous-commandeur, devant Tamby Grand Jean, Eugénie Jean, Céleste Andréon, Thérèse Andréon et Emilie Baronne, dans ma varangue, pour avoir été pris sur le fait tendant des lacs derrière le camp pendant qu'ils étaient gardiens de may non loin de là, et avoir de cette manière attrapé plusieurs poules appartenant aux noirs. Ils en avaient une lorsqu'on les a saisis, qui n'était pas encore tuée, et qu'on leur a fait apporter comme pièce à l'appui.

Mardi, 5 Mai.

Neuf coups de rotin à Théodore Joson, à trois heures après midi, dans ma varangue, par Giles Scipion, commandeur, devant Virginie Joson, mère du pénitent, Eugénie Jean, Caroline

line

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

line Prosper, Céleste Andréon, Théophile Jean, et Charles Baronne, pour s'être sauvé ce matin devant sa mère, qui voulait le corriger, parce qu'il avait mordu très fortement, à la joue, son petit camarade Laurent Gaigui, et tout en se sauvant avoir appelé sa mère, *enfant de garce, putain*, et autres injures que la pudeur ne permet pas d'écrire.

Mercredi, 13 Mai.

Julien Scipion est un jeune noir de vingt-un ans, et fortement constitué, qui fait, à ce qu'il paraît, sa principale occupation de séduire les jeunes femmes de ses camarades. Il a refusé dernièrement de se marier avec une d'elles qui le préférait, disant naïvement qu'il ne voulait pas de tout ce tracass, qu'il aimait mieux rester, comme il était, plutôt que de prendre une femme.

Mais le mariage étant considéré comme tendant à la civilisation, et devant améliorer le moral des esclaves, et augmenter leur bien-être et leur bonheur, tout principe contraire tendant à troubler ce bonheur doit être réprimé.

En conséquence, Julien Scipion a été condamné aujourd'hui à coucher en prison toutes les nuits jusqu'à la fin de ce mois de Mai, pour avoir retenu deux nuits de suite, dans sa case, la jeune femme de Romely Tamby, lequel est venu porter plainte, et a produit des témoignages irrécusables.

Dimanche, 17 Mai.

Julien Scipion est venu me demander grâce ce soir, me promettant par serment que dorénavant aucun de ses camarades ne viendrait porter plainte contre lui au sujet de leurs femmes. C'est au fait tout ce que je puis exiger de lui. Je lui ai donc accordé sa grâce, après lui avoir fait la morale convenable.

Lundi, 18 Mai.

A quatre heures après midi, dans ma varangue, devant Céleste Andréon, Simon Thésée, Marie Scipion, Julien Scipion, Augustin Baronne, et Théophile Jean, d'abord quatre coups par Julien Scipion, et ensuite cinq coups de rotin par moi-même sur les épaules d'Uranie du Sud, pour avoir été prise volant des œufs du g^d poulailler au lieu de les ramasser, comme elle en a la charge pour les apporter ici.

Depuis longtemps elle était soupçonné d'en voler, par la petite quantité d'œufs qu'elle apportait en proportion du grand nombre de poules qui pondaient.

Déjà une fois on en avait trouvé douze dans un sac caché derrière la porte, sans doute par elle, mais elle n'avait pu être punie n'y ayant pas eu conviction.

Certifié sincère et véritable pour copie conforme,

Agaléga, le 1^{er} Juin 1829.

(signed)

Leduc,
Régisseur en Chef.

(A true copy.)

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 8.—REGISTRE des Châtiments infligés aux Esclaves Males appartenant à Monsieur Sturbel, à l'habitation dite Rochester, située dans le Quartier de la Savanne; la propriété de Monsieur Amédée D'Emmerz.

Nom de l'enregistrement de l'Esclave.	Nature et Particularités de l'Offense, le Temps et la Place où Commise.	Nature et Particularités du Châtiment, le Temps et la Place où Infligé.	Nom de la Personne autorisant le Châtiment.	Nom de la Personne par qui a été infligé le Châtiment.	Nom du Témoin.
Romain - - -	- - Pour avoir gaté tous les traits d'une pièce de bouge de tatamaca de trente quatre pieds de long, étant à scier dans le bois où je me suis rendu, le 23 May.	- - Il a reçu quarante coups de fouets, le même jour, 23 May, à l'endroit où il était à scier.	Sturbel - -	Cadet - -	Monsieur Dubois Dunilac.
Thélémaque - -	- - Pour le même motif - -	- - Le même jour, et au même endroit.	Sturbel - -	Cadet - -	Dubois Dunilac.
Dominique - - -	- - Pour avoir crevé le canal qui conduit l'eau dans l'établissement où je demeure, ce qui m'a privé d'eau pendant trois jours.	- - Il a reçu neuf coups de martinet, le 14 Juin, dans ma cour.	Sturbel - -	Cadet - -	Mons' Amédée D'Emmerz.

Je jure que la présente Copie est conforme à l'original.

A la Savanne, le 18 Juin 1829.

(signé) Sturbel.

Le Sieur Sturbel a présenté à nous Assistant Protecteur des Esclaves au quartier de la Savanne, la copie entière et exacte de son livre pour l'enregistrement des punitions, qu'il a affirmé sous serment.

Savanne, le 18 Juin 1829.

(signé) G. Ducray.

(A true Copy.)

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 9.—LIST of SLAVES who have been certified to the Protector as sufficiently instructed in the Religion they profess to know the nature and obligation of an Oath.

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Name of Slaves.	Age.	Name of Proprietor.	By whom Certificate is Granted.	Remarks.
Virginie - - -	—	Madame Dejean.	Rev. A. Denny, First Civil Chaplain.	See their respective Letters to the Protector, annexed.
Marie - - -	—			
Emile - - -	29			
Combo - - -	32			
Edward - - -	27			
George - - -	32			
Auguste - - -	30	Establishment of Redit.	The Rev. R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chaplain.	
Auguste de Cilice -	20			
Colas - - -	28			
Moulimouca - - -	35			
Jean Jacques - - -	17			
George - - -	19			
Charles - - -	20	Madame T. de Ravel Mr. T. Castaignet.	The Rev. Doctor Slater, Vicar Apostolic.	
Marie - - -	25			
Marie Boullenie -	28			
Lawrence - - -	—			
Adrien - - -	—			

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, }
24th June, 1829.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 10.—ACCOUNT of MONIES deposited in the Savings Bank from the 13th May to the 24th June 1829, inclusive.

Date of Deposit.	Name of Slave.	Name of Proprietor.	Amount in Sterling Money.	How disposed of in case of Death, &c.
1829:			£. s. d.	
June 1st. - -	Seraphine -	Government Slave in the Service of Mr. Charters.	- 8 -	Nodisposition yet made.
— 22d. - -	Nina - -	Monsieur Barablé of Port Louis.	12 1 11	Ditto.
— 22d. - -	Jeanne - -	Ditto - - -	7 6 4	Ditto.
			19 16 3	

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, }
24th June 1824.

William Danford,
Cashier.

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Protector of Slaves.

No. 11.—EXTRACTS from a LETTER addressed to the Protector and Guardian of Slaves by the Rev. *Doctor Slater*, Vicar Apostolic, &c. &c., dated Port Louis, 25th June 1829.

“ Sir,

“ I HAVE been honoured by your letter of the 9th instant.

“ By the returns I have received from the country, and reference to the registers kept in the parish church of Port Louis, I find the baptisms of children in the slave population have amounted, since the beginning of March, to 430, of which more than a moiety are of the town and immediate neighbourhood of Port Louis.

“ I feel it due to the planters and other slave-owners in this colony to state, that we have often the satisfaction of seeing the sons and daughters of the master presenting themselves as sponsors for the children of the negresses; and that, without any known exception, we have been aided by the co-operation of the parents, when in the discharge of the duties entrusted to us, we have endeavoured to impress upon the minds of the youth of the colony a conviction, that the ill-treatment of a slave is an offence against the law of God.

“ I have had only two slaves reported to me as being sufficiently imbued with religious principles to warrant their oath being received, in cases where their masters are personally implicated.

“ There does not appear to have been any marriages contracted between slaves within the period you name, nor do I think it at all likely that much attention would be paid to any recommendation of the clergy, exhorting them to procure for their union the sanction of sacerdotal benediction, so long as example holding out encouragement to promiscuous connection is suffered to prevail in the settlement. The masters oppose no obstacle whatever to the religious union of their slaves, which had been wisely provided for by the ancient laws of the colony. But the want of religious instruction, without which the administration of the sacrament would be nugatory, and the example of others oppose insurmountable bars to their following the advice the clergy have not ceased since my arrival in the colony to give, whenever occasion has presented itself for so doing.

“ Another obstacle to the realization of His Majesty's benign wishes will be found in the facility with which a separation of the married parties may be obtained under the sanction of the civil authorities. A perusal of the law of divorce, being in full force in the colony, of which I enclose a copy, (B.), will evince that facility, and preclude the necessity of any comment.”

(Certified as true extracts.)

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

(B.)

CODE CIVIL.

Chapitre 7.—De la Dissolution du Mariage.

227. Le Mariage se dissout :

1° Par la mort de l'un des époux.

2° Par le divorce légalement prononcé.

3° Par la condamnation devenue définitive de l'un des époux.

Chapitre 8.—Des Seconds Mariages.

228. La femme ne peut contracter un nouveau mariage qu'après dix mois révolus depuis la dissolution du mariage précédent.

Titre 6.—Du Divorce.

Chapitre 1^{er}—Des Causes du Divorce.

229. Le mari pourra demander le divorce pour cause d'adultère de sa femme.

230. La femme pourra demander le divorce pour cause d'adultère de son mari, lorsqu'il aura tenu sa concubine dans la maison commune.

231. Les époux pourront réciproquement demander le divorce pour excès, sévices, ou injures graves de l'un deux envers l'autre.

232. La condamnation de l'un des époux à une peine infamante, sera pour l'autre époux une cause de divorce.

233. Le consentement mutuel et perseverant des époux, exprimé de la manière prescrite par la loi, sous les conditions et après les épreuves qu'elle détermine, prouvera suffisamment que la vie commune leur est insupportable, et qu'il existe par rapport à eux une cause peremptoire de divorce.

(A true copy.)

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

N^o 12.—COPY of a LETTER from the Rev. A. Denny first Civil Chaplain to the Protector of Slaves, with reference to the Baptisms, Marriages, and Moral Condition of the Slave Population of the Mauritius.

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Sir,

Port Louis, 19 June 1829.

I HAD the honour to receive your letter of the 9th instant, relative to the moral condition of the slaves in the Mauritius, with the means afforded for their improvement, particularly since the publication of the late Orders in Council, and demanding answers to certain queries to that effect.

“ Whether any slaves have been baptized by me since the promulgation of the above mentioned Ordinance ; if so, desiring a copy of the register of such baptisms.”

None have been baptized by me since the promulgation of the above-mentioned Ordinance.

“ 2d. Whether any marriages have been solemnized by me between slaves within the same period, in which case you beg to be furnished with a list thereof, containing the names of the respective owners.”

It does not appear, from the register of marriages in my possession, that there has yet taken place, in the Protestant Church, any marriages between slaves, and none since the publication of the Ordinance.

“ 3d. Whether there be within my knowledge any slaves who, in my opinion, are sufficiently instructed in the religion they profess to know the nature and obligation of an oath ; if so, requesting a certificate thereof, with their names and places of abode.”

Virginie and Marie, two slaves, the property of Madame Dejean, residing in the “ Rue Marengo,” in the town and district of Port Louis, are the only slaves within my knowledge qualified to give testimony.

“ 4th. It would also be desirable to be informed whether I am aware of any means having been adopted, by any of the slave-owners, for the instruction of their slaves in the principles and observance of the Christian religion, enjoined by article 13, above referred to.”

On the estates of Charles Telfair, Esq., at “ Beau Manguier” and “ Bon Espoir,” in the quarter of Flacq, schools are established for the education of his slaves in the principles of the Protestant religion. The children on the two estates, about 80 in number, are in the school two hours each day, where they receive elementary instruction, so as to enable them to read the scriptures and write ; and the whole of the adult slaves on the estates are assembled each Sabbath to hear prayers read by the masters. It is to be regretted that the distance from Port Louis, with our small establishment, precludes them from the advantages of clerical ministration. As it is, every thing possible is done for their moral improvement, and personal comfort ; and it doubly enhances the value of the instruction afforded, as Mr. Telfair is the only individual in the colony, lay or clerical, who permits elementary instruction to be imparted to his slaves.

In the district of Plaines Wilhems, on the estate of Captain Dick, a Catechist is employed for imparting religious instruction orally to his slaves. They are taught to repeat the words composing the Lord’s Prayer, the Apostles’ Creed, and parts of Scripture, all elementary instruction being interdicted. The Rev. Mr. Jones, military and assistant civil chaplain, attending on the estate once a month, and giving them a lecture in Negro French. Catechists are also employed by Government for imparting religious instruction orally to their slaves, attached to the country residence of His Excellency the Governor, the Chief Judge, and those in the Bagne. The children are assembled for two hours each day, and taught to repeat a few prayers and portions of scripture ; all elementary instruction and the use of books are forbidden, except to four boys at Redit. The Rev. Mr. Jones attends at Redit and the Bagne once a month, and addresses them in French ; and they are assembled by the Catechists for the purpose of prayer each Sabbath.

As these oral instructions have been established, and are superintended by the Rev. Mr. Jones, and as I am not the medium of correspondence between him and the local Government, you will learn better from him the numbers and proficiency of these establishments.

I have only to add, that I condemn, in the most unqualified terms, this recognized principle of slave education in the Mauritius, as not only defective in principle, but must eventually fail in effecting that permanent moral improvement so desirable in this class of the population, more imperatively demanded from the enjoyment of those civil rights which it appears the expressed determination of His Majesty’s Government to confer upon them.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

(signed) A. Denny,
First Civil Chaplain.

To R. M. Thomas, Esq.
Protector of Slaves.
&c. &c. &c.

(A true Copy.) R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

No. 13.—COPY of a LETTER from the Rev. R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chaplain, to the Protector of Slaves, with reference to Baptism, Marriages, and the Moral Condition of the Slave Population under his charge.

Sir,

Mauritius, June 25th, 1829.

I HAVE to lament that sickness has prevented my earlier reply to your official communication, under date of the 9th of the present month, which was augmented in the prosecution of my duties, called forth in conformity with your application for information on the several points alluded to. In returning from Reduit after the examination I made there, I was affected by the sun, and stopped in my career of exertion; consequently the only certificates I am able to furnish will be those of that establishment; nevertheless I shall continue my efforts in obedience to the Government Ordinance; and the views of His Majesty's Government will experience no delay in their effects locally, though ministers will not be so early in possession of those specific details, which I think will prove pleasing and satisfactory to them.

My answers will be found seriatim, in reply to your queries as they stand:

1st. "Whether any slaves have been baptised by me since the promulgation of the Ordinance N° 43. 7th February 1829."

The number of baptisms performed by me at Reduit subsequent to the above period is three, and on the Plaines de Wilhems above double that number, though I cannot speak with accuracy, as I have not yet received a copy of the register kept by the person in charge of it. I have likewise several baptisms to perform at the two estates of Mr. Telfair, in the several quarters of "Piton" and "Bois Rouge."

2d. "Whether any marriages have been solemnized by me between slaves within the same period."

No marriages have as yet been solemnized by me from the deficiency of proper registers, which have lately been supplied; but it is with great satisfaction and comfort that I have to state, that several are in progress at Reduit and on the Plaines de Wilhems; indeed I may speak generally with respect to the whole of the couples who live together in these establishments. I have long directed my attention and efforts to this desideratum; have encouraged and exhorted the several parties, and latterly entered into strict investigation of their adequate eligibility, and happy am I to have it in my power to say, that I have found them generally sensible of the necessity of legal marriage, keenly alive to the obligations of persons in that state, and anxious to enter into it. But it is to be observed, that these two congregations have been the objects of my pastoral care for nearly seven years; and proud I am of their moral improvements, practically evinced as they are by their conduct in all respects.

3d. "Whether there be within my knowledge any slave or slaves who, in my opinion, are sufficiently instructed in the religion they profess to know the nature and obligation of an oath; if so, you request a certificate thereof, with their names and places of abode."

I have great reason to believe that numerous slaves under my immediate care are perfectly aware of the nature of an oath; but the only certificates I have it in my power to furnish you with, for your Report of the present half year, are those from the Reduit establishment, which have not been extended to persons under age, whose testimony, according to French law, cannot be received in courts of justice; yet as you wisely suggest, in your private communication, that it is desirable "to grant certificates to all under age or not, as before they may chance to be called upon their age may be matured, within the limits of the French law." I shall therefore continue my labours of examination at Reduit, of all the pupils in the school there above the age of twelve, and forward the result for your next half-yearly Report; and I can with confidence assert, that I shall not find one single incompetent individual. The numbers receiving education are about 30 males, and 30 females, many of whom are very young.

"And it would also be desirable to be informed whether you are aware of any means having been adopted by any of the slave-owners, for the instruction of their slaves in the principles and observance of the Christian religion, as enjoined by the 13th article of the Government Ordinance.

The only measure adopted, within my knowledge, by slave owners, for the religious instruction of their slaves, are those of the Government, Mr. Telfair, and Captain Dick, which I conclude have been laid before Ministers, in my Reports to the dignified Ecclesiastical Board, under date 27th June 1827, and to His Majesty's Commissioners, under date October 29th, 1827.

The only additional means which subsequent to these periods have been resorted to, within my knowledge, are by the Government, in the appointment of a catechist to the Bagne, for the daily instruction of children under the age of eight, at which period they are apprenticed out to different persons until the age of 14. This catechist too reads prayers to the whole establishment on three Sunday mornings in each month, and I attend on the fourth for the same purpose, when I address them in their own jargon, which alone is intelligible to them.

Some changes have likewise taken place; Mr. Telfair has moved his slaves from "Belle Ombre" to "Bois Rouge," where he continues his system of instruction.

The

The mode of instruction has also received a step of advancement at Reduit; the children are all, with a few solitary exceptions of two or three, now taught the use of letters, which their moral improvement has entitled them to, and which I feel they are adequate to enjoy with justice to themselves and security to the community.

It is my bounden duty in conclusion to attest, that the effects of my efforts for the moral improvement of the slaves, whose welfare has been committed to my charge, have been such as to yield me the highest gratification; and so far am I from being discouraged, or of despairing of perfect ultimate success, that I am animated and prompted in my zeal by the wonderful and manifest amelioration of all under my care.

Partial endeavours must at the same time be confessed to be inefficacious in the general mass; we want therefore an universal and a grand move of the whole huge machine; which time would fail me were I to enter into now. But my sentiments and observations on this topic are already explained in the two Reports above alluded to, and I see no reason for changing my sentiments therein expressed.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
(signed) *R. E. Jones,*
Second Civil Chaplain.

(A true Copy.)
R. M. Thomas, Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

(Enclosure, No. 2.)

RETURN of ENFRANCHISEMENTS confirmed by His Excellency the Governor of Mauritius, between the 20th June 1828 and the 20th June 1829.

	Individuals.
By Will or Bequest - - - - -	52
Ordinary Manumissions - - - - -	591
"En état de Manumission," the majority of whom <i>not</i> duly registered as Slaves, in 1826 - - - - -	187
Total - -	830

Chief Secretary's Office, Port Louis, } (signed) *G. A. Barry,*
1st July 1829. } Chief Sec^y to Gov^t.

(A true Copy.) *F. E. Viret,*
Private Secretary.

(Enclosure, No. 3.)

REMARKS, by the Governor, on the Report of the Protector of Slaves, to 24th June 1829.

ON the circumstances alluded to in paragraphs No. 4 and 5, I have already had the honour to submit my statement and opinion:—See my Despatch of 11th April, No. 24, 1829.

Para. 8 & 9.—In observation upon these paragraphs, I have the honour to submit the statements of Mr. Foisy, the Procureur-general (see Enclosures, No. 6 and 7) to whom I thought it but fair they should be made known. Certain of the regret which will be entertained by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, equally of the necessity which the Protector deemed to exist for writing the former, as of the style in which the latter are in some instances rendered, I shall perhaps be excused offering the opinion, that, in his commencement of the duties of a difficult and invidious office, and not then aware of the delays which most generally attend the administration of justice in this colony, the Protector might naturally enough conceive that sufficiently early attention had not been paid to his official applications, while the proof now brought forward by the Procureur-general induces me to think that, with exception of the case of "Le Sieur D. Lacondray," for the offensive attack upon Mr. Thomas, and where the mislaying of the paper may now be allowed in excuse, the denunciations, &c. of the Protector were brought forward by the Procureur-general as quickly as other business would in regular course admit of.

In the instances in which they were used, the Procureur-general seems to have taken offence, I think erroneously, at the forms of *note* introduced by the Protector in his correspondence with him, for they certainly were never deficient in the respectfulness of their style, and in his imperfect knowledge of the English language, he has, in some instances, laid a construction on Mr. Thomas's words they do not strictly allow of.

A reasonable allowance too for the ignorance of a stranger in such matters might have pointed out the preference to be given to a private explanation, at a leisure moment, of the offence of calling a woman *Madame*, who should be only *Mademoiselle*, over an official letter, in which the probable consequences are pointed out in so serious a strain.

Para. 12.—I myself

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Para. 12.—I myself entertain the best expectations, from the circumstance that I have heard of no complaint of the ill-treatment of their slaves by any of the chief proprietors or gentry of the island; and, as their example must have the effect of checking the ill-judged parsimony, want of humane feeling and intemperance, sometimes met with in the uneducated and lower class of slave-owners, a class too diminishing in numbers every day, as the cultivation becomes confined to sugar.

Para. 13.—To the first division of this paragraph I have the satisfaction to be able to add the information of the manumissions within the last twelvemonth, having amounted to the great number of 830, as certified in the document marked Enclosure, No. 2; and that all the cases of difficulty, or apprehended difficulty, in the way of enfranchising children or others, stated in this paragraph, are under consideration for remedy by a declaratory ordinance on the clauses of the law which are thought liable to misrepresentation, or not sufficient to meet their purport.

Para. 14.—Under the head of "Punishment Record Book," there are several points which I do not view in the same light as the Protector. As to the rejection of the form of register proposed by him, at my desire, for use by the slave proprietors, it originated, I believe, in the indiscretion of one of Mr. Thomas's assistants, in passing it through his district as if a compulsory form, instead of one meant for the convenience and assistance of the inhabitants, and not precluding any other they might possibly think better.

I have invariably recommended to the Protector, as a preliminary step in all cases of complaints, to call for the Plantation Record Book, and we must await the result of the denunciations he has made to the Procureur-general before we can be certain of the law on that head being as much contravened as he imagines. His judging the penalty on contravention a *trivial one*, is owing to his referring only to the French version of the Ordinance, in which there is a mis-print of twenty *shillings* for twenty *pounds*, and which only required to be brought to my knowledge to be immediately rectified. (See Ordinance, No. 49, herewith transmitted.)

Para. 15.—The Ordinance, No. 20, issued by Sir Lowry Cole, for regulating the weight of chains, fetters, &c., has already, as it stands, been of much practical use; and, for correction of the obscurity of the technical phraseology which has led to doubts, it was sometime since sent to the Procureur-general, and it is intended that the same amended ordinance shall obviate what the Protector says of chains worn by slaves employed in navigating boats, &c.

I doubt if the "Barre de Justice" is as objectionable an engine of punishment as the Protector imagines, and some punishment must be retained for those who will not earn their master's food without it.

Para. 16.—The law, it is hoped, will be found very specific as to the intervals of rest allowed on working days, and as much so as in the present state of things it can be in regard of Sundays; and the blacks have quite sense enough not to allow themselves to be often imposed upon in these particulars; but while the Protector thinks the slaves' day of rest too much interfered with, the police and the proprietors complain of its being converted into one of debauchery and tumult.

Where the value of slaves has risen to the enormous price it has here, it has not been thought necessary to alter the laws regarding their food and clothing. Where squalor and misery are apparent it will be for the Protector to trace the cause; but, in the cases of the naked, he will generally find that their clothes have been exchanged for spirituous liquors.

Para. 17.—Books for the registry of the marriages of slaves have been ordered for the use of the civil commissaries, by whom, according to the colonial law, the performance of that ceremony is alone legal.

Para. 18.—This paragraph, as well as that on the moral improvement of the slaves, No. 22, call for a separate report from me, and which will accompany this one.

Para. 19.—The interest payable by the saving bank was fixed at five per cent. on the precedent of the Order in Council for Trinidad, and in ignorance of what expenditure Government would choose to be at on its account. The legal interest of the island for loans on landed security (on which alone these loans can be laid out) is nine per cent.,—twelve on personal security; but under the difficulty of getting either for the slave's modicum, and when the superior safety of the government's security shall be understood by the slaves, they will most probably take greater advantage of this beneficent institution.

Para. 20.—The advice and assistance of the Chief Judge and Commissary of Justice having been asked for the adjustment of this difficulty, the Protector, on the grounds explained in the correspondence marked Enclosure No. 5, has been authorized to employ an *avoué*.

Para. 21.—I regret to say that these statements present but too correct a picture of the misery to themselves, and the injury to their masters, occasioned by the addiction of the slaves to spirituous liquors; an evil, however, which is participated in by the greater part of the lower classes of the population of the colony, and the means by which it can be repressed is a consideration deeply occupying my attention.

Port Louis, }
3d September 1829. }

Cha^s Colville.

(Enclosure, No. 4.)

Report from
Protector of Slaves.
Titre.

No. 49.—ORDINANCE of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

FOR amending and rectifying a certain disposition inserted in the French text of Clause 21 of the Ordinance in Council, dated 7th February 1829, No. 43.

Whereas in Clause 21 of the Ordinance in Council, dated 7th February 1829, No. 43, a disposition has been inserted and related in the French language in the following words :
 " Toute personne qui auroit négligé de faire ledit enrégistrement, sur le registre des punitions, ou qui ne l'auroit pas effectué dans les deux jours qui auront suivi celui où la punition aura été infligée, aura encouru une amende qui ne pourra excéder cinq livres, et être moindre de vingt chelings sterling."

And whereas the said disposition so expressed, in as far as regards the penalty therein mentioned, is at variance with the terms of Article 21 of the same Ordinance as it stands in the English version on the same subject; and whereas it is necessary that the text in both languages should correspond, it becomes therefore indispensable to alter the French text of the said article, and to make the same to agree with the English text of the like article, which latter is the true meaning of the law.

His Excellency in Council has been pleased to order :

I. The disposition of Article 21 of the Ordinance of the 7th February as follows : " Toute personne qui auroit négligé de faire ledit enrégistrement sur le registre des punitions, ou qui ne l'auroit pas effectué dans les deux jours qui auront suivi celui où la punition aura été infligée, aura encouru une amende qui ne pourra excéder cinq livres, et être moindre de vingt chelings sterling," is repealed.

The Clause of Art. 21 of the Ordinance in Council, No. 43, as it exists in the French Text, recited in this Article, is made null and void.

II. In lieu of that disposition the following substitution is to be made : " Toute personne qui auroit négligé de faire ledit enrégistrement sur le registre des punitions, ou qui ne l'auroit pas effectué dans les deux jours qui auront suivi celui où la punition aura été infligée, aura encouru une amende qui ne pourra excéder vingt livres sterling, ni être moindre de cinq livres sterling."

The French Clause herein transcribed to be substituted in lieu of the Clause annulled by Art. 1.

III. Therefore, from the day of the publication of the present Ordinance, the penalty incurred in the case provided for by the above Article 21 of Ordinance No. 43, shall be applied pursuant to the terms of the foregoing Article 2.

In lieu of the Penalty expressed in Art. 21, which is repealed, the one present Ordinance.

mentioned in Art. 2 of the present Ordinance shall be in force from the day of the publication of the present Ordinance.

IV.—And to the end that no person may pretend ignorance of the same, the present Ordinance shall be read, published and registered in the courts; for which purpose a copy thereof shall be presented by the Procureur-general to His Honour the Chief Judge and Commissary of Justice.

The present Ordinance in Council is to be registered and published in the Courts and Tribunals of the Mauritius and Dependencies, according to usual practice.

GOD SAVE THE KING !

Given at Port Louis, Mauritius, the 29th July 1829.

(signed) CHAS. COLVILLE.

By order of His Excellency the Governor,
(signed)

G. A. Barry,
Chief Secretary to Government.

By order of the Council,
(signed)

W. N. Leitch,
Secretary to the Council.

(A true copy.)

W. N. Leitch,
Clerk to the Council.

No. 49.—ORDONNANCE de Son Excellence le Gouverneur en Conseil.

POUR corriger et rectifier certaine disposition insérée dans le texte en Français de la Clause 21 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil du 7 Février 1829, No. 43.

Attendu que dans la Clause 21 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil du 7 Février 1829, No. 43; il a été inséré une disposition rapportée en langue Française dans les termes suivans : " Toute personne qui aurait négligé de faire ledit enrégistrement sur le registre des punitions, ou qui ne l'aurait pas effectué dans les deux jours qui auront suivi celui où la punition aura été infligée, aura encouru une amende qui ne pourra excéder cinq livres et être moindre de vingt shillings sterling."

Et

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Et attendu que cette disposition est conçue quant à la peine qui y est énoncée dans des termes dissemblables de ceux que l'article 21 de la même Ordonnance exprime dans le texte Anglais sur le même sujet, et qu'il est nécessaire que le même article, dans l'un et l'autre texte, ne présente pas deux dispositions différentes, qu'il devient en conséquence indispensable de ramener la disposition dudit article rédigé en Français au texte de la disposition du même article rédigé en Anglais, qui est la véritable expression de la loi.

A ordonné et ordonne :

La clause de l'art. 21 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil, No. 43, au texte Français, rapportée dans l'art. 1er. est annulée.

La clause transcrite en l'art. 2 de la présente Ordonnance, est substituée à la clause annulée par l'art. 1er.

Au lieu de la peine énoncée en l'art. 21 qui est rapporté, celle exprimée en l'art. 3 de la présente Ordonnance sera applicable à compter du jour de la publication de la présente Ordonnance.

Enregistrement et publication de la présente Ordonnance en Conseil aura lieu dans les cour et tribunaux de l'Île Maurice et Dépendances, ainsi qu'il est accoutumé.

I. La disposition de l'article 21 de l'Ordonnance du 7 Février, ainsi conçue : Toute personne qui aurait négligé de faire ledit enregistrement sur le registre des punitions, ou qui ne l'aurait pas effectué dans les deux jours qui auront suivi celui où la punition aura été infligée, aura encouru une amende qui ne pourra excéder cinq livres, et être moindre de vingt shillings sterling, est rapportée.

II. Aux termes de cette disposition sera substitué ce qui suit : "Toute personne qui aurait négligé de faire ledit enregistrement sur le registre des punitions, ou qui ne l'aurait pas effectué dans les deux jours qui auront suivi celui où la punition aura été infligée, aura encouru une amende qui ne pourra excéder vingt livres sterling, ni être moindre de cinq livres sterling.

III. En conséquence, à compter du jour de la publication de la présente Ordonnance, la peine encourue au cas de l'article 21 ci-dessus, sera applicable ainsi et de la manière qu'elle est ordonnée par l'article 2 ci-dessus.

IV. Et afin que personne n'en prétende cause d'ignorance, la présente Ordonnance sera lue, publiée et enregistrée dans les tribunaux : copie en sera, à cet effet, présentée par le procureur-général à son honneur le grand juge et commissaire de justice.

VIVE LE ROI!

Donné au Port-Louis, Ile Maurice, le 29 Juillet 1829.

CHAS. COLVILLE.

Par ordre de Son Excellence le Gouverneur,

G. A. Barry,
Secrétaire en chef du Gouvernement.

Par ordre du Conseil,

W. N. Leitch,
Secrétaire du Conseil.

(Enclosure, 5.)

CORRESPONDENCE with the Chief Judge, the Protector of Slaves, and the Procureur General, respecting the Employment of an *Avoué*, by the Protector.

Sir,

Reduit, 28th May 1829.

I HASTEN to enclose to your Honour a letter which has been submitted to me from the Protector of Slaves, accompanied by a correspondence which has recently passed between that office and the president of the Chamber of *Avoués*, on the subject of an application the Protector had made to the Chamber, with a view of leading to the appointment of one of its members for the purpose of bringing before the proper court cases involving the interests of slaves; and, under the circumstances stated in the correspondence alluded to, I shall be obliged to your Honour to give the matter your early consideration, pointing out the measures which you conceive it will be necessary to adopt thereon. As it does not seem to have been contemplated by His Majesty's Government, that the existing laws of the colony would not permit of the Protector's going into Court in such cases, (even were he otherwise competent to do so) and, therefore, that the measure of employing an *avoué* for the express purpose of conducting causes similar to the one adverted to by Mr. Thomas, might lead to considerable expense.

His Honour the Chief Judge
and Commissary of Justice.

I have, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) Charles Colville.

(A true copy.)

F. E. Viret,
Private Secretary.

LETTER from the Protector and Guardian of Slaves to the Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

Protector of Slaves' Office, 26th May 1829.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, herewith, copy of a correspondence between the President of the chamber of solicitors and myself, on the subject of an application which, on the authority of verbal information, I was induced to make, for the appointment of one of the profession to bring before the proper tribunals cases involving the interests of slaves, who I presumed would be allowed to sue and defend "*in formu pauperis*."

Acting

Acting upon that information, I applied to the Chamber for the appointment of one person, exclusively, to institute generally such processes on behalf of the slaves as the business of this office might give rise to; and I deemed this the more eligible, inasmuch as it would not only obviate the disadvantage of having to employ different solicitors for each particular case, but would also enable me to consult him confidentially upon all. The reply to this application will be found in the President's letter of the 9th May, wherein it is stated, that my request could not be complied with, but that, upon application being made by any indigent person through the Commissary of Government to the President of the Chamber, a solicitor would be appointed to defend the cause of such indigent person, whether it were of a criminal or civil nature, and that each member of the Chamber is specially charged with the investigation and consultation of all affairs of that nature that may be sent to him for that purpose by the President, to whom he is directed to return the papers, with his opinion, in order, should there be cause, to be distributed by the President among the different solicitors.

Upon receipt of this notification, I addressed myself to the President again, transmitting, at the same time, the papers in a case of debt due to a poor slave belonging to Madame Léveillé, confident, from the tenor of the President's letter, that my object in this individual case would be obtained. Not so, however; for it is stated in the President's final reply of the 12th instant, that the law by which the Chamber was organized does not recognize slaves as belonging to that class of indigent persons to whom the benefit of its regulations can be extended.

That may or may not be the case; but, on referring to the law, intituled, "Organisation des Avoués," and promulgated the "14 Nivose, an 12," I do not find any Clause or Article therein that authorizes such conclusion, the following being those only that relate to the point in question:—

Cap. 1, sec. 1, Art. 9.—"Les Avoués inscrits au tableau seront nommés d'office par les Présidens des Tribunaux au Criminel, pour la défense d'un accusé, ou au Civil, pour la défense d'une partie qui prouvera n'avoir pu trouver de défenseur volontaire, ou sera dans l'indigence; il en sera donné avis au Président de la Chambre des Avoués, par le Commissaire du Gouvernement."

Cap. 2, sec. 1, Art. 17, clause 5.—"De former dans son sein un bureau de consultation gratuite pour les personnes indigentes, dont la Chambre distribue les affaires aux divers Avoués pour les suivre, quand il y a lieu."

Cap. 2, sec. 2, Art. 21, clause 2.—"Pour l'examen et consultation des affaires des indigens, qui lui sont aussi repartis par le Président de la Chambre à laquelle il les renvoie, avec son avis pour, s'il y a lieu de les suivre, être par le Président distribuées aux divers Avoués."

I have therefore to request you will be pleased to lay the whole before His Excellency the Governor, for such directions as he may be pleased to give therein, observing only, that there are several cases of affranchisements which press for attention.

I have, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *R. M. Thomas,*
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

LETTER from the Protector and Guardian of Slaves to the President of the Chamber of Solicitors.

Sir, Protector of Slave's Office, Port Louis, 8th May 1829.

HAVING been informed by a highly respectable member of the profession, that the Chamber of Solicitors has humanely resolved that one of its members shall, on application, be instructed to take upon himself the duty of prosecuting or defending any action or suit at law in which the interests of slaves, who are entitled to sue "*in formâ pauperis*," may be involved;—

I have to request (should such be the case) that you will be pleased to appoint a solicitor for the purpose of prosecuting a case of debt, and others of affranchisement, which I am desirous to bring before the tribunals having jurisdiction over the same.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *R. M. Thomas,*
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

LETTRE du Président de la Chambre des Avoués au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Port Louis, 9 Mai 1829.

J'AI reçu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le huit du courant, et par laquelle vous m'invitez à nommer, comme Président de la Chambre des Avoués, un Défenseur d'Office, pour suivre les actions que vous croirez devoir porter devant les Tribunaux en votre qualité de Protecteur des Esclaves.

Je m'empresse de vous faire savoir qu'il ne m'appartient pas de faire une telle nomination, et de mettre à la charge d'un Défenseur de poursuivre, soit en demandant, soit en défendant, les actions que vous croirez devoir porter devant les Tribunaux.

La loi sur l'Organisation des Avoués prescrit (Art. 9), que les Avoués inscrits au tableau seront nommés d'office par les Présidens des Tribunaux, au Criminel, pour la défense d'un accusé, ou au Civil, pour une partie qui prouvera n'avoir pu trouver de Défenseur volontaire,

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Protector of Slaves.

ou sera dans l'indigence ; dans ce cas, il en sera donné avis au Président de la Chambre des Avoués, par le Commissaire du Gouvernement. L'Article 21 de la même loi prescrit en outre des fonctions spéciales attribuées aux membres de la Chambre des Avoués, que chacun des membres de la dite Chambre est délégué pour l'examen et consultation des affaires des indigens, qui lui sont réparties par le Président de la Chambre, à laquelle il les renvoie, avec son avis, pour, s'il y a lieu de les suivre, être par le Président distribuées aux divers Avoués. Tels sont, Monsieur, les réglemens concernant les affaires des indigens, qui ont constamment été observés, de même que pour la défense des accusés au Criminel.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *H. T. Perrot.*

LETTER from the Protector and Guardian of Slaves to the President of the Chamber of Solicitors.

Sir, Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 11th May 1829.

I HAVE received the letter you honoured me with, on the 9th instant, in reply to mine of the previous day, and I regret not to have been sufficiently explicit, so as to avoid my application being misunderstood.

What I would require is, that you, as President of the Chamber of Solicitors, would appoint, in the present instance, a gentleman of the profession to examine into the nature of a claim made by a slave named Lubin, against a free man of colour, named Jean Louis, for a debt of 200 dollars, and to report upon the same to you, with a view, should there be sufficient cause of action, to institute the same in the proper tribunal for recovery of the debt in question. If I understand well your letter, the request I make comes within the meaning of the rules of the Chamber with reference to indigent persons, and as Lubin is one of the latter class, I recommend his case to your consideration.

I send herewith the promissory note which forms the basis of the debt, as also three other documents, which will explain more or less the nature of the same.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *R. M. Thomas,*
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

LETTRE du Président de la Chambre des Avoués au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Port Louis, 12 Mai 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre en date d'hier, par laquelle vous m'invitez à indiquer un Défenseur, pour suivre une réclamation au nom du nommé Lubin, esclave de la femme L'Eveillé, contre un nommé Jean Louis ; ce que je n'ai pas le droit de faire comme Président de la Chambre des Avoués, d'après les motifs consignés dans la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous écrire le neuf du courant.

Le nommé Lubin, esclave, n'est pas dans le cas des indigens, qui n'ont pu se procurer un Défenseur volontaire. L'Ordonnance du 7 Février 1829, N° 43, prescrit, que le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves suivra toutes les actions qui leur appartiendront ; que dans certains cas, les actions seront intentées et soutenues par l'intervention du maître, ou sous son nom ; et en cas de refus, par le Protecteur et Gardien ; Articles 8, 9, 23, et suivans, de la dite Ordonnance.

En examinant la loi sur l'Organisation des Avoués, vous vous convaincrez, Monsieur, que la loi, en accordant un Défenseur obligé aux accusés dans les affaires criminelles, et aux indigens dans les affaires civiles, n'a pu comprendre dans cette dernière classe des individus auxquels la loi a donné un Patron et un Protecteur : c'est un office dont les fonctions et les charges sont déterminées.

Je dois ajouter, Monsieur, qu'avant de répondre à votre lettre, j'ai cru devoir la communiquer aux autres membres de la Chambre des Avoués, et prendre leur avis.

Je vous remets ci-inclus les pièces relatives à la réclamation de Lubin, regrettant bien sincèrement de ne pouvoir, comme Président de la Chambre des Avoués, faire ce qui peut vous être agréable dans la circonstance.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *H. T. Perrot.*

LETTER from the Chief Judge and Commissary of Justice to His Excellency the Governor.

Sir, Mon Plaisir, 30th May 1829.

I HAVE the honour to reply to Your Excellency's letter of the 28th instant, on the question which has been submitted to you by the Protector of Slaves, from which it appears, that the Chamber of Avoués is of opinion, that, inasmuch as slaves do not come within the description of "indigens," in the sense of the law of the "14 Nivose, an 12," the cases which Mr. Thomas has submitted to the President are not of that class in which the Chamber is bound to nominate one of its members to sue for the parties.

As the above-mentioned law enacts, that the application shall be made to the Chamber by the "Commissaire du Gouvernement," that is the Procureur Général of the present day, I have transmitted a copy of the correspondence to Mr. Foisy, with instructions to furnish Your Excellency, as speedily as possible, with a report and opinion upon the question. In the mean time, I will, as briefly as I can, lay before Your Excellency my view of the matter.

The

The Arrêté above cited cannot be interpreted to have slaves in its contemplation, inasmuch as its dispositions relate to indigent persons enjoying the civil right of property, under which description slaves could not have been classed until the late Ordinance for the amelioration of their condition: since the passing of that law, any slave who may be entitled to a sum of money or other litigated property, who has no other *peculium*, and whose master shall refuse to lend his name to a suit for the recovery of his rights, may certainly, *quoad* the right to that particular property, be considered as a person indigent. It is in such cases as these that the Ordinance has directed that the Protector of Slaves shall himself interfere, and carry on the suit in his own name. It appears to me, I confess, to be a matter of public interest that those rights which the Legislature has in its wisdom and humanity conferred upon slaves should be ably enforced; and for this reason, I am of opinion that it should not be left to the chance of a selection of an "Avoué" from the Chamber, by a rule of rotation, to have those rights examined and prosecuted. If the Protector be not a legal character, competent to institute and defend suits, I think there ought to be a standing counsel attached to the office, as there is to the Curatelle, and that, in cases where expense is unavoidably incurred, such counsel should be paid his bill of costs by the Government. There would be this advantage and security obviously resulting from such an arrangement, that every case would be impartially examined, and that none would be brought forward lightly or vexatiously, so as to run the risk of a condemnation in costs. In those cases where a master would be disposed to lend his name in his slave's interest, of course he would have the choice of his legal adviser; but it is not very probable, in the general run of cases, that a master would be inclined to render himself liable to costs: it is this consideration alone, that, it is to be hoped, would make him hold back; and if he were only made secure in this particular, he would, I apprehend, willingly lend his name; and I need scarcely point out to Your Excellency how important it is in those cases where the slave was (if I may so term it), entitled to property previously to the passing of the Ordinance, that the suit should be carried on in the joint name of the master and slave for the recovery of it.

As soon as I receive the answer of the Procureur Général, I will have the honour of forwarding it to Your Excellency.

I have, &c. &c. &c.
(signed) *Edward B. Blackburn.*

A true copy.
(signed) *F. E. Viret*, Private Secretary.

LETTER from the Protector and Guardian of Slaves to the Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir, Protector of Slaves' Office, 21st July 1829.
REFERRING to my letter of the 26th May last, respecting the nomination of a solicitor to institute legal proceedings in cases wherein the interests of slaves might be concerned; I have now the honour to state, that these cases increase in number daily, and that several of them press for immediate attention: I would therefore beg you to be pleased to submit the same to His Excellency the Governor at your earliest convenience.

I have, &c. &c. &c.
(signed) *R. M. Thomas*,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

LETTER from the Chief Secretary to the Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Sir, Chief Secretary's Office, Port Louis, 25th July 1829.
HIS Excellency the Governor has had under consideration your letter of the 21st instant, stating, with reference to your previous communication of the 26th May last, that the cases in which the interests of slaves are concerned increase in number daily; that several of those cases press for immediate attention, and that it is urgent a solicitor should be named for the purpose of instituting legal proceedings in their behalf.

In reply, I have His Excellency's directions to inform you, that the engagement of a solicitor to be employed, as occasion may require, in such cases of difficulty, is authorized.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.
(signed) *G. A. Barry*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

LETTER from the Chief Judge and Commissary of Justice to His Excellency the Governor.

Sir, Mon Plaisir, August 3d 1829.
I HAVE the honour to transmit to Your Excellency the Report of the Procureur Général, on the question raised by the Protector of Slaves, as to the nomination of an "Avoué" to defend the interests of slaves suing "*in formâ pauperis*."

This Report, coming in confirmation of the opinion I have had the honour of delivering to Your Excellency, will, I have no doubt, satisfy you of the propriety of the decision which, from the delay of the Procureur Général in returning an answer, you felt yourself obliged to come to on the subject.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.
(signed) *Edward B. Blackburn.*

A true copy.
(signed) *F. E. Viret*, Private Secretary.

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

RAPPORT du Procureur Général.

Bureau du Procureur Général, 29 Juillet 1829.

Monsieur,
PAR votre lettre du 30 Mai dernier, à laquelle plusieurs pièces étaient jointes, vous me chargez d'examiner cette question sur la demande du Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves. Si un de Messieurs les Avoués ne doit pas avoir la charge de suivre en demandant et défendant les affaires qui concernent certaines propriétés appartenantes à des noirs esclaves, ou l'affranchissement d'aucuns noirs esclaves; et si sur la poursuite qu'avait à faire un individu de cette classe en particulier pour le recouvrement d'une dette à son profit, cet avoué ne devait pas être chargé par la Chambre des Avoués du soin de cette poursuite.

Vous avez désiré, dans cette affaire, que mon opinion vous soit transmise *dans le plus bref délai*.

Je vous assure, Monsieur, que de toutes les affaires dont j'ai eu à m'occuper depuis la date de votre lettre, et qui pour la plupart m'ont été envoyées avec la même recommandation, et une semblable formule, il n'en est aucune qui par sa nature ne demandait d'être examinée et décidée avant celle-ci: c'est ce que mes registres justifieront au besoin.

Je viens à la demande de Monsieur le Protecteur des Esclaves. Vous seriez très formalisé, et avec raison, si je vous adressais sur ce sujet une réponse tellement succincte qu'elle se bornât à vous déclarer mon opinion et sans motif; ce serait toujours une réponse, mais non une réponse telle que vous devez la recevoir, et telle qu'il est de mon devoir et dans mon intention de vous la donner. Je préférerais d'avouer mon incapacité, ou ma paresse plutôt, que de me mettre à jour par une réponse d'un tel genre.

Voici, Monsieur, comment je considère la question de Monsieur le Protecteur. J'examine d'abord que le Protecteur n'est pas dans le cas du Règlement du 14 Nivose, an 12, où la partie prouve qu'elle n'a pu trouver de défenseur volontaire, cas auquel elle doit s'adresser au Président du Tribunal, ou de la Cour, pour qu'il soit nommé d'office un Défenseur.

J'examine ensuite le cas qui concerne les indigens. Le noir libre qui a contre la nommée Léveillé, noir libre, à poursuivre le paiement d'un billet de deux cents piastres, doit-il, considération prise de sa condition d'esclave, être réputé indigent dans le sens du règlement? *Je ne le pense pas*. Il aurait donc le privilège sur tout autre citoyen justiciable de poursuivre le recouvrement d'une dette sans rien dépenser. Mais la question est présentée ici d'une manière plus générale par le Protecteur: Tous les noirs esclaves qui auraient des intérêts pécuniaires à soutenir, seront-ils, peuvent-ils être classés parmi les indigens? Les lois récentes sur la condition des esclaves ne l'ordonnent point, et la raison ne permettrait pas d'y ajouter cette prérogative en faveur de l'esclave; car pouvant posséder un pécule quelconque, la propriété de l'esclave peut être considérable, comme elle peut être mince, et l'esclave qui possède une somme un peu importante peut être riche en comparaison d'une personne d'une autre condition.

Mais enfin, quel est sur cette matière le système de nos lois coloniales? Les esclaves n'y étant ni explicitement ni virtuellement compris, ce n'est pas dans ces lois, c'est ailleurs et dans une législation moderne qu'il faudrait chercher des autorités.

Et d'ailleurs, que portent les lois coloniales? Si une partie prouve qu'elle n'a pu trouver de Défenseur volontaire, elle s'adresse au Président, qui nomme un Avoué d'Office. Quel est le devoir de l'Avoué? Peut-il opposer des motifs pour ne pas se charger de la poursuite, ni de la défense? Nul doute sur cette question: il en est de même de celui qui, étant dans l'indigence, n'a pu confier sa défense à un Défenseur volontaire; et dans ce cas, il y a moins d'objection à faire de la part de l'Avoué nommé d'office.

Dans les autres endroits de la même loi, on trouve, qu'il n'est question que de consultations dans les affaires des indigens, et de les renvoyer à un des Avoués quand la Chambre est d'avis qu'il y a lieu de les suivre.

Il semble que voilà tout ce que le Protecteur avait le droit de réclamer en vertu de cette loi.

Je ne crois pas qu'il existe en ce moment d'Avoué chargé par une commission de Gouvernement, et à raison de quelque avantage particulier qui lui aurait été accordé, d'être le Défenseur des pauvres.

Cette circonstance aurait été plus favorable à la demande du Protecteur; mais il se présente une question particulière sur cette matière, et sur laquelle le règlement de Nivose, an 12, ne s'explique pas de manière à devenir loi positive.

La poursuite ou la défense d'une affaire en justice exige trois sortes de dépenses: 1°, Les droits attribués par un tarif à l'Avoué, constitué pour ses vacations, ses soins, son travail; 2°, Les droits attribués au greffe pour les expéditions et certaines vacations; 3°, Les déboursés et avances à faire, soit au fisc, soit aux huissiers. Il est entendu, que la défense gratuite comprendra ce qui est énoncé dans la première classe; mais sur qui retombera la charge des frais, avancés et déboursés d'une autre catégorie?

L'on sent donc la nécessité de déterminer, si la défense gratuite dont se charge un Avoué, le soumet à prendre à sa charge et pour son propre compte les droits et les salaires à payer au fisc, aux greffes, aux huissiers, et même en cas de perte du procès, les frais que l'Avoué de la partie qui a obtenu le jugement favorable a le droit de réclamer.

Je passe à un autre sujet: quelle est à l'égard de ces frais de procès, la position où, dans l'état des choses, est placé le Protecteur, en ce qui concerne les frais des procès intentés par ou contre les esclaves? Il faut consulter l'Ordonnance en Conseil du 7 Février, N° 43; c'est la seule base qui nous soit offerte pour poser notre opinion.

Article 8.—J'y trouve ceci: "Dans toutes les actions, instances et poursuites dans lesquelles il s'élèverait une question relative au droit qu'un esclave pourrait avoir à de certaines propriétés, telle qu'il est habile à les acquérir ou posséder, dans ces cas, la notification sera faite au Protecteur des Esclaves, et le Protecteur des Esclaves suivra le procès," &c. Cette clause est-elle

est-elle compatible avec, et entraîne-t-elle nécessairement, celle que le Protecteur des Esclaves commettra ou trouvera un Avoué qui devra suivre l'affaire à ses frais et avec toutes les charges indiquées ci-dessus? Je ne puis le penser: cette clause suffirait, à ce que je crois, (et raisonnablement comprise) pour en déduire, que les frais de suite et de poursuite sont à la charge du Protecteur des Esclaves; en sera-t-il remboursé ensuite, et par qui? C'est ce que vous n'avez pas l'obligation d'examiner en ce lieu.

En l'Article 9 on lit: "Il est de plus ordonné, que le traitement que recevra le Protecteur des Esclaves lui tiendra lieu de salaire, et satisfera pleinement à tous les honoraires, droits, casuels," &c. Ce n'est pas à moi d'expliquer, ni d'inférer, s'il suit ou s'il ne suit pas de cette clause, que le Protecteur des Esclaves, bien plutôt que l'Avoué nommé d'office, doit supporter les frais d'instances, actions et poursuites; mais je n'en déduirai assurément pas que le Protecteur soit autorisé à demander que cette charge soit imposée à l'Avoué qui prête gratuitement son ministère.

Voilà le Protecteur des Esclaves établi le Patron d'Office des noirs esclaves, ayant recours à la justice: or jusqu'à ce jour le Patron nommé dans ces cas à chaque esclave, avait-il le droit d'exiger que l'Avoué chargé de poursuivre ou défendre en son nom, supportât la charge des frais et déboursés?

Je ne tirerai aucune induction précise de l'Article 10; mais ce compte à rendre tous les six mois par le Protecteur des Esclaves, accompagné du serment, et suivi d'une ordonnance (ou *warrant*) sur le trésorier, pour le montant des salaires qui lui seront dus pour les six mois précédents, ne présente-t-il pas l'idée du moment où le Protecteur des Esclaves doit présenter et affirmer le compte de ses dépenses pour les devoirs et les charges qu'il a à remplir pour les esclaves dont la protection, le patronage en justice, lui est confié.

Je viens à l'Article 23, qui s'exprime ainsi: "Toute action qui pourrait avoir lieu en conséquence de la faculté donnée à l'esclave par le présent Article, devra être intentée ou soutenue par l'intervention du maître, ou sous le nom du maître; et en cas de refus de sa part d'intenter l'action ou d'y défendre par le Protecteur et Gardien, et dans le cas où les prétentions de l'esclave ne seraient pas admises par le tribunal, sa propriété répondra comme dans les affaires ordinaires des dépens et dommages et intérêts auxquels l'action aura pu donner lieu."

Je conçois avec peine comment d'après la teneur de cet Article, Monsieur le Protecteur des Esclaves a pu élever les questions qui ont donné lieu à ce mémoire. Il sera très avantageux qu'il fasse choix d'un Avoué qui sera chargé de suivre toutes les affaires qui le concernent comme Patron des esclaves et pour les avances; et pour le remboursement des frais qui seront la suite de ces affaires, il est naturel qu'il s'adresse au Gouvernement.

Je crois qu'il existe une décision du Gouverneur en Conseil qui porte qu'à l'avenir les Patrons nommés par justice pour les esclaves ne recevront point du Gouvernement le remboursement des frais et déboursements qu'ils auront faits; mais j'observe que ces Patrons acceptent volontairement et librement la charge qui leur est confiée, et qu'il n'en est pas de même à l'égard du Protecteur des Esclaves, qui est institué par la loi pour remplir un office public qui l'expose à des dépenses pour l'acquiescement de sa charge.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) Foisy,
Procureur Général.

Enclosure, No. 6.

LETTER from the Governor to the Chief Judge, and His Honour's Reply, respecting the Explanations required from the Procureur Général, &c.

Sir,

Government House, 3d July 1829.

THE Report to the 24th ultimo which I have just received from the Protector of Slaves, according to the provisions of the Ordinance for the improvement of the condition of the slave population, contains, and I confess not to my surprise, the observations which will be found in the accompanying extracts applying to the Court of First Instance and to the Procureur General.

Your Honour is doubtless aware that the Report of the Protector must be transmitted by me to His Majesty's Government without loss of time. I should, however, be unwilling to transmit it unaccompanied by any explanations, especially from the Procureur Général, in reference to the enclosed extracts.

I therefore do myself the honour to request that you will be pleased to make such communications to the Court and to Mr. Foisy as Your Honour may think necessary, urging the latter for the earliest explanation his avocations will permit him to offer. And, in regard of the Court, what strikes me particularly as requiring elucidation is, the circumstance, that in all the cases where the parties have been condemned in penalties for infractions of Ordinance No. 43, the *minimum* of the penalty has invariably been awarded, notwithstanding that the offenders (with I believe only one exception) had allowed judgment to go by default.

I have, &c. &c. &c.

A true copy.

(signed)

Chas Colville.

(signed) F. E. Viret, Private Secretary.

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Sir,

Port Louis, 4th July 1829.

IN answer to Your Excellency's letter of the 3d instant, accompanying an extract from the Report of the Protector of Slaves, I have the honour to inform you, that I have this day called upon Mr. Foisy, to furnish, without delay, the explanations which Your Excellency has been pleased to require from him in respect to his official conduct.

In allusion to the cases which Your Excellency states to have been brought before the Court, I would first take the liberty of observing, that none of them have been brought before the Court of Appeal during the time I have presided there. I would not, however, be understood in saying this, to mean, that even if they had, I would in this place or form undertake the defence of any judgment which the Court might have pronounced upon them. The sole tending of my observation is, that however extraordinary it may appear, that in a succession of cases there should be no shades of culpability to call for a departure from an apparently fixed rule of amercement, yet, as the Supreme Court was always open, and no appeal was lodged by the Procureur Général, whose duty it is to watch over these prosecutions, it must be presumed, that that officer was satisfied with the sentences; and it is from him that Your Excellency will receive such information as you may require, rather than (in the absence of any charge of corrupt motives) call a Judge to account for the exercise of that discretion which the law has placed in his hands.

I would take the liberty of remarking upon that part of the Protector's Report wherein he seems to complain that he has had no notice of trial or judgments; that if the Protector will at any time do me the honour to represent to me such difficulties of this nature as he may find in his way, I shall feel an interest and pleasure in affording him every facility which my authority can offer in removing them. In fact, not many days have elapsed since, in a conversation which I held with that gentleman, wherein he alluded to this subject, I assured him, that I would give orders that notice should be sent from the respective registries of the trials fixed by the Courts; and since that time I am not aware that any case has been brought forward without his being apprised of it. With respect to the judgments, which the Protector states have not been notified to him in the usual or any form, I would observe, that as there is no usual form in reference to an office altogether new, the registrars cannot be blamed for not having sent copies of the judgments without an order or requisition to that effect. According to my understanding of the Order in Council, the Protector is presumed to be in court when the judgment is pronounced; but I nevertheless think he is perfectly right in saying that he should have a copy of all judgments in the cases of slaves, in order to enable him to take such measures as the duties of his office may require, either in the way of appeal or of report to the superior authorities; and I should decidedly recommend that the registrars be authorized to transmit such copies to him.

I have, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) Edward B. Blackburn.

A true copy (signed) F. E. Viret,
Private Secretary.

(Enclosure, No. 7.)

LETTERS from the PROCUREUR GENERAL in reply to the PROTECTOR'S REPORT;
with PAPERS and CORRESPONDENCE, &c. subjoined (five Packets.)LETTRE du Procureur Général à Son Excellence Sir Charles Colville, Lieutenant
Général, Gouverneur Général de l'Isle Maurice, et Dépendances, &c. &c. &c.

Port Louis, Isle Maurice, le 25 Août 1829.

JE dois à la justice de Votre Excellence d'avoir été instruit que le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves avait trouvé bon d'insérer dans son Rapport de Semestre des inculpations assez graves contre le Procureur Général.

Si Votre Excellence n'eut pas été persuadé que la justice demandait que cette partie du Rapport du Protecteur des Esclaves me fut communiquée, ces inculpations auraient restées secrettes pour moi, et encore que je ne pense pas avoir besoin de me justifier auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, j'aurais peut-être eu le tort apparent de m'être montré trop indifférent aux attaques du Protecteur.

Je ne crois pourtant pas que les Ministres de Sa Majesté me désapprouvent, si je traite les desseins du Protecteur et ses imputations avec une sorte de dédain et de hauteur, qui conviennent mieux à ma situation comme à mon caractère qu'une défense trop animée, ou de fortes récriminations qu'il est au-dessous de moi d'employer.

Ce n'est pas le Protecteur que j'ai à combattre; j'ai seulement à convaincre le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté que je suis toujours l'homme public qui, depuis dix-neuf ans, n'a cessé de mériter, par son dévouement et ses anciens et continuels services, la juste considération que les Gouverneurs de cette Possession ont bien voulu y attacher.

Toute ma conduite envers le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves est mise au jour dans la correspondance qui a subsisté en raison de nos offices respectifs: et ce sont les lettres seules auxquelles j'ajouterai quelques explications, qui éclaireront et fixeront l'opinion du Gouvernement.

Le Protecteur s'est tellement trompé sur sa situation, et sur la mienne, qu'il aurait été exposé à ce que j'obtinsse par des poursuites juridiques et par un jugement public le redressement de sa-conduite: deux motifs m'ont détourné de cette resolution.

Les

Les offenses du Protecteur des Esclaves étaient faites pour rester bien au-dessous de moi ; et le sacrifice, si c'en est un, que j'avais à faire, importait trop au bien du service, et au succès de la commission confiée au Protecteur pour qu'il ne devint pas pour moi un devoir.

Le Protecteur des Esclaves, avec plus d'expérience et d'habitude dans l'exercice des emplois publics, aurait, même en supposant quelque négligence ou quelque oubli, accordé plus de déférence et de respect aux fonctions dont je suis chargé ; et il n'aurait pas osé caractériser comme il l'a fait mon silence, ou la lenteur de mes réponses.

Je suppose même qu'il n'aurait pas trouvé d'occasion pour m'en accuser, s'il n'avait pas cru devoir faire son Rapport le 22 Juin, trois mois après être entré dans l'exercice public de sa commission, ce que l'état et la suite des affaires, en Juillet et Août, fera reconnaître.

Le Gouvernement, le Chef de Justice, ont dans quelques occasions eu sujet de presser les réponses qui étaient attendues ; mais il y avait de leur côté trop d'élévation d'âme pour faire un crime au Procureur Général de ce qui n'était que la suite nécessaire de l'immensité de ses occupations : peut-être aurait-on à ajouter du soin et de l'attention qu'il met pour les remplir, et éviter les erreurs que la promptitude ou l'ignorance pourrait lui faire commettre.

Il y a dans la situation où je me trouve des circonstances particulières, des considérations personnelles, que les Chefs du Gouvernement et de la Justice se sont transmises en se succédant, et qui n'ont pu parvenir au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Il n'y a aucune nécessité à en parler ici : il se présentera peut-être une occasion plus favorable de les rappeler.

Je me borne à déclarer, avec toute la sécurité et l'assurance que donne une bonne conscience, que les charges qui derivent sur moi des differens départemens qui sont sous la surveillance ou la direction du Procureur Général, ou qui sont en quelques rapports avec lui, excèdent tellement le travail de l'entière journée qu'il est impossible que chaque jour il ne reste pas quelque chose, non d'omis ou de négligé, mais d'arriéré, et qui m'empêcherait de le dire, même d'oublié.

Il eut été raisonnable de la part du Protecteur des Esclaves de penser, qu'en tout ce qui regarde les infractions aux Articles de l'Ordonnance en Conseil sur l'amélioration, l'obligation de les dénoncer et de les poursuivre, le soin d'agir et de surveiller, entrait dans mes fonctions, et était à ma charge ; et que, si par quelque négligence ou ralentissement coupable la loi était privée de son effet, je devais en répondre, non seulement pour moi, mais pour les autres ; et qu'il n'était besoin que nul autre que l'autorité supérieure chargéât sur moi cette responsabilité : je dirigerai à dessein l'attention des Ministres de Sa Majesté sur cette dernière circonstance. Depuis le premier Juillet 1828 lorsque j'acceptai de me charger des fonctions de Procureur Général, je me suis attaché à remplir le même office auquel a été commis le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves ; ces fonctions étaient par la nature des choses qui en étaient l'objet, et par des dispositions précises de l'Edit de 1723 sur le régime des esclaves, dépendantes de la charge du Procureur Général. Dans cette administration spéciale, le Commissaire en Chef de la Police, sous ma direction et dans un parfait concert avec moi, a concouru avec zèle et efficacité aux succès des soins que nous nous sommes donnés pour ramener vers le système d'amélioration, dont nous avons prévenu les prescriptions, les usages qui y étaient contraires ; sans opposition, sans murmures, sans secousses dans tous les quartiers, chez tous les Planteurs, les innovations salutaires s'introduisirent, et par la raison et par l'exemple nos registres où tous nos actes sont consignés, attestent la vérité de ce rapport. Il n'est donc pas à craindre, et il est heureux, que, je sois à l'abri d'une telle supposition, que le Protecteur des esclaves puisse insinuer, ni qu'aucune personne prévenue puisse penser, que mes sentimens individuels sur cette matière, aient pu donner lieu au plus léger prétexte à mon égard.

(signé) *Foisy,*
Procureur Général.

LETTRES du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

CE recueil contient encore une suite de correspondance entre le Procureur Général et le Protecteur des Esclaves depuis le 27 Mars (l'exercice de son office n'a commencé légalement que le 19 Mars, un mois après la date de l'enregistrement de l'Ordonnance en Conseil, qui promulgue sa commission), et pendant les mois d'Avril, Mai, Juillet, &c. : elles montrent si le Procureur Général avait quelque répugnance, ou mettait de la négligence, à instruire le Protecteur des Esclaves sur ce qui regardait les matières les plus importantes concernant son office ; encore, qu'il n'entrait pas dans les fonctions du Procureur Général de fournir au Protecteur des Esclaves de telles instructions, et qu'aucune loi, ni aucun ordre ne lui en prescrivait le devoir.

La lettre du Protecteur des Esclaves du 19 Mai mérite une attention particulière : il me fait remarquer qu'il est désirable que les cas qui ont été par lui dénoncés au Procureur Général soient promptement décidés, afin qu'ils puissent former une partie de son Rapport après les six mois : ce soin était plus important encore sur le principe de brève justice.

Le Protecteur demande au Procureur Général de l'informer s'il a été pris quelques mesures, et quelles mesures ont été adoptées, dans le cas qu'il indique : sur quoi le Protecteur des Esclaves a-t-il conçu que le Procureur Général devait lui rendre compte, ou lui donner des informations sur la manière dont il remplissait auprès des tribunaux les devoirs de son ministère ? Sur quoi pouvait-il fonder cette prétention, cette obligation nouvelle à l'égard du Procureur Général ?

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Il demande au Procureur Général, quand il y a lieu d'espérer que la cause sera présentée à l'audience: c'est la Cour seule qui peut disposer à cet égard; et le Procureur Général ne sait rien de certain sur cela.

Le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves exprime enfin qu'il entrerait dans ses désirs, et dans ses vues, qu'il fut informé (par le Procureur Général) du mode de procédure qu'il (le Ministère Public) se proposerait de suivre dans certains cas qu'il désigne.

Si l'intention du Gouvernement est, que le Procureur Général ou le Ministère Public soit assujéti à de tels devoirs, il lui appartient de le faire connaître; jusques là le Procureur Général doit au maintien de sa charge de recevoir les rapports comme les dénonciations du Protecteur, et d'exercer la surveillance qui lui appartient sur les fonctions du Protecteur des Esclaves par la diligence et avec le concert du Ministère Public. Il a été établi une règle, qui est suivie pour le recouvrement des amendes prononcées par jugement, en distinguant la part qui révient au trésor du Gouvernement, avec celle qui est dévolue à la caisse de bienfaisance.

Il n'est point imposé au Ministère Public l'obligation de faire au Protecteur des Esclaves l'adresse des jugemens rendus sur la poursuite de ses dénonciations; c'est une chose qui est commise à ses soins, et qui fait partie de la suite des affaires qui est à sa charge.

Ces expéditions de jugement doivent se payer aux Greffes, et le Ministère Public n'a pas le droit d'imposer cette charge.

De telles considérations n'ont pas empêché que l'on ne se soit accordé pour faire parvenir au Protecteur la copie des jugemens rendus.

(signé) Foisy,
Procureur Général.

LETTER from the Protector and Guardian of Slaves to the Procureur Général.

Sir, Protector of Slaves Office, May 19th 1829.

IT being desirable that some of the cases which I have had the honour of denouncing to you for prosecution, under the Ordinance in Council, N° 43, should be brought to a speedy termination, in order that the same may form part of my first half-yearly Report to His Excellency the Governor, I have to request you will be pleased to inform me whether any and what measures have been adopted in the cases of Adèle v. Molet, and Hilaire v. Sibire, and when the same may be expected to come on for hearing.

And with the same view, it would also be desirable I should be informed as to the mode of procedure had in the cases of Jean v. Lancugarède and Lise v. Gertrude; the defendants in which were fined \$ 10 each, under the Ordinance, N° 20, of the 13th December 1826, commonly called the Chain Ordinance, without any other notification thereof having been made to me than that which was conveyed by a simple note from the Substitut du Procureur Général, intimating the payment of the *minimum* of the fine imposed by the law.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

True copy.
(signed) Foisy, Procureur Général.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Bureau du Procureur Général, 14 Juillet 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre diverses pièces concernant une négresse nommée Victorine, une de deux enfans, et desquelles il résulte, que cette femme a été dans l'intention de réclamer des droits à sa liberté qui lui sont contestés par le Sieur Barbeau.

Ces pièces ont été déposées chez moi par M. Brusaud, nommé Patron de Victorine, lors de son départ de cette Isle.

Maintenant que, suivant l'Art. 8 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil du 7 Février, la connaissance et la suite de ces réclamations vous sont déferées, je ne puis que vous faire la remise des pièces qui concernent celle de Victorine, tant pour elle que pour ses enfans.

Vous verrez, en prenant connaissance de ces pièces, que l'action qui devait être commencée, soit par Victorine, soit par son Patron, soit par le Sieur Brusaud, n'ont encore produit, ni même amené aucuns titres à l'appui de sa réclamation; l'autre à l'appui de son droit de propriété; si ce n'est qu'il paraîtrait que le Sieur Barbeau a fait enrégistrer Victorine et ses enfans comme esclaves.

Comme il s'agit d'un droit de propriété contesté sur une esclave, et de l'application du droit entre les parties respectives, toute l'action du Ministère Public en cette affaire a du être de requérir et conclure lorsque le cas aura été porté et plaidé en justice.

La lecture des pièces ci-incluses vous instruira que les renseignements sur lesquels vous m'avez écrit votre lettre du 3 de ce mois, ne sont pas complets: au reste, de l'une ni de l'autre part, il n'a été fait auprès de moi de démarches pour prévenir de plus longs délais dans cette affaire.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

Pour copie conforme.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur Général.

(signé) Foisy, Procureur General.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Bureau du Procureur Général, 8 Juillet 1829.
POUR condescendre à votre demande, exprimée dans votre lettre du 12 Mai dernier, j'ai l'honneur de vous remettre, avec ma signature, la lettre que je vous ai adressée le 3 du dit mois, et que vous avez cru nécessaire de me retourner, parceque mon Secrétaire a seulement mentionné en place de ma signature manuelle que le Procureur Général était absent

J'aurais beaucoup regretté qu'un tel prétexte eut du retarder la suite de l'affaire concernant la négresse Nanette: heureusement j'avais préalablement à vous annoncer que les pièces pour la poursuite de cette affaire, avaient été par moi adressées à M. le Substitut pour entreprendre la poursuite.

Je n'ai rien à vous exprimer, Monsieur, sur les causes de mon absence momentanée: mais je pense qu'il serait fort à regretter que dans les occasions très rares où je ne puis donner ma signature, et n'ayant aucun officier en second, ni adjoint, pour me suppléer dans cette partie de mon office, des affaires de conséquence fussent retardées ou interrompues pour une semblable cause.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

Pour copie conforme. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Bureau du Procureur Général, le 4 Mai 1829.
IL y a quelques jours une fille libre de couleur a été citée, et a comparu à votre office, pour expliquer sa conduite à l'égard d'une négresse esclave: vous avez déterminé que cette négresse serait conduite au Bagne, d'où sa maîtresse, la fille libre, pourrait la retirer; et en conséquence vous avez, dans le même tems, donné à cette fille libre une autorisation par écrit à cet effet. Suivant les termes de cette autorisation, elle est donnée, non à la demoiselle dénommée du nom qui lui est propre, mais à Madame L—, en lui attribuant le nom d'une famille très respectable de cette colonie.

Si cette demoiselle, portant un nom qui lui est propre, a vécu en concubinage et dans un commerce illégitime ou prohibée avec un Sieur N—, il est bien loin que ce soit une raison pour substituer au nom de cette fille le nom de la famille de l'homme dont elle a été la concubine.

Les filles libres dans la même situation ont toutes leur propre nom, et la loi ne permet à aucun officier public de leur en donner un autre que celui qui leur a été donné, soit par le titre de naissance, soit par le titre d'affranchissement.

Je n'ai pas besoin de m'étendre sur les inconvéniens que présenterait l'introduction d'un usage qui serait contraire tout à la fois aux mœurs, et à la décence publique, à l'ordre et au respect dû aux familles et à la législation coloniale, et je vous fais ces observations que dans la conviction que c'est seulement un défaut momentané d'attention qui a donné lieu à cette méprise.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

Certifiée véritable. (signé) *Foisy*.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Bureau du Procureur Général, Port Louis, 23 Avril 1829.
J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre la copie d'instructions qui viennent de m'être adressées de l'ordre de Son Excellence le Gouverneur, lesquelles m'autorisent à recevoir les questions que vous croirez devoir m'adresser sur des cas non prévus relatifs à l'Ordonnance, N° 43, et à communiquer avec vous sur les affaires de cette nature. J'ai pensé qu'il vous importait de recevoir cette communication, et de vous déclarer, que je continuerai d'entretenir ces relations comme j'ai cru devoir le faire précédemment à cette autorisation que j'ai cru devoir obtenir du Gouvernement.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

Pour copie conforme.

(signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

(signé) *Foisy*,
Procureur Général.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Bureau du Procureur Général, Port Louis, le 13 Avril 1829.
J'AI l'honneur de répondre à la question contenue dans la pièce (*Case*, N° 2), jointe à votre lettre du 4 de ce mois, concernant l'affranchissement demandé par le nommé esclave appartenant au Sieur Jalabert, en faveur de ses deux enfans Marie et Caroline: la question qui concerne ces deux individus est neuve et singulière. Ce qui arrête souvent dans ces sortes de questions, c'est d'y trouver le droit naturel en contradiction avec les lois positives: dans le cas présent, cette fâcheuse opposition heureusement ne nous arrêtera pas. Il est bien vrai que le père de Marie et de Caroline, étant lui-même encore esclave, il n'a pu acquérir ni posséder des esclaves comme sa propriété; c'est la raison de douter, mais la raison de

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de décider se présente d'elle-même. Le Sieur Jalabert, maître du père esclave, pourrait seul réclamer et s'attribuer la propriété des deux enfans, et il consent, au contraire, à leur affranchissement; mais il y a bien plus, suivant les loix existantes: une telle vente à prix d'argent faite par le maître auquel les enfans Marie et Caroline appartenaient, eut été nulle, et par suite les deux esclaves vendus, confisqués à l'Etat; et nul doute qu'en ce cas, le Gouvernement a la faculté de consentir, et de ne pas empêcher l'affranchissement; de le confirmer au contraire, en accordant le dit affranchissement.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé)

Foisy,
Procureur Général.

Pour copie conforme.

(signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur,

Bureau du Procureur Général, Port Louis, 13 Avril 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de répondre à votre lettre du 4 de ce mois, contenant la question relative à l'affranchissement demandé par la nommée Jeanne, vendue en 1792, par le Sieur Collard, à Jean Baptiste, son oncle.

D'après les circonstances des cas exposées dans la pièce, intitulée, "Case, N° 1," jointe à votre lettre, et sur laquelle je ne puis répondre qu'en substance, n'ayant pas d'autre titre à consulter, ni d'autres renseignemens que ce qui est contenu dans cette pièce, mon opinion est, que l'affranchissement de la négresse Jeanne, alors esclave, étant une des conditions de la vente, le décès de Jean Baptiste, oncle, n'a pu ni atténuer cette condition, ni en empêcher l'effet; cette négresse n'aurait pu passer en la condition de ses héritiers, ou, ayant causes, qu'à la charge de l'accomplissement de la condition; et en effet, l'esclave n'a été réclamé ni traité comme esclave par aucun des héritiers. Jeanne a eu la possession réelle de son état d'affranchie; mais, pour satisfaire à la loi, il faut, avant que le titre regulier d'affranchissement lui soit accordé, que Jeanne subisse les trois annonces dans la Gazette.

Voici la Formule que je crois que l'on pourrait employer:

" Par M. Thomas, Protecteur, &c. agissant en cette qualité, et comme Patron, en faveur de la nommée Jeanne, créole, âgée de _____ de la nommée _____ fille
" de la dite Jeanne, âgée de _____ et des deux enfans de la dite _____ âgés de _____
" aussi créols. La dite Jeanne vendue en l'année 1792, par le Sieur Collard, au dit Jean Baptiste, sous la condition de son affranchissement."

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé)

Foisy,
Procureur Général.

Pour copie conforme.

(signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur,

Bureau du Procureur Général, Port Louis, 10 Avril 1829.

J'AI eu l'honneur de vous dire lors de la communication que nous avons eue relativement à Marie Saladin, que les pièces concernant cette femme que j'avais eues en ma possession, étaient de simples extraits mal écrits que j'ai pris de ma main, sur les pièces originales qui sont au Greffe de Première Instance.

Je crois qu'il serait convenable que vous me fissiez officiellement une demande sur laquelle je chargerais le Greffier de ce tribunal de vous fournir une copie de ces pièces, à moins que vous ne crussiez préférable de vous borner à en prendre au greffe une simple communication.

J'ai l'honneur de vous adresser ci-incluses diverses pièces qui existaient en mes mains relatives aux réclamations de ces bonnes gens.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé)

Foisy,
Procureur Général.

Pour copie conforme.

(signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monseigneur,

Bureau du Procureur Général, Port Louis, 31 Mars 1829.

J'AI reçu hier, 29 Mars, les pièces que vous m'avez transmises concernant un jeune noir nommé Jean ou Jean J., esclave de Victor Lanongarède, homme de couleur, lequel l'avait mis en location chez le Sieur Larcher, maître cordonnier, rue des Forges, et je les adresse en ce moment à M. le Substitut au Tribunal de Première Instance, pour diriger contre le dit Sieur Larcher les poursuites que la loi prescrit pour la contravention commise à l'Ordonnance du 13 Decembre 1826, N° 20; et en outre, si le cas s'y rencontre pour avoir imposé à ce jeune noir une charge trop forte, en lui faisant porter de la fontaine publique chez lui un barril plein d'eau. Il eut été à désirer que le poids de la charge que les esclaves doivent porter eut été préalablement constaté, attendu qu'il existe un autre règlement

règlement qui fixe le poids des charges que les esclaves doivent porter ; mais il arrive aussi quelquefois, que les barrils dans lesquels les enfans et les négresses vont chercher de l'eau pour leurs maîtres, sont d'une dimension qui diminue beaucoup le poids de la charge.

Je ne pense pas que l'on puisse considérer comme un sujet de plainte, que ce jeune noir reçoive des vivres en manioc ; la culture de cette substance étant précisément prescrite pour la nourriture des noirs.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *Foisy*,
Procureur Général.

Pour copie conforme. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE du Protecteur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Bureau du Procureur Général, Port Louis, 29 Mars 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de répondre à votre lettre du 25 de ce mois, et à la question que vous me soumettez d'après la demande qui vous est adressé par Monsieur Dupont, avocat, concernant les droits à l'affranchissement réclamés par la nommée Adeline, et ses cinq enfans, auxquels Monsieur Dupont a été nommé Patron, par une Ordonnance du juge ordinaire.

Je sais que par un long usage il est établi dans cette colonie, que dans tous les cas où les esclaves ont des droits à soutenir ou à défendre, il leur est nommé un Patron par justice ; mais je n'ai vû dans la législation coloniale aucun règlement où l'origine de cet usage, et les fonctions de ce Patron, soient clairement indiquées.

Il n'est fait mention du Patron à l'égard des esclaves que dans quelques dispositions aux mesures à suivre pour leur affranchissement, et ces dispositions aujourd'hui ne sont plus commandées ni suivies.

Je conçois seulement que la loi, prenant soin des incapables en général, tels que les interdits, les absens, veut qu'il leur soit nommé un curateur : bien plus dans cette colonie, la législation locale a établi qu'un seul curateur aurait l'administration dans tous les biens en vacance par l'absence des ayants droits ; or je ne vois pas pourquoi d'après ces motifs, le Protecteur et Gardien, qui, sous ces deux appellations, est véritablement le patron et le tuteur des esclaves en général, ne serait pas chargé d'une sorte de patronage général à l'égard des esclaves revêtu et chargé d'une commission générale par le Gouvernement.

Je penserais encore que ce patronage général est à induire et doit resulter des termes dans lesquels est conçu l'Article de l'Ordonnance du 7 Février dernier.

En effet, si la chose était différente, il en pourrait resulter un inconvénient très grave ; si un Patron nommé par Justice, suivant l'usage établi, venait à commettre quelque négligence ou méprise dans la défense ou le soutien des droits d'un esclave, le Protecteur ne serait-il pas appelé à relever de telles négligences ou méprises, et, suivant les termes de cet Article à intervenir dans la cause et la défense de l'esclave ? Quel caractère donner à cette intervention, à cette espèce de contradiction entre le Patron nommé par Justice et le Protecteur et le Tuteur des Esclaves ? Comment serait-elle admise et soufferte dans les Tribunaux ? Je pourrais ajouter une observation sur l'indemnité et l'acquit des charges que l'on croit pouvoir refuser au Patron, mais je m'en dispense ; le sujet est trop minime.

Je pense donc, pour conclure, que les fonctions de Patron nommé par Justice, pouvant se retrouver dans les fonctions générales au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, l'usage qui fait nommer un Patron pour chaque esclave, doit céder et devient inutile après la commission du Protecteur.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *Foisy*,
Procureur Général.

Pour copie conforme. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE du Procureur Général au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur, Bureau du Procureur Général, Port Louis, 27 Mars 1829.

J'AI pris lecture de la lettre qui vous a été adressée par M. d'Épinay, sous la date du 25 de ce mois, et de la vôtre de la même date, desquelles il résulte, que vous me proposez de donner mon opinion sur la question, de savoir, S'il serait facultatif à un maître d'affranchir son esclave, avec la condition de lui donner ses services et le produit de son industrie pendant trois ans. Il s'élève un doute sur cette question, qui consiste en ce que, suivant l'Article 49 de la Déclaration de 1723, il n'est pas permis au maître de mettre la liberté de son esclave à prix, c'est-à-dire, de stipuler avec lui qu'il serait affranchi, s'il lui donnait une certaine somme.

Il y aurait d'abord plusieurs observations à faire pour l'éclaircissement de cette question. La stipulation supposée entre le maître et l'esclave, n'est-elle pas d'abord rendue impossible par l'état de la condition de l'esclave ? Peut-il exister entre ces deux personnes, et attendu l'incapacité légale de l'une d'elles, un lieu de droit, un échange pour ainsi dire, de propriété, l'affranchissement d'un côté, la somme stipulée de l'autre ? L'on pourrait dire cependant que l'intervention de l'autorité publique pourrait suppléer à ce qui manque au droit : en second lieu, l'Article 49 est-il réellement prohibitif dans le cas proposé ? La prohibition n'est point exprimée. " Les maîtres âgés de 25 ans pourront affranchir leurs esclaves par tous actes entre vif et à cause de mort ; cependant, comme il peut se trouver des maîtres assez mercenaires pour mettre la liberté de leurs esclaves à prix, ce qui porte les esclaves au

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vol et au brigandage, défendons à toutes personnes d'affranchir leurs esclaves sans en avoir obtenu la permission par arrêt du Conseil Supérieur." Ne pouvait-il pas même, sous l'empire de cette disposition, se présenter un cas, et d'après des offres acceptées par le maître, et approuvées par le conseil en connaissance de cause, l'abus que la loi voulait éviter, n'étant pas à craindre, l'affranchissement eut été permis.

La prohibition est bien plus positive dans l'Arrêté du 1^{er} Messidor, an 13, Article 6: "Un maître ne pourra affranchir son esclave pour s'être racheté de son pécule;" mais dans mon opinion, cette prohibition me semble annullée par la disposition de l'Ordonnance N° 43, qui permet à l'esclave d'avoir, de se faire un pécule: il faudrait toujours, suivant mon opinion, rapporter la question à ce point. Le maître et le Protecteur seraient autorisés, avant de consentir à l'affranchissement, à examiner d'où provient le pécule. J'aurais pu aller plus loin, et observer, que cet Article prohibitif est tombé en désuétude, et que souvent on a toléré et admis un singulier pécule, au grand scandale des mœurs publiques. 3^e La condition rapportée dans la lettre de M. D'Epinay me semble exiger quelque explication; elle consiste à donner ses soins, ses services au maître, et le produit de son industrie, pendant trois ans. Je ne pense pas qu'il soit douteux que le maître puisse conférer à son esclave le don de la liberté, et par conséquent, la jouissance des droits qui sont la conséquence de l'affranchissement, avec la condition qu'il continuera ses services auprès de son maître pendant un terme fixé, et non pas assez long pour que ce terme puisse être regardé comme un service perpétuel et équivalent à une servitude indéfinie: mais ici il est ajouté à la condition ces mots: "et le produit de leur industrie." Est-il bien possible de concilier ce que cette condition a d'incohérent, de contradiction et de prohibé peut-être? Car si l'esclave, ainsi affranchi, doit ses services au maître, comme condition de son affranchissement, quelle est en outre cette industrie qui rapportera à l'esclave et au maître un produit distinct? comment s'établira entre eux le compte de ce produit? Je ne puis donc fonder aucun raisonnement, ni déduire aucune décision sur cette proposition ainsi exprimée.

S'il fallait nécessairement décider, je dirais qu'il est loisible à un maître de déclarer son esclave affranchi et libre à la charge de continuer ses services pendant un temps raisonnable, mais qu'une condition ainsi exprimée, de lui donner, pendant un nombre d'années, le produit de son industrie, ne peut être admise, ni même peut être exactement comprise, ce serait trop, laisser l'affranchi à la discrétion du maître, et imposer à l'affranchi une charge trop incertaine: c'est toujours mettre la liberté de l'esclave à prix d'argent; et une somme offerte par l'esclave, ou fournie à l'esclave par un parent, un bienveillant, acceptée par le maître, aurait bien moins d'inconvénient qu'une telle stipulation; c'est bien dans un cas, et non une condition, de cette nature, qu'il serait à craindre que l'esclave ne cherchât à avancer son affranchissement absolu par des moyens illicites. Le maître aurait-il le droit d'activer, de presser, de diriger l'industrie de l'esclave? Quelle part l'esclave aurait-il dans le produit de cette industrie? Quels inconvénients à craindre! Quels abus à prévoir!

Pour conclure, je donnerais donc l'exclusion à une clause d'affranchissement telle qu'elle est proposée, mais j'admettrais l'engagement de continuer de servir pendant un terme donné, tel que celui de trois années.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *Foisy*,
Procureur Général.

Pour copie conforme. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE à M. Portalis, Substitut du Procureur Général.

Monsieur,

Port Louis, le 31 Juillet 1829.

Vous recevrez incluse une lettre du Protecteur, No. 27, que j'aurais du joindre à l'envoi des précis.

Je desire vous observer, qu'il m'importe beaucoup que ces lettres du Protecteur soient exactement conservées, de manière à pouvoir m'être rendues après l'affaire terminée, en ayant besoin pour ma responsabilité, qui n'est pas peu de chose en cette matière: vous m'avez promis une expédition de la sentence rendue dans l'affaire du Sieur Rey.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *Foisy*,
Procureur Général.

Pour copie conforme. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE à M. Portalis, Substitut du Procureur Général.

Monsieur,

Le 26 Juillet 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre la dénonciation qui vient de m'être envoyée par le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves contre la Demoiselle Eléonore Le Coq Barreau, pour contravention à l'Ordonnance en Conseil, N° 20, et de vous prier de vouloir bien poursuivre sur cette dénonciation conformément à la loi. Je présume que Fortuné et Aurore Barreau sont des personnes libres de couleur.

J'écris à M. le Protecteur sur ce qu'il suggère dans son acte de dénonciation de n'employer que le *minimum* de la peine.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

Pour copie. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE à M. Portalis, Substitut du Procureur Général.

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Protector of Slaves.

Monsieur,

Le 26 Juillet 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous envoyer les pièces incluses concernant le noir Ally, qui a porté plainte contre le Sieur Martin, son maître, sur des faits qu'il impute au Sieur Martin; il arrive, suivant la lettre du Protecteur, que ces faits ne concernent pas Martin, mais la Dame V^e Barré: il me semble que l'on ne peut se dispenser de les citer tous les deux, à moins que le noir Ally ne déclare d'abord positivement qu'il y a erreur dans sa plainte, et que c'est la Dame V^e Barré dont il a entendu se plaindre: vous verrez que, suivant l'observation du Protecteur des Esclaves, et selon les termes de sa dénonciation, il y a deux infractions; l'une à l'Ordonnance N^o 20, concernant le poids des chaines; l'autre à l'Ordonnance N^o 43, Art. 20, concernant l'obligation, sous peine d'amende, de tenir un registre des punitions.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

Pour copie. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE à M. Portalis, Substitut du Procureur Général.

Monsieur,

Le 22 Juillet 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous envoyer diverses pièces qui m'ont été envoyées par le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, contenant une dénonciation contre la Dame V^e Morel, habitante au quartier de la Savanne, pour infraction à divers Articles de l'Ordonnance en Conseil, N^o 43, et je vous prie de diriger les poursuites en conformité de la loi.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

Pour copie. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE à M. Portalis, Substitut du Procureur Général.

Monsieur,

Le 22 Juillet 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous faire l'envoi de diverses pièces et informations qui m'ont été adressées par le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, contenant une dénonciation contre le Sieur Eug. Ducray, habitant du quartier des Plainnes de Wilheims, pour infraction à l'Ordonnance en Conseil, N^o 20, et je vous prie de diriger les poursuites en conformité de la loi.

Vous n'aurez aucun égard à la suggestion exprimée à la fin de la lettre du Protecteur tendante à user d'indulgence; c'est au tribunal seul à connoître et peser les circonstances de la faute, et à juger ensuite d'après sa conviction et sa conscience.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

Pour copie. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE à M. Portalis, Substitut du Procureur Général.

Le 28 Juin 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre deux procès verbaux relatifs à la punition infligée à un noir nommé Roméo, et un autre noir nommé Télémaque, esclaves du Sieur Sturbel, et par les ordres de leur maître, d'une manière qui contrevient manifestement aux dispositions de l'Article 18 de l'Ordonnance du 7 Février, N^o 43; 1^o, en ce que la punition du fouet a été infligée à ces noirs avec un fouet de charette, dont l'espèce et l'usage sont prohibés par cette loi; 2^o, en ce que cette punition, quoique infligée en présence du Sieur Du Bois, selon la simple déclaration du Sieur Sturbel, qui n'est point cependant appuyée de celle du Sieur Du Bois, consiste en soixante coups de fouet, excédant le nombre du vingt-cinq, prescrit par la dite Ordonnance.

Vous recevrez ci-inclus la lettre qui m'est adressée par M. Thomas, Protecteur des Esclaves, (datée par erreur du 8 Mai) contenant la dénonciation officielle de ces contraventions.

Je vous prie de diriger sur cette dénonciation les poursuites convenables devant le Tribunal de Première Instance.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

Pour copie. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

LETTRE à M. Portalis, Substitut du Procureur Général.

Monsieur,

4 Mai 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous adresser les pièces incluses, N^{os} 1, 2, 3, concernant une dénonciation faite par M. le Protecteur des Esclaves, afin de poursuites contre le Sieur Garien, ou plutôt il me semble contre la maîtresse de l'esclave nommée Nanette, femme de couleur, pour raison de contravention à la Clause 18 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil, N^o 43.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

Pour copie. (signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

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— (B.) —

RAPPORTS Officiels entre le Procureur-Général et le Protecteur et Gardien
des Esclaves.

LA lettre du Procureur-Général au Secrétaire en chef du Gouvernement peut éclairer les ministres de Sa Majesté sur la nature et le caractère des plaintes du Protecteur des Esclaves. Dans les mois de Mars et Avril ses visites et ses consultations étaient fréquentes, au point de prendre un tems considérable sur les occupations de ma charge; d'un autre côté, considérant l'importance des matières qui se traitaient, en outre qu'elles tenaient d'un nouvel ordre, je proposai de mon propre gré, au Protecteur des Esclaves, de lier cette correspondance écrite et régulière, et de plus d'y ajouter l'autorité du Gouvernement; ce que j'ajoute à cette proposition ne prouve pas que le Protecteur des Esclaves ait pu en justice m'imputer cette répugnance, et bien plus l'intention de mal faire dont il m'a accusé, à mon insçu, dans son rapport.

Je n'ajouterai rien à ma lettre du 23 Avril; je fais seulement la prière qu'elle soit lue.

Ma lettre du même jour à M. le Greffier Prieur ne prouve pas encore que j'aie jamais voulu me mettre en opposition au travail du Protecteur des Esclaves. L'observation qui termine cette lettre est relative au coût des expéditions demandées que le Greffier aurait pu en justice réclamer.

La recommandation mise à la fin de ma lettre du 28 Mai, au Commissaire en Chef de la Police, est plutôt un indice assuré que je n'avais pas même besoin que le Protecteur des Esclaves vint à moi pour le prévenir en ce qui pouvait se rapporter à sa commission.

Ma lettre écrite au Substitut en Première Instance, et la réponse du Substitut, l'une et l'autre du 27 Juin, (il est à noter que c'est dans l'intervalle de ce silence prémédité), indique de ma part une attention prévenante, et de celle de tous deux un concours spontané pour ne refuser au Protecteur des Esclaves aucun des moyens qui pourraient faciliter l'exercice de sa commission; on lui envoie la copie de tous les actes, et de tous les jugemens, depuis la promulgation de l'Ordonnance en Conseil sur l'amélioration; et j'ai donné des ordres semblables au greffe de la Cour d'Appel, qui me concerne immédiatement.

Ce dessein paraît bien mieux encore dans ma lettre du 14 Juillet, adressée en réponse à M. le Commissaire en Chef de la Police, sur une question d'une extrême importance, non seulement pour son objet, mais encore à raison de la difficulté qu'elle offrait par la contrariété d'opinion qui existait entre celle de M. le Président Le Fevre et la mienne.

Ma lettre du 14 Juillet à M. Thomas doit être remarquée surtout sous le rapport suivant: cette lettre n'est point une réponse à M. Thomas; il ne m'avait pas proposé la question sur laquelle je lui ouvre mon sentiment; je n'avais donc aucune intention désobligeante, aucun éloignement de correspondre avec lui.

J'ai donné tant au Secretariat du Gouvernement, qu'à d'autres offices, des opinions toujours méditées et toujours motivées, quelquefois un peu lentes où attendues, sur des questions relatives aux affranchissemens, à l'état et à la condition des noirs esclaves, et à l'interprétation des loix qui les concernent, on en ferait un recueil, il pourrait être utile à M. Thomas de les connoître.

(signé) Foisy.

Monsieur Prieur, Greffier en Chef, &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 23 Avril 1829.

Monsieur,

J'AI l'honneur de vous adresser l'extrait d'une lettre que j'ai reçue de M. le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, comme suit: "As it will be necessary, however, that I should be in possession of the information contained in the original documents referring to this case, (celui de Marie Saladin), I have to request you will be pleased to move the greffier of the Court of First Instance to furnish me with copies of the same."

Je vous prie, M. le Greffier, de vouloir bien agir suivant cette requisition; et si vous avez quelques observations à me faire concernant cette demande, de me les adresser le plutôt possible.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c.

(Pour copie conforme.)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

(signé)

Foisy,
Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Thomas, Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur,

Le 23 Avril 1829.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre la copie d'instructions qui viennent de m'être adressées de l'ordre de Son Excellence le Gouverneur, lesquelles m'autorisent à recevoir les questions que vous croirez devoir m'adresser sur des cas non prévus relatifs à l'Ordonnance No. 43, et à communiquer avec vous sur les affaires de cette nature; j'ai pensé qu'il vous importait de recevoir cette communication, et de vous déclarer que je continuerai d'entretenir ces relations, comme j'ai cru devoir le faire précédemment à cette autorisation, que j'ai cru devoir obtenir du Gouvernement.

(Copie véritable.)

Foisy.

J'ai l'honneur,

Le Procureur-Général.

L'Honorable Secrétaire en Chef du Gouvernement.

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Monsieur,

Le 10 Avril 1829.

JE crois qu'il est régulier, pour l'ordre du service, que je sois autorisé spécialement par le Gouvernement à correspondre officiellement avec M. le Protecteur des Esclaves relativement aux questions qu'il aurait à me proposer directement dans les fonctions de son office, et sur des articles qui ne sont pas expressement désignés dans l'Ordonnance en Conseil. Ce n'est que pour la régularité des formes et du service que je fais cette demande ; car je suis dans l'habitude d'entretenir cette correspondance, et de répondre aux questions qui me sont proposées, ayant pris pour règle de ne jamais différer de donner mon opinion, où des explications lorsqu'elles me sont demandées sur des matières qui peuvent intéresser la chose publique.

J'ai l'honneur,

Le Procureur-Général.

(Copie véritable.)

Foisy.

Monsieur Finiss, Commissaire en Chef, &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,

Port Louis, 5 Août 1829.

Monsieur,

APRES avoir pris lecture des pièces que j'ai reçues hier avec votre lettre du 31 Juillet, il m'a semblé que Monsieur Le Commissaire Civil du quartier de la Savanne ne s'était par exactement conformé aux règles qu'il doit suivre dans l'exercice de ses fonctions.

L'Article 17 de l'Ordonnance No. 43. n'autorise les Commissaires Civils à ordonner de la punition des esclaves que dans les cas qui ne sont qualifiés ni crimes ni délits, et un vol domestique est certainement un délit. Le motif avancé par M. Ducray aurait dû lui paroître à lui-même insuffisant, qu'il ne pourrait suffir à garder et entretenir les esclaves dénoncés jusqu'au moment de les envoyer à la Police Générale. Il devait sentir qu'un tel prétexte ne pouvait lui donner une attribution qu'il n'avait pas.

M. Ducray exprime lui-même qu'il a ordonné la punition du délit dont le noir Gregoire a été convaincu, conformément aux loix et réglemens. M. Ducray pouvait difficilement ignorer que tout juge qui est autorisé à infliger une peine en vertu d'une loi doit citer le texte de la loi qui prononce la peine dont il fait l'application.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) Foisy, Procureur Général.

P. S.—Je vous remets ci-incluses les pièces que vous m'avez adressées.

(Pour copie conforme.)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Thomas, Protecteur, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,

Port Louis, 25 Juillet 1829.

Monsieur,

JE transmets immédiatement à M. Le Substitut au Premier Tribunal la dénonciation que vous m'avez adressée hier 24, contre la D^{me} Aurore Barreau, pour avoir contrevenu à l'Ordonnance en Conseil No. 20. Il m'a été observé que Fortuné Barreau et sa sœur étaient des personnes libres de couleur. Il est régulier dans les actes publics et judiciaires d'user à l'égard de ces personnes de la qualification qui les distingue.

Je dois aussi vous faire remarquer, Monsieur, encore que la circonstance en elle-même soit très légère, la fonction de dénonciateur que la loi vous donne, vous indique de vous abstenir de toute suggestion à l'égard de l'application plus ou moins sévère de la peine que la personne dénoncée aurait pu encourir. Tout est soumis dans ces poursuites à l'instruction du juge, dont l'indépendance doit être entière dans ses avis, et dont l'opinion ne doit être prévenue ou anticipée en aucune manière. Je vous répète que je n'attache pas à cette remarque une importance plus grande qu'elle ne le mérite, et que je n'ai cru devoir vous la faire parce que ce n'est pas la première occasion où vous ayez mêlé dans votre dénonciation la même observation.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

(Pour copie conforme.)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Protector of Slaves' Office,

Port Louis, 6th July 1829.

Sir,

HIS Excellency the Governor having caused to be referred to me the enclosed petition, presented to him by Mr. Gervais Duval, praying to be allowed to free his three children, and stating that you decline to countersign the enclosed certificate of the Registrar of the Court of First Instance, as by law required, I have the honour to request you will be pleased to state to me your reasons for such refusal, in order that I may be enabled to report thereon to His Excellency.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed)

R. M. Thomas,

Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

To J. N. Foisy, Esq. Procureur-General.

(Pour copie.)

Foisy.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Monsieur Thomas, Protecteur, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, le 21 Août 1829.

Monsieur,

J'AI l'honneur de répondre à votre lettre du 6 de ce mois.
Toutes les fois que vous me proposerez pour avoir consultation quelques questions relatives à vos fonctions, je m'occuperai volontiers d'y répondre.

Mais j'ai l'honneur de vous observer, qu'il appartient au ministère public de communiquer directement avec le Gouvernement sur des points de législation coloniale; et que ce serait une grande méprise de votre part de penser que je dois vous soumettre les raisons qui dirigent les actes de mon ministère. Comme Protecteur des Esclaves, à fin que, vous puissiez en référer avec le Gouvernement.

Je ne laisse pas de vous faire connoître que j'ai remis, sous le signer, le certificat de non opposition à l'affranchissement des enfans du Sieur Duval fils, par le motif qu'il y est fait mention de deux enfans au dessous de l'âge de sept ans, qui ne doivent point être séparés de leur mère, même en les affranchissant; ce qui est une disposition de notre législation coloniale: et dans ce certificat il n'est fait aucune mention de la mère de ces enfans. J'ai fait le même refus toutes les fois que le cas s'est présenté.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(Pour copie conforme.)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

(signé)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Thomas, Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Monsieur,

Port Louis, le 14 Juillet 1829.

IL m'est présenté pour être visé un certificat du commis du greffe de Première Instance de non opposition aux annonces d'affranchissement d'une femme sous le nom d'Eléonore, alias Eléonor Marie, alias Eléonore Laure, et de l'enfant de cette négresse, âgé de cinq ans, ayant appartenu au Sieur Plaideau, puis au Sieur Milien, absent de la colonie. Je vous avoue que je suis arrêté par cette dernière circonstance, qui rend incertain si cet absent a des droits, et qui présenterait une question plus difficile encore, celle de savoir si dans le cas où une personne absente aurait laissé un ou des esclaves dans la colonie, il y aurait lieu pour cela seul d'affranchir cet ou ces esclaves; c'est sur cette seule observation que pour ne pas opposer à l'affranchissement de l'esclave Eléonore, et de son enfant, dont vous vous trouvez seul chargé, je me borne à viser simplement le certificat qui déclare que l'annonce de l'affranchissement a eu lieu trois fois, et qu'il n'y est point survenu d'opposition.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

(Pour copie.)

Foisy.

(signé)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur,

Port Louis, le 27 Juin 1829.

Vous desirez être instruit, par votre lettre de ce jour, si dans les diverses affaires où le tribunal rend quelque jugement concernant des esclaves et à leur charge, tel que celui qui a été prononcé le 14 Juin, à l'égard du noir Camoin, esclave de Léo Bulle, il en est donné expédition ou tel autre avertissement au Protecteur des Esclaves. J'ai l'honneur de vous observer, que dans toutes les affaires relatives aux noirs esclaves, intentées depuis la promulgation de l'Ordre en Conseil relatifs à l'office du Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, il est donné au Protecteur copie de tous les actes de l'instruction et des jugemens, ayant donné à cet égard les ordres les plus précis aux officiers ministériels; mais que dans les instances qui ont pris naissance avant la promulgation de la loi, et qui sont jugées depuis, je n'ai pas cru devoir lui en faire donner communication. L'ordre en Conseil No. 43, ne parlant que "des actions, instances et poursuites qui pourraient dans la suite, et en quelques circonstances que ce soit être portées et introduites dans aucun tribunal ou Cour de justice."

Le jugement qui a été prononcé le 14 Juin, present mois, l'ayant été sur une plainte portée et introduite devant le tribunal le 23 Novembre 1828, je n'ai point cru devoir le faire signifier aux Protecteur, et en ai requis de suite l'exécution.

Je dois vous observer qu'il existe encore des instances relatives à des noirs esclaves accusés de crimes ou délits qui datent avant la promulgation du No. 43, et qui, par le marronage ou maladie des esclaves, n'ont pu être jugées, et dans lesquelles je pense devoir tenir la même conduite.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(Pour copie conforme.)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

(signé)

Portalis, Sub. Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut du Procureur-Général.

Monsieur,
Je voudrais être instruit si dans les divers cas où le tribunal rend quelque jugement concernant des noirs esclaves, et à leur charge, tel que celui qui a été prononcé le 14 Juin, à l'égard du noir Camoin, de Léo Bulle, il en est donné expédition ou avis au Protecteur des Esclaves.

(Pour copie.)
Foisy.

Le 27 Juin 1829.
J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.
Le Procureur-Général.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Monsieur,
J'AI l'honneur de vous retourner le rapport du Commissaire Civil du quartier de Motia, auquel est joint le rapport de l'officier de santé, constatant la levée du cadavre du nommé Henry, esclave du Sieur Lionard, propriétaire dans ledit quartier, lequel a été trouvé pendu, et mort des suites de l'étranglement; attendu qu'il s'agit en ce cas de mort violente d'un esclave, il me semble qu'il entre dans l'esprit de l'Ordonnance du 7 Février, No. 43, que ces sortes de cas parviennent à la connoissance du Protecteur des Esclaves.

Mr. Finnis,
Commissaire en Chef de la Police.

(Pour copie.) *Foisy.*

Le 28 Mai 1829.
J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.
Le Procureur-Général.

—(C.)—

CORRESPONDANCE et RAPPORTS entre le Procureur-Général et le Substitut au Premier Tribunal, concernant le Régime des Noirs Esclaves, et l'Ordonnance en Conseil No. 43.

LETTRES du Procureur-Général à M. Portalis, Substitut en Première Instance.

Ces lettres relatives à l'office du Protecteur des Esclaves continuent pendant les mois de Mai, Juin et Juillet. Cette collection ne contient pas toutes les lettres qui ont été adressées par le Procureur-Général à son Substitut au Premier Tribunal sur la même matière, mais celles-ci suffisent pour donner une idée exacte de la correspondance et des rapports auxquels donnaient lieu l'exécution de la commission du Protecteur des Esclaves.

Deux de ces lettres, datées des 22 et 26 Juillet, contiennent des observations, ou comme il appelle cela, de ces *repréhensions*, qui le chargent, et qu'il appartient cependant à la surveillance que j'exerce sur lui de mettre devant lui.

(signé) *Foisy.*

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c.

Bureau de Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 1^{er} Août 1829.

Monsieur,
J'AI l'honneur de vous adresser ci-inclus un rapport de l'Assistant Protecteur des Esclaves pour le quartier de la Rivière du Rempart, et une lettre de M. Le Protecteur, contenant une dénonciation contre le Sieur Etienne Daruty, à fin que vous dirigiez les poursuites convenables sur cette dénonciation.

Je vous invite à lire avec attention l'Article 21. J'y vois une amende dans le cas où le maître n'a pas porté sur le registre une correction, mais je n'y trouve pas de peine prononcée pour le cas où l'on ne tient pas de registre. Examinez ce point, mais agissez toujours en vertu de la dénonciation.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) *Foisy, Procureur-Général.*

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 1 Août 1829.

Monsieur,
Vous verrez ci-inclus avec une lettre de M. Le Protecteur des Esclaves, du 30 Juillet, divers documents concernant la plainte du nommé Eugene contre le Sieur Courty, son maître. Il s'agit de poursuivre sur cette dénonciation pour infraction à l'Article 19 de l'Ordonnance No. 43.

Il s'agira de prendre en consideration l'état de maladie du dit noir, en se referant à la lettre du Sieur Montgomery, à l'égard du séjour même à l'hospital et des frais. Je pense que ce point dépendra de la discussion sur laquelle le maître interviendra.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) *Foisy, Procureur-Général.*

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MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 1 Août 1829.

Monsieur,

J'AI l'honneur de vous adresser ci-inclues diverses pièces relatives à une plainte portée par la nommé Aglai, esclave de la Dame Ligereau, contre sa maîtresse, et la lettre à moi adressée par le Protecteur des Esclaves le jour d'hier, contenant la dénonciation de cette plainte, sur laquelle je vous prie de diriger les poursuites judiciaires.

Vous observerez, comme j'ai eu lieu de le faire, que la dénonciation du Protecteur des Esclaves ne porte que sur la fustigation de la négresse, en infraction à l'Article 18 de l'Ordonnance No. 43. Néanmoins le rapport du Commissaire Civil de la Rivière du Rempart constate que la Dame Ligereau a déclaré ne pas tenir de registre des punitions, conformément à l'Article 21 de l'Ordonnance ci-dessus.

Je pense donc que chargé comme nous le sommes de veiller à l'exécution vigoureuse de cette loi, vous ne pouvez vous dispenser, malgré le silence du Protecteur des Esclaves, de poursuivre pour raison de cette infraction.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 5 Août 1829.

Monsieur,

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre un grand nombre de pièces concernant la dénonciation faite par le Protecteur des Esclaves contre la Dame Sturbel, ensemble la lettre, très détaillée et motivée, du Protecteur, et indiquant les differens chefs sur lesquels porte la dénonciation.

Vous remarquerez l'observation qui se trouve à la fin de cette lettre concernant l'application de l'Article 30 de l'Ordonnance No. 43.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 5 Août 1829.

Monsieur,

EN addition à ma lettre precedente de ce jour, le motif de l'appel contre la sentence concernant l'esclave Céline est, que le dit jugement n'est pas rendu conformément à l'esprit et aux termes de l'Article 19 de l'Ordonnance No. 43.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 5 Août 1829.

Monsieur,

JE me hâte de vous informer que je viens de recevoir, de la part du Gouvernement, le même avertissement que j'ai reçu hier, de ne pas omettre de faire appel de la sentence rendue en Police Correctionnelle au sujet de l'esclave nommée Céline, et à l'égard du Sieur Denis Lacondray, ou la femme Lisis Letord. On me prévient que c'est le dernier jour, et que le délai expire aujourd'hui. Le temps ne permet pas de vous donner d'autres renseignements.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Portalis, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 23 Août 1829.

Monsieur,

J'AI l'honneur de vous faire l'envoi de diverses pièces d'instructions, contenant la déclaration de la négresse nommé Antoinette, esclave du Sieur Gaston Caqueray, et la lettre du Protecteur des Esclaves, datée du 13 de ce mois, par laquelle il dénonce au Procureur-Général l'infraction commise par le dit Sieur Caqueray à l'Ordonnance en Conseil du 13 Decembre 1826, pour que vous ayez à intenter pour raison de ce fait les poursuites judiciaires.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 7 Août 1829,

Monsieur,
J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre, avec divers documents y relatifs, la lettre ci-jointe du Protecteur des Esclaves, sous la date 5 Août, que j'ai reçue le 6. Cette lettre contient la dénonciation, par le Protecteur des Esclaves, d'infraction commises aux Articles 17 et 18 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil No. 43, et je vous invite en conséquence à instituer les poursuites que la loi requiert.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

PART VI:
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 7 Août 1829.

Monsieur,
J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre les informations qui ont été faites sur une plainte portée devant le Protecteur des Esclaves par le nommé Alezi contre le Régisseur du Sieur Courty, &c., ensemble la lettre à moi adressée par le Protecteur le 5 d'Août, que j'ai reçue hier 6 du dit mois. Vous verrez qu'il s'agit de poursuites à diriger contre le Sieur Courty, propriétaire, et contre le Sieur Odillard, régisseur, pour infraction à l'Ordonnance No. 20, du 13 Dec. 1826, concernant le poids de la chaîne que portait le dit Alezi.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut, &c. &c. &c.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, 23 Août 1829.

Monsieur
J'AI l'honneur de vous envoyer les pièces jointes à une lettre du Protecteur des Esclaves, datée du 13 de ce mois, laquelle contient la dénonciation d'une infraction, commise par le Sieur Raffray à l'enfant de la négresse nommée Rosalie, son esclave, contre l'Ordonnance en Conseil du 13 Dec. 1826, à l'effet d'en porter la poursuite en justice.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.
(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

— (D.) —

PIECES et Renseignements particuliers ayant rapport à l'affaire de la Négresse Esclave Céline, et du Sieur Denis Lacoudraie, et de sa fille naturelle, mariée à Lisy Letord.

Denis Lacoudraie.

C'EST sur l'affaire de la négresse Céline, esclave d'une demoiselle fille de couleur, enfant naturel du Sieur Denis Lacoudraie, que portent principalement les accusations de M. Thomas, Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, car il donne à ses imputations contre le Procureur-Général un ton si véhément, un caractère si grave, qu'on peut leur donner ce nom.

Il peut arriver que, dans les mêmes circonstances, des hommes d'une nature moins benigne, et appliqués par leur situation, à la recherche du mal, ne voient que des faits, ou des intentions coupables, là où un homme d'un caractère simple et droit ne verrait que des accidents naturels et ordinaires.

Il faut moins accuser que plaindre cette sorte de zèle aveuglé, et emporté, à cause du tort qu'il peut faire à la société.

Il convient d'abord de rapporter simplement les faits :

En Avril 1829, une jeune esclave, nommée Céline, fait devant le Protecteur des Esclaves, et dans son office, la déclaration qu'elle a été maltraitée, c'est à dire fouettée, soit par le Sieur Denis Lacoudraie, qui n'est pas son maître, soit par ses ordres.

Il paraîtrait que l'instruction de ce délit a amené quelques altercations entre le Protecteur des Esclaves et le Sieur Denis Lacoudraie, présent, où appelé à cette instruction ; ces difficultés ont été suivies d'une lettre du Sieur Denis Lacoudraie adressée au Protecteur, et dans laquelle des reproches graves sembleraient retomber sur le Protecteur. Il y eut d'abord entre moi et le Protecteur des conférences verbales sur les circonstances assez compliquées de ce cas, et sur les suppositions avancées par le Sieur Lacoudraie.

Je demandai au Protecteur le tems nécessaire pour examiner les pièces, et la lettre : c'était vers le commencement du mois de Mai.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Il y a ici une circonstance à laquelle le Protecteur des Esclaves n'a eu aucun égard : la Cour d'Appel se trouvait dans un tems de vacances, qui a duré depuis le premier Mai jusqu'au quatre de Juin.

Et c'est pendant cet intervalle de repos et de cessation d'affaires que le Protecteur des Esclaves reproche au Procureur-Général d'avoir tenu un silence apparemment intentionnel. Et c'est dans le même tems, vers le 20 du mois de Juin, que j'écrivis à son Honneur le Chef Juge, en répondant à une de ses lettres : " Je suis momentanément dans un état qui me permet de répondre à la lettre que je reçois de Votre Honneur à l'instant."

Ainsi le repos licite et salutaire des vacances, un affoiblissement de santé presque habituel, suite d'une vie laborieuse, et d'un âge très avancé ; des enfans qui réclamaient mes soins ; le refus constant et reiteré d'accepter une charge qui contrariait toutes mes résolutions, et à laquelle je ne me suis résigné que par un véritable sacrifice au bien public, et par un dévouement singulier aux invitations pressantes d'un Gouverneur qui n'avait en vue que le bien de la justice, aucunes de ces circonstances n'a mérité les égards du Protecteur des Esclaves !

Si le Protecteur des Esclaves m'eut seulement adressé sa dénonciation sur le fait de la négresse Céline, sans y mêler cette lettre offensante ou accusatrice du Sieur Denis Lacoudraie, j'aurais immédiatement adressé au Substitut en Première Instance, l'envoi des pièces de cette affaire ; mais il fallait préalablement examiner en même tems, et le cas dénoncé, et la lettre inculpatrice.

Par deux billets des 13 Mai et 16 Juin, le Protecteur des Esclaves me demande le renvoi de cette lettre.

Je n'hésiterai pas d'avouer que d'abord la forme de ces billets me parut avoir quelque chose de contraire aux égards que le Protecteur des Esclaves devait à mon caractère public ; dans aucune occasion je n'écris dans cette forme à aucun des officiers de justice les plus inférieurs.

Le 11 de Juillet, sans avoir besoin d'aucun avertissement, j'adressai au Substitut les pièces relatives au cas de Céline, et à la poursuite à intenter contre le Sieur Denis Lacoudraie ; et par une autre lettre du 14 du même mois (il faudrait rappeler ici les affaires de justice qui depuis la rentrée de la Cour, le quatre de Juin, ont dû occuper d'abord mon ministère), je donne au Protecteur des Esclaves l'avis qu'il se pourrait que par méprise j'avais compris dans les pièces que j'avais envoyées au Substitut la lettre dont il me demandait le renvoi par la sienne du 16 Juin. Le Substitut me fit part le 24 que le Protecteur lui demandait la remise de cette lettre si elle se trouvait dans les pièces, en ajoutant qu'en effet elle s'y trouvait : et le même jour je lui ai répondu en ces mots : " Cette lettre qui m'a été donnée en communication par le Protecteur, a été par erreur jointe aux pièces de la procédure, et la remise immédiate doit naturellement lui en être faite sur sa demande."

Faudra-t-il que je declare ce qui est notoire que je n'ai avec le Sieur Denis Lacoudraie aucun lien de parenté, ni de famille, aucune liaison d'amitié, ni même de société, aucun rapport d'affaires ni d'intérêts, ni même peut-être d'opinions, ce qui est à observer dans ce pays.

Le 31 Juillet, le cas de Céline a été jugé en Première Instance, le Sieur Denis Lacoudraie et sa fille naturelle, et mariée à Lisy Letord, ont été dechargés des poursuites, au moyen de leur affirmation sous serment. Il y a eu, le huit d'Août present mois, appel de ce jugement devant la Cour ; la decision sur cet appel sera rendue le premier Septembre.

J'ai reçu, le deux du mois d'Août, du Protecteur des Esclaves, un écrit, accompagné de la lettre offensante à lui adressé, le 14 Avril dernier, par le Sieur Denis Lacoudraie, par lequel il dénonce au ministère public cette lettre injurieuse, et me requiert d'intenter contre le Sieur Denis une prosecution juridique. Le même jour j'ai fait au Substitut en Première Instance, l'envoi de cette denomination, et du libelle. La plainte a été rendue, et dans le cours de la semaine presente, le procès sera instruit à l'audience, et probablement jugé.

Je cherche maintenant si dans le nombre des dénonciations que le Protecteur des Esclaves m'auraient adressées jusqu'à ce jour, il s'en trouverait aucune dont l'envoi au Premier Tribunal aurait été omise, et dont l'instruction aurait été suspendue, et je declare sincèrement que je n'en connois pas une ; et le moyen que j'ai préféré d'employer pour éclairer le Gouvernement sur la nature et la consistance des reproches ou des accusations élevées contre moi par le Protecteur des Esclaves, sera, j'ose le penser, approuvé des ministres de Sa Majesté, il m'a semblé présenter cet avantage de donner les explications les plus exactes, puis qu'elles consistent dans les actes respectifs émanés de nos offices, et de contenir tout ensemble les éclaircissemens convenables et instructifs sur la matière qui est singulièrement faite pour exciter l'attention et l'intérêt du Gouvernement. Je me suis beaucoup moins occupé à repousser directement des accusations qui n'avaient rien de grave que dans les termes qu'on a affecté d'employer, et qui n'ont pas atteint un caractère de répréhensibilité plus grand à raison des expressions dont on a fait usage.

Le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves pourrait seul être considéré comme répréhensible ou coupable pour s'en être servi à l'égard du ministère public dont il est dependant. J'ai negligé, je l'avoue, d'employer les poursuites legales et judiciaires pour rétablir, soit mon caractère public, soit mon caractère personnel, qui n'ont rien perdu. J'ai du encore plus éloigner des lors des procédés qui n'auraient pu être suivis et devenir publics, sans quelques inconvéniens ; et j'ai du aussi me reposer avec une confiance plus tranquille sur la sagesse et la justice des ministres de Sa Majesté, qui savent de quelle importance il peut-être de ne pas laisser déprimer le caractère d'un des principaux officiers judiciaires, chargé spécialement du maintien de l'ordre public, et de l'exécution des loix.

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Port Louis, Isle Maurice, le 25 Août 1829.

My Dear Sir,
THE Governor will be obliged to you to peruse the accompanying papers relative to the complaint preferred by the female slave Cecile against the Sieur D. Lacoudray, her master; and as the proceedings and decision of the Court of First Instance on this matter appear to His Excellency to be inconsistent with the spirit of the 19th Article of Ordinance No. 43, I am desired to request that you will be so good as to state whether you think an appeal should not be made.

Government House, 4th August 1829.

Monsieur Foisy,
Procureur-Général.

I am, &c. &c. &c.
(signed)

F. E. Viret,
Private Secretary.

(True Extract.)
Foisy, Procureur Général.

L'honorable Chef de Justice.

Monsieur,
JE suis momentanément dans un état qui me permet de répondre à la lettre que je reçois de votre honneur à l'instant, concernant la demande qui vous est faite par un nommé Basile Alexandre, qui vous supplie d'adresser ses pièces à un avocat, et de lui recommander ses intérêts.

Port Louis, le 22 Juin 1829.

(Pour copie) Foisy.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut du Procureur-Général.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
Port Louis, le 2 Août 1829.

Monsieur,
J'AI l'honneur de vous faire l'envoi d'une lettre qui m'est adressée par M. le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, ensemble d'un mémoire y joint, signé du Sieur Denis Lacoudray, en date du 14 Avril 1829, commençant par ces mots, "Je crois qu'il est absolument nécessaire."

La lettre du Protecteur des Esclaves sous le No. 30, contient, comme vous le verrez, une dénonciation de cet écrit par le Protecteur des Esclaves, comme un libel contenant des insultes graves contre le caractère d'un fonctionnaire public, et la requisition aux ministères public de poursuivre le Sieur Denis Lacoudray, en se conformant aux loix, pour obtenir la réparation due à un fonctionnaire public outragé, et pour assurer à l'avenir aux officiers dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions publiques la protection qui leur est nécessaire.

Vous ne pouvez donc vous dispenser, Monsieur, d'intenter sur cette plainte et dénonciation la poursuite d'office que requiert M. le Protecteur des Esclaves.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(Pour copie conforme.)
Foisy, Procureur-Général.

(signé) Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut du Procureur-Général.

Monsieur,

Le 24 Juillet 1829.

JE reçois votre lettre, en date de ce jour, relative à la demande du Protecteur des Esclaves, ayant pour objet la remise d'une lettre qui lui a été adressée par M. Denis Lacoudraie, et qui a été jointe aux pièces que j'ai transmises à M. le Substitut, pour la poursuite d'un cas qui concerne Céline; cette lettre, qui m'a été seulement donnée en communication par le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, a été par erreur jointe aux pièces de cette procédure, et la remise immédiate doit naturellement lui en être faite sur sa demande.

M. le Protecteur est chargé en général de vous procurer pour la poursuite du délit dont il s'agit tous les documens qu'il croira nécessaire à l'instruction.

(Pour copie.)
Foisy.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

Monsieur Thomas, Protecteur des Esclaves.

Monsieur,

14 Juillet 1829.

J'AI sous les yeux maintenant un billet de votre main, datée du 16 Juin dernier, lequel a pour objet de demander le renvoi d'une lettre de M. Denis Lacoudraie. Sans m'arrêter à cette sorte de correspondance irrégulière, je ne laisserai pas de vous informer que les pièces contenant l'affaire de M. Denis Lacoudraie, contenant dénonciation d'un genre de punition contraire à l'Art. 18 de l'Ordonnance du 7 Février,* je les ai adressées à M. Portalis, mon Substitut en Première Instance. Il pourrait bien que par méprise j'y aurais comprise une lettre dont vous demandez le renvoi par votre billet du 16 Juin.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(Pour copie.) Foisy.

* Infligée soit de l'ordre du Sieur Denis, soit de l'ordre de toute autre personne, ce que l'instruction seule pourra constater.
(Pour copie.) Foisy.

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Monsieur Portalis, Substitut du Procureur-Général.

Monsieur, Le 10 Juillet 1829.
 J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre diverses pièces relatives à une plainte portée devant M. le Protecteur des Esclaves par une jeune esclave nommée Céline, appartenante à M. Denis Lacoudraie, dénonçant sa maîtresse comme l'ayant battue, en lui donnant 15 coups de rotin sur les fesses, ce qui serait une infraction à l'Article 18 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil du 7 Février, No. 43; et en conséquence de la dénonciation de cette plainte qui m'est faite par le Protecteur des Esclaves, suivant sa lettre du 28 Avril dernière, et après avoir pris connaissance des faits, en faisant lecture des diverses déclarations et enquêtes qui accompagnèrent la dite lettre, je vous invite à diriger contre qui il appartiendra les poursuites que le ministère public doit exercer en pareil cas.

(Pour copie.)

Foisy.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

 Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 16th June 1829.

THE Protector of Slaves not having received any reply to a note addressed by him to the Procureur-General, on the 13th ultimo, requesting to be favored with the return of a letter addressed to the former by a M. Denis Lacoudray, and which was left with the Procureur-General for his confidential perusal, would now beg to repeat his request for having that letter returned to him.

(True copy.)

Foisy, Procureur-General.

 Protector of Slaves' Office, 13th May 1829.

THE Protector and Guardian of Slaves presents his compliments to the Procureur-General, and will thank him to return a letter addressed to the Protector by Mr. Denis Lacoudray, and which was left for the Procureur-General's perusal some days past.

(True copy.)

Foisy, Procureur-General.

 — (E.) —

RAPPORTS Particuliers du Protecteur des Esclaves avec le Procureur-Général.

LA lettre du Protecteur des Esclaves du 14 Mai, ne m'empêche pas de prendre les mesures propres à satisfaire à sa demande en lui faisant connaître par les termes de la permission même qu'il avait donnée à la fille de couleur le nom de madame, qu'il lui avait attribué.

Je priai donc un officier de la police que je mandai pour cela de se rendre au Bagne, lieu où sont détenus les esclaves arrêtés par la police, et de montrer au gardien de cet endroit l'ordre que je lui remis pour se faire délivrer une copie de cette permission.

Qu. "Protector of
Slaves."

L'officier de police me rapporte que le gardien lui avait déclaré qu'il ne connaissait pas d'autres ordres que ceux du "Procureur-Général," et quoique ce gardien fut sous les ordres immédiats du Commissaire en Chef de la Police, qui à lui-même pour supérieur le Procureur-Général.

Je gardai le silence sur cet incident toujours par les mêmes considerations.

Foisy.

LE Sieur Burk, concierge du Bagne, remettra à Monsieur Edouard Vinay, la copie d'un ordre de Monsieur le Protecteur des Esclaves, ayant environ six semaines de date, lequel l'autorise à remettre à une fille libre de couleur nommée Sésalie, sous le nom de Madame Léchelle, sa négresse esclave. D'ordre du Procureur-Général.

Le 23 Mai 1829.

(signé) Foisy.

(Pour copie conforme.)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

ON jugera par cette lettre du Protecteur des Esclaves que déjà, et à peine en fonctions, il s'était placé dans une étrange situation, particulièrement à l'égard du Procureur-Général.

Le Protecteur des Esclaves se formalise de ce que j'ai laissé passer huit jours sans répondre à sa première lettre; il est bon de savoir que des occupations journalières et immenses de ma place, il n'en est pas une seule même des plus minutieuses, et des plus courantes, qui ne soient remplies par moi-même, et par moi seule.

Quel oubli, quel écart, de la part du Protecteur des Esclaves, dans ces termes presumptueux, "to dispense with it."

Quelle idée le Protecteur des Esclaves s'est-il donc formé de ses devoirs s'il pense qu'il n'est pas assujéti aux remontrances, et aux redressements, que je me croirai fondé à lui adresser; comment méconnoît-il à ce point, l'ordre de nos fonctions respectives.

Dans quel rang se croit-il placé?

J'adresse des remontrances, et même quelque fois des reproches, au Commissaire en Chef de la Police, aux officiers du ministère public, selon la nature des actes, à l'importance des motifs qui en ont été la cause, et toujours je l'ai fait de manière à n'offenser, quoique ce soit avec des ménagements convenables.

Il suffit de rapporter ces expressions : " So highly improper. I am unwilling to believe that such a communication could possibly have emanated from yourself." Il ne me convient pas de caractériser ces expressions du Protecteur des Esclaves dans un écrit officiel ; ce que j'aurais été autorisé à faire eut été de poursuivre la réparation d'une telle offense en justice, il aurait suffi pour apprécier la conduite du Protecteur des Esclaves de comparer avec les termes de ma lettre le style de sa réponse.

Des considérations trop graves, dont le Gouvernement me saura gré, m'ont empêché de satisfaire à ce devoir.

Foisy.

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Protector of Slaves' Office,
Port Louis, 14th May 1829.

Sir,
ON the 5th instant I had the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a letter addressed to me from your office, dated on the 3d inst., but bearing not your signature ; and in acknowledging that letter, I requested you would be pleased to furnish me with the name of the free woman of colour alluded to, in order to facilitate my reply to the said letter.

As eight days have elapsed without my receiving any reply, I now feel myself at liberty to dispense with it ; and in doing so, I beg to observe, that I do not conceive myself called upon either to receive or to notice any animadversions such as those contained in the letter in question, particularly when conveyed in terms so highly improper. I therefore return it to you herewith ; and as I am unwilling to believe that such a communication could possibly have emanated from yourself, I trust you will see the necessity of preventing for the future your official character being used for such purposes.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

To J. N. Foisy Esq.

(signed)

R. M. Thomas,

Procureur-General, &c. &c. &c.

Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

(True copy.)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Il y avait affectation à m'écrire pour savoir le nom de la mulâtresse, la permission que le Protecteur lui avait donnée par écrit ne devait pas manquer d'être insérée dans ses registres.

Il était facile au Protecteur des Esclaves de répondre sur le sujet de ma lettre, même ne connaissant pas le nom de la mulâtresse.

Il était dans mes fonctions de faire cette remarque ; elle appartenait à l'ordre public.

Foisy.

Protector of Slaves' Office,
May 4th, 1829.

Sir,
I HAVE this day received a letter from your office, dated yesterday, but without your signature, and as the subject to which it relates is one of daily occurrence in this office, I request you will be pleased to furnish me with the name of the free woman of colour to which the letter in question alludes, in order that I may be enabled to reply to it.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

To J. N. Foisy, Esq.

(signed) *R. M. Thomas,*

Procureur-Général, &c.

Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

(True copy.)

Foisy, Procureur-Général.

Cette lettre est celle même que le Protecteur m'a renvoyée parce qu'elle n'avait pas ma signature.

Foisy.

Monsieur Thomas, Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

Bureau du Procureur-Général,
le 3 Mai 1829.

Monsieur,

IL y a quelques jours une fille libre de couleur a été citée, et a comparu à votre office pour expliquer sa conduite et à l'égard d'une négresse son esclave. Vous avez déterminé que cette négresse serait conduite au Bagne, d'où sa maîtresse, la fille libre, pourrait la retirer ; et en consequence vous avez, dans le même tems, donné à cette fille une autorisation par écrit à cet effet. Suivant les termes de cette autorisation, elle est donnée, non à la demoiselle du nom qui lui est propre, mais à madame, en lui attribuant le nom d'une famille très respectable de cette colonie.

Si cette demoiselle, portant un nom qui lui est propre, a vécu en concubinage, et dans un commerce illégitime et prohibé, avec un Sieur N—, il est bien loin que ce soit une raison pour substituer au nom de cette fille le nom de la famille de l'homme dont elle a été la concubine. Les filles libres dans la même situation ont toutes leur propre nom, et la loi ne permet à aucun officier public de leur en donner un autre que celui qui leur a été donné, soit par leur acte de naissance, soit par leur acte d'affranchissement.

Je n'ai pas besoin de m'étendre sur les inconviens que présenterait l'introduction d'un usage qui serait contraire tout à la fois aux mœurs, et à la décence publique, à l'ordre, et au respect dû aux familles, et à la législation coloniale ; et je ne vous fais ces observations que dans la conviction que c'est seulement un défaut momentané d'attention qui a donné lieu à cette méprise.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obeissant Serviteur,

Procureur-Général (absent.)

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N^o 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Viscount *Goderich* to Lieutenant General
the Hon. Sir *C. Colville*, G. C. B.

Sir,

Downing Street, 15th January 1831.

I HAVE had under my consideration your Despatch of 3d September last, together with its enclosures, consisting of the Report of the Protector of Slaves, and various documents in elucidation of it, for the period which elapsed from the day on which the operation of the Slave Ordinance commenced, viz. the 20th March 1829, till the 24th June following, being the period of the year at which the half-yearly Protector's Report would have become due if the Ordinance had then been half a year in operation.

It would have been necessary for me to comment upon this Report at greater length than I shall now feel myself called upon to do, had not many of the defects which it exhibits in the Ordinance of 1829 been since supplied by the consolidated Order in Council of February 1830. Amongst the subjects which have been superseded by this order is the Ordinance No. 49, supplementary to the Ordinance No. 43. Both these Ordinances have been repealed by the repealing clause of the consolidated order, and the Ordinance No. 49 has not therefore been submitted for His Majesty's confirmation. Neither do I think it necessary to enter upon the subject to which the prefatory remarks of the Protector relate, the proceedings, namely, which were adopted by you and by himself, about the time when the Ordinance No. 43 was first promulgated. The opinions of my predecessor on these proceedings have been fully communicated to you in his Despatch of the 4th September 1829.

The observations which I have been compelled to make upon the record of the complaints preferred by slaves to the Protector, of the investigations which the cases underwent, and of the decisions taken upon them, are so numerous, that I have thought it convenient to make them the subject of a separate Despatch, by which you will find this to be accompanied. But I shall proceed here to consider the questions arising out of the ulterior proceedings taken by the Protector in the nine cases of complaints when prosecutions appeared to be necessary. The steps by which the prosecutions were to be instituted and carried forward were, first, a denunciation of the accused by the Protector, Mr. Thomas, to the Procureur-General, M. Foisy, accompanied with documents in support of the accusation; secondly, a reference of the case, with the necessary instructions by M. Foisy to M. Portalis, his Substitute in the Court of First Instance; thirdly, M. Portalis was to conduct the prosecution in that court; fourthly, it was the duty of M. Foisy to watch over the conduct of the prosecutions, and if he saw cause to be dissatisfied with the judgment of the Court of First Instance, to direct an appeal to be brought to the Court above.

The proceedings in the cases which Mr. Thomas denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution appear to have been unsatisfactory on more grounds than one. In five cases out of the nine, judgment had been given by the Court of First Instance at the time when the Protector closed his Report. Two of the prosecutions were for putting chains upon children under the age of 15 years, for which the maximum penalty was 10 *l.* and the minimum 2 *l.* The parties were convicted, and the minimum penalty was awarded in each case. The other three were for excessive and illegal punishment. The maximum penalty for this is 200 *l.*, the minimum 20 *l.* These parties also were convicted, and again in each case the minimum penalty only was exacted.

The Protector observes with justice the presumable want of due discrimination on the part of the Court in thus awarding invariably the minimum penalty; and although it is the duty of the Procureur-General to take care that an appeal shall be brought upon every unsatisfactory sentence, it appears that no appeal was brought in any of these cases. M. Foisy was called upon to explain this apparent remissness, together with other neglects of which he was accused, but throughout the voluminous papers which he sent you in his defence, there is not any mention to be found of his reasons for acquiescing in these five judgments of the Court of First Instance,

Instance. Yet I cannot consider this as the least serious of the matters which required explanation.

The complaint of the Protector that he was not furnished either with notices of the trials about to come on in slave-cases, or with copies of the judgments, appears to have been attended to by the Chief Judge, by whose intervention orders were given to the registrars of the courts to furnish them. I collect however, from the papers, that the Procureur-General had the requisite authority to give these orders, had he been disposed spontaneously to exercise it, for in one case that of Marie Saladin, mentioned at page 74 of the correspondence, the Procureur-General obtained the documents for the Protector, and by the letters which passed between M. Foisy and M. Portalis on the 27th June, it appears that the most precise orders had been then given (as I infer by the Procureur-General, or his substitute,) for furnishing the Protector with notices of judgments in all slave-cases which had commenced after the ordinance No. 43 had come into operation. I advert to this as showing that M. Foisy was not without the means and opportunity of rectifying the omission in question, but I cannot think that it answers the purpose for which he himself adduces it, of exemplifying his voluntary alacrity in meeting the wishes of the Protector; for I gather from the Chief Judge's letter to you of the 4th of July, that it was the interposition of superior authority which had caused the wishes of the Protector to be attended to.

The Protector complained also of the general want of attention to his communications which he had experienced from the Procureur-General. He stated that his letters to M. Foisy upon the business of his office had been treated with apparently intentional silence for the last two months, and that to this was to be attributed any inefficiency which might appear in his Report with reference to the details of legal proceedings, and he observed upon the injury which this inattention was calculated to produce to the interests which had been confided to his care.

This was a representation, which, assuming it to be accurate, it was the undoubted and imperative duty of the Protector to make, and his manner of making it was in no respect improper or objectionable. In reply to this representation I should have wished to receive from M. Foisy a plain and business-like exposition of the amount of the delay which had actually occurred, and of the causes which had led to it. Such an exposition, even though not altogether exculpatory, would have been entitled to the respect with which I shall always be ready to receive an ingenuous and rational statement. Instead of such a statement as this, M. Foisy transmitted to you a volume of papers above one hundred pages in length, containing a collection of all the correspondence in his office relating to the Protector, or to the cases in which the Protector had been concerned, together with commentaries prefixed by himself to each of the five parts into which this collection was divided. The far greater part of these letters appear to have no direct relevancy to any point in dispute, and the whole are put together without any regard to order, either of date or subject, and indeed frequently with such a wide separation of the papers which should naturally have been consecutive, that it is impossible to look through them without imputing to the person by whom they were arranged, either singular negligence, or studied confusion. I perceive moreover that many of the letters which are scattered through this collection, as if they bore upon the subject-matter of the Protector's complaint, were written after that complaint had been preferred, and after the Chief Judge had called upon M. Foisy to reply to it; in the period, namely, which elapsed between the 4th July, when the Chief Judge made his communication to M. Foisy, and the 25th of August, when M. Foisy sent you his explanations.

M. Foisy however appeals to the letters alone as containing his exculpation. The substance of the charge was, that for the two months previous to the 24th June, when the Protector drew up his Report, his letters to the Procureur-General had not been answered. In the collection of letters appealed to by M. Foisy I seek in vain for any answer addressed by him to the Protector between the 24th of April and the 24th of June. There is, it is true, one communication from M. Foisy to Mr. Thomas, dated the 4th May, but this is not an answer to any from Mr. Thomas, and indeed it is a letter, which looking to the trivial nature of the subject, and the injurious language employed in it, would have been much better unwritten. The charge then being simply that no answer had been given in these two months, the collection of letters rather supports than refutes it, and I have been compelled to seek for M. Foisy's apology in the explanations which he has prefixed to the different parts of the correspondence. M. Foisy asserts in one part of these explanations, that it was no

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part of his functions to give information to the Protector on the business of his office. If this had been the case, it was the duty of M. Foisy to apprise the Protector of it in order that he might seek the information elsewhere; but far from disclaiming the function, it appears from another part of these papers that he himself had proposed to the Protector, of his own accord, that to avoid the inconvenience of frequent consultations, the subjects which the Protector might have to bring before him should be treated of in a connected correspondence which should be sanctioned by the authority of the Government.

In the case of Lacondraye, the explanations of the Procureur-General are still less satisfactory. The disposition which this person had evinced towards the Protector in the execution of his official duties, ought to have obtained the immediate attention of every public functionary, who had it in his power by an active interposition to give support to the Protector's office. But the calumnious letter from Lacondraye was left for some time with the Procureur-General for his consideration, and no steps were taken by him to prosecute Lacondraye, nor did he take any notice of the business whatever. The Protector then became desirous to get the letter back for the purpose of himself proceeding upon it, and wrote a note to M. Foisy to beg that it might be returned to him. This note was dated the 13th May, and no answer was returned to it by M. Foisy. On the 16th June the Protector wrote a second note to the same effect, and to this also no answer was returned, nor was any communication made by M. Foisy to Mr. Thomas until the 14th July, which was ten days after the Chief Judge, at your instance, had called upon M. Foisy to account for his delays. M. Foisy's want of promptitude continued in the case of Lacondraye even after his attention was awakened by the Protector's complaint against him. Lacondraye was acquitted on the 30th July by the Court of First Instance, and the Procureur-General neglected to appeal from the judgment till you reminded him of the propriety of doing so, which was not till the very last day on which the law would allow an appeal to be entered. For this I do not find that M. Foisy has alleged any excuse. For his neglect of Mr. Thomas's application to him on the subject of Lacondraye's letters, the excuse which he alleges is, that it appeared to him that to write to him in the form of notes was not treating him with the respect due to his office. This is a most frivolous objection, and comes with a peculiar unfitness from M. Foisy, since the injurious communication from himself to Mr. Thomas, dated the 4th of May to which I have already adverted, had been sent without any signature, and M. Foisy accuses Mr. Thomas of over preciseness for having objected to this essential informality. The other reasons alleged by M. Foisy for omitting to notice these applications scarcely require any comment. The former one having been addressed to him on the 13th May, which was during the vacation, he expresses his surprize that the Protector should have expected him to attend to the business in this season of legitimate repose; whilst the latter having been written on the 16th June during the sitting of the Courts, he affects to be equally surprized that the Protector should have expected to attract his attention to the matter at that period of necessary occupation. It is difficult to understand at what period M. Foisy means to imply that his attention could have been obtained.

From these observations you will see, that I have been necessarily led to consider the representation of Mr. Thomas, as not only unexceptionable in its form, but accurate in point of fact, and you will be at no loss therefore to understand that I regard with the more displeasure the tone of anger and arrogance which M. Foisy has adopted in replying to it. Such a tone can in no case be entitled to respect, and may in general be received as constituting some presumption against the cause in which it is employed. M. Foisy has intimated that he has been deterred only by consideration for the interests of the public service, from prosecuting Mr. Thomas for the injury which he alleges to have been done by that gentleman's complaints, to his personal and official reputation. It is fortunate that in the absence of other proper motives, this consideration was sufficient to deter M. Foisy from adopting such a proceeding, as in any other event, undoubtedly, my present despatch must have contained instructions of a decisive character which I am happy to feel myself relieved from the necessity of conveying to you.

You will easily conceive that the observations which the conduct of M. Foisy has compelled from me, have not been made without reluctance and regret, and that I am disposed to have every consideration in my power for the feelings of a gentleman, who has been nearly twenty years in the service of the Crown, and who bears, as I understand, a high character in the Colony. I am willing to admit that the circumstance of M. Foisy's advanced age may afford some palliation of

of his remissness, however little it accounts for the acrimony of his language, and the state of his health which he alleges to be habitual with him, may also give him a claim to indulgent consideration. These, however, are circumstances which, whilst they offer, as I am glad to acknowledge, an apology for M. Foisy personally, must be regarded as daily-increasing obstacles to the due performance by him of the duties of Procureur-General. He confesses, indeed, that the charges which devolve upon him in his relations with the different departments already much exceed what the labour of the day can dispose of; and in another part of the papers he alleges that he was induced to accept this office with the greatest reluctance, in opposition to all his wishes and intentions, and solely from a desire to promote public interests. On referring to the Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry, I find that M. Foisy was 69 years of age in 1828, the year in which he was appointed Procureur-General. At that age, with an habitual weakness of health, I cannot but think that his reluctance to assume the duties of an arduous office was extremely reasonable, and I presume that it cannot have been his intention to continue many years in the execution of them. If therefore it should be his wish to be relieved at an early period, you will be pleased, with the advantage which you will derive from the advice of the Chief Judge, to report to me upon the means which the Colonial Bar may present of supplying his place, in order that I may form an opinion whether it would be necessary on his retirement to look elsewhere for his successor.

In several parts of these papers M. Foisy has arrogated a right of surveillance over the Protector, and described that officer as subordinate to himself. I know not whether it may have been the effect of the Ordinance, No. 43, to impart any such right, but if so, the Ordinance was in that respect at variance with the intentions of His Majesty's Government. It has been now repealed by the consolidated Order, and it cannot be too distinctly understood that the Protector is officially accountable to no authority in the colony, except that of the Governor.

I now proceed to the other subjects which present themselves to my notice in the Protector's Report. The Protector observes that he has declined to entertain complaints against slaves, except in trifling cases, in which the owners have wished to try the effects of his admonition instead of punishment. "Were he to act otherwise," he says, "it would excite the mistrust of the slave, discourage him from making his grievances known, and induce him to look upon the Protector in any other light than that of a friend and guardian." The Protector's judgment upon this point is entirely in accordance with the sentiments which have been expressed by the Secretary of State on occasions when other Protectors have adopted a contrary line of conduct.

On the subject of enfranchisements the Protector states, that with respect to those granted by will, as well as in other cases where he has been called upon to interfere, "instances of the most culpable neglect on the part of executors and procurators have come to his knowledge, whereby slaves have been deprived of their liberty for years after the death of their benefactor; and in some cases, have remained in slavery for life, leaving an helpless progeny in the same state of bondage, at an age too young to be sensible of, and without friends to assert their title to, the boon bestowed upon their parents; and this has gone on until even a third generation has borne the yoke entailed upon it by fraud and injustice." It is to be presumed that the Protector has done every thing in his power to redeem those rights; you will, however, inquire whether in any case he has found it impracticable to restore to freedom persons whom he considers to have been thus fraudulently enslaved; and whether he believes his office as now established, and the law such as it now is, afford an adequate security against the recurrence of such frauds. On the subject of the punishment-record-books I find the Slave Ordinance No. 43, had deviated from the model prescribed by this department, and it appears by the Protector's Report that a general defalcation had been the consequence. But as this will have been rectified by the consolidated Order in Council I need not pursue the subject farther.

The Protector recommends an amendment of the Ordinance of December 1826, (commonly called the Chain Ordinance) by which the weight of irons to be put upon slaves by the master's authority is regulated: but as I have submitted for the approbation of His Majesty in Council, an order for the total abolition of the use of chains by the master's authority, it is unnecessary that I should advert further to the Protector's proposal; and with respect to the instrument of punishment called the "Bar de Justice," if the terms of the Order in Council be not construed

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to extend to it, a local Ordinance must be passed expressly for its abolition. I have not overlooked the doubts which you express of the impropriety of this mode of punishment, but I am unable to adopt them. The Protector's objection to it, that it may be continued indefinitely without occasioning to the master any loss of the slave's labour, is in my opinion conclusive. It is a mode of punishment in the application of which it is not the interest of the master to be merciful.

The subjects of food and clothing, and the allotment of time for meals, appear by the Report of the Protector urgently to require attention, and they shall receive it as soon as the information necessary for revising the law in respect to them shall be furnished me, either by your answer to Sir G. Murray's Despatch of the 5th April 1830, or from other sources. On the subject of Sunday-labour also you have been instructed by Sir G. Murray's Despatch, accompanying the consolidated Order of February 1830, to make further and more precise regulations than those of the Ordinance No. 43, which the Protector has found to be so defective.

The Protector proceeds to the subject of marriages; none appear to have taken place among the slaves since the passing of the Ordinance, and it is only from one district that he hears of some being contemplated. He has observed, he says, a general unwillingness to be married amongst slaves about to be manumitted; and he inquires whether it might not be desirable to make marriage a condition of enfranchisement where parties have previously cohabited and had children. I am clearly of opinion that this would not be desirable. A marriage ceremony enforced by penal consequences would be a mere ceremony, and would not probably imply any greater constancy, any more domestic attachment, or mutual respect, in the cohabitation which should follow it, than in that which should have gone before. If men be constrained to incur the obligations of married life it does not follow that they can be constrained to fulfil them. To the imposition of such obligations as these, law is in truth too gross an instrument. So far as the Government have it in their power to produce amongst slaves a better observance of the relations of domestic life it will not be by any direct legislation, but by securing to them moral and religious instruction, and such a comparative easiness of condition as shall leave room for the growth of natural affections. It is perhaps more desirable that at first a respect for the marriage tie should be generated, and that only those who are morally superior to the customs of their class should set an example of marrying, than that marriages should all at once be extensively induced; and at all events it may be apprehended that the effect of urging persons into that state by presenting it as the alternative of slavery, would be in many instances far less to create connubial virtues than to degrade the institution of marriage.

It appears that the number of slaves who had been certified to the Protector to understand the obligation of an oath was very small, and the Vicar Apostolic, Dr. Slater, had made a communication much at variance with those from other Clergymen, and with your own sentiments, to the effect, that but two slaves had been reported to him as sufficiently imbued with religious knowledge to admit of their oaths being received in a Court of Justice in cases where their owners should be implicated. As it would appear from this, that some very exaggerated notions had prevailed of the qualifications required to establish competency as a witness, it is the more satisfactory to consider that the Order in Council has by this time arrived in the colony, which abrogates the former enactment of qualifications.

The deposits in the savings bank had, it seems, been very trifling, not amounting to more than 19*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, but the Protector thought that they would be augmented if the usual rate of interest in the colony, viz. nine per cent. were allowed, instead of five per cent., which was the rate adopted into the Mauritius Ordinance from that of Trinidad. You do not appear to disapprove this proposal; and I am not aware that there is any objection to it.

In three out of five cases of the death of slaves by suicide which had been notified to the Protector, it is remarked that a bottle which had contained arrack had been found near the bodies, and the Commissary of Police who reports the cases, takes the opportunity of observing that "this is the case generally on such occasions; and that the cheapness of that destructive beverage, and the facility with which it is obtained, is the bane of the slave population of the colony." The Protector proceeds to say that he has "had frequent occasion to witness the melancholy truth of that observation; and were he not aware that the evil has already occupied the Governor's attention, it would have formed a special subject of this Report; as well with reference to the calamitous consequences alluded to, as to the numerous cases

cases of apoplexy which occur among the slave population, and which are in almost every instance to be ascribed to the immoderate use of that unwholesome liquor, and which tends to every species of demoralization." You observe with regret, "that these statements present but too correct a picture of the misery to themselves, and the injury to their masters, occasioned by the addiction of the slaves to spirituous liquors; an evil, however, which is participated in by the greater part of the lower classes of the population of the Colony, and the means" you add "by which it can be repressed, is a consideration deeply occupying your attention." The Commissioners of Inquiry, in their Report upon the Finances of the Island, adverted to this subject as one of very serious importance, and proposed a plan for the regulation of the sale of spirits and their taxation, which they considered might afford some remedy for the evils in question. I shall be anxious to hear, however, that your deliberations have already led to some amendment of this state of things.

The only portion of these papers which it remains for me to notice is the complaint-book, or record of proceedings before the Protector on the complaints of slaves. My observations upon the details of this record I shall reserve, as I have already intimated, for the subject of a separate despatch. But in communicating to you here the favourable opinion which, from the other documents, I should have been led to form of the judgment and ability of Mr. Thomas, I cannot but add the expression of the surprize and disappointment which I felt on examining the record of his proceedings in the complaints of slaves; the most important part certainly of the Protector's duties. I have been especially impressed with the inefficiency of the control which he appears to have exercised over the proceedings of the Assistant-Protectors, and with the manifest occasion which existed for an effective superintendance of these officers. Both the absence of control, and the need of it may indeed be in some measure accounted for, when it is considered that the duties of Assistant-Protectors, on whom depend almost the entire rural administration of the slave-law, are devolved at present upon colonial magistrates, who exercise them gratuitously, and whose pecuniary interests are involved, generally to a large extent, in the system, the practical working of which it is the object of these laws to mitigate and govern. I am far from imputing to any of the gentlemen constituting the rural magistracy of Mauritius any other want of impartiality than belongs to human nature under every form of society; but neither can I presume them to be exempt from the ordinary imperfections of mankind; and unless I could presume them so it would be impossible for me to expect that the conduct of the planters can be impartially and effectually superintended by members of their own body, in their own neighbourhood, and with whom therefore they are naturally connected in life, either by commercial and pecuniary transactions, by common interests, or by habits of familiar intercourse. Under these impressions I shall probably feel it my duty to provide for the faithful execution of the laws, and the professed objects of the Government, by taking measures for the appointment of two Assistant-Protectors, who may at an early period proceed from this country to take upon them, under the direction of Mr. Thomas, the more immediate administration of the slave-law in the rural districts of the Colony. I shall make the most careful selection in my power of the individuals to fill these important offices, but whomsoever I may select, I am so fully aware of the peculiar qualities which are required to combat the difficulties of the situation in which they will be placed, that I shall not hold out to them the expectation of retaining the appointments permanently, unless it shall be proved by experience that they are qualified for them; and indeed it cannot be too distinctly understood in all His Majesty's colonies, where the office of Protector or Assistant-Protector is established, that the tenure of it is from first to last probationary, and that no consideration could justify me in upholding in such an office any individual of whom I should not be satisfied that he is able and willing to execute its duties efficiently.

As a further security for the due administration of the slave-laws, I must request from you a personal revision of the complaint-books, as well as of all the other reports and documents delivered to you by the Protector. I cannot but suppose that the contents of the complaint-book, which is the subject of my separate despatch, had entirely escaped your notice, as otherwise, many of the cases which it contains must have extorted from yourself the serious attention which it has devolved on me to bestow upon them; but the revision of these proceedings is an important function of your government, and it is obvious that that which is finally

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to be exercised by me must be too late to retrieve many of the errors which might not be beyond the reach of remedy if discovered at the moment and on the spot.

I have, &c. &c.
(signed)

GODERICH.

N° 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Viscount *Goderich* to Lieutenant-General
The Honourable Sir *C. Colville*, G.C.B.

Sir,

Downing Street, 15th January 1831.

IN my other Despatch of this date, I have informed you that I should reserve for a separate communication the comments which I should feel it my duty to make upon the document, intitled the "Complaint Book," which is annexed to the Protector's report of his proceedings, between the 20th of March and the 24th of June 1829.

This book contains the record of proceedings had before the Protector on the complaints made to him by slaves.

Complaint, No. 1.

Jeanne v. Mademoiselle Dupré, states circumstances from which, if true, it would follow that Mademoiselle Dupré had violated the law in three particulars: viz. by beating the female slave, by obliging her to work on Sunday, and by depriving her of an article of property. The defence was made to the Assistant-Protector of the district in which the parties resided, and the Protector says that it was verified by the Assistant-Protector, and that it proves without doubt that the complaint was altogether groundless, and he therefore sentenced the complaining slave to one week's solitary confinement. But none of the evidence for the defence is given.

In another part of his Report the Protector states that he had refused to entertain the complaints against slaves which were brought to him by the owners, because, had he acted otherwise, distrust of his protection would have been excited in the minds of the slaves, who would soon consider him as any thing but the advocate of their interests. For this same reason it had seemed desirable to my predecessor, and had been provided by the Order in Council of February 1830, that the Protector shall not be the person to award punishment for complaining slaves, even when their complaints do appear to him to be proved to have been false and malicious; but that the owner shall be left to seek redress from some other tribunal.

The expediency of separating this jurisdiction from the office of the Protector is fully confirmed, on a perusal of this "complaint-book," by the large proportion of the cases in which the Protector has sentenced complaining slaves to punishment, and the general deficiency, so far as appears on the record, of evidence to show that they deserved it.

Complaint, No. 2.

The 2nd complaint is an instance of this. The slave *Joaki* complained of his master for beating him without reason, and employing him until noon on the Sabbath. He complained of having been punished on three days in the same week in which his complaint was referred: on one day with 25 lashes, on another with 20, and on the third with 10. The Protector considered the complaint to be false, and sentenced the slave to receive 25 stripes of the cane. Now it does not appear that the Protector rested this decision upon any personal hearing of the case.

The owner resided in one of the country districts, to the Assistant-Protector of which district the case was referred. The Assistant-Protector appears to have received the declaration of the owner that no corporal punishment whatever had been inflicted upon the slave, and a medical man certifies that no marks of punishment appear upon his person. The owner represents the complainant to be a most mutinous slave, and the Assistant-Protector represents the owner to be a very kind master.

Not even a denial is given of the alleged employment on the Sunday, of which no notice is taken. It is obvious that in all this there is nothing like admissible evidence

evidence for the defence, except the medical certificate, and I am not aware that the absence of marks of punishment on the person of a black is absolute proof that none has been inflicted within a day or two before. At all events, I think the Protector was not justified in awarding a punishment for the preferring of any complaint which he had not himself heard. And it may be well to convey to him a general caution not to rely implicitly on the assurances which he may receive from the Assistant-Protectors in the districts, who are generally planters, and the neighbours of those against whom the complaints are brought; and to be equally wary in regard to the certificates of medical men, whose prosperity depends upon their employment by the planters.

The complaint of *Aurelia* (No. 3), so far as it refers to any ill-treatment, which is a violation of the law, turns upon the fact of her having been, as she states, beaten with a cane by her mistress. This is the matter, if anything be, which the Protector had to look to, and the statement of the negress was corroborated by the marks of the cane upon her person. The Protector, however, finding that the negress was incorrect in her account of the circumstances out of which the alleged punishment arose, does not discuss the legality of it, but dismisses the complaint. I can easily believe that the Protector felt himself unable to do otherwise in this case, on the ground that the whipping had taken place before the Ordinance came into operation. The day on which the Ordinance began to operate was the 20th of March, and this complaint was prepared on the 22d; and the medical certificate of Dr. Hart, who examined the negress, stated that the marks "appeared to have been made by a cane, about fifteen days past." It is not said from what diagnostics Dr. Hart was enabled thus to determine the date of the punishment, but it may easily be supposed that the Protector was justified in assigning it to some period before the 20th of March, and in that case it might be necessary to dismiss the complaint. But what I object to is, that no such ground for the dismissal of it is mentioned. The complainant is not apprized that, although redress cannot be given her for this injury, she would not seek it in vain for any future one of a like kind; nor is the defendant warned that there would be no similar escape from the consequences of a future offence. Complaint, No. 3.

The complaint of the slave *Henry*, a boy of ten years of age, against his mistress, Marie Surde, appears to have been heard and decided by the Assistant-Protector of the district. The boy complained of being ill-treated by his mistress, and by a man of colour with whom she lived, of being insufficiently supplied with food, and of not having the whole of his Sundays to himself. It is said that the boy appeared to be healthy and without marks of punishment, and that the declaration of his mistress and of the manager whom she employed "proved the falsity of the boy's statement, and showed that the slaves of Marie Surde are kindly treated and abundantly fed, and that the boy was ill-disposed, malicious, and dishonest." The result of the complaint is, that the Assistant-Protector sentenced the boy to twelve stripes of the cane, not only for preferring a false complaint, but because he found that the boy had "repeatedly behaved himself in a very improper manner," and the sentence was approved by the Protector. But for the frequency with which the cases occur throughout these records, in which the decisions appear to rest upon the mere declarations of the defendants and of those under their control; decisions, too, not only for the acquittal of the defendants, but for the punishment of the complainants, I should have thought it superfluous to remark that the uncorroborated declarations of the parties concerned, whether on the one side or on the other, can substantiate nothing. Complaint, No. 4.

It is absolutely necessary that attention should be paid in these investigations to the ordinary rules of evidence, and to the principles which are in common use, wherever justice is administered. It is also necessary that the Protectors and Assistant-Protectors should confine themselves to their proper functions, and not take the opportunity of a complaint to inflict punishment for misbehaviour alleged to have occurred antecedently.

I notice the next complaint (which was sent to the Procureur-General for prosecution,) only because when the complainant, *Adèle*, was asked why she had not preferred her complaint to the Assistant-Protector of the district, the reason she gave was, that "her master was too friendly with the Assistant-Protector." It is of course far from my intention to infer that the slave had in this instance any just ground Complaint, No. 5.

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ground for supposing that she would have failed to find redress from the Assistant-Protector; but a distrust of the protection to be afforded by those to whom the administration of the slave-law is committed, is in itself, even without assuming it to be well founded, no inconsiderable evil; and it must be admitted that this feeling in respect of the Assistant-Protectors, will be naturally entertained in many instances. This is a defect in the system of protection which can only be remedied by the appointment of Assistant-Protectors without local connections, and who should be independent of all persons except their official superiors. Until the system be thus extended, it will be proper however that the Protectors should not needlessly discourage the slaves from having resort to him instead of the Assistant-Protectors.

- Complaint, No. 14. The complaint of *Helainé* is one of those cases in which none but *ex parte* evidence is given, and which results nevertheless in the punishment of the complainant. It is said indeed that the slave prevaricated in repeating her statement in the presence of her mistress; but the particulars of the prevarication are not given.
- Complaint, No. 18. The course taken by the Protector on the complaint of *Aglae* against her mistress Mademoiselle Desein is open to more than one objection. The complaint of the slave was, first, that she had been beaten; Dr. Hart certifies that she has the marks of punishment upon her, and that she is in the fourth month of pregnancy; secondly, that Mademoiselle Desein's slaves are hired out at four francs a day, and that sometimes they are obliged to go out to seek employment, and whether they find it or not, they are forced to bring home four francs a day; thirdly, that she is obliged to work on Sunday, and has not enough time allowed her for rest. To these complaints Mademoiselle Desein replies by a variety of countercharges against the slave of theft, swindling, marooning, &c. The Protector called for proof of any one specific charge, and none could be produced. Mademoiselle Desein admitted having punished the slave twice, once before, and once after the law forbidding it had come into operation, but asserted that at that time she did not know her to be pregnant. The result of this case is, that the Protector expresses an opinion that the charges brought by the mistress against the slave are too general to be admitted as evidence of guilt, admonishes the mistress against inflicting any illegal punishment upon her slaves, but does not deem it necessary to send this case to the Procureur-General for prosecution. I must observe that in this case the Protector seems to have ill understood the nature of his functions. He had not to inquire whether the slave had committed theft or any other offence which was imputed to her. If opportunity were to be given to the mistress to prove this, then justice would have demanded an inquiry whether her mistress did really compel her to go forth in search of employment and bring back four francs a day, whether she might find employment or not. If that were so, theft on the part of the slave might be considered as compulsory, and the guilt of it to belong to the mistress. But in truth these were not questions properly before the Protector. If the slave was guilty, there was a proper tribunal before which to bring her. The matter which the Protector had to ascertain was simply whether the mistress had broken the law. Whenever it is ascertained, or even when there is a presumption that the law has been broken, it is no part of the Protector's intended functions that he should exercise a discretion to dispense with the prosecution, nor am I able to discover the reasons by which he was guided in the discretion which he exercised in this particular case.
- Complaint, No. 19. The next complaint is preferred by eight slaves belonging to the *Sieur Dalois*, junior, for insufficiency of food, and being compelled to work on Sundays. Their account of the quantity of food allowed, is said to have been disproved by the testimony of three other slaves, and other evidence. The charge concerning Sunday-labour does not appear to have been met by any thing besides the denial of the party accused; if however one portion of the complaint was incontestably proved to be false, there was certainly a presumption of falsity in the other portion. But I no where find any proof of the malice which the Protector ascribes to the complainants, and I am therefore surprized to find that they were sentenced each to receive 30 stripes of the cane, unless the Assistant-Protector should see fit to diminish the number in the case of any individuals on account of extenuating circumstances which might be known to him. Upon the evidence before me I see no sufficient ground for sanctioning punishments thus severe, and it is impossible for me to approve the Protector's having pronounced such a sentence without an inquiry of his own, by which he should have obtained a personal knowledge that every

every opportunity and assistance had been afforded the complainants, to bring forward evidence on their side and substantiate their complaint.

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Complaint, No. 21.

The complaint of *Cupidon* is that he had quitted the house of his master, Mr. J. J. Amelin, about a fortnight before, because he had been too severely beaten for not doing his work, which he was from sickness unable to do; that 50 stripes were inflicted upon him in the presence of many persons whom he names; and that he had since been attacked with fever; and that he works on Sundays as well as other days, from four in the morning to seven in the evening, without having sufficient time for meals. The medical gentleman who examines him certifies that he bears marks of severe though not recent punishment, and that he is labouring under extreme and general debility which requires immediate hospital treatment. The master sends in through the Assistant-Protector a declaration unsupported by the evidence of a single witness, alleging that he could get no work from the slave, who had repeatedly run away, and had even taken with him six dollars belonging to his owner; he then says, that on the slave being brought back after his last escape he was punished with 30 stripes of the cane, as an example for the other blacks, and to prevent his desertion he was employed in light work about the premises, and made to sleep in a "case," from which however he had again escaped; he adds, that the complaint is false, and made only with a view to annoy him, and he therefore requests that the Protector will, after hearing the evidence of other blacks of the establishment, award to the slaves such punishment as the case may appear to call for. In this case, without resting in any degree upon the statements of the slaves, it was clearly made out, first, that he had received 30 stripes, 25 being the utmost number allowed by law; secondly, that he bore marks of severe punishment; thirdly that he had been made to sleep in a "case." I know not what is meant by this, and I desire that I may be informed; and fourthly, that when he appeared to complain he was in such a state of weakness that he could not stand upon his feet. The complaint was made on the 15th of April; on the 19th of April the declaration of his master in reply to it was received. The slave had been sent to the hospital in the mean time, and there on the 26th of April he died; the hospital Surgeon reported that his death originated in "a depraved habit of body, paralysis, and other constitutional causes, and not from any punishment inflicted on his person." The Protector upon this observes that he informed the master of the event, and thus terminated the investigation of the matter. It is incumbent upon me to express the surprize and displeasure which I have felt in finding that a case, which, as it appears upon this record, inevitably gives rise to the suspicion that inhuman cruelty had been perpetrated, should have been pursued no farther, although there were no apparent grounds for leaving the claims of public justice unsatisfied. The slave had named the witnesses of the punishment which he alleged himself to have received, and the master had admitted the infliction of a punishment exceeding that allowed by the law; moreover the whole of the circumstances, affording as they did, a strong presumption of abuses in the habitation of this slave-owner, demanded immediate and searching inquiry.

The slave *Denis* appears to have been far too severely punished with 25 stripes for having made what the Protector considered to be a frivolous complaint. Complaint, No. 26.

Upon the punishment awarded for the complaints of ten slaves against Madame Ligeran, the same remark might have been made, even had they been as groundless as they were adjudged to be; but in this case the very terms of the defence prove that the slaves had good reason to complain of not having the full time allowed them by law for meals, since the law (article 20) assigns an hour for breakfast, and even the owner's son does not pretend that the custom of the estate was to allow them more than three quarters of an hour. There has thus been upon the showing of the defendant a daily contravention of the law, by each contravention of which the owner had incurred a penalty of not less than 20 s., nor more than 5 l. But no notice whatever is taken of this, while the slaves are punished for a groundless complaint; three, who are called the ringleaders, with 25 lashes each; four others with confinement in the stocks for six nights, and the women with confinement separately for four successive Sundays. The negligence of the Protector in this point is the more reprehensible, as the time allowed to these slaves for meals is said to be the same as that allowed to those on the neighbouring habitations, which would show,

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Complaint, No. 28.

show, if true, that an habitual and extensive violation of the law prevailed in the district. I am to desire that you will direct the Protector to ascertain by the most strict and comprehensive inquiry throughout the colony, whether the law on this head be observed or not.

The complaint of *Augustine* against Mademoiselle Lalolle was brought on the 29th of April, and was, that after having marooned in consequence of ill-treatment, on her return home about a month after (that is about the 29th of May, when the slave-law was in operation,) she received 30 stripes, was chained, and compelled to work night and day, on Sundays as well as other days; that she received a blow in the mouth with a stick which broke one of her teeth, and that she is badly fed. A surgeon certifies that the negress has some slight marks of punishment, apparently of long standing, and a wound in the neck which is the mark of an old ulcer. The mistress, Mademoiselle Lalolle, alleges that the slave has frequently marooned in the last twelve months; denies that she struck her with a stick, but there does not appear to be any denial of the infliction of the 30 stripes, and she expressly admits that she had chained the slave to the house for twelve days before she made her escape. No evidence is produced for the defence, and it is with surprize therefore that I find the case to have been dismissed by the Protector, with a severe reprimand to the slave, and a threat of punishing her severely if she should offend again in like manner.

Complaint, No. 30.

The complaint of the slave *Prosper* against his mistress Mademoiselle Chezal is, that his mistress had ordered the driver to give him 50 stripes, immediately after the infliction of which, her son, Mr. Furcy, gave him 10. He also complains that he is obliged to work on Sundays till three o'clock, and although his mistress promised to pay him for such work she never did. The medical certificate states that there are several marks of punishment upon the slave, but the flogging does not appear to have been unusually severe. The witnesses examined by the Assistant-Protector are René the driver who flogged the slave, and another of the slaves named Benoni who was present. They vary materially in their statement; René says he inflicted fifteen stripes, and Mr. Furcy three or four more. This would not have constituted an illegal punishment. Benoni says that René inflicted only four or five, and Mr. Furcy several; and Mr. Furcy himself states that René inflicted two or three blows, and himself about a dozen. If René's statement that he inflicted 15 be taken in conjunction with Mr. Furcy's admission that he had himself inflicted 12, the inference would be, that a punishment of illegal severity had been inflicted; but however this be, the time and mode of infliction rendered it a misdemeanor under the 17th Article of the Ordinance. The alleged ground of punishment was the insolence of the slave, upon which the punishment followed immediately instead of after a lapse of 24 hours; and again there were not present as witnesses of the punishment, either six slaves, or one free person besides the person by whose order it was inflicted. To the complaint of being compelled to work on Sundays, the evidence of René is, that when the slaves on this habitation are employed on Sunday after seven or eight in the morning, they are always satisfied by ordering double rations, a glass of arrack, salt and other things to be issued to them; Benoni's evidence is to the same effect; but he adds that Prosper was once employed till past noon, and was desirous to be compensated by four francs and a bowl of salt. Mr. Furcy himself says, that if by any accident any one of the slaves happens to be employed beyond "the usual time," (on Sundays,) he is always paid to his satisfaction, and he denies that any reward has been withheld from Prosper to which he was entitled. It can scarcely be doubted from the evidence and admissions in this case that the 14th "and 15th" Articles of the Ordinance No. 43 had not been complied with. It is not pretended that the labour required on the Sunday was indispensable for the preservation of the crop, or for any other work of urgency, in which case alone the hiring of slave-labour on Sundays is allowed. The allegation of the defendant is in general terms that the slaves are paid to their satisfaction when employed on Sundays, he does not mention what amount of wages is paid to them; but the amount fixed and advertised by the Protector is the only payment which would satisfy the provisions of the law. It is clear therefore that the slave Prosper had sufficient reason to complain of illegal punishment, and in all probability also of illegal compulsion to labour on Sunday. It is thus with serious displeasure that I find the result of the proceedings stated as follows:

"The

“The Protector having considered the evidence thus adduced, is of opinion that the complaint of Prosper is altogether groundless, as proved by the declaration of the master and those of his slaves. Prosper has also been proved to have been guilty of much ingratitude towards his mistress, and further to have suborned two negresses to support his false accusation;” I no where find upon the record the proof to which the Protector here alludes; he proceeds, “complainant is therefore ordered by the Protector to receive 30 lashes of the cat-o’-nine-tails on the estate of his mistress, and in the presence of the other blacks of the establishment.” I know not to what to attribute a result so utterly at variance with that to which the law and justice of the case would seem equally to have led.

The case of the complaints made by fifteen slaves belonging to Madame de Bissy affords a striking example of the severity with which the Protector has thought it necessary to punish frivolous complaints. He calls them indeed false as well as frivolous, but of their falsehood I see not the slightest evidence; the only witness is the manager himself, and I do not find that even he is at issue with any of the complainants in any point, unless there be a discrepancy between his statement that two pounds of maize is allowed to each slave, and that of the complainant Arthur that five bowls per week is allowed him. So far from the complaint being false, there seems to have been an adherence to truth, which is the more remarkable, when it is considered to how little the truth amounted. Moreover, had the complaints been false, the falsehood could scarcely be imputed to any other than the three who were selected to make the statement, when the Protector refused to receive it from a greater number. All the fifteen slaves were ordered to be punished each with thirty lashes of the cat-o’-nine-tails. Complaint, No. 31.

On the complaints brought against Mr. Castera by eleven of his slaves, I observe that three of the male slaves are sentenced to twenty-five lashes each, and two of the females to solitary confinement from the Saturday evening until the Monday morning of four successive weeks, for having preferred complaints which the Protector adjudged to be groundless. At the same time that part of the complaint which was found not to be groundless only led to a reprimand and a threat, that if the illegality should be repeated the laws would be put in force. Equal justice would seem to require, that where both parties are found to have been in fault, either both should be pardoned, or both punished. But I have further to observe, that in cases where slaves have had just reason to complain, they should not be very severely visited for exaggeration. It is scarcely to be expected that persons in their uninstructed condition will avoid the error of mixing falsehood with truth, especially when they have before them the example of a faithful statement being severely punished for amounting to too little. Complaint, No. 33.

The female slave *Rasaffe* complained of her mistress, Madame Colligne, for having given her a blow in the mouth, and cut her finger with a knife. To this Madame Colligne answered that she *had* struck the complainant, and it was in consequence of her “extreme impertinence and menacing manner.” She denies having struck her or thought of striking her with a knife, but she had many knives, forks, and spoons, in her hand, and believes that the wound in the slave’s finger must have been occasioned by the girl’s endeavouring in her rage to seize her mistress by the arms. The mistress’s statement of the “impertinent” conduct of *Rasaffe*, and particularly that part, stating her having menaced declarant, is said to have been supported by the evidence of the slaves who had been referred to by *Rasaffe* as having been present; but it is not said that any such support was given to the allegation of the manner in which the wound on the slave’s finger had been occasioned. This complaint of an admitted infraction of the law, attended by circumstances creating a presumption of a still more serious offence than was admitted, leads to a result which appears totally unaccountable. “The Protector dismissed the case, by directing the negress to be confined in the “block” for three days.” Complaint, No. 34.

The complaint of *Rosalie* against the *Sieur Julien* is, that she is “obliged to work harder than her present ill state of health can support; that when she tells her master so, he beats her with a stick, and tells her she shall work; that her sight being defective, she sometimes fails to see clearly that which her master wishes to have done, and that he then throws snuff into her eyes, in short that she is afraid Complaint, No. 35.

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to return to his house." The medical man who examined her, states that she exhibits very slight marks of punishment, but that she is affected with paralysis, and is debilitated to such a degree that he would recommend her being sent to the hospital. It is said that the master of the slave had satisfied the Protector, that that part of the complaint which alleged ill-treatment was altogether groundless; it is not stated how this is reconciled with the marks of punishment which would seem to be conclusive evidence of an infraction of the law. The master promised not to impose any labour on the slave whilst she remained in so weak a state of health, and the Protector sending the slave to the hospital dismissed the complaint.

Complaint, No. 36. The Slave *Francesque* complained that he was beaten with a stick by the driver. It appears by the evidence that he was so beaten, but that the number of blows inflicted was only four, and that the punishment was legal. The complaint therefore might have been properly dismissed, but I see no reason for adjudging it to be false, or for sentencing the complainant to receive 25 lashes. The fact mentioned by the Protector as a reason for this sentence, viz., that the master would have had a right to inflict the 25 lashes by his own authority for the idle and perverse conduct which the Protector considered to have been proved against the slave, appears to me to afford no ground whatever for such proceedings. It is no part of the functions of the Protector even to supply any defect of the masters' legal authority, much less to set them the example of a harsher exercise of it than they themselves see occasion for.

I here close my remarks upon the individual cases recorded in this complaint-book; but I cannot conclude this despatch without some observations upon the general character of the Protector's proceedings in the complaints of slaves. As the recent consolidated Order in Council has taken away the powers of the Protector for the punishment of slaves, it is not necessary for me to caution him against an undue and ill-considered exercise of those powers, and I will only say that his proceedings on those numerous complaints, which he has adjudged to be groundless, have impressed me with a strong sense of the wisdom of the measure by which those officers have been relieved from all penal jurisdiction, over those whom it is their province to protect. But whilst I am thus exempted from the anxiety which I should otherwise have felt to guard against the recurrence of severe and apparently precipitate decisions for the punishment of slaves, I cannot regard with indifference the prospect which in some instances the Protector's proceedings seem to present, of a feeble and inadequate exercise of his functions for bringing to justice those who have committed violations of the slave laws.

I am not without hopes, however, that the future proceedings of the Protector will wear a better appearance. I can make great allowances for the inexperience of Mr. Thomas, and the difficulties which must arise out of the novelty of his office and the prejudices against which he has to contend. I am disposed therefore to regard with indulgence his first proceedings, and to expect from him in future such an effectual performance of his duties as will enable me to accept his continued services in the office of Protector of slaves for Mauritius.

I have, &c. &c.
(signed)

GODERICH.

N^o 4.

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Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B. to
Secretary Sir George Murray, &c. &c. &c.

Correspondence.

(With Thirteen Enclosures.)

Sir,

Mauritius, 25th January 1830.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the half-yearly Report, to 24th December 1829, of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves of this Island. As what I should now have to say, were I to enter upon any observations as to its general purport, would be but nearly a repetition of what I had the honour to give as my opinion in transmitting the Report of the 24th of June preceding, I shall now confine myself to the notice of the points appearing more immediately to require explanation by me.

No. 1.
With 12 Papers of
Reference.

Vide my Despatch
of 3 Sept. 1829.
Vide page 3.

SECTION FIRST.

1.—Upon what appears to myself, as well as to the Protector, the very extraordinary opinion said to have been expressed by the Procureur-General, respecting the powers of the former officer, under the 19th art. of Ordinance No. 43, I would enter into immediate communication with his honour the Chief Judge, but that Mr. Thomas subsequently states the overruling of that opinion by the Court; yet I must still regret that Mr. Thomas did not sooner bring the subject to my knowledge.

Vide page 101,
Protector's Report
(A.)

Vide page 103,
ditto.

2.—Respecting the conduct of M. Lefebure de Marçy, Substitute of the Procureur-General in the Court of Appeal, in the case of the Sieur Denis Lacondray, I have the honour to enclose a copy of my letter to the Chief Judge on that matter,* and a copy of M. de Marçy's reply: I must avow myself incompetent to judge of the value of that gentleman's justification of himself; and it is to be observed that, in forwarding it to me, the Chief Judge does not give his opinion; probably from my not having directly asked it, or perhaps from the extreme difficulty of his situation, constituted as his courts, and the officers belonging to them, are.

Vide page 101,
para. (B.)

No. 2.
* A copy of the sen-
tence of the Court.

The Procureur-General, M. Foisy, has returned no answer to the letter addressed to him by the Chief Judge; thus, by a not unfair inference, leaving it to be concluded that he finds himself in error, but is unwilling to avow it.

SECTION SECOND.

3.—The appeal (in the case of M. Daruty) was stayed by me, on account of the previous failure of an exactly similar one, and which a declaratory Ordinance was then framing to prevent a recurrence of; this being within Mr. Thomas's own knowledge, it is a pity that he did not himself state it.

Vide page 102, (C.)
Vide Ordinance
No. 53, transmitted
with Despatch
12 Oct. 1829.
Vide Paper No. 676,
Sess. 1830, p. 190.

4.—I believe that the proposal of trying *Maréchal*, not Marshal, under the "Lettres Patentes," (v. case 91, in the Appendix) was well meant; but I will submit to the Chief Judge, if it will not be better that the prosecution should be under the 43d or Slave Melioration Ordinance.

Vide page 102, (D.)

On the feeling which is, I trust generally, entertained in the colony respecting this outrageous case, I have the honour to enclose a copy of an address to me from a most respectable portion of slave proprietors, the Agricultural Society of the district of River "du Rempart."

No 3.

5.—It seems strange that, in mentioning the difficulty of proving to conviction under the 19th article of Ordinance 43, the Protector should have omitted to notice the 1st article of Ordinance No. 53, which was framed on purpose to meet that difficulty.

Vide page 103, (E.)
Vide my Despatch,
12 Oct. 1829.
Vide Paper 676,
Sess. 1830, p. 190.

6.—When, under the head of Criminal Actions against Slaves, the Protector complains of the irregular notice given to him, it is to be observed that the 8th art.
of
262.

Vide page 103, (F.)

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of Ordinance No. 43 particularly applies to that case, as does the corresponding article in the Trinidad Order in Council; the oversight, he seemingly with reason points out, most probably arose from the provision he wishes for *not* being to be found in that our model; and it can be remedied on the final correct publication of our Slave Melioration Ordinance, which will naturally attend the receipt of your orders thereon; but in the meantime I should think that special notice being given of each neglect or informality in either case, on the part of the law officers, as they occur, and submitted to the Chief Judge, would soon bring the former into a more regular discharge of their duties, in regard of the Protector and his office.

SAVING BANK.

Vide page 108, (G.) 7.—I have understood that the conduct of the gentleman alluded to, arose more from jealousy of his nephew's interference with his slaves, than from a spirit of opposition to the Ordinance; and I believe the money in question still remains in the bank, forming the chief part of its funds.

CHAIN ORDINANCE.

Vide page 108, (H.) 8.—What the Protector says of the insufficiency of Ordinance No. 51, to meet what was judged to want correction in Ordinance No. 20, is matter of great mortification to me; I regret to learn that such evasion of the law continues to be attempted, that there should be occasion to add another word to what had been already, as we thought, so amply discussed here, and has, even since the publication of that Ordinance, been subject of correspondence between this local Government and your Department; and I cannot but feel concerned that, when revising Ordinance No. 20, on the suggestion of both the Commissary-General of Police and the Protector of Slaves, the latter did not put me in possession of every matter that required amendment.

*Vide also my
Despatch,
12 Oct. 1829.
Vide Paper 676,
Sess. 1830, p. 190.*

It would have been as easy to interdict, by name, collars with two branches or one, as with three; for that they were deemed to be equally objectionable and illegal, was evinced by the Commissary-General of Police not sending any samples of them for the inspection of myself and Council, along with the other irons, on which we wished to form a judgment, before we altered Ordinance No. 20, and which was the more necessary, as in the two versions of that Ordinance, there were designations in one language, to which we could find nothing of correct interpretation in the other.

As to the duration of the punishment of chains, Ordinance No. 51 only regulates, it is true, in cases of their increased weight; but if the application of the legal weight was not thought sufficiently confined to 24 hours, or after that liable to record in the Punishment Book, (see 2d para. of art. 17 of Ordinance 43,) as imprisonment and the stocks are, then would have been the time to remedy the doubt:—without, however, the assistance of a French lawyer, anxious to sift out and amend the faults of the former system, while the gentleman appointed Protector and Guardian of Slaves (though arrived in the island before the publication of the Ordinance for the melioration of the condition of the Slaves) was not able to afford, from previous experience, any suggestions on the subject of its drawing up, the Ordinance was altogether a matter of much greater difficulty than is easily to be conceived.

Vide page 108. I cannot conclude these observations more satisfactorily to myself, than by anticipating the pleasure which it will be I am sure to you, Sir, to learn the paucity of crime, and naturally of punishment, which the Protector reports upon, in the detailed records of forty-eight of the chief estates of the Island; accompanied by the fact, that from that number complaints have only been preferred to him from *four*.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(signed) *Charles Colville.*

(Enclosure, No. 1.)

THE REPORT of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves for the Island of the Mauritius and its Dependencies, for the half year ending 24th December 1829.—(With 12 Papers of Reference.)

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

THE time fixed by the Ordinance No. 43 for the second periodical Report of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves having arrived, he has the honour of presenting to his Excellency the Governor the following statement of his proceedings in execution of the duties of his office during the last six months.

In order to preserve continuity of information, it is expedient that the several subjects spoken of in the last Report, whose results could not then be known, should have precedence of all other matter in the present, with a view to show how they have terminated; and they will therefore be classed under

SECTION FIRST.

The first of these that claims attention is the opposition of the planters to the measure contemplated by the Protector on first assuming office, for the purpose of ensuring an efficient discharge of his duties with due regard to the interest of both master and slave.

The consequences apprehended from it by the planters have proved altogether groundless; for instead of the ruin and desolation they predicted, the majority of the most influential are so convinced of the benefit that would have accrued from it, that the Protector is now solicited on all sides to visit, inspect and interrogate the slaves on their several plantations; and in some cases, where, for want of previous explanation, insubordination bordering upon mutiny had shown itself, the Protector's visit to call the slaves back to a sense of their duty has been hailed with satisfaction by both parties.

The next subject having reference to the Protector's last Report is that of four cases of the nine denounced for prosecution against owners of slaves, for illegal punishments, which had not then been brought before the Courts for decision.

The first is the *Ministère Public v. Denis Lacondray* and his daughter, Lisé Letord, for causing excessive punishment to be inflicted on a girl 10 years old, named Céline, the particulars of which will be found in the Appendix to the last Report, No. 22.

This case excited much attention, as it involved the question of the efficiency of the provisions of the 19th article of the Ordinance No. 43, to convict, under certain circumstances, masters accused of illegally punishing their slaves. The only evidence the Protector could produce was the girl's declaration, the lacerated state of her person when she presented herself at his office, as certified by a surgeon, and the testimony of a slave woman to whom she had previously exhibited herself.

When the case was called on in the Court of First Instance, the *procès verbal* containing the complaint, the answer to it, and the investigation instituted by the Protector, were read by the registrar of the court. The *Ministère Public* then stated, that as there was no other proof to produce than the girl's simple declaration, he should move that the defendants be called upon to make the oath required by the 19th article of the Ordinance No. 43. The girl was then asked by the Judge whether she persisted in declaring that she had been flogged by order of Denis Lacondray; and upon her answering in the affirmative, the Judge, without any inquiry into the circumstances of the case, said, that as the charge was supported solely by the declaration of the girl, he should, according to the tenor of the Ordinance, call upon the defendants severally to make oath that the slave had not been flogged by or with the knowledge or consent of either of them: and the defendants having made oath before the Court to that effect, the Judge pronounced the following decision:

"Considering that it has been certified by Dr. Hart, that the negress Céline bore upon her person marks of recent punishment, but notwithstanding the inquiry instituted by the Protector and Guardian of Slaves, it has not been possible to procure any other proof than the simple declaration of the said negress, that she was flogged by order of Lacondray; considering that in such a case the 19th Article of Ordinance No. 43 imposes upon the master the proof upon oath that the punishment of which the slave bears marks was not inflicted by him, or with his knowledge or consent; considering also that Lacondray and the woman Lisé Letord were accordingly called upon to make, and did respectively make oath to that effect in open court:—from these motives giving effect to the oath of the said Lacondray and Lisé Letord upon its merits, we do, conformably to the conclusions of the *Ministère Public*, acquit them of the charge brought against them, without costs."

From the above judgment an appeal was made to the higher tribunal, on the grounds of a non-observance of the whole of the enactment of the 19th article of the Ordinance No. 43, which requires that, previous to admitting the owner to the oath of exculpation, the slave shall be duly and carefully examined by the Court, touching all the circumstances which attended such unlawful chastisement. The cause came on for hearing in the Court of Appeal on the 1st of September, and was supported by the *Procureur-General*, who, in his conclusions, prayed the Court to annul the judgment of the Court below, as having been irregularly given, without previously observing the formalities and conditions required by the said 19th article of the Ordinance No. 43, the nullity to apply solely in support of the law, without prejudice to the rights of the parties, as far as concerns the effect and execution of the

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the said judgment, and without costs. The opposite counsel contended, that the case having been entirely disposed of by the sentence of the Court of First Instance, the appeal was not tenable, and therefore prayed the Court to dismiss the same, and to confirm the sentence already given, with costs; upon which the Court of Appeal pronounced the following judgment:

" Considering that the 19th article of the Ordinance in Council of the 7th February 1829, No. 43, prescribes, as a condition to be observed previous to administering the oath directed to be taken by the master, that the slave, complainant, appear in court in person, and undergo the examination required by the said article :

" Considering, however, that in the present case, contrary to the provisions of the said article, and without their having been invoked by the Ministère Public, or ordered by the Judge, the oath was administered to the accused, at the request even of the Ministère Public, whence resulted an acquiescence in the acquittal: Considering also that the appeal is grounded solely upon the irregularities which have vitiated the proceedings:—for these reasons the Court declares the sentence of the 31st July last irregularly given, and therefore null and void, as far only as regards the omission and non-observance of the formalities and conditions prescribed by the 19th article of the said Ordinance No. 43. The remainder of the said sentence to be carried into effect, as far as concerns the acquittal of the accused, without costs.

(signed) " E. B. Blackburn,
et E. Canet."

It will be seen by this judgment, that the nullity of the sentence of the Court of First Instance was applied to the law, and not to the fact, so that the prosecution derived no benefit from the appeal; on the contrary, the acquittal of the accused parties was confirmed without the observance in either Court of the formalities required by the law. Had the case been duly gone into in the Court of First Instance, or subsequently in the Court of Appeal, and the slave duly and carefully examined, conformably to the Ordinance above mentioned, a different result might perhaps have taken place, since, in addition to the child's declaration, and the lacerated state of her person when she preferred her complaint, there were many circumstances connected with the case tending to inculpate the male defendant, who is now under prosecution for another offence, at the suit of one of his neighbours, whose slave he maltreated when in the last stage of pregnancy.

The next case is that of the Ministère Public *v.* the Widow Sturbel, for causing excessive punishment to be inflicted on a negress named Adeline, and a boy named Pierre Louis, her slaves, the nature of which offence is stated in the Appendix to the last Report, complaint No. 32.

This case was heard in the Court of First Instance on the 31st July, and judgment suffered to go by default. The substitute of the Procureur-General prayed for a conviction in the penalty of 40*l.* for each offence, but the Court condemned defendant in 25*l.* sterling for each, making 50*l.* in the whole, with costs of suit.

The next, and last case, being two comprised in one, is that of the Ministère Public *v.* Jⁿ Bap^{te} Sturbel, for having illegally punished his slaves, named Romeo and Télémaque, with 40 lashes, being a greater number than is allowed by law, and for having inflicted the same with a cart whip, an instrument specially forbidden, thus incurring two penalties in each case. The nature of this complaint is stated at length in the Appendix to the last Report, complaint No. 39.

On the 24th July this case was tried in the Court of First Instance, and as both complaints were included in one procès verbal, separate actions could not be brought; but the Ministère Public, in addressing the Court, contended that the defendant had rendered himself equally liable to two several penalties in the case of each individual punished, and accordingly prayed the Court to convict him in a penalty of 20*l.* for each, or 80*l.* in the whole, with costs of suit.

The counsel for the defendant argued, on the other hand, that in any case there could be but one penalty, there having been but one offence: that it was doubtful how far Télémaque's case could be entertained at all, as he had made no complaint; but that even admitting that it could, there was no separate penalty enacted, 1st. for exceeding the number of stripes, and, 2d. for inflicting them with an illegal instrument: that the aggravating conduct of these slaves was such as to occasion great pecuniary loss to the master; and therefore he prayed the Court to dismiss the complaint with costs, or at all events to regard the offence as one simple contravention.

The Ministère Public having replied, the Court came to the following decision:

" Considering that this fact shows that M. Sturbel has contravened the Ordinance in Council No. 43:

" Considering that nothing in that Ordinance prescribes or even implies a subdivision of offences and an increase of penalties, in cases where illegal punishments have been inflicted at one and the same time on several slaves, the charges brought against the defendant cannot be viewed as two separate offences, that is to say, one for having inflicted a greater number of stripes, and the other for inflicting them with a forbidden instrument:

" Considering that this principle is sanctioned by all writers on criminal jurisprudence, that when two offences of the same nature are committed at one and the same time, they ought to be considered as one, and punishable by one penalty only; and that in such case the

the penalty may only be increased for a second offence, that second offence being viewed as an aggravation of the first :

“ Considering that from such subdivision of offences and augmentation of penalties an abuse might arise inconsistent with usage, as well as with equity ; that for repressing an offence of a slight nature, but repeated at one and the same time, a Judge might be exposed to exceed the maximum of the penalty denounced against such offence, and to overstep the bounds of the law, however grave the circumstances attending the crime might be :

“ For these reasons the Court recognizes the defendant as guilty,

“ 1st. Of having caused to be inflicted on two of his slaves a number of lashes exceeding that allowed by law.

“ 2d. Of having used for that purpose an instrument the use of which is forbidden.

“ And the Court, in consequence of the enactments of the 17th and 29th articles of the Ordinance in Council, No. 43, of the 7th February 1829, condemns the defendant, Jean Baptiste Sturbel, in the penalty of 50*l.* sterling and costs, one half as a reparation for the first of the said offences, and the other half for that of the second.

(signed) “ *B. Colin.*”

The above judgment was appealed from at the instance of the Ministère Public ; but it appears that, from an oversight of either the Ministère Public or his principal, the Procureur-general, the time limited by law for lodging appeals was suffered to elapse ; therefore the counsel for the defendant opposed the admission of such appeal, not only on the above grounds, but also for that the Ministère Public in the Court of First Instance had acquiesced in the sentence given, by serving a copy of the judgment on the defendant's solicitor. The question was tried in the Court of Appeal on the 14th August, when the following decision was given :

“ Considering, upon the opposition made by the Sieur Sturbel, that it is an incontestable rule that an acquiescence given to a sentence by the Substitute of the Procureur-general, or the person performing the duties of that officer in the tribunal of First Instance, cannot bind the Procureur-general of the Court to which an appeal lies from the tribunal that pronounced the first judgment. That even if such acquiescence had been followed by a premature execution of the sentence during the interval allowed to the Procureur-general to lodge his appeal, the right of this magistrate cannot be lost or changed by the act of his subordinate officer, and that the right of appeal is always open to him within the period fixed by law, provided he has not given his personal acquiescence :

“ Considering, however that the appeal, supported as far as need be, at the bar of the Court by the Procureur-general, cannot be admitted, from not having been made within the time fixed by the decree of the 4^e Vendemaire of the year 13 :

“ Considering, in so much as concerns the appeal of the substitute of the Procureur-general in the Court of First Instance, that even if the appeal had been lodged within the time specified in the 64th, 65th and 66th articles of the said decree ; and also that on a general principle this magistrate cannot shorten the period, nor renounce the rights which the law has conferred upon him, it is nevertheless evident, that having served on the defendant notice of judgment, calling upon him at the same time to comply with the terms thereof, he might deprive the defendant of the right to appeal by default on his (the Ministère Public's) part to notify his appeal, which in the present case and in equity became indispensable :

“ For these reasons the Court declares inadmissible the appeal made by the Ministère Public, without costs.”

It may be here remarked, that in this, as well as in many other instances, no notice of the appeal, nor of the day fixed for hearing it, was given to the Protector ; he was consequently deprived of the opportunity of attending in court to hear it argued ; but when it did come to his knowledge several days after, he heard with regret that the Procureur-general had, in the course of his argument, given it as his opinion, that the Protector can take cognizance of no case of ill treatment where the slave does not present himself before him to complain. If this be the interpretation to be given to the 19th article of the Ordinance No. 43, there is no question but that many delinquents will escape punishment, nor can a better proof of this be given than the very case which gave rise to this appeal ; for there the slave Télémaque made no complaint whatever to the Protector, to whose knowledge the circumstance of his having been illegally punished came accidentally by the interrogation of Télémaque, and the admission of his master in the investigation of the case of Romeo. Besides, such an opinion will be cited as authority whenever it may suit ; and it is a fact, that in a subsequent case, which will be related in the second section of this Report, it was so cited by counsel in open court upon the authority of the Procureur-general.

*Vide Remark
in the Governor's
Despatch (A.)*

*Vide Remarks
in the Governor's
Despatch (B.)*

In bringing this section of his Report to a close, it may be permitted the Protector to advert to the observations contained in his last Report on the subject of the libellous letter addressed to him by the Sieur Denis Lacondray, the same who was prosecuted for illegally punishing the negress Céline, as mentioned in the preceding pages. He cannot do this better than by referring to the letter which he had the honour of addressing to the Governor's private Secretary on the 19th October last, as well as to the opinion of the acting King's Advocate, from which it will be seen that a prosecution was instituted against Lacondray for the libel in question, by the Solicitor Adjoint of the Procureur-general, in the Court of First Instance. That the cause was tried, the libel proved, and the defendant sentenced to 15 days imprisonment, and a fine of 300 livres. That an appeal was made from that sentence

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tence by the defendant. That a special audience was obtained for hearing the cause in the Court of Appeal, without notice thereof being given to the Protector as the party libelled. That the Procureur-general, whose special duty it was to plead the cause as counsel for the Crown, or, as it is termed in French legal phraseology, "la Partie Publique," refused to do so, giving as a reason for such refusal, "that the Protector had taken the liberty (s'est permis) to report his conduct to Government." That the duty of supporting the appeal devolved upon a M. De Marçy, the substitute of the Procureur-general in the Court of Appeal. That M. De Marçy did not do his duty in pleading the cause; first, in not having conferred with his colleague, the Substitute Adjoint, with reference to the appeal made also by the latter in aggravation of penalty, and then abandoning such appeal without stating his reason for so doing; secondly, by not supporting the appeal, by stating to the Court the merits of the case, but showing such marked reluctance to do his duty, that it was not until asked by the Court whether he had any observations to make, that he rose and said, "I have only to beg the Court to confirm the sentence of the Court of First Instance;" thus leaving the Court to decide upon the *ex parte* statement of defendant's counsel, and there is every reason to believe the Court decided under an impression that the public prosecutor, De Marçy, had abandoned the cause. That the cause was thus brought on, hurried through the Court in a special audience, the judgment of the Court below rescinded, and the defendant acquitted, without any notification whatever being given to the Protector of such proceedings, who heard of them afterwards by mere accident.

That a case having been submitted, at the Governor's suggestion, to the acting King's Advocate, on these extraordinary proceedings, that officer gave his opinion as follows:—

" Mon opinion est donc que M. Lefebvre De Marçy a porté beaucoup de negligence et d'insouciance dans l'affaire dont il s'agit, et sa conduite est certainement blamable.

" Quant à la postille mise par le Procureur-général au bas de la requête, elle est au moins très déplacée, si elle n'est pas insultante pour votre caractère. Il n'est pas tenu, comme le sont les Juges, de donner les motifs pour lesquels il s'abstient de connaitre d'une affaire, il n'y avait donc pas de nécessité à le faire ici. D'ailleurs il est inconvenant de consigner ainsi dans les acts publiques des motifs de recrimination au sujet de rapports officiels qui restent secrets jusqu'à ce qu'il convienne au Gouvernement de les publier. Enfin, l'expression 's'est permis' ne s'emploie jamais qu'en terme de mépris de la part d'un supérieur vis-à-vis son inférieur, et me semble avoir tous les caractères d'une offense."

The Protector forbears making any comment on these proceedings, being well assured they will receive from his Excellency the Governor the attention they may appear to call for, with a view to secure hereafter the immunity attaching to his office as a magistrate, and which is essential to an upright and independent discharge of duties that expose him daily to the impatience of those slave owners whose ill treatment of their slaves mark them out as objects for prosecution.

The various subjects forming the first Section of this Report having been gone through, the Protector will now proceed to relate those intended to comprise the

SECOND SECTION.

HE has therefore the honour to submit to his Excellency the Governor the accompanying document, No. 1, being an Abstract of Complaints made by Slaves against their Owners, from the 24th June last to the present date. To this Abstract is annexed an Appendix, in which the nature of each complaint, and the result of the inquiry instituted therein by the Protector, are amply detailed. The total number comprises 93 cases, being a proportional increase of seven over the last Report. Of these, 28 have been denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution, 33 were found to be false and malicious, (some very gravely so), and 32 were of a nature that only called for admonition and reprimand to either the master or slave, and in some cases to both. In addition to the 28 cases denounced for prosecution, there are four others, which not having originated in complaints, but in other infractions of the Ordinance, are not mentioned in the Appendix, but are included in the Abstract, No. 2, intitled, "A List of Cases transmitted to the Procureur-general for Prosecution." On reference to this list it will be found, that of the cases so denounced, 12 have been prosecuted to conviction, and the parties fined in various penalties; 18 are still pending in the Court of First Instance. One was terminated by the proceedings being stayed by order of his Excellency the Governor, it being an action for not keeping a punishment register-book, and another by the owner of the slave being acquitted of the charge brought against him. Of the 12 cases in which convictions have been obtained, there are none that call for remark; but among those still pending in court, there is one of so grave a nature, that the Protector feels it to be his duty to point it out to his Excellency's particular attention. It is that connected with the complaint No. 91 in the Appendix, involving a charge of barbarous and inhuman treatment against the master, amounting to torture and mutilation. The party is now under criminal prosecution for the offence; not, however, as an infraction of the Ordinance No. 43, of the 7th February last, but under the 19th and 37th Articles of the "Lettres Patentes" of 1723.

The case alluded to, in which an acquittal of the owner took place, is the complaint in the Appendix, No. 5, brought by the slave Eugène against his master Pierre Compty, a free man of colour, residing at Port Louis, for cruel treatment. The cause was tried in the Court of First Instance, on the 21st of August last, when defendant's counsel moved for a nonsuit, on the grounds that the slave himself had made no complaint to the Protector, who,

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who, in consequence of information from the police, caused the slave to be interrogated at the Civil Hospital; whereas by the 19th article of the Ordinance No. 43, the Protector can take cognizance of no complaint where the slave shall not present himself to the Protector for that purpose; and he supported his argument by quoting the opinion given to that effect by the Procureur-general, in the case of Sturbel, in the Court of Appeal. The Ministère Public having been heard in reply, the Court overruled the objection, and the cause proceeded. The procès verbal of the complaint having been read, the slave was brought into court and examined, when he confirmed all he had previously declared. The master being then interrogated, admitted that he had reproached the slave for tardiness in bringing his breakfast, and that he gave him a push, by which the slave fell against a provision barrel, but he denied the charge of having beaten him in the manner stated by complainant. The oath of exculpation was then tendered to defendant, which being taken, the Court declared, that although the slave bore upon his face and arms marks of blows, there being no other evidence than the slave's declaration, and the accused having sworn that such marks were not inflicted by him, or by his order, or with his knowledge or consent, the defendant must be acquitted. The pleadings in this case afford an instance of the impression made by the opinion given by the Procureur-general in the case of Romec and Télémaque v. Sturbel, as quoted in section the first; and the decision shows how difficult it is to convict, even under such strong circumstantial evidence as the wounds exhibited on the person of the slave, and the admission of the master that he had committed an assault upon him, but not to the extent stated. Previous to the case being brought into court, such was the anxiety of the defendant to arrest its progress, that he made several applications to the Protector to pay any reasonable penalty he might choose to inflict. It was not, however, thought advisable to appeal from this decision; for, independent of what was stated to be the opinion of the Procureur-general, the judgment given by the Court of Appeal, in the case of Céline v. Lacondray, already quoted, held out no hope of advantage from such a measure.

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It has been already stated, that several of the complaints designated as false and malicious, partook of a grave character. Among the most prominent, are those numbered 16, 48, 59, 70 and 84, which were marked, more or less, by flagrant acts of insubordination tending to disorder and mutiny, and which it became essentially necessary to suppress by various degrees of punishment, according to the extent of crime; and in one instance, No. 70, the highest punishment (of 50 stripes) which the law allows the Protector to inflict was resorted to. The case No. 59 is that of the slave René, a commandeur on the plantation "Bel Ombre," belonging to Charles Telfair, esq., but now farmed to Mr. Fred. D'Emeré. René presented himself at the Protector's office, as delegated by the entire band of slaves on the estate to make known their grievance; the Protector therefore deemed it prudent to repair to "Bel Ombre," and investigate the complaint in person, with the aid of the Assistant Protector of the district, taking along with him the pretended delegate René: how true his story turned out will be seen on reference to the detail given of the complaint in the Appendix. This visit to Bel Ombre afforded the Protector an opportunity of possessing himself of information relative to the treatment and accommodation of the slaves on this estate, and it appeared to him, that so far as the nature and arrangement of the buildings, such as the hospital, the blacks' huts, their locality, and their outward cleanly appearance, could contribute to the comfort of the slaves, the estate of "Bel Ombre" is not surpassed by any other in the colony.

The complaint No. 16 is another of those cases where the personal attendance of the Protector was required at the plantation; as is also that of No. 81. In the former case, 31 of the slaves quitted the estate in a band; and in the latter, 69; the particulars of the investigations will be found on reference to the Appendix: the Protector has therefore only to add, that in both, but particularly in the last case, the insubordination and conspiracy that existed could not be overlooked.

Independent of the complaints reported in the Abstracts already referred to, there are many others in which the Protector's interference continues to be daily called for on behalf of domestic slaves residing in Port Louis. These generally arise from petty domestic squabbles, inebriety and libertinism; and being of a nature too trifling, and in many instances not fit to be recorded, are at once settled to the satisfaction of both parties.

CRIMINAL ACTIONS AGAINST SLAVES.

List No. 3.—The Protector has not been called upon since his last Report to act on behalf of any slave prosecuted for criminal offences in the courts of justice, except in one instance, which will be noticed at the conclusion of this paragraph; but he has regularly attended the trials there, unless when occasionally prevented by indispensable official business, or (as is most frequently the case) when he has had no notice of such trials given to him.

On referring to the above-mentioned List, under the head "Remarks," the inattention of the greffiers of the courts to the provisions of the 8th article of the Ordinance No. 43, will be apparent. In some cases the notifications are confined to that of the arrest of the party; in others, simply to a notice of trial served a few hours before it takes place, and often to notice of judgment only, without notice of trial or any other previous information, and this too sent three or four months after it has been declared; so that if an occasion called for the exercise of the duty imposed upon the Protector by the said 8th article, namely, "to follow up process and other proceedings in the said actions, prosecutions and

suits,

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suits, for and in the name of the slave, as his Protector," the chances are that the occasion might pass without his knowing that it had ever occurred.

There appears also to have been some oversight in the legislative intention of this article, for as it is now worded, the notice which it directs to be given to the Protector is limited to cases "wherein the slave shall be accused of any offence or crime punishable by death, transportation or peines afflictives, or wherein any question shall arise as to the right any slave may have to certain property, such as a slave is competent to purchase or possess;" thus omitting the most essential cases in which such notices are required, namely, those denounced by the Protector "ex officio," whether of a criminal or civil nature, for and on behalf of any slave; and instances have occurred wherein cases so denounced by the Protector to the Procureur-general, for the ill-treatment of slaves, have been brought before the court, postponed, and at last finally disposed of, without any notice whatever of the same being given to the Protector. The charge alluded to at the commencement of this paragraph, was that of the slave Miguel, belonging to S^r La Fauche. He was accused of having drawn a knife at one of Mr. Gaillardon's clerks, and using menacing and opprobrious language. As it was thought there were some palliating circumstances in his favour, the Protector retained counsel to defend him, and the cause was heard on the 18th instant; when, after every fair exertion on his behalf, he was sentenced to one month's imprisonment in chains, and 30 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails.

ENFRANCHISEMENTS.

THE movement in this branch of the Protector's duties has been very active for the last six months, as is shown by the accompanying Abstracts, No. 4 and No. 5; the first containing the names and other particulars of those slaves to whom definitive acts of manumission have been delivered since the 24th of June last, and the second, a list of those who are now in legal progress of manumission.

On reference to the former, it will be seen that 280 individuals have been admitted into a state of freedom within the period specified; of which, 188 by virtue of testamentary bequests and deeds of gift, 49 by purchase, 41 by parental affection, one by Government, and one in consideration of three years subsequent servitude: and the latter document shows that there are 159 more in legal progress of enfranchisement; some of these are in arrear from the negligence of the parties themselves; others, in consequence of opposition on the part of creditors; but by far the greater number have passed through those formalities which, by the Ordinance, No. 53, of the 7th October last, made to explain and amend that of the 7th February, No. 43, entitle the parties to freedom in bar of any subsequent opposition; and here it may be observed that the above-mentioned explanatory Ordinance has not only had the effect of lessening, by reducing to a mere trifle, the expenses attendant on manumission, but has essentially facilitated their progress, by removing the impediment consequent upon an attempt on the part of the Procureur-general to impose of his own accord upon enfranchisements the conditions of an old colonial law, which, in common with all other anterior laws and regulations relating to manumissions, was by the Ordinance No. 43 declared to be abrogated and repealed.

In the Protector's last Report under this head, allusion is made to the fraudulent detention in slavery of individuals entitled to their freedom by testamentary donation, or in right of their parents, to whom it had been bequeathed. After a patient investigation, and the greatest difficulty in obtaining evidence, the Protector has been enabled to grapple with two of these cases, one of which is now in court, and an action will be commenced in the other immediately after the present vacation. The first is against a M. Lacourtaudiere, executor and residuary legatee of the late M. Toulon, who by his will, dated 26 Nivose, in the fourth year of the French Republic, bequeathed to his freedman "Pyrame," in acknowledgment of his faithful services, his negress, named Antonique, (who was Pyrame's wife), and her children, with a request "that he would enfranchise them as soon as he could at his own expense."

In about a year after M. Toulon's decease, Pyrame died also, intestate, and without having taken any measures for enfranchising Antonique and her children; and in consequence of having made no will, the curateur of intestate estates administered to his property. In the seventh year of the Republic, a law suit took place between Lacourtaudiere and the several legatees named in M. Toulon's will, and by the judgment given therein, the several legacies (which had been already paid) were made to revert to the testator's estate. But Antonique and her children not being parties to that cause, either by themselves or by any one on their behalf, that judgment could not legally apply to them, nor could they be considered as moveable property; for although they were not actually manumitted, they were placed in a state of manumission by M. Toulon's will. Notwithstanding, that judgment was made subservient to the seizure of Antonique and her children, who were given up to Lacourtaudiere by the curateur of intestate estates, and settled as slaves upon his plantation. Antonique died in slavery at M. Lacourtaudieres, leaving 10 children; three of these died also in his service, four were sold by him, and are since dead, and three are still alive, with 14 grandchildren, 11 of whom became free in right of their mothers, who were married to free men. The case was brought before the Court of First Instance on the 11th November, upon a claim for the freedom of the three children and three grandchildren of Antonique, as well as for their wages, at 30 cents per diem, for each, from the date of seizure to the present day; and for the wages of those that were sold and have died, from the same period, until the day of their deaths. After the advocates on both sides had been heard, the Sub-

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stitute of the Procureur-general, whose business it is to sum up and lay before the Court his view of the subject, came to conclusions decidedly unfavourable to the claim, declaring if matters of this sort were to be raked up after so great a lapse of time, it might shake all the property of the colony, which might be attacked upon the slightest pretext, and without any real foundation. The Judge said he would give his judgment on a future day, but which has not yet been done.

The next case of this description is against the heirs of the late M. Le Sur, and is as follows :

In the year 1801 a M. Morin, by his last will and testament, bequeathed to his slave Marceline her liberty, directing that the expenses of her manumission should be paid out of his estate by his executor, M. Le Sur.

A short time after her master's death, she mentioned the subject to M. Le Sur, who replied that it were needless to incur the heavy expense of manumission, but that she might remain at his house as a free woman, with liberty to work for herself, and her food should be found her for any service she might render his family.

In this state she remained until the year 1828, when she was enfranchised, not however by virtue of her master's will, but by a free man, with whom she cohabited, and who paid to M. Le Sur's son (the father being dead) the sum of \$.300 for her freedom; and when she ventured to state her former claims, M. Le Sur told her that M. Morin, her late master, had no right to bequeath to her her freedom, because he had never paid her value to M. Le Sur, sen., whose property she originally was.

The same testator, M. Morin, bequeathed the service of another of his slaves named Cimaté (then 18 years of age), to a M. Wattier for seven years, the said slave to be by him enfranchised at the end of that term, provided the said Wattier should be satisfied with his conduct. At the end of four years Wattier returned to France, leaving the slave with a free woman of colour, named Jaquette, his concubine. The slave remained in her service four months, and was then by some means or other transferred to M. Le Sur (Morin's executor), in whose service and in that of his family he has ever since remained without any notice whatever being taken of his right to freedom; on the contrary, he has always been treated as a slave, and has paid them \$.8 per month for the privilege of working for his own account in his calling as a fisherman. A short time ago all the slaves of the late M. and M^{me} Le Sur were advertised for sale, and Cimaté was told, that out of consideration for his long services, he would be permitted to purchase his own freedom if he could raise a little money. He accordingly offered to pay for it \$.200, which were accepted and means therefore taken for his enfranchisement, and it was in this stage of the business that it came to the Protector's knowledge, who, as has been already observed, is about to institute against the heirs of M. Le Sur, proceedings on behalf of the slave Cimaté, and of the negress Marceline.

In addition to the preceding, there are the following cases in which actions have been brought by the Protector on behalf of slaves claiming their liberty; viz.

1st. On behalf of Marion Saladin, her children, and her grand-children (in all thirteen persons), claiming their freedom under instructions left by Madame Barillon with her agent, to permit the said Marion Saladin, and the only three children she then had, to go wherever it best suited them to work for their own account, until they should be able to pay \$.1,000 for their manumission, and then to free them, without limiting the time.

This case was first mooted during the governorship of Sir Lowry Cole, and was brought into court, and lost on account of having been taken up on grounds that could not be sustained, namely, that she, Marion Saladin, was born free.

The action in its present shape was commenced by the Protector, on the faith of a document admitted in the pleadings in the late cause, namely, a declaration made by the agent, wherein he admits that Madame Barillon did give verbal authority to manumit Marion and her then children, on the conditions specified. It came on for hearing in the Court of First Instance on the 30th November, when after counsel had been heard on both sides, and the Substitute of the Procureur-general in his conclusions, the Court decided as follows :

" Considering that this case does not come within the meaning of the 32d article of the Ordinance No. 43, paragraph 17 :

" Considering that Madame Barillon, in giving to these slaves permission verbally to work until they should be able to buy their own freedom at the price of \$.1,000, did not actually grant to them the benefit of liberty, but solely gave to them the means of obtaining it one day or other :

" Considering that this beneficent act, the efficacy of which depended entirely upon Marion Saladin, could not extricate her from slavery until she had fulfilled the condition imposed upon her :

" Considering that Marion has not only omitted to avail herself of her mistress's liberal offer, but has rendered herself altogether unworthy of it, in endeavouring, by an act of ingratitude and calumny to obtain her freedom, under pretext that she was born free :

" Considering that it is in vain for Marion to pretend thus late in the day that her mistress did not limit any time for the fulfilment of the condition imposed upon her; for, in the first place, one of her children had been already sold for \$.300 in default of such non-fulfilment; and, in the next place, the judgment given in the late cause brought her back definitively under the control of her mistress :

" Considering, that if Marion even could be considered as having still a right to claim the benefit

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benefit of her mistress's benevolent disposition, to decree the same to her now, after such conduct as she has been guilty of, would be to offer a reward for the violation of the most sacred duties, and thus hold out a most pernicious example :

" Considering, finally, that the offer made by Marion of \$.700, is altogether insufficient to cover the loss sustained by Madame Barillon, in having been deprived of her slaves and of the fruits of their labour for near 20 years, independent of public imposts which she has been obliged to pay upon their account :

" For the above reasons, and in accord with the view taken of the case by the Substitute of the Procureur-general, the Court recognizes the said Marion and her children to be the property of Madame Barillon, because the said Marion did not avail in time of her mistress's benevolent intentions ; and the Court condemns the Protector in costs of suit."

In offering a remark upon this judgment, the Protector would observe that the defendant in this case, the agent of Madame Barillon, is M. Lefebre, the President of the Court of First Instance. And although he himself did not sit in judgment upon his own cause, it will not be denied that there is matter introduced into the sentence totally irrelevant to the subject in dispute, and which gives to it more the character of an argument than a judgment upon the fact submitted for decision ; for in no case ought the subject of the last cause to have been amalgamated with the present, much less have been allowed to operate to the slave's prejudice.

The Protector need not observe that he has carried the cause into the Court of Appeal, for it involves a question of grave and serious import to the individual whose cause he has espoused, and who, by the decision of the Court of First Instance, is threatened with a doom worse than death itself—to return with her children and grand-children to slavery, after having lived in a state of freedom for 20 years under the sanction of her mistress's permission, and in a creditable manner, as far as the Protector has been able to ascertain, her husband being a master blacksmith, and her daughters married to industrious mechanics of good conduct.

The affair of Eugene and Marie is another of those cases in which the interference of Government had been solicited previous to the Protector's arrival. The first of these unfortunate individuals died lately ; his sister and her children are living. Their claim to freedom rests upon strong presumptive evidence that their mother was a free woman, enfranchised by their father previous to his death, about 25 years ago ; but as this sort of testimony is not sufficient upon questions of this nature to bring the case into court, the Protector has necessarily been obliged to postpone it, with the hope of being able to procure documents which have been pointed out as necessary to support the claim.

The case of Charlot Joseph, a slave, claiming his freedom on the grounds of a letter written by his master, J. B. Colas of Flacq, to a friend at Port Louis, a few days before his death, came on for hearing on the 16th November. The purport of this letter was, that on account of the faithful services of Charlot, and the kind care and attention paid to his master during his long illness, which was likely to prove his last, he (his master) was desirous of giving him a "carte blanche," in order that he might obtain his freedom, requesting his friend would acquaint him what measures were necessary for that purpose, and to adopt them at once. Unfortunately, before the desire thus signified could be acted upon, the master died. The slave was subsequently advertised for sale, which was opposed by the Protector, who, acting upon legal advice, commenced preliminary measures for the manumission of the slave under the 17th paragraph of the 32d article of Ordinance No. 43. These were resisted by the guardian of an infant of his late master, upon the plea that the slave was the property of the child in right of its mother, whose fortune was settled upon her and her heirs, and with whose money the slave was purchased, the husband, J. B. Colas, having no money of his own, and not living with his late wife "commune en biens," therefore, the master had no right to give the slave his liberty. When the cause was brought to trial, the Court acting upon the conclusions of the Substitute of the Procureur-general, decided against the manumission, not only on the grounds stated by the guardian of the infant, but also that the "carte blanche" which the master signified his wish to give the slave, was not a promise obligatory of enfranchisement. This judgment was upon the opinion of counsel not appealed from.

The case of the six slaves, Jeanne and her five children, belonging to the late Celestiné Paul, has been already brought under the notice of his Excellency the Governor, by the Protector's letter of the 7th of November last, addressed to the chief Secretary to Government, on behalf of Florimond, another slave of the same testatrix, who bequeathed to him permission to redeem himself, but without fixing a value. As a copy of that letter, and of the sentence given in the cause by the Court of Appeal, are sent herewith, (No. 6,) the necessity of entering into further particulars here is obviated, except it be to say, that after every effort in both Courts, on the part of the next of kin, to set the will aside, its validity was established, in opposition to the judgment of the Court of First Instance, and the six slaves above named decreed their liberty, and the value of Florimond's freedom fixed at \$.450, provided he could pay it within one month ; but, failing that, he should lose his right to redemption, and be included in the number of slaves to be sold ; and which has been the case, as there was no means of raising for him the sum in question.

The next and last case which the Protector finds it necessary to particularize, is that of the negress Adeline and her five children, as it shows how difficult it is to succeed in claims for manumission, even upon the strongest circumstantial evidence, where the deed of donation itself cannot be produced. A Madame Montenot, of Flacq, had, among other slaves, a negress

a negress named Adeline, who lived in concubinage with the overseer of the plantation, a M. Gagnard, by whom she had five children. On Madame Montenet's death M. Gagnard became desirous of purchasing Adeline and her five children, and applied for that purpose to her heirs, Messrs. Nicol, Tabillon, Menagè, Tribuchet and Daffau, who consented to sell them for \$1,200, on the express condition that M. Gagnard should enfranchise them within three years; and in case of Gagnard's death the condition should be binding upon his heirs, at the expense of his estate. A contract to this effect was drawn up by the notary Montocchio, but it was not to be signed until M. Gagnard should have paid the \$1,200; he did pay them, but as the heirs lived at a considerable distance from each other, in different quarters of the island, they were prevented from signing the contract. In the mean time M. Gagnard died intestate, and his estate and effects were administered to by the curator of intestate estates, who was put legally into possession of the property, and proceeded to the sale thereof, including Adeline and her five children. Upon this the heirs of Madame Montenet, remembering the contract they had entered into with M. Gagnard, which entitled Adeline and her children to freedom, opposed the sale, and instituted proceedings thereon in the Court of First Instance, the prosecution of which devolved upon the Protector *ex officio*, on his arrival. To support these proceedings the contract was sought for, but was not to be found; and what appears still more singular, there is no minute of such contract in the notary's registers, but the notary himself remembers that such a contract was stipulated in his presence. In order, however, to supply the place of that document, the heirs of Madame Montenet have each come forward with a certificate, stating the facts and conditions of the sale made by them to M. Gagnard, as above-mentioned; that they had received from him each his proportion of the \$1,200; and that, owing to their residing in various districts, they had not signed the document when Gagnard died. That document, supported by another from the notary, stating that an agreement to that effect was entered into before him, would, it was hoped, have been sufficient to procure the manumission of the individuals in question. On the contrary, the Tribunal of First Instance has decided that,

"Considering that, upon principle, a slave cannot be manumitted but by the consent or an act of his master:

"Considering also that it would be too dangerous and absurd, and too much opposed to the sacred principle of right of property, to admit, after a contract had been entered into, declarations opposed to the title, textual or natural, of the object of such contract, on the part of one or other of the parties to such contract:

"The Court declares the opposition made by the Protector to the sale of these slaves untenable, and authorizes the curateurs to proceed to the sale of them."

Subsequent to that judgment being pronounced, a letter, in the hand-writing of the late M. Gagnard, has been discovered, in which mention is made of Adeline's case, and of the bill of sale. This document will, it is hoped, ensure better success in the Court of Appeal into which it has been carried, and where it will be argued early after the vacation in February next.

There are two more cases of disputed manumission to be brought before the Tribunals, one on behalf of a negress named Victorine and her two children against Laurent Barbeau, and the other of Seraphine against the heir of Pitchen; but as they are both more or less of the same complexion as those already detailed, the Protector defers making further mention of them until their result be known.

SLAVES ENTITLED TO BE ADMITTED TO OATH.

THE number of slaves certified to the Protector since the 25th June last, as sufficiently instructed in the religion they profess to know the nature and obligation of an oath, is 115, as will be seen by the accompanying List, No. 7, received from the Rev. R. E. Jones, chaplain to the forces. From the Catholic clergy no return of this description has been received.

MARRIAGES.

ONE slave marriage only has taken place during the last six months, which was solemnized by the reverend gentleman above named; but in the letter he addressed to the Protector on the subject he mentions neither the names of the slaves nor of their owners; but he informs the Protector that 13 more are in contemplation, and that many blacks, government apprentices, who have cohabited with slaves, are now desirous of marrying, but as the law does not sanction such connections without affecting the condition of the slave, a great obstacle is placed in the way of carrying the wishes of Government on this head into effect. The almost total absence of religious or moral instruction forbids a hope that marriage, among the slave population, will, in the present state of things, become frequent; and the Protector himself has in the course of his official duty had many occasions to observe the repugnance that exists among slaves to enter into this solemn union: their state of moral degradation, their libidinous propensity, fostered by climate and fed by opportunity, contribute, with jealousy and its consequences, to make them regard the marriage tie as a bane rather than a blessing.

SAVINGS BANKS.

THE deposits since the last Return have been very trifling; they amount only to 20s., and increase the sum deposited to 20*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, as will be seen on reference to the Account sent herewith, No. 8.

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The success of this establishment becomes daily more doubtful. The interest allowed on deposits is so much below the current rate of the colony, mercantile or legal, that it offers no inducement; for however ignorant the slaves may be in other matters, those among them who have saved a little money (and among the domestic slaves there are many) are sufficiently alive to their own interest to estimate the difference between 5 per cent., the rate allowed by the bank, and 12 per cent., the regular mercantile interest; besides, the masters discountenance the establishment altogether, and one of them, a respectable inhabitant of Port Louis, went so far as to advertise two of his negroes for sale merely for having deposited money in the bank, although they had the consent of his nephew, who lives under the same roof, for so doing.

The rate of wages paid to slaves for Sunday labour having some relation to the foregoing subject, may be here alluded to. No alteration has been made in it since the last Report, nor does any appear for the present necessary, the rates then fixed appearing satisfactory to both master and slave.

PUNISHMENT RECORD BOOKS.

THE inattention of the slave owners to the enactments of the Ordinance No. 43, relative to those registers, has somewhat abated, but it still exists partially; and indeed it is only since the promulgation of the Ordinance No. 53, that the Protector has had occasion to remark that these records are more generally kept. Previously, as the law then stood, there was no punishment for the omission; but in order to exact a due observance of the law, the Protector, in all cases of complaint denounced by him for prosecution, makes a point of calling for a copy of the register of punishments, and in default of its being forthcoming, denounces the omission as an additional charge against the owner. The Protector is not authorized by the Ordinance to call for a periodical return of all punishments; but with a view to give in this Report some information on the subject, he called for a copy of the registers kept on each of the six principal plantations of the several districts, which were immediately furnished, and he has the honour to transmit herewith Abstracts from them, marked No. 9. A reference to these will show, that on some plantations no punishment coming within the range of those directed to be registered has taken place; that on others the punishments have been few and light, whilst on some others they have been more frequent, and of a nature that gives rise to the question, whether it be lawful for an owner to inflict simultaneously flagellation and confinement in prison, in chains or in the stocks, for one and the same offence? And upon this it is the Protector's intention to submit a case forthwith for the opinion of His Majesty's Advocate. The number of slaves upon the plantations whence these Returns of punishments have been received may be taken, at the lowest estimate, to be 12,000, whilst the number of offences amount only to 421, being less than four per cent., a paucity of crime hardly to be looked for among a people so immured in ignorance, and so deprived of instruction, moral or religious; and when to this is added the circumstance, borne out by the records of this office, that with the exception of four, not a single complaint has been made to the Protector from any one of these estates, it fully bears him out in the opinion expressed in his former Report with respect to the better treatment of slaves upon the principal plantations, many of which he has personally visited, and has witnessed with the greatest gratification the good order, contentment and comfort that prevailed upon them.

CHAIN ORDINANCE.

*Vide Remarks
in the Governor's
Despatch (H.)*

THE repeal of the Ordinance No. 20, of the 13th December 1826, and the substitution of that of the 26th September, No. 51, have contributed to modify the punishment with chains, fetters, rings and other irons, which the owners of slaves were permitted by the former Ordinance to inflict. There are, however, one or two points connected with this mode of punishment, which the Protector would, with all due deference, submit to the consideration of his Excellency the Governor, with a view to such further modification as the case may appear to require, and to remove any legal quibble which, as the law now stands, may be availed of, for the purpose of frustrating conviction in cases of contravention.

The first relates to that part of the Ordinance in question, which specifies that "the collar with three branches is prohibited." Since the promulgation of this Ordinance two cases have been brought before the Protector; one (as will be seen in the list of complaints, Appendix, No. 76) wherein a collar with one branch was applied; and the other (in a case now under consideration), where the complainant made his appearance at the Protector's office in a collar with two branches. The Protector considers both these as highly objectionable, and to be but little less severe as instruments of punishment than the three-branched collar. As an action would not lie in the first of these cases (the prohibition extending to the collar with three branches only), the Protector was obliged to content himself with a severe reprimand to the owner; and doubtless the same result, arising from the same cause, will attend the case now under investigation.

The second point to which the Protector would beg to be permitted to allude is, with regard to time; for whilst the Ordinance limits the weight of chains and other irons to be applied to slaves, it is totally silent with regard to the duration of the punishment; and as it appears from some of the returns, that a wide latitude is taken with reference to such duration, the Protector would respectfully suggest that the same be restrained by a regulation, such as that which has been applied to the weight.

Having brought to a conclusion so much of his Report as relates specifically to the several documents of which he is required by the 10th article of the Ordinance No. 43 to make periodical

periodical returns, the Protector would offer a few observations on the general treatment of the slaves, in which there is unquestionably an improvement; and although the complaints of insufficiency of food, over-much labour, curtailment of meal-hours and extension of the Sunday *corvées*, be still prevalent, the Protector has in no one case been able to establish the fact by evidence, particularly with respect to short rations, a charge which he has universally found to be false or very much exaggerated; and indeed it were difficult to imagine a motive for reducing the quantum of food of agricultural slaves; the interest of the master forbids it, for where physical strength is required substantial nourishment is indispensable. With respect to the Sunday *corvées* and meal-hours, the evil complained of does in many instances exist, especially on the second and third rate plantations, where want of capital induces economy of time and labour; and the Protector has learnt with satisfaction that a measure is in contemplation by his Excellency the Governor that will tend materially to suppress this abuse.

The Protector regrets that he has so little to say, and that little so unsatisfactory, upon the

MORAL IMPROVEMENT

of so large a majority of the population of the colony. Diffident of relying upon his own observation, he has had recourse to the clergy, whose sacred calling points them out as the best source of information on a subject of this nature; and although his call has not been met by the head of the Catholic church establishment of the colony, the Vicar Apostolic, he has been honoured with a communication from the first civil chaplain, the Rev. A. Denny, and which he has the honour to transmit herewith. From this it will be seen that no melioration has taken place since the Protector's last Report, in the moral condition of the slaves; and it unfortunately shows still more, that so lamentably deficient are the means of moral and religious instruction now afforded, there is no hope of their emerging from the state of barbarous ignorance and moral debasement they are now in, unless means far more extensive than those now applied to the purpose be administered.

An exception, however, must be made from the above general remark, in favour of the few government slaves, and of those on the establishments of Captain Dick and Charles Telfair, esq., amounting perhaps to 2,000 in the whole. Of these, the government slaves, and those of Captain Dick, are under the spiritual charge of the Reverend Mr. Jones (whose letter to the Protector on this subject is also enclosed herewith, No. 11.), whilst upon Mr. Telfair's establishment the children are taught to read, to repeat some prayers and Watts's Catechism, and at night both old and young are assembled at prayer and other devotional exercises, a ceremony which the Protector has had an opportunity of witnessing with peculiar satisfaction.

In addition to the information afforded on this subject by Mr. Denny's and Mr. Jones's letters, the Protector would beg also to refer to the accompanying paper, No. 12, containing extracts from letters received by him, which throw some light on the moral condition of the vast majority of slaves whose spiritual welfare is committed to the care of the Catholic clergy.

With an anxiety proportionate to the important and difficult duties of his office, the Protector has endeavoured to fulfil them with a strict regard to justice and equity; and in extending to the slave the fullest measure of protection from injustice and oppression, he has felt it to be equally his duty to screen the master from the injurious effects of the craft and malice of the slave, sparing neither where justice called for the interposition of his authority; and whenever occasions have presented themselves, he has never ceased to impress upon the mind of the slave those principles of industry, good conduct and obedience, which should form the basis of his claim to the protection which the law now affords him. Therefore, with the hope that his exertions may enable him to promote, as far as may be within the range of his duties, the beneficent views of His Majesty's Government on behalf of the slave population of the colony, the Protector will here bring his Report to a conclusion.

Protector of Slaves' Office,
Port Louis, 28th Dec. 1829.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Sworn before me, at the Reduit, Mauritius, this 24th day of January 1830.

Charles Colville,
Governor and Commander in Chief.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

ABSTRACT LIST of COMPLAINTS preferred to the PROTECTOR and GUARDIAN of SLAVES, from the 25th June to the 24th December 1829, inclusive.

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
1. 120.	May 4 -	Nanette, and two children.	Mad. Morel, Grand Port.	- - being obliged to work on Sunday, and repeated punishment with a cane.	Sept. 12.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution as an infraction of the 10th article of Ordinance 43.					
2. 121.	- 23 -	Marie Jeanne, and two children.	M. D'Emmérez, Savanne.	- - being kept in chains upwards of a month, and general bad treatment towards herself and children.	July 22.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced as an infraction of the Chain Ordinance, No. 20.					
3. 122.	June 6 -	Jasmin - -	M. Villemont, Grand Port.	ill treatment from his master.	June 20.
How DISPOSED OF.—The complaint being altogether false and malicious, complainant was punished with 15 lashes of the cat-o'-nine tails by order of the Protector.					
4. 123.	- 10 -	Jules - -	Mad. Gassin, Port Louis.	general ill treatment - -	July 18.
How DISPOSED OF.—Unfounded. Slave returned to his mistress by Protector's order.					
5. 123.	- 13 -	Eugène - -	Pierre Denis, Port Louis.	violently beating and kicking him	August 1.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general as an infraction of the 19th article of Ordinance No. 43.					
6. 124.	- 16 -	Jeanny - -	Madame Sturbel, Savanne.	various acts of cruelty - -	October 14.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general as an infraction of the 19th article of Ordinance No. 43.					
7. 126.	- 19 -	St. Jago - -	M. Bestel, Plaines Wilhems.	excess of work and Sunday labour	July 8.
How DISPOSED OF.—Returned to his master, complaint being altogether unfounded.					
8. 126.	- 25 -	Antoine - -	M. Bestel, jun., Savanne.	- - repeated punishment without cause.	August 1.
How DISPOSED OF.—It appears that the punishment inflicted on complainant was not unmerited; and the only way in which the overseer has exceeded the right of punishment, was in the use of a cat formed of hide instead of cord. The overseer assuring the Protector that this was done in ignorance, and promising not to repeat it, the case was dismissed.					
9. 127.	- 29 -	Adolphe - -	M. Ducray, Plaines Wilhems.	- - confinement in chains, contrary to Ordinance No. 20.	July 2.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced for prosecution as an infraction of Ordinance No. 20.					
10. 128.	- 29 -	Fidelle - -	M. Gugot, Port Louis	- - excessive ill-treatment, and being deprived of Sundays.	July 4.
How DISPOSED OF.—This complaint was found to be so false and malicious that the Protector felt it necessary to order complainant to be punished with 25 lashes of the "martinet."					
11. 128.	- 30 -	Flore - -	Mad. Motet, Rivière du Rempart.	having been beaten with a stick -	July 9.
How DISPOSED OF.—It appearing that the complainant is much addicted to drink, and that her complaint is altogether false, the negress was severely reprimanded by the Protector, and her case dismissed.					

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
12. 129.	July 1 -	L'Eveillé -	M. Allard, Rivière du Rempart.	- - corporal punishment, and being afterwards obliged to eat human excrement.	July 3.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint entirely false, as admitted by the slave in his second examination. Punished with 12 lashes of the "martinet."					
13. 129.	- 2 -	Estelle -	M. Ducray, Plaines Wilhems.	- - confinement in chains, contrary to Ordinance No. 20.	July 2.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.					
14. 129.	- 3 -	Victorine -	Madlle. Barreau, Moka	- - confinement in chains, contrary to Ordinance No. 20.	July 3.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.					
15. 130.	- 4 -	Virginie -	Madlle. Louise, Port Louis.	general ill-treatment - -	July 4.
How DISPOSED OF.—Groundless. The mistress of complainant was, however, recommended not to employ her slave in selling water; a service in which it appears she has at times been employed.					
16. 130.	- 9 -	31 individuals from the estate of	Messrs. Pierre Comp ty, Dumarne & Co., Pamplémousses.	- - general ill treatment, and excess of labour.	July 10.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint entirely groundless. Three of the ringleaders un-nished by order of the Protector, who visited the estate for the purpose of making a personal inquiry into the system pursued upon it.					
17. 131.	- 13 -	Three slaves -	M. Auger, Plaines Wilhems.	- - Sunday labour, and want of "breloque."	July 15.
How DISPOSED OF.—False. Complainants punished; the females with confinement on the plantation for two successive Sundays, and the male slave with nine strokes of the "martinet."					
18. 131.	June 27 -	Alexis -	Messrs. Compty & Co., Pamplémousses.	- - punished with 40 lashes of a cart-whip, ill fed, and for having been kept in fetters heavier than those permitted by law.	July 2.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.					
19. 132.	July 20 -	Augustine -	Lolotte Egron, Port Louis.	- - excessive punishment, contrary to the 18th article of Ordinance 43.	Sept. 9.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.					
20. 133.	- 21 -	Rosalie -	M. Raffray, Rivière du Rempart.	illegally putting her in chains -	August 19.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.					
21. 134.	- 21 -	Jean Marie -	Mad. Sturbel, Savanne.	excess of task labour - -	August 18.
How DISPOSED OF.—The Protector, in consequence of the frequent complaints made by the slaves of Madame Sturbel, conceived it his duty to make a representation thereon to his Excellency the Governor, in order that the quantity of task-work in sack-making should be fixed by the "Notables" assembled at Government-house. Complainant was in the mean time returned to his mistress.					
22. 135.	- 23 -	Cotte -	M. Gonard, Plaines Wilhems.	- - complains of being punished with 20 stripes of a cat-o'-nine tails for not going to work when suffering from severe pain in his feet.	Sept. 3.
How DISPOSED OF.—It appeared, on investigating this complaint, that the punishment was inflicted on account of maroonage, and not at the time stated by complainant; but as it did not appear that assistance had been promptly rendered at the time the slave complained of being ill, the Protector, in dismissing the case, recommended the master to be more attentive for the future, and prohibited his inflicting any punishment upon his slave for having preferred the present complaint.					

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No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name of Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
23. 135.	July 27	Claire - -	Mr. Camoin, Plaines Wilhems.	-- complains of having received four lashes of a cart whip, by order of her master.	Aug. 17.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Entirely false for four successive Sundays.		Complainant ordered to be confined to the estate	
24. 136.	- 21	Aglaé - -	Mr. Ligereau, Riv. du Rempart.	-- inflicting corporal punishment contrary to Ordinance No. 43.	Nov. 10.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.			
25. 136.	Aug. 1	Eugénie - -	Mad. Beguinot, Port Louis.	-- striking complainant several blows when she was suffering severe illness.	Aug. 1.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint much exaggerated. The negress restored to her mistress, who promised to cause all necessary medical assistance to be given to her.			
26. 137.	- 1	Toinette - -	Mr. Caqueray, Plaines Wilhems.	-- placing chains on complainant, contrary to Ordinance No. 20.	Aug. 10.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.			
27. 137.	- 3	André - -	Mr. Manet, Flacq. -	general ill treatment - - -	
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint entirely false; and as complainant was proved by the whole of his comrades to be a great drunkard and otherwise a bad character, the Protector ordered him to be punished with 25 lashes of the martinet for his disobedient conduct, and 10 more for drunkenness.			
28. 138.	- 6	Reymond - -	Sieur Hervé, Pamplemousses.	-- being obliged to work on Sundays, and confinement in the block, without reason.	Aug. 6.
		How DISPOSED OF.—False and groundless. In this case the Protector thought it necessary to punish complainant with 20 lashes for insolent and disobedient conduct.			
29. 138.	- 6	Augustin - -	Sieur Lambert, Rivière du Rempart.	-- punished with 50 lashes of the martinet, for a theft, which Augustin declares he did not commit.	Aug. 29.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint proved to be false, with respect to the extent and nature of the punishment; and as he was at the same time convicted of having stole a number of ducks at one time, and a pig at another, Augustin received, by the Protector's orders, 10 stripes of the martinet for having brought a false complaint.			
30. 139.	- 10	Jean - -	M. G. Casse, Grand Port.	-- injustice in making complainant pay for a couple of fowls lost from the yard.	Sept.
		How DISPOSED OF.—This charge being founded, the master was severely reprimanded, at the same time ordered to pay to complainant \$. 2 ½, the price of the fowls, unjustly, and on suspicion, taken from the slave.			
31. 139.	- 17	Ann - -	Mlle. Agathe, Port Louis.	general ill treatment - - -	Aug. 18.
		How DISPOSED OF.—After a close investigation of this complaint, the Protector considers it to be founded in truth, and that undue severity has been exercised towards the negress; for want of evidence, however, he has not been able to prosecute the mistress, who has consequently been severely reprimanded for the present offence, and cautioned as to her future conduct towards her negress.			
32. 140.	- 12	Celestine - -	Mad. Sturbel, Savanne.	-- excessive task labour, and frequent punishment.	
		How DISPOSED OF.—This complaint having been settled by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, and the negress returned to her mistress, the Protector confirmed the decision, directing the Assistant Protector to inform Madame Sturbel, that as the question of task labour has been submitted to his Excellency the Governor, the present case must be considered as another added to the many reasons already existing for fixing the quantity of labour to be exacted by her.			

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
33. 141.	Aug. 13 -	Emile - -	Mad. Gondreville, Flacq.	- - punishment of 20 lashes with the cart whip.	Aug. 14.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint not only false, but it appears by the evidence of his comrades that Emile is a very bad subject, and much given to absent himself from his work without leave. The Protector therefore ordered him to be punished with 10 stripes of the martinet, and then to be returned to his master.</p>					
34. 142.	- 19 -	Rose - -	M. Morey, Flacq -	continual confinement in chains -	Aug. 29.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—It appears that complainant has been confined but three nights, and that her statement is generally false. She has therefore been severely reprimanded and returned to her master; who is also enjoined to treat her with moderation, in the hope, by such means, to break her of her marooning propensity.</p>					
35. 142.	- 20 -	Aristide - -	M. Danguet, Plaines Wilhems.	- - severity of punishment, and confinement in chains.	Aug. 31.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint entirely false, and complainant a constant maroon, and otherwise a bad subject. The Protector consequently ordered him to be punished on the plantation of his master with 10 stripes of the martinet, a punishment that would have been extended but for the boy's youth.</p>					
36. 143.	- 23 -	Dauphin - -	M. Chermont, Pamplemousses.	- - punished with 25 lashes of the martinet for having neglected the horse of his master, whereby the animal was seriously injured.	Aug. 31.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—On examination of this case it appears that complainant merited the first punishment inflicted on him. The Protector, however, disapproves of the authority given to the master by the Assistant Protector to confine the slave in chains for three months. Complainant was set at liberty, and the case dismissed.</p>					
37. 144.	- 24 -	Samedi - -	M. Talbot, Pamplemousses.	neglect during his indisposition -	Sept. 12.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint discharged, having been found false in every respect.</p>					
38. 144.	- 26 -	Julien - -	M. Frappin, Plaines Wilhems.	punishment with the whip - -	Sept. 4.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Unfounded. His master gave him 15 stripes of the cane for being repeatedly late in coming to work. The Protector ordered complainant to be confined to the plantation for three successive Sundays, for bringing a complaint proved to be false by all the witnesses cited by complainant himself.</p>					
39. 145.	- 29 -	Etienne - -	M. Ducray, Plaines Wilhems.	- - deficiency of food, excess of work, and not being allowed either breloques or Sunday.	Sept. 3.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Unfounded. Complainant, in consequence of his debilitated condition (arising from natural causes) and weakness of intellect, was sent to the hospital, and afterwards returned to his master, with a request that he might be employed on the lightest description of work.</p>					
40. 145	Sept. 4 -	Philogene - -	M. Groutet, Port Louis.	- - being confined in the block, and punished with 20 blows of a stick, without knowing wherefore.	Sept. 4.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—False and malicious. Instead of being punished in the manner he described himself to have been, for theft and general ill conduct, complainant only received three stripes of the martinet. The Protector therefore thought it necessary, as an example to the other blacks of the establishment, to punish complainant with 30 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails.</p>					
41. 146.	- 7 -	François - -	Jean Pierre, Flacq. -	general ill-treatment - -	Sept. 15.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint frivolous and unfounded. Master recommended to employ his slave on the lightest description of work, he being old, infirm and weak of intellect.</p>					

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No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
42. 146.	Sept. 12	Thirteen Slaves of	M. Manet, Flacq.	- - want of proper allowance of food, "breloques," and Sundays.	Sept. 13.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint altogether false and malicious. After a particular inquiry into this case, it was found that two discontented individuals had instigated their comrades to leave the estate in a body for the purpose of making this false statement to the Protector. The individuals in question were punished with 25 lashes each; the others admonished to be more circumspect for the future.			
43. 147.	- 14	Julien	Mad. Gondreville, Flacq.	general ill treatment	Sept. 29.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Grossly exaggerated, and on most points unfounded. The complainant being an old offender, and much disposed to insubordination, the Protector ordered him to be punished with 12 lashes of the "martinet."			
44. 147.	- 17	François	Jean Pierre, Flacq.	- - punished on his return from the Protector's office on the 15th inst.	Sept. 24.
		How DISPOSED OF.—As this complaint was preferred evidently for the purpose of screening him from the fault of marooning, only two hours after his return from the Protector's office, and his assertion of ill treatment being altogether false, the Protector deeming his conduct to be highly culpable, ordered complainant to be punished at the bagne with 15 stripes of the "martinet."			
45. 148.	- 17	Joseph	M. Lagesse, Flacq.	- - ill treatment received from the commandeur.	Sept. 29.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Trifling. Complainant reprimanded for having quitted the estate without first complaining to his master; and M. Lagesse directed not to allow his commanders to punish the slaves without first obtaining his instructions.			
46. 149.	Aug. 31	Gabriel	Numa Fontain, Grand Port.	- - complains of having been punished immediately on his return to the plantation from the bagne prison.	Sept. 18.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint decidedly false. Complainant on his return from the Protector's office, stole a "marmite" and other articles on the road; severely reprimanded by the Protector, but not punished in consequence of the intercession of his master.			
47. 149.	Sept. 11	Pauline	Jean Ellie, Port Louis	general ill treatment	Sept. 15.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false. The negress, an habitual drunkard, and otherwise a very bad subject, punished with 15 lashes at the bagne, in the presence of all the female slaves confined there.			
48. 149.	- 22	Four Slaves	Mad. Damain, Pamplemousses.	- - flogging and confinement without cause.	Sept. 22.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false and malicious. Two of the complainants were ordered to receive 40 lashes each, as ringleaders; the other two 20 lashes each, the whole having conducted themselves in a very unruly and insubordinate manner.			
49. 150.	- 22	Adèle	M. Motet, Rivière du Rempart.	- - general ill treatment on her return from the bagne, where she had been confined for a previous complaint.	Sept. 22.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false. Negress directed to be confined in the prison on the establishment for one month; and the master recommended to be kind in his treatment of his slaves.			
50. 151.	- 24	Bernard	M. Jamain, Pamplemousses.	punished without reason	Sept. 26.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint altogether false. The boy was returned to his master severely reprimanded.			
51. 151.	- 24	Paul	Mad. Hugue, Rivière Noire.	punished without reason	October 6.
		How DISPOSED OF.—Mistress admonished, and also enjoined not to molest her slave in any manner for having brought a complaint against her, although unfounded, as it appears the complainant is rather an object of compassion and forbearance than of punishment.			

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
52. 152.	Sept. 25 -	Célestine - -	M. Fabre, Port Louis	general ill treatment - - -	Sept. 29.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—This complaint being groundless, the girl was reprimanded by the Protector, and then given up to the police to be punished for her present maroonage.</p>					
53. 152.	- 25 -	Lubin - -	M. P. L'Eternal, Port Louis.	- - for violently beating and otherwise ill-treating him.	Sept. 28.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complainant proved to be a drunken dissolute character; he was therefore severely reprimanded by the Protector, and returned to his master with a recommendation to be more obedient for the future.</p>					
54. 153.	- 26 -	Justine - -	Mad. Sturbel, Savanne	excess of labour in sack-making -	Sept. 28.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—The case represented to his Excellency the Governor, in order that measures may be adopted for regulating the quantity of labour to be exacted from women and children employed in making sacks.</p>					
55. 153.	- 29 -	Augustin ^s and Melanie.	M. Staub, Rivière du Rempart.	general ill treatment - - -	October 17.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint evidently false. The boy Augustin was sent back to the police to undergo his punishment for maroonage, and the negress returned to her master to be confined for four successive Sundays.</p>					
56. 154.	- 25 -	Juliette - -	Madlle. D. Cosson, Flacq.	corporal punishment - - -	October 2.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false; and complainant returned to her mistress severely reprimanded.</p>					
57. 154.	Oct. 1 -	Lindor - -	M. Fabre, Flacq. -	- - punished with 25 lashes of the martinet, and afterwards placed in the block.	October 9.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false, and the slave an exceedingly bad character; in consequence of which and his marooning habits, the Protector ordered him to be punished with confinement "au secret" for the next four Sundays.</p>					
58. 155.	- 1 -	Adeline - -	Mad. Sturbel, Savanne	- - excess of labour; and also for having been placed in chains far beyond the weight allowed by law.	October 21.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution on the 21st October.</p>					
59. 155.	- 1 -	Réné - -	M. F. D'Emérez, Savanne.	- - Sunday labour, shortness of provisions, and general ill treatment.	October 3.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complainant having stated that he was deputed to make this complaint on the part of all the blacks of the estate, the Protector thought it necessary personally to investigate the same. The result of his investigation having proved beyond doubt that the charge brought against the Sieur D'Emérez was false and malicious, the Protector judged it necessary, for the maintenance of good order, discipline and tranquillity of the estate, to give M. D'Emérez his option of prosecuting the slave in the Courts, or of inflicting upon him the punishment authorized by the 17th article of Ordinance No. 43, viz. 50 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails; 35 lashes were inflicted, M. D'Emérez having requested that the punishment might be arrested at that number.</p>					
60. 156.	Oct. 5 -	Justine - -	Madlle. Lemelle, Port Louis.	- - general ill-treatment, in being kicked and beaten for the slightest offence.	October 7
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint proved to be false by the evidence cited by Justine herself, who, being a great drunkard, very insolent, and otherwise of libertine habits, was directed by the Protector to receive six stripes of a rod on her shoulders, and then to be returned to her master.</p>					

COPIES OF REPORTS FROM

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
61. 156.	Oct. 6	Mondor	M. Bestel, Savanne	- - ill treatment, and being obliged to work on Sundays.	Oct. 17.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complainant being proved to be a disobedient and insolent slave, was punished by order of the Protector with 20 lashes of the martinet, on the estate of his master.					
62. 157.	- 8	Patience	M. Cantin, Port Louis	- - for being punished with 25 stripes of the martinet, and with chains, on his return from the police, where he had already been punished.	Oct. 12.
How DISPOSED OF.—The punishment of chains, as well as that of flogging, inflicted upon this slave was illegal. M. Cantin was therefore denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.					
63. 158.	- 9	Paulin	M. Pillot, Pamplemousses.	- - having been punished with nearly 50 stripes of a cane.	Oct. 15.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false; and complainant an idle bad character. He was consequently returned to the police department to be treated as may be necessary for the burglary.					
64. 158.	Sept. 29	Barraque and Eugène.	M. Amelin, Rivière du Rempart.	- - excess of punishment with the cat and chains.	Nov. 9.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint proved, and transferred to the Procureur-general for prosecution against the Sieur Amelin.					
65. 159.	Oct. 9	Bordeau	M. Castera, Flacq	- - for being punished with 30 stripes of a cane for a theft not committed by him.	Oct. 15.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false, and the slave's character known to the Protector to be bad. He was punished on the plantation with 10 stripes of the cane.					
66. 160.	- 12	Jean	M. Lemelle, Flacq	- - punished by his master on his return from the bagne with 25 stripes, having been previously punished for the same offence.	Oct. 23.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false; returned to the police to be examined with respect to a burglary with which he stands charged.					
67. 160.	- 12	Solon	M. Bestel, of Plantations Wilhems.	- - punished with 25 lashes of the martinet, for having lost the "cheville" of a waggon.	Oct. 22.
How DISPOSED OF.—Returned to his master, with an injunction to the latter not to molest or annoy his slave on account of the present complaint, the punishment he has lately received having been greater, in the Protector's opinion, than the trivial fault committed deserved, though not greater than the law authorizes the master to inflict.					
68. 161.	- 20	Bazille	Sieur Nozaic, Flacq	- - receiving nearly 100 lashes of a cat-o'-nine-tails dipped in tar.	Nov. 11.
How DISPOSED OF.—Transmitted to the Procureur-general for prosecution against the Sieur Nozaic.					
69. 162.	- 20	Charlot	M. Esnorf, Rivière du Rempart.	- - general ill treatment from the overseer of the estate.	Nov. 12.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint dismissed. The master admonished and enjoined not to allow his commandeurs to carry a cat-o'-nine-tails in the fields, for the purpose of keeping the slaves to their work; for although there is no law against it, still it must be looked upon as synonymous with the cart whip, which is strictly prohibited for such purpose.					
70. 163.	- 21	Hypolite	M. Ponpinel, Plaines Wilhems.	- - complains of severe punishment; and states that certain slaves of the estate have died in consequence of ill treatment received from their master.	Oct. 28.
How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false and malicious in the extreme. The master was allowed his choice, either to punish complainant on his estate with 50 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails, or to prosecute him in the tribunals according to art. 31 of the Ordinance No. 43, within the meaning of which the offence comes.					

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
71. 164.	Oct. 20	Charlot	M. Tarby, Flacq	-- punishment without cause, and confinement in the stocks.	Nov. 29.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false. The punishment inflicted on the slave was 9 lashes, and that for drunkenness.</p>					
72. 165.	- 27	Louise	M. Normand, Port Louis.	-- corporal punishment contrary to the 10th art. of Ordinance 43.	Oct. 30.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Transmitted to the Procureur-general for prosecution.</p>					
73. 165.	Nov. 10	Esperance	M. Le Brasse, Flacq	-- obliged to work when ill, confinement in the stocks, and Sunday labour.	Nov. 25.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Totally false. Returned to his master, admonished as to his drunken habits, and recommended to be more circumspect for the future.</p>					
74. 166.	- 9	Solon	M. Bestel, Plaines Wilhems.	-- punishment and confinement without reason.	Dec 2.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—This slave having been returned to M. Bestel by the Protector some few days past, with an injunction that he might not be punished or treated with resentment on account of the complaint brought by him on the 12th ultimo; and M. Bestel having, in opposition to that injunction, inflicted the punishment at present complained of, the same has been denounced as a breach of the 14th art. of Ordinance 43, and of the 5th art. of Ordinance No. 51.</p>					
75. 167.	- 13	Appolon	M. Amelin, Rivière du Rempart.	-- complains of nonpayment for work done by him and his comrade "Cherubin."	Nov. 18.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—M. Amelin having promised the Protector to pay the amount due to the slaves, \$ 13, Appolon was returned to the estate, and his master recommended to be moderate in the treatment of his slaves.</p>					
76. 167.	- 16	Tonton	Mad. Godray, Grand Port.	-- ill treatment on the estate, and being obliged to wear a branch collar.	Dec. 15.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Slave returned to his mistress, as it did not appear that he had suffered the corporal punishment complained of. The Ordinance No. 51 does not prohibit the use of a collar with one branch. Mad. Godray admonished against a repetition in the use of the branch collar, and recommended to be moderate in the treatment of her slaves.</p>					
77. 168.	- 17	Ally	M. M. Barry, Flacq	-- complains of having been separated from his wife by sale.	
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Totally unfounded. At complainant's particular request the negress Lolotte, whom he then stated to be his wife, was purchased by M. Barry, in order to avoid such separation; but it since turns out that Ally has another wife in a distant part of the colony; and looking to the habits of these people, it is probable that he would soon have a third, and perhaps a fourth. Complainant was severely admonished, and sent back to his master, to be kept in solitary confinement for the four next Sundays.</p>					
78. 169.	- 19	Raive Kell	M. Pitot, Rivière du Rempart.	-- ill treatment on the part of the overseer of the estate.	Nov. 30.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint entirely false, and the negress a very bad subject. She was returned to her master to be punished by confinement for the four next Sundays.</p>					
79. 169.	- 20	Charlot	M. Pitiaca, Pamplemousses.	-- being kept in chains heavier than those allowed by law.	Nov. 21.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution.</p>					
80. 170.	- 20	Anaise	Mde. Sturbel, Savanne.	-- too heavy task work in sack-making.	Nov. 21.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Unfounded. Negress returned to her mistress under a promise of greater industry and obedience for the future.</p>					

COPIES OF REPORTS FROM

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
81. 170.	Nov. 24 -	Sixty-one Individuals.	M. Brue, Rivière Noire.	- - general ill treatment from the overseer.	Dec. 5.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint investigated on the estate by the Protector in person, who discovering it to be groundless in some points and exaggerated in others, and particularly that the complainants had no motive that could justify their quitting the estate in such numbers, deemed it necessary, in order to protect the masters against the injury they are exposed to by the absence of their slaves under such circumstances, to order the two ringleaders of the plot, Porline and Egisse, to be confined in chains of the weight allowed by law, for the space of three months.</p> <p>It appearing, however, that corporal punishment had been inflicted on two negresses, named Berenice and Suzanne, M. Brue was denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution accordingly.</p>					
82. 171.	- 30 -	Baracombe and René.	M. Edw ^d Pitot, Riv. du Rempart.	- - punishment without cause.	Nov. 30.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint entirely false. Complainants punished by order of the Protector with 15 stripes of the martinet each.</p>					
83. 172.	- 30 -	Christine - -	Madame Sturbel, Savanne.	- - excess of labour in sack-making.	Dec. 1.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Altogether unfounded. The complainant was severely reprimanded, then returned to her mistress with a recommendation to be more industrious for the future.</p>					
84. 172.	Dec. 1 -	Eugène - -	M. E. Lafraisière, Pamplémousses.	- - punished with upwards of 25 lashes for a theft which he denies having committed.	Dec. 20.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Complaint false. Eugène was severely reprimanded, and then returned to his master.</p>					
85. 173.	- 3 -	Adolphe - -	Victor Chéri, Port Louis.	- - excessive punishment.	Dec. 20.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution.</p>					
86. 173.	- 10 -	Nina - -	Madlle. Saloman, Port Louis.	- - corporal punishment, and chains of greater weight than that allowed by law.	Dec. 20.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution.</p>					
87. 173.	- 10 -	Lisé - -	M. Ch. Morin, Port Louis.	- - corporal punishment.	Dec. 20.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution.</p>					
88. 174.	- 7 -	Nanette - -	M. Bestel, Savanne	- - corporal punishment.	Dec. 20.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution.</p>					
89. 174.	- 16 -	Adeline - -	M. Mouvert, Port Louis.	- - kicked and beaten by the slave Jean Pierre.	Dec. 20.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—It appearing that the ill-treatment received by the negress was inflicted without the knowledge of the master, who has the character of being kind and considerate towards his slaves, the Protector directed that the slave Jean Pierre should receive 25 lashes of the martinet, and then be sent back to his master, who at the same time was strongly recommended to keep a watchful eye on the future conduct of his slave.</p>					
90. 174.	- 17 -	Pauline - -	Mr. D'Unienville, Savanne.	- - corporal punishment.	Dec. 20.
<p>How DISPOSED OF.—The Protector being perfectly satisfied that the complaint of Pauline was groundless, and that the fracture of the small bone of her arm was occasioned by some accident during her maroonage, directed her to be sent to the Civil Hospital until she shall be in a fit state to be returned to her master.</p>					

No. and Page in Appendix.	Date of Complaint.	Name of Complainant.	Name and Residence of Master.	Nature of Complaint.	When terminated.
91. 175.	Dec. 18 -	François - -	M. C. Marchal, Port Louis.	- - for cruel and inhuman treatment, causing mutilation.	Dec. 20.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-General on the 23d instant.					
92. 178.	- 21 -	Edward - -	M. Garrien, Port Louis.	- - severe corporal punishment, in contravention of the Ordinance No. 43.	Dec. 20.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-General on the 24th instant; neither M. Garrien nor his mistress having any thing to say in justification of their conduct towards complainant.					
93. 179	- 24 -	Heloise - -	M. Hubert, Port Louis.	- - corporal punishment with a horsewhip.	Dec. 20.
How DISPOSED OF.—Denounced to the Procureur-General on the same day.					

Corporal punishment - - - - -	29
Ditto - - with Sunday labour - - - - -	4
Ditto - - with insufficiency of food and confinement in chains - - - - -	1
Ditto - - with confinement in chains - - - - -	6
Ditto - - for marooning after having been previously punished by the Police - - - - -	4
Violent beating with a stick - - - - -	6
Ditto - - with confinement in stocks - - - - -	1
Sunday labour and excess of labour - - - - -	1
Ditto - - and no time allowed for meals - - - - -	1
Ditto - - with confinement in stocks - - - - -	2
Ditto - - and no meal hours and ill fed - - - - -	3
Confinement in chains heavier than permitted by law - - - - -	7
General bad treatment - - - - -	15
Ditto - - with chains - - - - -	2
Ditto - - with excess of labour - - - - -	1
Excess of labour, task-work - - - - -	4
Ditto - - with chains - - - - -	1
Making him pay for fowls he had never stolen - - - - -	1
Want of medical attendance - - - - -	1
Mutilation and torture - - - - -	1
Separated from his wife by sale - - - - -	1
Nonpayment for Sunday labour - - - - -	1

93

Of which - - - 28 denounced for prosecution.
 — - - 33 found to be false and malicious.
 — - - 32 remedied by the Protector.

93

Protector of Slaves' Office,
 Port Louis, 24 December 1829.

R. M. Thomas,
 Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Complaint, No. 1.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis.

NANETTE, a Mozambique, with her two children, Marcelin and Victoire, belonging to the heirs of the late Sieur Morell, of the Savanne quarter, appeared before the Protector to lodge a complaint against the widow Morell, under whose direction they have been left.

Nanette states, that they have been obliged to work on the two last Sundays (26th April and 3d May); that on the former day each of the complainants received 25 strokes of a cane on their shoulders, inflicted by Henriette, Mad. Morell's own servant, and were obliged to pass the whole day digging grass in the fields and court yard. On the 3d May they were again flogged with 25 lashes of a cane, and were afterwards placed in the stocks until the following morning, working all the time in making bags. No one was present at the punishment excepting their mistress and Henriette, who inflicted it.

Complainants also state, that their daily allowance of food is three young manioc, an insufficient quantity for persons accustomed to dig, but with which they are obliged to content themselves, having no other resource. Complainants state, that they have no marks of punishment remaining upon their persons.

Madame Morell, in reply to this complaint, states, that the provisions issued to her slaves are never weighed; each slave is allowed to take as much as he can eat, but is forbidden to take any away for sale; the bodily condition of complainants must prove the fact that they are not fed as they state themselves to be, with three manioc per diem; that in lieu of having been employed in digging, they were only forbidden to leave the court on Sundays, in consequence of their having employed the preceding Saturday in collecting manioc, which they sold to a free man named Butler, who has been discharged from the establishment as a receiver of stolen goods; and no other punishment whatever was inflicted upon them. The same crime was committed by complainants, when they received as a punishment each several stripes of a cane, though lightly inflicted, and on the same evening (Sunday, 3d May) all three were put into the stocks.

On the 19th May, Henriette (the negress who is said to have inflicted the punishment) was examined, and stated as follows: That she had once been ordered by her mistress to flog the three complainants, but not a second time, as stated by them; that she gave them five stripes each on the back and over their clothes; and this punishment was awarded to them because they brought home on the preceding day but half the quantity of manioc they ought to have brought, and for having sold the other half to a free man of colour living near to the plantation. Declarant only knows that the manioc had been sold to the man named Butler, from the fact that the complainants were seen to come from his house. She declares it to be false that complainants get but three manioc roots each per diem as their rations; declarant is charged with the delivery of the food, and every one takes as much as he pleases. Here the complainants exclaimed, "Yes, to our liking; but it appears to be as you like, because you are constantly bawling out, 'It is too much by half; put back, put back a part of the manioc.'" To this exclamation Henriette replied, "Without doubt, when there was more taken than necessary." Declarant being asked if she knew that the complainants had been deprived of their food whilst confined in the block, answered "Yes; but it was quite accidental on the part of my mistress and myself: at the time the rations were distributed no one presented himself on the part of Nanette and her children, and so they were forgotten."

Here the complainants observed, that on the following morning, when they claimed the provisions of which they had been thus deprived, they were refused a hearing.

Butler (the free man alluded to) declares that he formerly lived on the estate of the late Mr. Morell, but quitted it at the request of Madame Morell, for what reason he does not know, unless it was that the ground he occupied was wanted as a poultry yard. With respect to the charge brought against him by that lady, and more particularly by Nanette, Marcelin and Victoire, it is a crime which it were difficult for them to prove. Declarant makes and sells manioc biscuits when he can find no employment in his trade as a butcher. He buys the manioc from Mr. Lamarre; but although "I do sell manioc biscuits, and that Nanette, Victoire and Marcelin were seen to enter my house carrying manioc roots, is that a reason why I should be accused of being a receiver of stolen goods?"

On the 16th June, the slave César, also belonging to the "Succession Morell," was examined, and deposed as follows: Deponent is the husband of Nanette, and father of Marcelin; all three of whom live in the same hut with the other complainant Victoire. César recollects the Sunday on which the three complainants were placed in the block; they were not confined all day. In the morning they went to collect manioc, and returning about 2 o'clock in the afternoon were again sent to the block. Deponent is herdsman; and on the day alluded to had no other occupation out of doors, as has been falsely stated by Henriette. He dressed the provisions of himself, his wife and child; but Victoire does not draw her rations with them; she eats with the negresses of the house.

July 18th. Considering the case of complainants to be made out in all its material points, although, with reference to the flogging, not to the extent declared by them; the Protector has this day denounced the affair to the Procureur-General for prosecution, on the following grounds.

For having flogged women without the requisite order, contrary to the 18th article of Ordinance 43:

For having flogged the two women and the boy without there being the number of persons present required by the 17th article of the said Ordinance:

For

For not keeping a "punishment record book," in consequence of which the nature of the punishment, or the number of strokes inflicted, cannot be verified, contrary to the 21st article of the same Ordinance. Complainants say they received 25 lashes each. Henriette, who flogged them, and who was the only person present besides her mistress, says she gave them no more than five each. Had the register been kept, the fact might have been ascertained; as also, whether the complainants had been supplied with sufficient nourishment, water, &c. during their confinement in the stocks, which they themselves state was not the case.

Result.—Madame Morel was condemned in the Court of First Instance in the penalty of 80*l.* sterling, and costs.

Complaint. No. 2.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 23d May 1829.

Marie Jeanne, a Mozambique slave, aged about 22 years, with her three children, all belonging to M. Amedée D'Emérez, of the quarter of Savanne, states, that five months past she complained to the police against her master for having chained her to two male slaves; that they remained at the police for 15 days, where their chains were taken off; that a person sent by their master then came to take them away, conducting them to M. Dubois, a notary, where they were left to be sold. That the two other slaves were sold, but declarant was not; and that she remained at M. Dubois' for three months, at the expiration of which time her master took her away and conducted her to the plantation. That she was immediately put into the stocks, and afterwards into the "bar de justice," in which she was kept a month; since that time she has been constantly menaced and ill-treated in the manner described, by her mistress. That Monsieur Leopold, the overseer, is constantly striking and menacing her with threats of corporal punishment unless she abandons a free man named Eugène, who is her husband. That a few days past complainant had a tooth drawn, when the doctor recommended her not to expose herself to the air; on the following day she told M. Leopold she suffered much pain in her jaw, and had a great deal of fever on her; but notwithstanding this she was sent to work. She then complained to her mistress, who then put her into the stocks for 24 hours. That M. Leopold is in the habit of throwing water upon the sick in the hospital when he comes to put out the fire, saying, that "that will soon make them quit the hospital." That her child Jeanny is daily beaten by her mistress, and obliged to work at "pioch" in the field, as well as her child Maurice, four years old, who is obliged to guard the fowls. That Jean Marie, Marcelin, Françoise, Aurélie, Candide, Dorine, and almost all the blacks on the estate, saw complainant in chains.

The following is the certificate of the police surgeon:

"I certify having examined Marie Jeanne, a negress belonging to M. Amedée D'Emérez, and find she has some old marks of punishment on her arms; but she appears in good health and well clothed. I have also examined Jeanny, aged seven years, and Maurice, four years, both of whom exhibit marks of punishment on the breech, but not recent.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D."

M. D'Emérez, in reply to this charge, declares, that on the 15th January last he was obliged to send to M. Dubois for the complainant; that on her return in charge of the black "Mardi" she made her escape, remaining a maroon from that time until the 10th April following, when she was taken from the prison by Mardi, but again allowed to escape on her way to the plantation; that in this second maroonage she was arrested, and conducted to the estate on the 12th April, when she received no other punishment than confinement in the "bar de justice," being kept at needle-work in a room, and fed from his table; on the 28th complainant was released, at the instance of her mistress, and sent with the rest of the negresses to the habitation, under charge of Marcelin. That with respect to her false statement about M. Leopold, that person was absent from the estate at the period she alludes to, and she was not at all under his direction; that, in fact, complainant and another negress having had each a tooth drawn, remained in the hospital three days, when the medical attendant advised that she should be sent to work; complainant, however, was obstinate, and refused to go; she was therefore put into the stocks for 24 hours, and it was immediately after her release that her present maroonage took place, in which she was accompanied by a slave named Candide. With respect to the child "Jeanny," she was five months in hospital to be treated for the itch, after which she was put to watch a piece of young maize, until her mother took her away. "Maurice" watched the garden along with a black.

The Sieur Leopold declares that he never knew that Eugène was the husband of complainant, consequently could have no motive for doing that of which she accuses him; that he never interfered with her on that or any other account. Declarant puts out the fire in the hospital every night, but was never guilty of the cruelty charged against him. With respect to the slaves of the establishment, excepting three or four, all are well disposed and quiet.

Eugène, a free man of colour, employed on the estate of M. D'Emérez, says, that he never had any connexion with Marie Jeanne, and that he is surprised at the declaration she has made of her being his wife; her declaration, stating that he saw her in chains, is equally false; and moreover, he has been but a very short time on the estate.

Jean Marie, a slave, declares that complainant was never put in chains.

Dorine, Candide, Françoise and Aurélie, declare the same thing, but admit that she was put into the "bar de justice" for a few days, after which Marie Jeanne was sent to work at the habitation.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

On the 27th July this case was transmitted to the Procureur-general for prosecution, for not keeping a "Register Book of Punishment on the Estate," as directed by Ordinance No. 43.

The other charges brought by Marie Jeanne could not be sustained; no proof could be adduced that the marks of punishment on the children were inflicted by M. D'Emérez; besides which, the examining surgeon declares them not to be of recent appearance. With regard to the "bar de justice," or stocks, it does not come within the meaning of the Chain Ordinance. On all other points the charges were contradicted by the witnesses cited by complainant herself.

Therefore the only infraction of the law has been that of not registering in the "Record Book of Punishments" the punishment of the stocks for 16 days, as required by the 17th article of the Ordinance. M. D'Emérez admits his having kept complainant in the iron stocks from the 12th to the 28th April.

Result.—Condemned in the penalty of 5*l.* and costs.

Complaint, No. 3.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 6th June 1829.

Jasmin, a slave belonging to M. Villemont, of Grand Port, presented himself to the Assistant Protector of that quarter, with his face covered with blood, and walking with difficulty; he was immediately sent to a surgeon to be examined, and was by him sent back with a certificate, of which the following is an extract:—"Jasmin presents a longitudinal wound on the lower part of the face, near the upper jaw-bone, which might have been occasioned by a fall, or by a blow, which must have been made by an instrument of a cutting nature; slight excoriations on the left cheek, near the bone, and two sores on his right foot."

Complainant states that his master beat him with a stick about the face, merely because one of three parcels of grass he brought home was not so large as the others; that his mistress and her mother were both present when this happened; and that he receives only 1 lb. of rice per diem as his rations.

M. Villemont, in his reply, states, that the complaint is false and calumnious; that *Jasmin* came home on Friday last drunk, and whilst in the act of throwing his package of grass on the ground fell down, and wounded himself in the manner now shown by his face. On the following morning complainant was sent to fetch water for the house, and afterwards to cut grass, from which commission, however, he did not return; he was consequently declared a maroon. Declarant states that *Jasmin* is allowed 1½ lbs. of rice; that he had previously received 5 lbs. of manioc per diem as his rations, but that he now prefers rice. Complainant was purchased by M. Villemont, at his own particular request, and has now no other work than to fetch a barrel of water to the house morning and evening, and three or four bundles of grass for the horses. Declarant further states, that *Jasmin*, although repeatedly drunk, has never yet been punished by him.

This complaint having been referred to the Assistant Protector, in order that the evidence of Madame Villemont, her mother, and the domestics of the house, might be added to the foregoing; it results from the examination of those individuals, that M. Villemont did not strike the complainant, who was drunk, and who, in endeavouring to press a bundle of hay through the door-way fell, and thus wounded his forehead. Declarants were present when this happened, and, taking *Jasmin* into the kitchen, offered to render him every assistance; but he refused to accept it, and on the following morning had left the premises.

M. Villemont having been called upon for his "Register of Punishments," declared that he kept none, having no plantation, and no more than two blacks, *Jasmin* and *Céline* (now absent.)

Jasmin, again examined, declared that on the day his master beat him he neither saw nor met any person on the road; that he never gets drunk, because he has been forbidden to do so. "It is true that Madame Villemont did attend to and bathe the sores on my feet, but she did not cure them; it is since I have been at the civil commissary's that the sores have began to heal."

Result.—The Protector having considered all the circumstances connected with this case, deems the complaint false and groundless; and in order to mark his displeasure at the gross and exaggerated complaint of *Jasmin*, as well as the premeditated attempt of the slave to impose upon the Assistant Protector, by refusing to have his wounds dressed immediately after his fall, in order that he might prevent himself in a bleeding state, ordered *Jasmin* to receive 15 stripes of a martinet, and to be confined at his master's house for the next two Sundays.

Complaint, No. 4.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 10th June 1829.

THE following case has this day been transmitted for the information of the Protector of Slaves, by the Chief Commissary of Police:

Jules, belonging to Madame Gassin, complains that his mistress is unjust in her manner of treating him, often punishing him with a rope's end without the slightest reason; that he is the only slave on the premises, and is consequently over-worked; that having killed two
pigs

pigs yesterday, and cleaned them, he was again punished without any cause whatever. Complainant then left the house, intending to go to his wife, and to return to his mistress at eight o'clock; that when on the road he met the son-in-law of his mistress coming to take him back to the house; complainant then endeavouring to make his escape, fell on a stone, when he was arrested and conducted to the house of his mistress; and as he was then threatened with further correction, he took an opportunity of leaving the house, in order to prefer his present complaint.

The officer of police before whom this declaration was made, observing that the shirt of the slave was extremely bloody, inquired whence the blood came; and finding it to be from a serious wound received by complainant in the fall alluded to, caused him to be examined by the medical officer of the police, at whose recommendation he was immediately sent to the civil hospital.

The following is the certificate of the police surgeon :

“ Police, 11th June 1829.

“ I hereby certify that I was called to the police between twelve and one o'clock this morning to examine a slave named Jules, belonging to Madame Gassin, who, by his own account, had fallen against a sharp stone, which had penetrated into the abdomen, in the course of the *linea alba*, close to the navel, by which a portion of intestine and omentum had penetrated through the wound. I immediately sent him to hospital.

(signed) “ D. Shaw.”

Result, 18th June.—Complainant having been discharged from the hospital, was re-examined by the Protector, in the presence of his mistress and her son-in-law. From the statement of Madame Gassin, supported by other evidence, the Protector was clearly of opinion that the declaration made by Jules was false in every respect, and that his idleness and insobriety alone had brought upon him his late misfortune, more particularly as in his examination of this day he has had the audacity to declare that the wound for which he was under hospital treatment was inflicted with a knife by the son-in-law of his mistress in an attempt upon his life, and not occasioned, as stated in his declaration before the police, by falling upon a stone. The Protector therefore returned complainant to the police, to be disposed of as the chief commissary of that department might deem fit; first reprimanding him severely for his ill conduct towards his mistress, and threatening him with severe punishment should he repeat the same.

Complaint, No. 5.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 13th July 1829.

Eugène, aged 30 years, and belonging to the *Sieur Denis*, otherwise *Pierre Compty*, a person of colour, residing in Port Louis, having appeared at this office on the 12th instant to complain of severe ill treatment received from his master, was found to be in such a state of bodily health as to require immediate medical treatment. *Eugène* was accordingly sent to the civil hospital, where he this day declared as follows: That three days before his appearance at the Protector's office he took his master's breakfast to the store, when the said *Pierre Denis* inquired the reason of his being so late. Declarant replied that he had but just quitted the house. His master then told him he was drunk, and immediately struck him several blows with his fist, and kicked him in the face, marks of which he has on his person; and not content with knocking him down, continued to kick him on all parts of his body: that he then took back the case in which he had carried his master's breakfast. An inflammation which complainant has on one of his arms he states to have arisen from some blows received from his master about 15 days past; the marks on his breech are of punishments inflicted by his former master, as well as of 25 lashes of the “martinet” from his present owner, *Pierre Denis*, which were inflicted about a month past.

“ Port Louis, 12th June 1829.

“ I certify having examined *Eugène*, a slave belonging to *M. Pierre Denis*, and find a mark or wound at the outer angle of the left eye, another on the left cheek, and a third on the left side of the nose; the eye is also inflamed. These he states were occasioned by his master having kicked him while on the ground.

“ His right elbow and hand are also swollen, from blows of a stick received from his master, and he exhibits extensive marks of former punishment on both sides of his breech. He is feverish to a very high degree, and seems altogether very ill; in consequence I would recommend him to be sent to hospital.

(signed) “ H. Hart, M. D.”

In reply to this complaint the *Sieur Pierre Denis* declares, that *Eugène* was bought by him about six weeks past from *Mr. Autelme* as a cook: that about eight days past complainant was sent with declarant's breakfast to the store; but being drunk he let it fall, by which means it was covered with dirt: that in consequence of which, complainant did give him a slap with his hand, which caused him to fall upon a barrel of salt meat, and complainant thus received the wounds of which he complains. Declarant is entirely ignorant of the cause of the swellings on the different parts of his body. It is false that he either kicked or struck *Eugène* with a stick, as stated by him: that the marks on his breech were not occasioned by any punishment inflicted by declarant; who farther states, that complainant

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having had half a piece of blue cloth given him for clothing sold the same, and disposed of the money. The whole of declarant's slaves can testify to the good treatment shown them. Mr. F. Arékion, Furcy Demarne and Auguste Azoux, were present at the time complainant states himself to have been so punished, and they can give evidence as to the fact.

On the 25th July Messrs. Auguste Ozoux and Furzy Demarne attended at the Protector's office, and after having heard the complaint of Eugène, declared that they were present when he brought the breakfast to his master. Complainant was then drunk, and could scarcely answer when asked by Pierre Denis how this had happened, upon which his master gave him a slap with the hand. Declarants saw the complainant fall upon the cask, after which he was sent back to the house of his master.

The Sieur Ferdinand Arékion stated the same thing; and further, that he observed the wound on complainant's face to have occurred by the fall alluded to.

Result.—The Protector having taken the circumstances of the case into consideration, is of opinion that the charge made by complainant is not clearly set aside by the evidence in support of the defence, and he has therefore considered it his duty to transmit the same to the Procureur-General for prosecution, under the 19th article of Ordinance No. 43.

Acquitted by the Court of First Instance.

Complaint, No. 6.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 16th June 1829.

Jeanny, a Creole negress, aged 35 years, and belonging to Madame Sturbel, of the quarter of Savanne, states, that about a twelvemonth past she complained to the police that her mistress exacted more work from her than she was able to perform, that is, five sacks per diem, in the event of not completing which, complainant was flogged. Complainant was then sent to the hospital; at the end of a month she was taken away and conducted to the estate, and there attached to a chain fixed to a large stone in a shed: that ever since that time she has been subjected to ill-treatment: that she is almost weekly flogged by Jean Baptiste, or Piram, or Jean Louis, sometimes with 30 lashes or more of a cart-whip, and at least with 25 lashes, without counting the blows, of a sagay stick, which her mistress gives her from time to time for not furnishing the five sacks a day, which she declares it is impossible for her to do, she having always been accustomed to the service of the house, as ironing, washing and sewing: that whenever she is punished her mistress is present, and tells her to "go and find the Protector, and tell him to give her stockings and shoes:" that when complainant is punished her hands are usually held by Justine, Hortense and Victorine (the latter with child); all three, now chained in the same shed where they sew the sacks: that they are there kept "au secret," not seeing any person except when the calls of nature require them to be loosed: that during the last twelve months she has been constantly kept in chains, as above stated, and, in addition to other cruelties, her mistress forbids her to see her son, who lives at Port Louis, and who is sent away whenever he presents himself for that purpose: that the only food complainant receives is half a pound of boiled rice per diem: that she works throughout the day on Sundays, and rises to go to work on other days at three o'clock in the morning: that being so closely confined she has never before been able to come to town to make her complaint until now: that whilst so kept in chains she miscarried, in consequence of which she remained one year in the hospital: that her miscarriages were occasioned by the ill-treatment experienced from her mistress, who caused her to be flogged several times during her pregnancy. Declarant further states that the following deaths have occurred on the estate of Madame Sturbel in consequence of the ill treatment experienced by her slaves:

"Julie" and her two children; poisoned both them and herself.

"Lolo" and her two children; drowned themselves in a pond on the plantation; and a boy named "Noel," 14 years of age, hung himself; all preferring death to the ill treatment of Madame Sturbel. Complainant quitted her mistress 12 days past, but being ill she could not come to town so quickly as she wished: that when she was last flogged (about a month past) she was laid flat on the ground, her hands held by Perinne and Dauphine, and her feet by Justine and Celestine, whilst Jean Louis inflicted the punishment, and her mistress being present. Complainant has been in the service of Madame Sturbel from 15 to 18 years.

"Port Louis, 16th June 1829.

"I certify having examined Jenny, a negress belonging to Madam Sturbel, and find extensive marks of laceration on both sides of the breech, but the marks appear not to be recent; her back, shoulders and arms also exhibit extensive marks of recent punishment. She seems delicate, and is apparently ill, which, in my opinion, may have arisen from the bad treatment she has for some time received from her mistress, having been punished repeatedly, and apparently very ill fed. I would therefore recommend her being sent to the hospital.

(signed)

"H. Hart, M. D.

"Surgeon to the Police."

Madame Sturbel, in her reply, declares the whole of this statement to be false: that more than four months past she ceased to use the cart-whip, which was before only used to call together the slaves: that complainant is a bad subject, who about eight days before she made her escape, feigned sickness whilst in chains, and was therefore slightly punished with a cat-o'-nine tails, an instrument that is always used on her establishment. Complainant

plainant received nine stripes only, which were inflicted by the commandeur, Jean Louis: that complainant then saying she could not work, was left without doing any thing, notwithstanding which she received half a pound of rice at each meal. With respect to her miscarriage, complainant is no longer of an age to bear children, and what she calls a miscarriage was nothing more than the symptoms which mark a certain epoch in the lives of females, and the accidents she speaks of were occasioned thereby. And with reference to the events of mortality complainant speaks of, it is true, that about 19 years ago, a slave named "Nina" disappeared from the plantation, and has never since been heard of; but no proof of her death has ever been had; she was at that time declared a maroon, and remains so to this moment. With regard to the negresses who are said to have drowned themselves about the period the island was captured, and at different times; they were in the habit of going out at nights, taking their children with them, to seek for arrack at Port Souillac, and were found drowned at the ford of the Savanne River. That complainant was sold by her first mistress, Madame Marçaye, for stealing a silver dish-cover, and it was in consequence of her continuing to steal that declarant was obliged to send her to work out of the house. That complainant's story is equally false, in stating that declarant refuses her permission to see her son. He came to see her about two years ago, when his mother was in chains, and then begged forgiveness for her, saying, that if his mother should again maroon, he would no more come to see her; that having granted this request, declarant caused Jeanny to be set at liberty, who, notwithstanding her promise, marooned about a month afterwards, and therefore it is that her son has declined to come and see her.

Piram, a commandeur, and slave of Madame Sturbel, knows nothing of the punishment inflicted on Jeanny, he being employed in overlooking the blacks of the habitation. Declarant uses only a cane, and declares it to be a long time since the cart-whip has been abandoned. He was told that complainant had escaped, but never heard that she had been flogged so often. Her ordinary task work was to make four sacks a day, although her mistress exacted five.

Jean Louis says, it would be impossible to keep Jeanny on the plantation except in chains: that in consequence of her bad habits he cannot compare her to any thing but a dog: that it is actually necessary to keep her chained in order to prevent her eating the fowls. Declarant never saw her flogged with a cart-whip: she has sometimes received a few strokes of the "martinet" or of the cane, to make her work. About a month past declarant punished her with 15 stripes of the cat-o'-nine tails. Perrine and himself only were present; and the punishment was on her shoulders.

Jean Marie, a boy aged 17 years, confirms what the last witness says relative to the punishment of 15 stripes of the "martinet." He never saw complainant laid on the floor to be flogged.

Justine declares that Jeanny has wickedly caluminated her mistress: that she was never beaten by Pyram with a cart-whip, that is to say, for a long time past. Complainant was punished with 15 lashes of the "martinet," for not completing her task, some time ago; declarant did not hold Jeanny's feet on that occasion, she herself being then in chains; she was held by Perrine, whilst Jean Louis flogged her. Complainant is a thief, and has stolen many articles of dress from the other negresses.

Perrine states, that complainant received 15 stripes of the martinet, for having spoiled her work in sewing sacks. The slaves do not begin work, as complainant states, at three o'clock in the morning, but at five. The negresses have one pound of rice per diem, and they only work on Sundays to finish that which they neglect during the week. Declarant did not know that Jeanny was pregnant, and that she had miscarried. Their daily task is four or five sacks, according to their strength.

Celestine says, she did not hold Jeanny's feet when she was punished; her feet were not held, her hands were by Perrine.

Dauphine did not see Jeanny flogged with a cart whip, it was with the martinet that she was punished; that she escaped eight days before the time she declared herself to be ill, taking with her two shifts, a petticoat, and two pairs of trowsers which had been given to her to cut out.

Result.—The Protector having duly considered the foregoing complaint, considered it his duty to denounce the same to the Procureur-General for prosecution against Madame Sturbel, on the following grounds:

- 1st. For having kept the negress Jeanny in irons for nearly 12 months, chained to a large block of wood in a hangard, during which time she miscarried.
- 2d. For having caused to be inflicted on her person at different periods, and particularly about a month before she ran away, from 25 to 30 stripes of a cart-whip and other instruments, the marks of which punishment complainant now bears on various parts of her body.
- 3d. For not allowing her a sufficient quantity of food, her daily rations being only half a pound of boiled rice.
- 4th For compelling her to work on Sundays against her will.
- 5th. For exacting a daily task of making five vacoa sacks, which is more than her physical strength is able to accomplish, although her mistress obliges her, and the rest of the slaves, to begin their labour at three o'clock in the morning, and punishes them if the task be not performed.

Condemned in the penalty of 33*l.* and costs.

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Complaint, No. 7.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 19th June 1829.

St. Yago, a slave aged 50 years, and belonging to M. Bestel, of the quarter of Plaines Wilhems, states, that he left the habitation of his master on Thursday last, to complain of the commandeur, Lamisa, and Madame Bestel, by whom he is constantly ill-treated, and made to dig in the fields with other blacks, although such work at his advanced age is too laborious for him. Complainant is therefore almost daily beaten by the said commandeur, and when he complains, his mistress always says, "be satisfied, it is very right." That he works on Sundays from six in the morning until noon, and sometimes later, even until six in the evening.

The examining surgeon, in his certificate, states, "that the complainant appears to be too infirm for any hard labour, and therefore recommends that some light employment should be found for him; complainant has two or three marks on his back, but the surgeon is unable to say whether they are the result of punishment with the cane, or accident."

The complaint of *St. Yago* was transmitted to the Assistant Protector of the quarter, before whom the *Sieur Delivines* (in the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Bestel) deposed, that there is no such commandeur as Lamisa on the establishment; complainant must doubtless mean Michault, in whose party he works, that is, the small party composed of the old people and children, who do little or nothing more than pick up the rubbish about the premises. It is false that complainant is ever employed, as he states himself to have been, in digging; he has never been employed in any other manner than that just stated. With respect to his being maltreated by the commandeur, declarant can only state, that he is present with the working people at least half the day, and that he has never, in any instance, seen the commandeur ill treat one of the slaves. Besides, he has the most positive instruction not to punish a slave under any circumstances without authority to do so, either from M. Bestel or the declarant himself.

With respect to Sunday labour, the statement of *St. Yago* is equally false. The *corvée* is always finished by eight o'clock, and after that hour the slaves have the day to themselves. Such slaves, however, as choose to work, are regularly paid for such labour according to the prices fixed by law.

Result.—It appearing on a further investigation of this complaint, that idleness had caused the complainant to appear before the Protector with his present statement, and he having subsequently acknowledged that his master had regularly paid him for Sunday work; *St. Yago* was returned to M. Bestel, with a recommendation that he should be employed on the lightest kind of labour, which being promised on the part of the master, induced the Protector to dismiss the case.

Complaint, No. 8.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 25th June 1829.

Antoine, a Mozambique, aged 40 years, and belonging to M. Bestel of the Savanne, complains that five or six days past the econome, M. Fauque, caused complainant to be tied by the slave *Gèrome*, and gave him 10 lashes of a cat composed of 10 tails, for having seen him chasing the pigs belonging to the estate. Complainant saw the pigs feeding in a field of manioc, and was driving them to the court-yard, when the econome said he was doing so with an intent to steal them, and therefore ordered complainant to be thus punished. The day before yesterday he was punished with 15 stripes, and almost immediately afterwards with five more of the same cat, by the black named *Vendredi*; and he was told, that this punishment was for not finding two sacks of charcoal on the preceding evening; complainant observed to the econome, that two sacks were more than he could make in one day. *Antoine* further states, that about 15 days past he was punished with 25 lashes of the same cat, because he was suspected of a theft, notwithstanding it had been traced to another black.

Port Louis, 25th June 1829.

"I certify having examined *Antoine*, a slave belonging to M. Bestel, and find both sides of his breech extensively lacerated, particularly the right side. He also exhibits marks of punishment on his back."

(signed)

"H. Hart, M. D.

"Surgeon to the Police."

M. Fauque, with six slaves from the estate of M. Bestel, appeared before the Assistant Protector of the quarter of Savanne, and being sworn, gave their evidence as follows: M. Fauque declares, that being absent from the estate of Surinam and on his way to Port Louis, he remained at the Rivière du Rempart from the 4th to the 13th June, and could not therefore be present at any punishment which took place on the estate during that period. Declarant can furnish incontestable proof that the punishment awarded to complainant for stealing the pigs took place long before his departure for Port Louis. (Here an extract of the "Record Book of Punishment" was produced to show that the complainant received, on the 15th May, 25 lashes of the martinet, for a theft committed on the 8th of the same month.)

Declarant

Declarant also states, that complainant has for the last year and a half been accustomed to furnish two sacks of charcoal per diem; and which is regularly done by the black who always works with the complainant.

François Hérisson, a free man, and storekeeper on the estate of M. Bestel, perfectly well recollects complainant's being brought in from chasing the pigs in a manioc field, with an intent to steal them, and his being punished on this account, by order of M. Fauque, with 15 stripes of the cat-o'-nine-tails; and that being immediately afterwards taken with another slave, named Philogene, in the act of stealing linen from Henriette, complainant received a second correction by order of M. Bestel, jun. That he was afterwards punished with five stripes for neglecting his work, viz. to bring charcoal, which he was ordered to do by M. Fauque; instead of returning to his duty, however, complainant marooned.

Gérôme, Vendredi and Victor, all slaves on the estate of M. Bestel, corroborate the foregoing evidence, more particularly with respect to complainant's evident intention of stealing a pig; and subsequent evidence taken from Philogene and other blacks of the same establishment also went to prove that the punishment inflicted on Antoine was not unmerited. It therefore appears that the only way in which the econome of M. Bestel has exceeded the right of punishment allowed him by law, was in the use of a cat-o'-nine-tails composed of hide instead of cord. The said econome, however, assuring the Protector that this had been done in ignorance, and not with an intent to increase the severity of the punishment, the case was dismissed, M. Bestel being recommended to confine himself to the use of the common "cat-o'-nine-tails," in any punishment he might hereafter have to inflict on his establishment with an instrument of that description.

Complaint, No. 9.

Protector of Slaves' Office, June 29th, 1829.

Adolphe, aged 10 years, and belonging to Mr. Eugène Ducray, of Plaines Wilhems, having presented himself at the police-office with chains on his ancles, complaining of the ill treatment received from his said master, was sent to the Protector. Complainant states, that he is obliged to dig potatoes on the habitation with the other slaves, furnishing as his portion during the season one basket full a day. That not having sufficient strength, he is unable to complete this task, and for this reason was punished and placed in chains in the month of November last, and has continued to carry them ever since. That he is badly fed with potatoes, getting only half a parcel of three per diem; besides which, he has no clothing allowed to him. Complainant has never been a maroon; and "Babet" and "Philogene" can testify to his having been in chains during the period he has stated.

Complainant was then examined by the police surgeon, who states, that he has "examined *Adolphe*, a slave belonging to Mr. Ducray; that he appears much emaciated and in bad health, which he states to have arisen from being kept chained and having only potatoes as food. His health appears so much impaired that I would recommend his being sent to hospital."

The Protector observing the extremely emaciated condition of the boy, and thinking that the certificate of the examining surgeon does not sufficiently explain the cause of his thinness, requested Dr. Hart to examine again the complainant, with a view (if possible) of ascertaining the cause of his present condition; but that officer being desirous of consulting with other medical men on this case, the Protector prayed his Excellency the Governor to direct a medical board to be assembled at the civil hospital for the purpose of making such inquiry.

The Board appointed in consequence of this application reports as follows:

"The Board having carefully examined the individual in question, find that he is much emaciated and labouring under slight febrile symptoms accompanied by a tumid abdomen, and a cachectic appearance, arising probably from an affection of the mesenteric glands, or worms; diseases very common amongst blacks of his age. The Board is therefore of opinion, that his present state proceeds rather from constitutional causes than from insufficiency of food or ill treatment, and which opinion is corroborated by the circumstance of there being no marks of punishment on his person.

(signed) "A. Shanks, M. D.
A. Montmogery,
H. Hart, M. D."

"Port Louis, 1st July 1829.

On the following day the Sieur Ducray declared before the Protector, that nothing can be more false than the declaration of *Adolphe*. That so far from obliging him to dig in the plantations and to seek for potatoes in the manner described, he bought him expressly for the purpose of light work in the house; that complainant himself wished to be employed on the estate, and was always unwilling to be kept in the house, in which, in fact, declarant never was able to retain him. That being so disposed, declarant allowed him to go with the other blacks; but after a short time *Adolphe* began to maroon, and as there were no other means of confining him within bounds, he was chained from time to time. With respect to his emaciated condition, it arises from the "bloody flux," brought on by the immense quantity of cane, bad fruits, and all sorts of things complainant is in the habit of eating, although forbidden by his master to do so. Complainant is also false, in stating that he is ill fed; he is fed from declarant's table, and considered as one of his children.

Declarant

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Declarant was not aware that he acted in contravention of any law in putting a light chain on complainant, seeing that he had no other means of keeping him upon the plantation.

Result.—In consequence of the report of the medical board, and finding upon further inquiry that the Sieur Ducray can by no means be considered as an unjust master to his slaves, the Protector caused the complainant to be returned to him for medical treatment; M. Ducray was at the same time informed, that as he has unfortunately overstepped the bounds of the law in putting chains upon a boy of Adolphe's age, that act, as a contravention of the Ordinance No. 20, would be denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution; but in consideration of the falsehoods advanced by the boy, and his general bad conduct, the Protector intended to recommend the case to the favourable consideration of the authorities before whom it might be brought. Denounced accordingly on the 20th instant, with a suggestion that the smallest penalty possible might be inflicted.

Condemned in the penalty of 2 *l.* and costs.

Complaint, No. 10.

Protector of Slaves' Office, June 29th, 1829.

Fidèle, aged 45 years, and belonging to Mr. Guyot of Port Louis, complains that his master caused him to be punished on the soles of his feet with a large stick, which caused them to swell to the state in which they now are; that he is also deprived of Sundays; that he does not recollect the name of the slave who inflicted the punishment, but that all the other blacks of his master witnessed it.

M. Guyot, a respectable merchant of Port Louis, declares, that the complaint is entirely false. The swelling on complainant's feet arises from a malady, for which he has been under the care of M. Margot, a surgeon, for nearly 12 months. That the true story of the case is this: about 10 days past complainant was sent for a ream of paper purchased by his master; that he returned without it, and in so drunken a state that M. Guyot could not, until the following morning, ascertain how he had disposed of the paper. Complainant then stated, that being drunk, he had let it fall from his shoulder. Feeling persuaded, however, that the slave had either sold or pawned it, his master promised him pardon, and the money necessary to redeem the paper, provided complainant would say where he had deposited it. The slave declined, however, to make any disclosure, and left the house immediately, since which his master has been in ignorance of where *Fidèle* has been.

Having examined the slave upon the statement of his master, he again persisted in being drunk at the time the paper fell from his shoulder, and he left it in the street. The Protector, therefore, after repeated efforts to persuade *Fidèle* to tell the truth, and after having fully persuaded himself from M. Guyot's own assertion, and the certificate of the surgeon, that the swelling of his feet was a constitutional complaint, and not the effect of punishment (as was also certified by Dr. Hart), ordered the complainant to receive 25 lashes of the "martinet," at the bagne, and in the presence of any of Mr. Guyot's slaves who might be sent there to witness the same.

Complaint, No. 11.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 20th June 1829.

Flore, aged 40 years, and belonging to M. Henry Motet, of "Bois Rouge," in the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, states that her master and mistress, on their return from M. Aubry's last evening, directed her to rub the body of the negress Clorine with vinegar, whilst the former went to fetch a blister to place upon her chest. Complainant obeyed, and while in the act of so doing her master told her she was drunk, giving her two blows with a stick, one on the back, and another over the right eye, of which she still bears the mark. Complainant also states, that she was employed in ironing during her master's absence, and that she had not taken any arrack or other intoxicating liquor, as Clodine, Edward and Virginie can testify.

The examining surgeon's certificate states, "that *Flore* has a cut on the right eyebrow, and another wound a little higher up on the same side. The lower eyelid is much swollen, and the eye slightly inflamed."

M. Motet, in his reply, declares, that on his return from his brother's he found complainant quite drunk and unable to speak, at which he felt indignant, especially as a sick negress had been left in her charge. He therefore did give *Flore* a blow with his hand, and sent her to her hut. She absented herself on the following morning. Declarant is persuaded that the wound on her eye must have been occasioned by a fall, as he positively never struck her with a stick or cane.

Clodine, who was ill and confined to her bed, declares, that her master left *Flore* to take care of her; that instead of doing so she did nothing but drink arrack; that by the evening she became very drunk; and that her master did give her a hand blow, and then sent her to her "case."

Victoire and the slave Manuel confirmed the above, and further stated that complainant was in the frequent habit of intoxication. Edward and Virginie were mere children, and too young to be examined.

Result.—*Flore*'s inebriety is clearly proved, and also her neglect of the sick negress left under her charge. That the swelling above her eye was occasioned by the blow received from

from her master is not so certain. All her comrades declare he did not strike her in any other manner than by a "soufflet." It is possible, that being in a state of intoxication she fell, and thus occasioned the wound. To this must be added the master's character for good treatment of his slaves, and the disgusting and highly blameable conduct of Flore. Complainant was therefore sent back to her master with a severe admonition against drunkenness and its consequences. The master was at the same time recommended to use moderation and temper for the future.

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Complaint, No. 12.

Protector of Slaves Office, 1st July 1829.

Léveillé, aged 45 years, and the slave of Mr. Allard, of the district of Rivière du Rempart, was some days past sent by his master with other slaves to collect coral on the sea-shore; that his companions returning a little before himself, his master asked him why he did not come back with them; he replied that he was lame, and could not walk so fast as they did; his master then gave him several blows on the back with a stick, and afterwards obliged him to eat human excrement. *Jolicœur* and *Hypolite* were present when this occurred.

Mr. Allard and his slaves were examined on the following morning, before whom the complainant then denied ever having advanced the charge of being forced to eat human excrement.

Mr. Allard declares, that on Saturday last complainant returned from work a long time after the other blacks, not because he is not as capable of work as the others, but because he is absolutely lazy. Complainant was insolent when spoken to, and refused to be silent; in consequence of which declarant gave him a blow or two on his shoulders, which were slight, and could not have hurt him, he having a vacois and two rice bags on his back at the time. Complainant has been 21 years in his service, and has never once been punished by him. In the present instance it was not for returning later than his companions, but for having conducted himself in a manner so odious and unlike his general conduct.

Jolicœur denies altogether the statement of *Léveillé*, and confirms the deposition of his master.

Hypolite says he was employed in planting cane on a neighbouring estate, and is therefore ignorant of all that was passing at his master's at the time alluded to.

Result.—It appearing that the complaint was altogether false and malicious, the Protector directed complainant to be punished with 15 lashes of the cat-o'-nine tails in the presence of his comrades.

Complaint, No. 13.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 2d July 1829.

Estelle, belonging to Mr. Eugene Ducray, of "Plaines Wilhems," complains, that her master has kept her chained by the right foot during the last six months; and that at night she is confined by another chain fixed to her left foot, the latter having been put on her during the last month. She escaped from her mistress, who is living in Port Louis, about a fortnight past, and has been during that time at the "Rivière des Latiniers" and the "Bassin Chaussette," and some nights with the boat-keepers of the port. "Fine, Aurélie and Adrien" saw complainant in chains, as well as *Babé*, who is also confined in the same manner at present.

Dr. Hart, in his examination of *Estelle*, states, "that she has marks of punishment on her person, but apparently of several years standing; and that she appears well fed and well clothed."

On the same day M. Ducray appeared at the Protector's office, and admitted it to be true that he had put a chain or ring on the ankle of *Estelle*, not knowing that the law prohibited his doing so. He declares that he found himself under the necessity of thus confining her in order to put a stop to her frequent maroonage. Complainant marooned the day after she was sent to Port Louis, and since that has again absented herself. Complainant is also a great drunkard, and otherwise a very bad subject. It was in ignorance that declarant adopted this mode of suppressing her bad habits.

Result.—The Protector, in transmitting this case to the Procureur-General for prosecution, regretted that he had no alternative with respect to such denouncement. As the negress was proved to be a constant maroon, and a most libidinous character, as well as a drunkard, the complaint with regard to ill treatment was dismissed, whilst *Estelle* received a severe admonition, which at the time appeared to have some effect upon her. A few days afterwards, however, M. Ducray again appeared at this office to inform the Protector that *Estelle* had once more absented herself from his establishment, and remains at this time a maroon. Fined in the sum of 2*l.* sterling and costs.

Complaint, No. 14.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 3d July 1829.

Victorine, a girl aged 15 years, belonging to Madlle. Aurore Barreau, of Moka, complains that her mistress put an iron ring upon her ankle upwards of a year ago, and which she has continued to wear ever since, because she marooned in consequence of not being permitted to come into Port Louis.

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M. Fortuné Barreau appeared on the part of his sister, and declared that the complainant is an habitual maroon, whom it is impossible to keep in the house by any other means than the occasional use of a small chain. That she is not (as she states) constantly wearing the chain; but has frequent permission to come to town to see her mother, on which occasions, however, she is always absent a fortnight or three weeks.

The girl persisting in her desire to see her mother, M. Barreau engaged that Victorine should have permission to come into town twice a month for that purpose; on condition, however, that she returned to her mistress on the following day. Victorine being satisfied with this arrangement, the complainant was returned to her mistress, who was also informed, that as the law allows the Protector no option in denouncing the infraction of the law committed by Madlle. Barreau in putting the girl in chains, the same would be made known to the Procureur-General for prosecution. It was denounced accordingly.

Fined in the sum 2 *l.* sterling and costs.

Complaint, No. 15.

Protector of Slaves Office, July 4, 1829.

Virginie, aged 40 years, and her child *Victorine*, aged seven years, both belonging to Jean Baptiste Hector, of Port Louis, have been sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of Police. The former complains of being the only slave kept in the house of her master. That she is obliged to rise every morning at four o'clock, and bring home two barrels of water; then to make bazaar; and on her return at nine o'clock complainant is sent out to sell water and is obliged to bring home 50 sous. That she is often beaten by her mistress with a cane, marks of which she has on her person. That her child is also frequently punished with a cane and blows of the fist; that her child yesterday received a kick from her mistress which broke one of her teeth; and this was because she had not done the work of the kitchen.

Extract from the certificate of Dr. Hart.

"Virginie has some very slight marks of recent punishment on her shoulders; she appears well fed and well clothed.

"I am of opinion that *Victorine* lost her tooth from natural causes, she being about the age at which children shed their first teeth.

(signed)

"H. Hart, M. D.,
"Surgeon to the Police."

The Protector having called Jean Baptiste Hector before him, and received his answer to the complaint of his slave; and having also re-examined *Virginie* in his presence, finds,

1st. That the complaint about kicking the child's tooth out is false.

2dly. That her statement respecting her being obliged to bring 50 sous per diem is not altogether correct; complainant does furnish water for the use of some of her mistress's neighbours, for which she (her mistress) receives six sous per barrel.

3dly. That she has had a few strokes of a cane on her shoulders over her clothes, though of a very slight nature, and which appears to have been inflicted in ignorance of the new law. The Protector therefore did not think it necessary under the circumstances set forth to denounce the case for prosecution; but discharged the complaint; first admonishing the master for having employed the negress in work such as that of selling water, it appearing that the household duties were sufficiently great. The negress was also admonished, and the complaint was then discharged.

Complaint, No. 16.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 9th July 1829.

THIRTY-ONE slaves, males and females, belonging to Messrs. Pierre Compty Demarne & Co., whose estate at "Bois Rouge," is under the management of M. Odillard, appeared at this office to complain of the said manager. After severely reprimanding them for quitting the estate in a body, the Protector directed that two or three individuals might be selected to present their complaint, and the remainder be sent back to the establishment under escort of the police.

Thomas, aged 50 years, and *Jeannot*, aged 40, deputed to speak on the part of their comrades, state, that they are daily punished for almost nothing; that they work at "corvée" from three o'clock in the morning, and when that is finished, they work from six in the morning until eight in the evening; that they have not time allowed them to take their food; that some of them take their food to the field to cook it there; that they leave off work at noon, but are not allowed to return to the court to eat; and if they have not finished their repast in three quarters of an hour, they are obliged to leave it and go to work by order of M. Odillard. Complainants quitted the estate four days past, remaining concealed in the cane during that time.

Dr. Hart states in his certificate that he has "examined 31 slaves belonging to M. Pierre Compty & Co., all of whom complain of bad treatment. I find that they do not exhibit any marks of recent punishment whatever; and that they appear well fed and well clothed."

The Protector having previously received a similar complaint from certain other slaves of this establishment, thought it necessary to visit the estate of Messrs. Pierre, Compty & Co.; and,

and, with the assistance of the Assistant Protector of the Quarter, personally to investigate the complaint. With this view the complainants were assembled, and having heard the complaints made in their names by the slaves "Thomas" and "Jeannot" read, no reply was made thereto, excepting by the slave "Fricassé," who, in an insubordinate manner, said, "that he had been beaten, and that the canes would not be cut this year." Having every reason to believe the complaint to be unfounded, the Protector endeavoured to discover the ringleaders of the party; and remembering Thomas to have been cited by five or six of his comrades as one of the chief, his person was again examined, but without leading to the slightest discovery of any mark of punishment.

With respect to "breloques," and the want of time for taking their food of which they complain, it was proved to be false; instead of three quarters of an hour, they were allowed an hour at breakfast, and two hours at dinner. They rise at day-light, and not at three o'clock as stated by complainants. After a minute investigation of the complaint and proof of its falsity, the Protector ordered that the slaves "Thomas" and "Fricassé" should be punished; the former with 30 lashes of the "martinet," and the latter with 25; and that the negresses should be confined for the four following Sundays without being allowed any communication with each other, in order to serve as an example of their bad conduct; proper attention being had to the dryness of the place in which they shall be confined, and the nature of the food to be given to them.

Complaint, No 17.

Protector's-office, Port Louis, 13th July 1829.

Carlin, a Mozambique, aged about 30 years, "*Cecile*," aged 35, and *Genevieve*, aged 37 years, all belonging to M. Voisin of Plaines Wilhems, complain of not being allowed sufficient time to dress and eat their food: that their allowance is one pound of maize per diem each slave, besides which they get two manioc; that they rise to work at four in the morning; that they also work on Sundays from six o'clock in the morning until three, and sometimes four, in the afternoon, and have never had a Sunday to themselves. They have been one year on the estate; have never been maroons; and now only complain because they cannot have "breloques" and Sundays.

The examining surgeon states, "I certify having examined Carlin, Cecile and Genevieve, slaves belonging to M. Voisin, none of whom exhibit a single mark of punishment on any part of their bodies or limbs; they also appear exceedingly well fed, all three being corpulent, and they are well clothed."

M. A. Auger, to whom it appears the complainants belong, and not to M. Voisin, presented himself at the office of the Assistant Protector, and declared, that on Sunday last, at eight o'clock in the morning, the complainants requested permission to go and see their old master, who lives at "Tamarin," which request was immediately granted, declarant giving them the necessary pass; that he is much surprised at the use they made of that pass, as well as at the nature of their complaint, never having perceived the slightest mark of discontent in these slaves, who are part of a number he purchased about a month past; that these individuals (apparently astonished at the moderation with respect to the labour imposed upon them) were the first to observe that they were in good health and able to do as much work as the other slaves. The hours of labour and rest on declarant's estate are regulated in the following manner; the slaves regularly begin at day-light, and leave off at six o'clock in the evening; they have one hour for breakfast and two hours for dinner; that about five o'clock the slaves employed in agriculture leave their work, and load two waggons with wood intended to be taken to Port Louis on the following morning, which work is always finished before six o'clock. Declarant's slaves do not work on Sunday, except in furnishing the indispensable wants of their master and themselves, which is always done by eight o'clock. For all voluntary Sunday labour they are paid higher wages than those of the tariff fixed by Government. His slaves are fed on manioc, maize and rice; of manioc they have five pounds per diem, of maize, two pounds, and of rice one pound and a half, independent of the remains of his own table, and a glass of arrack morning and evening. That they are all well clothed and furnished with a blanket each; and declarant invites the Assistant Protector to interrogate his slaves to this effect.

Result.—The Protector, desirous of making strict inquiry into this case, with a view to ascertain the truth or falsehood of the numerous complaints about Sunday labour, "breloques," &c., desired the Assistant Protector to be particular in the investigation of the charge. The same having proved to be false by the declaration of the master and the evidence of his slaves (and the further evidence of the Assistant Protector, who speaks very favourably of M. Auger's treatment of his people), induced the Protector to order the two female slaves to be confined on the estate for the next two Sundays, and that the male slave should receive nine lashes of the "cat-o-nine-tails," which sentence was carried into execution.

Complaint, No. 18.

Protector of Slaves office, 28th June 1829.

Alexis, aged 35 years, and belonging to the Sieur Pierre Compty, of Bois Rouge, complains of having been punished about a week past, with 40 lashes of a cart-whip, by order of the Sieur Audillard, manager of the estate. The punishment was inflicted by the com-

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mandeur Jean Louis on the day following complainant's return from the police where he had been detained for maroonage: that he was immediately afterwards placed in chains, and threatened with a further daily punishment of five stripes of a cane on the head, which punishment was also inflicted. Alexis also complains of being allowed but one pound of rice per diem as his rations: that he is the only slave on the estate made to work on Sundays; he is then employed in gathering the flowers of the cane from morning until six o'clock in the evening.

Thomas, Jeannot, Pierrot, Adonis, Jean Louis, and M. Odillard were present when complainant was punished, and he states that these slaves can testify to his having received five stripes of the cane daily from Jean Louis.

The chain taken from complainant was found to weigh $4\frac{1}{4}$ lbs., consequently of greater weight than allowed by law.

“ Port Louis, 27th June 1829.

“ I certify having examined Alexis, a slave belonging to Mr. Pierre Compty, and find both sides of his breech ulcerated from the effects of punishment, but more particularly the right side. He also appears affected with a disease of the right testis, which he states arose about a month past, but from what cause does not appear.

(signed) “ H. Hart, M. D.
“ Surgeon to the Police.”

On the 29th June Messrs. Pierre Compty, Demarne and Company, as well as M. Odillard (the manager) appeared at the Protector's office. The latter declared that he never caused complainant to be punished with 40 lashes of a whip, as he has falsely stated; but that on his last return he inflicted nine stripes of the cane on complainant for his frequent maroonage: that he is constantly marooning, and can only be kept on the estate by means of a chain to the foot: declarant was ignorant that the chain put on complainant is of greater weight than that allowed by law, and declares his statement to be entirely false with reference to his food, and Sunday labour.

Complainant was again examined. He persists in the truth of his former statement, with the exception that the five strokes on his head were inflicted every other day, and not every day, as he first declared, and that he worked only on one Sunday.

The commandeur Jean Louis states, that complainant was punished by him with nine stripes of a cat-o'-nine tails two days after his return from the police: that he was afterwards put in chains, and continued to work in them; that he was not punished with five strokes of the cane as stated; had such been the case, declarant must have known it; neither is it true that complainant is ill fed. Every black on the establishment has a pound and a half of rice per diem, and those who are in chains have two pounds, because they cannot get “ brede.” Alexis is not employed on Sundays, and the *corvée* is always finished by eight o'clock in the morning.

The slave “ Thomas ” declares, that complainant was not punished with 40 lashes of the whip, but with nine stripes of the “ martinet ” for repeated maroonage; that he is not punished with five stripes of a cane, as he states, and that he has, like the other slaves kept in chains, two pounds of rice per diem. It is also false that he is made to work on Sundays. Many other slaves were then examined on these points, all of whom confirmed the foregoing evidence, and spoke favourably of their treatment on the estate.

Result.—The two first charges not being borne out by the investigation of this complaint; but, on the contrary, contradicted, whilst the third charge was fully established, Messrs. Compty, Demarne and Company were denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution for a breach of the Ordinance 20, of the 13th December 1826.

Condemned in the penalty of 2*l.* with costs.

Complaint, No. 19.

Protector of Slaves Office, July 20th 1829.

THE free person of colour, Mademoiselle Lolotte Egron, having appeared, preferring a charge of theft and maroonage against the negress *Augustine*, her slave, the same was investigated by the Chief Commissary of Police; and it having appeared that the negress in her turn became the complainant, the affair was transmitted to the Protector for investigation into an illegal punishment, declared by the negress to have been inflicted upon her by the said Lolotte Egron.

Augustine says, that she well remembers a complaint made against her on the 3d instant by her mistress; that she was in consequence severely reprimanded by the Protector, and sent back to Lolotte Egron; that she continued to perform the domestic duties of the house until Saturday noon last, at which time her mistress became very angry, because complainant had not finished the ironing; that she told her mistress she could not do more than she had done, and at the same time do the other work of the house. Her mistress then flogged her with a whip formed of a “ *nerf de bœuf*.” Complainant does not know the exact number of strokes, but is sure they were more than ten, because she suffered a great deal of pain from the punishment, which was inflicted in the presence of her mistress's sister, Adèle Borghèse.

On the 6th July her mistress gave her two packages of clothes to wash, but did not tell her what number of pieces they contained. At six o'clock of the same morning complainant

plainant went to Grand Rivière, and there continued to wash until the 8th, not being able to finish so large a quantity of clothes in less time. She did not return home to sleep, being obliged to stay to guard the linen in the house of a woman of colour named Azemia, who lodges those persons who cannot finish all their washing in one day. She might have dispensed with sleeping there; but in that case must have paid nine sols to Azemia (per night) for taking charge of the linen, and as her mistress had refused to give her money to defray this charge, she had no alternative but to guard it herself.

That when complainant returned on the 8th, her mistress was very angry, and gave her several blows. The linen was then counted, but her mistress did not say there was a deficiency, neither did complainant hear of such until the 13th instant, at the police. That when there her mistress gave her several blows in the presence of the police officer, (confirmed to the Protector by the examining officer himself,) and for which she was reproved by him at the time. Complainant, when required to be out all day, is allowed six sols per diem for her diet, &c. which is insufficient. Complainant was once hired out to Mr. Williams of the maroonage office, and subsequently to M. Potier of the police, both of whom were satisfied with her conduct, and Madame Fedheuil would have bought complainant, but her mistress would not sell her.

Certificate of Dr. Hart, the examining surgeon.

"I certify having examined Augustine, a negress belonging to Mademoiselle Lolotte Egron, and find she has marks of punishment on both sides of her breech, which she states were inflicted by her mistress, having flogged her with a "bull's pizzle," commonly called a "nerf de bœuf." As the instrument appears a severe one, I would recommend that she should be in future prohibited from using it.

Port Louis, 14th July.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D."

The statement made by Augustine respecting her conduct when in the service of the persons above mentioned having been fully proved by certificates from under their hands, Lolotte Egron was called upon to reply to the charge preferred against her for illegally punishing the complainant; she declares that she did not strike her negress on the Saturday, as stated by her. Ten days before that time declarant gave her two or three blows with a "nerf de bœuf" on her shoulders, but never more than that number: That she never told complainant the quantity of linen she had given her to wash, and that it is the first time she has lost any since Augustine has been in her service, now 18 years, and that complainant ought to be responsible for it: That complainant is false in saying that she came home at eight o'clock,—it was one o'clock in the afternoon when she returned; neither did she ask for nine sols. The quantity of linen given her to wash was not greater than she could have done in a day, and therefore she had no money given her to pay for keeping it at night. Declarant did not strike complainant with her hand on her return; and, in short, every thing stated by her, with respect to the money received by her, is false.

Result.—The mistress admits that she inflicted a few stripes with a "nerf de bœuf" on the shoulders of complainant, but not on her "fesses;" yet there are no marks of punishment on the shoulders, whilst there are severe ones on the "fesses." The mistress's admission also differs with respect to time, she declaring that she flogged Augustine ten days before the period stated by the negress.

Under these circumstances, together with the presumptive evidence contained in the complaint, the certificates produced of Augustine's good conduct, and the glaring contradiction and improbable statement contained in the mistress's answer, the Protector considers it his duty to send the case before the tribunal. It was accordingly denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution as a breach of the 17th Article of Ordinance 43, in having used a "chabouke" as an instrument of punishment, and for another breach of the same Ordinance in having inflicted corporal punishment on a female slave contrary to the 18th Article thereof, by which the Protector submits she has rendered herself liable to a distinct and separate penalty for each contravention.

Lolotte Egron was fined in the sum of 20*l.* sterling and costs.

Complaint, No. 20.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, 21st July 1829.

Rosalie, aged 30 years, and belonging to Mr. Raffray of "Rivière du Rempart," complains, that about four months past she was flogged and put in irons: That she then ran away, and was at the police-office for some time: That on her return to her master she was again flogged with 10 stripes of the cart-whip, at which punishment Jean Pierre was present: that she was afterwards put in irons: That she has been flogged about every Monday since that time by Jean Pierre, her hands and feet being held by Françoise, Henriette, Caroline and Laïde. Complainant is allowed only two manioc per diem as her rations; and she further states that there are three other negresses in chains, and who are kept in the stocks every night and on Sundays.

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“ Port Louis, 22d July 1829.

“ I certify having examined Rosalie, a negress, belonging to Monsieur Raffray, and find she bears marks of punishment on both sides of her breech, but apparently of several months standing.

(signed) “ H. Hart, M. D.”

Mr. Raffray in his reply declares, that not being able to keep the complainant at home he has been obliged to put her in chains, she being a constant maroon and thief: That her statement with respect to her having been flogged is false, as all his slaves can testify: That complainant, about three weeks past, endeavoured to entice his other slaves to come to complain *en masse*: That he menaced her for so doing, which is probably the reason why she has made the present complaint: That his slaves are well clothed and fed; and that he did not know he was offending against any order by putting her in chains, on the contrary, declarant thought himself authorized to do so by Ordinance No. 20.

Jean Pierre, François, and Charlotte, fully confirmed the foregoing declaration, the latter adding that complainant is a very libidinous, bad character, having four or five husbands.

The negress Laïde also bore testimony to Rosalie's general bad conduct in this way.

Result.—The Protector, although convinced of the general bad character of the complainant, as well as the groundless nature of her complaint with respect to her having been flogged, and of the unintentional offence committed by Mr. Raffray in placing Rosalie in chains, is nevertheless called upon to denounce the case for prosecution, as an infraction of the Chain Ordinance No. 20, of the 13th December 1826. It was accordingly denounced to the Procureur-General; the negress being at the same time severely reprimanded, and enjoined by the Protector to be more circumspect in her conduct for the future, on pain of his severe displeasure.

Condemned in the penalty of 2 l. sterling and costs.

Complaint, No. 21.

Protector of Slaves Office, 21st July 1829.

Jean Marie, aged 15, and belonging to Mad. Sturbel, of the quarter of “ Savanne,” complains that his mistress exacts too much work from him, that is, five “ vacoa sacks” per day, which is far more than a boy of his age can perform: That if he does not accomplish that task he is punished: That he is very often put into the block on Sundays because he cannot finish his five sacks. Complainant has told his mistress the task is too great for him, especially as the days are now so short; his mistress however replied “ What do you mean by short days? the day is never short, nor does it ever change:” that on Tuesday last he was flogged by his mistress's order with four stripes of the “ martinet” by Perrin, in the presence of Jean Louis, who held his hands: That complainant, as well as the negresses, are obliged to make one sack on Sunday morning: That he has one pound of rice per diem, and those who are in chains have only half a pound of boiled rice as their daily allowance.

Dr. Hart certifies his having examined Jean Marie: “ That he has marks of punishment on both sides of his breech, but of long standing: That if he is correct as to his age, I would be inclined to think that he has been ill fed, as his delicate appearance would lead me to suppose him under the age he states himself to be.”

The Veuve Sturbel being called upon for an answer to this complaint, states that the Bishop knows how well she treats her slaves: That Jean Marie is one of those bad subjects who are constantly marooning, and often committing petty thefts of fowls, &c.: That the only work demanded of her slaves on Sunday is the completion of the number of sacks they may be deficient in during the week, and to finish those that are ill made. It is true declarant did say that the short days were no excuse for not completing his work, inasmuch as it commences at five o'clock in the morning, and is finished at six or half past six in the evening. Declarant has no recollection of the punishment alluded to by complainant. He worked in the “ camp,” and it is possible that the negress Perrine might have given him a few strokes of the cane for not finishing his task of five sacks.

Perrine says complainant was not punished on the day he says he was, but a few days before that time. He received 15 strokes of a cane for having made only three sacks. This is the usual punishment. Declarant confirms what her mistress says with respect to Sunday work.

Jean Louis was ordered by her mistress to punish complainant because he did not do his work quietly, and because he was two sacks short of his number. Sunday labour is only the finishing of that neglected on week days.

Julien confirms the preceding evidence, and further says that they are put into the stocks, or into a “ hangard,” until they have completed their week's task: That as to himself, he passed his Sundays very often in the block, because he found the task allotted to him too much.

The Assistant Protector having here requested the boy Julien to bring the work he had done that day, (it being at that time half past two o'clock,) he brought two sacks finished and one partly made; and the Assistant Protector observed that it would be very difficult for him to finish five sacks on that day, more particularly as the “ vacoas” was fine and narrow, and that there were children too young employed at that work.

The slaves did not complain of their nourishment, and they were well clothed.

Result.—

Result.—The Protector finding that the endless complaints against Madame Sturbell arise from her requiring more task-work than the slaves can perform, and more than is exacted in the other quarters of the island, resolved to make a representation thereon to his Excellency the Governor, in order that the fair quantum of task-work should be fixed by the “Notables,” now assembled at Government House, and that Madame Sturbell should be enjoined not to exact more than should be determined upon. In the mean time the Protector sent Jean Marie back to his mistress, with an injunction that he should be in no way whatever molested for having brought this complaint, and recommending her not to exact so much work from a boy of his years, and to give him the customary rations of food.

Complaint, No. 22.

Protector of Slaves Office, 23d July 1829.

Cotte, aged 45, and belonging to the Sieur Gonard of Plaines Wilhems, complains, that the day before yesterday, when employed in cutting canes, he felt a great pain in his foot, of which he immediately spoke to his master, who replied, “Return to your work, otherwise you will get the stick.” Complainant again expressed his inability; but his master refusing to hear of it, gave him about 10 blows with a stick, and sent him away to cut canes: That on the following morning, when going to work with the other slaves, his said master directed the commandeur to give complainant 25 stripes of a cane, in the presence of all his comrades, Sigoula, Pierre and Saingesse holding his hands, whilst Lubin inflicted the punishment, saying it was for his not working the evening before. *Cotte* also complains of being ill-dressed, and is obliged, with the other slaves of the estate, to work on Sundays from six o'clock in the morning until noon, digging in the fields and cleaning the court-yard. *Antoine* and *Jasurin* were present when his master beat him with a stick.

“I certify having examined *Cotte*, a slave belonging to M. Gonard, and find he has slight marks of punishment on both sides of his breech. His feet and ancles are swelled, and he has a small ulcer on the sole of his right foot, which renders walking painful to him; he is also labouring under a slight degree of fever. I would therefore recommend his being sent to hospital.

(signed)

“*H. Hart*, M. D.

“Surgeon to the Police.”

This case underwent a full examination by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, before whom it was contradicted direct by no less than eight of complainant's comrades and the overseer. The master punished him for not going to work when ordered the day before, all the other slaves proving that *Cotte* was absent nearly the whole of the day, and the punishment was registered in the “Record Book” in due form. There was no evidence, however, to contradict the assertion of the slave as to the pain in his foot; but with respect to Sunday labour, it was clearly proved that when such did occur it was voluntary on the part of the slaves, who received from 50 to 100 sous, according to their work, and half of this sum if they worked but half the day.

The Protector under these circumstances admonished complainant with regard to the untruths he mixed up with his statement, and sent him back to his master, prohibiting any punishment being inflicted upon him for having come to the Protector's office to make his complaint. The master was at the same time told that it is his duty, as well as his interest, to attend to the complaints of his slaves when afflicted with any indisposition which may render them incapable of work, and strongly recommended to observe such practice in future.

Complaint, No. 23.

Protector of Slaves Office, 27th July 1829.

Clair, a negress aged 35, and belonging to Mr. Camoin, of Plaines Wilhems, complains that she has been flogged more than six times with a cart-whip, about two or three months ago, and by her master's order; that about fifteen days past her master ordered “*Auguste*” to give her four lashes of the whip in the presence of Jean Marie and Jeanne; that complainant then left the habitation, and has since been living with her acquaintance at Moka.

Port Louis, 29th July 1829.

“I certify having examined *Clair*, a negress belonging to Mr. Camoin, and find she exhibits extensive marks of punishment on both sides of her breech, but apparently of some years standing; she has also on her back and arms some marks, only a few of which appear recent. She appears well fed and well clothed.

(signed)

“*H. Hart*, M. D.”

4th August.—This complaint has been returned to the Protector, accompanied by a proces verbal of the examination of the under-mentioned slaves, whose evidence is as follows:

Jean Marie says, that he does not recollect seeing complainant flogged during the last five months, either with a whip or any other instrument of punishment; he did not see her punished about 20 days ago. Declarant is the only person who carries a whip on the plantation,

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tation, and which is used only to call the slaves to their morning's work; he further declares that the negress is a constant maroon.

Auguste swears he did not flog "Claire" about 20 days ago, nor any other person; that since the 1st January last he has seen no flogging of any description on the estate of his master. Declarant states that "Claire" is an habitual maroon.

Jeanne states the same thing.

Result.—The preceding evidence, as far as it relates to complainant's habits of marooning, was confirmed by an extract from the books of the maroonage office; the Protector therefore, as a punishment for the false and groundless complaint of Claire, directed that she should be confined in the stocks upon the estate of her master for the three Sundays next following.

Complaint, No. 24.

Protector of Slaves Office, 21st July 1829.

Aglagé, aged 30 years, and belonging to Madame Ligereau, of the Quarter of Rivière du Rempart, complained to the Assistant Protector of that quarter, that on Sunday last, while waiting at table, a cat broke two plates which had been placed on a sideboard in another room; that her mistress, immediately after dinner, seized complainant by the arm, and ordered the slave Augustus to flog her; that the said Augustus then inflicted upon complainant 10 stripes of a cane, in the presence of her mistress, and in that of Cale, another domestic servant.

The certificate of the examining surgeon states,

"Il résulte de notre examen le plus scrupuleux, que nous n'avons trouvé aucunes traces récentes qui indiquassent que cette négresse ait été récemment corrigé. En foi de quoi j'ai délivré le présent pour servir et valoir.

Le 21st Juillet 1829.

(signé) "André Bonsergent."

Madame Ligereau, in reply to this charge, declares, that on Sunday last the negress *Aglagé* was in a very bad humour, doing every thing with as ill a grace as she could; that in consequence of her negligence the two plates were broken; that having friends dining with her on that day, she waited until their departure before she reprimanded her negress, who, replying in an insolent manner, induced declarant to order her 10 lashes of the "martinet," which were inflicted by her slave Alexander in her presence.

On being called upon for a copy of her "Register Book of Punishments," declarant observed that she kept no such book.

The evidence of the slave *Télémaque*, and that of the negress "Cale," corroborating the foregoing, fully established the fact that *Aglagé* had been flogged in the manner described.

Result.—This case was transmitted to the Procureur-general on the 31st inst. for prosecution against the said Madame Ligereau for a breach of the 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.

Madame Ligereau was fined in the sum of 20*l.* sterling, and costs.

Complaint, No. 25.

Protector of Slaves Office, August 1st, 1829.

Eugénie, aged about 35 years, and belonging to Madame Beguinot, states, that yesterday morning, feeling herself very unwell, she did not go to her accustomed work; that her mistress sent Charlotte to call complainant before her; that, ill as she was, *Eugénie* went and told Madame Beguinot that she could not possibly do any work on that day; on which her mistress replied, "she knew how to make her work." Declarant then retired to her room, and laid down to rest; that her mistress again sent to her, when she again replied she was ill, and that if she could work she would do so without being told; that her mistress, furious at this reply, came into declarant's room with a cane in her hand, and obliged her to quit her bed, by giving her several blows on the back; that she was made to kneel before her mistress, and kept in that position for half an hour at work. Cupidon and Louise, slaves of Madame Deville, were present when this occurred.

"Port Louis, 1st August 1829.

"I certify having examined *Eugénie*, a negress belonging to Madame Beguinot, and finding her labouring under a high degree of fever, and severe pain in her head and bowels, I am of opinion that she should be sent to the hospital. She exhibits no marks of punishment, and appears well fed and well clothed.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.

Madame Beguinot, having been called before the Protector, declares that the slave *Eugénie* is an idle woman, and very free with her tongue; that, thinking she was feigning, declarant did threaten that if complainant did not come to her work she should be made to come. Declarant had a cane in her hand, but she did not strike complainant with it as she has stated, but took her by the arm, and led her into her room, and then made her beg for pardon on her knees.

Result.—

Result.—Madame Beguinot having requested that the negress might be sent to her house to be attended by her family surgeon, the Protector consented, on the promise of the mistress that medical aid, and every other attention that her situation required, should be afforded her, and directing that she was not to be in any manner whatever molested for making this complaint; and the Protector recommended to Mrs. Beguinot more moderation and forbearance in the treatment of her slaves, this not being the first complaint of the sort made to the Protector against her.

Complaint, No. 26.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 1st August 1829.

Antoinette, a creole negress, about 27 years of age, and belonging to Mr. Gaston Caqueray, of Plaines Wilhems, having been arrested by the police, as a maroon, with chains on her feet, has been sent to this office. She complains that about a month past, on her return from maroonage, her master placed chains on her feet; that she again left the house, she being the only servant employed in it, and the work being too much for her. Complainant states that she is also sometimes punished with a cane; she has marooned three times for the same reason, and was last arrested near to the English church in Port Louis.

The surgeon's certificate states, "that Antoinette has several marks of punishment on both sides of her breech, but apparently of long standing; she has also some slight marks on her back and shoulders, more recently inflicted. She appears well fed and well clothed."

Mr. Gaston Caqueray appeared before the Assistant Protector of Plaines Wilhems, and, being called upon for his "Register Book of Punishments," he declared that he had no such book, not yet having had occasion to inflict any punishment required by law to be inserted therein.

Casimir declares, on oath, that a very long time has passed since he has known his master to punish a negress in any manner, excepting by chains, for maroonage, a fault which Toinette frequently commits.

On the 8th of August the Sieur Caqueray addressed a letter to the Assistant Protector, declaring the whole complaint of the negress to be entirely false, with the exception of his putting her in chains for maroonage, as the only possible means of keeping her on the plantation; that instead of having marooned three times, as she states, it will be seen by the Register of the Assistant Protector that she has marooned times out of number. Complainant is not the only servant in his house; declarant has two other domestic servants; and with respect to her having been beaten, complainant has imposed on the Protector; she has never received a blow of a cane, or of any instrument of punishment, from the day of her coming into his service; and if she does bear marks of such, declarant is ignorant from whence they arise. Her story of being taken by the police is also false; she was taken by two of declarant's negresses, and by them conducted to the police for security.

Result.—The reply of the Sieur Caqueray, supported as it is by the testimony of the Assistant Protector, as to the complainant's frequent maroonage, satisfied the Protector as to the groundless nature of her complaint, with respect to corporal punishment; but as an infraction of the law had been committed, by placing the negress in chains, that offence was denounced to the Procureur-general for prosecution against the said Sieur Caqueray.

Condemned in the penalty of 2*l.* sterling, and costs.

Complaint, No. 27.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 3d August 1829.

André, a slave belonging to the Sieur Jean Monet, of the quarter of Flacq, complains of having been punished by his master with a stick, for not sweeping out his shop on Sunday last. Complainant, after having brought home grass for the pigs, and water for the use of the house, observed to his master that it was too late to sweep out the shop, which he would, however, do on the following morning. Complainant has nothing else to state, excepting that the mark of a blow which he bears on the left eye was occasioned by the beating alluded to.

The examining surgeon states, that he "does not find any mark of recent punishment except a slight fracture of the skin on the outer angle of the left eye, which, being unattended by swelling or discolouration, cannot have been occasioned by the punishment complained of."

Mr. Monet states, that the complainant has been guilty of a gross imposition on the Protector, and declares that complainant is directed to sweep out the shop of his workmen every Sunday morning. After having furnished three barrels of water for the use of the house, and a small quantity of grass, a work that is always finished (at the latest) by eight o'clock; that yesterday morning André returned at a later hour than usual with his second barrel of water, and appeared to have been drinking arrack, and was shortly afterwards completely drunk; that instead of doing that which he was directed to do, he replied with the greatest insolence, "No, you may go and do it yourself," repeating this a second time, and adding, "You may cut my throat before I'll go," with many more impertinent observations.

The slaves "Constant" and "Zemire," also belonging to Mr. Monet, fully corroborated Mr. Monet's declaration; and further stated, that the mark on complainant's eye was caused

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by himself while endeavouring to prevent them from taking away a stick then in his hand, and with which he had made a violent assault upon his wife, who was trying to pacify him.

In addition to this the Protector received strong testimony of the good treatment observed by Mr. Monet towards his slaves.

The Protector, therefore, could not view the conduct of complainant in any other light than as highly reprehensible, and deserving of punishment. He accordingly ordered 25 stripes of the martinet to be inflicted upon him for his insolent and disobedient conduct, and 10 more for getting drunk on a Sunday.

Complaint, No. 28.

Protector of Slaves' Office, August 6, 1829.

Raymond, a slave belonging to the Sieur Hervé of "Terre Rouge," in the quarter of Pamplemousses, complains that his master does not allow him Sunday; on the contrary, that he is obliged to work on that day against his inclination, and without receiving any recompense, excepting a little salt meat and a glass of arrack; that yesterday, without the slightest cause, he was confined in the block, and not released until eight o'clock this morning.

It being observed to complainant that it is not likely his master would punish him without some reason, *Raymond* admitted that as usual he was called to milk the cows, but being drowsy at the moment, he rose later than ordinary, and found the work nearly done before he saw his master, who then met him with reproach, saying, "You will be insolent, will you?" then gave him several blows, and sent him to the block.

The Sieur Hervé, in reply to this complaint, declares, that *Raymond* not being at his work was called several times without making any reply; that when asked why he did not come, *Raymond* replied, with great insolence, "am I not close to you?" on which declarant gave him three or four blows with a stick. Complainant still braving him, declarant, fearing to lose his temper, sent his slave to work, intending to put him into the block in the evening. This is the fourth or fifth time that complainant has behaved in this insolent manner. Declarant's slaves are always paid for any work they do on a Sunday.

The slaves *Firman*, *Benjamin*, *Christine* and *Samson*, all belonging to the Sieur Hervé, were then separately examined, all of whom bore unequivocal testimony to the impertinent and menacing conduct of the complainant, and to the groundless nature of the statement respecting Sunday labour, &c.; and they also declare themselves perfectly satisfied with the treatment received by them from their master.

Result.—The Protector, considering the complainant to merit correction for refusing to do the will of his master, as well as for his insolent conduct on the occasion, ordered him to receive 20 stripes of the martinet on the habitation, and in the presence of his comrades.

Complaint, No. 29.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 6th August 1829.

THE slave *Augustin*, aged 27 years, and belonging to Mr. Lambert, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart," states that his master and Mr. Collet, the econome, about two months past said, that they had lost a duck, and asked him what had become of it. Complainant replied that he did not know. His master then said that he ought to know, and on the following morning caused complainant to be punished with 50 stripes of the martinet, put into the block for two days, with his hands tied behind him, and afterwards sent him to work, upon condition that his hours of breloques and his nights should be passed in the stocks. Complainant's wife was also put into the block, and kept there for 20 days, in order to prevent either of them coming to make a complaint. Two days after their release complainant was again charged with the loss of another duck, in default of his not finding which, he was threatened with confinement for another month. Without saying a word in reply, complainant retired to his hut, and shortly afterwards heard that his mistress had found the number of her poultry to be correct. That yesterday morning the halter of a mule at work in the sugar-house broke, and allowed the animal to get free. The econome asked what the noise was about, and being told that the mule had escaped, without more ado, ordered Jean Pierre to give complainant 12 lashes of the martinet, his hands being held by François Charlot, Adolphe and Pompé; and the reason given for this punishment was that complainant had not answered when spoken to in the mill.

The examining surgeon states, that "Augustin has marks of extensive punishment, but they are of long standing. He has also marks of a recent flogging; but these are very slight. He appears well fed and well clothed."

The slave François says, he was told that Augustin had stolen some ducks, and that his master had taken him in the act of stealing one. Complainant was flogged, but his hands were not held by declarant, neither does he know by whom they were held, or for how long complainant and his wife were kept in the block.

Charlot was told that Augustin had stolen some ducks; his feet were held by declarant on the occasion of his being punished for mutinous conduct, which consisted in his not answering Mr. Collett when spoken to about a noise in the mill. Celine was put into the block on Saturday, and released on the following day.

Adolphe has been told that complainant stole some ducks. Declarant along time past detected him in stealing a cock. There were many ducks on the establishment some time past,

past, but there are none now; in consequence of which Augustin was flogged. Declarant held complainant about 10 days past, when he received 10 stripes for his conduct in the mill. Celine was confined in the stocks for 24 hours, being suspected of having assisted in the theft of the ducks.

Pompée knows nothing of the theft; he held the hands of Augustin when he was flogged for not answering Mr. Collet; he was punished with 25 stripes, or about that number.

The negress "Close," belonging to Madame Paillotte, knows that complainant killed a pig belonging to her mistress on the 19th ultimo, and put it into the seat of his master's gig, who, on his arrival at home found it in the gig, and returned it to declarant.

Jean Pierre tied the hands and feet of complainant when he was punished in June last. He gave him 25 stripes; there were no slaves present. Celine was put into the stocks every night for a week, on account of the theft of the ducks.

Ulysse was not present when complainant was punished in June last. He cannot tell how many stripes Augustin received. With respect to Celine, his evidence is the same as that of the last witness.

The first inquiry into this case not being satisfactory, a second was instituted, and the result of both is as follows:

The slave complains of having received 50 lashes in the month of June, for stealing 25 ducks; and it appears, that although the witnesses do not agree with respect to time (a very common occurrence among slaves, who cannot calculate time), he was certainly punished for stealing ducks, in the act of doing which he was caught by his master and other persons; for this he received 20 stripes, and not 50, as stated by complainant, and was not further punished with the stocks. The master admits that Celine was confined for 24 hours. Complainant's second punishment was that of nine stripes; but that was for insolent and mutinous expressions made to the overseer.

Complainant says nothing about his being accused of stealing a pig, for which it appears he was confined in the stocks for four Sundays. This, however, has been attested by the evidence of the master, as well as of others.

From all this it results, that complainant's statement is false with respect to his having been punished with 50 stripes, and chained immediately afterwards, as he states. That he was clearly proved guilty of stealing a number of ducks at different times, and a pig at another; and that his wife, Celine, was put into the stocks for a week, in the night time, on suspicion of her having been privy to stealing the ducks. The Protector, therefore, orders Augustin to receive 12 stripes of the martinet for having brought a false complaint. And the master was at the same time admonished for having put the wife into the stocks on suspicion only, and required to be more circumspect for the future.

Complaint, No. 30.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 10th August 1829.

Jean, a Mozambique, aged about 50 years, and belonging to the Sieur Gerome Casse, of Grand Port, complains that his master accused him of stealing some of his poultry, and therefore, without any proof, appropriated to himself five of complainant's fowls. Seeing that his property was unsafe in his own hands, complainant gave the remainder of his poultry to his comrades; that hearing this, and wanting another fowl, his master became very angry, and beat complainant with a stick in the presence of Mademoiselle Hermine and Henriette. He told his master that he had not stolen the fowls, but that they might possibly have been taken away by some of those persons who frequent his canteen.

The examining surgeon sees "no mark whatever on complainant's person, but finds him somewhat weak in bodily strength, arising from his advanced age."

Mr. Gérome Casse declares, that the complaint of his slave is false. Complainant and others of his slaves belonged to declarant's "ci-devant" wife, from whom he has lately been divorced, and they are therefore hostile to his interest. Declarant for some time past has been losing his poultry, whilst his slaves lose none of theirs. He therefore told them, that if he lost any more of his, that he would make reprisals on their stock. That complainant taking advantage of this information, told him the next morning that he had lost five of his fowls, and declarant not suspecting the ruse, commiserated him on the loss.

Seven days afterwards declarant heard, that instead of losing his fowls, Jean had given them to one of his comrades to sell, which at once convinced him that Jean was the actual thief, and he consequently took the four remaining fowls, which were in Jean Marie's possession.

Result.—The Protector, considering that the master had acted very harshly, and indeed unjustly, in thus depriving his slave of his property on bare suspicion only, ordered him to pay to the complainant \$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, the price of the four chickens taken from him; then being cautioned to observe greater moderation in his conduct, the case was dismissed.

Complaint, No. 31.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 17th August 1829.

THE negress Ann, aged 27 years, and belonging to Mademoiselle Agathe, a woman of colour of Port Louis, and hired as a domestic servant by Mr. Thompson, states, that at the end of a month's servitude she applied to her mistress (Mademoiselle Agathe) for a receipt to

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to enable her to obtain her wages; that at the end of the second month her mistress not sending for her money, was again applied to for the necessary receipt; she replied that "she had no receipt to give, and that the money could be brought to her without it." That the day before yesterday, when a third month had expired, application was again made to the same effect. Her mistress said, "Come into the house," which declarant had no sooner done, than she was seized by the hair by Agathe, who gave her several blows on the face, and kicked her on all parts of the body, without the slightest attention to her advanced state of pregnancy, then taking a cane, continued to beat her on the arms, marks of which complainant still bears. Felix, Ally and Josephine were witnesses of the fact. About nine o'clock in the evening declarant was again called before Agathe, and a second time beaten and kicked in that manner, Agathe saying, that she (declarant) had traduced her character. Demanding proof of this charge, declarant was ordered to be silent; her mistress saying that she was her slave, and should be punished whenever she thought fit. Being threatened with chains, declarant then left the house to make her present complaint; and she further states, that her daughter, Sidonie, aged eight years, is equally ill-treated by her mistress.

Port Louis, 18th August 1829.

"I certify having examined Ann, a negress, belonging to Madlle. Agathe, and find she has several black marks on her left shoulder and back. The lower eyelids are also discolored with blows given by the fist. Her left side also exhibits marks of a similar description, which she states were caused by her having been kicked. As she appears to be pregnant about seven months, I would recommend the mode of punishment, as above stated, should be absolutely prohibited, otherwise her life might be endangered.

(signed) "H. Hart, M.D. Surgeon to the Police."

Madlle. Agathe admits that complainant did twice ask her for the receipt alluded to; that she yesterday applied for receipts for two months wages, which declarant refused to give, until she knew by whom the first month's wages had been received. It is untrue that she took complainant by the hair, or that she kicked her, or struck her in any manner. Complainant did not sleep in declarant's house as she has stated, but left immediately after she was refused the receipts in question. The marks of punishment on complainant (if she does bear any) must have been inflicted elsewhere, and without declarant's knowledge or consent. Agathe admits that she had a dispute with Ann relative to the receipt obtained by her from a man of colour for the first month's wages, though nothing resulted from this misunderstanding between them. Declarant felt angry, and scolded Ann when she heard the name of the person who had written it, but did not strike her. Sidonie was present when this occurred, but the other slaves were in the court below.

Felix, Ally and Josephine were then separately examined. All of them remember seeing Ann at the house of their mistress, but positively deny her statement respecting the ill-treatment she received.

Sidonie was next interrogated, whose answers agreed precisely with those of the other slaves of Agathe. But on being urged to declare the truth without fear of the consequences, the child, trembling, asked if her mistress was within hearing, and on being told that neither Agathe nor her slaves were near, Sidonie, with much emotion, stated, that her mother came to her mistress on Sunday morning last to ask for a receipt; that Madlle. Agathe scolded her very much, and taking her by the hair and ears, gave her many blows on the face, kicked her on all parts of the body, and then beat her with a cane.

Declarant was afterwards (about eight o'clock in the evening) sent to call her mother, who was in the court-yard; and when her mother came, Mademoiselle again scolded, and beat her in the same way as before.

Sidonie did not say all this in her first examination, because her mistress told her to say that her mother had not been beaten by her, but that the mark on her face had been occasioned by a fall against the lock of the door; and she at first said so lest she should be punished when she got home.

Result.—After a minute investigation into this case, the Protector is inclined to think that Ann has much cause of complaint against her mistress, the said Agathe; but as the evidence obtained in support of her statement would be unavailing in a Court of Justice, opposed to the testimony of the other slaves, and which they would be prepared to support, the Protector does not deem it prudent to denounce the affair to the Procureur-General. He, therefore, severely admonished the said Agathe for her past conduct, and enjoined her to treat the complainant with all the care and consideration which her situation requires. The mistress promising to do so, had the negress restored to her for the purpose of her being sent back to the service of her employer, Mr. Thompson, without molestation of any kind, on account of her present complaint.

Complaint, No. 32.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 12th August 1829.

Celestine, belonging to Madame Sturbel of the quarter of "Savanne," complains that the task of being obliged to make five vacoa sacks per diem is more than she can accomplish, the sacks being more difficult to work on account of the shortness of the "vacoa," which, therefore requires frequent joining; that, in order to do what her mistress requires, complainant

plainant is obliged to work from five o'clock in the morning until six in the evening, without being allowed any time for meals. During the last week complainant has been required to make four sacks a day, and to finish three others which are prepared by the children under her instruction, and which together is equal to a task of six sacks, one more than she can even perform when in good health. For three days during the last week complainant was unwell, and under medical treatment by her mistress, who, upon her recovery, however, insisted upon complainant's making an extra sack per diem to make up for her lost time during those three days, in default of which she was to be put into the stocks on Sunday, and at night during the week. Dreading this punishment, she escaped from the other women and children, who were all so confined and kept without food for not having finished their tasks.

Complainant returned on Monday morning, and in that day completed her seven sacks; when Madame Sturbel said, that as a punishment for her escape, she should continue to make that number, or be put into the cramp-irons in the hangard.

That yesterday, not being able to make more than five, with a bad quality of "vacoa," she escaped to the Assistant Protector of the quarter to claim his protection, being well assured that had she remained upon the estate she would have been at this time chained to the big stone in the hangard, and to which she has already been chained for a twelvemonth together, and was only released from it on last New Year's-day.

In her reply to this charge, Madame Sturbel says, that the complaint of her negress is evidently false; that during the three days of her illness medicines were given her; that then being convalescent, to prevent a relapse, complainant was prohibited from going out at nights, notwithstanding which, however, she was not to be found on the estate; that on Monday she was required to perform her ordinary task, together with the tails of three sacks, which it was her duty to finish for a young sack-maker under her charge. The number required from herself was four. The negress was here asked if this statement of her mistress was true? She replied, "It is, but the child being too young and too weak to do his work, it cost her more trouble to finish than she would have had in making another sack herself, and therefore she preferred making five sacks a day to a less number, and at the same time being obliged to finish those began by children."

When Madame Sturbel heard this reply, she observed, that she would not allow her negress to introduce on the plantation, as her husbands, blacks who are drunkards, and that it was to prevent this that she had been obliged to confine the complainant at night.

Complainant on being interrogated, with reference to the observation just made by her mistress, says, that the free man who is prevented from coming to see her has been her husband but a short time, and that she would therefore associate with another of more quiet disposition.

The Assistant Protector finding complainant to be in good health, and without any appearance of having suffered any corporal punishment, sent her back to the estate of her mistress until the decision of the Protector should be known. Madame Sturbel was at the same time enjoined not to molest her in any manner on account of her present complaint.

Result.—The Protector approved the measures adopted by the Assistant Protector, and further instructed the Assistant Protector to inform Madame Sturbel of his intention to represent to his Excellency the Governor the evil arising from her exacting more task-work from her slaves than they can perform, or than is expected in other quarters of the island, and to which circumstances the numerous complaints against her must be attributed.

Complaint, No. 33.

Protector of Slaves' Office, August 13th, 1829.

Emile, a boy of 12 years of age, and the slave of Madame Gondreville, of the quarter of Flacq, complains that M. Alfred, the son of his mistress, has flogged him at least 10 times with a cart-whip, always for the slightest fault, and sometimes even for none at all. About four months past complainant received 20 lashes of the cart-whip by order of M. Alfred. Jolicœur flogged him, and it was in the presence of all the other blacks of the estate, only because when cutting canes, by a slight inattention, complainant forgot to cut one stem which had been left behind him. Complainant marooned on the same day, and has since been living on canes, manioc and fish. He was captured by the police a fortnight since. That he was to have been punished at the bagne this morning, and then returned to his master; but the keeper of the bagne observing the state of his back, hesitated to inflict any further punishment on complainant, and sent him to the police, whence he was conducted to this office.

" Port Louis, 13th August 1829.

" I certify having examined the slave *Emile*, belonging to Madame Gondreville, and find he has extensive marks of laceration on both sides of his breech; he has also two or three on his right arm, and two or three on his back, all of which he states were inflicted with a large cart-whip about four months ago.

" From the present appearances, I have no hesitation in stating that the punishment was inflicted with great severity.

(signed)

" *H. Hart*, M. D.
" Surgeon to the Police."

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Mr. A. Gondreville declares the boy's statement to be false from beginning to end. Complainant was not punished on the day he marooned, nor for a long time before; that he has been chained and kept under the care of Felix, to whose girdle the chain was always attached; that on the 20th April complainant, during dinner time, released himself and escaped. Jolicœur will attest that complainant was not flogged by him with a cart-whip, as he states; and this fact can also be proved by every black on the estate. The marks of punishment on complainant are very old, and the cart-whip is an instrument of punishment that has long been abandoned on his mother's estate. Complainant, who states himself to be 12 years of age, was recensé as 14 years old in 1826.

The slave Jolicœur, commandeur, says that complainant was not punished on the day he marooned. He was kept in chains under the care of Felix. Declarant states, that since the 1st January last the cart-whip has not been used as an instrument of punishment, the martinet and cane being alone used. The marks of punishment which complainant has upon him are of old corrections inflicted by declarant's predecessor.

Felix says, that complainant has told an untruth in stating that he was punished on the day he marooned. Emile, as a punishment for maroonage, was chained for two months, and placed under declarant's charge. Complainant escaped when they were both in the wood seeking for bees' nests.

Edward, and the negress Celeste, state the same thing, as do also the negresses Julienne, Josephine, and several others belonging to Madame Gondreville, all of whom bore testimony to the idle habits of the complainant.

Result.—The complaint being proved false by the testimony of so many of his comrades, the Protector ordered him to receive 10 stripes of the martinet, and would have ordered a greater punishment but for the boy's age, which, notwithstanding his declaration, may be about 14 years.

Complaint, No. 34.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 19th August 1829.

THE negress *Rose*, aged 35, and belonging to Mr. Jean Pierre Moray, of the quarter of Flacq, has been arrested as a maroon, and sent to this office by the police; states that she left the estate because her master put her in chains, and a collar about her neck every morning and evening until the time of her escape. For what reason complainant has been so punished she does not know; but this has continued from the time of her discharge from the bagne, where she was confined by order of the police for a month to break stones. François Marie, Jeanne, Auguste and Josephine, saw her in chains, and it was Auguste who daily liberated her.

The examining surgeon states that "Rose has marks of extensive punishment on both sides of her breech, but apparently of very long standing. She appears well fed and well clothed.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D."

Mr. Moray, in reply to this complaint, says, that "Rose" is, without any reason whatever for being so, a constant maroon. She was released from the bagne on the 18th July last; and that to retain her in the house, it was necessary to put upon her a small chain, otherwise she would have decamped immediately. Complainant was so detained for three nights, but not at all on a Sunday; and when sent on the 3d night to sleep in her own hut, she again marooned without the slightest reason. Declarant, knowing not by what means to retain this negress, requests the Protector to suggest them to him. His slaves are well fed, well clothed, and lightly worked. Complainant is a very bad subject, and an unnatural mother, having left, at different times, two infants who were at the breast to perish from inattention. It was in ignorance of the law that Rose was put in chains. His intention was not to punish Rose, but only to prevent her running away.

Josephine states that "Rose" was confined only three nights, and never on a Sunday; that the moment she was released she again returned to her habit of maroonage, and that without the slightest reason for her doing so.

François, Auguste, Jean Pierre and Marie Jean say the same, all bearing testimony to the bad disposition of complainant.

Result.—This complaint being found incorrect, inasmuch as "Rose" had been confined for three nights only, and not on a Sunday, as she stated, the Protector severely reprimanded her; but as the confinement, even for that time, was illegal, since she had already undergone confinement at the police, her master was cautioned against a repetition of such acts, and enjoined not to molest her on account of her present absence.

Complaint, No. 35.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 20th August 1829.

Aristide, a boy aged 14 years, and belonging to Mr. Dauguet, of Plaines Wilhems, arrested as a maroon and sent to this office, states, that he was on his way to town for the purpose of lodging a complaint against his said master, Mr. Dauguet, for having punished him with nine stripes of the martinet after his return from the bagne prison, where he had already been punished for maroonage. Lafortune, Pirame, Apolon and François held complainant's hands and feet whilst he was punished; after which he was fixed by a chain to an

an iron weight of 50 lbs. Complainant was always afterwards confined at nights in a room, fastened to the weight, and his hands chained behind him; that he was tied to a ladder every morning, and received nine stripes of the martinet, his master telling him it was by order of the Protector that he was so punished.

The examining surgeon states that "Aristide has marks of punishment on his back and breech; both appear to be very slight. The former seem to be of long standing. Those on the breech more recent. He appears well fed, but badly clothed.

(signed)

"H. Hart, M. D.

"Surgeon to the Police."

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Lafortune denies having held the hands of complainant, as stated by him. He has no knowledge of any punishment inflicted upon him on his return from prison. Small chains were put upon him, and these were attached to his ancles. He never knew of their being fixed to a weight of any description. Complainant was confined for three nights.

Pyrame never saw complainant punished, either before or after his return from the last maroonage. Declarant himself put the small chains on him, and they were fixed to a light bar, and were removed on the third day, since which complainant has been confined at night, but never in chains of any description.

Alphonse and François give the same testimony, and all declare themselves perfectly satisfied with the treatment shown them by their master.

Mr. Dauguet declares the whole of the boy's statement to be false; that complainant is a very bad subject, as may be known from his groundless complaints at the police. On his last return from the bagné prison, complainant was put into a room, in order to be employed in shoe-making, his trade; that he was confined for one night in the block, without receiving any other punishment whatever. Complainant, on his departure, took with him a pair of child's boots and some leather belonging to declarant, and is frequently guilty of theft.

Result.—It appears from the investigation made into this complaint, that Aristide is an incorrigible maroon and thief. The boots and leather he declared to be his own; that they were given him by his father, for the purpose of furnishing him with employment on Sunday, whereas his master declares them to be his. The boy, in his way from this office to the bagné, sold the boots for 1 s., the gend'armes having lost sight of him for a moment. On being reproached with this theft and misrepresentation, the boy confessed the whole fact. The Protector (owing to his youth) ordered complainant to be punished on the estate of his master with 10 stripes of the martinet only, threatening him with severer punishment in the event of his appearing with any more false complaints.

Complaint No. 36.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 23d August 1829.

Dauphine, of Caste Mozambique, and aged about 26 years, complains that his master, Mr. Prosper Chermont, of Pamplemousses, punished him for an accident which happened to his horse. He states that he was yesterday sent to the farrier, in order to get it shod; that he tied the horse to a tree, when it became restive, and getting the cord between its legs, wounded its pasterns, which being observed by his master, complainant was ordered to receive 25 or 30 lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails by Auguste, the commandeur, in the presence of Simon, Joseph and Samedi, and further condemned to carry a weight attached to his foot; that his master afterwards gave him a blow with a piece of iron about 10 inches long, saying that if his horse was not cured of his wounds in a week, he should have a second chain put upon him. Fearing this, complainant escaped.

"Marks of a recent, but of a slight punishment, as well as a slight wound on the left shoulder, were observed on complainant; in other respects he appeared in excellent health, and was well dressed."

The Sieur Chermont admits that he did punish complainant with 20 lashes of the "martinet" for having left his horse tied to a tree while he went to a canteen and got drunk. He left the horse in that state from eleven o'clock in the morning until six in the evening, when the animal, from hunger, endeavoured to escape; in doing so he entangled himself in the cord, and became so much injured that declarant fears the horse will die. These circumstances are verified by a certificate of the Sieur Salèce, the farrier to whom the horse was sent. With respect to the wound on complainant's shoulder, it is altogether false, as stated by Dauphine, that it arose from a blow given by declarant with a piece of iron. It must have been received during the time he was intoxicated. Declarant requests that his slave may be kept in chains for three months, a request which the Assistant Protector, before whom the complaint was made, thought it right to grant.

Result.—The Protector, on considering this case, disapproved of the authority given by the Assistant Protector, because authorizing the master to keep Dauphine in chains for three months, after he had already been punished for the offence committed, would be authorizing two punishments for the same crime, contrary to the spirit of the Ordinance No. 20.

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Complaint No. 37.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 24th August 1829.

Samedi, aged 30 years, and belonging to Mr. Talebot of "Bois Rouge," states that he was afflicted with the venereal disease about 15 days past, which he made known to his master, who gave him medicine called "Le Roy," without attending to him in any other manner, except that of giving him manioc as food. On the fifth day he was sent to dig in the fields. He observed to his master the danger he was exposed to from rain and dew, but he was sent back with stripes of a cane and stick. Hypolite, Aza, Nina and Denise were present, and the latter was ordered to give complainant six stripes.

Seeing complainant to be in almost a naked state, he was interrogated as to the reason of it, and replied that he had no other clothes, and that for the greater part of his time he was obliged to use guni bags.

"I certify having examined *Samedi*, a slave belonging to Mr. Talbot, and find that he has a curvature of the spine of long standing, which seems to afflict his lower extremities, and renders him unfit for field labour. He appears at present in a sickly state, and I would recommend that he be sent to hospital. He has some very slight marks of punishment on his back, but of so trifling a nature as scarcely to deserve notice. He is quite naked, and does not appear well fed.

(signed)

"H. Hart, M. D.

"Surgeon to the Police."

Mr. Talebot, in his reply to this complaint, declares that nothing can be more false than the statement made by his slave, who has been unemployed by him during the last three years. The nature of complainant's illness, or whence it arises, declarant does not know. He has been under the care of M. Lionnet, a medical man, who has treated him accordingly, and who advised the use of the medicine alluded to; neither this nor any other medicine, however, having effect, declarant sent the patient to "Grand Baie," where he remained six months, using the sand-bath. He was carried from place to place, and received at all times the utmost attention and care; in short, complainant returned able to walk, even without the aid of a stick. Finding him so far recovered, declarant intended to employ him in guarding the canes by the road side, but he would not do this, neither would he scrape manioc, although no more was required of him than enough for himself and three blacks. It was after he had declined to do even this light work that he quitted the habitation. Declarant positively denies any knowledge whatever of the nature of complainant's present indisposition, and if it be such as he states, it is of a kind that the blacks are very backward in making known, even to their masters. Declarant has given complainant no medicine, neither did he send him to work in the fields. That with respect to his clothing, it is impossible to prevent complainant's selling it the moment after he obtains it.

Hypolite, Nina and Aza were then severally examined. They declare the complaint of *Samedi* to be entirely false, and state that he has been ill upwards of three years, and has during that time been under the care of Dr. Signoret: That his master, when he has no meat in the house, sends declarant, Hypolite, to shoot birds, for the purpose of making soup for *Samedi*; and with respect to the blows he says he received from his master, he tells the greatest untruth imaginable. Complainant is never employed in digging; Aza is the only slave who digs the manioc; and it is not at all extraordinary that complainant should be naked, for whenever he has clothes given him he always absents himself, and either loses them while drunk, or sells them for arrack; in short, he does nothing more than eat, drink and sleep, absenting himself whenever his folly leads him to do so.

Result.—The complainant was severely reprimanded for his bad habits, and was then sent to the civil hospital; whilst the master was recommended, upon his slave's return, to employ him only on light work, and in the event of a recurrence of his present malady to employ a regular practitioner on his estate.

Complaint, No. 38.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 26th August 1829.

Julien, aged 38 years, and belonging to M. Frappier, of Plaines Wilhems, states that he yesterday received 10 lashes of a cart-whip, by the slave Fortune, his hands and feet being held by L'Eveillé, Adonis and Hypolite, for not being in time for muster; he was then sent back to his work. Complainant further states, that he is often beaten by his master with a stick for the slightest offence.

Dr. Hart, the examining surgeon, certifies that the complainant *Julien* "exhibits no mark of recent punishment; and he appears well fed and well clothed."

M. Frappier admits that he did punish complainant with 15 stripes of a cane, but not with a cart-whip, as stated; and this punishment was inflicted on *Julien* for having several times come very late to work.

L'Eveillé and Adonis were then separately examined. The former recollects complainant's being so punished, and it was because he was very often late in coming to work. It is a long time since the cart-whip has been used on the estate, as an instrument of punishment.

Adonis

Adonis held the hands of complainant when he was so punished for coming late to work. The cane is the only instrument of punishment now used upon the plantation of his master.

Result.—In consequence of the unfounded nature of the statement made to the Protector relative to the punishment received by the complainant, the master was authorized to confine Julien for three successive Sundays.

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Complaint, No. 39.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 29th August 1829.

Etienne, belonging to M. T. Ducray, of "Plaines Wilhems," complains that he is ill-treated by his master; that he is obliged to work on Sundays in the garden, and in bringing stones; that he is ill fed, sometimes getting a pound of potatoes, and sometimes a pound of rice, as his daily rations; that he has neither breloques, nor time to eat his food; is often punished with the "martinet" for nothing; that yesterday he received several stripes of the cat for saying that he could not bring water in a barrel so heavy as that given him for the purpose.

Dr. Hart certifies that Etienne has, "on both sides of his breech, and left side of his back, marks of old punishments, which appear to have been inflicted with an unusual degree of barbarity; he looks weak and emaciated, almost constantly in a profuse perspiration; ill fed (at least apparently so), unfit for work, and of a general unhealthy appearance. I would therefore recommend his being sent to hospital."

M. Garron, on the part of the Sieur Ducray, declares it to be entirely false that Etienne is made to work on Sundays; he is employed in the lightest description of work in the house; that he is fed with 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of rice per diem, and never with potatoes. He states it to be equally false that complainant ever received a punishment since he has belonged to M. Ducray. His extreme thinness arises from a malady under which he is labouring; and, independent of which, his intellects are somewhat deranged.

Result.—This slave was sent to the hospital, agreeably with the surgeon's recommendation. He appeared to have a sort of sweating sickness upon him, and also to be weak of intellect. The marks of punishment were of old standing, but appeared to have been inflicted with severity. The master being desirous to receive back his slave for treatment by his own surgeon, his request was complied with; the master was at the same time enjoined not to employ his slave on any other than light work, when he should be sufficiently recovered to undertake that, and otherwise to pay every attention to him in his present state.

Complaint, No. 40.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 4th September 1829.

Philogène, aged 25 years, and belonging to M. Groutche, of Port Louis, states, that yesterday evening he paid a negress 50 sous he owed to her, on receiving which she retired; that his master immediately afterwards ordered him to be put into the block, and himself fixed a chain on complainant's ankle; he then received 20 blows of a stick, without knowing for what offence. His master only was present when this happened.

"I certify having examined Philogène, and find he has marks of having received two or three stripes on his left arm, but of so trifling a nature as scarcely to deserve notice; he has one on the left arm also, but it resembles a burn more than a blow. He appears well fed and well clothed."

(signed)

"H. Hart, M. D.

"Surgeon to the Police."

M. Groutche, in his reply, states that he did punish the complainant with 10 stripes of the "martinet," placed him in the block, and put a small chain on his ankle, for having been a day and a half absent, and for having stolen divers articles belonging to strangers, who subsequently came to claim them. Declarant denies having struck complainant with a stick, and accuses him of being the worst character amongst the whole of his establishment.

Alexander and Lafortune, cited as witnesses to the punishment, were examined. They declare that complainant received several stripes of the martinet, and that he was put into the block for having sold a key brought to his master by a negress, for the purpose of being mended. They also declare that the chain was put on complainant because he was drunk, and offered resistance when his master would have put him into the block.

Nine other slaves belonging to M. Groutche were then examined. They confirmed the preceding evidence, and bear testimony as to complainant's being a great drunkard and thief.

Result.—The complaint of Philogène having turned out to be altogether false and unfounded, and this having been proved by the testimony of the whole of his comrades, who expressed themselves in high terms of the good and kind treatment shown them by their master, the Protector, as an example to the establishment, and to mark his opinion of the exaggeration of complainant's crime, by adding a malicious complaint to theft, drunkenness and insubordination, ordered him to receive 30 stripes on his master's premises, and in presence of the rest of his slaves.

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Complaint, No. 41.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 7th September 1829.

François, an Indian, aged about 50 years, and belonging to Jean Pierre, of the quarter of Flacq, complains of ill treatment from his said master, who put on him about a month past the chain complainant now wears, obliged him to work in the fields with the other blacks, and to bring wood and water for the use of the house, failing which he is punished. That he is allowed only two manioc cakes per diem as his rations, and is incapable of doing such work as carrying water, &c. Complainant left his master eight days past, and appeared at the office of the police yesterday.

Dr. Hart certifies, that the complainant "does not exhibit a single mark of recent punishment; he has a few marks on his breech, but they appear to be very slight and of very long standing. He appears about 50 or 55 years of age, very slightly made, and incapable of performing any sort of work requiring great bodily exertion."

In reply to this charge the *Sieur Jean Pierre* declares, that the statement made by his slave is false. That in consideration of his age he is very seldom employed in bringing water; and with respect to his supplying wood, declarant's consumption of it is so limited, and the supply so close to his house, that to procure it is no trouble at all. With respect to his food, complainant receives such as declarant and his family live upon, maize, rice, &c., and not with manioc. That complainant has never been beaten, but after being a maroon for eight days, and then sent back from the police, he had a small chain put upon him at 10 o'clock in the morning, but not at night as stated. It is also false that complainant was employed in the fields; his occupation has simply been to remain in the house for the amusement of declarant's children. *François* marooned again on the 24th of August last.

Result.—The master's declaration being supported by the evidence of *Pyrame*, another of his slaves, the Protector returned *François* to his master, with an injunction not to maltreat him for having made the present complaint; and also engaging the *Sieur Jean Pierre* to comply with the surgeon's recommendation of putting the slave to the lightest work possible, he being very old and infirm, and indeed weak of intellect.

Complaint, No. 42.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 12 Sept. 1829.

Thirteen slaves, twelve males and one female, belonging to M. Mamet, of the quarter of Flacq, complain that they are obliged to work on Sunday from morning until night. That they have no "breloques," nor time even to take their food, which is only potatoes, and of those they have not a sufficient quantity allowed them, the number being 11 per diem for each slave; sometimes indeed they have a pound and a half of rice per diem, of which they have nothing to complain. A quarter of an hour, or half an hour at most, is allowed them for breakfast and dinner, which they are obliged to eat on the spot where they work; that they are obliged to bring water to the court for the use of the house, and are beaten with a stick by their master if they do not go to work when called by the crack of the whip.

On examining the persons of complainants it was impossible to discover the slightest trace of correction on either of them.

They were all well clothed, and apparently in excellent health and condition.

One of the slaves, *Alphonse*, aged 16 years, states himself to be the domestic servant of M. Mamet; and on being asked why he had declared that he was obliged to work in the fields with the other blacks, he replies "my comrades having said so, I was obliged to say the same thing." The black *Petit* told him to get up at midnight, and come into town with the others to complain.

At this moment the *Sieur Mamet* arrived at the Protector's office, and having heard the charges preferred against him, declared upon oath that the whole of this complaint is false and groundless. Each of his slaves is allowed six pounds of potatoes or a pound and a half of rice per diem at their choice; with regard to their bringing water to the house, it is true that his blacks have to bring the water they use from a distance, which occupies them about a quarter of an hour; with respect to breloques, declarant's slaves enjoy the time allowed by law, viz. one hour for breakfast and two hours for dinner; that the work done by his people on Sunday is only the common *corvéé*, which lasts until eight o'clock generally, and never later than nine in the morning; when his slaves choose to work throughout the day, they are paid for it at the rate fixed by law.

The Protector having sent back the 13 complainants, with instructions to the Assistant Protector of the quarter to make a further inquiry into the case, and he having transported himself to the estate of M. Mamet, and called before him 11 slaves whom he found still upon the establishment, and made known to these individuals the nature of the complaint against their master, interrogated them thereon; the whole of these slaves were prompt and unanimous in declaring the accusations made by their comrades to be false; they state that the *corvéé* of Sunday is always finished by nine o'clock, and consists only in providing water and grass for the cattle; that they are well nourished with rice and potatoes alternately, and have their regular breloques at breakfast and dinner time; it is true they carry their food to the fields, but that is because they are working at a great distance from the court yard; that those who have said they are beaten by their master are false; and that the complainants have no more right to be dissatisfied than they the declarants have.

Result.

Result.—The declaration of these slaves proving the complaint to be false, and it appearing that the two slaves “Petit” and “Germain” had enticed their comrades to join them in making it; the Protector, to suppress such complot, directed these two individuals to be punished with 25 stripes of the “martinet” each, on the estate of M. Mamet, and in the presence of his other blacks; the rest of the complainants were severely reprimanded, and cautioned as to their future conduct.

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Complaint, No. 43.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 14th September 1829.

Julien, aged 50 years, and belonging to Madame Gondreville, of the quarter of Flacq, states, that three years past he brought a complaint against his master, M. Alfred Gondreville, for ill treatment; that since that time (when he was returned from the police) he has been kept in the stocks every night, every Sunday and all meal times, and on his said return he was also flogged by his master. That about eight days past complainant was flogged by M. Alfred's order, and received 30 stripes of the martinet (inflicted by the slave Adolphe) for not finishing his work; that punishment was given in the presence of almost all the slaves of the establishment, and more particularly in that of Pierre, Felix and Frederick; on the 12th instant he again received 15 coups of a rope, with large knots in it, for having employed himself in repairing a waggon without orders to do so.

“ I certify having examined Julien, a slave belonging to Madame Gondreville, and find he has marks of punishment on both sides of his breech; some of these appear to have been recently inflicted, and others of long standing; but it does not appear that any undue severity was used on either occasion. He appears well fed and well clothed.

(signed) “ *H. Hart*, M. D.,
Surgeon to the Police.”

Madame Gondreville states it to be true that complainant was flogged, as he says, three years ago; but it was by order of the police, complainant being the ringleader in a mutiny of four slaves. The punishment took place in the presence of the civil commissary, and the slave was afterwards returned to the police to be kept in chains and at work for three months. Complainant since his return has been locked up in the hospital at night; but he has not been kept in the stocks, nor confined on Sunday, nor during meal times.

Complainant was punished on the 21st August with 20 stripes of the martinet, and on the 12th September with 12 stripes of a small cord, both of which corrections are registered in her “book of punishments.” Complainant is confined at night because he is an ill disposed black, and constantly enticing the other slaves to maroon. He was flogged with the small cord in consequence of the martinet being at a distance from the place where he was punished, and not to be easily procured; the cord was about the size of a cane.

Adolphe and Pierre confirm their master's statement. The latter inflicted 12 stripes of a cord on complainant because he would not obey his master's orders by repairing the axle-tree of a cart, but employed himself in other work. Complainant is only locked up at night, never on Sunday during the day, or at meal times.

Felix, Frederick, Augustine, Jonquille, all state the same thing.

Result.—It appears that the complainant is an old offender; and indeed his appearance before the Protector showed him to be one of the class of blacks, who, by a little more intelligence than others, added to a disposition to insubordination, was very likely to lead others astray. His complaint is proved to be greatly exaggerated, and in parts unfounded; the Protector therefore ordered him to receive 12 lashes of the martinet for the same, on his master's estate: who was at the same time recommended to try what a little relaxation in the strict confinement of the complainant to the estate would do in bringing about a change of conduct.

Complaint, No. 44.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 17th September 1829.

François, aged 50 years, belonging to Jean Pierre Victoire, of Flacq, and who was delivered to his master from this office on the 15th instant, with strict injunctions that he should not be punished in any manner for having appeared at the Protector's office with a complaint, now states, that on leaving this he was taken to the house of a woman named Madelon, where he slept with his hands tied behind him. That arriving at his master's house yesterday at two o'clock in the afternoon, he entered without anything being said to him; but at six o'clock complainant's master tied his hands and feet to two stakes which were driven into the ground, and gave him 15 stripes of a martinet on his breech, telling him, it was for having made a complaint against him to the Protector. That his hands were afterwards put into a kind of block, from which however he found means to escape during the night. The slave Pyram and complainant's mistress were both present when he was so punished.

“ I certify having examined François, belonging to the Sieur Jean Pierre, and find he has a few slight marks of recent punishment on the right side of his breech; he has also on both sides of his arms, near the wrists, marks or wounds, which he states were occasioned by his master having placed him in a kind of block, where his hands were confined.

(signed) “ *H. Hart*, M. D.,
“ Surgeon to the Police.”

Pyram,

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Pyram, the slave cited by complainant, states, that on the 16th instant, his master, François and himself, returned from Port Louis, arriving at "Quatre Cocos" at three o'clock in the afternoon; François was then told to go into the kitchen. Declarant prepared to attend at dinner, which being finished, he returned to the kitchen, but did not find François there; supposing he might be gone out on some trifling occasion, declarant said nothing about it to his master; but finding him not to return after a certain time, he informed his master that François had left the premises.

The Sieur Jean Pierre then accompanied declarant in search of François, though without effect; this was at four o'clock. It was here observed to declarant that complainant states it to have been about half past six in the evening when his master tied him to the posts and gave him 15 lashes of the "martinet."

Pyram replied, "this must be false, as François made his escape whilst his master was at dinner." Declarant does not know by whom the punishment of which François bears marks could have been inflicted; it certainly was not by his master.

It is equally untrue that François' hands were tied behind him during the night he remained in the house of Madelon.

Jean Pierre and his wife were then separately examined; the former positively denies the charge preferred against him, and declares on oath, that the marks of punishment borne by complainant were neither inflicted by him nor by his orders, neither did complainant suffer any other description of punishment on his return from the Protector's office; and he also confirms the evidence of Pyram with respect to the time and circumstances of complainant's departure.

Hélène Victoire's declaration is also in confirmation of the preceding evidence.

Result.—The Protector having in a second examination into this case satisfied himself of the glaring falsehoods uttered by the complainant, and that his master did not in any manner whatever molest him on his return on the 15th instant; and considering also the slave's most gross prevarication and cunning in feigning deafness, and even ignorance of the Creole language, deemed him highly culpable; and as the complainant is upwards of 50 years of age, the Protector ordered him to receive 15 stripes only of the martinet at the bagné.

Complaint, No. 45.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 14th September 1829.

Joseph, aged 30 years, and the slave of the Sieur Lagesse, of the quarter of Flacq, complains that he was beaten by the commandeur named Benjamin, with a cart-whip bent double, over his clothes, for not awaking early and going to work. That he complained of this to the Civil Commissary, who sent him back with an order to his master not to molest him. His master did, however, threaten him the whole of the day, saying that he should pay dearly for having complained. The Civil Commissary can attest to the marks of punishment on complainant.

The examining surgeon (Dr. Hart) states, that Joseph "has some slight marks of punishment, but apparently of very long standing; he does not exhibit a single mark of recent punishment, and he appears well fed and well clothed.

(signed)

"H. Hart, M. D.
Surgeon to the Police."

M. Lagesse states, that he did not menace complainant, but scolded him for not coming direct to his master to make known any cause of complaint he might have against the commandeur, and who received a very severe lecture from declarant for striking complainant without his orders.

Benjamin, the commandeur, declares that he punished complainant because he got up late, and when he was asked the reason of not being at work at the proper time, he answered in a very insolent manner. Vexed, therefore, to find himself thus treated in the presence of the other slaves, he gave him five or six strokes of a whip over his clothes on the shoulders, which he did in a moment of passion, or he would have sent for a martinet.

The slave Scipion says, that complainant, who is his companion in sawing, left the plantation at about four o'clock to get a file in order to sharpen a saw, and taking that opportunity of absenting himself, did not return.

Several other slaves of M. Lagesse were also examined. Their evidence goes to prove, that the commandeur did give the complainant six or eight stripes of the whip for coming late to work, and for being insolent to the commandeur. They unanimously declare, however, that for themselves they had no cause whatever of complaint against their master.

Result.—The Protector severely reprimanded the master for having, according to his own account, reproved his slave for going to the Assistant Protector, instead of applying to him; M. Lagesse was also cautioned against a repetition of such conduct, and directed to prohibit the commandeur from punishing the slaves without his orders, and more particularly to suppress the use of the whip as an instrument of punishment under any circumstances whatever. The complainant was then recommended to be more attentive to his duty for the future; and as it appears that the number of lashes inflicted on him amounted only to six, and that those were over his clothes and with a doubled whip, the case was discharged and the slave returned to his master.

Complaint, No. 46.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 30th August 1829.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Gabriel, a slave belonging to Numa Fontain, of the quarter of Grand Port, complains that on his discharge from the police, where he had been punished for maroonage, he was sent to his master's estate, and there received a second correction, notwithstanding he told his master of his having been punished by the police. That on his way hither to make his complaint he was again arrested as a maroon by a guard of the police.

" Port Louis, 31st August 1829.

" I certify having examined Gabriel, a slave belonging to M. Numa Fontain, and find he has marks of recent punishment on both sides of his breech ; but from the present appearances, the cicatrices being healed and the marks being exceedingly slight, I have some doubt as to the truth of his statement.

(signed) " H. Hart, M. D."

This complaint having been inquired into by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, was found, from abundant evidence, to be totally false : instead of being punished on the plantation, as stated, the complainant actually escaped from the custody of the person who was charged to conduct him from the bagne to his master ; that he stole a marmite at an inn on the road, and then returned to Port Louis and made this false complaint. The slave was consequently severely reprimanded by the Protector, but as he showed great repugnance to return to the plantation, his master consented to employ him here in town.

Complaint, No. 47.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 11th September 1829.

Pauline, a negress, aged 30 years, and belonging to M. Jean Ellie of Port Louis, complains of being struck on the head with a stick by her mistress, for not having well washed certain linen entrusted to her care.

Complainant was arrested as a maroon, and sent to this office.

Dr. Hart's certificate states that, " complainant has a slight wound on the right and back part of her head. It is difficult to say in what manner it was occasioned, but it appears to me more like a contused one occasioned by a fall, although it may have occurred in the manner stated."

Madlle. Marie (complainant's mistress) declares, that nothing can be more false than the statement of Pauline. That several days past she left the court-yard under pretext of recovering a fowl that had strayed from the premises, and since that time has not been seen by declarant until the present moment ; being a confirmed drunkard, complainant must have received the blow by a fall during her maroonage.

The police guard who arrested her declares that the negress was drunk and rolling in the mud when taken ; that her clothes were bloody, and made so by a wound on the head, evidently occasioned by a fall. She is known as a very abandoned character and is frequently found in the state described.

Result.—The Protector finding the complaint false, and the negress to be of so bad a character, sent her back to her master with instructions that she should be confined for four successive Sundays. In a few days afterwards, however, she again made her escape, and on the 14th was brought to this office a second time in an intoxicated state. On the following day the Protector directed her to be punished at the bagne prison with 15 lashes of the martinet, the same to be inflicted on her shoulders in the presence of all the female slaves, after which she was sent to her master. On the 24th a report was made to the Protector that this negress had again marooned.

Complaint, No. 48.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 22d Sept. 1829.

The slaves *Lucien, Julien, Pierre, Marcelin, Casimir* and *Adrien*, belonging to Madame Damain, of the quarter of Pamplemousses, complain that on their return from work on Saturday evening last at seven o'clock, the regisseur, M. Ringuet, ordered the commandeur " Dinde" to confine them in the stocks, without telling them for what offence, although repeatedly asked to do so. On Monday morning they were released by Antoine, when hearing the regisseur give orders that they should be flogged and then put in chains, complainants took advantage of an opportunity to escape, and came to the police, from whence they were sent to the Protector to make their complaint. They are not aware of having committed any fault whatever.

M. Ringuet, the regisseur of the estate, declares that the statement made by the complainants is false and absurd ; that the six blacks in question are sorcerers, and those who always create disorder on a plantation ; that they refused to work at the Sunday morning corvée ; they also refuse to take their turn in mounting guard, which it is always the custom to do during crop time. Marcelin is the chief of the band. That having occasion to send sugar to town on Monday last, they all refused to load the carts for that purpose, and as

a punishment

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a punishment were put into the block. Declarant happened to hear them that evening in close conversation, and particularly Marcelin, who engaged all the others to pledge their words that they would maroon as soon as they should be let out on Monday morning. Desirous of trying an experiment on Julien (the least culpable of the party), declarant released him on Sunday night, in the course of which he marooned. No other punishment than that of the block, or of chains, such as are worn by Sepoys, has been at any time inflicted by declarant; but in case of theft, he thinks the law allows him to punish with 10 stripes of the whip, or 25 strokes of a cane, and desires to know whether this sort of punishment is too severe.

Mathurin, a commandeur, states that the six complainants were put into the stocks for refusing to take their turn in mounting guard. They were confined on Saturday evening, and Julien was released on the following evening at seven, but he escaped during the night. The others were let out on Monday at seven o'clock in the morning; they then refused to go to work, when the Sieur Ringuet, to frighten them, ordered declarant to put them in chains; but during the time declarant was in search of chains, the complainants made their escape. That whilst in the stocks they made a great uproar, in order to vex the overseer. Marcelin and Adrien are the chief of them; the former once took declarant (a commandeur) by the collar.

Jean Dinde, commandeur, Antoine, commandeur, and Frederick, chief carman, all confirm the statement of the last witness, and add that complainants told the overseer they did not acknowledge him as their master, as they belonged to Madame Damain. The overseer told them in declarant's presence why he put them into the block. Marcelin and Adrien are the ringleaders, and are the most disobedient blacks on the estate.

The slaves Michel, Gaspard and Guillaume, state the same thing.

Result.—This complaint being found false and malicious, Marcelin and Adrien were ordered to receive 40 lashes each, as ringleaders, and the other four slaves 20 lashes each; and as the Protector views this affair as one in which the complainants have conducted themselves in a very unruly and insubordinate manner, the Assistant Protector is directed to be present at the punishment. He is also to inform the regisseur that the use of the whip as an instrument of punishment, under any circumstances whatever, is strictly forbidden.

Complainant, No. 49.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 22d Sept. 1829.

Adèle, a negress belonging to M. Motet of Rivière du Rempart, and who had been detained at the bagné in consequence of an action brought against her master for ill treatment of the said negress, complains that immediately on her return to his house, M. Motet ordered her to be placed in the "bar de justice," and her hair to be cut off. On the following morning complainant was released, and had then small fetters put upon her legs, and was thus sent to work in the sugar-house; that she was several times beaten with a stick or a sugar-cane, as all the slaves employed in the mill can testify. The slave Joseph was ordered to confine complainant at night and on Sundays in the stocks. Seeing herself thus treated, she escaped on the 13th instant, bringing with her the fetters which had been put upon her. Complainant, during her absence from the estate of her master, up to this time, has been living upon cane, and amongst the canes in the neighbourhood of her master. She gave her master no reason whatever for inflicting upon her this second punishment, except that of having made her complaint to the Protector.

M. Motet in reply states, that before the negress came to complain to the Protector, he took the precaution of making a declaration before the Assistant Protector, stating that immediately on her return from the bagné, complainant declared before two witnesses that she would no longer serve him; in consequence of which he put fetters upon her; after which she escaped from the habitation, with three other blacks. In proof of this, Jean Jacques Denis, the regisseur on the estate, swears that Adèle plainly told her master, on her return from the bagné, she would not work under his orders; that M. Motet then put a small chain on her legs, and that the said Adèle on the following Sunday left the habitation, with three other slaves.

The slave Victor corroborates the preceding statement.

During a second inquiry into this case, the Sieur Motet declared that he did not put Adèle into a "bar de justice," but that he did put small fetters upon her, for the reasons stated in his first declaration. Had she been confined in the "bar de justice," complainant could not have escaped. The rings belonging to that bar, and which were taken away by her, were taken from the prison, and were at the time unattached to the said bar. Declarant did cause her hair to be cut off, as stated by Adèle; but it was as a punishment for her great impertinence in telling him that she would no longer work for him. He put her into the sugar-mill to work, not wishing to employ her any longer as a domestic in the house. That he did not take away the clothes of complainant when she was put into the stocks is evident from the fact of her being well dressed at the time of her escape, and at the present moment.

M. Motet, on being informed that the complainant would be sent back to him, but with an injunction that she was not to be molested in any manner on account of her present or former complaint, refused to receive her under these circumstances, preferring rather to wait until the complaint should be decided, particularly as it had been made expressly to annoy him.

The slaves Culotte, Baptiste and Joseph, all declare on oath, that the complainant was not confined in the "bar de justice," but that she was put in fetters and made to work in the mill; had she been confined as she states herself to have been, she could not have escaped.

Result.—Considering all the circumstances of this case, the falsehood in some of the complainant's statements, and exaggeration in others, the Protector deems the negress culpable; but at the same time it is to be observed, that the act of the master in causing her hair to be cut off, than which nothing is more revolting to the feelings of a negress, was any thing but the line of conduct he ought to have pursued towards a slave, for his violence to whom he had already been prosecuted. The Protector, however, in order to mark his displeasure at Adèle's conduct, directed her to be confined in the prison of the plantation for one month; but on account of her pregnancy, not to be put into the stocks; it being understood that the prison is free from damp, and that the negress be supplied during that time with a reasonable quantity of food and water.

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Complaint, No. 50.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 24th September 1829.

Bernard, 15 years of age, and belonging to M. Jamain of "Roche Bois," in the quarter of Pamplémousses, states, that he left the house of his master eight days past, because he was often beaten by the slave Alexis, commandeur, and frequently without reason. Complainant has worn the chains now upon him for the last month, and they were put upon him because he had marooned three times.

"I certify having examined the slave Bernard, belonging to Monsieur Jamain, and find he has innumerable marks on his back and breech; some of these have evidently been occasioned by the whip, but the greater part appear to have been caused by his having scratched himself while a maroon. I am of opinion that no undue severity has been exercised in his punishment.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
Surgeon to the Police."

Result, 28th September.—M. Jamain and his commandeur appeared at the Protector's office, and fully convinced him that the complainant is a maroon and thief by habit; instead of three times, as he confesses, he has marooned seven times in five months. The marks of correction by a whip were upon him when he was purchased by Mr. Jamain. Complainant is a Seychelles black, all of whom are of the most depraved description as thieves and maroons. The Protector gave him a severe reprimand, and then sent him back to his master.

Complaint, No. 51.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 24th September 1829.

Paul, an Indian, aged about 40 years, and belonging to Madame Hugue, of the quarter of Rivière Noire, states, that he is left by his mistress in the service of her brother, M. Maré, a shopkeeper of Port Louis, and that finding himself unwell he applied to his master, who gave him a medicine called "le roy;" finding himself no better on the second day, Paul obtained from his master a note, addressed to Madame Hugue, who, instead of receiving him as an invalid, told complainant he ought not to have come home, but ought to have remained to work in the shop. And upon his again telling her that he was unable to do so, his mistress in a rage rose from table, and gave complainant several blows with a cane, following him into the court-yard, where falling in his endeavour to escape her, his said mistress again beat him with the cane. Complainant was afterwards sent to the fields to work, and was threatened with further punishment. Mathurin, Frontin, Roselia, and almost all the other slaves of the establishment, were witness to this. He was afterwards punished with a whip by Mathurin.

"Port Louis, 24th September 1829.

"I certify having examined Paul, belonging to Madame Hugue, and find he has a few marks of contusion on his shoulders and neck; but it does not appear that any undue severity has been used. He appears in bad health. I would therefore recommend his being sent to the hospital."

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
Surgeon of the Police."

Madame Hugue declares, that the whole nearly of the complainant's statement is false and malicious. He was let to her nearly three years past, and was sent back to declarant as being sick; his impertinence and want of respect when spoken to by declarant, did induce her to give him two slaps with her hand, and two or three stripes with a small cane. With respect to his being sent to work, and afterwards punished with a whip, it is absolutely false; on the contrary, no such instrument of punishment exists on the estate. Complainant was sent to his hut, and told that he should have medical assistance on the following morning.

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The slaves cited by complainant as being witness to his punishment, were then examined, and their evidence went clearly to prove that Paul received no punishment whatever except that which Madame Hugue admits she inflicted upon him, and that was in consequence of his impertinent manner to his mistress, who had shown complainant the greatest attention some time past, when he was afflicted almost to blindness.

Result.—The Protector in this case thought it necessary to admonish the mistress against allowing herself to be led away by the irritation of the moment, especially, as in the present case, for so trifling a cause against a poor slave, so reduced by ill health as to be an object of compassion and forbearance rather than punishment. She was therefore recommended to be moderate in her conduct towards her slaves, and not to molest the complainant in any manner, on account of his present complaint. The slave remains at the hospital. Discharged therefrom on the 6th October.

Complaint, No. 52.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 25th September 1829.

Célestine, aged 20 years, and belonging to M. Fabre of Port Louis, states that she quitted the house of her master about two months past, because she was obliged to work notwithstanding the indisposition she suffered from a miscarriage; her master gave her no medicine, although recommended to do so by a surgeon: that she is frequently beat with a stick, sometimes by her master, and sometimes by the slave Bernard, who is directed to do so. Complainant was yesterday arrested by a guard of the police.

The certificate of Dr. Hart states, "she has a few slight marks of punishment on her back, but of so trifling a nature as scarcely to deserve notice. She complains of being sick, but I can detect no symptom of indisposition or disease about her. She appears well fed and well clothed."

Result.—M. Fabre and his wife appeared to answer to this complaint, which on investigation was proved to be unfounded, particularly with regard to her being obliged to work too soon after her miscarriage, and not receiving medical attendance. It also appears that the complainant is a constant maroon, for which offence the punishment, of which the slight marks remain, was a long time ago inflicted. The negress was admonished by the Protector, and then returned to the police, to be returned to her mistress after she shall have undergone her punishment for maroonage.

Complaint, No. 53.

Protector of Slave's Office, 25th September 1829.

Lubin, aged 40 years, and belonging to the Sieur Pierre L'Eternel of Port Louis, complains that his master would not listen to him when he said he was unwell, but sent complainant away, threatening him with punishment unless he went to work: that on the 12th instant, feeling himself still indisposed, he remained in bed, when his master ordered him to rise and open the windows; complainant did this, but his master, still scolding him, took a large stick, and with it gave complainant many blows on the back, and one on the right arm, so severe that he has since been incapable of using it in any manner. Complainant was arrested by the police as a maroon.

"Port Louis, 26th Sept. 1829.

"I certify having examined the slave Lubin, and find his right fore-arm swelled a little above the wrist, which he states was occasioned by his master having struck him with a stick about a fortnight past. From the present appearance of the swelling (which is yet very painful) I have no doubt but the arm was fractured by some violence or other, but at present the bones seem in some degree united, yet I consider the man unfit for any employment.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

The Sieur Pierre L'Eternel, in his answer to this complaint, states that his slave (the complainant) has long been under medical treatment, which has yet had no beneficial effect upon him: that he is constantly a maroon: that about 15 days past he asked permission to go to the sea to bathe, which was immediately granted, but since which time complainant has not returned to the house. Declarant is surprised at the state in which he now sees his slave, and more so, if possible, at his false and malicious statement in saying that the blow on his arm was received from declarant.

The witnesses cited by complainant were then separately examined, both of whom declare on oath the truth of the declaration made by the master. Balthazar further says that the complainant has always been accustomed to live and sleep in the same "case" with him. He saw complainant leave the court after obtaining permission to go to bathe, and declares that his arm at that time was uninjured.

Result.—The Protector, after a minute investigation of this complaint, felt convinced that the injury received by the slave must have occurred during his maroonage, and he was the more confirmed in this opinion from the state of intoxication in which the slave presented himself at this office, and his apparent dissolute habits. The complainant was therefore severely reprimanded by the Protector, and returned to his master, with a recommendation to be more obedient for the future, under pain of corporal punishment, which he now only escapes in consequence of his debilitated condition.

Complaint, No. 54.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 26th September 1829.

Report from
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Justine, a negress belonging to Madame Veuve Sturbel, of the quarter of Savanne, complains of the severity of the task-work : she has been obliged to make five sacks a day, but of late, having felt herself unwell, she has been incapable of doing so much work, and has consequently been confined in the block. Complainant, in order to be made to work more expeditiously, was placed in a hangard with the negress Célestine, who being an excellent "natteuse," finished five sacks before complainant can even plait hers, after which she has to sew them, a part of the work she was always obliged to leave until the following morning, in consequence of her being confined every night in the block, having only the evening in which to dress her food. Complainant was this morning to be put in chains by the commandeur, and conducted to the veranda, where Adeline, Jean Marie and Pierre Louis were at work ; complainant knowing this, and also knowing that she would be kept a long time in chains, escaped in order to seek assistance from the Assistant Protector.

Madame Sturbel, in her reply, denies the charge brought against her, and states, that observing the negress Georgette had performed her task and that the complainant had not, it became necessary to secure her in order to ensure the completion of her task. It was because complainant refused to attend her summons by the bell that she sought the assistance of the Assistant Protector and made the present complaint ; in short, a complot exists amongst her slaves, seeing that the negress Zalie has been detained by him.

Result.—The Protector having already laid before his Excellency the Governor the conduct of Madame Sturbel towards her slaves, with a view that some measures may be adopted for regulating the number of sacks to be exacted as the daily task of children and negresses employed in such work ; the same was communicated to the Assistant Protector, who was also directed to return the negress Justine to her mistress, with an injunction that she is not to be molested in any manner whatever on account of her present complaint, and at the same time to make known to that lady the regret of the Protector on observing a continuance of the harsh measures for which she has already been so severely censured.

Complaint, No. 55.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 29th Sept. 1829.

Augustin and *Mélanie*, belonging to M. Staub, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, having been arrested by the police as maroons, and declaring the cause of their absence from the estate to be ill treatment received from their master, have been sent to this office by the chief commissary of police.

Augustin, 11 years of age, says, that not being strong enough to dig, he is constantly punished by the commandeur Evenor with a "martinet de peau bien dure." He has been a maroon for the last month, and was punished by François at his master's desire five days before he marooned, and had put upon his neck the iron collar he now wears. This punishment was inflicted for a previous maroonage.

Mélanie states, that on her return from maroonage about two months past she was punished with the same martinet as that described by Augustin, although she was pregnant at the time. She was afterwards put into the block, and remained there four days and nights, and when released had a branch collar put upon her, and was thus sent to work in the fields, but always returned to the block at night. Complainant left the estate three weeks ago.

" Port Louis, 29th Sept. 1829.

" I certify having examined Augustin and Mélanie, slaves belonging to M. Staub, and find that both exhibit very slight marks of punishment, of very long standing, on the breech and back : they appear well fed and well clothed.

(signed) " H. Hart, M. D.
" Surgeon to the Police."

The declaration of M. Staub, supported by the evidence of four witnesses, one of whom is the father of one of the complainants, and by the maroonage certificates, and the medical certificate as to the state of complainants, proved to the satisfaction of the Protector the groundless nature of these complaints, and convinced him that the slaves are habitual maroons, and without reason for being so with reference to their present masters, Messrs. Staub having the character of treating their slaves very well.

The Protector therefore lectured both the complainants, and sent Augustin to the police to undergo the usual punishment for maroonage. Mélanie being in a state of pregnancy, was given up to her master, with orders to be kept in solitary confinement for the next four Sundays, allowing her of course her usual rations.

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Complaint, No. 56.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 25th Sept. 1829.

Juliette, aged 26 years, and belonging to Madlle. Delphine Cosson of Flacq, complains of ill treatment received from her mistress, in causing her to be placed in the block for the night, and on the following morning directing her sons, Arthur and Edward, to tie her hands and feet, and to inflict on complainant 30 stripes of a cane, for having some time past made a complaint against her mistress: "Felix" was present when this took place. Complainant after this punishment was sent to the kitchen to work as usual, which not being able to do, suffering as she did from the effects of the punishment, she left the house two days afterwards, and was yesterday taken and conducted to town by a police guard.

"I certify having examined Juliette, a negress belonging to Madlle. Cosson, and find she has extensive marks of punishment on both sides of her breech and also on her left thigh, which she states were occasioned by her having been flogged with a large rattan about two or three months ago: she appears well fed and well clothed.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

Madlle. Cosson declares on oath that nothing can be more false than the complainant's statement; and states, that in the month of July last Juliette accompanied declarant to Port Louis; that when arrived the negress asked permission to go out to visit one of her friends, which was immediately granted upon condition of her early return; since that time, however, Juliette has not been seen by her. Declarant did not punish her, and if she bears marks of punishment they must have been inflicted during her maroonage. Complainant is a bad subject and a constant maroon. With respect to that part of the statement in which her sons and the slave Felix are said to have assisted at the punishment, it is another wicked untruth: her sons do not live with declarant: one of them lives at Grand Bois, the other at Port Louis, and they are very seldom with her.

M. Edward Cosson and the slave Felix fully support the preceding testimony, and swear that the complaint of Juliette is entirely false; that she was not punished by them or in their presence, as stated by her.

Result.—The Protector having investigated this complaint very minutely, and having examined the negress again, after reading to her the contradiction given to her statement by her mistress and her son, as well as by her fellow-servant Felix, is compelled to dismiss the complaint notwithstanding the marks of punishment certified by the examining surgeon. The fact of the negress having quitted the habitation two months past, and remaining out as a maroon without presenting herself to complain, tells strongly against her. The Protector also observes that he sent for Edward (who lives with a farrier in Port Louis), and who declared on oath that he has not been out of the town for the last six months; it is therefore impossible that he could have assisted at any punishment on his mother's estate within that time, as the negress has falsely stated.

Complaint, No. 57.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 1st Oct. 1829.

Lindor, a slave belonging to M. Fabre of the district of Flacq, complains of having been punished with 25 lashes of the "martinet" for having failed to complete his task of sawing 100 feet of wood. Toby, Louis, and almost all the slaves of the estate, were present at the punishment. Complainant was afterwards put into the block. Lindor admits that he is sometimes short in his work, and on the day in question was 20 feet deficient, owing to the extreme hardness of the wood. The rings on complainant's ancles were put upon him on his return from maroonage about three weeks past, at which time he was also punished with 25 lashes for not having done his work. He was arrested by the police as a maroon.

The examining surgeon states that "Lindor has slight marks of punishment on both sides of his breech: he appears well fed and tolerably well clothed."

On investigating this complaint, it appeared from the evidence of M. Fabre and 10 other individuals on the estate, that the complainant is a determined maroon and bad subject; that he has been absent from his work ten months out of the last twelve, and that he has altogether imposed on the Protector in his declaration.

He was not punished for neglecting his work, but for theft, as is proved by the "Register-book of punishments" kept on the estate, and the evidence of the above witnesses, all of whom bore testimony to complainant's having received nine instead of 25 lashes of the martinet.

Result.—The Protector ordered complainant to be punished by being confined "au secret" for the next four Sundays.

Complaint, No. 58.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 1st Oct. 1829.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Adeline and *Julien*, slaves of Madame Sturbel, of the quarter of Savanne, complain that they have been for several months past chained in the manner they now are, and that being unable to endure such treatment any longer, they made their escape this morning.

Adeline says, that she was returned to Madame Sturbel about two months past from this office, and after her mistress had been prosecuted for cruelty towards her; immediately on her return she was again put in chains attached to a heavy log of wood; that her mistress then told her, "you only made four sacks a day before you complained to the Protector, and now you shall be compelled to make five." Complainant says it is impossible she can perform this task without giving up her hours allowed for meals. That in addition to her own task she is obliged to overlook and finish the making of 12 sacks, which the children prepare, but which they are not able to sew and otherwise complete; for not doing this, complainant states she was once flogged. The chains being removed from this negress, were found to be four feet and a half in length; they were attached to her right ankle by a small ring, and the other end was fixed to a large billet of wood, the weight of which, with the chain, &c. was 55 pounds.

Julien, aged 16 years, says that his mistress exacts four sacks a day as his task, which is more than he possibly can perform; he is often unwell from the exertion he is obliged to make, and the vexation he is subject to; that he is continually punished with a cane or the cat when he cannot perform his task; exclusive of which he is frequently obliged to cut and prepare the vacoa leaves for making up; complainant unable to support this work, therefore left the habitation with *Adeline*. The chains on complainant were found to be five feet long, and weighed, together with a lump of lead attached to one end of them, 18 pounds.

Madame Sturbel, in her reply to this complaint, states that there exists an insubordination amongst her slaves, which has arisen to such a pitch that the negresses refuse any longer to perform their ordinary task; that she knows not how to keep them in order; that she has been obliged to exercise some correction, such as the chains which the complainants carry, but that these chains cannot annoy them much, because they do not bear all the weight of them, they being attached by a small ring to the leg, the wearer can fetch any thing he may be in want of, such as food, &c.; that *Adeline's* complaint is false and calumnious when she states that declarant imposed upon her an extra task because she had been to the Protector, and therefore begged that the negress might be again asked whether or not she had not always been accustomed to make five sacks. The question being put, *Adeline* said she had, but then it was when she had no child to nurse, and that being so circumstanced at present, she cannot perform that labour.

On the 21st October this case was transmitted to the Procureur-General for prosecution against Madame Sturbel, for having put upon the complainants chains of greater weight than those allowed by law.

It was also observed to the Procureur-General, that *Adeline* is the negress for flogging whom Madame Sturbel was prosecuted to conviction in August last; and that upon her return to her mistress from the Protector's office, the chains which form the present cause for prosecution were put upon her.

Complaint, No. 59.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 1st Oct. 1829.

The commandeur *René*, aged 50 years, and belonging to M. Frederick D'Emmerez of "Bel Ombre," in the quarter of "Savanne," complains, on the part of himself and that of all the slaves on the estate, that they are obliged to work from three o'clock in the morning until nine at night; that their daily ration is two pounds of potatoes, except on Sundays, when they get one pound of undressed rice; that they are allowed half an hour for each meal; that they work on Sunday from six in the morning until two o'clock in the afternoon; that punishment on the estate is almost daily; there are two "cats," one of dried hide, and the other of cord; and the females are punished in like manner with the male slaves. Declarant further states that his wife "Florine" has been confined for one week, simply because complainant had taken a glass of arrack.

It being observed to complainant that at three o'clock in the morning it must be too dark to see to work, he confirms his first statement.

October 2.—The complaint thus made by *René*, on the part of all his comrades, being of so general and so serious a nature, the Protector thought it necessary to re-examine the complainant on the several points above mentioned; in all of which *René* persists, declaring that his statement of yesterday contains the truth and nothing but the truth.

It was by no general meeting of the slaves that declarant was deputed to be the bearer of their complaints, but by a personal request made at different times by each of them: their only object is that they may be made to work only from daylight until dark; that they may be allowed Sunday, and the usual hours of "breloques;" and that they may also be allowed one pound and a half of rice per diem, or its equivalent in potatoes, manioc or maize.

Viewing this complaint as one calling for a personal investigation, the Protector, accompanied by the Assistant Protector of the quarter of Savanne, proceeded to the estate of M. D'Emmerez, who having heard the complaint of the said *René*, declared the whole to be a calumnious accusation against him, and requested that not only all his slaves, but also

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the free persons employed by him might be called before the Protector to be examined by him. The slaves, amounting to two hundred in number, with the commandeurs at their head, were accordingly assembled, all of whom unanimously declared that they had no cause whatever of complaint against their master; that they had never deputed René to make such, not having the least reason to do so; and that as to his complaint about their food, they declared they were well fed, each slave having from five to six pounds of potatoes per diem, or one pound and a half of rice, which is their general food; that they work from five in the morning until six in the evening, and have their regular hours of "breloques" for meals; on Sunday the *corvée* is finished by seven o'clock in the morning, after which they have the day to themselves; the *cat-o'-nine-tails* is the only instrument of punishment used on the estate, and that but seldom. With respect to the punishment of female slaves, when questioned thereon by the Protector, they declared that confinement in the prison was the only punishment they are subject to for any fault committed. With regard to the treatment of René in particular, all the slaves declared that he often left his work to obtain arrack, and would then give himself up for several days together to drunkenness, for which he has often been reprimanded by his master.

It appeared also by the declaration of M. D'Emmerez, that the wife of René and of Caëli-mane had been confined in prison for having neglected their master's order to overlook and prevent René's procuring spirits; and that the "*martinet de peau*" had never been used but for very grave offences, that of cord being generally used, which will be seen by the record book of punishments, and which punishments, since the promulgation of the Ordinance No. 43, have been four in number. On the Protector's observing that the law does not authorize the use of any other than the common "*cat*," M. D'Emmerez promised to abstain from the use of any other for the future.

Result.—The Protector being perfectly satisfied that the statement made by the complainant René against his master is false and malicious, judged it necessary, for the maintenance of good order, discipline and the tranquillity of the estate, to give M. D'Emmerez his option of punishing the complainant by process in the courts agreeably to the 31st art. of Ordinance 43, of the 7th February last, or to inflict on him the punishment authorized by the 17th art. of the same Ordinance. M. D'Emmerez preferring the latter course, as being more likely to suppress the insubordination of the complainant, the Protector directed 50 stripes of the *cat-o'-nine tails* to be inflicted upon him, in the presence of the other slaves of the establishment, which was carried into effect to the number of 35, Mr. D'Emmerez having requested that the punishment might be limited to that number.

Complaint, No. 60.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 5th Oct. 1829.

Justine, aged 30 years, and belonging to Madame Lemelle, of Port Louis, complains of ill treatment received from her said mistress. She states that during the last five months she has constantly been struck with the hand or a stick for the slightest fault; that on her return from the bazaar yesterday morning she was kicked and beaten both by her master and mistress in a very severe manner. The slaves *Cocotte* and *Baptiste* were present when this occurred.

The examining surgeon states, that "*Justine* exhibits no mark of punishment on her body, except one slight mark on her right side; but I have some doubt whether that was caused in the manner stated. There is also a slight red speck on each of her eyes, which she states were occasioned by blows received yesterday; but I am of opinion, if the violence complained of had been inflicted yesterday, the eyelids would have been more or less swollen; and it appears they show no symptom of any blow being given at so late a period, or at any other.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D."

Result.—This complaint was proved to be false by the testimony given by the slaves "*Cocotte*" and "*Baptiste*," cited by the complainant. They swear that her master did not touch her, but that he made her go on her knees and ask pardon of her mistress for very insolent and refractory behaviour. It also appeared that the complainant is in the habit of drinking arrack, and is otherwise of libertine habits; and she showed a disposition to insolence towards her master in the Protector's office, declaring she would not go back with him. The Protector therefore directed the keeper of the *bagne* to inflict upon the negress's shoulders six stripes with a rod, in the manner that negresses are punished under like circumstances.

Complaint, No. 61.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 6th October 1829.

Mondor, aged 30 years, and belonging to M. Bestel of the quarter of Savanne, complains that on Saturday last, on entering the court-yard with a load of wood, the economer, M. Fauque, asked him why the cart was not properly loaded, and gave complainant two blows of the fist, and another on the eye with the handle of an umbrella; then put him into the block, and kept him there until Monday morning. Complainant also states, that with the other slaves he is obliged to work on Sunday from six in the morning till 11 o'clock, and

and sometimes until noon, in cutting and carrying canes. Jean Marie and César were present when complainant received the blows.

" I certify having examined Mondor, a slave belonging to M. Bestel, and find he is affected with a slight inflammation of the right eye, with a trifling degree of swelling of the lid, which he states was occasioned by his master having struck him with an umbrella on Saturday last. He has also on his right shoulder a few slight marks of punishment, which appear to have been inflicted at some former period.

(signed) " H. Hart, M. D."

In reply to this charge M. Fauque states, that having been informed by the person who superintends the carting work of the plantation, that complainant would not properly load his waggon, notwithstanding the representations made to him on this subject, he (declarant) made a point of being in the yard at the time of Mondor's return, and finding him to have but half a load, he asked him how it was. Complainant insolently replied that the load was sufficiently great, and persisted in it. This being a second offence of the kind, declarant directed Jean Marie to punish Mondor with several stripes of the cane; but he mutinously refused to obey him. Declarant therefore followed Mondor with the intention of arresting him; when, placing his umbrella on Mondor's shoulder, and the slave hastily turning round, received a wound from it, which caused the appearances alluded to in the surgeon's certificate. The complainant afterwards received two stripes of a cane, was placed in the stocks, and remained there until Monday morning. With respect to Sunday labour, M. Fauque declares complainant's statement to be false. The regular *corvée* finishes at eight o'clock in the morning; and if circumstances do occur to make it necessary to employ a black on a Sunday, he is always paid the price fixed by law for such voluntary service.

The evidence of other free persons on the estate, as well as that of all his comrades, confirmed the above, and proved Mondor to be a disobedient and insolent slave, and a great reasoner.

Result.—The Protector, with this evidence against the slave, ordered him to receive 20 lashes of the "martinet" on the estate of his master, and in the presence of the slaves of the establishment, as a punishment for his disobedience, and a warning to his comrades.

Complaint, No. 62.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 8th October 1829.

Patience, a slave belonging to M. Cantin of Port Louis, and sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of police, states, that on the 25th August last he was accused of a theft committed upon a person (of whose name he is ignorant) living at the "Petit Montagne;" and being arrested, was conducted to the police office; that three days afterwards he was returned to his master in consequence of indisposition, on condition, however, that he should be returned to the police when recovered; that when arrived at his master's house he was immediately put in chains, and ordered to be confined in the stocks every night, and which was done. Three weeks afterwards a guard of the police conducted complainant from his master's to that office, where his chains were knocked off, and he was employed in breaking stones. The day before yesterday his master again sent for complainant; and no sooner had he returned than he was punished with 25 lashes of the "martinet," and again put in chains. Complainant having been again sent for by the police, stated the above circumstances to the Chief Commissary of that department, and has been, in consequence, sent hither.

Dr. Hart certifies that *Patience* "has some very slight marks of recent punishment on his right hip and groin, which he states were inflicted by his being flogged with a martinet.

(signed) " H. Hart, M. D."

In reply to this charge, M. Cantin states that his slave was not only accused of the theft, but taken in the fact; that he remained at the police for three days, when, being informed that he had been maltreated by the blows and kicks which had been given him by the guard who arrested him, declarant requested that his slave might be given up to him until he should be recovered. On his return, however, *Patience* refused, in the presence of his comrades, to receive the assistance offered to him. Complainant being recovered, declarant thought it necessary for his security to put him in chains. That he remained five or six days at work with the other blacks. At the request of the police, complainant was returned with the said chain upon him; which chain being unfortunately above the weight authorized by law, declarant paid the penalty accordingly. His slave was again returned to him on the 6th instant, when declarant, for the purpose of instilling good order and example into his other blacks, ordered him to be punished with 20 lashes of the "martinet," and then put him in chains weighing only two pounds and a half. Complainant is a great thief, and altogether a bad subject.

Result.—The complainants having been condemned to corporal punishment, and 15 days chains for a police offence, the flogging inflicted upon him by his master, when given up to him in ill health, was illegal, as was also the punishment of chains. Under these circumstances the Protector denounced the case for prosecution against the said M. Cantin, accordingly.

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Complaint, No. 63.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 9th October 1829.

Paulin, aged 18 years, and belonging to M. Pilot of Pamplemousses, having been arrested at the "Savanne" in the act of breaking into the hut of a black belonging to M. Gallet, has been sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of police. *Paulin* states, that having marooned he went to see his father, who he always thought was a slave belonging to M. Gallet. That arrived there, he entered the hut of his father, but did not find him there: at that instant came up another black, who told declarant that his father had been sold, and then conducted him to M. Gallet, who afterwards sent him to the Civil Commissary of police.

Declarant says he marooned because he was punished by his master with nearly fifty lashes of the martinet, after being sent back from the bagne, where he had been detained for a previous maroonage. He has been 14 days a maroon, living on cane and manioc, which he stole from the neighbouring plantations.

The examining surgeon's certificate states, that "*Paulin* has on both sides of his breech, and on his right hip, extensive marks of recent punishment. He appears well fed, but the flogging has been severe.

(signed) "H. Hart, M.D., Surgeon to the Police."

After a full investigation of this complaint it was found to be totally groundless, according to the evidence from the slaves and free persons on the estate of his master. It is more than probable that the several marks of punishment upon complainant proceed from his having been flogged whilst a maroon.

The negro's character is bad. He came to the Protector about three months past with a frivolous complaint, and was then returned to his master with a severe reprimand. He marooned in a few days afterwards, and was taken and punished by the police, and then returned to his master. He marooned again on the same evening; and instead of coming to the Protector's office, which he passed on his way to the Savanne, he neither came to complain here nor at the police of the flogging he now states to have received from his master. The Protector therefore deemed the complaint groundless, and returned complainant to the police to be proceeded against as may be necessary for the burglary alluded to.

Complaint, No. 64.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 29th Sept. 1829.

Barraque and *Eugène*, slaves belonging to M. Amelin, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, complain of ill treatment received from their master.

Barraque states, that he quitted the estate on this account on the 22d instant, three days before which he received 50 lashes of a cat, inflicted by the slave *Simarang*, by order of his master. This was on his return from the bagne, when he was also put in chains, which having broken, he left in a cane-field belonging to M. Pitot. That *Augine*, *Zamor*, *François*, and another slave, whose name he does not recollect, were present when the punishment took place; and that he has only marooned twice before the present occasion.

Eugène says, that he left at the same time with *Barraque*; that he was detained by a detachment of the police and sent back to his master, and was flogged and put in chains under precisely the same circumstances as *Barraque*. Declarant has marooned four times on account of ill treatment. The same slaves were present at his punishment as at *Barraque's*.

"I certify having examined *Barraque*, a slave belonging to M. Amelin, and find he has marks of extensive punishment on both sides of his breech, which he states were occasioned by his master having flogged him with a rattan about a week ago. I have also examined *Eugène*, belonging to the same person, and find his breech in a state of ulceration, from excessive and unusual punishment recently inflicted; he has also extensive marks of old punishment both on his back and breech. From the present appearances I have not the least hesitation in giving my opinion that he, *Eugène*, has been flogged with unnecessary cruelty, and I would in consequence recommend his being sent to hospital.

(signed) "H. Hart, M.D. Surgeon to the Police."

M. Amelin, in reply to this complaint, admits that he did order the commandeur *Simarang* to give "*quelques coups*" to *Barraque* and *Eugène*; but the punishment of which he now bears marks must have been inflicted for their bad conduct on the estates of others, where they have been stealing, as is their constant practice. That in proof of what he now states, he went to the mill a moment after the punishment they received from *Simarang*, where he saw them without any marks of correction.

Simarang says, that when *Barraque* and *Eugène* returned from their last maroonage, he gave them only five lashes each by order of his master. That they were punished in the presence of *Zamire*, a slave of M. Galdemar, and *François*, belonging to M. Amelin, who also held the hands of complainants. On being desired to be correct in the number of stripes he gave to *Barraque* and *Eugène*, declarant states that the number was five lashes each. Complainants were afterwards put into chains by the smith.

Zamor states, that he held the feet of Barraque and Eugène whilst they were punished by Simarang; that he did not count the number of stripes, but he believes they certainly received more than five each. François and declarant held their hand and feet.

François declares that he knows nothing whatever of the complaint; and on being told that both Eugène and Barraque, Simarang and Zamor, declare he was present at the punishment, he persists in declaring that he was not, and that he has no knowledge of the punishment. Augine declares himself to be equally ignorant of all that passed relative to the punishment in question.

"Labouline" put chains upon the complainants, such as are put upon the Sepoys.

Zamor declares that the punishment took place in his presence; it was about five weeks ago, and at two o'clock, P. M. Simarang took them from the stocks and conducted them behind the store to be punished; that Simarang flogged them, and Emile counted the number of stripes. There was no free person present. Declarant does not remember the number of stripes given, but it was certainly more than five. He observed, before the flogging commenced, that complainants had marks of a former flogging upon them, which were not yet healed; that the blood started; that after a number of lashes given, he heard Emile cry out "assez." When the punishment had ceased, Barraque and Eugène were tied neck to neck with a cord, and thus sent to the mill to work; that scarcely arrived there, they were beaten by the econome, "Aventure," over the shoulders with a rattan. They were then sent to the block, where they remained all night. Declarant also states that the allowance of food on the estate of M. Amelin is insufficient, it being no more than 1 lb. of rice per diem.

The evidence of the slave Louis is precisely similar to the foregoing.

Emile swears, that Eugène and Barraque were flogged about a month past by order of M. Amelin; that they each received 15 lashes, which declarant counted; that after being punished, complainants were tied together by the neck, and sent to work at the mill; they worked on the following day in the field, and were in the evening put into the block. Declarant heard both of them complain that they had been beaten by L'Aventure while at work. He observed the marks of a former punishment before the correction alluded to took place, and that is why they received only 15 lashes each. The person who flogged them took care not to strike on the already wounded part; yet they bled a little.

Their food is 1½ lb. of rice per diem each slave; lately, however, they have had soup made of salt meat, in addition to their rice.

L'Aventure says he knows nothing about the present complaint; that when Barraque and Eugène returned from their last maroonage he gave them each five lashes of a rattan. Declarant says he did not beat the slaves as stated. They did not work in the field on the following day to that on which they are said to have been punished. They marooned on that morning. On the evening after their return he tied them together, and put them into the stocks.

Augine has no knowledge whatever of the punishment, excepting that of being told that it had taken place, and that complainants had received four lashes each.

In a certificate furnished to the Protector by the police it is stated that a maroonage took place on the estate whilst it was under the direction of M. Galdemar in 1827, but that during the year 1828 and up to this date the maroonages have been very numerous, which proves a misgovernment, and shows that the slaves are worse treated than they were in the time of their former owner.

Result, 5th Nov.—This case was transmitted to the Procureur-General for prosecution against M. Amelin, on the following grounds:

1st. For a breach of the 17th art. of Ord. 43, for having punished the complainants with more than nine stripes each, without there being present the number of persons required by law.

2d. For another breach of the same article in having caused them to be punished before the wounds occasioned by a former correction had healed.

3d. A further breach of the same Ordinance in the general bad treatment of his slaves, by permitting them to be cruelly and inhumanly treated by his overseers, who caused them to be tied by the neck together immediately after the punishment, and then sent to work in that state, beating them whilst so at work, and afterwards confining them in the stocks.

4th. For a breach of the 2d article of Ordinance 49 (then in operation), in not keeping a register-book of punishments on his estate, and in not registering therein the punishment of the two slaves in question.

Complaint, No. 65.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 9th October 1829.

Bordeaux, aged 29 years, and belonging to M. Castera of Flacq, complains that on Saturday morning last he was put into the block, and was told that he had stolen some maize, which was found in his hut. Complainant explained that half of this maize was his savings, and the other half the savings of his comrade Fanor, from their rations. His master, however, would not believe him; complainant was therefore punished with 15 lashes of the martinet, then returned to the block, and again punished on the following morning with 15 stripes of a cane, and was afterwards ordered to be confined during the hours of breloques and at nights. Complainant escaped on the following morning, and was arrested by a guard of the police, who conducted him to this office.

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“ Port Louis, 14th October 1829.

“ I certify having examined Bordeaux, a slave belonging to M. Castera, and find he has on both sides of his breech about seven or eight slight marks of punishment; three or four of these are recent, but the others appear to be of long standing.

(signed)

“ H. Hart, M. D.

“ Surgeon to the Police.”

M. Castera declares, that on the 30th ultimo he left complainant to superintend the burning of a cow which had died, in order that his slaves might not eat any part of it; complainant, however, allowed his comrades to take it away, for which offence he was put into the block. On the following morning declarant ordered his commandeur Hiliare to give complainant eight stripes of the cane; and on the same day it was discovered that Bordeaux had stolen a quantity of maize from the store-room, 32 lbs. of which was found buried in his hut. Complainant was consequently again arrested and put into the block by the slave Martial, and on the following Monday morning he was again punished with eight stripes of the cane for the theft in question. It is false that he was ordered to be confined during the hours of breloque and at night; no such orders were given, but he was forbidden to sleep off the estate, which was doubtless the reason of his marooning.

The commandeur Hiliare, and the slaves Fanor, Jean Louis, Fane, Martial, Lindor and Guillaume, were then separately examined, all of whose evidence fully supports that of M. Castera, and shows the complaint of Bordeaux to be false, affording at the same time strong presumptive evidence that the maize found in his hut was purloined, and not saved from his rations, the allowance being too small to admit of so large a quantity being saved unless during a great length of time. Bordeaux's character is also known to the Protector to be bad; and he therefore ordered him to receive ten stripes of the martinet on the plantation, and in the presence of his comrades.

Complaint, No. 66.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 12th October 1829.

Jean, aged 25 years, and belonging to M. Lemelle of the quarter of Flacq, states, that on his return from the police prison on the 1st instant, where he had been confined for a month, and received 25 stripes of the martinet, for maroonage; he was put into the block by his master's order, and again punished with the same number of lashes. The punishment was inflicted by Philip, and in the presence of the blacks then working within 15 yards of the place; complainant was then chained, and to the chain was attached a large piece of iron, and he was ordered to be confined every night. He remained so confined until the day before yesterday, when he was sent for by the police, and charged with being concerned in a robbery.

“ I certify having examined Jean, and find he has on both sides of his breech marks of recent punishment, which must have been inflicted with great severity.

(signed)

“ H. Hart, M. D.

“ Surgeon to the Police.”

It results from the inquiry made into this case, that the declaration of the slave, relative to his being punished when returned from the bagne prison, is entirely false; the Protector having interrogated the keeper of the bagne, who declared that the punishment inflicted upon complainant on his leaving the prison was such as to cause the marks alluded to; and that he was not afterwards punished, is proved by the testimony of the master and 12 of his slaves. Jean is a very bad character, and is now detained by the police on a charge of burglary. He was brought before the Protector on the 30th July last, to receive a reprimand for frequent maroonage, and then promised an amendment of conduct, instead of which he escaped from the custody of the person who was charged to take him back to his master, and marooned on that day. By the police returns it appears that he has been 180 days absent since the month of March last. The Protector returned him to the police to be examined with respect to the burglary.

Complaint, No. 67.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 12th October 1829.

Solon, belonging to M. Bestel, of Plaines Wilhems, and aged about 40 years, complains, that on Friday morning last his master, who had sent him with a waggon to remove a quantity of baggasse, observing that the waggon had no “cheville,” asked what had become of it. Complainant replied, that he did not know, as he was not often employed in carting work, and requested to be allowed a little time to seek for it, or to make another. M. Bestel, however, would not hear him, but gave him a blow in the face, and then sent him to be punished by the slave Alexis, who gave complainant at least 25 lashes of the martinet, his hands and feet being held by four blacks, whose names he does not recollect, neither has he any recollection of their persons.

In consequence of this ill treatment he marooned, in order to make the present complaint.

"I certify having examined Solon, a slave belonging to M. Bestel, and find he has marks of recent and old punishment; the former are slight, but the latter must have been inflicted with severity. He appears well fed and well clothed.

"H. Hart, M. D.
(signed) "Surgeon to the Police."

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Alexis states that he did punish complainant, at the time stated, with 25 lashes, by order of his master, but for what offence he knows not. Complainant is generally employed in the stables and with the waggons.

Declarant did not see his master strike complainant, nor did he hear Solon excuse himself for the loss of the "cheville." He considers complainant to be a lazy subject, but to have no other fault.

The following is an extract of the Register Book of Punishment kept on the estate of M. Bestel:

"Solon a reçu par Alexis de mes ordres et en presence des noirs de la sucrerie, vers neuf heures du matin, 25 coups de martinet, pour n'avoir pas exécuté mes ordres avec la charrette pour le transport des Bagasses du Moulin, et avoir, malgré mes représentations et menaces, laissé sa charrette dans un état d'abandon qui pouvait lui causer des grands dommages en travaillant et encore pour sa constante paresse.

"15 Octobre 1829. (signé) "Bestel, Junior."

It appears that the correction inflicted upon this slave was not greater than the law permits, and that the master registered the punishment at the time; the master however did not exactly observe the Ordinance, inasmuch as he inflicted the punishment immediately, and did not wait until the expiration of 24 hours after the crime was committed; nor does the register contain all the particulars required by the Ordinance; but as it appears that the master erred from ignorance, and not from intention, the Protector sent back the slave to his master, enjoining the latter not to molest or annoy the slave for having made his complaint, it having been done from feelings that the punishment he received was greater than the trivial fault he committed deserved.

Complaint, No. 68.

Protector of Slaves Office, 20th October 1829.

Bazille, aged 55 years, and belonging to the Sieur Nozaic, of the quarter of Flacq, states, that about 20 days past he was sent to the estate in charge of the slave Bruneau; that in consequence of his advanced age and general infirmity he was excused from the corporal punishment usually inflicted on maroons when sent from the bagne. On his arrival, however, he was put into the stocks by Bruneau, by his master's order, and on the following morning was flogged with a martinet dipped in tar, in the presence of his master and nearly all the blacks of the estate, with about 100 lashes; that he was then sent to work, and from that time was confined at nights until he made his escape on the 17th instant.

"I certify having examined Bazille, a slave belonging to M. Nozaic, and find he has on both sides of his breech extensive ulceration, from unusually severe punishment. He also appears in bad health, and about the age of 50; and as he is at present unfit for any work, I would recommend his being sent to hospital until the ulcers on his breech be healed.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

Bruneau confirms all that the complainant has stated relative to his being conducted to the estate, and there flogged; declarant does not think, however, that the correction was severe; the reason why it may have appeared so is, that complainant has been repeatedly punished at different periods, and the correction lately received may have opened some old wounds. He cannot tell how many stripes were inflicted, not being present at the moment; his master and Arthur were only present; the slaves were all at their work when the punishment was inflicted.

Arthur punished the complainant with a tarred "cat;" he did not count the number of stripes, neither does he recollect how many his master ordered him to inflict upon Bazille. The punishment took place in the presence of his master, M. Pasuin, and all the slaves. Complainant was afterwards sent to work, and at night was confined in the manner he has stated in his declaration. Declarant persists in saying that he does not remember the number of stripes inflicted.

M. Nozaic admits that the complainant was flogged by his orders, on his return from the bagne, after which he was nightly confined in the stocks until his late escape. Declarant ordered Arthur, his slave, to inflict nine lashes on complainant; and on its being represented to M. Nozaic that the certificate of the examining surgeon represents the punishment to have been unusually severe, and that complainant states he received nearly 100 lashes, M. Nozaic declares, that if the marks of punishment be such, the punishment itself must have been inflicted upon him during his maroonage.

The slaves Louis, Felix, Janvier, Guillot, and Noil, confirm all said by the preceding witnesses. They cannot remember the number of lashes inflicted, because they were not working near enough to the place to count them.

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Bruneau and Arthur were re-examined. They repeated the declarations already made, and added, that the complainant, being frequently a maroon, is as frequently punished with eight or nine lashes of the martinet, and that it must be the opening of the old wounds which have caused the present appearances.

The declarants, on being desired to name the two last periods at which complainant was punished on his return from maroonage, were unable to do so, only replying that his absence was very frequent.

Result.—On the 11th November the case was transmitted to the Procureur-general for prosecution on the following grounds :

1st. For cruel and inhuman treatment, in having flogged the said slave after he had undergone punishment at the bagné, he being old, decrepit and infirm.

2ndly. For having unnecessarily and cruelly added to the severity of such punishment, by flogging him with a "cat" which had been dipped in tar, and afterwards confining him in the stocks.

3rdly. For not having registered in his Book of Punishments the confinement of the said slave for so many nights, as required by the 17th article of the Ordinance 43.

4thly. For not having registered in the said book various other punishments which the witnesses declare to have been inflicted on the said slave anterior to the last and only one which is therein recorded.

Complaint, No. 69.

Protector of Slaves Office, 20th October 1829.

Charlot, aged 18 years, and belonging to M. Esnouf, of the quarter of "Rivière du Rempart," complains, that having heretofore been employed as a domestic servant, (with his late master M. Sornay,) and now obliged to work at field-labour, he is unable to work so fast as others, and is consequently often beaten by the commandeur Gabriel, sometimes with a whip, and sometimes with a "cat." That he is also so punished by the overseer M. Barry, notwithstanding that his master, seeing him unable to work as well as the other slaves, recommended to the said overseer that complainant might be allowed twelve or fourteen days, in order to habituate himself to the work: That in consequence of this treatment complainant escaped, but was taken on the same day, and then had the iron collar he now wears put on his neck: That about a month afterwards, having gone to the wood to ease himself, complainant was arrested by a party of blacks, who told his master that he had concealed himself with an intention to maroon; his master then caused him to receive fifteen stripes of the cat: That since then he has been confined every night in the stocks, and half of every Sunday, until the 16th instant, when he escaped; and for this treatment he is come to complain.

"I certify having examined Charlot, a slave belonging to M. Esnouf, and find he has on every part of his body and limbs (or nearly so) marks of punishment, both recent and of long standing. It would appear that he has been repeatedly flogged, both with a cart-whip and the cat-o'-nine tails. If his account of the treatment he has received should be proved to be true, then I should say he has been punished with an unusual degree of severity."

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

M. Esnouf declares that he bought complainant while he was a prisoner in the bagné prison for maroonage; previous to his discharge from the bagné he was flogged by order of the police; that the marks he bears of recent punishment are those he received when he was purchased, since which he has never been regularly flogged on the estate. He has received some strokes in the manner they are generally administered to idle slaves and bad characters like himself, but he has never been tied up; that information may be taken at the police, and from complainant's old masters, as to his idle and marooning habits, and the latter will speak as to the marks he bears of ancient punishment. The collar was put upon him as a punishment, and is of the weight authorized by law. It is somewhat odd, that if complainant were punished as he says he was, that he cannot remember the names of the two slaves who held him while he was so corrected. With respect to the surgeon's certificate, it is vague, inasmuch as it does not fix the period of the recent marks resulting from the punishment inflicted.

Declarant on being asked to produce his book of punishments says, that not having occasion to inflict any punishment he has kept no such book on his estate.

Joseph Barrel, overseer, and Gabriel, a commandeur, declare, that the complainant has never been punished since he has belonged to M. Esnouf; that since June last, when he was bought, he has been ten times a maroon; and that when he first came to the estate he had on his breech severe marks of punishment.

Joseph further declares, that complainant being a most idle and unwilling subject, he has been obliged to give him a few strokes of the cat upon his shoulders, and which punishment was so slight that it left no marks. At a re-examination, they persisted in denying that Charlot had been punished in the manner described by him, and observed, that if he had been he could not have forgotten who was present at the correction.

Silvain declares that a month past his master placed complainant under his charge; that Charlot escaped, which declarant made known to his master; that he, and other blacks,
were

were sent in search of him, and he was found by them concealed in a little wood; declarant seized, and gave him a few strokes of a little twig, which he cut in the wood for the purpose, and then conducted him to his master, who afterwards put a small iron collar around his neck: that what Charlot says, about having been flogged with fifteen lashes, is positively false; he has received a few strokes on his shoulders at different times when he has been idle, and has refused to work, but he has never been flogged since his master has possessed him; that when purchased he had many marks of punishment upon him.

Result.—The Protector having duly considered the whole of this case, and having taken the declarations of four of the complainant's old masters, (all of whom gave him a very bad character, and proved that he had been repeatedly flogged by the police,) is of opinion, that the case ought to be dismissed; because the main and only tangible point of the complaint, wherein the slave declares he received fifteen lashes from a cart-whip by Gabriel and Silvain, is disproved by the evidence of the master, the overseer, and the two blacks in question, and is rendered more than doubtful by complainant not remembering the names of those who held him. The Protector, however, deemed it necessary to admonish the master against permitting his commandeur to carry a cat in the fields, for the purpose of keeping the slaves to their work; for although there is no positive law against it, still it must be looked upon as synonymous to the cart-whip, the use of which is absolutely prohibited.

The Protector also endeavoured, by a suitable admonition to the slave, to impress upon him the consequences arising from his bad conduct, and the necessity of reforming it, in order to entitle him to future protection; telling him, at the same time, that whenever he had just cause of complaint the Protector would be always ready to interfere on his behalf. The master was afterwards denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution, for not keeping a Punishment Record-book on his estate. (*Vide* p. 171.)

Complaint No. 70.

Protector of Slaves Office, 21st October 1829.

Hypolite, aged 32, and belonging to M. Poupinel, of "Plaines Wilhems," arrested as a maroon, and sent here by the police, states, that he left the estate of his master in consequence of ill-treatment; and that about three weeks past, whilst employed in filling sacks with sugar, his master told him that he smelt of arrack, and was drunk. Complainant replied, that he had drunk some arrack on the preceding evening (Sunday), but not since. That his master then gave him several blows, and afterwards ordered the commandeur Jean to punish him with the "martinet," of which he received many stripes, exactly how many he does not recollect. He was afterwards beat with a stick by M. Bonnet in the presence of Hercule, Lamour, and other blacks, in consequence of which he marooned. On Saturday last complainant went to a friend of his master's living in Port Louis, to beg pardon for having marooned; and this person gave him a letter for M. Poupinel, who instead of granting him pardon immediately put complainant into the block, saying he would pay him for his maroonage the next morning; fearing that M. Poupinel would keep his word, he again marooned, and is now afraid to return to his master, lest he should perish as Dominique, Fanchon, and Perrine, who died about a month after their punishment, and in consequence of its severity.

"I certify having examined Hypolite, belonging to M. Poupinel, and find he has on his back and shoulders marks of punishment, which appear to have been inflicted at different times. The slave states they were occasioned by his having been flogged with a cat-o'-ninetails, and also beaten with a stick. It does not appear that he has been punished with an unusual degree of severity.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.,
"Surgeon to the Police."

This complaint was transmitted to the Assistant Protector of the Quarter, with directions to him to make a minute investigation into the circumstances complained of, and particularly into that part of complainant's statement in which the death of the three slaves is alluded to; an examination of the following slaves belonging to M. Poupinel then took place.

Jean, the commandeur, declares that he did not punish, or receive any orders to punish, complainant as he has falsely stated; Hypolite was drunk while at work, for which his master reproached him, and pushed him away, but certainly did not strike him; M. Bomin was present, but did not give complainant a blow, or molest him in any manner whatever. Declarant has never seen a black struck on the estate of his master. When a fault is committed, they are punished by a commandeur either with the cane or the martinet.

Declarant has repeatedly seen Dominique, Fanchon, and Perrine, at the hospital during their illness, and neither of them ever spoke of its arising from such a cause as that alluded to by complainant. Declarant has not the least knowledge that either of these individuals ever received a punishment from M. Poupinel. He knows that Perrine died of consumption; and that Dominique and Fanchon died of the bloody flux. They were all three very good subjects.

The slaves L'Amour, Hercule, and Minos, give precisely the same evidence as the last witness, particularly with reference to the death of the three slaves, whose cases they remember perfectly well, and also the manner of their death, which was that already stated by Jean.

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Protector of Slaves.

Result.—This complaint is decidedly false and malicious; for independent of the complaint of Hypolite, he also charges his master with having caused the death of three other slaves by ill treatment; an act which is not only disproved by the testimony of the four witnesses, but by the known character of M. Poupinel (who is himself a physician) for a humane and kind disposition towards his slaves. The Protector, therefore, to show his abhorrence of so gross and malicious a charge, has deemed it necessary, as an example, to cause the complainant to be punished with 50 lashes on the estate, and in the presence of all the slaves, of his master; or, if M. Poupinel thinks it preferable, to prosecute the affair before the tribunals as a grave and malicious calumny, according to the 31st article of the Ordinance, No. 43, within the meaning of which the offence comes.

Complaint, No. 71.

Protector of Slaves Office, 20th October 1829.

Charlot, aged 35 years, and belonging to M. Tarby, of the quarter of Flacq, states, that on Sunday morning last the *Sieur Berichon* (overseer) came to the spot on which declarant was at work, and asked him why he had not began until after sunrise? Declarant replied, that he had commenced before sunrise, which the overseer said was false, and immediately ordered complainant to be laid on the ground and punished with the martinet; with how many stripes declarant does not recollect; he was afterwards ordered to be put into the block. Considering, however, that he had committed no offence, he escaped to make his complaint against the said M. Berichon. M. Tarby is an excellent master, and one of whom complainant is bound to speak well, since he has ever been well treated by him.

Extract from the certificate of the examining surgeon “ L’ayant fait déshabiller j’ai vu sur ses fesses des traces de très anciennes corrections, qu’il declare être du fait de son précédent maître, il y a plus de quatre ans. J’ai scrupuleusement recherché les traces, de la correction que ce noir dit avoir reçue tout dernièrement, il y a deux jours; et je declare n’avoir pu les decouvrir ce qui laisse à penser que la dernière correction n’a pas été très sévère.

20th October 1829.

(signé) “ *Ulcog.*”

The *Sieur Berichon* declares, that since complainant has belonged to M. Tarby he has had no reason to be dissatisfied with his conduct. That Sunday last was the first time he has been punished. He then received seven lashes of the “martinet,” for being drunk during the hours of *corvée*, and bringing his band at too late an hour. On Monday morning declarant called the complainant, and asked him where he had been on the preceding Saturday. Complainant replied that he had been employed in digging. Declarant then informed him that he had M. Tarby’s orders to give him nine lashes for being drunk on Saturday, and being thereby the cause of keeping the blacks at work later than usual; but that he should, notwithstanding this offence, pardon him for this time, and only confine complainant in the block for three nights. *Charlot* said he would submit to it. He left the estate, however, and has not since been heard of.

Jean Louis states, that the *Sieur Berichon* directed him, on Sunday last, to punish complainant with seven stripes, because he was drunk. This is the only time he has been punished since he has been in M. Tarby’s service.

The band of blacks under complainant’s charge were then examined; they all declare their ignorance of any other reason for *Charlot*’s being punished than that of their being late at “*corvée*” on Sunday morning last. Declarants say they were late at work on that morning, but they did not observe that *Charlot* was intoxicated.

The *Commandeur Denis* says that complainant was drunk on Saturday last, and having continued to drink till late at night, he might have been drunk on the following morning. He was never before punished on the estate.

Result.—It appears from the master’s answer, and the testimony of the witnesses examined, that the punishment inflicted on this slave was seven lashes, and that it was inflicted for drunkenness, a vice which it became the more necessary to repress in the complainant, he being a *commandeur*. That after he had made his complaint to the Assistant Protector, and before the latter could have received the Protector’s decision thereon, complainant again escaped, and made an attempt to hang himself, in which he would have succeeded, but for his falling from the tree when attempting to tie the cord. In his fall he stunned himself, and was in that state found on the following morning, with a bottle by his side, which had contained arrack. He added, on the following day (when interrogated by the Protector as to his motive for attempting suicide) that he supposed the effects of the liquor had operated on his fears of being punished for having made a false complaint.

On the next day *Charlot* was sent back to his master’s estate, where the Protector, in the presence of the rest of the slaves (about 200) expatiated on the heinousness of the crime of suicide; admonishing them against it; and telling them to come to him freely with their complaints, and he would see justice done them. He then admonished the slave *Charlot*; and to mark his displeasure at his conduct, caused him to be deprived of his rank as *commandeur* for six months, and to be then restored to it, on condition of his good conduct in the mean time. He also received 10 stripes of the martinet.

Complaint, No. 72.

Protector of Slaves Office, 27th October 1829.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Louise, aged 33 years, and belonging to M. Normand, of Port Louis, states that she marooned on the 17th instant, in consequence of ill treatment received from her master; that feeling herself very ill while employed in washing, she told her master so, but he would not believe her; on the contrary, he told one of the blacks in the court (whose name complainant does not recollect) to tie her hands and feet, and give her ten stripes of the cane on her breech, and which was done in the presence of Fanny, *Zemire*, *Christine*, and other persons then in the yard. After this punishment she was sent to iron linen. That after this, her master coming into the room where she was at work, gave complainant several stripes of a cane on her thighs and body, saying that she appeared to have no inclination to work.

The certificate of Dr. Hart states, that "*Louise* has several marks of recent punishment on her sides and breech, a slight contusion on her right thigh, and some others on her back and arms; upon the whole the punishment has been rather severe. With the exception of a little heat of her skin, she exhibits no symptom of decease.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

M. Normand declares, that on the 18th instant the complainant left his house, and took with her certain linen belonging to the negress *Fanny*; that she was taken, and brought back to him on the 21st, but he does not know what became of the linen; that on the following day she was punished with 10 stripes of a cane, but it is not true that she was afterwards beat in the manner she has described. It was the theft for which she was punished. Complainant is an habitual drunkard and maroon, as may be proved by the police.

Fanny says that complainant stole 40 pieces of linen about five months past, for which offence, when sent back by the police, she received no punishment. On the 18th instant she again disappeared, taking with her a shift belonging to declarant, and on her return was punished in the manner described. Declarant heard that her master had afterwards beat her with a cane.

Casimir admits that he punished complainant as stated, and that he heard his master afterwards beat her; whether with a stick or a cane he does not know.

Christine and *Zemire* saw complainant punished by *Casimir*, and heard that she had afterwards been beat by him.

Result.—Denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution, as a breach of the 10th article of the Ordinance, No. 43.

Fined 20 *l.* and costs.

Complaint, No. 73.

Protector of Slaves Office, 10th November 1829.

Esperance, aged 22 years, and belonging to M. Thomas Le Brasse, of the quarter of *Flacq*, complains that his master employs him in weeding and in driving a cart, notwithstanding that his state of health renders him incapable of such work. This he has told his master, but he has not been listened to; on the contrary he has been driven to such work by stripes of the whip. Since then he has been confined at nights, and his master threatens him with constant confinement in the block. He has but three maniocs a day as his rations. That he is the only slave on the plantation employed all day on Sunday in preparing *vacois* for the sack-makers.

Port Louis, 16th Nov. 1829.

"I certify having examined *L'Esperance*, a slave belong to M. Thomas Le Brasse, who complains of being sick, and being also ill fed, but I am not able to detect *no* symptom of disease about him; and with respect to his feeding, it is difficult to give an opinion, where the complainant exhibits no appearance of starvation; upon the whole, I would rather incline to the opinion that his food was scanty.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

Lubin declares that after the complainant was withdrawn from the Civil Hospital he was treated with all possible attention by his master: he was nourished with maize, rice, and other things from his master's table, and not with manioc, as he has falsely stated; that when he began to recover he was sent to do light work, such as weeding in the court-yard, but not on the plantation. He was put into the block in the evening to prevent his wandering and eating things hurtful to him, which complainant however continuing to do, was threatened with confinement in the block until his perfect recovery. Declarant and his comrades are all perfectly satisfied with the food and clothing allowed to them; that complainant is a great drunkard and thief, and sells all his things the moment he gets them, in order to obtain liquor.

The negresses *Agathe* and *Claire* confirm all that the preceding witness has stated relative to the treatment received from their master, and the bad habits of the complainant.

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MAURITIUS

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

M. Le Brasse says that he is not surprized at the complaint made by his slave, knowing him to be so bad a subject. The truth of the story is this:—Complainant was taken from the Civil Hospital on the 22d August last; that being by great care re-established in health, he was employed in very light work about the yard, and nourished from his own table with food, in quantity and quality, such as was necessary for one who had but just recovered from so severe an illness; that he was obliged to confine him to prevent his running about at night, and eating things unfit for him, and that his thefts are continual in order to provide himself with arrack, for which also his clothes are sold the moment he possesses them.

Result.—The complaint proved to be false. M. Le Brasse's medical man called at the Protector's office, and confirmed all that had been previously stated by the witnesses, and he also spoke to the medical treatment of the slave. The slave was returned to the master, admonished as to his drunken habits; and the latter was also reminded of the impropriety of putting the slave into the stocks at night for the mere purpose of preventing him from eating that which might retard his recovery.

Complaint, No. 74.

Protector of Slaves Office, 9th November 1829.

Solon, a slave belonging to M. Bestel of Plaines Wilhems, and who appeared before the Protector with a complaint against his said master on the 12th ultimo (see Complaint, No. 67.), now states, that on his return to M. Bestel's from this office he was put into the block, and kept there for a day and a night, without his having committed any fault whatever; that on the following morning he was released and sent to work; that while employed in sacking sugar, his master, who was at some distance, came and gave complainant several blows with a stick on the back and loins, asking him why he did not fill the sacks as he ought, and observing that he was fool enough not to know how to work, but wise enough to go to the Protector with a complaint. This passed in the presence of Severe and other blacks at work with him; that two days afterwards he was again beat in the same manner and for the same reasons, and this has happened several times, only because complainant came to the Protector. He is the only slave so treated on the estate, and is guarded by the slave Alexis during the "Breloques;" that he has been confined every night since his return, and has been made to work on Sundays with the blacks who are in chains; that finding himself so treated, he again left the estate and went to his Excellency the Governor to complain of his master, and by his Excellency has been sent to the Protector's Office.

The examining surgeon, Dr. Hart, did not "find a single mark of the punishment complained of, on any part of his body."

The slave Severe declares on oath, that *Solon*, working very awkwardly, burst two sacks in filling them with sugar; that M. Bestel then came and beat complainant with a stick about the size of a walking-stick with several blows strongly applied. Complainant was put into the block on his return from the Protector's Office, and he has been made to work on Sundays since that time with the slaves of the estate who are in chains. Declarant has not seen *Solon* beaten since that, but he knows that he has been put under the charge of another black during the hours of breloques, and at night.

The slave Alexis was then examined. He declares that he did not see his master beat complainant; but confirms in every other particular the declaration of the preceding witness. He considers complainant rather awkward than unwilling at his work.

Lafortune did see his master, M. Bestel, give complainant four blows with a stick at the time alluded to; and he also confirms the whole of the foregoing evidence as to his confinement and being obliged to work on Sundays.

Geneviève, keeper of the hospital, declares that he confined complainant in the block every night since his return from the bagne: and Auguste states, that by his master's orders he took charge of him during the day.

M. Bestel admits that the complainant did work on Sundays with others of his slaves who are in chains, not however as a punishment, but to indemnify him, in some slight degree, for their time lost in maroonage, &c. He also admits having struck *Solon* in the manner described, in consequence of his great awkwardness, and of his insolence when reproached for it. He declares *Solon* to be an habitual maroon, and altogether a very bad subject.

Result.—*Solon* was sent from the Protector's Office to his master on the 22d ultimo, with an injunction that he might not be molested or annoyed for having made his complaint, it having been done from feeling that the punishment he had received was greater than the trivial fault he had committed deserved.

Instead, however, of complying with such injunction, it appears that M. Bestel put the man into the stocks immediately, in the presence even of the gend'arme who was the bearer of the Protector's letter, and compelled him subsequently to work on a Sunday, thus setting at open defiance the law made for the suppression of such abuses. The Protector therefore denounced M. Bestel to the Procureur-General, for a breach of the 14th article of the Ordinance 43, and of the 5th article of the Ordinance No. 51, ample proof of which is furnished by the evidence taken in the case.

Complaint No. 75.

Protector of Slave's Office, 13th Nov. 1829.

Appolon, a slave belonging to Mr. Amelin, of Rivière du Rempart, states that since the 1st of January last the slave Cherubin and himself agreed to work for their master in cutting stones during their hours of "breloques" and on Sundays, in consideration of being paid for such work. It being the crop season, they have for the last three months discontinued this work, and have repeatedly requested their master to pay them the amount due to them for the labour already done, (\$.15 and 10 markees.) M. Amelin replied they should see Mr. Tévenet, as he was the person to pay them. Complainants did see him, but he said their master must pay them. They again went to their master, and he put them off to another day; and in this manner it has gone on, M. Amelin always saying he had no money: that on Monday last complainant, really wanting his money, again asked for it, when his master getting into a passion gave complainant several blows with a stick, and while so beaten a dog rushed from the court and bit him severely by the leg and thighs. His master after this ordered complainant to be punished with 50 stripes of a cane, but his mistress interfering obtained for him a remission of this punishment. Complainant was then put into the block, and threatened to be kept there for two months. Finding means, however, to escape he did so on the following morning, and has come to town to make his complaint. Camille, Victorine, Marie, Jeanne, Cherubin and other slaves were present when complainant was kicked and struck by his master.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Dr. Hart, the examining surgeon, states that complainant "has on his right side, near the armpit, a very slight contusion, and another on the right arm. He has also on his right thigh several marks or scratches, which he states were caused by the bites of a dog; these are slight.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

M. Amelin acknowledges that complainant and his companion did work for some Sundays in the way they state, but they were regularly paid at the end of each week: that they have since done some work in the same way, for which he owes them \$.4 each: that on Monday last, having no money in his house, declarant told them to wait a few days: that Appolon in a most insolent and impatient manner insisted upon being paid his proportion, and refused to leave the place although the bell of the establishment had rung to call the people to their work. Declarant, annoyed at this, left the room, and taking a stick, which he found under the veranda, gave complainant several stripes on the back, and then ordered him to go to his work, telling him at the same time that in two days he should have his money. Complainant refused to do so, and became extremely insolent; in consequence of which declarant called the commandeur, Jean, and ordered him to punish complainant, who hearing this, threw himself on his knees and begged pardon, which was granted him. He then went to work, and in the evening received from Madame Amelin \$.2, as a part of what was due to him, and was told that the other should be paid to him in a few days.

After an examination of several slaves of the establishment, and a full investigation into the case, it appears that the complaint has originated in a demand of \$.15, made by the slave for masonry done after hours. The master says the demand is only \$.12; but in a subsequent interview with the Protector he agreed to pay the \$.15, deducting \$.2 which had been paid in advance to Appolon, and which, in contradiction to his former statement, he now admits he received. With respect to the beating complained of, it appeared by the declaration of the witnesses that his master gave him a few strokes over his clothes with a branch or small stick, for insolent conduct, and insisting upon being paid immediately, after a promise on the part of his master to pay him in a few days.

Result.—The slave was sent back to the estate, with a request to M. Amelin that the balance of \$.13 might be paid to him and Cherubin. The slave was at the same time admonished as to his future behaviour, and M. Amelin was recommended to be moderate in the treatment of his slaves. The amount, \$.13, has since been paid.

Complaint No. 76.

Protector of Slave's Office, 16th Nov. 1829.

Tonton, aged 25 years, and belonging to Madame Godray, of Grand Port, having been arrested as a maroon, with an iron collar about his neck and a chain on his left foot, was sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of Police. He declares that he quitted the estate of his master eight days past, in consequence of the ill treatment he experiences from his mistress and her econome, M. Cazelas, by whom, on his return from maroonage about three weeks past, complainant was punished with 15 lashes of the martinet, the slaves Theodore and Prosper holding him at the time; Condition and Tulip were also present: That after this correction his mistress ordered the collar with one branch to be put on his neck, and the chain on his ankle: That at night and at meal times he is confined in the block: and that, with the other slaves, he works on Sunday during the whole day.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

The certificate of Dr. Hart, the examining surgeon, states that "Tonton has some slight marks of punishment on both sides of his breech, but they appear to be of several years standing. He has no mark of recent punishment on any part of his body."

(signed) *H. Hart, M. D.*

The Sieur Cazalas, in reply to this charge, declares the complainant is an habitual maroon and bad subject; that it is true he did receive 15 lashes of the martinet, and was put in the irons described, as a punishment for his frequent maroonage; that if the branch collar be prohibited by law, declarant and his mistress, Madame Godray, are ignorant of it, and certainly would not otherwise have used it; that not being at all disposed to employ any harsh measures towards their slaves, they will abstain from such mode of punishment for the future. Complainant is false in stating that he has been confined in the block during the hours of "breloque;" declarant has never once so confined him, neither has Tonton ever been made to work on a Sunday, as he has falsely stated himself to have been.

The slaves Jean, (brother of the complainant) Thodore, Jean Jacques, Monton, Lafleur, Prospert, and Condition, all belonging to Madame Godray, were then separately examined. They declared on oath that the statement of Tonton, with respect to confinement at meal times, and Sunday labour, was false and malicious; declarants witnessed his punishment of 15 lashes of the martinet, and his confinement in the block for several nights for constant maroonage and ill conduct. Declarants are perfectly satisfied with the treatment they receive from their mistress, and the econome, M. Cazelas, and say that if Tonton is sometimes punished, it is by his own fault, and not from any severity on the part of the econome.

Result.—As the Ordinance No. 51, prohibits only the use of the collar of three branches, no action would lie against the owner of this slave for putting upon him a collar with one branch. Madame Godray was however admonished against a repetition of such punishment, and she was also recommended to be moderate in her treatment of her slaves; for although she has not exceeded the bounds of the law, her register of punishments shows that flogging is often resorted to. The complainant, whose marooning habits are confirmed, was cautioned against continuing them, and requested to make his complaint at this office, rather than maroon on any cause whatever. He was then returned to his mistress.

Complaint, No. 77.

Protector of Slaves Office, 17th Nov. 1829.

Ally, aged about 28 years, and belonging to M. Marcelin Barry, of the quarter of Flacq, arrested as a maroon and sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of police, states that he left the estate of his master about three weeks past to go and see his wife, who is living on another part of the island, and whom his master had promised to buy in order that he (declarant) might not be separated from his family. That seeing M. Barry did not fulfil the promise made to declarant, he obtained from him permission to go to his wife, promising to return on the second day; but finding himself unwell, declarant was unable to do this, and remained absent a fortnight; at the end of which time, fearing to return to his master, lest he should be put in chains, he left his wife with an intention of coming to the police; but being arrested on the road, was brought hither by a guard. Declarant further states, that M. Husson, the owner of his wife, is willing either to purchase him (the declarant), or to sell to M. Barry the negress and her children, to avoid the separation of the family.

The Protector having directed an investigation to be made into this affair, the Assistant Protector of the quarter repaired to the establishment of M. Marcelin Barry, and having made known to him the nature of the slave's declaration, received his reply.

The said Sieur Barry declares, that in the month of July last he purchased from M. André Bourgault Dacondray, 40 slaves; that on the day they were delivered to him, and when on the road to his estate, the complainant Ally overtook and prayed declarant to purchase him, since he had already bought his wife, who made one of the 40 slaves in question; the negresse joining in his request, and both appearing distracted at the idea of separation. Declarant then desired Ally to return to his master, telling him that it was his intention to be in Port Louis on the following morning, and that he would then buy him also. That in short declarant did so buy complainant, though at an advanced price, and not until his master, M. Bourgault, had several times refused to sell him, and which he at last only consented to do on condition of declarant's purchasing at the same time two other blacks. Ally then repaired to his master's estate, and remained very quietly for two months; that during this time he several times asked permission to go to fetch certain things he had left at his late master's, but leave of absence at that time, on account of the work going on, could not be granted to him. On the 24th October, however, complainant had permission to be absent until the following morning; but not returning on the 29th of the same month, he was declared a maroon. Declarant is astonished to hear that complainant has another wife, from whom he so much regrets his being separated; and that seeing the duplicity of this black, and his bad conduct, he formally refuses to buy the negress, whom his slave now calls his wife. Not choosing to breed disorder amongst his people, by the introduction of this second wife of the complainant, or to sanction so reprehensible an indecency; declarant is willing however to return the slave to his original master, should the latter be desirous to receive him.

The negress Lolotte (complainant's wife) and several of the slaves of M. Barry, were then examined, all of whom confirmed their master's declaration as to the circumstances which led to the purchase of the complainant. The negress Lolotte also adds, that she has lived with Ally upwards of a twelvemonth; that he quitted his former wife for her, and that they always lived together at M. Bourgal's.

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Result.—From the investigation into this case it appears that the complainant has two wives, and looking to the habit of these people, that he would soon have a third, and perhaps a fourth, so that it would be impossible to say whose husband he was. Ally, on being examined upon the points urged by his master, admitted their correctness, and the only excuse he could offer was, that the woman he now is desirous of joining was his first wife, and that he did not look upon her belonging to M. Barry, as such, although he declared her to be so when he wished and solicited M. Barry to purchase him. The slave Ally was severely reprimanded by the Protector, and sent back to his master's establishment, there to be kept in solitary confinement for the next four Sundays, as a punishment to complainant, and an example to the rest of the band.

Complaint, No. 78.

Protector of Slaves Office, 19th November 1829.

THE negress *Raive Kell*, belonging to M. Pitot, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, complains of being frequently beaten by the econome, M. Colombe. That she works willingly, and therefore cannot tell why she is so punished. Complainant left the habitation of her master on Monday last, having on that day received from the econome's son 12 blows of a stick, and from the econome himself immediately afterwards seven more.

It being observed to complainant that such punishment could not have been inflicted without her having committed some fault, she states that she knows of no reason whatever why the econome should so treat her, unless it be for her having refused to allow him to be familiar with her, an attempt at which he had repeatedly made, though always refused by her. The slave Hypolite was present when complainant was punished in the manner described; as were also Suzanne, Christophe, Marie, Romaine and Felicité.

M. Colombon declares, that complainant having been condemned to pass the Sunday before last in the prison, for an offence committed, she, when sought for in order to be so confined, managed to get out of the way, and declarant can only attribute the cause of her present maroonage to a supposition that the negress having escaped the punishment on Sunday week, was apprehensive that it would have been inflicted on the following Sunday. With respect to her assertion that he (declarant) desired to cohabit with complainant, it is ridiculous and humiliating to be obliged to reply to such a charge. In the first place, the negress in herself is a most disgusting object, and in her habits and propensities the most abandoned. That with respect to the punishment she complains of, it is false that it was received from declarant, or by his knowledge. The truth of the case is, that having conducted herself so ill on the establishment her husband refused any longer to live with her. That another black with whom she cohabited for a time, finding her to be common in the court-yard, in a recent dispute with her, gave complainant several blows with a small twig which he had in his hand.

The evidence of the witnesses cited by complainant, as well as that of other slaves of the establishment was then taken. They all declared the statement of the negress to be altogether false, and confirmed all said by M. Colombon relative to her vicious habits and general character, declaring that she was the destroyer of their peace, and constant cause of disorder in the yard. That she is a great libertine, and instead of attaching herself to her husband, is common to all the blacks of the habitation.

The complainant was then examined by the surgeon of the police, who states in his certificate that "she has extensive marks of punishment on her breech apparently of several years standing, and also on her left arm, and left side, about a dozen marks of very slight but recent punishment.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

Result.—It appearing from a further investigation into the affair, and a communication with M. Pitot (who is renowned for the good treatment of his slaves, and the order and regularity observed on his establishment) that the character of the negress is quite as bad as it has been represented, the Protector ordered her to be confined at the plantation for four successive Sundays as a punishment for bringing this false complaint, and to mark his displeasure at her bad conduct.

Complaint, No. 79.

Protector's Office, 20th November 1829.

Charlot, a Mozambique, aged between 50 and 55, and belonging to Mr. Pitiaca, of the quarter of Pamplemonsses, having been sent to the Protector by the police department, with a chain attached to his leg, states, that his master does not allow him sufficient food. That coming into town to seek some on Sunday last he was arrested as a maroon. The chain was put upon complainant on Friday last, only because he asked his master to give him

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him some rice, he not being able to eat the leaf of the "songe" plant, when he was also beat with a rope's end by his master. Azor was present when this happened.

The chain, on being removed from complainant, was found to weigh eight pounds.

The examining surgeon discovered "a few slight marks of recent punishment on complainant's shoulders; but no symptom of his being ill fed."

The Sieur Pitiaca, in reply to this charge, states, that it is the first time during ten years that he has owned this black, that he has had reason to complain of him. It is false that he has ever wanted food, or has been obliged to feed on "songe." Latterly he has been a frequent maroon, and that on his last return from maroonage, declarant not having any means of confining him until the following morning, borrowed the chain in question, and fixed it to complainant, with which however he escaped on the following morning. Declarant had no intention whatever of continuing the said punishment beyond one night, in order to frighten complainant; he meant to remove the chain in the morning. Charlot has at times received a very slight correction with the "martinet," but has never been struck with a "rope's end," as stated by him.

Result.—The using a chain of the above weight being an infraction of the Ordinance, No. 20, the Protector denounced the same to the Procureur-General for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 80.

Protector of Slaves Office, 20th November 1829.

THE negress *Anais*, Malgache, belonging to Madame P. Sturbel, of the quarter of Savanne, complained to the Assistant Protector of that quarter that she is incapable of performing the task imposed upon her of sack-making, which is six sacks a day for herself and a child of ten years of age. Complainant states herself to be the less able to accomplish this from having an infant to attend to. That having observed to Madame Sturbel her readiness to finish in one day what she cannot do in the preceding, her mistress would not hear of it; but with a ruler (which complainant produced) struck her two or three blows on the shoulders, in consequence of which complainant left the habitation to make her complaint.

It appearing from an inquiry made into this complaint, and also by the declaration of Madame Sturbel in reply thereto, that a task of four sacks only has been exacted from the negress, on account of her having a child to nurse, and that in other respects her statement is false, and was made only for the purpose of obtaining an idle day or two, she was reprimanded, and returned to her mistress, who, on her part promised, at the request of the Assistant Protector, to forgive this offence, on condition of complainant's greater industry and obedience for the future.

Complaint No. 81.

Protector's Office, 24th Nov. 1829.

Sixty-nine individuals, slaves belonging to the estate "Wolmar," the property of M. Brue, and situate in the quarter of Rivière Noire, appeared at this office to complain against the economies of their said master, Messrs. Osughren and Porte, for ill treatment shown to them. Before entering into the nature of their case, the Protector thought it right to send these people back to the habitation, with the exception of two commanders, named Egisse and Porphire, (representing their comrades in their complaint,) and five individuals, named Suzanne, Berenice, Franceur, Cololas, and Clement.

Egisse and Porphire declare that themselves, and the rest of the band quitted, the estate last evening at 10 o'clock for the purpose of complaining, 1st, that they are obliged to begin work at three o'clock in the morning, and do not return to the court-yard until seven in the evening. 2dly, that although they have Sunday to themselves, (that is to say after nine o'clock, when the corvée is finished), they cannot enjoy it, the said economies not allowing complainants to go without the precincts of the camp on that day; that in order to prevent their being absent, the bell is rung every Sunday afternoon at four o'clock, by which means complainants are also deprived of the opportunity of procuring "bred," and other little comforts which they may require. 3dly, That the said economies are harsh, and will not listen to reason, not even to the sick, and that they are rather too fond of punishing the blacks whilst at work; that declarants themselves, even as commandeurs, are not exempt from punishment by the cane and stick. In short, all that complainants would ask is, that they may only work from day-light in the morning until dusk in the evening, and that they may be allowed their Sunday without being made subject to a muster on that day.

Complainants say they were ignorant of the necessity of their going to the Civil Commissary of the quarter to make their complaint to him as the Assistant Protector of slaves, and did not know they were acting wrong in coming off the estate in a band.

"Port Louis, 24th November 1829.

"I certify having examined Octave, Franceur, Fanor, Mahomet, Desiré and Blaize, slaves belonging to M. Brue, and find that all have slight marks of recent punishment on the breech, which they state were caused by their being flogged with a rattan about a week ago. Franceur has also marks on his back of the same description, and which he states were inflicted about the same period.

(signed) "H. Hart, M.D. Surgeon to the Police."

Egisse and Porphire were examined on the nature and cause of the punishments alluded to in the surgeon's certificate. They state that the black Octave having allowed an ox to feed upon the cane was, on his return to the yard at six in the evening, punished with 15 stripes of the cane by the slave Jason; that Francœur, Calabar, Scipion, Louis, Celeste, Helene Therese, Pierre and Lafleur, were all punished on Wednesday last with 15 stripes of the cane each, by Porphire, for being behind the others when digging. Declarants do not know why Fanor and Desiré were punished; that Blaze was flogged about three weeks past for having absented himself on a Sunday, and refused to return to the estate on the following day. The negresses are flogged in the same manner as the male slaves, and in their presence.

After having received the procès verbal of the inquiry instituted into this affair by the Assistant Protector of the district, a representation was made to the Protector by the commandant, charged with the high police of the quarter of "Rivière Noire," setting forth the great disorder that reigned on the plantation Wolmar, in consequence of the desertion of the 69 slaves from that estate, and the urgent necessity that existed for the Protector's presence, with a view to repress the same. The Protector therefore repaired immediately to the plantation, and assisted by the Assistant Protector of the district, entered upon a second investigation of this complaint, by interrogating separately those slaves who had not joined the band of 69 that came to Port Louis. The result of which was, that a plot had been formed by the slaves named Porphire and Egisse, in conjunction with the negress Berenice; the chief object of which appeared to be to compel their master to abandon the custom that prevails on this estate of mustering the slaves on Sundays at four o'clock, P.M., a custom which, although not general, every planter has by law a right to exercise, and which, owing to the contiguity of this plantation to the sea-shore, appeared to the Protector the more necessary, on account of the canteens and other receptacles for stolen property which abound in those localities. With regard to the complaint of being overworked, it appeared that the sugar pans are worked only twice a week on this establishment, and it is consequently necessary that 12 of the most expert slaves should commence working in the sugar-house at two o'clock in the morning, in which case they regularly leave off at two in the afternoon, and that the field-labour commences at daylight and finishes at sunset; but that the bell rings to call the slaves together at four o'clock in the morning, which is about half an hour before daylight. With respect to the punishments complained of, the charge appeared groundless as to some, and exaggerated as to others of the men; but the flogging of the two negresses, Berenice and Suzanne, was fully established. The complaint of not being treated with care and humanity whilst sick, turned out to be a gross falsehood, as well by the certificate of the surgeon of the establishment, as from the Protector's own observation in the hospital itself.

Considering, therefore, that the complainants had no motive that could justify their quitting the plantation in so great a number, whereby much injury was done to their master's property, and a bad example held out to the negroes on the neighbouring plantations, the Protector deemed it necessary to order the two ringleaders of this plot, Porphire and Egisse to be put in a chain, of the weight allowed by law, for the space of three months. He at the same time enjoined the master and overseers, in the presence of the whole band of slaves, to confine the working-hours to the time allowed by law; viz. from daylight to sunset, and to permit some of the slaves occasionally to be absent from the Sunday muster, when their good conduct merited it. The Proprietor was also told, that having caused corporal punishment to be inflicted on the two negresses, Berenice and Suzanne, he had committed a breach of the law, and would be prosecuted for the same. This infraction of the Ordinance, No. 43, was denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution accordingly, on the 5th December.

Protector's Office, 25th November 1829.

Referring to the complaint of the slave Charlot (No. 69) against his master, the Sieur Esnouf, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, the Protector having ascertained by subsequent inquiry that the "Record Book of Punishment," required by the 21st article of the Ordinance, No. 43, has not been kept on the estate, the same has this day been denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution, as an infraction of the said Ordinance.

Complaint, No. 82.

Protector's Office, 30th November 1829.

THE slaves René and Baracombe, the former a Mozambique, and the latter Malgache, complain of their master, M. Edw. Pitot, of Rivière du Rempart. René declares that on Saturday last he was flogged, by order of his said master, with 10 stripes of the cane, for being behind the other slaves with his work; that he was confined in the stocks on the previous night for no offence whatever, though the econome says he did not attend the morning muster, which complainant admits was the case, but at the same time declares that he answered to his name, being but a short distance from the yard.

Baracombe says, that since Friday last he has been punished three times, with 10 stripes of the cane each time, for nothing at all. The econome only saying, that it is because he (complainant) will not work, though he does as well as he can.

The persons of the complainants were examined, but neither of them exhibited a single mark of correction of any description whatever. They were consequently returned to the estate of their master, and the Assistant Protector of the quarter was directed to investigate their complaint on the establishment. By his report, it appears that René did receive two

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or three slight strokes of a cane, for being absent from the establishment without permission, and that Baracombe was shut up in the hospital when in a state of drunkenness, to prevent any accident happening to him, and that he has before been punished for a like offence.

This was confirmed on oath by the evidence of several of their comrades, all of whom spoke to the lazy and drunken habits of the complainants.

Result.—The Protector finding their complaint to be altogether false, and that not a trace of punishment was discoverable on either of their persons, and that they appeared well fed and well clothed, and in high health, thought it necessary to inflict on each of the complainants 15 stripes of the martinet, in the presence of their comrades and in that of the Assistant Protector of the quarter, as a punishment for bringing this false complaint against a master who is well known to be most indulgent and kind in the treatment of his slaves.

Complaint, No. 83.

Protector of Slaves Office, 30th November 1829.

THE negress *Christine*, a creole, belonging to Madame Sturbel, of the Savanne, complains that she is not capable of performing the work required of her by her said mistress, in consequence of her (complainant) being obliged to superintend certain children who are under her charge, and who cause her more trouble in completing their ill-done work, than she has in executing her own task.

Complainant appears to be in perfectly good health, is well dressed, and to have no other cause of complaint than that which has already been so frequently brought before the Protector by the negresses from this establishment, but which, in the present case however, is unfounded; for by a visit made to the establishment by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, it appears that the task of sack-making, at this time imposed on complainant, is no greater than that which she has for years been accustomed to perform without difficulty; and as this was proved by the other negresses of the estate, *Christine* was returned to her mistress, recommended to diligence and good conduct for the future, while Mad. Sturbel was enjoined not to molest her slave for having absented herself on this occasion, a request which she promised to comply with.

Complaint, No. 84.

Protector's Office, 1st December 1829.

Eugène, a creole slave, aged 27 years, belonging to M. E. Lafraisière of Pamplémousses, complains of having been punished with upwards of 25 lashes of a whip for stealing six "bringles," which he declares to have been his own property, having planted them himself.

Complainant also states, that he is obliged to work on Sundays, and that his allowance of food is very insufficient.

The examining surgeon states, that "*Eugène* has on both sides of his breech slight marks of recent punishment; he also complains of being ill fed, but he does not exhibit a symptom of bad or scanty feeding.

(signed) "H. Hart,
"Surgeon to the Police."

The free man of colour, François Michel, working on the estate of complainant's master, perfectly well recollects *Eugène's* being punished with 25 stripes of a martinet for having stolen a dozen "bringelles" from the garden, and selling them to Pauline, a free woman, living near to declarant. They could not belong to complainant, because none of the blacks on the estate have gardens, not one of them being industrious enough to cultivate the ground they might otherwise have at their disposal. Complainant is false in saying that he was punished with a cart-whip: it was with a martinet borrowed of M. Perignon, the proprietor of the next estate; and with respect to Sunday labour and shortness of food, *Eugène* is equally false. On Sunday the slaves work at the corvée until eight o'clock generally, and never later than nine. They have a pound and a half of rice each per diem. That if complainant does not eat that quantity, it is because he sells his provisions for arrack, being a great drunkard and thief. Declarant further states, that *Eugène's* mistress, not having any children of her own, intended to enfranchise him, and has with this view ever treated him with the greatest kindness, notwithstanding his bad conduct and the repeated thefts he has of late committed.

Result.—The foregoing evidence against complainant having been fully corroborated by the testimony of the free woman, who purchased the vegetable, M. Perignon, who lent the martinet, and the father of complainant, who spoke with great feeling on the general ungrateful and ill conduct of his son, the Protector severely reprimanded the slave, and advised him not to appear a second time before him with a complaint of so false a nature, but to return to his mistress, and by an amendment of conduct endeavour to obtain by such means the kindness she had intended to bestow upon him.

Complaint, No. 85.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 3d December 1829.

The boy *Adolphe*, aged about 10 years, and belonging to the Sieur Victor Chery, a free man of colour, residing in Port Louis, complains of having been severely beaten by his said master, because he broke a plate by accident, and then for fear of punishment left the house until the following morning.

The examining surgeon states that "Adolphe has on his back and shoulders extensive marks of recent punishment: he appears to be about nine or ten years of age, a slender and rather delicate-looking child; and although I cannot count the number of lashes he has received, yet I am of opinion that the punishment has been unusually severe, and a great deal more than a delicate child of his age should receive.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

Result.—The Sieur Victor Chery was denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution under such article of the Ordinance No. 43 as might appear to him most applicable to the offence committed.

Complaint, No. 86.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 10th December 1829.

The Creole negress *Nina*, aged 24 years, and the property of Madlle. Eliza Salomon of Port Louis, has been sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of police, having been found in the street attached to a chain, which having been removed and weighed, was found to be of greater weight than those allowed to be used by Ordinance No. 51. The said negress complains, that on Saturday last she was beaten by M. J. Modry, the husband of her mistress, with 20 stripes of three canes tied together, after which a chain was attached to her ankle; and that this punishment was inflicted upon her in consequence of her having marooned for fear of being punished, because she was longer in executing a commission than her mistress thought she ought to have been. Declarant would not have marooned had she not, on her return from the Bazaar, (whither she had been sent to buy fish,) overheard her mistress say that she should be so corrected.

Marie, Juliette, and the family of her mistress, were present when the punishment took place.

The certificate of the examining surgeon states "that Nina has 10 or 11 marks on her shoulders of recent punishment, which she states were occasioned by her master having flogged her about a week ago with a rattan.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

In an examination into this complaint, it was admitted by the complainant's master and mistress that the punishment complained of had been inflicted, though not as stated by *Nina*, but for repeated inattention to her duty, and maroonage. The evidence of the negresses cited by complainant also went to prove this; while the master declared that he had inflicted the corporal punishment on the negress in ignorance of the law forbidding it.

Result.—Transmitted to the Procureur-General for prosecution, as an infraction of the 18th article of Ordinance No. 43, and of the 2d article of Ordinance No. 51.

Complaint, No. 87.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 10th Dec. 1829.

The negress *Lise*, a creole, aged 23 years, complains that her master, M. Charles Morin, of Port Louis, ordered the black *Auguste* to punish her with 25 stripes of a cane, because her mistress had said that she (complainant) was insolent when directed to hasten her work, in order that she might be employed in some other manner.

Lise however declares, that this was not the case; that Madame Morin told her to make haste with her work in the bed-rooms, that she might finish by nine o'clock; that complainant replied, there being more work than usual it would not be possible to finish by that time. *Josephine*, *Melie*, *Louis*, and other slaves, were present when the punishment took place.

M. Morin admits having caused the complainant to be punished with 15 stripes of the cane, but not with 25 as declared by her; and this correction was inflicted for insolence to Madame Morin.

The witnesses cited by complainant were then called before the Protector. Their evidence went to prove that they were present at the punishment.

Result.—Denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution, as an infraction of the 18th article of the Ordinance No. 43.

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Complaint, No. 88.

Protector's Office, 7th December 1829.

On this day appeared at the office of the Assistant Protector of the quarter of Savanne, the Sieur Chilard, chief overseer of the carting establishment on the estate of M. Bestel, called Surinam. M. Chilard states that a creole negress, *Nanette*, was yesterday (Sunday) employed by M. E. Parisot, another overseer, in carrying earth to a house which he is erecting, and that the said *Nanette* was beaten to a pitiable degree with a stick by the overseer Parisot, in the presence of declarant and of Madame Brizard, who in vain endeavoured to save her from his brutal conduct.

The Assistant Protector, on the receipt of this information, and taking with him a medical man, lost no time in repairing to the estate of M. Bestel. The surgeon, in his report on the state of *Nanette*, declares, that "she has a light mark of the blow of a stick on her left shoulder, another somewhat stronger on her arm, and an extravasation of the blood on the left thigh as large as the palm of the hand.

(signed) "H. Rogers, Chir. L.S.P.H."

On investigating this case it appeared that *Nanette*, with another negress, had been lent to the said M. Parisot, on the Sunday alluded to, by the econome of the establishment, for the purpose of helping to complete a hut which M. Parisot was building; that these negroes, for some previous offence, were chained together by the neck; that *Nanette*, not appearing to M. Parisot to work so well as her companion, was chided by him, when she became insolent to such a degree that he felt it necessary to inflict upon her a stripe or two with a small cane which he had in his hand, but the negress becoming still more insubordinate, wrenched the cane from him, when M. Parisot seizing a stick inflicted upon the said *Nanette* several blows.

Result.—24th Dec. M. Parisot has this day been denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution, for an infraction of the Ordinance No. 43, of the 7th February last.

Complaint, No. 89.

Protector's Office, 16th December 1829.

Adeline, a Madagascar negress, aged 35 years, and belonging to M. Monvert, a person of colour, residing in Port Louis, complains of having been severely beaten by the slave Jean Pierre, who accused complainant of having stolen his fowl, and was by his master's order directed to beat her for this offence, but which she positively denies having committed.

The certificate of the examining surgeon states, "that *Adeline* has a considerable contusion and swelling of the left eyelid, occasioned by the blow of a stone thrown at her by the black Jean Pierre. She has also on her left breast, near the arm-pit, another contusion, which she states was caused by the above black having kicked her. She complains of great pain when it is touched; but she exhibits no symptom of disease.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

By a minute examination into this case it was most satisfactorily proved that the master was in no manner whatever instrumental to the punishment of the complainant; on the contrary, that he is known to be a humane man, and kind in the treatment of his slaves; and that, immediately on hearing that a dispute was going on in the court-yard, he hastened below, where finding the slave Jean Pierre in quarrel with the negress, he endeavoured to seize and confine him, though without effect; the slave, being too strong and active for him, got away, and marooned until the following day, when he was brought before the Protector, who sent him to the police to receive 25 lashes of the martinet, as a punishment for his brutal conduct. He was then returned to his master, with an injunction to the latter that he should keep a strict observance on his slave's conduct.

Complaint, No. 90.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 17th December 1829.

Pauline, a negress, aged 33 years, a Mozambique, and belonging to M. Dunienville of the Savanne, arrested as a maroon, and sent to the Protector by the Chief Commissary of police, complains that ill treatment received from her master induced her to maroon. She states that about a fortnight past, being unwell, she complained to him; instead of being listened to, however, she was sent away to work, receiving at the same time several blows of a stick on her back; that complainant, suffering much pain in her stomach, was unable to work, and therefore left the habitation, living for several days amongst the canes; that her master, on her return, ordered her to be confined in the block, night and day, until the moment of her last escape; that on Thursday last her said master, coming into the room in which complainant was confined, and finding her eating, observed that she was good for nothing

nothing but that, and then, taking the root of a "bois noire" lying on the floor, gave her another dozen stripes.

The examining surgeon states that "Pauline has some marks of old punishment upon her breech, and one of the bones of her right arm is broken; I would therefore recommend her being sent to the hospital. The marks on her breech are very slight.

(signed) "H. Hart, M. D.
"Surgeon to the Police."

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The Sieur Dunienville declares the complaint to be entirely false, and states that Pauline having been two months a maroon, was arrested and brought back to the estate by the black Etienne; that the only punishment inflicted upon her was confinement in the block at night. In the morning complainant was sent to work under the superintendence of the commandeur; this was for her fifth maroonage, and the only punishment she received for these repeated offences was the confinement alluded to. That as to her arm, which, by the surgeon's certificate appears to be broken, declarant has no knowledge of how or when the accident occurred; a fact which may easily be verified by interrogating the companions and other slaves acquainted with the complainant, not one of whom has the slightest knowledge of her suffering from such a cause.

Colas and Jean Pierre, commanders, and Marceline, a slave, were then separately examined. They declare complainant to be a constant maroon and idle subject; that she has been absent during the last two months, leaving her three young children in the "camp," without any assistance whatever; that on her being taken by Etienne she was reconducted to the estate, and at night confined in the block; on the following morning she was released, and sent to work with the other negroes. The witnesses agree in declaring that this was the only punishment she received, and that the injury in her arm must have been received during her long maroonage. Declarants have never seen their master strike a black with a stick, or with any other instrument; it is his too great consideration for his slaves which induces complainant and two or three other bad subjects belonging to him to take advantage of him in the manner they do.

Result.—The Protector being perfectly satisfied that the complaint of Pauline was groundless, and that the fracture of the small bone of her arm was occasioned by some accident during her absence from the plantation of her master, directed her to be sent to the civil hospital until she should be in a fit state to be returned to him.

Complaint, No. 91.

Protector's Office, 18th Dec. 1829.

François, a creole black, aged about 25 years, and belonging to M. Marchal, overseer of the Bretonnache cartage establishment in Port Louis, presented himself at the police office at three o'clock this morning, with his hands fastened together behind by means of thumb-screws fixed so tight as to have penetrated the flesh quite to the bone, and caused considerable swelling and inflammation of the hands and arms. He complained of ill treatment from his master, and declared that one of his comrades, named "Loff," had been treated in the same manner, and was at that moment confined in the stocks on his master's premises, with thumb-screws on. A surgeon having been sent for, the thumb-screws were filed off, and François, at the surgeon's recommendation, was sent to the civil hospital.

From the police he was sent to this office, and made the following declaration:

That about 24 days ago he neglected his work, got drunk, and absented himself for a whole day. That on the following morning he was arrested by a gend'arme and carried to the police, whence his master caused him to be conveyed home after a few hours detention only. Immediately on his arrival his master fixed thumb-screws on his thumbs, fastening his arms behind, and placed his two feet in the stocks. That at night he was taken out of the stocks, and, with the thumb-screws still on, placed in a machine called a carcan, which consists of two pillars, with a cross plank affixed at the distance of a man's height from the ground, to which he was attached by means of an iron collar about three inches broad, fastened to the plank by staples and padlocks, and where he remained in a standing position all night, and in the morning was released and again put into the stocks for the day. That he was thus treated alternately night and morning for a fortnight, when his master sent him to his plantation at Petit Rivière, with the thumb-screws always on, for the purpose of being flogged; but his master not being able, on account of ill health, to visit the plantation as he intended, sent for him back again last Saturday, and treated him as before. That being unable to use his hands, he was sometimes fed by one of his comrades named Zephir, and at other times the victuals were placed on the stocks, from which he ate stooping. That another slave named Loff, a Malgache, belonging also to his master, has been treated precisely in the same manner, and was his fellow sufferer. That the thumb-screws being screwed on so tight, had penetrated his flesh almost to the bone, and caused him very great pain. That about four days ago he announced himself to be ill, and his master then caused him to be taken out of the stocks and placed in the hospital. That last evening being there along with Loff, and finding a favourable opportunity to escape, he did so soon after gun-fire, leaving Loff there with the thumb-screws on; and that at three o'clock this morning he

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went to the police, where the thumb-screws were filed off, and then he was sent to the Protector's office.

Upon being interrogated on various points connected with the above declaration, François further stated, that it was his master himself put the thumb-screws on, and conducted him, night and morning, from the stocks to the carcan, and from the carcan to the stocks, followed always by the commandeur, Janvier. That they had only two meals a day, each consisting of a pound of boiled maize. That Loff's hands and arms are in the same state as declarant's, from the effect of the screws, and that they often complained one to the other of the extreme pain they suffered. That several of his comrades have been subjected to the same punishment, but not for so long a period; namely, Zephir, Baptiste, Boy, Mily, Luca and Figaro, for marooning. That the other slaves employed on the Bretonnache establishment, and who belong to M. Bretonnache himself, are well treated and never punished, are good blacks, and do not maroon. That M. Marchal, his master, who superintends the establishment, has blacks of his own employed upon it, and who are never punished but with the thumb-screws, carcan and stocks. That there is no surgeon attached to the establishment; and that when he complained of being ill and was placed in the hospital, M. Marchal himself attended and gave him some salts.

In consequence of what François had stated respecting his fellow-sufferer, "Loff" the Protector applied immediately for a warrant to search for and bring him to his office; and a police officer, accompanied by François, was sent to execute it, but to no purpose; for on their arrival at M. Marchal's, they found Loff gone and the carcan destroyed; and upon M. Marchal's being questioned about them, he declared that he destroyed the carcan about 15 days since, his uncle, M. Bretonnache, preferring to sell rather than punish those of his slaves who are bad subjects; and that with regard to the slave Loff, the object of search, he had sent him yesterday evening to his uncle's plantation.

François was then sent to hospital, and the warrant immediately transmitted to the Civil Commissary of the quarter of Rivière Noire, to search for Loff at the plantation, but still without effect; M. Fabre, the person in charge of it, declaring that no such slave had arrived there, but that three days ago M. Marchal had sent thither the slave François, with thumb-screws on him; but as M. Marchal did not send the key of those screws, he, M. Fabre, sent François back to town in a cart.

On the following day, the 19th, the Protector summoned before him M. Bretonnache and his nephew, M. Marchal, calling upon them both, and M. Marchal in particular, to answer to the complaint; when M. Bretonnache was examined apart, and declared that he had no knowledge whatever of the affair in question; that he does not even know the slave; but that his nephew, M. Marchal, who is overseer of the establishment, possesses several slaves of his own, of which François is one, who work on the premises: That M. Marchal, as overseer, conducts the establishment, subject to his control: That he knew nothing of the punishment inflicted upon François until the last three or four days, when he heard the blacks talking about it. Several questions were here put to him, which he answered by saying as follows: That he is 71 years of age, and has resided 42 in the colony: That the whole detail of the establishment is entrusted to M. Marchal: That M. Marchal, about a month past, did tell him that he had adopted the punishment of the thumb-screw: That he was also told that the carcan was used as a mode of punishment: That he did not then absolutely prohibit it, but he did tell M. Marchal it was not proper: That he gave no orders about 15 days ago to M. Marchal to destroy the carcan on account of preferring to sell rather than to punish the bad slaves: That the carcan was never used as an instrument of punishment on the establishment before M. Marchal became overseer; but with regard to the thumb-screws, he made use of them about 20 years ago, when the slave trade was permitted under the French government: That he has no knowledge whatever of that which François has declared with respect to the slave named Loff, nor does he know where the latter is; and that none of the slaves employed on the establishment ever complained to him of the treatment they received from M. Marchal. M. Bretonnache then retired, and

M. Marchal was examined. He declared that the statement made by François is false: That the punishment he complains of was not of so long duration as he states: That about three weeks or a month ago, François, being accused of theft, behaved most insolently, absented himself from his work and marooned: That some time after François' return he was punished for one night only with the thumb-screws and carcan: That about a fortnight after, he suspected François of having stolen his watch and a change of linen, when François marooned again and was absent several days: That when he returned on Friday or Saturday last he again behaved most insolently, and was punished with the thumb screws and block: on that day, or on the following, he was sent to the plantation at Petite Rivière, the thumb-screws always on: That on Tuesday or Wednesday François declared himself very unwell, and was consequently brought from the plantation to town in a cart and placed in the hospital, where he (M. Marchal) attended him, administering to him epsom salts, glisters and rice water: That not being confined to the stocks, he escaped from the hospital.

That with regard to the slave named "Loff," he is a bad subject, an incorrigible thief, and an habitual maroon: That after having been absent several months, he was sent from the police to the establishment about 15 days ago, and was ordered to be punished with the thumb-screws, the carcan and the stocks, in the same manner and for the same period as François.

M. Marchal being then interrogated by the Protector, further stated, that he was born at Mircorf in Lorraine, is 32 years of age, and a musical instrument maker by trade, and arrived in the colony in 1821: That he has not taken the oath of allegiance to His Majesty, but

but is permitted to reside in the colony under the guarantee of his uncle, M. Bretonnache: that he has been an owner of slaves since 1822 or 1823, and has since been allowed by the special authority of the Governor to hold property generally in the colony: that he took charge of his uncle M. Bretonnache's establishment in January 1828: that it is possible his uncle may or may not have known of the thumb-screws and carcan being used as instruments of punishment on the establishment; that he believes he informed his uncle thereof; that as far as he knows they were not in use before he was made overseer; that none of his slaves were punished with those instruments for so long a time as François and Loff, and that happened because he was unable to go as he intended to the plantation to which François was sent, and where he was to have been put to field labour as a further punishment; that François was not put into the stocks on his return from the plantation, but the thumb-screws were forgotten to be taken off; that the surgeon, M. Margeot, attends his blacks when very ill, but as François was not so, M. Margeot did not visit him; that he knew François was not very ill from the report of the old negress who takes care of the sick, and from having himself examined him, and found no traces of flux, the malady he complained of; that he is the owner of about twenty other slaves besides François and Loff; that he knows not where Loff is; that he sent him from town to the plantation to fetch eggs for his uncle, on Thursday evening last between five and six o'clock, and that he then marooned, for he has not since returned; that he sent him alone to the plantation, and released him from the stocks for that purpose; that the statement made by François that Loff was in the stocks with the thumb-screws on, at the moment he (François) escaped on Thursday evening last after gun-fire, is totally false: that he was in error as to time, when he stated to the police-officer that he had destroyed the carcan 15 days ago; that he did it immediately after releasing François and Loff about a week since; that he got three carcans made at Port Louis about two months since, by a smith whose name he does not recollect; that the thumb-screws are old, and were found on his uncle's premises; that besides François and Loff, five others of his slaves were punished in the same way, namely, Lonca, Mily, Zephir, and he thinks Boy and Baptiste; that he does not see any thing extraordinary in his having sent so bad a character as Loff, who was then under punishment for marooning, to the plantation alone, and upon such an errand; and finally, that he has not kept a record book of punishments on his uncle's establishment, because he has not yet punished any of his slaves by flogging.

The following witnesses were then examined separately, viz. Malais, Janvier, Saisse, Mathurine, Lucas, Baptiste, Milie, Figaro, Zephir, Adonis, and Jean Baptiste, all slaves working on the Bretonnache establishment, and who deposed as follows:

Malais, a creole, aged 11 years, states, that he belongs to M. Bretonnache: that he knows the slaves François and Loff, belonging to M. Marchal: that he saw the slave Loff early on Friday morning last in the hospital with thumb-screws on: that he saw his master take the screws off in the presence of Janvier, the commandeur: that Loff's thumbs were swelled and lacerated: that declarant having been sent to the bazaar, some of his comrades told him on his return that Loff was sent to the plantation.

Janvier, a Malgache, aged 35, belonging to M. Bretonnache, says, that he knows the slaves François and Loff, belonging to M. Marchal: that he saw them both in the carcan, with their thumbs fastened behind them with thumb-screws: that he saw them in the carcan two nights before François was sent to the plantation, and six days in the stocks, and afterwards five days in the stocks, always with the thumb-screws on: that he saw his master take the screws off Loff's thumbs and release him from the stocks early on Friday morning last, and then send him in care of Adonis to the plantation: that he observed Loff's thumbs to be swollen and lacerated: that his comrades Lucas, Zephir, Mily, Boy, Figaro and Baptiste, were also punished with the carcan and thumb-screws, and stocks, for 24 hours only: that M. Vidiere, the smith, made the carcans, five in number, but he does not know where the thumb-screws came from: that he knows not what became of Loff after being sent to the plantation.

Saisse, a Malgache, aged 40, and belonging to M. Bretonnache, declares, that he knows the slaves François and Loff: that François was put into the carcan for one night and for four days in the stocks, always with the thumb-screws on: that he was then released and put into the carcan a second time for two nights, and into the stocks one week, with the thumb-screws on as before: that after his return from the plantation he was confined in the hospital only, with the thumb-screws on: that Loff was confined in the stocks a fortnight, and in the carcan two nights, his hands fastened behind with the thumb-screws: that on Friday morning last he was told by his comrades that, their master had liberated Loff from confinement and sent him to the plantation: that on the preceding evening he saw Loff, and observed his thumbs and arms to be much swollen, and the former much excoriated: that he was ordered by his master to go and fetch the carcans from M. Vidiere, the smith, and he brought away five, with the staples, &c. but he knows nothing about the thumb-screws.

Mathurine, a negress, aged 60 years, belonging to M. Bretonnache, deposed, that she attends the sick in the hospital: that Loff was released from the hospital early on Friday morning last: that his thumbs were then much swollen and excoriated: that she knows not where Loff is, but was told that he was sent on that morning to the plantation.

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Lucas, Baptiste and Milie, belonging to M. Bretonnache, depose, that about 14 days ago they were all placed in the carcan, and punished in the same way as François and Loff, with thumb-screws and the stocks for 24 hours: that the marks now visible on their thumbs are the effects of such punishment: that Loff was sent to the plantation early on Friday morning last in care of Jean Baptiste, with a letter; and that Loff's thumbs were at the time much swollen and excoriated.

Figaro, a Malgache, aged 35, and belonging to M. Marchal, deposed, that about two months past he was placed in the carcan, stocks and thumb-screws, in the same manner as Loff and François, for one night and three days: that the marks on his thumbs are the effects of such punishment: that he saw Loff the evening before he was sent to the plantation, and observed his thumbs were much swollen and excoriated.

Zephir, aged 40 years, and belonging to M. Marchal, deposed, that he was once put into the carcan with thumb-screws on for one night, in the same way as François and Loff: that the pain he suffered was so great as to make him cry out, which induced his master to release him and put him into the stocks instead, and that the marks now observable on his thumbs are the effects of such punishment: that François was a fortnight in the stocks and two nights in the carcan, always with the thumb-screws on: that Loff was punished in the same way as François, except that he was a week longer in the stocks: that he fed them whilst they were so confined: that on Friday morning last he saw Loff in the stocks with the thumb-screws on, and that his thumbs were then swollen and excoriated: that when he returned to breakfast he was told by some of his comrades that M. Marchal had released Loff and sent him to the plantation.

Jean Baptiste, aged 25 years, and belonging to M. Marchal, deposed, that there was a mistake in saying that he conducted Loff from town to the plantation; on the contrary, Loff was sent in care of a slave named Adonis, the bazaarman of the plantation; but that his master, M. Marchal, did send deponent to the plantation on Friday last for the purpose of inquiring whether Loff had actually arrived there, and he was there told by M. Fabre and Adonis that Loff had escaped from his (Adonis') custody on the way out from town.

On the 19th December the Protector addressed a letter to the surgeon in charge of the civil hospital, desiring to be informed whether any danger was to be apprehended from the state of François's wounds, and on the 21st he received that officer's reply, stating that "François is in great danger of losing the right thumb, which is in a state of gangrene, and I am fearful will lose a portion of the left. His general health is, however, good, and the only danger to be apprehended is tetanus, which is not unfrequently caused by wounds such as the black has received."

The Protector then waited immediately on the President of the Tribunal de Première Instance, to ascertain what was to be done with a view to secure M. Marchal's person in the event of the slave's death, when it appeared that the laws of the country did not permit an arrest in anticipation of such event, and that the only step to be taken with a view to future proceedings, should the slave die, was to invite M. Marchal to repair to the hospital, accompanied by his own confidential surgeon, and there, in the presence of an authorized person, to call upon him and upon his slave to make a mutual recognition of each other, and to express his approval or disapproval of the medical treatment the slave received; and in the event of his disapprobation, to signify to him that the slave should be put under the care of his own surgeon, or that the remedies suggested by the latter should be followed by the medical officer of the hospital: all which was accordingly done.

The discrepancies in Marchal's declaration, and the evidence given by all the witnesses, tending so much to discredit what he had stated with a view to account for the absence of the slave Loff, the Protector redoubled his exertions to discover him, by obtaining warrants to search various places where he was thought to be concealed, but all to no purpose. Therefore should Loff die from his wounds whilst in concealment, Marchal is screened from all consequences, by having declared him at the Maroonage office a maroon, although not so in fact; for on reading the documents it cannot for a moment be doubted that he was released from confinement by his master on Friday morning, and not on Thursday night, as he states. And as to his being a maroon, it is impossible the most credulous can believe it; for not only would the pain arising from his mutilated hands induce him to take refuge any where rather than remain a maroon, and more particularly as it has been ascertained from François, his comrade, that when they were under punishment a mutual understanding existed that whichever of them could first make his escape should repair forthwith to the police and give information of the other's confinement.

The Protector therefore denounced M. Marchal to the Procureur-General for prosecution, on the 23d December.

Complaint, No. 92.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 21st December 1829.

The creole slave boy *Edward*, aged 10 years, belonging to M. Garien of Port Louis, complains, that his mistress, Mademoiselle Lucile Jacques, beats him continually; that the marks on his body and face arise from blows of the cane and kicks; he was last punished on Sunday by the black Joseph, who also corrected him on the two preceding days with a cane, and he received between 50 and 60 blows in the three corrections. Charlotte and his

his mistress were present when complainant was punished; and he further states, that his only offence was having by accident made water once or twice in the house.

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“ Port Louis, 21st December 1829.

“ I certify having examined Edward, a slave belonging to Lucile Jacques, and find he has on his shoulders and back innumerable marks of recent punishment. His breech also, particularly the left side, is in a state of ulceration from repeated flogging. When I take into consideration the tender age of the little boy, for he appears under 10 years of age, I have no hesitation in giving my opinion that his punishment has been excessive.

(signed) “ *H. Hart, M. D.*
Surgeon to the Police.”

Result.—Neither M. Garien, nor his mistress, Lucile Jacques, having any thing to say in justification of their conduct towards the complainant, the case was denounced to the Procureur-General for prosecution, on the 24th December.

Complaint, No. 93.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 24th Dec. 1829.

Héloïse, Malgache, aged 18 years, and belonging to M. Hubert, of Port Louis, states, that having been employed by her mistress, Mad. Hubert, in selling certain merchandize, she was yesterday sent to collect the money from persons to whom it had been sold on credit: that it being late before she could collect the money, and knowing the hasty character of her mistress, she feared to return lest she should be punished; she did return, however, and explained to her mistress why she was so late; but hearing from another negress that her mistress had prepared a horse-whip to punish her with, complainant again became afraid and left the house, passing the night at her sister's. The next morning her mistress ordered the black Thuraine to give her nearly 30 stripes with the said whip, on her back and shoulders: that she immediately left the house to come to make this complaint. The negresses Anna and Emelie were present at the punishment.

“ Port Louis, 24th Dec. 1829.

“ I certify having examined Héloïse, and find she has upon her right fore-arm, wrist, both shoulders, right breast and right cheek, several marks of recent punishment, all of which she states were occasioned by her having been flogged this morning with a horse-whip, by order of her mistress. She has also, on both sides of her breech, marks of old punishment; and there is on the right side of her breech an extensive cicatrice from former flogging. She also states that she is pregnant, or has reason at least to think so, as it is upwards of three months since the periodical signs to which the female constitution is liable have ceased to appear. Upon the whole I have no hesitation in stating that she has been punished with an unusual degree of severity.

(signed) “ *H. Hart, M.D.,* Surgeon to the Police.”

The Sieur Hubert states, that the complainant was punished with 10 stripes of a cane by his order, and not by that of Mad. Hubert, as stated by the complainant; that this correction was inflicted in consequence of her having stolen four dollars, and remained from home a day and a night. Declarant farther states that he is ignorant of any law forbidding such punishment.

Result.—The evidence of the witnesses cited by complainant, as well as the declaration of the master, fully proving that corporal punishment had been inflicted upon the negress, the case was denounced to the Procureur-General on the same day for prosecution against the said Sieur Hubert accordingly.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, Mauritius,
24th December 1829.

No. 2.—LIST of COMPLAINTS transmitted by the Protector and Guardian of Slaves to the Procureur-General for Prosecution, from the 05th June to the 24th of December 1829, inclusive.

When sent.	NAME OF SLAVE.	NAME OF MASTER.	NATURE OF COMPLAINT.	When brought before the Court.	NATURE OF DECISION.	REMARKS.
1829: July 18	- - Nanette, Marcelin & Victoire.	V ^o Morel (Savanne)	- - for having inflicted corporal punishment on the two female slaves, an infraction of the 18th Article of the Ordinance 43. For having punished the two females and a male slave without the number of persons present required by the 17th Article of the said Ordinance. For not having kept a punishment record-book, in contravention of the 21st article; and also for having confined the said slaves in the stocks for 24 hours, without sufficient food and water during that time.	Sept. 12	- - condemned in the penalty of 80 l. sterling, and costs.	
- 20	- - Estelle and Adolphe, a (boy).	- - E. Ducray (Plaines Wilhems).	- - for having put chains on a negress, and on a boy under 15 years of age; an infraction of the Ordinance No. 20.	{ Aug. 7 and Aug. 14	- - condemned in the penalty of 2 l. sterling and costs, for each individual.	
- 24	- - Victorine	Aurore Barreau (Moka)	- - for having put chains on the child, Victorine, contrary to law.	Sept. 25	- - ditto	
-	- - Ally	- - Madame Carré (Pamplemousses).	- - for having put chains on the said slave of a greater weight than that allowed by the Ordinance No. 20, of the 13th December 1826, and for not having kept a register-book of punishment, as required by the 21st Article of the Ordinance No. 43.	-	- - condemned in the penalty of 7 l. sterling, and costs.	- - no notice of judgment received in this case.
- 27	- - Marie Jeanne and her two children.	A. D'Emmerez (Savanne)	- - an infraction of the 21st Article of the Ordinance No. 43, for not having kept a register-book of punishment, although a punishment did take place.	Oct. 9	- - condemned in the penalty of 5 l. sterling, and costs.	
- 30	- - Eugène	- - Pierre Compty, or Pierre Denis (Port Louis).	- - for violently beating and kicking the said slave, contrary to the 19th Article of the Ordinance No. 43.	Sept. 17	Acquitted.	
- 31	- - Ministère, Public	- - E. Daruty (Riv. du Rempart).	- - for not having kept a register-book of punishment on his plantation, an infraction of the 21st Article of the same Ordinance.	-	- -	- - proceedings stopped by order of his Excellency the Governor.
-	- - Aglaé	- - V. Ligereau (Riv. du Rempart).	- - for having inflicted a corporal punishment on the said Aglaé, contrary to the 18th Article of the Ordinance No. 43.	Oct. 23	- - condemned in the penalty of 20 l. and costs.	
Aug. 3	- - Jeanny, alias Zalc.	- - Veuve Sturbel (Savanne).	1 ^o . For having kept the said negress in irons for nearly 12 months, chained to a large block of wood, during which time she miscarried, a contravention of the Ordinance No. 20, of the 13th December 1826. 2 ^o . For having caused to be inflicted on her person, at different periods, and particularly about a month before she ran away, from 25 to 30 stripes, with a cart-whip and other instruments, the marks of which punishments she now bears on various parts of her body, contrary to the 18th Article of the Ordinance No. 43.	Sept. 25	- - condemned in the penalty of 35 l. and costs.	- - no notice of judgment received in this case, on the 24th December.

3°. For not allowing the complainant a sufficient quantity of food, a breach of the Ordinance 174, of the 26th September 1767, relative to the rations of food to be supplied to slaves.
 4°. An infraction of the 14th Article of the Ordinance 43, for having compelled her to work on Sundays, against her will.
 5°. For exacting a daily task of making five vacoa sacks per day, which is more than her physical strength is able to accomplish, an infraction of the 29th Article of the Ordinance 43, which subjects the owner to the loss of his slave, if convicted of unlawful and cruel treatment towards him, and which is the essence in this fifth charge.

-- the fine not being paid, an attachment was issued against Lolotte Egron for the amount, by the Court of First Instance, on the 26th November 1829.

Sept. 18	-- condemned in the penalty of 20 l. sterling, and costs.
Oct. 23	-- condemned in the penalty of 2 l. sterling, and costs.
- 9	-- ditto - - - ditto.
- 16	-- condemned in the penalty of 2 l. sterling, and costs.
- -	Not yet tried.
- -	-- ditto.
Nov. 13	-- condemned in the penalty of 20 l. sterling, and costs.
- -	Not yet decided.

-- for having inflicted on the person of the slave corporal punishment, with a "nerf de bœuf," contrary to the 17th Article of the Ordinance No. 43.
 -- for having put fetters on the complainant heavier than those permitted by the Ordinance No. 20, of the 13th December 1826.
 -- as an infraction of the same Ordinance, for having put a chain on the said negress.
 -- ditto - - - ditto
 -- for having put chains upon them of greater weight than is allowed by law.
 -- an act of cruel treatment in having flogged the said Patience, without any cause, immediately on his being returned from the police, where he has already undergone a punishment.
 -- for having inflicted on the said negress a corporal punishment, without the order of a Court of Justice or of the Protector of Slaves, as required by the 18th Article of the Ordinance 43.
 -- 1°. For a breach of the 17th Article of Ordinance 43, in having caused the two slaves to be flogged with more than nine stripes, without there being present the number of persons required by law.

2°. For another breach of the same article, in having caused the said punishment to be inflicted before the wounds occasioned by a former punishment had healed.
 3°. For a further breach of the same Ordinance in general bad treatment of his slaves, by permitting them to be cruelly and inhumanly treated by his regisseur, Laventure, who caused them to be tied by the neck together immediately after the punishment, sent them to work in that state, and beat them whilst so at work, and then put them in the stocks that night.
 4°. For a breach of the 2d Article of the Ordinance 49 (then in operation), in not keeping a register book of punishment on his habitation, and in not registering therein the punishment of the two slaves.

(continued)

No. 2.—List of COMPLAINTS transmitted to the Procureur-General for Prosecution—*continued.*

When Sent.	NAME OF SLAVE.	NAME OF MASTER.	NATURE OF COMPLAINT.	When brought before the Court.	NATURE OF DECISION.	REMARKS.
1829 : Nov. 11	Bazille	Sieur Nozaïc (Flacq)	<p>1° For cruel and inhuman treatment of the said slave (he being old, decrepit and infirm) in having caused corporal punishment to be inflicted upon him immediately on his being returned from the bagné prison, where he had already undergone such punishment as the Chief Commissary of the Police thought it proper to inflict.</p> <p>2° For having unnecessarily and cruelly added to the severity of such punishment, by causing him to be flogged with a cat-o-nine-tails dipped in tar, and by confining the said slave in the stocks for 18 nights successively, for no other fault but the maroonage, for which he had been already punished by the police.</p> <p>3° For not having registered in his book of punishments that which he inflicted upon Bazille, by putting him in the stocks for so many successive nights, as required by the 17th Article of the Ordinance 43.</p> <p>4° For not having registered in the said book of punishments various other punishments which the witnesses declare to have been inflicted on the said slave anterior to the last, and only one which is therein recorded.</p>	- - -	Not yet decided.	
- 12	Françoise	Sieur Courbon (Riv. du Rempart).	- - for having inflicted a corporal punishment on the said negress, without an order of a Court of Justice, or of the Protector of Slaves, as required by the 18th Article of the Ordinance 43, and for not having registered the said punishment in his register-book of punishments, contrary to the 21st Article of the same Ordinance.	- - -	Not yet decided.	
- 25	Protector of Slaves	Sieur Esnouf (Riv. du Rempart).	- - for not having kept a register-book of punishments on his estate, agreeably to the 21st Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.	- - -	- - ditto.	
-	Charlot	Mons. François Pierre, alias Pitiaca. (Pamplemousses).	- - in putting chains upon the said Charlot of a greater weight than that allowed by law.	- - -	- - ditto.	
Dec. 2	Solon	Mr. Bestel (Plaines Wilhems).	- - for having compelled the said slave to work on Sundays against his will, a breach of the 14th Article of Ordinance 43; and for having contravened the 5th Article of the Ordinance 51, in treating the said Solon with resentment, notwithstanding an injunction received from the Protector prohibiting him to do so.	- - -	- - ditto.	

Dec. 5	- - Bérénice and Suzanne.	Mr. J. L. Brue (Rivière Noire).	- - as a contravention of the 18th Article of Ordinance, No. 43, in having inflicted corporal punishments on the said negroes.	- - - - -	- - ditto.
- 9	- Adolphe (a child)	Mr. Victor Chéry (Port Louis).	- - for cruelly and inhumanly beating the said Adolphe with a "cravache," contrary to the Ordinance, No. 43.	- - - - -	- - ditto.
- 14	- Lise	Mr. C. H. Morin (Port Louis).	- - for having inflicted upon the said Lise a corporal chastisement, in contravention of the 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.	- - - - -	- - ditto.
-	- Nina	Mlle. Eliza Salomon (Port Louis).	- - - - - ditto	- - - - -	- - ditto.
- 15	- Anne	Mr. Lyall (Moka)	- - - - - ditto	- - - - -	- - ditto
- 23	- François	Mr. C ^e Marchal (Port Louis).	- - for cruel and inhuman treatment, causing mutilation.	- - - - -	- - ditto.
- 24	- Nanette	- - Mr. Evenor Parisot, Overseer of Mr. Bestel, Proprietor of the said Nanette, (Savanne).	- - for violently beating the said Nanette, contrary to the 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.	- - - - -	- - ditto.
-	- Edouard (a boy)	- - Mad. Lucile Delaroy, otherwise Lucile Jacques. (Port Louis).	- - for having inflicted upon the said Edouard excessive corporal punishment, at three different periods, and at intervals that did not admit the wounds caused by one punishment to heal before the others were administered, contrary to the Ordinance, No. 43.	- - - - -	- - ditto.
-	- Héroïse	Mr. Hubert (Port Louis).	- - for having beaten the said negress with a "cravache," and with undue severity, the said Héroïse being at the time three months advanced in pregnancy, contrary to the law in such case made and provided.	- - - - -	- - ditto.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, }
24 December 1829.

No. 3.—RETURN of CRIMINAL ACTIONS against SLAVES, of which Notice was given to the Protector, tried before the Courts of First Instance and of Appeal, between the 24th June and the 25th December 1829, with the Results thereof.

Date of Notice to the Protector.	Date of Trial.	NAME OF SLAVE.	NAME OF OWNER.	NATURE OF OFFENCE.	SENTENCE of Court of First Instance.	If appealed from, DECISION of Court of Appeal.	DATE of Hearing.	REMARKS.
1829: June 27	1829: -	Jean	Pierre Lagesse	burglary	-	-	1829: -	- - this man has been upwards of six months in prison, and not yet brought to trial; repeated application has been made to the Procureur-general's substitute, but without receiving any satisfactory explanation.
-	Sept. 17	Louis	Government	ditto	two years in chains	-	-	-
July 10	-	Caniche & Marvet	Mr. Martiol	highway robbery	-	-	-	-
- 13	Aug. 27	Henry	Mr. Olivary	burglary	-	-	-	-
- 22	-	Pyrthus	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	Hipolite	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	Antoine	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	Josephine	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	Lajoie	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	Fanchin	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	Claude	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	Charlot	-	-	-	-	-	-
- 23	Aug. 18	Jean François	Venere Cato	stealing wearing apparel	- - three months imprisonment and costs.	-	-	No further notification of proceedings have been given to the Protector in these cases; he therefore presumes the slaves have not been brought to trial, or that the greffiers have omitted to give him notice of it, as enjoined by the 8th Article of Ordinance No. 43.
-	July 25	Quido	Madame Ota	theft	-	-	-	- - no notice of this judgment, if rendered, given to the Protector.
-	-	Thomas	Mr. Gratiolet	attempt at burglary	acquitted.	-	-	-
-	- 11	L'Eveillé	Mr. Vincent	murder	acquitted.	-	-	-
- 30	Aug. 29	Prosper	Madame Coeffie	selling arrack to a soldier	acquitted.	-	-	-
- 15	- 1	Bazile	Mr. Roussel	stealing linen	- - 40 days imprisonment and costs.	-	-	-
Aug. 6	Sept. 16	Charics	Mad ^{lle} Roger	stealing linen	- - two months imprisonment and costs.	-	-	-
- 13	-	St. Jean	Sieur Paulét	stealing manioc	-	-	-	-
- 19	-	Aza	Sieur Staub	stealing 50 dollars	-	-	-	-
-	Sept. 16	Arthur	Sieur Bequet	stealing a saddle	- - two months imprisonment and costs.	-	-	No notice of trial or judgment given to the Protector in these cases, as enjoined by the 8th Article of Ordinance No. 43.
-	- 26	Larosée	Government	stealing timber	- - two months imprisonment.	confirmed	-	- - a person of the name of Weldon, an Englishman, was tried at the same time for purchasing the stolen timber, and was sentenced to four months imprisonment and costs.
- 22	-	L'Amour	Madame Husson	- - breaking open drawers with an intent to steal.	-	-	-	- - no notice of trial or judgment received.
June 26	May 28	- - Felix, Chiffrore, and 2 free people of colour.	Mr. Mary	burglary	- - Felix to 4 years imprisonment, the others, as receivers of the stolen goods, to 2 years imprisonment.	confirmed	Oct. 9.	-

Sept. 2	Jean Baptiste	Sieur Tourton	robbery domestic	acquitted.	- - no notice of judgment received.
- 4	Figaro	Sieur Duval	assault	acquitted.	
- 5	Farla	Sieur Germain	murder	acquitted.	
Oct. 13	Nelson	Sieur Vinay	stealing plate	- - two years chains the three first, and six months imprisonment the two last.	Nov. 26.
Sept. 19	Casimir, Adolphe, Jerome, Auguste Henry.	several	burglary	8 days imprisonment	- - Auguste acquitted; with regard to the rest, confirmed.
Oct. 23	Robert	Sieur Lemaire	stealing 4 pair shoes	transportation for life	- - the sentence in this case was mitigated, in consequence of the long imprisonment he had previously suffered.
Nov 17	Thomy	Sieur Martin	burglary	two years in chains	- - this criminal was already condemned to 12 years chains for a former burglary, and he had served 7 years of them, when he broke his chains and escaped, and was soon taken up for his present crime, and sentenced to pass the remainder of his former sentence in chains, and then to be transported for life.
Oct. 27	Isidore	Sieur Daruty	highway robbery	one year in chains	- - no notice of trial, and notice of judgment only given 2 months after the trial took place.
- 29	Hypolite	Sieur Vickranges	stealing a watch	3 months imprisonment	- - no notice of judgment received.
Sept. 24	Jean Pierre	A. D. Emmerez	burglary	1 year's imprisonment.	- - a free woman was convicted of having received the property, and was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment.
Nov. 19	Lubin and Lindor	several	stealing deal boards	- - 25 lashes and one year's imprisonment.	Nov. 19.
- 28	Frederic	Melanie Charlot	domestic robbery	3 months imprisonment.	- - he had not effected his purpose, and the only proof against him was his being discovered in an indecent situation with the child.
Aug. 5	Simon	A. D'Epinay	- - attempt to violate a child of 3 1/4 years of age.	- - 20 lashes and six months in chains.	
Nov. 18	Riffar	Sieur Tissier	domestic robbery	2 months imprisonment.	
- 24	Prosper and Ganimede.	several	ditto		
Dec. 23	Lajoie	- - -	- - accusing his master of having flogged a negress his (Lajoie's) wife to death.	2 months imprisonment.	not come before the Protector; but the papers having been submitted to his perusal, it was discovered that the master had caused corporal punishment to be inflicted on the negress, and he was therefore denounced by the Protector to the Procureur-general for prosecution.
Oct. 28	Pons and Fronton	Sieur Jasmin	stealing 3 sheets of copper		

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, }
24th December 1829.

No. 4.—LIST of SLAVES who have presented their ACTS of ENFRANCHISEMENT to the Protector and Guardian of Slaves for Registration in his Office, from the 25th June to the 24th December 1829, inclusive.

Number in the Protector's Office.	Number in the Chief Secretary's Office	Date of Enfranchisement.	Name of Master, or Person Enfranchising.	NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.	C A S T E.	When received at Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	MEANS by which ENFRANCHISEMENT has been obtained: If by Purchase, Amount stated.
13	479	1829: June 19 -	Lisy Amédée (Rivière du Rempart.)	Ursule Jeanne - Marie Jeanne - Théose Jeanne Gerard Jeanne Adèle Géneviève M ^{ie} Coudia Géne- viève.	36 6 14 1 32 1	Creole - ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto -	June 27 -	June 30 -	June 30 -	- - deed of gift on the part of their uncle, L. Amédée.
14	481	- 19 -	F. M. Saverimouton	Jeanne Jackson	34	ditto -	- 30 -	- 30 -	- 30 -	deed of gift of owner.
15	478	- 19 -	Lindor Congo	Jeanne Florine Virginie Florine	20 18	ditto - ditto -	July 9 -	July 9 -	July 9 -	- - - ditto.
16	472	- 11 -	Lindor, dit Arcaste	Galathée Antoinette Charlette Louise Eliza Augustine Pierre Eleonore Jean Charles Amelie Honorine Finette Marie Labelle	42 24 22 19 16 14 8 6 ^{mth} 18 ^{mth} 38 57	Mozambique Creole - ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto - Malgache Mozambique	- 9 -	- 9 -	- 11 -	- - parental affection; the enfranchised being his wife and children.
17	475	- 11 -	François Vibro	Marie Pauline	20	Creole -	- 9 -	- 9 -	- 11 -	deed of gift of owner.
18	487	- 30 -	Eloi Sandapa	Thomis Latour Louise Marie Edward Marie Laure Marie	26 34 8 10	ditto - ditto - ditto - ditto -	- 10 -	- 11 -	- 16 -	- - in conformity with the will of his aunt. deed of gift of owner. - - - ditto.
19	489	July 6 -	Aline L' Eveillé	Julie Bonnefemme	48	ditto -	- 16 -	- 16 -	- 17 -	- - - ditto.
20	490	- - -	Jean Ortis	Emile Bonnefemme	3	ditto -	- 23 -	- 23 -	- 27 -	- - by the will of his late master.
21	494	- 15 -	Protector of Slaves (<i>ex officio</i> .)	Pierre Jean Samba	32	ditto -	- 23 -	- 23 -	- 27 -	150 dollars. deed of gift of owner.
22	495	- 15 -	- - Ditto	Reine Gerard	48	ditto -	- 27 -	- 27 -	- 30 -	- - - ditto.
23	496	- 15 -	- - Ditto	Charles Bacchus Cousonne César Elodie César	47 25 2	ditto - ditto - ditto -	- 27 -	- 27 -	- 30 -	- - - ditto.
24	497	- - -	- - Ditto	Suzanne Labonne	62	Mozambique	- 30 -	- 30 -	- 30 -	- - - ditto.
25	498	- - -	Mirza							
26	486	June 30 -	Elionore Jalabert							
27	506	July 22 -	François Guillemieux							

28	508	July 22	Julie Magon	Marie Magdelonette	47	Creole	July 30	July 30	July 30	deed of gift of owner.
29	503	-	Jean Louis Mouton	Ferrine Catau	37	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
30	509	-	Eleonore Lecoq	J ^e B ^e Henriette	40	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
31	483	June 30	Julie Pisson	Nicholas Quinolas	27	Indien	Aug. 5	Aug. 5	Aug. 5	- ditto.
32	499	July 15	Antoine Legrand	Coralie Fanchonnette	29	Malgache	6	6	7	- ditto.
33	501	-	Chas. Julien Collard	Louis Travailleur	35	Creole	7	7	7	600 dollars.
34	494	June 30	Lise Zemire	Zemire Fanny	42	Indien	10	10	10	deed of gift of owner.
35	516	July 30	Julie V ^e Lindor	Victor Fanny	15	Creole	10	10	10	- ditto.
36	510	- 29	Joseph René Arnel	Felicie Julie	3	ditto	10	10	11	- ditto.
37	517	- 30	Marcelin Barry	Louis Eugene	18	ditto	10	11	11	- ditto.
38	494	- 6	Aly Lebegue	Eline Tigrisse	18	ditto	13	13	13	- ditto.
39	491	- 6	George, dit ^t Alexandre	Marie Virginie Jeanne	19	ditto	13	13	13	- ditto.
40	522	Aug. 10	Protector of Slaves (<i>ex officio.</i>)	Brigitte Flore	32	ditto	14	14	14	- ditto.
41	521	-	- Ditto	Eleonore Laure	51	ditto	-	-	-	- - enfranchised by the will of their mistress.
42	514	July 30	Françoise Gouvary	Charles Laure	5	ditto	-	-	-	- - by Protector as patron; Romard being sold to his late master on the condition of enfranchisement at the end of three years.
43	519	Aug. 10	Zephir Pinaud	Marie Rêve	57	Malgache	17	17	17	deed of gift of owner.
44	485	June 30	Adolph Collet	Mathurine Rêve	27	Creole	17	17	17	- ditto.
45	502	July 22	Modest Curtat	Laurestine Rêve	8	ditto	17	17	17	- ditto.
46	524	Aug. 10	Pierre Feline	Alfred Rêve	8	ditto	18	18	18	- ditto.
47	526	-	V ^e Aug ^{te} Mallet	Aurelie Victor	28	ditto	18	18	18	- ditto.
48	518	- 1	Jean Jaques Lebrun	Poupponne Pepin	12	ditto	19	19	19	- ditto.
49	520	- 10	Pierre St. Mart	Rosalie Pepin	57	Mozambique	19	19	19	- ditto.
50	493	July 6	Jean Groutsche	Madeline Constant	24	Creole	19	19	19	- ditto.
51	527	Aug. 19	Pierre Henri	Louis Radegonde	37	Mozambique	20	20	20	- - by will of their late master.
52	507	July 22	Josephine Bellamy	Bienaimé Fidele	37	ditto	21	21	21	deed of gift of owner.
53	528	Aug. 19	Protector of Slaves (<i>ex officio.</i>)	Thélémaque Con- fiance.	37	Creole	21	21	21	- ditto.
54	513	- 26	Adolphe Mouton	Eliza Reine	3	ditto	22	22	22	- ditto.
55	523	- 10	Coutourant	Firman St. Mart	9	Mozambique	22	22	22	- ditto.
56	534	- 19	Etienne Desribes	Françoise St. Cloud	24	Creole	22	22	22	380 dollars.
57	533	-	Mcnagé	Madelin Louise	28	ditto	22	22	22	deed of gift of owner.
				Louise Louise	9	ditto	22	22	22	- - purchased himself, in 1816; sum not known.
				Aristide Louise	6	ditto	22	22	22	deed of gift of owner.
				Aurelie Louise	2 1/2	Indien	24	24	24	- ditto.
				Julie Charlette	52	ditto	26	26	26	- ditto.
				Rosin Bigaignon	45	Creole	26	26	26	- ditto.
				Marie Louise Samba	35	ditto	26	26	26	- ditto.
				Marie Thérèse	28	Indien	27	27	27	- ditto.
				Ernestine Thérèse	5	ditto	27	27	27	- ditto.
				Annette Suzanne	47	Indien	29	29	29	- ditto.
				Pascal Labonne	21	Creole	29	29	31	785 dollars.

(continued)

No. 4.—LIST of SLAVES Enfranchised—continued.

Number in the Protector's Office.	Number in the Chief Secretary's Office.	Date of Enfranchisement.	Name of Master or Person Enfranchising.	NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.	CASTE.	When received at Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	MEANS by which ENFRANCHISEMENT has been obtained: If by Purchase, Amount stated.
58	532	1829: Aug. 19	Charles Telfair	Paillass Sansfaçon	34	Mozambique	Aug. 29	Aug. 29	Aug. 31	-- by the will of the late Marie Desiré.
59	535	-	Ditto	Jean Pierre Jeanne	17	Creole	-	-	-	- ditto.
60	none	-	Elie Joseph Ligeac	M ^{le} Louise Jeanne	15	ditto	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
61	529	-	Jean Marie Daniel	M ^{le} Jeanne l'Agréable	38	ditto	31	31	31	- ditto.
62	531	-	Baptiste Martin	Joseph Patient	15	ditto	-	-	-	by his father.
63	511	July 30	Marie Lafond	Augustin Alzire	23	ditto	Sept. 3	Sept. 3	Sept. 3	deed of gift of owner.
64	515	-	Eugene Grancourt	Adolphe Artidor	53	ditto	21	21	21	- ditto.
65	543	Sept. 1	Luron Brunet	Sidonie Labonne	8	ditto	22	22	22	300 dollars.
66	541	Aug. 26	Jeanil Gas	Eugène Louise	25	Malgache	23	23	23	deed of gift of owner.
67	536	-	Ditto	Agathe Bonne	16	Creole	24	24	24	- ditto.
68	540	-	Nicolas Pombar	Philogène Jean	6	ditto	-	24	24	- ditto.
69	537	-	Gervais Duval	Opportune Tortue	10	ditto	23	24	24	enfranchised by their father.
70	538	-	Protector of Slaves (ex off.)	Eulalie Arthémise	8	ditto	23	24	24	Purchased by their father in 1823 for \$ 120.
71	539	-	J ⁿ B ^{te} Honoré Dessavoie	Chery Arthémise	6	children of G. Duval.	-	24	24	
72	545	Sept. 1	Jeanne Babet	Aménaide Arthémise	8 1/2	ditto	-	24	24	deed of gift of owner.
73	544	-	Desiré Hamon	Coralie Bonne	6 1/2	ditto	23	24	26	300 dollars.
74	512	July 30	Mahé Sidney	M ^{le} Elina l'Étourdie	7 m ^{ths}	Indienne	25	30	30	deed of gift of owner.
75	547	Sept. 26	M ^{le} V ^e Vallade	Pony La Belle	57	Creole	29	30	30	- ditto.
76	550	-	Protector (ex officio)	Pierre David Sarah	4	ditto	-	30	30	- ditto.
77	551	-	Ditto	Pierre Abel Sarah	7	ditto	30	30	30	- ditto.
78	549	-	Ditto	Thèrèse Reine	27	ditto	30	30	30	- ditto.
79	553	-	Antoinette Lindor	Alfred Reine	7	ditto	30	30	30	200 dollars.
80	542	-	Jean B ^{te} Petitbien	Clementine Labonne	35	ditto	5	6	7	- by the will of the late Francis Coperon.
81	548	-	J. Bechet	Jeanette Nina	37	ditto	-	6	7	600 dollars.
82	556	Oct. 6	Protector (ex officio)	César Lucas	64	Malgache	-	9	9	deed of gift of owner.
83	559	-	M, Estebe, né Desfeux	Marguerite Laide	18	Creole	-	12	12	400 dollars.
84	558	-	Jean Monet	Florimond Buillon	29	ditto	7	7	7	300 dollars.
85	546	Sept. 26	Casaubon	Charité Felicité	50	ditto	8	8	8	deed of gift of owner.
				Baptiste Vallet	32	ditto	9	9	9	400 dollars.
				Louison Dauphine	26	ditto	10	12	12	300 dollars.
				Victor Louison	7	ditto	10	12	12	deed of gift of owner.
				Henry Arabella	8 m ^{ths}	ditto	10	12	12	- ditto.
				J ⁿ Baptiste Silvain	30	ditto	12	12	12	- ditto.
				Marie Thérèse	49	ditto	12	12	12	- ditto.
				Rosalie Danseuse	11	ditto	-	13	13	- ditto.

86	555	Sept. 26	J ^{ne} B ^{te} Rouleau	Adrian L'Espiegle	2	Creole	Oct. 14	Oct. 14	Oct. 14	deed of gift of owner.
87	553	-	M. B. Trancrel	Geneviève Marie	31	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
88	564	8	M ^{lle} Isidore Dubois	Marie Faro	58	ditto	-	-	-	50 dollars.
89	568	-	Jean Monet	Pierre Henry	67	ditto	15	15	15	deed of gift of owner.
90	571	-	Louis Dubled	M ^{lle} Thérèse Jeanne	25	ditto	16	16	16	by the will of his late owner.
91	565	-	Rey	Emelie La Bouche	30	ditto	16	16	16	350 dollars.
92	570	-	M ^{lle} Louise Ragout	Pierre Joseph	12	ditto	19	19	19	deed of gift of owner.
93	576	12	P ^{re} Thomas Cleante	Pierre Laurent	14	ditto	20	20	20	parental affection.
94	573	-	M ^{lle} Lavaux	Esther Cupide	52	Malgache	20	20	20	100 dollars.
95	567	8	M ^{lle} Saulnier	François Premier	64	Indien	20	20	20	deed of gift of owner.
96	572	12	J ⁿ Jacques Tarby	Julien Marlon	34	Creole	20	21	21	- ditto.
97	578	-	Theodore Gallet	Adele Caroline	26	ditto	20	20	20	- ditto.
98	579	-	Armand Pascaud	Javotte Tranquille	41	Malgache	-	-	-	- ditto.
99	577	-	Lucie M ^{lle} Jeanne	Claurinde M ^{lle} Jeanne	28	Creole	21	21	21	parental affection.
100	575	-	Mathurine Le Gentil	Betsie M ^{lle} Jeanne	1	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
101	582	17	Les Heritiers Montenot	Eugène Etienne	38	ditto	-	-	-	-
102	580	-	L ^e Aug ^t Montenot	Betsy La Belle	38	ditto	23	23	23	deed of gift of owners.
103	586	-	J ^a B ^{te} Bigaignon	Alfred La Belle	8	ditto	-	-	-	-
104	560	-	J. F. Claude Senèque	Georgette La Belle	5	ditto	-	-	-	-
105	561	-	J. Fr ^e Duval	Evenor La Belle	4	ditto	-	-	-	-
106	562	8	J ^a Louis Neptune	Aglaie La Belle	3	ditto	-	-	-	-
107	589	17	Eugène Rivalland	Emilie La Belle	16	ditto	-	-	-	-
108	592	22	Protector (<i>ex officio</i>)	Emilie La Belle	14	ditto	-	-	-	-
109	590	-	- Ditto	Polidor La Belle	24	ditto	-	-	-	-
110	591	-	- Ditto	Eulalie Clementine	6	ditto	-	-	-	-
111	584	17	M ^{lle} J. B. Rivière	J ^a Baptiste Clementine	9	ditto	-	-	-	-
112	587	17	Julie Joseph	M ^{lle} Laure Clementine	5	ditto	-	-	-	-
113	581	17	Veuve Ternel	Elizabeth Celina Clementine	24	Mozambique	-	-	-	-
114	557	6	J ^a Mathew Fidel	Emilie Virginie Clementine	24	Malgache	-	-	-	-
				Marie Lindor	48	Creole	26	26	26	- by purchase in 1818; amount not known.
				Jean Jules Rafia	38	ditto	27	27	27	deed of gift of owner.
				Adolphe Rafia	6	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
				Francoise Rafia	2	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Esther Marie	7 m th	Indienne	-	-	-	-
				Jeanny Marie	50	Creole	26	26	26	-
				Louise Genereuse	35	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Léonore Delphine	28	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Marie Charlet	27	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Jeanne J ^a Baptiste	23	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Marie J ^a Baptiste	44	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Jean J ^a Baptiste	23	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Henry J ^a Baptiste	7	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Celine Louise	5	ditto	-	-	-	-
				Celine Joseph	22	ditto	27	27	27	deed of gift of owner.
				Edward Joseph	38	ditto	29	29	29	Enfranchising her mother and brother.
				Lindor Narcisse	5	ditto	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
				Moses Fidel	38	Malgache	-	-	-	80 dollars.
					10	Creole	-	-	-	(continued)

No. 4.—LIST OF SLAVES ENFRANCHISED—continued.

Number in the Protector's Office.	Number in the Chief Secretary's Office.	Date of Enfranchisement.	Name of Master, or Person Enfranchising.	NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.	CASTE.	When received at Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	MEANS by which ENFRANCHISEMENT has been obtained: If by Purchase, Amount stated.
115	566	1829: Oct. 8	Veuve Labistour	Adèle Gange	48	Indienne	Oct. 29	Oct. 29	Oct. 29	350 dollars.
116	599	— 22	Theophile Tamba	Marie Celeste	38	Creole	— 31	— 31	— 31	deed of gift of owner.
117	596	— 31	Charles Telfair	Sylvere Celeste	7	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
118	588	— 17	Pierre Cheramy	Dalmazy Celeste	4 1/2	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
119	595	— 22	Marie J. Houet	M ^{le} Prudence Celeste	3	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
120	600	— 26	Josephine	Eugene Celeste	31	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
121	594	— 22	Manon Marassin	Philogene Recaud	46	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
122	597	— 24	Caroline Magny	Jean Jacques	28	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
123	603	— 26	Sieur and Dame Savy	Gertrude Marie	30	ditto	Nov. 3	Nov. 3	Nov. 3	350 dollars.
124	593	— 22	Gervais St. Mark	Victor Steva	25	ditto	—	—	—	sisterly affection.
125	608	Nov. 2	Protector (ex officio)	Roméo Marie	8 m ^{ths}	ditto	—	—	—	deed of gift of owner.
126	607	— 1	— Ditto	Josephine Adèle	36 y ^{rs}	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
127	603	Oct. 26	— Ditto	Madelon Frequette	18	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
				Elizabeth Florine	37	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
				Marie Louise	29	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
				Argentine Thérèse	3 1/2	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
				Alphonse Thérèse	1	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
				Adèle Julie	20	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
				Jean Pierre Julie	3	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
128	604	—	Mr. J. L. Brue	Zoe Zozo	53	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
129	2	Nov. 2	Mr. J. L. Neptune	Zemire L'Enfantine	63	Indienne	17	17	—	— ditto.
130	585	Oct. 17	Azor aff ^{ie} Coucaud	Antoine Antonio	40	Creole	—	—	—	300 dollars.
131	601	— 26	J ⁿ F. Desbarges	Valiémé Jalémé Pangloss	5 m ^{ths}	ditto	—	—	—	100 dollars.
132	574	— 12	Victor Papien	Cautin Lecoquin	33 y ^{rs}	ditto	—	—	—	300 dollars.
133	610	— 26	Pierre T. Cleanthe	Celestine Papet	16	ditto	—	—	—	800 dollars.
134	605	— 26	Manon aff ^{ie} Vrignaud	Jeanette Marie	45	Indienne	—	—	—	deed of gift of owner.
135	3	Nov. 2	Angélique Latour	Laurencia Colletterte	6 1/2	Creole	—	—	—	— ditto.
136	6	—	Jean Agnel	Nanette Hélène	43	ditto	—	—	—	200 dollars.
137	595	July 22	M ^{le} Elise, dite Cocotte	Marie Lapropre	29	Malgache	—	—	—	deed of gift of owner.
138	1	Oct. 26	J ⁿ Baptiste Danguet	Charlette Baron	17	Creole	—	—	—	— ditto.
139	606	—	J ⁿ C. C. Bailly	Jules Pôliche	28	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
140	8	Nov. 17	Protector (ex officio)	Rosette Françoise	1 1/2	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
141	9	— 19	M ^{le} Jules Virieux	Petronille Rose	48	Indienne	—	—	—	300 dollars.
142	10	—	Jean Croush	Françoise Tenedos	3	Creole	—	—	—	deed of gift of owner.
143	609	Oct. 26	L. A. de Laroche Souvestro	Joseph Jean	45	ditto	—	—	—	— ditto.
144	11	Nov. 19	A. de Gersigny	Louise Linga	43	Malgache	—	—	—	300 dollars.
145	12	—	Jacques Languil	Joseph Pascal	58	Indienne	—	—	—	deed of gift of owner.
146	13	—	Jeannette Magon	Marguerite Adeline	11	Creole	—	—	—	300 dollars.
					5	ditto	—	—	—	deed of gift of owner.

Page	Name	Age	Sex	Profession	Residence	Date	Value	Beneficiary	Notes
147	14	Nov. 19	-	François Captieux	Julie Brune	43	Mozambique	deed of gift of owner.	
148	15	-	-	Philomèle Granger	Auguste Gustave	36	Creole	50 dollars; maternal affection.	
149	16	-	-	Paulin Duclos	Pedre Bonhomme	23	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
150	17	-	-	Ve Pigot, St. Valery	Jules Louis Labonté	3 m ^{hs}	ditto	100 dollars.	
151	18	-	-	Zereïde V. L. la Victoire	Eugenie Gertrude	17 ^{rs}	ditto	500 dollars.	
152	19	-	-	Protector (ex officio)	Jeanne Georgette	35	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
153	20	-	-	Charlot Letievre	Celeste Anjouan	38	Mozambique	- ditto.	
154	21	-	-	Lagoardette	Magdelaine Dominique	48	Indienne	paternal affection.	
155	22	-	-	Pierre Gebert	Marie Joseph Nanette	47	Creole	by Government.	
156	23	-	-	-- superintendent of the Matricule.	Lucile Nanette	28	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
157	24	-	-	N. Herault	Pierre Sophie	48	ditto	paternal affection.	
158	25	-	-	Melanie aff. Ducleron	Jean Louis Lisette	48	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
159	26	-	-	Roze	Florine L'Alert	34	Mozambique	- ditto.	
160	27	-	-	V ^e Mousie	M ^{le} Louise Victoire	6	Creole	- - - enfranchised by her brother in law.	
161	7	-	-	Henry Bruneau	M ^{le} Jeanne Bonne	78	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
162	28	-	-	André Casse	Eulalie Louison	1 1/2	ditto	- - - ditto.	
163	29	-	-	L'Abbé Charlot	Eulalie Friquin	21	ditto	300 dollars.	
164	31	-	-	Veuve Doderlien	J ^{ne} Charette Friquin	4	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
165	569	Oct. 8	-	Magnac Frères	M ^{le} Jeannette Friquin	11 m ^{ths}	ditto	800 dollars.	
166	40	Nov. 27	-	Adelaide Coëffique	Rose Montama	39 ^{rs}	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
167	4	-	-	Mathew Guigon	Aurarie Calypso	5	ditto	- ditto.	
168	34	-	-	Georgine Dumont	Emma Calypso	3	ditto	300 dollars.	
169	35	-	-	Gilles Golland	Fortuné Victoire	18	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
170	36	-	-	Desvaux de Marigny	M ^{le} Louise Médée	10	ditto	- ditto.	
171	37	-	-	Protector (ex officio)	Adolphe Dumont	25	ditto	150 dollars.	
172	38	-	-	Jeanne Babet	Honorine Dumont	20	ditto	50 dollars.	
173	39	-	-	Nicholas Rioux	Cecilia Dumont	18	ditto	deed of gift of owner.	
174	41	-	-	Theotiste Boëtte	Corine Percée	31	Malgache	- ditto.	
175	42	-	-	Louis Radegonde	Michel Morin	29	Creole	deed of gift of owner.	
176	43	-	-	M ^{le} Juliette Basile	Félicité Lafleur	63	Malgache	- ditto.	
177	500	July 15	-	Edw. Dorlans Burquez	Eugène James Marie	27 m ^{ths}	Creole	deed of gift of owner.	
					Delphine Brune	21 ^{rs}	ditto		
					Adelaide Brune	19	ditto		
					Charles Brune	18 m ^{ths}	ditto		
					Marine Marinson	63 ^{rs}	Malgache		
					François Marinson	23	Creole		
					Charlotte Marinson	28	ditto		
					Pierre Marinson	4	ditto		
					Tomsal Levieux	63	Malgache		
					Lais Lacoureuse	27	ditto		
					Lavendange Edouard	21	Creole		
					Isidore Carbonary	28	ditto		

deed of gift of owner. 50 dollars; maternal affection. deed of gift of owner. 100 dollars. 500 dollars. deed of gift of owner. - - - ditto. paternal affection. by Government. deed of gift of owner. paternal affection. deed of gift of owner. - - - ditto. - - - enfranchised by her brother in law. deed of gift of owner. - - - ditto. 300 dollars. deed of gift of owner. 800 dollars. deed of gift of owner. sisterly affection. deed of gift of owner. - - - ditto. 150 dollars. 50 dollars. deed of gift of owner. - - - ditto. 250 dollars. 200 dollars. - - - under an engagement to serve Mr. Burquez 3 years from this time. (continued)

No. 4.—List of Slaves Enfranchised—continued.

Number in the Protector's Office.	Number in the Chief Secretary's Office.	Date of Enfranchisement.	Name of Master, or Person Enfranchising.	NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.	C A S T E.	When received at Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	MEANS by which ENFRANCHISEMENT has been obtained: If by Purchase, Amount stated.
178	598	1829: Oct. 22	Anne René Legentil	Clarine Jasmin	12	Creole	Dec. 5	Dec. 8	Dec. 8	deed of gift of owner.
179	44	Dec. 1	Henriette Volséble	Auguste L'Aiquille	53	Indien	12	19	14	- ditto.
180	45	-	Aimé Henry	Françoise Perrine	42	Creole	-	-	-	enfranchising his mother.
181	46	-	Protector (<i>ex officio</i>)	Victorine Marie	37	ditto	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
182	47	-	- Ditto	Adolphe Marie	5	ditto	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
183	48	-	- Ditto	Amélie Marie	1	ditto	-	-	-	100 dollars.
184	49	-	Robert Gestin	François Tabardin	66	Malgache	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
185	50	-	Poupponne Gregoire	Prosper Indépendant	38	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
186	51	-	Casimir aff ^{ie} Collard	Esther Julie	41	Mozambique	-	-	-	paternal affection.
187	52	Nov. 30	Laurent Barbé	Marcelin Casimir	23	Creole	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
188	53	-	Protector (<i>ex officio</i>)	Françoise d'Houdetot	37	ditto	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
189	484	-	- Ditto	Josephine d'Houdetot	28 ^{mas}	ditto	-	-	-	- 1,500 dollars for herself and child.
190	53	Oct. 17	Louis Gèneviève	Julie Rose	40 ^{7^{rs}}	ditto	-	-	-	- by the will of the late Sieur Goupille.
191	54	-	Angelique Maudave	Denise Rose	64	Malgache	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
192	55	June 30	Hon. Colonel Barry	Gèneviève Lindor	31	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
193	56	Dec. 10	-	Zaire Gèneviève	9	Creole	-	-	-	- ditto.
194	57	-	-	Alfred Gèneviève	5	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
195	58	-	-	Gèneviève Maudave	11	ditto	-	-	-	enfranchised by his brother.
196	59	-	-	Anne Marie Maudave	8	ditto	-	-	-	800 dollars.
197	60	-	-	Seraphine Marie	6	ditto	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
198	61	-	-	Jean Edward Marie	4	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
199	62	-	-	Charlotte Marie	4 ^{mas}	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
200	63	-	-	Athalie Virginie	27	Malgache	-	-	-	- ditto.
		-	-	Celestine Sophie	12	Creole	-	-	-	- ditto.
		-	-	Augustine Sophie	11	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
		-	-	Joseph Candy	43	ditto	-	-	-	enfranchised by his brother.
		-	-	Jean Marie Legraveur	31	ditto	-	-	-	800 dollars.
		-	-	Esther Tacia	33	ditto	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
		-	-	Caroline Tacia	6	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
		-	-	Elodie Tacia	3 ^{mas}	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
		-	-	Marie Rosse	43 ^{7^{rs}}	Indienne	-	-	-	- ditto.
		-	-	Alexandrine Roblet	17	Creole	-	-	-	maternal affection.
		-	-	Louis Numa Roblet	20	ditto	-	-	-	deed of gift of owner.
		-	-	Théophile Manon	35	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
		-	-	Pauline Louise	16	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.
		-	-	Hermine Gèneviève	4 ¹ / ₂	ditto	-	-	-	- ditto.

No. 5.—LIST OF SLAVES REMAINING IN LEGAL PROGRESS OF MANUMISSION,
on the 24th December 1829.

Date of Application.	NAME OF SLAVE.	Number of Individuals.	NAME OF OWNER.	If by Purchase, Amount Paid.	REMARKS.
1829: June 24	Bertrand Laplaine	1	Le S ^r Marcelin Barry	-	-- deed of gift of owner. Opposed by one of the owner's creditors, and the affair now in the Court of First Instance.
- - -	Marie Jeanne Honorine Toussaint Honoré Ernest Agnès Georgine Edouard Pierre Jean	Aniès - 10	Allain Jacques	\$ 400	{ For the purpose of being enfranchised. The motive inducing him to enfranchising these ten slaves being his consideration for them as relations. Delayed by the party, by not having inserted notice in the Gazette.
July 27	Charlot Joseph	1	Heirs of J. B. Colas	his master's dying request.	-- opposed by the heirs, and judgment given in their favour. Protector deemed it unadvisable to appeal.
- 29	Frederick Alcide	1	Veuve Hesry Desvaux	-	-- deed of gift of owner. Delayed by the neglect of party.
Aug. 4	Florine Marie Edouard Marie	- } 2	Jean Félix Gourlier	-	{ Deed of gift of owner. Delayed by the party not having inserted notice in the Gazette.
- - -	Françoise Marie Anaïs Marie Felix Marie	- } 3	Jean Félix Gourlier	-	
- 5	Jérôme Bibiche	1	Late M ^{le} Joseph Veuve Labutte.	-	-- enfranchised by Mr. Lavoquer, in conformity with the will of the said late Veuve Labutte. Wanting papers from Seychelles.
- 11	Zoé Laperle	1	Juliette Mouria	\$ 125	-- for the purpose of being enfranchised. Left in arrear by the party.
- - -	Lais Lacourse	1	J. F. Dioré	-	-- deed of gift of owner. Left in arrear by the party.
- 21	Marguerite L'Eveillé	1	Late Chipault dit Bérichon	\$ 300	-- enfranchised by the Protector "ex officio." Delayed by the party not having inserted notice in the Gazette.
- 24	Léocadie Yvonne Marie Yvonne	- } 2	N. Pugin	-	{ Deed of gift of owner. Left in arrear by the party.
Sept. 10	Fanchin Bosquet	1	Pierre Bosquet	\$ 300	-- enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio." Left in arrear by the party.
- - -	Polidor Charlette Emilien Charlette	- } 2	{ Madame Desveaux De Marigny	-	{ Deed of gift of owner. Left in arrear by the party.
Oct. 10	Armand Lizeé	1	Madame Reader	-	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Brigitte Abeilard	1	Héloïse Abeilard	\$ 130	-- for the purpose of being enfranchised, she being her sister.
- 13	Marie Louise Marie	1	Grace Bouquillard	\$ 100	-- purchased by her father for the purpose of enfranchising her.
- 14	Aurélie Louis Anne Marie Jules Charles Auguste Victor Marguerite Dauphine François Euphrasie	- } 11	J ⁿ B ^{te} Couve	-	-- deed of gift of owner; enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio." Delayed by the party not having inserted the notice in the Gazette.
- 21	Colas François	1	Anne Marie	-	-- enfranchised by his daughter, the said Anne Marie.
- - -	Emilie Valentin	1	Keating	-	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Nérée Verloppe	1	Morin Lasablionière	\$ 500	-- for the purpose of being enfranchised.

(continued)

No. 5.—LIST OF SLAVES remaining in Legal Progress or Manumission—*continued.*

Date of Application.	NAME OF SLAVE.	Number of Individuals.	NAME OF OWNER.	If by Purchase, Amount paid.	REMARKS.
1829 :					
Oct. 26	Clarisse Arlove - - } Enest Arlove - - } Emilien Arlove - - }	3	Jean Marie Barclay - - -	- - -	being his sister and nephews.
- 28	Michelle Narcisse - - -	1	Hélène Lisle - - -	- - -	- - the said Michelle Narcisse being her brother.
Nov. 3	Alexandrine Roblet - - } Louis Numa Roblet - - }	2	Pélagie Roblet - - -	- - -	being her children.
- 9	Mélanie Delort - - -	1	Laurent Barbé - - -	- - -	deed of gift of owner.
- 10	Cécilia Mariette - - } Adolphe Mariette - - }	3	Font, aîné - - -	- - -	- - - ditto.
- 11	Clara Mariette - - - } Marguerite dite Poisson - - }	1	Veuve Poisson - - -	\$ 120	- - enfranchised by the Protector "ex officio."
- - -	Marion Clémentine - - -	1	René Labergerie - - -	\$ 80	- - - ditto - - ditto.
- - -	Céline Françoise - - -	1	Héloïse Mathieu - - -	- - -	- - the said Céline being her mother-in-law.
- - -	Josselin Tave - - - } Edouard Tave - - - }	2	Louis Bertillie - - -	- - -	- - deed of gift of owner; (opposi- by creditors.)
- 17	Augustin Saint - - -	1	Madame Veuve Gachet - - -	\$ 450	- - for the purpose of enfranchising himself.
- - -	Amédé Zamor - - - } Thomy Zamor - - - }	2	Madame Froberville - - -	sum not known	- - enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio;" the said Amédé and Thomy Zamor having been bought in 1805 or 1806, by their father, Zamor, who died at Madagascar.
- 18	Hipolite Lebon - - - } Athanas Sérieuse - - - }	4	- - Le C ^{te} du Garreau de S ^r Aulaire.	- - -	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Eugénie Sérieuse - - - } Théodore Sérieuse - - - }				
- 19	Catherine Jean - - - } Marie Louise - - - } Esther - - - } Charles - - - } Céline - - - } Ferdinand - - - } J ⁿ Baptiste - - - } Manon - - - } Eugène - - - } Coridon Vouardin - - - } Marceline Richemond - - - }	11	The late Mr. Lehelle - - -	- - -	- - enfranchised by Guillaume Mil, executor, according to the will of the said late Mr. Lehelle; (opposition by creditors).
- - -	Jean Jacques - - - } Jean Pierre - - - }	2	L ^{re} Adélaïde Mayeur - - -	- - -	{ The said Jean Jacques and Jean Pierre being her children.
- 23	Remond Bienaimé - - -	1	Late J. B. Duval - - -	- - -	- - enfranchised by the Protector, in conformity with the will of the said J. B. Duval.
- - -	Flore Bienaimé - - -	1	J ⁿ Eugène Duval - - -	- - -	deed of gift of owner.
- 24	Eugene Beauharnais - - } Louise Beauharnais - - }	4	Jean Baptiste Papair - - -	- - -	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Henry Beauharnais - - - } Eliza Beauharnais - - - }				
- - -	Argentine Antoinette - - - } Emilien Antoinette - - - }	2	Beaugeard - - -	\$ 850	{ For the purpose of enfranchising them.
- 25	Cimaté Sanschagrin - - -	1	Lesur - - -	\$ 200	- - this case under investigation, it appearing to the Protector that the slave is entitled to his liberty free of expenses, according to the will of his late master.
- 26	Basile Aristide - - -	1	René Jubeau - - -	- - -	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Célerine Rencontre - - -	1	Philogène Valleau - - -	\$ 356	- - enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio."
- - -	Zéline Adelle - - -	1	Joseph Laguerre - - -	- - -	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Louise Marie - - -	1	Ed. Barbencé - - -	- - -	- - - ditto.
- 27	Sophie Chapron - - -	1	Pierre Chapron - - -	\$ 140	for enfranchising herself.
- 30	Caroline Françoise - - -	1	S ^{rs} Quescy - - -	\$ 300	- - enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio"
- - -	Rosette Bamboux - - -	1	Antoine dit Bamboux - - -	- - -	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Zélide Nelson - - -	1	Eugénie Guillaume - - -	\$ 100	the said Zélide being her mother.
- - -	Eliza Marie - - -	1	Rosalie Marcaille - - -	- - -	deed of gift of owner.

No. 5.—LIST of SLAVES remaining in Legal Progress of Manumission—*continued.*

Date of Application.	NAME OF SLAVE.	Number of Individuals.	NAME OF OWNER.	If by Purchase, Amount Paid.	REMARKS.
1829: Nov. 30	Dafnie Françoise	1	Late Sophie Roussel	-	deed of gift of owner.
Dec. 1	Henriette Julie	1	Emilie Câmoir	-	- ditto.
- 2	Noël Joseph Elisée	1	Madame Nollin	-	- ditto.
- -	Félicité Discret	1	Marion Lapeyre	\$ 700	-- the said Félicité being her grand-daughter.
- 3	Aurélie Perrine Ernestine Marie	2	Late Mr. Pipon	-	-- enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio;" the said Aurélie having been given by her said master to her mother, named Perrine, since dead.
- -	Jardin Fleuri	1	F. C. Geffroy	\$ 400	-- enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio."
- -	Pélagie Jeannetor Héloïse Jeannetor	2	Joseph Mathieu	-	being his mother and sister.
- 4	Gertrude La Beuglose	1	Armand Hermans	-	deed of gift of owner.
- 8	Jean Baptiste Caroline Baptiste	2	Late Louis Roche	-	-- ditto -- -- enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio."
- -	François La Bonté	1	Late J ⁿ Bap ^{te} St. Amour	-	-- enfranchised by Jean Baptiste Hector, executor, in conformity with the will of J. B. St. Amour.
- -	Arthemise Mirza	1	Madame Azor Orange	\$ 300	-- for the purpose of being enfranchised.
- 9	Zaire Marie	1	Jean Antoine	-	being his mother-in-law.
- 10	Marie Uranie Emilien	5	Pèdre Prioux	-	being his children.
	Gustave				
	Ernest	3	Pas de Beaulieu	-	deed of gift of owner.
	Léotine				
	Colas				
	Fanchette Jean	4	J ⁿ Joseph Manique	\$ 88	The said Jean Joseph Manique having purchased these four individuals from Mr. Jean Raoult for enfranchising them, being his wife and children.
	Marie Joseph Joseph				
	Virgile Charlette	1	Henry Santussan	\$ 300	-- enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio."
- 14	Marie Thérèse dite Mimie				
- -	Cherubin dit Roblet	1	-	-	-- deed of gift of owner. Enfranchised by the Protector, "ex officio."
- 15	Jean Emile	1	William Herod	\$ 60	for the purpose of enfranchising him.
- 16	Pierre Fidel	1	Veuve Sergent Pasquet	-	deed of gift of owner.
- -	Emilien Marianne	1	Esther Cupide	\$ 100	-- purchased by his mother, the said Esther, for enfranchising him.
- -	Amanda Pomone Alphonso Nancy	2	Charles Pauquy, aîné	-	deed of gift of owner.
- -	Delphine Charlotte Jean	3	Madame Hardy	\$ 400	-- for the purpose of being enfranchised.
- -	Eliza Liberté	1	P. Sicard	-	deed of gift of owner.
- -	Denis Balthasard	1	Betti aff ^{le} Buttié	-	by owner, with a view to marriage.
- -	Louison Eulalie Jacob Frédéric Joseph Caroline Pauline	11	Late M ^{lle} Broudou	-	deed of gift of owner, by will.
	Mélanie				
	Eliza Charles Félix	}	Liberté	-	
	Carcelle				

(continued)

No 5.—LIST of SLAVES remaining in Legal Progress of Manumission—*continued.*

Date of Application.	NAME OF SLAVE.	Number of Individuals.	NAME OF OWNER.	If by Purchase, Amount Paid.	REMARKS.
1829 : Dec. 19 -	Antoine Mongout -	1	Hypolit� Fabre -	-	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	F�lix Jacques -	1	Perrine Jubeau -	\$ 250	- - for the purpose of enfranchising him, the said F�lix being her brother.
- - -	Volcy Manancorive -	1	Perrier -	-	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Marcelin Jeanny -	1	Government slave -	\$ 400	- - paid to Government, for the purpose of being enfranchised.
- 21 -	Marie Flamand - Delphine Flamand -	2	Th�r�se Flamand -	-	being her children.
- 22 -	Eug�ne Laura -	1	Pierre Cochon -	\$ 100	paternal affection.
- - -	C�leste Philo -	1	Rolando's heirs -	-	deed of gift of owner.
- 24 -	Babet - - - Blaize - - - Isoline - - -	3	Auguste Rouget -	-	deed of gift of owner.
- - -	Marie Louis -	1	Poumaroux -	\$ 130	- - enfranchised by the Protector, the said Marie Louis purchased by his father.
		159			

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, }
24th December 1829.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

LIST of SLAVES included in the Protector and Guardian of Slaves' Return of the 24th June last, as being in a state of Legal Manumission, and whose Acts of Enfranchisement have not yet been obtained.

Date of Application.	NAME OF SLAVE.	Number of Individuals.	NAME OF OWNER.	If by Purchase, Amount paid.	REMARKS.
1829 : May 12 -	Z�line Madelon -	1	Veuve Lambert -	-	- - deed of gift of owner. This case opposed by Madame Lambert's son, as heir to his father, and is still in court undecided.
- 13 -	-- Louis Bouvery, Charles Bouvery, and Ang�lique Bouvery, their mother.	3	-- belonging to the late Bartelemy Bouvery, who, at his death, willed the said Ang�lique Bouvery her freedom.	-	- - enfranchisement to be proceeded in by the Protector, the terms of the will not having been carried into execution. Opposed by creditors whose claims are disputed, and the affair is in court undecided.
June 6 -	Cupidon L'Amour -	1	J. F. Deschiens -	-	- - deed of gift of owner. Delayed by neglect of the party.
- 17 -	S�raphine Fran�oise -	1	Feu F�s Pitcher, a�n� -	-	- - deed of gift of owner, by will. This case is disputed by the heirs-at-law of the master's wife (decided), and proceedings have been commenced by the Protector.

Protector of Slaves Office, Port Louis, }
24th December 1829.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 6.—LETTER from the Protector of Slaves to Colonel the Hon. G. A. Barry, Chief Secretary to Government, &c. &c. &c.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis,
7th November 1829.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to request you will be pleased to lay before his Excellency the Governor, the following case for his consideration :

A free woman of colour, named Celestine Paul, emancipated, by her last will and testament, her negress Jeane and her five children, bequeathing to them at the same time, 500 dollars, and to another of her slaves, named Florimond, she gave the power of purchasing his own freedom, but without fixing any time or value upon the same.

The validity of the will was contested by the brother and other relations of the deceased, upon grounds which it were needless to enter into. By the judgment of the Court of First Instance, the will was declared void, but an appeal having been made at my instance, the Court of Appeal reversed that judgment, established the validity of the will, and declared Jeanne and her five children, entitled to their freedom.

But with regard to the slave Florimond, the Court directed that he should be held bound, with the assistance of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves, to avail himself of the power given him by the will, by purchasing his own freedom at the price fixed by the appraisers, of 450 dollars, within one month from the date of the judgment, or in default thereof, he should be considered as having lost his right so to do, and be comprised in the number of slaves ordered to be sold by the Court.

The sum at which Florimond's liberty has been thus estimated is certainly much below its value (it being worth at least 700 dollars), but, unfortunately, the very short time that the Court has allowed for the payment of it, renders the advantage altogether nugatory, and will eventually deprive him of the benefit intended by the testatrix ; for having no money of his own, nor any thing to offer as security for it but his labour, he will be compelled to renounce the boon which I have laboured to secure for him, unless some means can be adopted to provide the amount of his appraised value, on or before the 20th instant.

Called upon, therefore, as I am by the Court to assist this man, and bearing in mind the favour with which every measure tending to emancipation is regarded by His Majesty's Government, I have thought it my duty to bring this case to the knowledge of his Excellency the Governor, with the hope that some fund may be found whence the sum in question may be advanced, taking the man's security for re-payment by monthly instalments, from the produce of his labour and industry.

Florimond's character is good. He now follows the occupation of a fisherman, and assures me that he is capable of earning eight dollars per month beyond the sum necessary to his maintenance.

I have the honour to be, Sir, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) R. M. Thomas,

Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

(A true copy.)

R. M. Thomas, Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

JUDGMENT of the COURT of APPEAL in the Case of the Slave *Florimond*, and others, belonging to the late *Celestine Paul*: October 9th, 1829.

George the Fourth, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to all and singular, to whom these Presents shall come, sendeth greeting.

ON Friday, the 9th day of October 1829, at 10 o'clock in the morning, at the public sitting of the Court of Appeal of Mauritius, on suits of civil and commercial law, his Honor, Edward Berens Blackburn, Chief Judge and Commissary of Justice, presiding the Court ; Messrs. Virieux, Vice-President ; Judges Moirn, De la Chenardiere, May, Arnaud, being on the bench ; M. Le Febvre de Marcy, substitute to the Procureur-general, present ; M. Leopold Evariste Canet, sworn clerk, in attendance ; Mr. Richard Morris Thomas, Protector and Guardian of Slaves in this colony, and as such, patron and guardian of Jeanne, Philomele, Furcy, Gustave and Chery, and of Florimond, who latterly belonged to the succession of Marie Louise, a widow to Paul, appealing from the judgment of the 13th of April last ; Mr. Henry Koenig, attorney, acting as counsel ; Claudine Esther, natural administratrix to the goods and legal rights of her daughter, Marie Louise, a minor, who, according to the tenor of a testament, now become an object of process, is legatary portioner of Celestine Paul, who resides in the district of Riviere du Rempart, and likewise appeals from the said judgment of the 13th of April last ; Mr. Chevreau, attorney, acting as counsel *versus* Jean Pierre Paul, heir for a moiety to the property of Marie Louise, a widow to Paul, his mother, residing in the East suburb, and now before the Court ; Mr. Adrian acting as attorney, and Mr. Debessé as advocate ; Mr. André Mangeot, Civil Commissary to the district of Riviere du Rempart, universal legatary, *sous benefice d'inventaire*, of the said Celestine Paul, and her executor, summoned before the Court, and having Mr. Remono, attorney, to act for him as counsel.

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MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Demands:

Mr. Thomas, as Protector and Guardian of Slaves, demanded that the Court might be pleased to give him a certificate of his declaration, that (according to the dispositions of Articles 464 and 465 of the Code of Procedure Civile) he wished to modify, or rather, to explain the demands previously asked by him in the Court of First Instance, as well as before the higher Court, and even to make additions thereto, and to request the Court to set at naught the judgment, and appeal therefrom, of the 3d of April last, and also to declare that Jean Pierre Paul cannot be allowed his demands, and, at all events, to adjudge the same against him, and without taking into account the declaration of the surveyors, as stated by Messrs. Berger, Baudot and Rouillard, to order that the succession of Marie Louise, a widow to Paul, and mother to Jean Pierre Paul, and to Celestine Paul, shall be so divided as to effect a due execution of the last will and testament of the said Celestine Paul, as far as relates to the slaves on whom she wished to confer the benefit of freedom; and that accordingly, and to effect the same, the slaves in question shall become the lot or portion of Celestine Paul, save and except such measures as the Court in its wisdom and justice may order, to prevent the said disposition from proving prejudicial to the rights and interests of Jean Pierre Paul; and that the Court, nevertheless, might be pleased to condemn the said Paul to pay the costs of suit due in both jurisdictions. Claudine Esther demanded that the Court might be pleased to set at naught the appeal and judgment of the 13th April last, and to adjudge her demands in her favour, as the same were set forth in the Court of First Instance, to the end that Jean Pierre Paul should not be allowed his demands; and to condemn the same to the costs of suit. Jean Pierre Paul demanded that the Court might be pleased to set the said appeal at naught, and to order that the judgment in question shall have its full effect, as final and in last resort, and to declare it inadmissible and illegal to support and confirm Mr. Thomas, as Protector and Guardian of Slaves, in all his conclusions, reserve and exemptions, and to condemn the same to the costs of suit, the defendant duly making his reserves as to the rest. Mr. Mangeot demanded that the Court might be pleased to grant him a certificate of his declaration: that he relied on the justice of the Court, and required the costs of suit to be adjudged against the other party.

Facts:

IN the dispositions of a judgment of the Court of First Instance of this island, under date of the 13th of April last, the following has been stated and established with regard to the ensuing questions: 1st, Whether Celestine Paul having, as co-heiress, a common right with Jean Pierre Paul to the property of their deceased mother, Marie Louise, a widow to Paul, has been justified in disposing by her testament, under date of the 23d June 1827, of her own accord, and without the assent of her co-heir, of the objects belonging in common to the succession of the late Marie Louise, widow to Paul? 2d. Whether the document, declaratory of the survey and valuation made of the property in question, is regular and valid at law? Whereas it is sure and certain, *de facto*, that the articles mentioned in the declaration made by the surveyors, wholly depend on and belong to the inheritance of Marie Louise, widow to Paul, to which Jane Pierre Paul, and the late Celestine Paul, brother and sister to the same, and heir to Marie Louise, widow to Paul, have an equal legal title; and whereas the property remained in the same state of community between the said co-heirs until after the decease of Celestine Paul; and whereas, in so far, and thus qualified, neither of them could dispose of the same but as part of the articles fixed by the succession, without (if acting otherwise) being at variance with the sacred principles on which the right of property is founded (whatever besides, may militate in favour of the said dispositions): Whereas, the said declaration of the surveyors, as deposited in the registry, in the form of an Act, bearing date the 10th of November last, is, in all other respects regular and in due form, and declares the objects surveyed and valued to be indivisible.

Considering the dispositions of Article 1021 of the Code Civil on such grounds, advert- ing to the demands of the Ministère Public, tending to have the dispositions of the testa- ment of Celestine declared null and void, in so far; and confirming, as far as necessary, the declaration of the surveyors aforesaid, in order to make the same valid and lawful; we have ordered, and order, that at the request, suit and diligence of the demandant, auction shall take place in the usual form, in our presence, in order to cause the sale on judgment of the articles mentioned in the said declaration of surveyors to be effected, so that the profits accruing therefrom may be divided between the lawful claimants, as it shall be legally seen to appertain: We do condemn the defendants in the costs of suit, and to pay the expense for the auction, making such other reserves as may be lawful. As to the rest, we adjudge the demands of the parties against the same, and do declare the present judgment to be applicable to all concerned in the said suit, and order it to be duly intimated to all parties and their respective attorneys. Jean Pierre Paul has made the clauses and conditions of the sale by auction in like manner as the same was ordered to be done by the said judg- ment, and has caused them (the said clauses and conditions) to be deposited in the registry of the Courts on the 14th of May last; and afterwards has caused them to be intimated by the proper attorney to whomsoever it should concern, on the 16th of May, same year. A preparatory sale on judgment has taken place on the 15th of July last. In the meanwhile, that is to say, on the 20th of the said month of May, Claudine Esther appealed from the judgment of the 13th of April last aforesaid; and on the 4th of June next ensuing, a judg- ment has been passed by default against Mr. Dubor, a notary, then patron and guardian of the

the above named slaves, by virtue of which judgment the parties have been ordered to reappear at the session for the month of July, that the whole suit might be adjudged at one and the same time, between the same. On the 19th of June, Mr. Dubor, as patron, has addressed a petition to the President of the Court of First Instance, to the end that he should be relieved and discharged from the said guardianship, in consequence of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves being in full exercise of his functions in this colony; a judgment to the same end and object was passed the same day; and by virtue of an Act under date of the 10th July, Mr. Thomas, as Guardian of Slaves, appealed from the judgment of the 13th of April, after the parties had appeared at the session of August; and having asked a decision on the very matter in question, a judgment was passed, protracting the suit until the process at issue between the parties above-mentioned and Mary Anne Bruny, concerning the reserves claimed by her as to the property of Celestine Paul, should have been finally adjudged. The said Mary Anne Bruny having been cast out of her demand, the suit was fixed on the rolls for the session of September. On considering the demands previously stated, and deposited in the registry on the 17th of the said month, the Protector and Guardian of Slaves has altered, modified and explained his hereinbefore-mentioned demands. On the said day, after hearing the counsels of both parties in their respective pleadings, a judgment was passed, ordering the matter to be made a subject of deliberation, and the documents relative thereto to be communicated to the Ministère Public, that the same may deliver their opinion on the case. The suit, thus far advanced, gave rise to the following questions at law; viz. is the judgment of the 13th of April last to be confirmed or annulled? Or, on the whole, are the demands of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves to be adjudged in his favour? And what is to be decreed as to the costs of suit? The Court having deliberated, conformably to its preparatory judgment, as passed on the sitting of the 19th September last, when the Procureur-general was heard, setting forth his opinion of the case, respecting the communication which had been given to him of the documents thereto relating at the sitting of the 17th September, when likewise both parties were heard in their respective pleadings.

Considering, that when testaments are to be executed, it is a fixed and incontrovertible principle of law, that that interpretation should be adopted which best manifests the intention of the testator, and best fulfils his last wishes: considering that the testatrix, Celestine Paul, had a common and joint interest with her brother, Jean Pierre Paul, in the property of the slaves, on whom, by her testament, she declared, that she intended to confer the benefit of freedom, and that in doing the same the said Celestine Paul has used and disposed lawfully of her interest in the said slaves; and also, that at least, as to the half of the number of those individuals which fell to her share, the dispositions of her testament can in no wise or manner be deemed null and void, as evinced by Article 1021 of the Code: considering therefore, that the rights of Celestine Paul having been transferred *in toto* to the said slaves, the latter may, in some measure, be considered as co-owners, as far as their freedom is concerned, with Jean Pierre Paul, and are thereby, in a mixed and indefinite state, between freedom and slavery, a state which does not come within any known provision of law, and to which therefore no practical principle or disposition of common law can be applicable; and that in that particular case the fundamental principles of nature and equity ought to be strictly adhered to, by securing the rights of one party without acting prejudicially to the interests of the other, and especially by setting forth the immutable maxims consecrated by the Roman law, namely, that "*Libertas omnibus rebus favorabilior est,*" and likewise, that "*Pro libertate multa contra juris rigorem constituta sunt;*" and more particularly so in that case, where, in compliance with the rules of common law, the testamentary dispositions in question might be declared null and void, by means of a true application of this principle, which may be drawn from another maxim of the Roman law, namely, that "*Libertatis favore multa contra regulas juris constituta sunt, quod ver legem Falcidiam, non minantur libertates, item quod libertates non revocentur ubi non valet testamentum:*" considering further, that even though it should be contrary to the nature of legal principles, that the individuals aforesaid should remain in their present condition, that is, half free, and half slaves; and that it is the duty of the judges to relieve them from the same by attending, on the one hand, to their freedom and the will of the testatrix, and on the other, by preserving entire the pecuniary interests of Jean Pierre Paul accruing from his joint right of property with the testatrix, Celestine Paul, to the said slaves: considering, in fine, as far as relates to the particular legacy made to Heloise, daughter to Claudine Esther, that Celestine Paul could lawfully dispose of her property up to the due amount of interests falling to her share: on these grounds the Court has set, and does set the appeals and judgment appealed from at naught, in so far as the same declares the dispositions of the testament of Celestine Paul, relative to the enfranchisement conferred on certain individuals, to be null and void, and equally so as far as concerns the legacies therein contained and expressed on behalf of Marie Heloise, daughter to Claudine Esther, and likewise as far as concerns the faculty given to Florimond, of redeeming his own self. Amending the same, the Court orders, that a division shall be made of the slaves who are put in manumission, and the value of whom is finally estimated in like manner as has been stated in the Declaration of Survey, under date of the 4th November 1828, this division being so made as that the moiety of the value of the said slaves may be given, in share, to Jean Pierre Paul, who will be paid for the same on and from the price arising from all kinds of property belonging to the community of goods between him and his sister, Celestine Paul; the other part of the judgment shall be executed, in so far as has been ordered by the same, at the suit, request, prosecution and diligence of Jean Pierre Paul;

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Paul; auctions shall take place in the usual forms, in order to effect the sale on judgment of the articles mentioned in the declaration of surveyors in question, in which sale are not to be included the slaves in manumission, and of whom a division is to be made: and when Jean Pierre Paul shall have been put in possession of his rights, the Protector and Guardian of Slaves shall legalize that enfranchisement, save and except, that in case the said Jean Pierre Paul shall not obtain the full enjoyment of his rights, the Court will cause such a judgment to be passed as may be thought necessary. It is besides ordered by the court, that Florimond, with the assistance of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves, shall be bound to use the power of redeeming himself, as conceded to the same at the price fixed for the value of his person in the said declaration and valuation of surveyors, in the space of one month from the notification of the present judgment, in default of which he shall lose his right of redemption, and be included in the number of slaves to be sold. All the other rights severally arising in the same suit may be made reserves for and set forth, if there be occasion for the same, in the manner lawful and just:

Orders, That the fines shall be returned to the proper persons.

Condemns Jean Pierre Paul to pay the costs of suit to all the parties concerned, a third of which costs may be usefully employed in defraying the expense for the auction.

(signed on the original)

Edward B. Blackburn,
Evariste Canet.

WE command and order all sergeants-at-law, on receiving the proper requisition, to cause the present judgment to be put in full execution, and our Attorney-general and King's Advocate to see the same accomplished, and all public officers whomsoever to afford assistance to that effect, when legally required. In witness whereof, the said judgment has been signed by the president and the clerk.

Collated. (signed) *Evariste Canet.*

IN the year 1829, on the 21st day of October, at the request of Jean Pierre Paul, heir to half the property of Marie Louise, a widow to Paul, his mother, residing in this town, in the East suburb, and constituting for his counsel Mr. Adrian, attorney, whose office is situate near the Place de l'Eglise; I, Louis Chauvin, sergeant-at-law, practising in the courts of Mauritius, and residing in Port-Louis, Government-street, notified and gave the present copy to Mr. Richard Morris Thomas, Protector and Guardian of Slaves in this colony, and as such Protector and Guardian of Jeanne, Antoinette, Philomèle, Furcy, Gustave and Chery, and likewise of Florimond, who formerly belonged to the late Marie Louise, a widow to Paul, in his own office, situate in Government-street, and speaking to himself.

The present is a copy of a judgment passed by the Court of Appeal of this colony, on the 9th of October of the present month, and I do declare that the same has been likewise notified to Mr. Henry Kœnig, his counsel, as he, the said Henry Kœnig, must be well aware; and speaking to himself in the same place as aforesaid, delivered into his hands the present copy, making, for the sake of the same, all such reserves as are just and lawful.

(signed) *L. Chauvin.*

Mr. Richard Morris Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

(A true translation.)

Thomas Lavergue,
A^s Translator to Government, and Interpreter
to the Courts.

LETTER from the Hon. G. A. Barry, Chief Secretary to Government,
to R. M. Thomas, Esq., Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Chief Secretary's Office, Port-Louis,
11th November 1829.

Sir

HIS Excellency the Governor has had before him your letter of the 7th instant, submitting for his Excellency's consideration the case of certain slaves emancipated by the last will and testament of a free woman of colour, named Celestine Paul, and with reference to the sentence of the court, which enables one of the slaves in question, named Florimond, to purchase his liberty for a sum of 450 dollars, requesting that means may be devised for putting him in possession of the requisite funds; such advance to be repaid by monthly instalments from the produce of Florimond's industry; and I have the honour to acquaint you, that his Excellency has, in reply, directed me to observe, that the assistance now applied for would, if granted, open a door to such a number of apparently similar applications, that his Excellency fears it cannot be granted without some more especially strong features in the case of Florimond being pointed out by you. I have, &c. &c.

(signed)

G. A. Barry,
Chief Secretary to Government.

(A true copy).
F. E. Viret, Private Secretary.

No. 7.—LIST of SLAVES who have been certified to the Protector as sufficiently instructed in the Religion they profess, to know the Nature and Obligation of an OATH, from the 25th June to the 24th December 1829.

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Report from
Protector of Slaves.

NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.	NAME OF PROPRIETOR.	By whom Certificate is granted.	REMARKS.
Léonore - - -	45	Captain Dick, Plaines Wilhems.	The Rev. R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chaplain and Chaplain to the Forces.	
Chackemer - - -	36			
André - - -	55			
Jupiter - - -	50			
Antoine - - -	73			
Flore - - -	48			
Louise - - -	20			
Jeanne - - -	12			
Michel Morin - - -	57	Charles Telfair, Esq. Beau Manguier, in the quarter of Riv. du Rempart.	The Rev. R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chaplain and Chaplain to the Forces.	
Atys Le Gros - - -	19			
Henry Jacques - - -	32			
Eugene Morin - - -	25			
Célestin Victric - - -	20			
Bajazet Tamby - - -	43			
Jean Charles - - -	60			
Pierre Mir - - -	27			
Amédée Paul - - -	19			
Philogène Cather - - -	39			
Janot Zémi - - -	31			
St. Michel Morin - - -	20			
Toinette Foi - - -	34			
Marie Joseph Mir - - -	21			
Victorine Victor - - -	30			
Pierre Jean Paul - - -	29			
Adéline Morin - - -	23			
Celéstine Fifine Austin	16			
Jeanneton Le Gros - - -	37			
Adélaïde Adela - - -	27			
Dorothée Louis - - -	24			
Delphine Arsé - - -	26			
Hortanse Hors - - -	29			
Félicité Morin - - -	27			
Jeanne Paul - - -	27			
Anna Garo - - -	33			
Louise Elize - - -	31			
Charlotte Amar - - -	25			
Augustin Auguste - - -	33			
Jean Wambylo - - -	23			
Manon Man - - -	46			
Jean Ledoux - - -	53			
Géneviève Ally - - -	31			
Babet Zore - - -	25			
Jean Louis - - -	31			
Modeste Garo - - -	18			
Mélanie Didier - - -	37			
Cécile Rosa - - -	26			

PART VI. MAURITIUS.	NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.	NAME OF PROPRIETOR.	By whom Certificate is granted.	REMARKS.		
Report from Protector of Slaves.	Dorothée Lapostat -	32	Charles Telfair, Esq. Beau Manguier, in the quarter of Riv. du Rempart.	The Rev. R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chap- lain and Chaplain to the Forces.			
	Euphrasie Lafaible -	18					
	Pierre Louis L'Abbé -	18					
	André Caly - -	29					
	Babou Lefort - -	23					
	Arnaud Zore - -	20					
	Eustasie - - -	-					
	Jean Pierre - -	19					
	Victor Rose - -	16					
	Fleury Paul - -	28					
	Claire Rose - -	27					
	St. Jean Victor -	15					
	Olivette Foi - -	16					
	Françoise White -	32			Charles Telfair, Esq. Bon Espoir, in the quarter of Riv. du Rempart.	The Rev. R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chap- lain and Chaplain to the Forces.	
	Madelin Juge - -	28					
	Artemise Moka - -	53					
	Dauphine Both - -	43					
	Nanny La Poule -	29					
	Caroline Colas - -	18					
	Paul Juge - - -	33					
	Anna Smith - - -	37					
	Vincent Man - - -	27					
	Edward Gesset - -	28					
	Cécile Cowebot - -	18					
	Alexis Maquaque -	33					
	Jostin Stèle - - -	18					
	Edmond Maquaque -	25					
	Adolphe Courtois -	24					
	Eléonore Sérieuse -	31					
	M ^{re} Louis Seconde -	20					
	Chouchou Vénus - -	18					
	Annette Moka - - -	20					
	Adélaïde Moka - -	14					
Perrine Vénus - - -	44						
Bernard Potéan - -	29						
Marie Fouquet - - -	42						
Esther Orpheline -	26						
Jean Calfat - - -	28						
Jean Gabreau - - -	18						
Adelle Antoinette -	29						
Louis Gaga - - -	33						
Edward Le Grand - -	33						
Adolphe Tonnau - -	28						
Marie Rose Vénus -	14						
Jeanne Bibiane - -	25						
Paul - - -	63	Government Slaves	The Rev. R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chap- lain and Chaplain to the Forces.				
Pierre Louis Bavola -	30						
Alexis d'Anne - - -	53						
Marcelin Jean - - -	35						
L ^e de Marine Perine -	41						
Aug. de J ⁿ Margueritte	26						
Pierre Dalmagé - -	25						

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.
Report from
Protector of Slaves.

NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.	NAME OF PROPRIETOR.	By whom Certificate is granted.	REMARKS.
Pascal de L ^e Moka -	25	Government Slaves	The Rev. R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chaplain and Chaplain to the Forces.	
Maximilien d'Henriette	18			
Philogène de M ^l Cecile	20			
J ⁿ Hypolite de Mathurine.	20			
Sénégal - -	47			
P ^{re} de J ^{ne} Margueritte	20			
Barthelemi de Madelin	20			
Pierre de Michel -	29			
J ⁿ Pierre Fongaldera -	48			
J ⁿ Bapt ^e de Julienne -	19			
Pierre d'Angélique -	41			
Michael Servoiane -	49			
Pierre de Zuilliam, dite Anna.	19			
Laurent Fougaldéra -	35			
Onézime d'Anne -	17			
J ⁿ B ^{te} de J ^{ne} Catherine	23			
Pierre Louis de Justine	17			

Protector of Slaves' Office,
Port Louis,
24th December 1829. }

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 8.—ACCOUNT of MONIES deposited in the Mauritius Savings' Bank, from the 25th June to the 24th December 1829, inclusive.

Date of Deposit.	NAME OF SLAVE.	NAME OF PROPRIETOR.	AMOUNT in Sterling Money.	How disposed of in case of Death, &c.
1829:	Amount in Deposit on the 24th June - -		£. s. d. 19 16 3	No disposition yet made.
July - 20	-- Séraphine - -	-- Government slave, in the service of Mrs. Charters.	- 4 -	
August 1	-- François d'Arme, otherwise Devoly.	-- Government slave, in the service of R. M. Thomas, Esq.	- 4 -	
September 1	-- Ditto - -	-- Ditto - -	- 4 -	
October 1	-- Ditto - -	-- Ditto - -	- 4 -	
November 1	-- Ditto - -	-- Ditto - -	- 4 -	
			£. 20 16 3	

Protector of Slaves' Office,
Port Louis,
24th December 1829. }

William Danford, Cashier.

No. 9.—ABSTRACT of PUNISHMENTS on the Six Principal Plantations in each District of the Island, taken from the Punishment Record Books, from the 20th March to the 24th December 1829.

N. B.—The large Figures indicate the Females punished. The words printed in *Italics* were written in Red Ink in the MS.

DISTRICT OF PAMPLEMOUSES.

PLANTATIONS and PROPRIETORS.	CRIMES AND OFFENCES.													TOTAL on each Plantation.	SUMMARY OF PUNISHMENTS, AND REMARKS.			
	Maroonage.	Robbery.	Burglary.	Insolence and Disrespect.	Disobedience.	Inebriety.	Cruelty to Animals.	Absenting without Leave.	Beating and Ill-treating.	Carelessness.	Attempt at Violation.	Libertinism.	Deserting Guard Post.			Gambling.	Sorcery.	Idleness.
Mont Choisy :	4	4	-	3	-	3	1	3	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	-- ten, 25 stripes; four, 25 stripes, and chains from 15 to 60 days; six, 12 stripes; one, 1 month imprisonment; three, 25 stripes, and imprisonment from 7 to 42 days; no females punished.
Messrs C. Millien, L'Estrange and Campbell.	4	5	-	1	-	3	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	
Thomas Merven	5	7	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	32	-- three, 1 month fetters; twelve, 15 to 25 stripes; six, 15 to 25 stripes and 15 days to 6 months fetters; two, 25 stripes and 6 months irons; four, 25 stripes and 4 to 8 days stocks. Females, one, 3 months chains; three, 15 to 30 days stocks; one, 2 weeks imprisonment and stocks.
Jean Bourgault Ducoudray	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mr. B. Lartigue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-- no punishment on the estate.
P. A. Rivière	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
A. Duhamel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-- no punishment on the estate.
TOTAL of each Crime	26	16	-	6	-	6	4	6	3	4	-	4	-	-	-	1	76	

DISTRICT OF RIVIERE DU REMPART.

PLANTATIONS and PROPRIETORS.	CRIMES AND OFFENCES.													TOTAL on each Plantation.	SUMMARY OF PUNISHMENTS, AND REMARKS.		
	Maronage.	Robbery.	Burglary.	Insolence and Disrespect.	Disobedience.	Inebriety.	Cruelty to Animals.	Absenting without Leave.	Beating and Ill-treating.	Carelessness.	Attempt at Violation.	Liberitism.	Deserting Guard Post.			Gambling.	Sorcery.
Poudre d'Or:																	
M ^{me} V ^{re} Husson	4	-	-	1	1	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
L'Amitié:																	
Messrs. Ch ^e Ed ^d and Th. Pitot.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
							<i>prefer- ring false complaints.</i>										
							1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
							<i>prefer- ring false complaints.</i>										
Poudre d'Or:																	
Mathieu Baudot	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Grand Cocotier:																	
E. Daruty	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
La Poudre d'Or:	1																
M ^{me} V ^{re} Rouillard	1	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Bon Espoir:																	
Ch ^e Telfair & Co.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL of each Crime	11	2	-	1	4	7	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31

(continued)

DISTRICT OF FLACQ.

Abstract of Punishments—continued.

PLANTATIONS and PROPRIETORS.	CRIMES AND OFFENCES.													TOTAL on each Plantation.	SUMMARY OF PUNISHMENTS, AND REMARKS.			
	Maroonage.	Robbery.	Burglary.	Insolence and Disrespect.	Disobedience.	Inebriety.	Cruelty to Animals.	Absenting without Leave.	Beating and Ill-treating.	Carelessness.	Attempt at Violation.	Libertinism.	Deserting Guard Post.			Gambling.	Sorcery.	Idleness.
Beauchamp : Messrs. Menage and Noël -	6	2	1	4	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	24	-- five, 10 stripes; one, 1 month chains; one, 8 days stocks; nine, 10 to 20 stripes each; six, 1 to 2 nights stocks each.
Belle Vue : Ulcoq and Co. -	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	9	-- one, 25 stripes; one, 25 stripes and 3 days stocks; two, 25 stripes and 8 nights in stocks; one, deprived of his rank as commander, and 8 days stocks; four females, 8 nights in stocks each.
Palma : Messrs. Olivari and Thevenet	7	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-- three, 24 stripes; six, 2 months chains; one, 60 nights stocks.
La Gaieté : Mr. Tarby -	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-- four, 25 stripes each; one female, 15 days imprisonment.
Nouvelle Caroline : Mr. Carles -	8	9	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	-- thirteen, 12 to 15 stripes; two, 12 to 15 stripes, and from 3 to 8 days imprisonment; two, 15 stripes and a collar; three, 15 stripes and 3 months chains; one, 15 days imprisonment and collar; three, 2 months chains; one, 24 days chains, and imprisonment at nights; three females, 8 days imprisonment; one, imprisonment and chains.
Belle Marre : Madame Le Breton -	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-- three, 25 stripes; two, 15 stripes each; no females punished.
TOTAL of each Crime -	27	18	1	13	2	7	-	6	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	83	

DISTRICT OF GRAND PORT.

PLANTATIONS and PROPRIETORS.	CRIMES AND OFFENCES.													TOTAL on each Plantation.	SUMMARY OF PUNISHMENTS, AND REMARKS.			
	Marriage.	Robbery.	Burglary.	Insolence and Disrespect.	Disobedience.	Inebriety.	Cruelty to Animals.	Absenting without Leave.	Beating and Ill-treating.	Carelessness.	Attempt at Violation.	Libertinism.	Deserting Guard Post.			Gambling.	Sorcery.	Idleness.
Mâres Takamahaca: Cautin and Molliers -	6	2	-	-	-	1	4	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-- two, 15 days to 30 days fetters; three, 8 to 30 days stocks at nights; one, 9 stripes and 1 month stocks at nights; one, 1 month chains; one, 9 stripes; one, 9 stripes and 8 days chains; one, 8 days stocks; four females, 8 to 15 days imprisonment; two, 2 nights stocks.
La Rivière la Chaux: Veuve De Robillard -	8	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-- eight, 15 to 20 stripes, and fetters for one month; two, 12 stripes; females, one, 15 nights stocks and chain; one, 15 nights stocks.
Gros Bois: Brodelet -	-	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-- two, 25 stripes and 2 months irons; five, 10 to 25 stripes; three, 20 to 25 stripes and chains, no time specified. No females punished.
De Lasablionière: Mr. Morin -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-- fetters, (no time specified.) No females punished.
Beauvallon: Rochecouste and Keating, Brothers.	2	2	2	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-- five, 9 to 25 stripes and 2 to 4 months fetters; one, 15 days imprisonment; five, 6 to 9 stripes and from 6 to 15 days imprisonment; four females, 4 to 15 days imprisonment.
La Solitude: Rochecouste and Keating, Brothers.	7	4	-	2	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	24	-- eight, 9 to 16 stripes; two, 1 week stocks; one, 1 month chains, and Sundays in stocks; one, 9 stripes and 10 days stocks; seven, 25 to 60 days irons; five females, 7 to 8 nights stocks.
TOTAL of each Crime -	25	17	2	5	-	20	1	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	79	

(continued)

DISTRICT OF SAVANNE.

Abstract of Punishments—continued.

PLANTATIONS and PROPRIETORS.	CRIMES AND OFFENCES.													TOTAL on each Plantation.	SUMMARY OF PUNISHMENTS, AND REMARKS.				
	Maroonage.	Robbery.	Burglary.	Insolence and Disrespect.	Disobedience.	Inebriety.	Cruelty to Animals.	Absenting without Leave.	Beating and Ill-treating.	Carelessness.	Attempt at Violation.	Libertinism.	Deserting Guard Post.			Gambling.	Sorcery.	Idleness.	
Saint Aubin:																		1	-- an iron collar, according to law, (no time specified.) No females punished.
Pitot and Gaillardon																		4	-- two, 2 to 4½ months chains; one, 20 stripes and 3 months chains; one, fetters, (no time specified). No females punished.
Bel-Air:																		3	-- one, 35 stripes, authorised by the Supplement Com- missary Civil; two, 25 stripes. No females punished.
Savannah:																		2	-- one, 25 stripes, and the other 20 stripes. No females punished.
Héritiers Pípon																		10	-- eight, 9 stripes each; two, 15 stripes and a small chain. No record of punishment for females sent.
Bénarès:																		51	-- twenty-four, 15 to 25 stripes; six, in chains until further orders; five, 15 to 25 stripes and 15 to 90 nights in stocks; one, 90 nights stocks; one, 15 stripes and 60 nights imprisonment; three, 6 months chains; five, 25 stripes and 3 to 6 months chains; females, three, 4 to 6 months chains; two, 1 year stocks at nights; one, 30 nights stocks.
Carron & Co.																		71	
Riambèle:																			
Veuve Sturbel																			
Suriname:																			
Bestel, junior																			
TOTAL of each Crime	29	20	1	3	5	1	5	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	71	

DISTRICT OF RIVIERE NOIRE.

PLANTATIONS and PROPRIETORS.	CRIMES AND OFFENCES.													TOTAL on each Plantation.	SUMMARY OF PUNISHMENTS, AND REMARKS.				
	Maroonage.	Robbery.	Burglary.	Insolence and Disrespect.	Disobedience.	Inebriety.	Cruelty to Animals.	Absenting without Leave.	Beating and Ill-treating.	Carelessness.	Attempt at Violation.	Libertinism.	Deserting Guard Post.			Gambling.	Sorcery.	Idleness.	
Gros Caillou :																		18	-- seventeen, 10 stripes of a cat each; one, 3 months chains. No females punished.
P. M. S. Perrier	1							17										3	-- 10 stripes each. No females punished.
L'Espérance :								3											-- no punishment on the estate.
Madame Raymond																			-- no punishment on the estate.
Duplessy -																			-- no punishment on the estate.
P. Nivet -																			-- no punishment on the estate.
Sauzier Père -																			-- no punishment on the estate.
Moignac -																			-- no punishment on the estate.
TOTAL of each Crime -	1							20										21	

DISTRICT OF PLAINES WILHEMS.

L'Ebenne :																			29	-- four, 9 to 15 stripes; six, 10 stripes, and 1 to 2 nights stocks; one, 4 Sundays in stocks, and broke, being a commander; four, 2 Sundays stocks; two, 2 months fetters; four, 3 months to 1 year chains; six females, 3 to 8 nights in stocks.
J. B. Rivière -	2	7	1	1	1	2	3	3	2	3									9	-- 15 to 25 stripes each. No females punished.
Bassin des Forges :																				
Gautiers, frères ; Becquet and Laurent.	7	1																		-- no punishment on the estate.
Palma :																				-- no punishment on the estate.
Labauve and May																				-- no punishment on the estate.
Poupinel -																				-- no punishment on the estate.
N. Héraut																				-- no punishment on the estate.
_____																				-- no record of punishment sent.
TOTAL of each Crime -	10	9	1	1	1	6	1	4	2	3									38	

(continued)

DISTRICT OF MOKA.

Abstract of Punishments—continued.

PLANTATIONS and PROPRIETORS.	CRIMES AND OFFENCES.													TOTAL on each Plantation.	SUMMARY OF PUNISHMENTS, AND REMARKS.				
	Maroonage.	Robbery.	Burglary.	Insolence and Disrespect.	Disobedience.	Liberty.	Cruelty to Animals.	Absenting without Leave.	Beating and Ill-treating.	Carelessness.	Attempt at Violation.	Libertinism.	Deserting Guard Post.			Gambling.	Sorety.	Idleness.	
Mi Noël - - -	4	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-- three, 9 to 20 stripes; one, iron ring on foot, and put in stocks every night, without specifying the time; one, chain and a neck-collar, and 30 nights stocks; one, 20 stripes, and chain with a neck-collar, for two months. No females punished.	
Mon Tourmont: J. F. Rouessart - -	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-- two, 25 stripes, with fetters, (without specifying the time); one, 10 weeks stocks at nights and Sundays. No females punished.	
Bon-Accord: A. Le Gentil - - -	3	3	-	-	-	1 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-- two, 15 stripes, and 15 to 30 days chains; one, 1 month fetters, and locked up every night; three, 2 months chains; one, 15 days imprisonment; one, 1 month imprisonment.	
Hugnin - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-- No punishment on the estate.
R. Desvaux - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-- No punishment on the estate.
Mr. Bolle - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-- No punishment on the estate.
Total of each Crime -	10	3	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17		

ISLAND OF AGALEGA.

Agalega: Laurent Barbé - -	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-- one, 9 stripes with a horsewhip; one, 25 stripes with a cat; one, 8 nights imprisonment. Two females received corporal punishment on this estate, without the authority required by the ordinance; but the island being 600 miles distant from Mauritius, and the communication seldom, the detention of the slaves in prison, until authority could be procured from Port Louis, would be a double punishment.
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Protector of Slaves' Office,
Port Louis, 24th December 1829.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 10.—COPY of a LETTER from the Rev. *A. Denny* to *R. M. Thomas*, Esquire, Protector and Guardian of Slaves, on the Moral State of the Slave Population of the Mauritius.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Sir,

Port Louis, 18th December 1829.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 9th instant, requesting to be informed of the number of marriages and baptisms which may have taken place in the slave population, and solemnized by me since the 24th June last, with a list of such persons of the slave population as I might consider sufficiently instructed in the principles of the Christian religion, to know the nature and obligation of an oath; together with such observations and general information on the moral state of the slaves of the Mauritius, and the measures that may have been adopted by their owners for the instruction of these people in the principles and observance of the Christian religion.

Since the date of your last letter, there has been neither baptisms nor marriages solemnized by me, nor has any been offered for these religious ordinances in the Protestant Episcopal Church in which I officiate.

I beg leave to explain to you, the limited knowledge I necessarily possess on these particulars. The established religion of the colony, or speaking more strictly, the religion of the possessors of slaves, with two or three exceptions, is that of the church of Rome, and consequently the pastors of that church will be applied to for the performance of the rites of their communion, and they also will be acquainted with their moral qualifications as sufficiently cognizant of the nature and obligations of an oath, and any interference in these matters with the subjects of another church would not be permitted me.

The slaves instructed in the principles of the Anglican church are, first, those of the Government, about 1,300 in number. These persons constitute the spiritual charge of the Rev. Mr. Jones, military and second colonial chaplain, and have done so since my arrival in 1828; and I believe since the appointment of my predecessor in 1822. And as I mentioned to you in my letter of the 19th June last, I am not the medium of communication between him and the local government, and being totally unconnected with me in the discharge of these duties, I refer you to him for the particular information you desire, merely observing that Mr. Jones has not offered for entry in the church registry in my possession, any baptisms of slaves solemnized by him, and but one marriage, the slaves of Captain Dick, being the first marriage of the kind on record in the Anglican Church in the Colony; Mr. Jones also attends to the spiritual welfare of the slaves of Captain Dick, about 60 in number.

In submitting for your information my observations generally on the means adopted for the religious instruction of the slave population, and on their moral state, I have to observe that catechists are appointed and paid by the public for imparting religious instruction orally to the Government slaves at Reduit, Mon Plaisir, and the Bagne. The children at Reduit and also the Bagne, are catechised daily and taught to repeat the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Commandments, and portions of Scripture, and with the adults are assembled each Sabbath, when part of our liturgy is read by the catechist. The Reverend Mr. Jones attends at each place on the first and third Sundays of the month, when he officiates in his clerical capacity. Those at Mon Plaisir are assembled for public worship on Sundays by the catechist, who catechizes also once a week. They have not the benefit of clerical ministration, Captain Dick pays a catechist for imparting religious knowledge to his slaves, and reading part of our liturgy to them on Sunday. The Rev. Mr. Jones attends the second Sunday of the month.

The system of instruction pursued with regard to all these slaves, with the exception of four boys at Reduit, has been exclusively oral, it not having been deemed expedient to admit them to any lettered knowledge.

On the degree of knowledge acquired under this system of oral instruction, I beg leave to observe with deference, that it must ever be limited in extent, and I fear in its results unsatisfactory. Whenever the individual is removed from under the continual mechanism of this oral knowledge, the impressions cannot be kept alive by recurring to the written word of God, a few pages of which he could once repeat; neither can he be aided in his devotions by those inimitable forms of prayer contained in our Prayer Book, with some of which he was once made acquainted. It is easy to perceive, that this kind of knowledge will only be retained during the drilling of the catechist, and will infallibly be lost whenever circumstances may prevent his constant attendance in God's house.

I should therefore consider it the duty of the Protector, in proposing measures for meliorating the moral condition of the slaves, to use every means of persuasion to induce the proprietors to impart so much elementary knowledge, as would enable them to read their Bible and Prayer Book. If any danger is apprehended from enabling them to write, until their moral principles are improved by a regular system of religious instruction, let it be for the present yielded to prejudice; but surely there is nothing in the nature of a slave,

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

or in slavery, which unfits him for the communication of as much knowledge as is allowed to the peasantry of Europe; or is the restriction limited to the state of slavery, to define more clearly their physical degradation by intellectual limitations.

On the estates of Charles Telfair, esq. schools are established for the education of his slaves, and here elementary instruction is allowed as taught by the system of Lancaster. It is to be regretted, their distance from Port Louis puts clerical superintendence out of the question. But the children are daily taught reading and writing, and with the adults have public worship on the Sabbath, part of our liturgy being read by the master. The school at Reduit, I might have placed with the schools of Mr. Telfair. I have lately supplied the master with the first elementary lessons, and as considerable attention has been paid to the slaves at this place, by the late and present Governor, their comparative morality bears witness to these laudable exertions, as you will better learn from the detailed reports of Mr. Jones, whose spiritual charge they are.

There is another subject in your letter on which I will take the liberty of making an observation, which relates to the qualification required from slaves before being admitted to give testimony. This restriction, I consider in several particulars, may have a sinister influence; but I shall content myself in stating one practical and possible consequence, should a prejudice exist against the admission of slave testimony in judicial matters.

May not this prejudice operate in withholding from the slave that moral and mental improvement which constitutes the qualification?

I am not aware of any further means being in operation for the moral improvement of the slave population. That religious instruction is imparted by some individuals in the quarters to their slaves, I do not doubt. I but last week learned that a planter, in the district of Flacq, performs himself the office of catechist, and prepares his slaves for the different ordinances of the Roman Catholic church, of which he is a member. That similar praiseworthy attention to spiritual improvement may exist without my knowledge, is very probable; but I regret to say, that instances of such zeal are far from being general. With the very inadequate means afforded for public instruction, it is to be feared that individuals in too many cases observe an equal laxity in religious matters.

In nine quarters into which this island is divided, there are four containing a population of 29,000 souls professing Christianity, without either church or clergyman, or any of the actual means of grace; and in those five quarters provided with churches and resident clergy, the distance from the church is to many so great, as in a tropical climate to prevent altogether the possibility of attendance. In short all the churches in the island, five Roman Catholic, one Anglican church and two of Calvinistic Dissenters, would hardly afford accommodation to 3,000 people with a population of 92,000, and for whose spiritual instruction there are eight Romish clergymen; two belonging to the Anglican church, one of them a military chaplain, and his services of course only partly available for colonial purposes; and one Dissenter; which gives to each clergyman on an average the cure of 8,000 or 9,000 souls. And when it is considered, in addition to this statement, that 69,000 of these constituting the slave population, though admitted by baptism members of the Christian Church, yet still continue in a state of heathen ignorance in every thing that relates to God and goodness, it will I think from this view appear, that some farther means of public instruction is imperatively called for, and that there is no part of His Majesty's dominions, foreign or domestic, where the same inadequate means for spiritual improvement exists as in the Mauritius.

The best means of remedying these inconveniences will be the erection of a church in each quarter, with a resident clergyman; and where the distance makes attendance at this parish church impracticable, small chapels used as places of general instruction, where Divine Service may be weekly or occasionally performed by a clergyman; and where by means of Sunday-schools and catechising, a portion of religious knowledge may be communicated to the adult slave population, while an hour or two of instruction for some days in each week, may better prepare the rising generation for the safe and more complete enjoyment of those civil privileges which the Government in its wisdom may confer upon them.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(signed) *A. Denny*, First Colonial Chaplain.

(A true copy)

R. M. Thomas,

Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 11.—Copy of a Letter from the Rev. *R. E. Jones* to the Protector of Slaves, on the Subject of the Moral Improvement of the Slave Population of the Mauritius.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Sir,

Port Louis, Mauritius, 23d Dec. 1829.

I HAVE the honour of enclosing the names of such slaves as I have examined up to the present period, and consider eligible to be received as witnesses upon oath. You will no doubt have received two other lists, one from the Civil Commissary of Pamplemousses, and one from that of Moka, to whom they have been forwarded.

I have not been able to procure as yet an extract of the register of christenings kept at Reduit; a copy of the *Plaines de Wilhems* one accompanies this. One slave marriage only has taken place during the last half-year; thirteen more are in course.

It has proved that various apprentices have been living with slaves, and are desirous of marrying; as the law does not sanction such connexions, without affecting the condition of the slave, it has therefore been a great obstacle in the way of carrying the wishes of Government on this head into effect.

With respect to general improvement, I have to remark that each establishment under my care, progressively, and I trust permanently, advances in moral and religious improvement. At the same time I feel it my duty to observe again, what I so frequently have done, that a general measure is the only means of bringing about the desired end of civilizing and ameliorating the slave population.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(A true copy)

(signed)

R. E. Jones, Second Civil Chaplain.

R. M. Thomas,

Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 12.—EXTRACTS from LETTERS received by the Protector and Guardian of Slaves, on the Moral and Religious State of the Slave Population of the Mauritius.

“ L’INSTRUCTION religieuse des esclaves est presque nulle. L’invitation que j’ai eu l’honneur de faire à M.M. les habitans, par la Gazette, d’envoyer leurs noirs intelligens à l’église tous les Dimanches, est restée sans effet. Les esclaves ne profitent donc que du moment où ils présentent leurs enfans pour le baptême, et où je leur donne quelques courtes instructions. Sans doute M.M. les paroissiens trouvent presque impossible d’envoyer cette classe à l’église régulièrement: et de l’autre côté, un seul Curé, pour une population de près de 22 mille âmes, est retenu nécessairement chez lui, sans pouvoir parcourir les campagnes pour obvier à cet inconvénient.”

“ Il n’a pu, jusqu’à ce jour, être pris en ce quartier, aucune mesure, par les propriétaires, pour faire instruire les esclaves dans la religion chrétienne, attendu que nous ne possédons qu’une seule église, à laquelle il n’est pas même en ce moment attaché aucun membre du clergé.”

“ L’instruction religieuse ne fait, parmi les esclaves, de grands progrès. On n’en voit qu’un très-petit nombre fréquenter les lieux saints, et suivre les offices.”

“ L’instruction religieuse ne faisant pas aucun progrès, il n’y a pas lieu d’attendre que ces mariages se fassent. Dans mon opinion, je pense que l’éducation ne pourra se faire avec succès que quand il existera dans ce quartier un lieu public pour l’exercice du culte, et qui peut-être arrêtera les progrès de l’ivrognerie, qui en entraîne beaucoup les Dimanches.”

“ Je dois à la vérité de vous dire, que non seulement l’instruction religieuse n’y a fait aucun progrès, mais que même l’on ne s’en occupe pas le moins. C’est un bienfait, il n’en faut pas douter, qui ne s’obtiendra jamais, à moins que le Gouvernement n’en prépare lui-même les voies.”

(A true copy.)

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Port Louis, 24th December 1829.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Enclosure, No. 2.

LETTER from Sir Charles Colville to the Chief Judge.

Sir,

Redit, 10th December 1829.

In consequence of a correspondence which I have had with the Protector of Slaves relative to certain circumstances connected with the sentence of the Court of Appeal of this Colony, dated the 29th September last, in the case of M. Denis La Coudray, against whom the Protector had brought an action for libel, I am now induced to address your Honour on the subject, and I enter upon it with the more regret as I must unavoidably advert, as well to the conduct held by the Procureur General on the occasion, as to that of his Substitute M. Lefebure de Marçy.

In the first place, it has been represented to me, that when the appeal which was made by both parties against the sentence of the Court of First Instance came before the Procureur General, M. Foisy refused to take cognizance of the affair: of this point, however, I am not going to complain, as I understand that the law allows the Procureur General to act according to his judgment in such particular; but I must express my regret that M. Foisy should have thought it necessary to explain, and *in writing*, his reasons for abstaining from taking cognizance of the case, and especially as those reasons were, I am informed, to the following effect: "Que M. Le Protecteur s'est permis des imputations contre lui dans son rapport."

I feel myself therefore called upon to request, and I do so with infinite reluctance, that your Honour will apprise the Procureur General that the foregoing circumstance has been brought to my notice, and that I must lament its having occurred.

In the second place, and in regard of M. Lefebure de Marçy, on whom, as the Substitute of the Procureur General, and the public prosecutor in the Court of Appeal, the cause devolved, owing to the refusal of M. Foisy, to which I have before made allusion, I have been informed that that officer did not support the appeal, but merely concluded for the confirmation of the sentence of the Court of First Instance. I have indeed even been informed that he did not bring forward the appeal made by the public prosecutor in the inferior Court on behalf of the Protector of Slaves; that it was the party accused (M. Denis La Coudray) who solicited a meeting of the Court for the purpose of bringing forward his appeal, and that his petition having been communicated to M. de Marçy, that officer caused the necessary notification to be made to the petitioner himself: a proceeding, as I am assured, unprecedented in the Courts of Justice.

It appears to me, therefore, that I have no alternative but to request your Honour to acquaint M. Lefebure de Marçy of my disapprobation of his official conduct on the occasion in question, and that a repetition of it would oblige me to report the same to His Majesty's Government at home.

According to the Colonial Laws, a special provision is made for the protection of public officers in the discharge of their duties, and more particularly of those entrusted with magisterial functions. I hope, therefore, that your Honour will not think the present communication either premature or uncalled for.

(A true copy.)

I have, &c. &c.

(signed)

Charles Colville.

F. E. Viret, Private Secretary.

EXTRAIT des Minutes du Greffe de la Cour d'Appel de l'Île Maurice.

DU Mardi, vingt-neuf Septembre, mil huit cent vingt-neuf, dix heures du matin.

Audience Publique de Police Correctionnelle de la Cour d'Appel de l'Île Maurice.

Séans, Messieurs Virieux, Vice-Président, Président la Cour: Cour, Morin, De la Chenardière, May, Arnaud, juges.

Monsieur Lefebure de Marçy, Substitut du Procureur-Général du Roi, présent.

M. Evariste Canet, Commis Greffier juré, tenant la plume.

Entre:—Le Sieur Denis La Coudray, agent de change, appelant de sentence de Police Correctionnelle du quatre Septembre présent mois, comparant en personne, assisté de M. Dupont, avocat, son conseil:

Contre:—Le Ministère Public, plaignant accusateur, intimé, et de sa part appelant de la dite sentence.

Où Monsieur Arnaud, juge, rapporteur en son rapport; le Ministère Public en ses conclusions, écrites et déposées sur le Bureau; et le Sieur Denis La Coudray, en ses moyens de défense, par l'organe de M. Dupont, avocat, son conseil.

La Cour ordonne qu'elle va se retirer en Chambre avec apport des pièces de la procédure en icelle, pour délibérer, et rendre son arrêt immédiatement, et sans déssemparer.

Et après en avoir délibéré:

Vu le réquisitoire en plainte du Substitut adjoint du Procureur-Général du Roi, contre le Sieur Denis La Coudray, en date du seize Août dernier, ordonnance de Monsieur Colin, juge, qui donne acte de la plainte, et permet de citer pour l'audience de Police Correctionnelle fixé au vingt-huit Août:

Vu

Vu la sentence du tribunal de Police Correctionnelle du quatre Septembre présent mois, laquelle reconnaît le Sieur Jacques Louis Denis La Coudray atteint et convaincu d'avoir, dans la lettre du quatorze Avril dernier, injurié et outragé le Protecteur des Esclaves, pour raison de ses fonctions :

Pour réparation, et vu ce qui résulte de la loi du vingt-six Frimaire, an 3, condamne le Sieur Jacques Louis Denis La Coudray en quinze jours de prison, trois cents livres d'amende, et aux dépens :

Vu l'acte d'appel du Sieur Denis La Coudray du huit Septembre :

Vu la requête d'appel du Sieur Denis La Coudray, contenant ses griefs et moyens d'appel, et demandant qu'il soit fixé audience :

Vu l'ordonnance de renvoi de son Honneur le Grand Juge et Commissaire de Justice, Président la Cour, à Monsieur le Vice-Président :

Vu l'ordonnance de Monsieur le Vice-Président, étant ensuite, qui fixe l'audience requise à ce jour, et nomme Monsieur Arnaud juge rapporteur :

Vu les conclusions du Ministère Public, lesquelles tendent à ce qu'il plaise à la Cour mettre les appellations au néant : ordonner que la sentence du quatre Septembre sera exécutée selon sa forme et teneur ; condamner l'appelant en l'amende, et aux dépens :

Vu les conclusions du Sieur Denis La Coudray, lesquelles tendent à ce qu'il plaise à la Cour mettre la sentence dont est appel au néant, icelle émendant le renvoyer purement et simplement de la plainte contre lui portée ; déclarer le Ministère Public non recevabie en son appel, et ordonner que l'amende consignée lui sera rendue, sans dépens :

Tout vu :

Considérant que la lettre adressée le quatorze Avril dernier au Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves, par le Sieur Denis La Coudray, ne constitue aux termes de la loi, ni outrages ni injures envers un fonctionnaire public, et renferme seulement des expressions déplacées et inconvenantes :

Prenant d'ailleurs en considération les explications et moyens d'atténuation présentés à l'audience par le Sieur Denis La Coudray, entre autres celui de n'avoir jamais eu l'intention d'injurier, ni même d'offenser, le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves :

La Cour a mis et met les appellations, et la sentence du quatre Septembre présent mois, dont il a été appelé, au néant émendant, renvoie le Sieur Denis La Coudray de la plainte du Ministère Public, et lui enjoint d'être, à l'avenir, plus réservé et plus circonspect envers les fonctionnaires publics : ordonne que l'amende consignée par le Sieur Denis La Coudray lui sera rendu sans dépens.

A la Minute,

(signé)

Virieux,
et E^e Canet.

Collationné,

D'Unienville.

LETTRE du Substitut du Procureur-Général au Grand Juge.

A Son Honneur le Grand Juge et Commissaire de Justice de l'Île Maurice et Dépendances.

Monsieur le Commissaire,

J'AI reçu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 12 du courant, par laquelle vous m'informez que le Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves a porté plainte contre moi à son Excellence au sujet de l'affaire du Sieur Denis La Coudray, et que son Excellence ne prononcera aucune opinion avant de recevoir mon explication.

Cette plainte contient trois griefs : le premier consiste en ce, que " Je n'ai pas soutenu l'appel interjeté par le Substitut en Première Instance, et que je me suis borné à conclure à la confirmation de la sentence."

Un délit se commet : Le Procureur-Général rend plainte dans la personne de son Substitut en Première Instance, qui est obligé de prendre l'initiative dans l'intérêt de l'ordre public et de la société, afin que le crime ne demeure pas impuni.

C'est sous ce rapport et en ce sens que le Ministère Public est un et indivisible. Mais lorsque l'instruction est achevée, et qu'il s'agit de prononcer sur la culpabilité de l'accusé, chaque officier du ministère public exerce cette liberté d'opinion qui constitue l'indépendance du magistrat, assure la garantie due à l'accusé, et maintient la hiérarchie judiciaire.

En effet, si le Procureur-Général était astreint à soutenir l'appel de son Substitut, l'innocence aurait juste sujet de s'allarmer. Le chef du Ministère Public, en cessant d'être indépendant, cesserait d'être magistrat, et le Substitut en Première Instance deviendrait par le fait Procureur-Général.

Voilà pourquoi les Procureurs-Généraux, ou leurs Substituts, près les Cours, soutiennent ou abandonnent et desertent l'appel du Substitut en Première Instance, suivant qu'ils le considèrent bien fondé ou comme fol appel.

Au surplus, les requisitions de la partie publique ne sont pas des oracles pour la Cour ; et puis qu'elle a renvoyé de la plainte le Sieur Denis La Coudray, sans égard à mes conclusions, tendantes à la confirmation de la sentence, qui prononçait quinze jours de prison, j'aurais en vain soutenu l'appel du Substitut, qui avait requis une peine plus forte.

Si le Protecteur est mécontent de cet arrêt, il a tort de s'en prendre à moi.

Le second grief consiste en ce, que " Je n'ai pas présenté l'appel formé par le Ministère Public en Première Instance dans l'intérêt du Protecteur."

Le Protecteur entend il que je n'ai pas mis sous les yeux de la Cour cet acte d'appel ?

Le contraire est prouvé par la lecture des pièces à l'audience, et par l'intitulé de l'arrêt, ainsi conçu : *Entre Denis La Coudray, appelant, et le Ministère Public, plaignant et appellant.*

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Si le Protecteur entend que je n'ai pas conclu dans son intérêt en ne requérant pas la même peine que le Substitut, alors je m'en réfère à la refutation du premier grief, où j'ai établi les motifs sur lesquels était fondé le droit du Ministère Public près la Cour, d'apprécier l'appel du Substitut, que j'ai considéré comme fol appel.

J'ajouterai, qu'en ma qualité telle a été mon opinion, dont le Protecteur n'a pas le droit de me demander compte en forme de plainte; que j'agis par voie de réquisition comme représentant le Procureur-Général de Sa Majesté dans l'intérêt de l'ordre public et de la justice, et non pas dans l'intérêt d'une partie plaignante, dont je ne suis ni le Procureur ni l'Avocat.

Le troisième et dernier grief consiste en ce, que, le prévenu a demandé audience sur son appel, et que sur la communication de sa requête, je l'avais fait signifier à l'accusé qui l'avait présentée.

Si le Protecteur, avant de hasarder sa plainte, avait vérifié les pièces au Greffe de la Cour, il aurait vu que sur le déport motivé du Procureur-Général du 26 Sept. dernier, au pied de l'ordonnance du Vice-Président, qui fixait l'audience au 29, j'ai pris charge de l'affaire sur le registre des productions le dit jour 26. Je ne pouvais donc primer la demande en audience qui avait déjà été accordée le 25 pour le 29, avant que je ne fusse saisi de l'appel.

Alors sur cette communication de requête, ordonnance et déport: j'ai du appeler le prévenu à l'audience par une signification sans laquelle je n'aurais pu requérir défaut contre lui, s'il avait abandonné l'audience, comme il en avait la faculté, malgré qu'il l'avait demandée.

Je desire apprendre que ces explications ont paru suffisantes à son Honneur, et à son Excellence, dont je suis jaloux de mériter l'approbation, autant par ma conduite publique, que par ma conduite privée.

Je suis, avec respect, &c. &c.

21 Dec. 1829.

(signé)

Lefebure de Marçay.

(A true copy.)

F. E. Viret, Private Secretary.

Enclosure, No. 3.

ADRESSE de la Société d'Agriculture de la Rivière du Rempart, à Son Excellence le Lieutenant-Général l'Honorable Sir *Charles Colville*, Gouverneur et Commandant en Chef de l'île Maurice, &c. &c. &c.

Excellence,

8 Janvier 1830.

UNE action atroce et faite, si nous en croyons la voix publique, pour revolter quiconque porte un cœur d'homme, a été commise au Port Louis sur un esclave. A peine le bruit s'en est-il répandu dans notre quartier, que chacun de nous, vivement ému d'un pareil oubli de l'humanité, s'est empressé d'en témoigner toute son indignation. Un des principaux membres de notre Société fidèle interprète des sentimens de tous, a profité de la première réunion qui a suivi la connoissance de ce fait odieux, pour exposer énergiquement les devoirs qu'imposait à la Société dans cette pénible circonstance, le but de son institution, ainsi que les principes des personnes qui la composent. Cette motion a été accueillie comme elle devait l'être par des hommes tous pénétrés d'avance des vérités qu'elle rappelait, et il a été décidé, à l'unanimité, que le Bureau de la Société d'Agriculture de la Rivière du Rempart serait chargé d'écrire à votre Excellence pour lui peindre l'impression d'horreur que nous avons tous éprouvée, en apprenant une action qui non seulement blesse les devoirs les plus sacrés de l'homme, mais encore les intérêts les plus directs d'une colonie déjà si cruellement calomniée. Chacun de nous a frémi en songeant qu'elles inductions, certain parti en Angleterre ne manquera pas de tirer d'un fait qui pourtant n'est que le délit d'un seul particulier, et dont, en bonne logique comme en toute équité, il devrait être lui seul responsable aux yeux de Dieu et des hommes. Sans nous permettre de préjuger quel en sera, et quel en doit être, le châtement, nous dirons au moins qu'il est bien coupable, celui qui, dans notre situation présente, a oublié, jusqu'à ce point, toutes les lois divines et humaines, celui qui, aveuglé sans doute par la violence de son caractère, n'a été retenu ni par la crainte de compromettre toute une population, ni par les exemples constans de modération et de douceur que lui donnait la majorité, disons mieux la presque universalité de la Colonie. Excellence, nous pouvons l'affirmer, ce n'est pas seulement la Société d'Agriculture, c'est tout le quartier, c'est toute l'île qui improuve, qui deteste une conduite si condamnable; et nous ne doutons pas que vous n'entendiez bientôt retentir de toutes parts l'expression des mêmes sentimens qui nous animent.

Cependant, pour nous renfermer dans ce qui nous est personnel, nous nous bornerons à vous faire observer que chacun de nous, par l'esprit de notre institution, s'étant pour ainsi dire obligé à surveiller son voisin, et à prévenir, autant qu'il est en lui, toute infraction aux lois et aux ordonnances rendues en faveur des esclaves, il serait bien difficile que pareille chose arrivât dans nos campagnes. A Dieu ne plaise que par là nous voulions jeter la moindre défaveur sur la ville, nous entendons seulement qu'ici, plus liés entre nous qu'on ne peut l'être au port dans le tumulte des affaires, et dans le conflit des intérêts divers, ayant tous un même genre de travail et d'administration, nous nous rapprochons souvent pour mieux remplir un de nos principaux objets, celui de veiller sans cesse au maintien des droits de l'humanité, et à l'amélioration du sort des esclaves. Nous pouvons aussi avec plus

plus de facilité nous éclairer réciproquement par de bons conseils, et par toutes les communications les plus propres à amener ce résultat de nos vœux, et de nos efforts constans. Nous pensons toutefois qu'on y parviendrait encore mieux, s'il existait des corps municipaux, ou des institutions qui en eussent les attributs. Avec quelle promptitude on arrêterait alors quiconque serait tenté de s'écarter en la moindre chose de cette humanité qui est un devoir pour tous, et dans le véritable intérêt de tous. A l'aide d'une magistrature si respectable par l'objet qu'elle aurait à remplir, magistrature qui soulagerait le Protecteur and ses Assistans d'un immense fardeau, magistrature qui emploierait les voies de la persuasion avant de recourir à la sévérité, combien il serait facile d'engager chaque propriétaire d'esclaves à faire pour les siens tout ce qu'il doit, et à lui suggérer ce que ne lui inspirerait pas la sensibilité de son cœur !

Au défaut d'une institution si utile, nous nous servons d'une influence, bornée par le respect des lois, pour produire, autant qu'il dépend de nous, ces effets si desirables, et déjà nous avons lieu de nous applaudir des succès que nous avons obtenus en ce genre.

Oserions nous vous prier, Excellence, de faire connaître en Angleterre la manière dont tout notre quartier, et nous pouvons dire aussi, toute l'île, ont été affectés à l'instant où la nouvelle de cette indigne action s'est repandue. Nous sommes bien persuadés que ce serait une jouissance pour un cœur comme le vôtre, que de contribuer de tout votre pouvoir à montrer la Colonie sous ses vraies couleurs, et à lui faire obtenir enfin la justice qui lui est dûe, et qu'on lui refuse depuis si long tems.

Nous sommes, avec le plus profond respect, &c. &c.

Les Membres composant le Bureau de la Société d'Agriculture
de la Rivière du Rempart.

(signé) *M. Baudot*, Président.
Ed. Pitot, Vice-Président.
John Rouillard.
Chas. Rouillard.
Lorquet.
Berger Dujonet.
Jh. Chauvet.

(A true copy) *F. E. Viret*,
Private Secretary.

N° 5.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Viscount *Goderich* to Lieut.-Gen. the Hon.
Sir Charles Coboille, G. C. B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 17th April 1831.

Correspondence.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th January 1830, addressed to my predecessor, transmitting the Report of the Protector of Slaves, with various enclosures, for the half year ending the 31st December 1829. In commenting upon these documents, I shall reserve for a separate despatch the remarks which appear to me to be called for by the proceedings of the Protector on the complaints of slaves.

The first case to which the Protector alludes in his report, and which was in progress at the close of his former one, is that of *Denis Lacoudray* and his daughter *Lisé Letord*, who were denounced for illegally and cruelly beating their female slave. The marks of the punishment were visible on the person of the slave, and the 19th Article of the Slave Ordonnance required that in such a case the Protector should prosecute on behalf of the slave, and if on the slave's appearance and examination before the Court he still persisted in his story, the defendant should be bound to prove on oath that the punishment was not inflicted by him, nor by his order, nor with his privity or consent. Under this clause the prosecution was commenced, and the slave having persisted in her story, the onus of disproving it fell upon *M. Lacoudray*. He and his daughter were therefore called upon to make oath, in the words of the statute, which they did, and were acquitted as having *disproved*, under oath, the accusation against them. An appeal was lodged by *Mr. Thomas*, but merely on the ground of an informality in the proceedings, and no notice was taken of the inadequacy of the exculpatory evidence. It is almost superfluous to remark, that the unsupported contradiction on oath of the accused party cannot, in a case like the present, be taken as a disproof of the charge, since the same want of moral principle, which led to the infliction of a cruel and illegal punishment, would

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Correspondence.

would probably induce a concealment of it by falsehood. The decision in the present instance is the less satisfactory that M. Lacoudray could not appeal to that fairness of general character which, in a doubtful case, would create a presumption in his favour. As, however, the law under which this decision was given has been repealed by the Order in Council of 2d February 1830, I do not consider it necessary to enter more fully into the subject.

In the last case, the result of which is transmitted in the papers under consideration, the Court decided that, although the infliction of an illegal punishment was proved to have taken place on two slaves, the defendant did not thereby become liable to more penalties than if the infliction had taken place on a single slave. As the Mauritius Slave Ordinance then in force has been repealed, I consider it unnecessary at present to do more than express my dissent from the principle here laid down; but I regret that I cannot thus pass over the further proceedings in the case. It appears that the judgment was appealed from by the Protector, but that through the neglect either of the Ministère Public or the Procureur General, the time for lodging the appeal was suffered to elapse, and the appeal was consequently disallowed. The Protector remarks that in this, as in many other cases, no notice was given to him of the day fixed for hearing the appeal, and that he was consequently deprived of the opportunity of attending to hear it argued. In the course of the argument the Procureur General delivered an opinion, which was however in a subsequent case overruled by the court, that the Protector could not take cognizance of any case of ill-treatment in which the slave did not present himself before him to complain. I have viewed the proceedings of the Procureur General in this case with serious disapprobation, nor does the following case place his conduct towards the Protector in a more favourable light.

It appears that M. Lacoudray, the defendant in the case of the slave Céline, addressed a libellous letter to the Protector, for which he was prosecuted and condemned to pay a fine of 300 *fr.*, and to be imprisoned fifteen days. The sentence was appealed from by M. Lacoudray, but no notice of the appeal was given to the Protector. The Procureur General, whose duty it was to plead the cause as counsel for the Crown, refused to do so, giving, as a reason for such refusal, "that the Protector had taken the liberty to report his conduct to Government." The duty of supporting the appeal then devolved upon M. de Marçy, the substitute of the Procureur General in the Court of Appeal. It is stated that M. de Marçy did not do his duty in pleading the cause; first, in not having conferred with his colleague, the substitute adjoint with reference to the appeal made also by the latter in aggravation of penalty, and by abandoning such appeal without stating his reasons for so doing; secondly, in not supporting the appeal by stating to the Court the merits of the case, but showing such marked reluctance to do his duty, that it was not until asked by the Court whether he had any observations to make, that he rose and said, "I have only to beg the Court to confirm the sentence of the Court of First Instance," thus leaving the Court to decide upon the *exparte* statement of the defendant's counsel. The cause was thus hurried through the Court in a special audience, the judgment of the Court below rescinded, and the defendant acquitted without any notification whatever being given to the Protector of the proceedings. In consequence of a remonstrance from the Protector to yourself on the subject, you addressed a letter to the chief judge, expressing your disapprobation of the conduct of Messrs. Foisy and De Marçy in this case. In your letter there is the following passage alluding to the conduct of M. de Marçy—"I have indeed even been informed that he did not bring forward the appeal made by the public prosecutor in the inferior Court on behalf of the Protector of Slaves; that it was the party accused, M. Denis Lacoudray, who solicited a meeting of the Court for the purpose of bringing forward his appeal; and that his petition having been communicated to M. de Marçy, that officer caused the necessary notification to be made to the petitioner himself: a proceeding, as I am assured, unprecedented in the Courts of Justice." M. de Marçy's defence, which is transmitted in your despatch, depends principally on forms of procedure in the French courts, upon which the Chief Judge has offered no comment. You state yourself to have been incompetent to decide upon its merits, and I am therefore at a loss to discover why you did not call upon the Chief Judge for an express report upon the matter. Assuming, however, as I am willing to do, that M. de Marçy did not violate the established rules of the Courts of Mauritius for the purpose of prejudicing the cause of the Protector, I cannot conceal from myself that the conduct both of the Procureur
General

General and of his substitute in this case was highly blameable. Upon a review of their general bearing towards the Protector, I am under the painful necessity of desiring you to consider the instructions relative to the retirement of M. Foisy, conveyed to you in my despatch of 15th January last, as imperative. You will inform that gentleman, if he shall not have already resigned his situation, that you are ready to receive his resignation in any manner which may be most agreeable to himself; but I should be wanting in my duty towards the public service, did I allow M. Foisy to retain any longer the important situation of Procureur General. With respect to M. de Marçy, you will understand that that gentleman is not to be considered eligible to any of the legal situations which by my despatch of 17th January last it was left to you to fill up. I cannot too strongly impress upon you the necessity of affording to the Protector all the support and countenance in your power, and His Majesty's Government will require from all persons holding situations at the pleasure of the Crown, to give their support to that officer in the discharge of the arduous duties imposed upon him, to the efficient performance of which so much importance is attached in this country.

Mr. Thomas states, that besides the cases which he has transmitted, there are many others in which the Protector continues to be daily called for on behalf of domestic slaves residing in Port Louis, and that these generally arise from petty "domestic squabbles, inebriety and libertinism, and being of a nature too trifling, and in many instances not fit to be recorded, are at once settled to the satisfaction of both parties." The clauses of the Order in Council of the 2d February 1830, which regulate the duties of the Protector of Slaves, do not admit of the exercise of any discretion in the selection of cases to be transmitted to the Secretary of State. If however the complaints to which Mr. Thomas alludes are merely quarrels between slaves, that order will have deprived him of the authority to decide them in future, otherwise than as an arbitrator.

The Protector renews his complaint of not being served with proper notices of actions for and against slaves, as required by the 19th clause of the Mauritius Ordinance. Strict punctuality in the serving of these notices is of such evident importance, that I am unable to comprehend why you abstained from taking the most decisive steps to ensure it. You will instruct the Protector to report to you any instance of neglect which may hereafter occur in the performance of this duty; and you will immediately dismiss or suspend from his situation, as the case may require, the officer on whom the neglect shall be chargeable. If any doubt should exist as to the officer to whom it properly belongs to furnish such notices, you will lose no time in issuing a proclamation to determine the question.

I cannot pass over in silence a remark which the Procureur General is stated to have made in opposition to a claim to freedom set up by a slave, namely, that there would be much danger in allowing the claim, which was of long standing, inasmuch as it would unsettle the tenure of slave property all over the island. I cannot admit the validity of any objection founded upon such a consideration. The interest of the slave in his freedom is infinitely greater than that of the master in his possession; and I am not prepared to allow that a claim of this nature can be debarred by a plea of long undisturbed possession.

Only 115 slaves had been reported by the Protestant clergyman as sufficiently instructed to understand the obligation of an oath, while no return had been received from the Catholic clergy; as however, the Order in Council rendering the evidence of slaves admissible without certificates must have come into operation in the Mauritius some time ago, I shall not on the present occasion add any remarks upon the subject to those which were contained in my despatch of the 15th January last.

I regret that so strong an objection should exist in the minds of the masters to the deposit of money in the Savings' Banks by slaves. I feel confident, however, that a clearer view of their own interest will convince them, that a measure which tends to encourage habits of industry and frugality on the part of the slave, cannot but be to the advantage of the master. The increase of the rate of interest recommended by the Protector in his former Report, has been already sanctioned by my despatch of the 15th January last.

The inattention noticed by the Protector in keeping the necessary punishment record books, will have been remedied by the late Order in Council. I have perceived with much satisfaction the smallness of the number of punishments which have been inflicted on the six largest estates of each of the districts of the colony

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of which the punishment records are transmitted, viz. 421 punishments in 12,000 slaves; and the complaints from this number of slaves is stated to have been only four. The return, however favourable it may appear, cannot I fear be taken as a fair criterion of the treatment of slaves throughout the colony, as it is on the smaller estates where the discipline is not so strict, that infractions of the law are most to be apprehended.

A doubt existed, according to the Protector, whether the infliction of two punishments for the same offence was forbidden by the law as it stood. If such a doubt existed I must regret that he should not have taken the earliest opportunity of bringing the question to an issue, and, if the decision were unfavourable to the slave, of suggesting to you the enactment of an Ordinance to prohibit a practice which was equally contrary to the spirit of the law and the dictates of justice.

As the imposition of chains by domestic authority has been altogether prohibited by the Order in Council transmitted in my despatch of the 28th ultimo, it is not necessary for me to remark upon the deficiencies of the Chain Ordinance pointed out by the Protector.

I observe, however, in the return of criminal actions against slaves tried before the Court of First Instance, that working in chains is a common mode of punishment; one case indeed is mentioned in which a man had been sentenced to twelve years working in chains. I wish to be informed whether the labour in chains is performed on the estate of the owner of the slave, or under the superintendence of a responsible Government officer; if the former should be the case, you will understand that it is a mode of punishment which cannot be allowed to continue, and you will take means, therefore, for commuting that portion of any such sentences which may remain to be undergone, and for preventing in future the awarding of such a punishment.

I have perused with deep regret the account of the deficiency in the means of religious instruction in the Mauritius. At the same time, I cannot but express my high approbation of the wisdom and humanity, which have induced Captain Dick and Mr. Telfair to procure for their slaves such advantages as the island afforded. I have not failed to observe with due attention, that, with the exception of the Government slaves, it is on these two estates alone that the slaves who have been certified to understand the obligation of an oath are to be found. The measures for remedying this deficiency in the means of religious instruction are under the anxious consideration of His Majesty's Government, and I trust that the good effects which cannot but result to Messrs. Dick and Telfair from the attention which they have paid to the moral improvement of their slaves, will prompt the planters of the Mauritius to lend a willing co-operation to the efforts of the mother country upon this important subject.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) GODERICH.

No. 6.

DESPATCH from Lord Viscount *Goderich* to Lieut. General Sir *C. Colville*,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

Downing Street, 17th April 1831.

IN conformity to the intention expressed in my other Despatch of this date, I shall now proceed to comment upon the Return of the Complaints of Slaves, transmitted in your Despatch of the 25th January 1830.

The slave *Eugene* complains of general ill treatment from his master, who, on one occasion, knocked him down, and kicked him, for not having brought his breakfast at the right time. The slave being in a very bad state of health, was sent to the hospital, and the police surgeon, Dr. Hart, certified to his bearing the marks of severe blows on different parts of his person, and to his being very feverish, and in bad health. His master denied having kicked Eugene, but stated, that in consequence of his being excessively drunk in the morning, when he brought his breakfast, he gave him a slap, and the slave fell down, and hurt himself against a box. The witnesses whom the slave called, corroborated the master's statement, but the Protector, not being satisfied, sent the case to the Court of First Instance, where the defendant was acquitted. The grounds upon which this acquittal took place are stated, in Mr. Thomas's Report, to have been the denial upon oath of the accusation by the master, and the absence of corroborating testimony on the part of the slave. If these were the only grounds of the acquittal, the observations which I have made in my other Despatch of this date, on the case of Denis Lacoudray, would appear to be equally applicable to that now under consideration. As, however, the Slave Ordinance under which this trial took place, has been repealed by the Order in Council of February 1830, I trust that the difficulty to which the Protector alludes, in procuring conviction in cases of this nature, will have been obviated.

The complaint of *St. Yago*, of being ill treated, and compelled to work on Sunday, was dismissed upon the mere denial by the master of the ill treatment, and upon his assertion, that the only work exacted from the slave on Sunday is the "corvée," which is finished by eight o'clock, and that, if he performs any other work, he receives wages for it.

The Protector dismisses the complaint of *Antoine*, with a caution to the master, it appearing that the punishment which he had inflicted had been within the limits of the law in every respect, except in the being inflicted with a whip with ten instead of nine thongs, and made of hide instead of cord. I do not collect from the proceedings before me, that the punishment was so evidently within the law as the Protector has stated. It appears that the slave was punished, for attempting to steal a pig, with fifteen lashes; immediately after, for attempting to steal linen, the number of stripes not given; and again, for not finishing his work, with five stripes. Now, if the punishment for stealing linen exceeded five stripes, and if these punishments were inflicted within twenty-four hours, they were clearly illegal; at any rate, a penalty is said to have been incurred by the use of an improper instrument of punishment, which, when coupled with the certificate of Dr. Hart, that "both sides of the slave's breech were extensively lacerated, particularly the "right side;" and that "he also exhibited marks of punishment on his back," would seem to prove that he had been treated with undue severity.

The slave *Flore* complained of having received two blows with a cane from her master, of which she bore the marks at the time of preferring her complaint. The certificate of the examining surgeon states, that "Flore has a cut on the right eyebrow, and another wound a little higher up on the same side; the lower eyelid is much swollen, and the eye slightly inflamed." M. Motet, in reply, denied having struck the complainant with a stick, and alleged, that having been left to take care of a sick negress, she had got drunk, in which state he had found her at his return home, and, in his indignation at her conduct, had given her a "soufflet."

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a "soufflet." This statement is corroborated by the witnesses called by both parties, and the complaint is dismissed, with a caution to the complainant against future drunkenness, and without the exaction of the fine which had been incurred by the owner.

Virginie complains of being over-worked and being beaten, and states, that her daughter also has experienced cruel treatment from their mistress. The result of the Protector's inquiry is stated to be, that "the Protector having called J. B. Hector before him, and received his answer to the complaint of his slave, and having also re-examined *Virginie* in his presence, finds, 1st. That the complaint about kicking the child's tooth out is false. 2d. That the statement about being obliged to bring fifty sous *per diem* is not altogether correct: complainant does furnish water for some of her mistress's neighbours, for which her mistress receives six sous *per diem*. 3d. That she has had a few strokes of a cane on her shoulders, over her clothes, though of a very slight nature, and which appear to have been inflicted in ignorance of the new law." The complaint is discharged, the Protector having admonished the mistress against the employment of the slave in selling water, the household duties being heavy enough. In this case again I have been unable to discover upon what ground the Protector thought himself justified in omitting to exact the fine which had been incurred.

No. 16.

Thirty-one slaves belonging to Messrs. Pierre, Compty, Demarne & Co. appeared to complain. The Protector reprimanded them for having left the estate in a body, and after they had chosen some of their number to represent their grievances, they were sent back. The deputies then stated, that "they are daily punished for almost nothing; that they work at *corvée* from three o'clock in the morning, and when that is finished, they work from six in the morning till eight in the evening; that they have no time allowed them to take their food; that some of them take their food to the fields to cook it there; that they leave off work at noon, but are not allowed to return to the court to eat; and if they have not finished their repast in three quarters of an hour, they are obliged to leave it, and go to work by order of Mr. Odillard. Complainants quitted the estate four days past, remaining concealed in the canes during that time." The result is, that the falsity of the complaint having been, as it is stated, completely established, the two ringleaders were severely punished, one with thirty and the other with twenty-five stripes, and the negroes were ordered to be confined for four successive Sundays. The proofs to which the Protector alludes as establishing the falsity of the complaint, do not appear in these proceedings, unless they are to be deduced from the general silence of the slaves on hearing the statement of their deputies read to them; nor have I been able to discover upon what grounds the negroes were selected for punishment. The Protector indeed has asserted in his Report, that a conspiracy and spirit of insubordination existed among the slaves, but no further proof of it appears than their having left the estate in a body, while the fact of a former complaint having been preferred from the same estate may, with as much probability, be referred to injustice on the part of the masters as to insubordination among the slaves.

No. 21.

The complaint of *Jean Marie*, belonging to M^{me} Sturbell, is, that he is over-tasked, and that when he does not finish his task, he is punished; that his food is not sufficient, and that he is compelled to work on Sundays. The defence of the mistress is, that the task is not excessive (in which she is contradicted by the opinions of the Protector and Assistant Protector, as well as by the evidence of the witnesses), and that he is only required on Sundays to make up his arrears of the week. The complaint is dismissed without any notice of the infraction of the law in compelling the slave to work on Sundays, though the excuse alleged for it was utterly inadmissible, and would, if recognized, render altogether nugatory the provisions for securing to the slave the enjoyment of the Sabbath. Nor can I understand upon what grounds the Protector considered M^{me} Sturbell a fit object of lenity, since he states, that, finding similar complaints to be constantly preferred against her, he made a representation on the subject to you, in order that the quantum of labour to be exacted might be fixed by the "Notables." I am not aware that these gentlemen were invested with any authority of the nature of that which the Protector attributed to them, nor does his application appear

appear to have had any results. It shows, however, that Mr. Thomas himself considered that M^{me} Sturbell exacted more work from her slaves than was consistent with their well-being.

Slave *Eugénie* complains of having been beaten, and made to kneel down before her mistress for half an hour for not going to her work, she being at that time suffering under severe indisposition. Dr. Hart certifies to the ill health of the slave, but says he can find no marks of punishment on her person. The mistress denies having struck her, but admits that she had a cane in her hand, and that she made the slaves kneel down. With this evidence the Protector dismissed the complaint, with a caution to the mistress, against whom complaints had often been preferred. It is impossible not to view the defence of the mistress with great suspicion, when her admission that she had a cane in her hand and her previous character are considered. It is not stated why the two witnesses named by the slave were not examined on the occasion.

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The negress *Anne* complains of having been severely beaten and kicked by her mistress at a time when she was far advanced in pregnancy. Dr. Hart certifies that the slave bears evident marks of ill treatment, which, if repeated while she is in a state of pregnancy, might endanger her life. The charge is denied by the mistress, and also by three of her slaves, and by the daughter of the complainant, who, however, on being desired to speak the truth without fear, "trembled, and "asked if her mistress was within hearing, and on being told that neither her "mistress nor her slaves were near," confirmed in every respect the complaint of her mother, and stated that she had given false evidence at first from a fear of being punished. The result is, that after "a minute investigation into this case, "the Protector is inclined to think that Anne has much cause of complaint against "her mistress; but as the evidence obtained in support of her complaint would "be unavailing in a Court of Justice, opposed to the testimony of the other "slaves, and which they would be prepared to support, the Protector does not "deem it prudent to denounce the affair to the Procureur Général." I must presume that Mr. Thomas's reason for not sending this case to trial, was that provision of the 27th clause of the Mauritius Ordinance, which prohibits the reception of the evidence of a slave in any matter wherein his master is directly concerned; but if the motive were to be deduced from his own words, namely, that the evidence of the child would be contradicted by the evidence of the other slaves, Mr. Thomas would appear to have assumed a discretion which did not pertain to him, and which, in this instance, was certainly not beneficially exercised. No doubt could exist in the mind of any one who read the proceedings, that the defendant had not only been guilty of the offence laid to her charge, but of the still more serious and deliberate crime of suborning a child to bear false testimony against her own mother. I cannot, in justice to the discrimination of the Court, assume, that it would have been deceived by the evidence to be tendered to it; on the contrary, I must suppose that, with the advantage of the facts already elicited by the Protector, the Court would have found means, in their cross-examination, to extract the truth from the witnesses. I am compelled therefore to signify to you my disapprobation of the conduct of the Protector in this instance.

No. 31.

This is another complaint against M^{me} Sturbell for over-working her slave. In the course of it, the slave states that she had been chained to a stone in the "Hangard" for a twelvemonth, and was only released on new-year's-day of 1829. There is probably some exaggeration of the duration of her confinement; but as M^{me} Sturbell seems far from an indulgent mistress, I regret that the Protector did not notice the statement.

No. 32.

The boy *Emile* is brought from the police to the Protector's office, having been arrested by the police while marooning. He was to have been punished at the Bagne, but the keeper, seeing that his person was much lacerated, sent him to the Protector. His statement is, that the laceration proceeded from severe punishment inflicted on him with a cart-whip, by the son of his mistress, about four months ago; the complaint is preferred on the 15th August. The Police Surgeon certifies to the lacerated state of his body. In reply, his master states, that since he has had the estate the boy has never been punished, and that the use of the cart-whip has been abolished since January: his statement is confirmed by four slaves belonging to the estate. The case of the slave Anne, to which I have so lately

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lately adverted, unfortunately detracts from the weight which might otherwise attach to the evidence of slaves in favour of their master. You will caution the Protector to be careful in all cases which depend solely upon the evidence of slaves; to cross-examine the witnesses apart from each other. Such an examination will, I have no doubt, be successful in the discovery of truth; for I cannot suppose that the cunning of a slave will enable him to escape detection when subjected to an ordeal hitherto found effectual in civilized communities.

- No. 34. The slave *Rose* complains of having been put in chains; a fact which is admitted by her master, who excuses himself by alleging, that she is a constant maroon, and that he was not aware that in putting chains on her he was acting illegally. The complaint was dismissed, with a caution to the master, and without exaction of the fine which had been incurred.
- No. 39. The complaint of the slave *Etienne*, of being ill-fed, ill-treated and compelled to work on Sundays, is dismissed on the mere contradiction of it by a person who appears on behalf of the owner, although the police surgeon certifies that the slave looks weak and emaciated, and is apparently ill-fed.
- No. 52. In the investigation of the complaint of *Célestine*, made on the 25th September, it is admitted, that the marks upon her person were the consequence of a flogging inflicted upon her "a long time ago." It is not stated, nor does it appear to have been inquired, whether the flogging here mentioned had been inflicted previously to the coming into operation of the Slave Ordinance or since.
- No. 54. This is again a complaint from a slave belonging to M^{re} Sturbell, of having been punished for not completing a task which was beyond her strength; viz. making five vacoa sacks *per diem*. The Protector states, that he had applied to you on the subject of regulating the quantity of labour to be exacted from slaves, but you do not appear to have considered it expedient to interfere in the matter. I trust, however, that the clauses in the late Order in Council for preventing the wanton punishment of slaves, will be found sufficient to prevent such unjust exertions of authority as those which appear to mark the conduct of M^{re} Sturbell.
- No. 55. Slaves *Augustin* and *Melanie*, being arrested by the police while marooning, alleged, as a reason for running away, the ill treatment they had received, both complaining of having been punished with a whip "d'une peau bien dure." Dr. Hart certifies, that they bear marks of a punishment, but apparently of long standing, and of no great severity. The evidence on the part of the master is not given, but is said to have proved to the satisfaction of the Protector the groundless nature of the complaints. Unless however it proved their entire falsity, the master had rendered himself liable to two penalties; first, for using a whip made of hide, which is stated by the Protector in the case of Antoine (No. 8.) to be illegal; and, secondly, for flogging a female.
- No. 56. The next case is one in which, though it is evident that the slave had been illegally punished, it seems difficult to discover the perpetrator of it. *Juliette* complains of having been flogged by her mistress's order, in consequence of which she marooned, and was out two or three months before coming to complain. The certificate of the Doctor states, that she bears extensive marks of punishment. In opposition to this, the mistress, as well as her two sons and the slave Felix, who are stated to have assisted at the flogging, all positively deny the fact. With such conflicting evidence, I am aware that it is impossible to decide upon the truth of the charge. Any of those minute circumstances which generally attach a greater degree of credibility to one party than to another, would, if they existed, be perceptible to those only who were on the spot; and I must therefore trust that the Protector used his utmost endeavours, however unavailingly, to discover the truth.
- No. 63. The evidence upon which the Protector decides that the complaint of ill treatment preferred by the slave *Paulin* as groundless, is not given; while the surgeon's certificate, which is given, proves that he had been severely punished.
- No. 67. An illegality is admitted to have occurred in the infliction of the punishment which formed the basis of complaint No. 67. The master, Mr. Bestel, had punished his slave *Solon* with twenty-five stripes, for having neglected his cart; the illegality consisted in having inflicted the punishment immediately upon the offence, whereas

the law required that an interval of twenty-four hours should elapse. As the punishment appears to have been very severe in proportion to the offence, I cannot perceive that any reason existed for the non-exaction of the fine.

The slave *Espérance* complains of being ill-fed, confined in the stocks at night, and made to work on Sunday. The master, in his defence, asserts the falsehood of his complaint respecting his food, in which he is supported by the evidence of the other slaves; he admits that the slave is put into the stocks at night, but states that it is to prevent his wandering and eating unwholesome food; and the statement of his being worked on Sunday is not noticed. Here, as in most cases, I observe that the slave is said to be a great drunkard, and a bad character. The Protector dismissed the complaint, reminding the owner of the impropriety of confining the slave at night merely to prevent his getting improper food.

In the next case which is denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution, it appears that the master was in the habit of working those of his slaves who were in chains on Sunday, for the purpose, as he said, of indemnifying himself in some degree for the time lost by them in marooning. It is not stated by the Protector whether the master was denounced for the individual case in which the complaint had been made, or for the practice generally, or for each of the cases separately; nor does he appear to have pointed out to him in what consisted the illegality of his conduct.

This is again the complaint of a female slave against M^{me} Sturbell, for exacting too much work, and for having struck her with a ruler. The result is stated to be, that "it appearing from an inquiry made into this complaint, and also by the declaration of M^{me} Sturbell in reply thereto, that a task of four sacks only has been exacted from the negress, and that in other respects her statement is false, she was reprimanded, and returned to her mistress," &c. I conclude that a refutation of the charge of striking is contained in the expression, "in other respects her statement is false." The accusation, however, was of importance, and I am therefore surprised that the Protector did not notice it more particularly.

In the next complaint, which is made by sixty-nine slaves, it appears that they are mustered at four o'clock in the morning, half an hour before day-light, and that they work until sun-set, at seven o'clock. This is stated not to be an infraction of the law, which provides that slaves shall work only from sun-rise to sun-set. I am aware that in the latitude of Mauritius the twilight which precedes sun-rise is of short duration; still I cannot but consider the mustering of the slaves for work at this early hour in the morning as a virtual contravention of the Slave Ordinance. If the terms of the Order in Council should be found inadequate to secure to the slave a due portion of rest, you will take measures for defining more precisely the hours within which it shall be lawful to compel him to labour.

I now come to the complaint No. 91, which is of a much more serious nature than any which has been brought under my notice in this record, and which I have perused with feelings of the deepest regret. The facts, as I collect them from the papers before me, are as follows:—*François*, a Creole black, aged about 25 years, and belonging to M. Marchal, of the Bretonnache Cartage Establishment, in Port Louis, presented himself at the Police Office, at three o'clock on the morning of the 18th December 1829, with his hands fastened together behind, by means of thumb-screws, fixed so tight as to have penetrated the flesh quite to the bone, and caused considerable swelling and inflammation of the hands and arms. He complained of ill treatment from his master, and declared that one of his comrades, named "Loff," had been treated in the same manner, and was at that moment confined in the stocks on his master's premises, with thumb-screws on. A surgeon having been sent for, the thumb-screws were filed off, and *François*, at his recommendation, sent to the Civil Hospital. He afterwards made the following declaration: "That about twenty-four days ago he neglected his work, got drunk, and absented himself for a whole day; that on the following day he was arrested by a gendarme, and carried to the Police, whence his master caused him to be conveyed home, after a few hours' detention only. Immediately after his arrival, his master fixed thumb-screws on his thumbs, fastening his arms behind, and placed his two feet in the stocks; that at night he was taken out of the stocks, and, with the thumb-screws still on, placed in
" a machine

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“ a machine called a carcan, which consists of two pillars, with a cross plank
 “ affixed at the distance of a man’s height from the ground, to which he was
 “ attached by means of an iron collar, about three inches broad, fastened to the
 “ plank by staples and padlocks, and where he remained in a standing position all
 “ night, and in the morning was released, and again put into the stocks for the
 “ day ; that he was thus treated alternately night and morning for a fortnight,
 “ when his master sent him to his plantation at Petite Rivière, with the thumb-
 “ screws always on, for the purpose of being flogged ; but his master not being
 “ able, on account of ill health, to visit the plantation, sent for him back again
 “ last Saturday, and treated him as before ; that being unable to use his hand,
 “ he was sometimes fed by one of his comrades, named Zephyr, and at other
 “ times the victuals were placed on the stocks, from which he ate stooping ; that
 “ another slave, named Loff, a Malgache, belonging also to his master, had been
 “ treated precisely in the same manner, and was his fellow-sufferer ; that the
 “ thumb-screws being screwed on so tight had penetrated his flesh almost to
 “ the bone, and caused him very great pain ; that about four days ago he
 “ announced himself to be ill, and his master then caused him to be taken out
 “ of the stocks, and placed in the hospital ; that last evening, being there alone
 “ with Loff, and finding a favourable opportunity to escape, he did so soon after
 “ gun-fire, leaving Loff there with the thumb-screws on ; and that at three o’clock
 “ this morning he went to the Police, where the thumb-screws were filed off, and
 “ then he was sent to the Protector’s Office.” Upon being interrogated upon
 various points connected with the above declaration, François further stated,
 that it was his master himself who put the thumb-screws on him, and who
 used to conduct him night and morning from the carcan to the stocks, fol-
 lowed by the commandeur Janvier ; that they had only two meals a-day each,
 consisting of a pound of boiled maize ; that Loff’s hands and arms were in
 the same state as his own, from the effect of the screws ; that several of his
 comrades had been subjected to the same punishment, but not for so long a con-
 tinuance ; that the general treatment of the slaves on the establishment who
 belong to M. Bretonnache is good ; that M. Marchal, who superintends the esta-
 blishment, has blacks of his own employed upon it, who are never punished but
 with the thumb-screws, carcan and stocks ; that there is no surgeon attached to
 the establishment, and that when he complained of being ill, and was placed in the
 hospital, M. Marchal himself attended him, and gave him salts. In consequence
 of what François had stated respecting Loff, the Protector applied immediately for
 a warrant to search for and bring him to his office, and a police officer, accom-
 panied by François, was sent to execute it. On arriving, however, at M. Marchal’s,
 they found Loff gone, and the carcan destroyed ; and upon M. Marchal’s being
 questioned about them, he declared, that he had destroyed the carcan fifteen days
 before, as his uncle, M. Bretonnache, preferred selling such of his slaves as were
 bad subjects, and that with regard to the slave Loff, he had sent him the day before
 to his uncle’s plantation. On search being made for Loff by the Civil Commis-
 sary of the quarter in which the plantation of M. Bretonnache is situated, he was
 no where to be found, and he was denounced as a maroon by M. Marchal. The
 slave from whose custody he is said to have escaped, does not appear to have been
 examined ; but the Protector renewed his search for him, as he considered the
 excuses for his absence advanced by Marchal, as entirely false, and that he had
 been denounced at the Maroonage Office merely for the purpose of screening his
 master from the consequences of his death in the place of his concealment. The
 defence of Marchal, in which, however, he does not contradict the slave François
 in a single point of any importance, bears strong marks of prevarication. With
 respect to the carcan, which he before stated to have been destroyed fifteen days
 previous to the complaint, he says, “ that he destroyed it immediately after
 “ releasing François and Loff, about a week since ; that he got three carcans made
 “ at Port Louis about two months since, by a smith, whose name he does not
 “ recollect ;” and he admits having punished five other slaves on the plantation
 with the thumb-screws. The testimony of all the slaves who are examined goes
 to prove, that the two slaves were for many days punished in this cruel manner ;
 and the slave Zephyr, who was employed to feed them during their confinement,
 deposes, that François was a fortnight in the stocks, and two nights in the carcan,
 always with thumb-screws on, and that Loff was punished in the same way as
 François, except that he was a week longer in the stocks. This witness also states,
 that

that he had himself been put into the carcan with thumb-screws on, for one night, but the pain was so acute as to make him cry out, and in consequence his master took him out, and put him in the stocks. The surgeon in charge of the Civil Hospital, to which François had been sent, certifies as follows: "François is in great danger of losing his right thumb, which is in a state of gangrene, and I am fearful will lose a portion of the left; his general health is, however, good, and the only danger to be apprehended is tetanus, which is not unfrequently caused by wounds such as the black has received." In the Protector's Report, transmitted in your Despatch of the 9th August last (on which I shall take an early opportunity of commenting), the result of the prosecution of Marchal is stated to have been, that that person was condemned to pay a fine of 50*l.*, to be imprisoned three months, and to forfeit the two slaves. It is not without great regret and disappointment that I find so trifling a punishment awarded for the atrocious cruelties laid to the charge of M. Marchal. I have in vain searched for any circumstance which might afford a palliation of his conduct, or throw a suspicion on the evidence against him. After perusing therefore the expressions of abhorrence which his crime had called forth from the members of the Agricultural Society of Rivière du Rempart, I had been led to hope that the inhuman conduct of M. Marchal would not have been allowed to escape without a signal and commensurate punishment. I am entirely at a loss to understand upon what ground the inadequate punishment above quoted was inflicted upon him. It is indeed stated, that, through a mistake of the Judges, the trial took place under the Slave Ordinance, instead of the "Lettres Patentes," as had been originally intended, by which it became impossible to prosecute M. Marchal for more than a misdemeanor. Yet, even under these circumstances, if the utmost powers of the law had been evoked, there would have been ample means of visiting him with a very severe punishment. The maximum penalty that can be awarded for a misdemeanor is 200*l.*, and six months' imprisonment; and if this had been inflicted for each offence, it might have constituted an adequate punishment, especially if followed up by a declaration of incompetency to hold or manage slave property for the future, against Marchal, as provided by the 30th clause of the Slave Ordinance. This provision does not seem to have been even alluded to in any of the proceedings, though, if the case under consideration did not call for an application of it, it is difficult to conceive any cruelty, not amounting to a deprivation of life, which would justify its application. I fear that it will be now too late to take measures for obtaining such a sentence; if, however, the law officers of the Crown should be of opinion that such proceedings would not be inconsistent with the law of Mauritius, you will call upon the Protector to lose no time in instituting them. You will also desire him to explain upon what grounds he originally refrained from taking this step. I observe by the documents now transmitted, that the fear expressed by the surgeon who attended François, in the certificate which I have already quoted, had been in some measure fulfilled, as that slave had lost one joint of the thumb of his right hand, and had had the other thumb seriously injured. The slave Loff appears to have been found, since the Court, in its sentence, expressly alludes to him, though no explanation is given of his former disappearance. M. Bretonnache, the uncle of Marchal, has died since the commencement of these proceedings: I wish to be informed whether by that circumstance Marchal has become possessed of any slave property as heir to his uncle.

In concluding my remarks upon the Complaint Book, I have to observe, that in some instances in which the Protector had sentenced slaves to receive what appeared to me a severe punishment for preferring false or malicious complaints, I have omitted observing upon it, both because his attention was repeatedly called to the subject in my Despatch of the 15th of January, and because the Order in Council of 1830 will have deprived him of the authority to inflict such punishments.

The great disregard to truth evinced by a large proportion of the slaves who prefer complaints, and the great prevalence of drunkenness, are unfortunately among the most prominent features of this document. His Majesty's Government trust that measures have ere this been taken for checking the indulgence of the latter vice, which seems to be the original cause of almost all the complaints which have come before the Protector.

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 MAURITIUS.
 Correspondence.

In conclusion, I have to desire that you will give Mr. Thomas distinctly to understand, that it forms no part of his duty to decide in what cases fines incurred by the infraction of the Slave Laws are to be exacted. The provisions of that law have purposely refrained from investing the Protector with so invidious a discretion; and it is therefore his duty, whenever a contravention of the law is proved, to take the necessary steps for the exaction of the penalty. I have been induced, from a contemplation of the peculiar difficulties of Mr. Thomas's situation in Mauritius, to regard with indulgence such of his decisions as did not appear to me to be entirely consistent with a strict observance of the law; but I trust that a more intimate acquaintance with the details of his office will shortly enable him to fulfil its duties with greater ease to himself, and with more satisfaction to His Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Goderich.*

N^o 7.

DESPATCH from Lieut.-Gen. Sir *C. Colville*, to the Right Hon. Sir *G. Murray*,
 &c. &c. &c.

SIR,

Mauritius, 9th August 1830.

HEREWITH I have the honour to transmit the Half-yearly Report of the Protector and Guardian of Slaves, to the 24th of June last. What I have said on his preceding Reports, and the receipt, upon the 6th instant, of your Despatch of the 5th of April of the present year, No. 18, communicating the Order of His Majesty in Council of 2d February 1830, appear to me to preclude the necessity of my troubling you with any further observations, than that, in reference to what Mr. Thomas says under the head of "Criminal Prosecutions against Slaves," in complaint of his not having received notices of trial, he has now been reminded, in writing, of the course he had before been verbally recommended to pursue, which, there was every reason to hope, would have obviated the embarrassment; and that the inconvenience attending the want of a Court for the recovery of small debts, is one felt by the slaves only in common with the rest of the population of the Island; and from which we are inclined to hope the expected changes in our Judicial system will relieve us.

I have the honour to transmit the Papers alluded to by the Protector, in the cases of M^{me} De St. Faust and M. C. Virieux, and I take the same opportunity of forwarding to you, with reference to my Despatch of the 26th April 1829 a Return of the Government Slaves manumitted by me from the 18th June 1828 to 31st ultimo.

I have also the honour to forward, for your information, the Sentences of the Courts of First Instance and Appeal, with a Report of the Procureur Général thereon, in the case of the Sieur Marchal for cruelty to two slaves, as mentioned in the last and present Reports of the Protector; and I beg to add, that the judgment of the Superior Court has been put in force against the offender.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(signed) *Chas Colville.*

No. 1.
 With five Documents
 of Reference.
 Vide Despatches
 Sept. 3, 1829, and
 Jan. 25, 1830.

Nos. 2 and 3.

No. 4.

No. 5.

No. 1.—Enclosure, with Sir Charles Colville's Despatch, dated 9th August 1830, with five Documents of Reference.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

To His Excellency Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir *Charles Colville*, G. C. B. Governor and Commander in Chief, &c. &c.

THE PROTECTOR AND GUARDIAN OF SLAVES' REPORT,
from the 25th December 1829 to the 24th June 1830.

IN pursuance of the duty enjoined him by the 10th Article of the Ordinance (No. 43.) the Protector and Guardian of Slaves has the honour of presenting to his Excellency the Governor, the following Report of his proceedings in discharge of his official functions for the last six months.

The advantage of forming it into two sections will have been exemplified by the last Report; the same course will therefore be followed in the present; the first showing, as far as they can be shown, the progress and result of the several matters not terminated when the last Half-yearly Report was made; and the second, a Summary of subsequent proceedings.

Section 1st.

On reference to the List of Complaints made by Slaves against their masters denounced for prosecution by the Protector, and which accompanied his last Report, it will be seen that seventeen cases were still pending in the Courts, the whole of which have been since disposed of as follows:—

- In 8, the masters were convicted and fined in £. 20 sterling each, and costs;
- 2, - - - - - in £. 25 sterling each, and costs;
- 1, - - - - - in £. 6 sterling, and costs;
- 1, - - - - - in £. 2 sterling, and costs;
- 1, the master died before the prosecution was commenced;
- 3, the parties were acquitted; and
- in 1, (the most grave, being that against M. Marchal, for cruel and inhuman treatment, causing mutilation of two of his slaves—see Appendix to the last Report, case No. 91), the master was condemned to three months' imprisonment, to pay a fine of £. 50 sterling, and the two slaves to be confiscated to the Crown.

From this sentence M. Marchal has appealed, although with respect to the fine and imprisonment, a moiety only was awarded of that which the Ministère Public prayed the Court to inflict. What may be the result of the appeal remains to be seen, it not having been yet tried. In the mean time it may be necessary here to observe (in allusion to a remark made upon this case in the Protector's last Report), that it was not prosecuted under the "Lettres Patentes," as therein mentioned, but under the Ordinance No. 43, the Protector in making that remark having been misled by the information given him thereon by the Procureur Général, who says, "J'ai en conséquence transmis à Monsieur le Substitut en Première Instance les informations et directions pour que sur sa plainte l'affaire soit instruite au criminel, et suivant les dispositions des Articles 19 et 37 des Lettres Patentes de 1723."

Two of the cases of acquittal (*Barraque v. Amelin*, and *Basille v. Nosaic*), arose from the prevarications of the slave witnesses, and the consequent rejection of their testimony; and the third (*Nanettee v. Parisot*), from a plea of justification, grounded upon the insolent conduct of the negress, for the beating of whom the action was brought. In the case of the party who died, there appears to have been very great delay in bringing the action, the complaint having been denounced to the Procureur Général in November last, nearly seven months previous to the casualty which put a stop to the prosecution: the same remark will also apply to the two first cases of acquittal above mentioned, in which from five to six months were suffered to elapse before they were brought into Court, a circumstance which, considering the gross ignorance and incapacity of slaves, and their apprehension of incurring their master's severity by giving testimony against him, may in a great measure account for the discrepancies that appeared in their evidence.

The seven cases of disputed claims of manumission particularized in the last Half-yearly Report, are still in progress through the Courts. The decisions in four of them, namely, those on behalf of *Marceline and Cimaté v. Lesur*, of *Eugene and Marie v. Audibert*, of *Seraphine v. The heirs of Pitchen*, of *Victorine and her two Children v. Barbaud*, have been unavoidably delayed with a view to further proof. In that on behalf of the children and grand-children of the late *Antoine v. Lacourtaudière*, the judgment of the Court of First Instance has not been pronounced, owing chiefly to the protracted indisposition of the Judge, before whom the cause was tried in November last. The case of *Marie Saladin and her family v. Lefèvre*, is still pending in the Court of Appeal; and in that of *Adeline and her five children v. The Curator of Intestate Estates*, acting on behalf of the heirs of *Gaignard*, the issue has been retarded in the Court of Appeal at the instance of the Protector, awaiting the production of a document essential to the interests of the claimants, and alluded to in the last Report.

Section

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Section 2d.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

The number of complaints made by slaves against their masters, during the last six months, has been eighty-six.

A summary Statement, showing how they have been dealt with, is given in the Abstract, No. 1. sent herewith; whilst in the Appendix attached thereto, each case is fully detailed.

The Abstract, No. 2, contains a List of those cases wherein the masters have been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution; they amount to thirty-two; of which two have been tried, and the masters convicted, as will be seen, in different penalties; in another, the proceedings were quashed by order of his Excellency the Governor, at the instance of the Protector; the remaining twenty-nine are still pending, none of them having been yet brought into court.

In addition to the complaints described in the above-mentioned Abstracts, others of a minor nature, alluded to in the Protector's former Reports as coming from the domestic slaves of Port Louis, continue to occupy much of his time. They are generally trifling and tedious, and, when practicable, are settled at once by the hearing of both parties. In many cases they arise on the part of the owners complaining of the inebriety, insolence and disobedience of their slaves.

In such cases, the Protector does not deem it altogether inconsistent with his duty to interfere, as it affords him an opportunity of engaging the master or mistress to a mild, humane and considerate treatment of the slave, and at the same time to impress on the mind of the latter, a proper sense of his or her duty; this observation applies particularly to the negresses, whose idle, immoral and dissolute habits are excessive, and in the absence of personal chastisement, very difficult to control.

CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS AGAINST SLAVES.

IN the accompanying List, No. 3, the number, nature and result of these prosecutions are given as correctly as the uncertain and irregular notices received from the respective tribunals will admit. In his last and previous Reports, the Protector took occasion to allude to such irregularity on the part of the officers charged with serving the processes of the Courts, and he now feels it an indispensable duty to repeat those remarks; for notwithstanding the interposition of the highest judicial authority in the Colony, the inattention of those officers to that which is required of them by the 8th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43, continues, and is such as to render it totally impracticable for the Protector to comply effectually with the spirit of that Article, as far as relates to the specific duty it imposes upon him. Under these circumstances, the Protector would respectfully suggest, that the subject may be made one of a special Government order, and that the duty required of the officers by the Article in question, may be made to extend to all processes connected with prosecutions instituted by the Procureur Général, at the instance of the Protector on behalf of slaves.

ENFRANCHISEMENTS.

THE number of individuals, men, women and children, to whom definitive acts of enfranchisement have been delivered during the last half year, is 256, whilst the number of those now in legal progress of manumission is 135; the age, sex, cause of enfranchisement and other particulars of the whole are fully stated in the accompanying Returns, Nos. 4 & 5. One case only of disputed manumission has called for the Protector's interference within the same period, namely, that of Clementine Fielding and her two children, Clemence and Symilia, manumitted by the last will and testament of their late master, M. Jacques Quesnel, whose executor proceeded accordingly to the enfranchisement; but an opposition was made to it on behalf of the creditors of Quesnel, who was proved to have died insolvent, and consequently the bequest of liberty to the individuals in question became, and was declared by the Court of First Instance null and void, and the case was so clear a one, that the Protector, acting upon the opinion of his legal adviser, deemed it useless to carry it into the Court of Appeal. The two important cases of the negress Augustine Rose, claiming her liberty against M^{me} De St. Faust, and of the negress Victoire, against M. Edouard Virieux, have been so fully related in the representation and précis made thereof, to the Chief Secretary of Government for his Excellency's information, on the 12th and 14th of April last, as to render a recital of them here unnecessary. The proceedings instituted by M^{me} De St. Faust against the Protector, in the first of these claims, appear to have been suspended, if not abandoned; and regardless, as it would seem, of the more serious charge of having introduced the negress into the Colony illegally, an attempt is making to obtain permission to alter and amend the false registration made of her in 1826, so as to avoid the pains and penalties incurred thereby. In the second case (that of M. Virieux), no movement has been made, it having pleased his Excellency to agree to the suggestions made by the Protector, that proceedings should be suspended, awaiting the pleasure of His Majesty's Government on that part of the Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry, which recommends a conditional remission of the penalties attached to frauds, such as characterize this and the preceding case. In the mean time his Excellency's suggestions with respect to the verification of the different registrations, the responsibility of the parties for the production of the two women, and the future explanation they may be required to give, have all been duly attended to.

SAVINGS BANK.

THE observations made upon this Establishment in the last Report continue still applicable. It is in fact a complete nullity, the only addition to its funds for the last six months being £.1. 4s. deposited by the Protector himself, on account of a little negro boy, his apprentice, belonging to Government.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

SLAVES entitled to be admitted to Oath.

No return has been made to the Protector, since his last Report, of any slave being sufficiently instructed in the religion he professes, to know the nature and obligation of an oath.

MARRIAGES.

THE Protector has received a report of one marriage only among the slave population during the last half year; it was celebrated by the Civil Commissary of the quarter of Flacq, between two slaves named Paul and Fatima, both belonging to the widow De Ravel, of that district.

PUNISHMENT RECORD BOOKS.

BY the law, as it now stands, no provision is made for obtaining a general periodical return of these records; the only authority vested in the Protector relative to them, is to call for a copy or extract whenever any particular case occurs which, in his opinion, may render such a measure necessary; consequently the only information derived upon the subject has been from the records kept on the plantations whose owners have been complained against, and who are therefore invariably required to produce them. In none of those that have thus come under the observation of the Protector during the last half year, has he remarked any instance of excess either in the nature or number of punishments; but it is necessary to observe, that among the lower class of slaveholders, the keeping of those records is by no means generally attended to; and whenever an infraction of the law in such cases has been discovered, the parties have been denounced for prosecution.

In addition to the subjects already reported upon, there is another to which the Protector would solicit his Excellency's particular attention, namely, the inconvenience that is experienced from the want of some judicial court for the recovery of trifling debts due to slaves at a small expense.

The applications for the Protector's interference in such matters have of late been numerous, and in many instances he has succeeded in obtaining payment, or some satisfactory arrangement; but as it is evident his interference can only be exercised where the parties are amicably disposed, and as the heavy expenses attending a law suit render recourse to law inadvisable, the want of a tribunal, in the nature of our Courts of Conscience, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, is severely felt by the slaves.

The time that has elapsed since the Amelioration Ordinance came into operation, and the tranquillity which has marked its progress during a period of fifteen months, show how groundless were the apprehensions entertained on its promulgation. Instead of the disorder and insubordination anticipated, the Protector has every reason to believe, not only from his own observation, but from the reports of the Assistant Protectors of Districts, that peace, quietness, and (as far as it can co-exist with a state of slavery) contentment prevail throughout the Colony; so that the Ordinance may be fairly deemed to have worked well in promoting, thus far, the physical condition and comfort of the slaves; but in a moral point of view it is to be apprehended it has done but little, owing to the total inadequacy of the number of pastors and teachers, which is such, that in one district (Savanne) it would appear from the Assistant Protector's Report, "qu'il n'est même venu aucun ecclésiastique dans le quartier pendant ce laps de temps" (six mois); and in the district of Plaines Wilhems, the want of religious instruction is attributed, "au manque absolu dans ce quartier de tous moyens propres à exciter et entretenir les sentimens de piété."

Thus, therefore, in two districts of the Colony, and it is much to be feared in others, the slave population is not only deprived of moral and religious instruction whilst living, but of the consolation which religion imparts at the most awful of all periods; and probably hundreds of human beings are annually consigned to the grave without the observance of any religious rite whatever. That such a state of things must tend to perpetuate the moral debasement of the slave, and to neutralize the benefits intended for him by the humane measures of Government, cannot be doubted. The Protector, therefore, in respectfully submitting it to the consideration of the Governor, feels persuaded, that the benevolent sentiments which characterize his Excellency will induce him to take such measures as may appear advisable for the removal of so serious an evil.

Protector of Slaves' Office, }
Port Louis, 28th June 1830. }

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Sworn before me at the Government House,
Mauritius, this 26th of July 1830.

Cha' Colville,
Governor and Commander in Chief.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

(Enclosure 2.)

LETTER from *R. M. Thomas*, Protector of Slaves, to *Col. G. A. Barry*, Chief Secretary to Government, &c. &c. &c.

Protector of Slaves' Office,
April 14th, 1830.

SIR,

ON the 15th of last month a negress, named Augustine Rose, presented herself at this office, claiming my protection under the circumstances set forth in the annexed document, being a précis of the procès verbal of her declaration, and of the evidence given before me in support thereof.

Having inquired into the truth of her statement, it appears certain that she was brought into this Colony from St. Jago, one of the Cape de Verd Islands, in the month of September 1815, by a M. St. Faust, with whose family she has ever since lived in a state of slavery; but whether she was born, as she states, of free parents, there are no present means of ascertaining, nor would that appear to be essential should her case be considered as coming within the meaning of the provisions of the 47th section of the consolidated Abolition Slave Act of the 24th June 1824.

On referring to the records of the Registration Office for a verification of that part of her statement in which she declares herself to have been registered at the recensement of 1826, as a Creole of this Colony, it has been discovered, that in the original recensement of 1815, she was registered under the name of "Goustazélide, a native of St. Jago, Ile du Cap Vert," and at the triennial recensement of 1819, an attempt was made to register her under the name of "Augustine Justa, Créole de St. Jago la peau;" but as this description was at variance with that given of her in the original recensement of 1815, the Registrar declined to receive the list so furnished, which list the present acting Registrar has placed temporarily in my possession: and with regard to the general registration of 1826, she there appears for the first time to be registered by her right name of "Augustine Rose," but under an erroneous description as to country, she being registered as a "Créole de Maurice," so that in neither of the registrations has she been correctly described; and this does appear the more extraordinary when it is considered, that the Order of the King in Council of the 30th January 1826 was made for the express purpose of obtaining "a full and complete revision, correction and renewal of the first and original registry."

Independent, therefore, of a breach of the 47th section of the Slave Abolition Consolidated Act, as already mentioned, there appears also to have been an infraction of the Order of His Majesty in Council of the 30th January 1826, which confirms the clause of the Order of the 24th September 1814, enacting a penalty of £.300 sterling for each and every negro, &c. who shall have been falsely described and registered; and although doubts have arisen as to the application of this clause to frauds committed anterior to the registration of 1826, they appear quite inadmissible when viewed with reference to a contravention of the Order in Council of that year, made, as has been already observed, for the purpose of revising and correcting former inaccurate registrations.

It was my intention to have denounced the case to the King's Proctor for prosecution in the Court of Vice Admiralty; but having observed, by the printed Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry, that the attention of His Majesty's Government has been specially drawn to the extent of these frauds, and that a conditional remission of the penalties has been suggested, I deem it necessary first to submit the case to his Excellency the Governor, with a view to such instruction as he may be pleased to give me thereon. At the same time I beg to observe, that the parties are entitled to no consideration; for instead of awaiting the issue of the inquiry instituted by me, they have endeavoured to arrest its progress by commencing proceedings in the Court of First Instance, with a view of obtaining a judicial recognition of the negress as a slave, and an authority to sell her; and as they have made me a party to that suit, I have to request you will be pleased to move his Excellency, that instructions be given to the King's Advocate to defend the action.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *R. M. Thomas*,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

PRECIS of the Complaint of *Augustine Rose*, in the service of the Widow De St. Faust, and of the Evidence thus far given in support of it, there being other testimony to be received.

Complainant states, that she is about 23 years of age, and was born of free parents at St. Jago, one of the Cape de Verd Islands; that her father's name is Pierre Louis, her mother's Marie Rose, and that she has two brothers, named Jean and Latère; that she was brought to this Colony in 1814 or 1815, on board a French merchant vessel, called L'Amitié, commanded by M. De St. Faust, who died here about eighteen months ago; that the said vessel Amitié, in her way from France to Bourbon and this Colony, touched at St. Jago, where, at the instance of Col. Frère, a Portuguese officer, who was intimate with her mother, she was hired to M. De St. Faust, to take care of his children, on condition that she was to be sent back in two years; that the said vessel arrived at Bourbon, and after remaining

remaining there some time, proceeded to this Colony, where complainant was landed in September 1814 or 1815, and has been ever since detained in slavery by the family of M. De St. Faust, notwithstanding her repeated remonstrances, and more particularly when it came to her knowledge that when the late M. De St. Faust was separated from his wife, the present widow, she (complainant) was made over to her as her property; that in 1826 she was inspected at the Registration Office, and there falsely registered as a Creole of this Colony, although born at St. Jago; that for the truth of her declaration, she begs to refer to the following persons (see Evidence), all of whom came to Bourbon on board the said brig *Amitié* along with complainant, and who are now in this Colony; and as M^{me} De St. Faust has declared her intention to sell complainant forthwith, she implores the Protector's interference to prevent it, and to obtain her release from the bondage in which she has been so long unjustly kept.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

EVIDENCE.

The following persons were named by complainant as being on board the vessel at the time; viz. Jean Martin; Elise Babet; Jacques Languille; Fanny, affranchie Bruneau; M. Desjardin; two brothers, Magnac, Bernel: of these, Martin, Babet, Languille and Fanny, have been examined: the two first prove complainant to have been brought from St. Jago to this Colony in the brig *Amitié*, by M. De St. Faust in September 1815; two of them speak positively as to her person, never having lost sight of her; the others remember her from circumstances only; but neither of them can testify as to the condition of her parents, one or two of them only from hearsay.

The other six witnesses have not yet been interrogated.

LETTER from G. A. Barry, Chief Secretary to Government, to A. D'Épinay,
Government Advocate.

Chief Secretary's Office, Port Louis,
15th April 1830.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to enclose the accompanying letter from the Protector of Slaves, together with the paper thereunto annexed, in reference to the case of a negress named Augustine Rose, claiming her liberty; and I have at the same time to convey to you the desire of his Excellency the Governor, that you will be pleased to defend the Protector against the proceedings instituted by the parties, with a view to obtain a judicial recognition of the negress in question being a slave.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) G. A. Barry,
Chief Secretary to Government.

LETTER from P. Salter, Acting Registrar, to the Honourable Colonel Barry,
Chief Secretary to Government.

SIR,

Slave Registry Office, 16th April 1830.

IN returning the petitions of Widow St. Faust and Genéviève Michel Marie, the former praying to rectify an error in the declaration of the slave Augustine Rose in 1826, described as a Creole of the Colony, instead of one of St. Jago, and the latter praying that she may be allowed to return the slave named Castor Congo, bought by her in May 1824; I have the honour to report that a M^{me} Marie Joseph Gerard Veuve St. Faust (who I understand to be the petitioner) recensed in 1815, at Moka, as follows; viz. "Gousta Zélide, noire, domestique nine years, country St. Jago, Cap du Vert, sans marque: fo. 361. V. 1. P^o." It would also appear, that Veuve St. Faust recensed the said negress in 1819 and 1822, under the original names and country. But the returns for these years being found incorrect at the time, were in consequence not registered. I cannot take upon me in assigning errors to be "clerical," where I find name, surname and country to have been changed in 1826, from what they stood in 1815, 1819 and 1822. Had it been in the caste or country alone, there might then have been some plausible ground for believing the person in filling up the return of Veuve St. Faust in 1826, to have committed a mistake in the great press of business at the moment; but it is hardly possible, in my opinion, to have completely changed by *mistake* the name, surname and caste of the slave. Under these circumstances, I am unable to recommend the case of the petitioner, and must therefore leave the matter for the consideration of his Excellency the Governor.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) P. Salter, Acting Registrar.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

LETTER from M^{me} B. V. De St. Faust to his Excellency the Honourable Sir C. Colville,
Governor, &c. &c. &c.

EXCELLENCE,

Port Louis, 10 Avril 1830.

JE suis propriétaire depuis le 25 Novembre 1817 d'une esclave nommée Augustine Rose, que j'ai reçue de M. De St. Faust, en paiement de partie de mes reprises matrimoniales : cette esclave, portée sur ma feuille de recensement de 1826, sous les noms précités d'Augustine Rose, a été inscrite à la Colonne indicative du pays de l'esclave recensée comme Créole de Maurice, bien que les recensemens antérieurs la désignent comme Créole de St. Jago : cette erreur dont je viens de m'apercevoir dans l'examen plus attentif que j'ai fait de mes recensemens par suite d'une difficulté qui paraît vouloir s'élever entre M. le Protecteur et moi, ne peut être attribuée qu'à la précipitation avec laquelle a été dressée la feuille de recensement de 1826, et aux grandes occupations des employés du greffe de l'enregistrement, qui alors étaient d'autant plus multipliées, qu'elles avaient pour objet à cette époque l'application de dispositions nouvelles au mode de recensement des esclaves. Quoique je n'ignore pas que les lois promulguées dans cette partie n'exigent point la représentation des recensemens antérieurs à 1826, et que ceux faits seulement à cette époque sont ceux qui doivent servir de titre, et assurer le droit de propriété de chacun ; je ne voudrais pas cependant qu'il existât une telle dissimilitude dans mes feuilles de recensement, et surtout lorsqu'il est certain qu'elle ne provient que d'une erreur de plume qui ne peut m'être attribuée.

Je viens en conséquence prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien autoriser la rectification demandée, et d'ordonner que, Augustine Rose soit inscrite sur ma feuille de recensement comme Créole de St. Jago, et non de l'Isle Maurice.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) B. V. De St. Faust.

(Enclosure 3.)

LETTER from R. M. Thomas, Protector of Slaves, to the Honourable Colonel Barry,
Chief Secretary to Government.

SIR,

Protector of Slaves' Office, 14th April 1830.

WITH reference to my letter of this date, transmitting, for the purpose of being laid before his Excellency the Governor, the case of the negress Augustine Rose, I have now the honour to claim your attention, for the same purpose, to a complaint subsequently brought before me by a negress named Victoire, whose case will be found minutely detailed in the annexed copy of the procès verbal thereof.

In addition to the reasons given in my letter alluded to, for submitting these cases to his Excellency the Governor, I feel myself called upon to state, that, having communicated with divers law authorities on the subject, I have been informed, that since it has become known that these complaints have received my attention, much alarm has been excited in the public mind, and that serious consequences are to be apprehended should they be followed up ; it being generally understood that the Order of His Majesty in Council of the 30th January 1826, operated as an amnesty, applying not only to false registrations, but also to all illegal importations, such as that of the negress Victoire. Under these circumstances, I have deemed it necessary to suspend the further investigation of this case until his Excellency's sentiments thereon be known.

I have, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

Bureau du Protecteur des Esclaves, Port Louis.

AUJOURD'HUI, Samedi, vingt-sept Mars, de l'an mil huit cent trente, à trois heures de l'après-midi, est comparue, pardevant nous, Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves de l'Isle Maurice et ses Dépendances, la nommée Victoire, Malgache, âgée de vingt-sept ans environ, appartenante à M. Edouard Virieux, habitant au quartier du Grand Port ; laquelle négresse nous vient d'être conduite par un garde de police, où elle nous dit avoir été faire des réclamations sur sa liberté : lui ayant demandé sous quels titres elle fait ses réclamations, la dite Victoire nous a dit et déclaré, qu'elle est venue ici dans le tems de M. Farquhar, abord d'un navire à deux mats (Français) ; qu'elle ne se rappelle pas le nom du dit navire, ni même celui du capitaine qui le commandait, mais qu'elle se rappelle bien du nom d'un Français qui était abord, nommé M. Raffanzac, avec qui la déclarante vivait ; que ce M. Raffanzac était son mari lorsqu'elle était à Tambanivoule ; qu'il l'a embarquée de-là abord du dit navire, comme sa femme, en lui disant, qu'elle viendra avec lui à Maurice, d'où il la ramenera à son pays (Tambanivoule) ; que l'ayant lui-même conduite abord du dit navire, la déclarante y voyait qu'il y avait beaucoup de noirs et de négresses ; que le dit navire rendu ici, se mouilla dans la nuit, auprès de la " Pointe aux Diables," au Grand Port ; qu'un instant après, M. Raffanzac, le capitaine, et deux autres Français, débarquèrent les noirs et les négresses qui furent abord, ainsi que la déclarante ; qu'étant

tous

tous débarqués, ils les dispersèrent dans les bois voisins; que la déclarante et deux noirs nommés Rott et Seynd, se trouvant égarés des autres, se réfugièrent chez un vieux blanc, nommé M. Guillemeau, qui les conduisit à M. Edouard Virieux, où ils sont depuis à travailler comme ses esclaves: déclare de plus la dite Victoire, que la cause pour laquelle ils étaient débarqués du dit navire immédiatement après son mouillage dans la nuit était, que le dit navire était poursuivi par une corvette Anglaise; que sa déclaration peut être confirmée par le témoignage des nommés Rott et Seynd, qui sont venus abord du même navire qu'elle, et qui sont maintenant chez M. Virieux; que depuis qu'elle est venue dans ce pays, c'est la première fois qu'elle est venue au port; qu'étant trompée par son mari M. Raffanzac, qui l'avait retirée du sein de sa famille, avec promesse de l'y retourner, et se voyant maintenant esclave, elle s'est sauvée de chez M. E. Virieux lundi dernier, et s'est rendue ce matin au Bureau de la Police, ne pouvant s'y rendre plutôt, ignorant le chemin du Grand Port au Port; qu'elle voulait il y a long-tems faire ses réclamations, mais que ne sachant pas alors s'expliquer en Français, elle avait espéré le parler un peu mieux.

(signé) *R. M. Thomas.*

Plus n'a déclaré; et dit, après lecture, sa déclaration contenir vérité, et y persister; requise de signer, a dit ne le savoir; avons signé, les jour, mois et an que de l'autre part.

(signé) *R. M. Thomas.*

Pour copie conforme.

(signé) *R. M. Thomas,*
Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves.

LETTER from *G. A. Barry*, Chief Secretary to Government, to *R. M. Thomas*,
Protector of Slaves.

SIR,

Chief Secretary's Office, Port Louis, 26th April 1830.

HIS Excellency the Governor having had before him your letter of the 14th instant, transmitting a complaint brought before you by a negress named Victoire, who claims her liberty on the ground of her being introduced into the Colony since the capture, and stating the reasons which have induced you to suspend proceedings until his Excellency's pleasure shall have been made known; I have the honour to acquaint you, that his Excellency agrees with you, that proceedings in this case should be suspended, awaiting the pleasure of His Majesty's Government on that part of the Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry, to which allusion is made in your letter.

His Excellency conceives, however, that it will, in the interim, be for the Protector to obtain certificates of the different registries made of the woman, and that the master or nominal master should be cautioned by you, of the probability of his being called upon for future explanation, and that he will be held responsible for the production of her person whensoever required.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *G. A. Barry,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

(Enclosure 4.)

RETURN of GOVERNMENT BLACKS Emancipated - - -

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Recensement, No.	Matricule, No.		Emancipation, No.	NAME.	SURNAME.	AGE.	PARENTAGE.
	Old.	New.					
1,310	462	-	1	Thérèse - -	Perrine - -	22	{ Grand-child to the free woman, Marie Douctoc - - - }
225	1,046	-	2	Jean Baptiste -	Cécile - -	27	{ - - Son of Manon Cécile, &c., brother-in-law to the free man, Chingilroy, who purchased his (Jean Baptiste)sister from Govern- ment for the purpose of marrying her - - - - }
308	335	208	3	Marcelin - -	Jeanne - -	36	{ Brother to Clarisse Jeanne; no free relatives - - - }
14	423	218	4	Virginie - -	Couronne -	27	{ - - Mother of Joséphine, Marie Thérèse and Colin, and sister to the free man Jean Louis de Cou- ronne, formerly a Government slave - - - - }
15	333	418	5	Joséphine - -	Couronne -	6½	Daughter of Virginie - -
17	392	444	6	Marie Thérèse -	Couronne -	4	- - ditto - - - -
	437	803	7	Colin - -	Couronne -	2½	Son of Virginie - - - -
348	407	224	8	Marguerite - -	Perrine - -	23	{ Mother of Célestin, Polidor, &c., niece to Mad ^e Veuve Sira - }
	428	799	9	Célestin Polidor	Perrine - -	2½	Son of Marguerite - - - -
52	485	109	10	Eléonor - -	Rasalam -	20½	{ Mother of M ^{ie} Elisa and M ^{ie} Aurélie; no free relatives - }
53	397	448	11	M ^{ie} Elisa - -	Rasalam -	4	Daughter of Eléonore - -
	428	463	12	M ^{ie} Aurélie - -	Rasalam -	2	- - ditto - - - -
325	435	94	13	Victorine - -	Henriette -	25	{ Sister to Susanne Henriette; no free relatives - - - }
218	400	230	14	Adeline - -	Pelagie - -	20½	{ Sister to Louise and Honorine Pelagie; no free relatives - }
522	345	429	15	Adeline - -	Madelon - -	6½	{ - - Daughter of Charlotte Made- lon, and of the free man François Gaiqui, head cooper of the Ma- tricule Department - - - }
496	385	439	16	Cathérine - -	Cathérine -	5	{ - - Sister to Jean Charles, Jean Baptiste, and Pierre Louis Cathé- rine, and god-daughter of the free woman Anne Perrine - - }
316	1,198	236	17	Louis - -	Julienne -	26	{ - - Son of Genéviève Jul ^{ne} , and cousin to the free man Paul, and nephew to the free woman Marie Julie - - - - }
1,201	1,204	473	18	Louis - -	Félicité -	26	{ - - Son of the free man Vincent de Paul, brother to Victorien de Marie Thérèse, formerly Govern- ment slaves - - - - }
903	-	12	19	Adam - -	Zamor - -	46	{ A native of Mozambique; no rela- tives free or slave - - - }
	415	458	20	Marie - -	Frosine - -	3¼	{ - - Sister to Jean François Fro- sine, niece to Pierre Dalmazi and Marie Pauline Dalmazi, and grand- child to the free woman Marie Gilonne - - - - }

from the 18th June 1828 to 31st July 1830.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

DATE of AUTHORITY.	DATE of Act of Freedom.	By whom EMANCIPATED.	MOTIVES and CONDITION on which granted.	AMOUNT PAID by the Parties.
1829: Feb. 9	1829: May 14	Marie Douctoc -	{ Replaced by Auguste Jasmin, No. 441.	£. s. d.
- May 25	- Nov. 20	Government -	{ - - Good conduct, and on condition of serving as a police guard for seven years, on a salary of 12 dollars a month - }	Gratis.
- Dec. 1	1830: Jan. 30	- ditto - -	{ - - Good conduct, and on condition of continuing his services three years in the Civil Engineers' Department, on a salary of 10 dollars a month & rations }	80 - -
- Nov. 18	- Feb. 18	Colin Labonté -	} On condition of Virginie's marrying Colin Labonté - }	140 - -
- Nov. 18	- Feb. 18	- ditto - -		
- Nov. 18	- Feb. 18	- ditto - -		
- Nov. 18	- Feb. 18	- ditto - -		
- Dec. 16	- Feb. 18	Mad ^e Veuve Sira	} Good conduct - - - -	60 - -
- Dec. 16	- Feb. 18	- ditto - -		
1830: Mar. 25	} The Acts of Emancipation still with the Protector of Slaves. }	Jérome Maya -	} On condition of Eléonor's marrying Jérome Maya - - }	80 - -
- Mar. 25		- ditto - -		
- Mar. 25		- ditto - -		
- Mar. 30		Government -	{ For her very good and exemplary conduct - - - }	40 - -
- Apr. 26		Philogène Telfair	{ - - For good conduct, and on condition of marrying Philogène Telfair - - - }	50 - -
- May 8		Government -	{ - - Grand-daughter of the Head Commissioner, Jean Baptiste Gaiqui, and emancipated in consideration of the faithful services of her father and grandfather - - - }	Gratis.
- May 26		Anne Perrine -	Good conduct of her parents -	20 - -
- May 26		Government -	{ - - Good conduct, and on condition of serving Government for two years, on an allowance of 15 s. a month, and rations - }	50 - -
- June 7		- ditto - -	{ - - Good conduct, and for faithful services rendered to Government, and on condition of serving Government if required for one year on the Madagascar mission † - - - }	Gratis.
- June 18		- ditto - -	{ - - Good conduct, and at the recommendation of Lieut.-Col. Cunningham, R. E. - - }	Gratis.
- June 30		Marie Gilonne -	{ Good conduct of her deceased mother, a Government black }	20 - -

† The Individual frequently spoken of in Mr. Lyall's Communication.

A. Myluis,
Acting Sup^t of Matricule.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

(Enclosure 5.)

LETTER from M. *Foisy*, Procureur Général, to Colonel *Barry*, Chief Secretary to
Government.Bureau du Procureur Général,
Port Louis, le 14 Juillet 1830.

MONSIEUR,

J'AI l'honneur, en réponse à votre lettre du 13, que je reçois ce matin 14, de vous donner la Copie des Instructions que j'ai adressées hier à mon Substitut M. Desmarais.

J'ajouterai cette remarque, que par suite d'une méprise, qu'il me semble que l'on peut justifier, les Premiers Juges se sont crû obligés de suivre l'Ordonnance en Conseil, No. 43, qui n'a d'exécution qu'en ce qui est qualifié *misdemeanor*, au lieu de diriger l'instruction suivant les Articles 19, 37 et 38, de l'Edit de 1723, du Code Noir, dont les dispositions, quoique existantes depuis plus d'un siècle, et de l'origine de cette Colonie, sont plus rigoureuses et dans un système plus étendu; car en application de ces Articles, et surtout du 38, la poursuite et la peine ont lieu comme pour les crimes les plus qualifiés: j'avais fait cette observation lorsque la plainte a été portée au Premier Tribunal.

Ci-inclus la Copie de ces trois Articles.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.LETTER from M. *Foisy*, Procureur Général, to M. *Desmarais*, Substitut du
Procureur Général.Bureau du Procureur Général,
Port Louis, le 13 Juillet 1830.

MONSIEUR,

J'AI l'honneur de vous faire parvenir l'expédition en due forme de l'arrêt rendu par la Cour le 7 de ce mois, et qui m'a été remise le jour d'hier, lequel confirme la sentence du Tribunal Criminel, qui condamne le Sieur Marchal à trois mois de prison: je vous invite à donner à cette condamnation la plus prompte et entière exécution, et à vouloir bien m'informer de son accomplissement.

La même sentence, confirmée par l'arrêt de la Cour, condamne le Sieur Marchal en cinquante livres sterling, ou 250 piastres; vous voudrez bien vous assurer si cette somme a été versée entre les mains du Collecteur des Revenues Intérieures. Vous avez aussi à prendre les mesures nécessaires pour que la disposition du même jugement qui ordonne la confiscation des noirs François et Loff, soit exécutée, et vous ferez en sorte que l'ordre de l'administration soit délivré pour la remise au bureau de la matricule des noirs du Gouvernement de ces deux individus.

Je vous prie de vouloir bien m'informer aussi lorsque le plein effet aura été donné à ces condamnations.

Vous n'oublierez pas de veiller à ce que l'état de dépens mis à la charge du condamné soit dressé et arrêté, afin que la rentrée puisse s'en opérer au profit du domaine qui en a fait les avances, et doit en être indemnisé.

J'ai l'honneur, &c. &c. &c.

(signé) *Foisy*, Procureur Général.

Art. 19.—LES esclaves qui ne seront point nourris, vêtus et entretenus par leurs maîtres, pourront en donner avis au Procureur Général des dits conseils, procureur pour nous, et mettre leurs mémoires en ses mains, sur lesquels, et même d'office, si les avis lui viennent d'ailleurs, les maîtres seront poursuivis à sa requête et sans frais; ce que nous voulons être observé pour les crimes et pour les traitemens barbares et inhumains des maîtres envers leurs esclaves.

Art. 37.—Défendons aussi à tous nos sujets des dits pays, de quelque qualité et condition qu'ils soient, de donner, ou faire donner, de leur autorité privée, la question ou torture à leurs esclaves, sous quelque prétexte que ce soit, ni de leur faire ou faire faire aucune mutilation de membres, à peine de confiscation des esclaves, et d'être procédé contre eux extraordinairement: leur permettons seulement, lorsqu'ils croiront que leurs esclaves l'auront mérité, de les faire enchaîner et battre de verges ou cordes.

Art. 38.—Enjoignons aux officiers de justice établis dans les dits pays, de procéder criminellement contre les maîtres et les commandeurs qui auront tué ou mutilé les membres des esclaves, étant sous leur puissance, ou sous leur direction, et de les punir de mort, selon les circonstances; et en cas qu'il y ait lieu à l'absolution, leur permettons de renvoyer, tant les maîtres que les commandeurs absous, sans qu'ils aient besoin de nous des lettres de grace.

EXTRAIT des MINUTES du Greffe de la Cour d'Appel de l'Ile Maurice.

DU Mercredi, sept Juillet, mil huit cent trente, dix heures du matin. Audience Publique Criminelle de la Cour d'Appel de L'Ile Maurice. Séans, Son Honneur Edward B. Blackburn, Grand Juge et Commissaire de Justice, Président la Cour; M. M. Virieux, Vice-Président; Morin, May, Juges; Mess^{rs} Laborde et Remono, Juges Assesseurs; et M. Adrien D'Épinay,

D'Epinaÿ, Avoué appelé pour compléter le nombre de Juges, voulu par la loi. M. Lefebure de Marcy, Substitut du Procureur Général du Roi, présent. M. Léopold Evariste Canet, Commis Greffier juré, tenant la plume.

PART VI.
—
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Le Sieur Charles Marchal, prévenu de contravention aux Ordonnances de son Excellence le Gouverneur en Conseil, des sept Fevrier et sept Octobre, mil huit cent vingt-neuf, et de traitement cruel et inhumain, tenant de la torture exercé habituellement sur nombre d'esclaves confiés à ses soins, particulièrement sur les nommés François et Loff, ses esclaves, appellant de sentence du quinze Avril dernier, comparant en personne, assisté de M. Henry Kœnig, Avoué, son Conseil,—*contre*, Le Substitut du Procureur Général, près le Tribunal de Première Instance, plaignant et accusateur intimé.

Où le Ministère Public en ses conclusions écrites et déposées sur le bureau, le prévenu en son dernier interrogatoire, et en ses moyens de défense par l'organe de M. Kœnig, Avoué constitué.

La Cour ordonne, Qu'elle va se retirer en chambre avec apport des pièces de la procédure en icelle, pour délibérer et rendre son arrêt immédiatement et sans désemparer.

Et après en avoir délibéré, la Cour ayant répris séance,—

Vû le requisitoire en plainte du Substitut du Procureur Général du Roi, du vingt-six Décembre dernier, Ordonnance du Président, qui donne acte de la plainte, permet d'informer, et pour l'information renvoie devant M. Colin, Juge, ensemble l'information jointe au dit requisitoire par le Ministère Public :

Vû les rapports faits par les Docteurs Hart et Montgomery, sous les dates des dix-huit, vingt, et vingt-neuf Décembre dernier, sur l'état du nommé François :

Vû l'Ordonnance pour assigner témoins et signification d'icelle des trente et trente-un Décembre dernier :

Vû le cahier d'information des quatre et cinq Janvier et premier Fevrier derniers :

Vû la répétition du nommé François dans sa déclaration en police du premier Fevrier aussi dernier :

Vû le requisitoire du Ministère Public du deux Fevrier tendant au décret d'ajournement personnel contre le Sieur Marchal, et d'assigné pour être oui contre le Sieur Bretonnache, jugement conforme au trois Fevrier, expédition et signification d'icelui du huit :

Vû l'Ordonnance pour assigner les Sieurs Marchal et Bretonnache à l'effet d'être interrogés, et signification d'icelle des cinq et neuf Fevrier :

Vû les interrogatoires des Sieurs Marchal et Bretonnache du neuf Fevrier :

Vû le requisitoire du Ministère Public du quatorze Fevrier, tendant au règlement de la procédure à l'extraordinaire, jugement conforme du quinze, expédition et signification d'icelui des quatre et cinq Mars :

Vû l'Ordonnance pour assigner témoins à l'effet d'être recolés et confrontés du deux Mars, signification d'icelle du cinq :

Vû l'Ordonnance pour assigner les Sieurs Marchal et Bretonnache à l'effet d'être répétés dans leurs interrogatoires, et signification d'icelle des quatre et cinq Mars :

Vû la répétition d'interrogatoire du Sieur Marchal du six :

Vû le cahier de récolement du même jour :

Vû les répétitions du Sieur Montgomery et Hart, dans leurs Rapports du huit Mars :

Vû le certificat du Docteur Margeot du six Mars, constatant la maladie du Sieur Bretonnache :

Vû l'avis de décès du Sieur Bretonnache du neuf Mars :

Vû le requisitoire du Ministère Public du six courant, afin de fixation d'audience, ordonnance de M. Colin, Juge Suppléant, par empêchement pour cause de maladie de M. le Président, qui fixe l'audience au dix Avril, expédition et signification du huit :

Vû le jugement de Chambre du dix, qui, attendu l'absence de M. Lalouette, Avoué, appelé à remplir les fonctions de troisième Juge, ajourne l'audience au quinze Avril :

Vû les conclusions définitives du Ministère Public du même jour quinze Avril :

Vû le dernier interrogatoire de l'accusé subi à la dite audience :

Vû le jugement définitif du même jour quinze Avril, lequel reconnaît le Sieur Marchal, atteint et convaincu d'avoir exercé sur nombre d'esclaves confiés à ses soins des traitemens cruels et inhumains, et particulièrement sur les nommés Loff et François, dont le dernier a perdu l'une des phalanges du pouce droit, et a eu la partie charnue du pouce gauche lésée :

Pour réparation, et vû les dispositions de l'Article 29 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil du sept Fevrier, mil huit cent vingt-neuf,

Condamne Charles Marchal en trois mois de prison, en cinquante livres sterling d'amende, et aux dépens :

Ordonne la confiscation des esclaves François et Loff au profit de Sa Majesté.

Vû

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Vû le requisitoire du Substitut du Procureur Général près la Cour d'Appel, en date du vingt-sept Juin dernier, afin de fixation d'audience, ordonnance de M. le Président étant ensuite, qui fixe l'audience requise au six Juillet :

Vû l'arrêt de la Cour, en date du six Juillet, qui ordonne la continuation de l'affaire à ce jour :

Vû les conclusions du Substitut du Procureur Général, lesquelles tendent à ce qu'il plaise à la Cour, mettre l'appellation au néant, ordonner que la sentence du Tribunal Criminel du quinze Avril dernier, sera exécutée suivant sa forme et teneur, condamner l'Appelant aux dépens :

Vû les conclusions du Sieur Marchal, lesquelles tendent à ce qu'il plaise à la Cour, mettre la sentence du quinze Avril dernier, dont est appel au néant, emendant le renvoyer de la plainte contre lui portée :

Tout vû, attendu que quand même il serait prouvé au procès, autrement que par la déclaration de l'accusé, que le genre de punition infligé par lui n'était usité qu'envers les mauvais sujets, et pour des fautes graves :

Que bien que François et Loff fussent indisciplinés et se missent souvent par leur inconduite dans le cas d'encourir les châtimens autorisés par les lois et réglemens :

Que d'ailleurs, ce n'était que par un oubli de l'accusé que François est resté les poucettes à la main pendant plus de temps que l'accusé n'en avait l'intention :

Aucune de ces circonstances ne sauraient diminuer ni même atténuer en rien la culpabilité de l'accusé ; d'autant plus, qu'il est démontré, qu'avant qu'il fut chargé de l'établissement Bretonnache, ce mode de châtimement n'était pas usité sur le dit établissement, et qu'il était même ignoré de Bretonnache.

Attendu qu'il n'y a point d'appel contre le prévenu.

Par ce motifs et autres exprimés en la sentence du quinze Avril dernier, et encore en application de l'Article 29 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil du sept Février, mil huit cent vingt-neuf, qui s'exprime ainsi :—“ Toute personne convaincue des délits qualifiés comme MISDEMEANORS, prévus par la présente Ordonnance, si elle est de condition libre, sera punissable d'une amende qui ne pourra excéder deux cents livres sterling, ni être moindre de vingt livres sterling, ou d'un emprisonnement, dont la durée ne pourra excéder six mois, ni être au-dessous d'un mois, ou même ensemble de l'amende et de l'emprisonnement, si le tribunal devant qui elle aurait été convaincue croit devoir l'ordonner.”

Dans le cas, où quelque personne serait ainsi convaincue de traitement d'une nature cruelle et inhumaine envers aucun esclave, le même Tribunal pourra et est autorisé, dans sa sagesse et son jugement, à déclarer que la dite personne a perdu tous les droits et intérêts qu'elle pouvait avoir à la propriété ou possession de l'esclave, dont la confiscation sera définitivement prononcée au profit de Sa Majesté. Les procès auxquels les délits susmentionnés donneront lieu, seront instruits, débattus ; les débats et enquêtes auront lieu, et seront jugés devant les Tribunaux exerçant la justice criminelle dans la Colonie : la moitié des amendes qui seront prononcées sera versée au Trésor de Sa Majesté, et l'autre moitié sera devolue à la caisse de bienfaisance.

La Cour a mis l'appel du Sieur Marchal au néant, ordonne que la sentence dont est appel sortira son plein et entier effet, condamne le Sieur Marchal aux dépens.

Fait et jugé en la Chambre Criminelle, et prononcé en audience publique, les portes ouvertes, les jour, mois et an que dessus.

A la Minute.	(signés)	<i>A. D'Epinay,</i>	<i>Morin,</i>
		<i>Remono,</i>	<i>Virieux,</i>
		<i>Laborde,</i>	<i>Edward B. Blackburn, et</i>
		<i>May,</i>	<i>E^{te} Canet.</i>
Collationné.	(signé)	<i>E^{te} Canet,</i>	
		Commis. Greffier Juré.	

EXTRAIT des MINUTES du Greffe du Tribunal de Première Instance de l'île Maurice.

DU Jeudi, quinze Avril, de l'an mil huit cent trente, dix heures du matin. Audience Publique du Tribunal de Première Instance de l'île Maurice, connaissant des Crimes et Délits qui se commettent en la dite île. Séans Mess^{rs} Barthélemy Colin, Juge Suppléant en icelui, Président le Tribunal par empêchement pour cause de maladie de M. le Président ; Jean Marie Debessé, Avocat, remplissant par intérim les fonctions de Juge Suppléant ; et M. Jean Pierre Lalouette, Avoué plus ancien au Tableau non-empêché, appelé pour compléter le Tribunal. M. Jean Onézime Desmarais, Substitut du Procureur Général du Roi, présent. M. Christophe Marin, Commis Greffier Juré, tenant la plume.

Le Substitut du Procureur Général du Roi, Plaignant et Accusateur,—contre, Le Sieur Charles Marchal, prévenu de contravention aux Ordonnances de son Excellence le Gouverneur, des sept Février et sept Octobre mil huit cent vingt-neuf, et de traitement cruel et inhumain, tenant de la torture, exercé habituellement sur nombre d'esclaves confiés à ses soins, et particulièrement sur les nommés François et Loff, ses esclaves.

Lecture

Lecture faite, &c.

Vû les conclusions définitives du Ministère Public de ce jour, tendantes à ce que, " Le Tribunal, déclarant le Sieur Marchal atteint, et convaincu d'avoir torturé plusieurs noirs sous ses ordres, entr'autres les nommés François et Loff, ses esclaves, par suite de laquelle torture le nommé François a perdu la première phalange du pouce droit; pour réparation, conformément aux dispositions des Articles 37 et 38 des Lettres Patentes de 1723, et l'Article 29 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil, No. 43, le condamner à cinq cents piastres d'amende, et à six mois de prison, déclarer les deux noirs François et Loff confisqués au profit du Gouvernement, condamner en outre le Sieur Marchal aux dépens: "

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.
Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Tout vu, et M. Colin, Juge Instructeur, entendu en son rapport :

En fait, plainte a été portée par le Ministère Public contre le Sieur Marchal, prévenu d'avoir exercé habituellement des traitemens cruels, inhumains et inusités, tenant de la torture contre nombre d'esclaves confiés à ses soins, et particulièrement sur les nommés François et Loff, deux de ses esclaves :

En droit, le délit dont est accusation est-il constant? Marchal en est-il convaincu? Y a-t-il lieu d'appliquer les peines requises, ou de renvoyer le prévenu de la plainte contre lui portée?

Surquoi, considérant que les esclaves ne peuvent être entendus dans aucun cas pour et contre leurs maîtres; qu'en conséquence, les dépositions des noirs Zéphir, Janvier, Malais, Saisse et Baptiste, esclaves du Sieur Marchal, ou soumis à sa direction et discipline particulière, doivent être écartées du procès :

Considérant au principal, que le Sieur Charles Marchal, étranger à cette Colonie, et qui n'y habite que par tolérance et à la faveur d'un cautionnement, pour punir les esclaves qui se trouvaient sous sa surveillance, s'est servi plusieurs fois d'un collier fixé à une planche placée à hauteur d'homme, où il les tenait debouts toute la nuit; qu'en outre, il employait pour leur lier les mains des poucettes en fer, dont il se servait particulièrement lorsqu'il les tenait la nuit à cette espèce de carcan :

Considérant que la preuve de ces faits resulte de la constatation faite par l'officier de police Vinay, des déclarations des esclaves Loff et François, de l'aveu du Sieur Marchal lui-même répété aux divers interrogatoires par lui subis et des déclarations du Sieur Brétonnache co-accusé décédé pendant le cours du procès :

Considérant qu'il est également constant que les nommés Loff et François ont été particulièrement en butte à ces genres de punitions, et des certificats délivrés par les Docteurs Hart et Montgomery, joints au procès, il résulte, que par suite de l'emploi de ces moyens inhumains, le nommé François a perdu une phalange du pouce droit, et a eu les parties charnues du pouce gauche extrêmement lésées :

Considérant qu'il est du devoir des tribunaux de réprimer avec sévérité les traitemens inhumains exercés contre les esclaves :

Par ces motifs, le Tribunal, reconnoissant le Sieur Charles Marchal atteint, et convaincu d'avoir exercé sur nombre des esclaves confiés à ses soins des traitemens cruels et inhumains, et particulièrement sur les nommés Loff et François, dont le dernier a perdu une des phalanges du pouce droit, et a eu la partie charnue du pouce gauche lésée :

POUR réparation, et vû les dispositions de l'Article 29 de l'Ordonnance en Conseil du sept Fevrier, mil huit cent vingt-neuf, ainsi conçu, &c.,

Condamne Charles Marchal en trois mois de prison, en cinquante livres sterling d'amende, et aux dépens :

Ordonne la confiscation des esclaves François et Loff au profit de Sa Majesté.

Fait et jugé en la Chambre, et prononcé en audience publique, les jour et au que dessus.

Collationné.

(signé)

Prieur,
Greffier en Chef.

(signés)

B. Colin,
Debessé,
Lalouette, et
Marin.

No. 1.—ABSTRACT and APPENDIX of COMPLAINTS preferred between the
25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830.

No. in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
1.	1829: Dec. -	{ Jean Jacques - - Jean Pierre - - Prosper - - }	Mad. Gondreville - (Flacq.)	-- General ill treatment, too much work, and Sunday labour.	1830: January 8	-- Complaint false; complainants punished with ten stripes of a cane each; severely admonished, and then returned to their master.
2.	- -	Jean Louis - -	M ^{lle} Teychyncey - (Savanne.)	-- Inattention to him when ill, and being struck with the fist, after punishment with a cane.	- -	-- It appearing that the punishment inflicted was deserved, the slave was returned to his master, who was at the same time cautioned against striking a slave with his fist.
3.	- 31	Victorine - -	Mad ^{me} Sturbell - (Savanne.)	-- Being deprived of her hours of repose, and over-worked.	- 8	-- Complaint frivolous and unfounded; negro sent back to her mistress severely reprimanded.
4.	1830: January 1	Parisse - -	M. Loustau - (Savanne.)	-- Confinement in the stocks, and being obliged to wear a two-branched collar.	- 5	-- Slave severely reprimanded, and returned to his master, who was at the same time admonished against the use of such an instrument of punishment.
5.	- 4	{ 15 Individuals, (12 Males and 3 Females.) }	M. M. Barry - (Flacq.)	Over-worked, and short provisions.	- 4	-- It appearing that this complaint had only been framed as a pretext for
				absenting themselves from the estate, two of the individuals who had been most active in forming it, were punished with confinement on the plantation, and in chains for one week; the others were reprimanded, and returned to their master.		
6.	- -	{ Jacques - - Henriette - - Jeanne and Hélène - - }	M. J. Roulliard - (Rivière du Remp ^t .)	-- That they are kept on the estate as slaves, notwithstanding they are government blacks.	January 5	-- Totally unfounded. The slaves, on being returned to the estate, conducted themselves in a most disorderly manner. In consequence of which, the Protector directed Jacques to be punished with twenty-five lashes; and one of the negroes to be confined for two Sundays.
7.	- 2	Brutus - -	M. Cayeux - - (Pamplemousses.)	-- Badly fed, and totally neglected in sickness.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général for cruel and inhuman treatment exercised towards the said slave.
8.	- 4	Désiré - -	René Jacques - (Savanne.)	Beaten with a stick, and otherwise ill treated.	January 6	-- As this complaint had its origin in a drunken bout, and both parties were equally to blame, the case was dismissed, and the master and slave reprimanded.
9.	- 5	Jocrisse - -	M. Renaud - (Flacq.)	-- Confinement in the stocks, and punishment without reason.	January 9	-- Complaint false; slave reprimanded, and returned to his master.
10.	- 7	Samedi - -	M. Loustau - (Savanne.)	-- Frequent punishments and confinement in stocks, with insufficiency of food.	- 12	Ditto - - ditto.
11.	- 9	Casimir - -	M. Cha ^s Pipon - (Savanne.)	Punishment without cause.	- 11	Ditto - - ditto.

No. 1.—Abstract of Complaints preferred between 25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830—continued.

No. in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
	1830 :				1830 :	
12.	January 9	Fanny - -	V ^{ce} Achille Larcher (Port Louis.)	-- That she is not allowed to go out of the court-yard to see her paramour, nor is he allowed to come and see her.	January 9	- - Dismissed by the Protector, upon a representation made by the mistress, of the debauched habits of the complainant.
13.	- 11	Marie Louise - -	M. Nid - - (Port Louis.)	-- Refusing to afford her the medical aid required by her ill state of health.	Jan. - 11	- - Returned to her master, the complaint being groundless.
14.	- 11	{ Lételler - - François - - René, Bécard - - Joseph and Philogène - - }	M. Langlois - - (Flacq.)	-- Punishment without cause, & being obliged to pay for poultry, &c. which may be missing from the estate.	- 16	- - Complainants received fourteen lashes each, for a false complaint, and for cruelty to animals under their care; the two boys forgiven.
15.	- 19	Adèle - -	M ^{me} Audebert (Port Louis.)	-- Corporal punishment on her return from the police prison, and insufficiency of food.	- -	- - Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution.
16.	- 23	{ Carlin, Charlot Fortuné and Auguste - - }	M. Durup's Heirs - M. Mazère - - (Grand Port.)	-- Excessive ill treatment received from the overseer under whom they work.	- -	- - Master denounced for prosecution, for having put upon Carlin and Auguste chains of greater weight than is allowed by law, and also for not keeping a Register Book of Punishments.
17.	- 22	Roméo - -	M. G ^{ve} Mayère (Port Louis.)	-- Corporal punishment immediately after his return from the Bagne prison, where he had already been corrected.	- -	- - Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution, as an infraction of the 5th Art. of Ord. No. 51.
18.	- 22	Louise - -	M. Lapière (Pamplemousses.)	-- Corporal punishment with a cat-o-nine-tails.	- -	- - Denounced for a contravention of the 18th Art. of Ord. 43; and also for not keeping a Register Book of Punishments.
19.	- 25	Hyacinth - -	Pipon's Heirs - -	Over-worked, and punished without cause.	- -	- - Complaint false; the slave returned to his master severely reprimanded.
20.	- 25	Henry (a boy) - -	M. F ⁱⁿ Neptune (Riv. Noire.)	-- Putting upon him chains, in contravention of the 2d Art. of Ord. No. 51.	March 22	- - Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution accordingly.
21.	- 29	Eugène - -	M. Farly (Flacq.)	-- Corporal punishment, confinement in stocks, and inattention when in sickness.	Feb. - 6	- - Complaint false; Eugène was punished by the Protector's order with ten stripes of the cat, on the estate of his master.
22.	Feb. - 3	Charlotte - -	M. A. D'Emérez (Savanne.)	-- Being struck with a stick by the Sieur Ténarmont, overseer of the estate.	Feb. - 7	- - As this complaint could not, by the witnesses cited, be fully substantiated, and it appearing that the punishment inflicted was extremely light, the negress was returned to her master, who was cautioned against permitting a female slave to be struck either with the hand or a branch in future.
23.	- 4	Marie Louise - -	Mad ^{me} Furteaux (Grand Rivière.)	-- Ill treatment from her master and mistress, and not being allowed to visit her husband.	Feb. - 7	- - The master was remonstrated with, for cutting off the negress's hair, although done with a view to shame and mortify her on account of her libidinous habits; and the negress was severely reprimanded, and sent back to her master.

(continued.)

No. 1.—Abstract of Complaints preferred between 25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830—continued.

No. in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
24.	1830: Feb. 6 & 12	Twenty slaves	M. Lambert (Riv. du Remp ^t)	-- Punishment without cause, and being overworked on Sunday mornings; want of hours of repose, and insufficiency of food.	1830: Feb. 16	-- The master was reprimanded for the nightly musters, and cautioned against a recurrence of a custom so vexatious to his slaves. He was denounced for prosecution for flogging his negress Cazy, and severely reprimanded for having confined Rosine in the stocks, whilst pregnant; he was also admonished for exacting two corvées on Sunday, one only being permitted by law. With respect to the other points of the complaint, they were proved to be false. The food issued to his slaves by M. Lambert, is good, and in quantity that which is required by law; neither have they any reason to complain of the manner in which they were treated on new-year's-day. The slave Paul was punished for being absent from his work, a fact which was attested by all his comrades.
25.	- 12	Frontin	M. M. Noël (Moka.)	-- Being put in chains, beaten with a stick, and want of provisions.	Feb. 17	Complaint dismissed as unfounded.
26.	- 8	Estelle	M. Ducray (Plaines Wilhems.)	-- Continual confinement in chains, or in the stocks.	- 13	-- Complaint false; complainant handed over to the police, to be dealt with as a maroon.
27.	- 15	Bastion	M. Villecollet (Pampleinousses.)	Want of medical treatment.	- -	-- Complaint unfounded; the slave had been long under medical treatment, but the impossibility of keeping him to a proper regimen, accelerated the disorder (dysentery), of which he died at the Civil Hospital, on the 14th April.
28.	- -	Cazy	M. Lambert (Riv. du Remp ^t)	Corporal punishment	Feb.	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution accordingly.
29.	- 16	L'Eveillé	M. A. D'Emérez (Savanne.)	Violently beating him with a stick.	- -	Ditto - - ditto.
30.	- 15	François	M. Staub (Riv. du Remp ^t)	-- Confinement in chains for 16 years, & obliged to work whilst in a state of great lameness.	- 20	-- Complainant is a most infamous subject; the Protector directed him to be punished with twenty-five lashes of the cat, in the presence of the quarter, and his comrades on the estate.
31.	- 18	Marie Joseph	M ^{lle} Clarisse Rouillon (Port Louis.)	-- Violently beating her with a horse bridle, the negress being at that time in an advanced state of pregnancy.	- -	Denounced for prosecution accordingly.
32.	- 22	Jacquette	M. Daulne (Flacq.)	-- For giving her eight stripes of a cane on the shoulders.	March 6	-- It appearing that the blows inflicted upon complainant were only to separate her from another negress whom she was maltreating, and who was in a state of pregnancy, complainant was returned to her master, who was strictly admonished to forbid, for the future, the use of a cane or other instrument of corporal punishment on a negress; complainant was also reprimanded, and directed to be confined for two Sundays, as a punishment for her drunken habits.
33.	- 23	Marie Louise	Messrs. Desfontaines & Warwick, (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	-- Chains of greater weight than is allowed by law.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution accordingly.

No. 1.—Abstract of Complaints preferred between 25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830—*continued.*

No. in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
34.	1830 : Feb. 25	Félix - - -	M. Carette - - (Grand Port.)	-- General ill treatment and insufficiency of food.	1830 : Mar. 17	-- Complaint false and malicious; complainant punished with twenty lashes of a cat-o-nine-tails.
35.	- 25	Adonis - - -	Messrs. Blancard - & Thèvenin, (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	-- Insufficiency of food, want of repose, and general ill treatment.	- 4	-- Partly founded; the masters in this case were severely reprimanded, and strictly enjoined to an observance of the law for the future.
36.	- 27	Adeline - - -	M. Gautier - - (Port Louis.)	-- Corporal punishment, and want of clothing.	- 13	-- No evidence upon which to bring the case before the court. The child was returned to her master, who was strictly enjoined not to molest her in any manner for preferring this complaint.
37.	March 1	Simon - - -	M. A. Vincent - (Pamplemousses.)	-- For punishment with chains immediately on his return from the police prison, where he had already been corrected for a fault committed.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution accordingly.
38.	- 2	Caroline - - -	Mr. Wm. Ellis - (Port Louis.)	-- Beating her with his fists, and other ill treatment.	- -	Ditto - - ditto.
39.	- 2	Julien - - -	M ^{me} Sturbell - (Savanne.)	Severe punishment with a cane.	Mar. 11	-- The punishment inflicted in this case was by the mother of complainant (who is a very bad subject), and not by order of his mistress Mad ^{me} Sturbell, who was, however, cautioned against permitting the younger slaves on her estate to be so punished, upon pain of prosecution, should a repetition of the fact occur.
40.	- 4	Frontin - - -	M. Mallet - - (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	-- Putting upon him chains of greater weight than is allowed by law.	- -	-- Master denounced for prosecution, and the slave severely reprimanded for his general ill conduct.
41.	- 9	Mardi - - -	M. J. F. Dioré - (Pamplemousses.)	-- Confinement in chains, corporal punishment, and confinement in the stocks.	- -	Denounced for prosecution accordingly.
42.	- 9	Charly - - -	M. Ravelle - - (Flacq.)	Over-worked, and corporally punished.	Mar. 19	-- False and groundless. Complainant punished by order of the Protector, with fifteen stripes of a cat-o-nine-tails.
43.	- 9	Aly and Songol -	M. M ^{rs} Barry - (Flacq.)	-- Punishment of chains, and confinement inflicted upon their return from the Bagne prison, where they had already been punished.	April 30	-- Songol's complaint groundless. In the case of Aly, the Sieur Barry was denounced for prosecution for having put his slave in chains immediately after he had undergone punishment at the Bagne prison for the offence committed. It having, however, been subsequently ascertained that the punishment inflicted upon Aly was for an intermediate maroonage, and a representation of the circumstances made to his Excellency the Governor, with a view that the proceeding in the case might be quashed; his Excellency approving of the same, the prosecution was arrested.

(continued.)

No. 1.—Abstract of Complaints preferred between 25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830—*continued.*

No in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
	1830 :				1830 :	
44.	March 17.	Adèle & Augustine	M. Aurier - - (Flacq.)	-- Want of medical assistance, and being deprived of food.	April 2	False in every respect.
45.	- 17	Désiré - -	M. Mazière - - (Port Louis)	-- Punishment in irons of greater weight than is authorized by law.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution accordingly.
46.	- 10	Jack - -	The Rev. R. E. Jones (Pamplemousses.)	-- Corporal punishment inflicted on himself and his wife Cécile; over-worked, insufficiency of food, want of time for repose, and Sunday labour. Corporal punishment also inflicted upon the negress Martha.	- 19	-- In the punishment of Jack no infraction of the law appears to have been made, excepting that the registration of it does not contain all the particulars required by Order 43. The case of Cécile (a Government apprentice) was denounced to the acting Collector of Customs, whilst the infraction, in the case of Martha, was denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.
47.	- 17	Julien - -	M. Osughrue -	Confinement in chains.	- -	-- Complainant a bad subject; but the chains used being above the weight allowed, the case has been denounced to the Procureur Général, accordingly.
48.	- 18	Marc - -	M ^{me} Brouard (Flacq.)	-- Inattention to him in sickness, and want of food.	April 8.	-- Complaint false; slave returned to his mistress, for medical treatment on the estate.
49.	- 17	Adonis - -	Messrs. Blancard & Thévenin. (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	-- Confinement in the stocks, and corporal punishment, for having previously complained to the Protector.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution.
50.	- 19	Célestin - -	M. Daumont (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	Burning him with a lighted fire-brand.	- -	Ditto - ditto.
51.	- 19	Paya - -	M. Goulamsène (Port Louis.)	-- Confinement in chains, and corporal punishment for the slightest fault.	- -	-- Denounced for prosecution as an infraction of the 2d Art. of Ord. 51.
52.	- 22	Jean François	M. B. Marquet, alias Cottry. (Grand Port.)	Violently beating him with a stick.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution.
53.	- 24	Baptiste - -	M ^{lle} Henriette (Port Louis.)	-- Excessive punishment with a cane doubled.	- -	Ditto - ditto.
54.	- 29	Daniel - -	M. Le Goy - - (Pamplemousses.)	Ill treatment by the commandeur Etienne.	- 26	-- The slave was returned to his master, with a request not to molest him for having made this complaint.
55.	- 31	Prosper - -	M. Aubert - - (Pamplemousses.)	-- Confinement in the stocks, insufficiency of food, want of time for repose, and corporal punishment.	- 28	-- Complaint altogether groundless. The slave was punished with fifteen stripes by the Protector's order.
56.	- 31	Adolphe - -	M. Baptiste Ithier (Flacq.)	-- Ill-fed, ill-clothed, want of repose, and being beaten with a stick.	- 11	-- Complaint founded. The master denounced for prosecution accordingly.

No. 1.—Abstract of Complaints preferred between 25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830—*continued.*

No. in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
57.	1830 : April 4	Mathurin & Joinette	M. P. Loustau - (Savanne.)	-- Being obliged to work on Sunday until 10 A. M. and general ill treatment. more particular for the future in his observance of the law relating thereto.	1830 : April 11	-- Complaint generally false; with respect to Sunday labour, the overseer of the estate was recommended to be
58.	- 2	Jolibois - -	M. Charpentier - (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	-- Confinement in chains, and insufficiency of food, and punishment for a fault not committed.	April 10	-- False and malicious; complainant punished with twenty stripes of a cat-o'-nine-tails.
59.	- 5	Sylvin - -	M. M. Barry - (Flacq.)	-- Insufficiency of food; want of time for repose and meals, Sunday labour, and general ill treatment.	- 11	-- Maliciously false. Slave sentenced to 20 stripes at the request of the master; however the punishment was remitted to two months in chains.
60.	- 6	Eight slaves -	M. Mulet - - (Flacq.)	-- No hours of repose; insufficiency of food, and obliged to work when sick. with ten stripes, and the negroes to be confined on the estate fifteen nights, and on Sunday.	- 14	-- Complaint false. The two chiefs of this band were punished with twenty stripes each; the other male slaves
61.	- 8	Laurent - -	M. Bestel - - (Plaines Wilhems.)	-- Confinement in chains and Sunday labour, under a supposition that he would maroon if left at liberty. complainant was returned to his master.	April 17	-- The master was reasoned with upon the injustice of such a measure; but as no proof could be obtained of an infraction of the law,
62.	- 9	Seven Slaves -	M. L. Damain - (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	-- Constantly beaten while at work, by the commandeur Antoine and régisseur Théodore. The other five individuals, who showed signs of contrition, and declared the truth as to the mover of the plot, were pardoned.	April 15	-- Complaint totally groundless. The slave Plutus was by the Protector's order punished with thirty lashes, and Sylvan with twenty.
63.	- 11	Jean - - -	M. Mazère - - (Savanne.)	Corporal punishment duct of the black of a mutinous nature, the Protector ordered him to be punished with thirty lashes.	April 18	-- This complaint appearing to be false and malicious, and the conduct of the black of a mutinous nature, the Protector ordered him to be punished with thirty lashes.
64.	- 13	Rose & M ^{te} Jeanne	M. J. P. Morey - (Flacq.)	-- Want of medical treatment, insufficiency of food, and Sunday labour.	April 29	-- Totally groundless; complainants punished by being made to sleep for one month in the stocks.
65.	- 14	Pierre - - -	M. Maure - - hired to M. Diové (Port Louis.)	-- Corporal punishment, and confinement in irons on his return from the police prison, where he had already been corrected.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution; the master having used chains of greater weight than is allowed by the 2d Art. of Ord. No. 51.
66.	- 16	Frontin - - -	M. Mallet - - (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	-- For cruel and inhuman conduct in suspending him by the arms to the mast of a coasting vessel.	- 27	-- False and malicious. Complainant punished with twenty-five stripes by the Protector's order.

(continued.)

No. 1.—Abstract of Complaints preferred between 25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830—*continued.*

No. in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
67.	1830 : April 17	François - -	M. F. Hérisson - (Savanne.)	-- Ill treatment, and insufficiency of food. not exceeding that allowed by law, complainant was returned to his master, who was recommended to treat him with all the care that his situation requires.	1830 : April 20	-- The punishment inflicted upon this slave being very slight, and
68.	- 26	Fifteen Slaves -	M ^{lle} H ^{tte} Jouan - (P. Wilhems.)	-- Insufficiency of food, Sunday labour, and ill treatment from the régisseur. as to working his slaves on Sunday, after the hour of eight o'clock A. M.	Same day	-- False and unfounded. Felix was ordered by the Protector to receive fifteen stripes, and his master admonished
69.	- 26	Désiré - -	M. Vasseur - - (Port Louis.)	Confinement in chains, and over-worked. that authorized by law, the master was denounced for prosecution accordingly.	May 21	-- Slave a worthless marooning character. The weight of chains, however, exceeding
70.	- 27	Augustin - -	M. Letellier - (Flacq.)	Confinement in the stocks without cause.	Same day	-- False and malicious. Complainant punished with twenty-five stripes by the Protector's order.
71.	May - 4	François - -	M. J. P. La Victoire - (Flacq.)	-- Ill treatment, and long confinement in chains.	May 18	-- Complaint unfounded. Complainant, in consequence of his advanced age, returned to his master and admonished.
72.	- 4	Clémentine - -	M. Sénèque - - (Grand Port.)	-- General ill treatment, and long confinement in a granary. gress, and strictly enjoined not to molest her in any manner for the complaint preferred against him.	- 10	-- Complainant was returned to her master, who was strongly admonished on his conduct towards this negro
73.	- 6	Maingard - -	M. Collard - - (Port Louis.)	-- Insufficiency of food, and confinement in chains.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution, as an infraction of the 2d Art. of Ord. No. 51.
74.	- 11	Alexandrine -	M ^{lle} Elisa Salomon - (Port-Louis.)	Corporal punishment.	June- 2	-- Denounced for prosecution, as an infraction of the 18th Art. of Ord. No. 43.
75.	- 21	Antoine - -	M. Castera - - (of Flacq.)	-- Insufficiency of time for meals, and want of clothing. plaint; the master remonstrated with, and recommended to a strict observance of the law regulating the hours of "breloque."	- -	-- Partly founded. Antoine was sentenced to sleep seven nights in the stocks, for mingling falsehood with his complaint
76.	- 26	Adolphe - -	M. Ithier - - (Flacq.)	-- Being tied to a ladder on his return from hospital, and being employed in work too severe for his weak state of bodily health. submitted to the Sub. du Proc. Gen. to be produced in aggravation of damages; but he did not think them necessary.	- -	-- As in this complaint there does not appear sufficient proof of ill treatment, and as there is an action already against the master for ill treating the same slave, these papers were

No. 1.—Abstract of Complaints preferred between 25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830—continued.

No. in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
77.	1830 : May 27	Chéri - - -	M ^{lle} J ^{ne} Doger - (Moka)	Insufficiency of food and clothing.	1830 : June 2	-- There not being sufficient proof to sustain a denunciation, the mistress was severely admonished, and complainant returned to her.
78.	- 27	Valentin - - -	M. Louis Simon - (Port Louis.)	Confinement in chains.	- -	-- Denounced for prosecution, as an infraction of the 2d Art. of Ord. No. 51.
79.	June 1	Adolphe - - -	M. Boileau - - - (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	-- Ill treatment, and want of attention to him when in sickness.	June 3	-- Complaint entirely false. Complainant punished with fifteen stripes of a cat-o'-nine-tails.
80.	- 1	Carlin - - -	M. Castera - - - (Flacq.)	- - Severe corporal punishment when undeserved.	- 5	-- In the investigation of the case, it did not appear that the punishment authorized by the law had been exceeded; the slave was therefore returned to his master, who was at the time recommended to more moderation for the future.
81.	- 2	Seven Slaves - -	M. Poisson - - - (Savanne.)	Sunday labour - -	June 10	-- It appearing, that in one instance the Sunday "corvée" on the estate had been extended beyond the hours regulated by law, the master was admonished against permitting a recurrence of such cause of complaint, and strictly enjoined not to molest his slaves on account of the present representation.
82.	- 3	Seven Slaves - -	M. Tosté - - - (Flacq.)	- - Insufficiency of food, and want of time for repose.	June 10	-- Complaint false and malicious, and a most wicked attempt to impose upon the Protector; he therefore condemned the slave César to receive thirty lashes; and two of the most culpable of the others to receive twenty each, upon the estate, and in the presence of their comrades.
83.	- 7	Michel - - -	M ^{lle} Hermise - - - (Port Louis)	- - Want of repose, corporal punishment, and confinement in chains, immediately after his return from the Bagne prisons.	- -	-- Denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution, as an infraction of the 2d Art. of Ord. No. 51.
84.	- 9	Twenty-six Slaves -	M ^{me} V ^e Pilot - - - (Riv. du Remp ^t .)	- - Corporal punishment received from the commandeur Casimire whilst at work.	- 13	-- Complaint false and malicious. The Protector, in order to mark his great displeasure with the complainants, as well for their false conduct, as for quitting the estate in a band, directed Salamy (as chief of the complot) to receive twenty-five lashes of a cat-o'-nine-tails. Five others of the most culpable to be punished with from ten to twenty lashes, according to the mitigating circumstances that might appear in their case; whilst Babet and Christine, who excited the other negroes, were condemned to receive five stripes of a small cane, in the manner pointed out by law, to sleep eight nights in the stocks, and not to be permitted to leave the estate for the period of a month.

COPIES OF REPORTS FROM

No. 1.—Abstract of Complaints preferred between 25 December 1829 and 24 June 1830—*continued.*

No in Appendix.	DATE.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When Terminated.	HOW DISPOSED OF.
85.	1830: June 11	Edmond - -	M. Dalais - - (Grand Port.)	- - Sunday labour, over-worked, and money withheld owed to him by his mistress, for pigs sold to her by complainant.	1830: June 18	-- Complaint unfounded. Complainant punished with twelve stripes of a cat, by the Protector's order.
86.	Feb. 1	{ Lindor - - Clémentine - - Polux and - - two children - - }	{ M. Guiot - - (Plaines Wilhems.) }	{ - - Ill treatment received from their master; Sunday labour, without remuneration, and want of clothing.	March 3	- - By the evidence taken in this case, it appears that the master did inflict upon Polux several stripes of a cane for insolence, whilst the other parts of the
	June 3	Perrine - -	M. G. Dumée - - (Pamplemousses.)	- - Ill treatment, causing the death of her infant child.	- -	- - The affair being of a criminal nature, was investigated by, and remains in the hands of, the President of the Instance Court, who has not yet communicated to the Protector the further proceedings had therein.
				complaint must be considered as satisfactorily contradicted. The master was therefore severely reprimanded on the impropriety of punishing a slave in a moment of passion, although the slave might have given cause for correction. Complainants were returned to their master, upon condition of their being received and treated without any resentment on account of the complaint preferred by them.		

A P P E N D I X.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

COMPLAINTS preferred between the 23d December 1829 and 24th June 1830.

Complaint, No. 1.

Jean Jacques, a Creole, aged 28, *Jean Pierre*, a Creole, aged 24, and *Prosper*, a Creole, aged 18 years, slaves of M^{me} Gondreville, of the quarter of Flacq, complain of ill treatment received from their mistress; that they are not allowed the usual hours of "breloques," nor even time to take their meals; that they are continually beaten with a cart-whip, doubled; that they work until very late at night, in driving the carts laden with cane to the mill, and that they are obliged, contrary to their will, to work in this manner all Sunday, for which labour they receive no remuneration whatever; that seeing themselves so treated, and constantly followed by a commandeur, who beats them with a whip, and who is himself punished unless he does so excite them, the complainants left the estate yesterday, in order to make their complaint to the Chief Commissary of Police, by whom they have been sent to this office.

The procès verbal of this complaint was sent to the Assistant Protector of the quarter, with instructions to that officer, directing him to repair to the estate of M^{me} Gondreville, for the purpose of investigating the same.

The slaves of the estate being assembled and interrogated on the points contained in the complaint of Jean Jacques, Jean Pierre and Prosper, unanimously declared the statement made by their comrades to be false, and altogether groundless; that when they are punished, it is with a martinet, and not with a cart-whip; that they are allowed an hour for breakfast, and two hours for dinner; that if the carters do at any time work on Sunday, it is only in bringing to the yard the cane they omitted to bring during the week; that Sunday corvée is always finished by eight o'clock in the morning, and any other labour done by them on that day, they are regularly paid for: they also declare it to be false, that the commandeur is punished when he neglects to excite them to work by blows.

It appearing, by further investigation, that the slaves of M^{me} Gondreville are well fed, have the regular hours of "breloques," and are paid the amount fixed by Government for extra work, and that the complainants' story is idle and untrue (they bearing no marks of punishment whatever on their persons); the Protector ordered them to receive ten stripes of the martinet each, and, after due admonishment, to be returned to their mistress.

Complaint, No. 2.

Jean Louis, a Creole slave, belonging to Mademoiselle Teychyney, of the quarter of Savanne, complains that the Sieur Ange, residing with his mistress, after having given him nine stripes of a cane, severely beat him with his fist; that he (complainant) has for several days past suffered severely from a pain in his wrist, occasioned by sawing, his usual work; that having complained of this, he was sent by his mistress to work on the plantation where the said Sieur Ange acted as overseer, during the indisposition of his young master; that at night he was always confined in the stocks, without being allowed sufficient time even to prepare his food, consisting of whole maize and potatoes; that having absented himself yesterday evening in order to fish for shrimps, he was punished on his return in the manner described, although he had not neglected his work by so absenting himself.

Complainant having been examined by the medical man of the quarter, the following certificate was delivered to the Assistant Protector:—

Je, soussigné, appelé par M. G. Ducray, Commissaire Civil et de Police, ayant examiné le nommé Jean Louis, declare, que je n'ai trouvé aucune marque de violence sur sa personne, seulement excepté quatre ou cinq eschars, desquels les croutes n'étaient pas encore tombés, et qui me paraissent être produits par une petite baguette.

(signé) *Henry Rogers*, Chir. L. S. V. L.

Jean Théodore Teychyney appeared at the Assistant Protector's Office on the part of his mother, and declared, that the complainant has imposed on him, in stating that he had been confined in the block; that being of extremely indolent habits, and complaining of a sprained wrist, without its showing the slightest marks of injury, and having also neglected his work, Jean Louis was sent back to the habitation, and condemned to three days' confinement; that after the first day, complainant contrived to absent himself from work at an early hour, in order to avoid the punishment with which he was threatened; that the commandeur, Jean Baptiste, having discovered his retreat, brought complainant back to the habitation, where he received nine stripes of a cane for his disobedient conduct; that this punishment was ordered to be inflicted upon him by declarant, and not by the Sieur Ange, as stated by Baptiste.

RESULT:—The Assistant Protector, conceiving from the evidence of the master, as well as from that afterwards obtained from the comrades of complainant, that the punishment he had suffered was not unmerited, caused him to be returned to the estate; and as it also appeared that the Sieur Ange Morel had given him a blow or two with his fist, though of a very slight nature, that person was severely reprimanded, and recommended to be more cautious in his conduct or the future.

Complaint,

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Complaint, No. 3.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 31st December 1829.

Victorine, a Creole negress, belonging to M^{me} Sturbel, of Savanne, complains to the Assistant Protector of that quarter, of having been confined in the block since yesterday noon until this morning, and that she was thus deprived of the means of providing food for her child, only five months of age; that during the whole of the preceding week she was confined in chains, put on her by the black, Jean Baptiste; that on Monday last her mistress pardoned her; but since that, being indisposed for one day, complainant did not complete her task of four vacoa sacks, in consequence of which, she was threatened with confinement in prison from the 1st to the 4th January; on Monday last complainant asked why she was thus to be punished, without the slightest indulgence; that in order to obtain a little linen and a few necessaries, she has daily made one vacoa sack, after completing her task-work, and for which she was to receive from her mistress fifteen sous each; having ten sacks ready, she applied to her mistress for the amount in payment of them, when M^{me} Sturbel observed, she should deduct four, in order to make up for the number that ought to have been made on the day complainant was ill; this she objected to, saying she would rather have suffered the punishment of confinement, than be thus deprived of her earnings; her mistress then observed, that complainant was very impertinent, that she should be confined in the cramp chain with the negress Jeanny, and should have no clothes given her on new-year's-day.

Complainant having been examined, was found to be about 18 years of age, in perfectly good health, and well dressed.

M^{me} Sturbel declares, that the complainant is a negress who has more attention paid to her comforts than any other on her establishment; that she has made a most false and groundless complaint; that declarant did not menace her in any manner, but simply shut her up in a room by herself, because she was absent from Saturday evening until Monday morning, with her infant, aged only five months; that, to prevent her being out at nights, she was so confined; she was not put into the block.

The negresses Guillernette, Georgette and Perine, all declare that *Victorine's* statement is untrue; that she was not threatened with imprisonment on new-year's-day; that she was confined for having exposed her infant, by running about at nights, and neglecting her work for three entire days; Jean Baptiste, another slave of M^{me} Sturbel's, having also declared to the truth of these facts, the Assistant Protector, considering the complaint of *Victorine* to be frivolous and unfounded, severely reprimanded her, and then sent her back to the establishment, enjoining M^{me} Sturbel not to molest her in any manner for having appeared at the Assistant Protector's Office.

Complaint, No. 4.

Protector's Office, Port Louis, 1st January 1830.

Parisse, a Creole, aged about 20 years, belonging to the Sieur Loustau, of Belair, in the quarter of Savanne, complains of having been confined in the block, and having been obliged to wear a collar, with two branches, for the last three months, because he was on one occasion rather late at work, and then, from fear of punishment, marooned for three days; that he has also been obliged to work in the forest during the Sundays of the last month, in order to make up for the time lost in his maroonage; that, considering himself to have suffered a sufficient punishment for the offence committed, after working all the morning of new-year's-day, complainant begged that the collar might be removed, and he allowed to amuse himself in the same manner as his comrades, which, being refused, he now presents himself, soliciting the interference of the Assistant Protector with his said master, Mr. Loustau, to the end that pardon may be granted to him.

Complainant was immediately returned to his master, accompanied by a gendarme, and a request, on the part of the Assistant Protector, that the favour sought might be accorded to the slave, more particularly as the day was that of a general fête with those people. The guard, on his return, however, informed the Assistant Protector, that his request had been not only refused, but that M. Loustau had declared his intention of replacing the complainant in the stocks until the following Monday morning.

On the 4th January the slave *Parisse*, having been arrested as a maroon by a guard of the police, was again brought to the Assistant Protector's Office, where he declared that, having been refused pardon, he was again put into the block, whence finding means to escape, he did so, with the intention of preferring his complaint to the Protector at Port Louis.

On the following day M. Prosper Loustau, régisseur of the estate of Belair, appeared at the Assistant Protector's Office, and declared, that the complainant had been condemned to confinement in the block (for a maroonage) of four months' duration; that on new-year's-day, *Parisse* presented himself to declarant, and begged to be liberated from his chain, but as M. Pierre Loustau, his master, was at that time at Grand Port, and on his departure had left instructions that this slave should undergo the whole punishment awarded to him, declarant could not comply with his request; that complainant, before coming to him, had been employed during the greater part of the morning in endeavouring to file off his collar, which declarant observing, he caused to be rivetted more securely, observing to the slave, that it was his master, and not himself, who should release him from it; that on the return of complainant from the Assistant Protector's, he was in a state of intoxication, and very insolent in his manner, in consequence of which he was again put into the block,

from

from which, however, he managed to escape on the morning that he was arrested, and conducted to the Assistant Protector as a maroon.

RESULT:—It appearing that the fault committed by the slave was repeated maroonage, arising from determined libertinism (although he has a wife on the plantation), the Protector severely reprimanded him. With regard to the two-branch collar put upon him, the master was admonished against the use of such an instrument of punishment. His excuse for having used it was, he said, to be more to hurt the pride of the slave among the women than any other motive. His confinement in the stocks on new-year's-day was for insolence and drunkenness on his return from the Assistant Protector's.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Complaint, No. 5.

Protector's Office, 4th January 1830.

FIFTEEN slaves, twelve males and three females, belonging to M. Marcelin Barry, of the quarter of Flacq, complain of being obliged to go to work at break of day. That they have but a pound of rice *per diem* each as their rations; that they have only half an hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner; that they work until sun-set, and then have each to take home a packet of grass, and afterwards to arrange the "bagasses" until gun-fire, nine o'clock, at which hour they receive their provisions for the following day; that they received no linen on new-year's-day, and are consequently not treated as the slaves of other estates are treated; that they were obliged on that day to work at "corvée" until eight o'clock in the morning, and that yesterday (Sunday) they worked until noon, and on the preceding Sunday the whole day.

The Assistant Protector of the quarter being directed to inquire into the truth of the above complaint, proceeded to the estate of M. Barry, and there assembling the slaves of the establishment, separately interrogated them on the points complained of. With respect to insufficiency of food, the whole band (not complainants) declared their comrades to have made a false statement: they state, that they have a sufficient allowance of food, and are well satisfied with the treatment shown them by their master. The measure used in the distribution of the daily rations of the slaves, was found by the Assistant Protector to contain, when filled (in the manner they acknowledged it to be), one pound and three quarters of rice. The other circumstances complained of were, by the testimony of nearly two hundred individuals, proved equally false; the whole appeared to be in good health, and, with two or three exceptions, well clothed.

RESULT:—The Protector, considering the complaint preferred by these slaves to have been only a pretext for absenting themselves from the plantation of their master, and it appearing that the individuals named Allain and Isidore had been instrumental in engaging the others to join in their complaint, ordered them to be punished with confinement in chains for the period of one week. The rest were strictly enjoined to obedience and good conduct for the future, and cautioned against a re-appearance before the Protector with an unfounded complaint. The slave Isidore, however, having on his way back to the plantation, and when in charge of a police guard, seriously injured himself by thrusting a knife into his belly, with an evident intent to commit suicide, the punishment was not inflicted on him. Medical assistance being immediately procured, and the slave transported to the hospital of the estate, no apprehensions are entertained as to the result of this attempt. It will be the Protector's care (as early as circumstances may permit) to endeavour, by a suitable admonition, to bring this slave (who is of bad character) to a proper sense of his duty, and to point out to him the offence he has thus committed.

Complaint, No. 6.

Protector's Office, January 4th, 1830.

THE slaves *Jacques, Henriette, Jeanne* and *Hélène*, with three children belonging to *Jeanne*, presented themselves at the office of the Collector of Customs, declaring they were Government apprentices, and that in opposition to their right as such, they were kept upon the establishment of M. John Rouillard, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, as his property. An investigation being made into the truth of their declaration, and it appearing totally groundless, the individuals were sent to the Protector by the Chief Commissary of Police. They were again examined, when the slave *Jacques*, and indeed all of them, persisted in their former assertion, evidently deceiving themselves, from having been brought to the Colony in a vessel which was seized and condemned; but part of the slaves having been purchased before the capture of the Island, and permission being obtained from His Majesty's Government to import them, were restored; and of these slaves, the seven individuals in question formed a portion.

They were sent to M. Rouillard's; but although the Protector did all he could to persuade them they were wrong, they returned very unwillingly, and the day after their return, the said *Jacques* refused to work, behaving most insolently, and declaring he would destroy himself rather than remain on the plantation. He subsequently endeavoured to seduce others from their duty, by very improper and mutinous conversation. The Protector therefore ordered him twenty-five lashes; by the intercession of his master, the punishment was limited to twelve stripes. One of the negresses was ordered to be confined in prison for two Sundays.

Complaint,

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Complaint, No. 7.

Protector's Office, 2d January 1830.

Brutus, a Mozambique, aged 47 years, complains that his master, M. Cayeux, of the quarter of Pamplémousses, refuses to give him that attention which his state of sickness requires; that he is not permitted to enter the court-yard, but is obliged to live in a neighbouring wood, and to go even to "Moulin à Tondre" when he has occasion for water; that he is badly fed, having only one pound of dressed rice *per diem*; that by the malady with which he is afflicted (leprosy) declarant has lost almost all his toes and fingers, in consequence of which he has become useless to his master, who has therefore told him that he does not any longer require his services, and that if he ventures to come into the court-yard, he will shoot him; that his master is very severe towards his slaves, making them work until late at night, and also on Sundays; that they are frequently punished, and therefore many of them are maroons.

Dr. Hart's Certificate states,—“I have examined *Brutus*, a slave belonging to M. Cayeux, and find he has lost all the fingers of his right hand, and one joint of the right thumb. He has also lost the little finger and thumb of the left hand, a joint of each toe of his left foot, and a joint of four of the toes of the right foot. He appears about the age of 45, and, in my opinion, is totally unfit for any employment that could require the exercise of his hands.”

RESULT:—The slave, in consequence of the Certificate of the examining Surgeon, was sent to the Civil Hospital for medical treatment, and the Assistant Protector of the quarter of Pamplémousses was directed to investigate the circumstances complained of, and report the same to this office. The master of the slave, however, not taking any notice of the several communications made to him on the subject, and it appearing by the report of the Surgeon in charge of the Civil Hospital, that the case of *Brutus* is incurable, the Protector conceived it his duty to denounce the said *Sieur Cayeux* to the Procureur Général, for cruel and inhuman treatment exercised towards the complainant, as set forth in his declaration.

Complaint, No. 8.

Protector's Office, 4th January 1830.

Désiré, a Malgache, aged about 30 years, and belonging to René Jacques, of the quarter of Savanne, complains of having been beaten with a stick by his master (when in a state of intoxication), on the first instant; that being afterwards sent to conduct his mistress from the house of her mother, he was sent back to say, that she did not intend to return on that day; on hearing which, his master again became angry, and beat him on the head, arms and shoulders in the same manner. On this, complainant left the house, and repairing to the Assistant Protector of the district, preferred his complaint.

René Jacques attended at the Protector's Office on the 8th, accompanied by other individuals who had witnessed the affair in question; and as it appeared, from an investigation of the same, that it originated entirely in a drunken bout on new-year's-day, and that the parties were equally in fault, the Protector dismissed the complaint, severely reprimanding both, and admonishing them to be more circumspect in their conduct for the future.

Complaint, No. 9.

Protector's Office, 5th January 1830.

Jocrisse, a Malgache, aged 22 years, and belonging to the *Sieur Renaud*, of the district of Flacq, states, that on Sunday last, after having completed the work of "corvée," he went to a neighbouring plantation; that on his return in the evening, and after having received his provisions with the other blacks of the establishment, his master asked him where he had been; then giving him a slap in the face, ordered him to be confined in the block, where he remained from Sunday evening until Tuesday morning; that on his removal from the block, he was punished with the "martinet," but with how many stripes declarant does not recollect.

The Certificate of the examining Surgeon states,—“J'ai trouvé ce noir bien vêtu en linge bleu, pantalon, chemise et gillet à manches; l'ayant fait deshabiller, j'ai reconnu sur ses fesses les traces de neuf ou dix coups de rotin, seulement par l'élévation de la peau, sans aucune écorchure ni plaie; de tout quoi j'ai dressé le présent les jour, mois et an que dessus, pour servir de témoignage à la vérité.”

5 Janvier 1830.

(signé) *Ulcoq*.

The Assistant Protector of the district having repaired to the estate, and made known to M^{me} Renaud the statement made by the complainant, received her declaration as follows: that *Jocrisse* had not only been absent on the Sunday alluded to, but in the two preceding days, the 1st and 2d January; that on his return declarant asked him where he had been, and why he had not remained quietly in the court after enjoying two previous holidays; that he replied in a most insolent manner, “It is Sunday, and I have been where I chose to go, and am not obliged to account to any one where I have been,” with many more very insolent observations; that declarant then pushed him against the wall of the house, directing a commandeur to put him in the block; complainant being at that time intoxicated, and not even sobered on the following day, was kept in the block until Tuesday morning, when he was removed, and punished with nine stripes of a martinet.

Jean

Jean Louis, a commandeur, and the slave who punished complainant, corroborates the declaration of his mistress, as do also the blacks Gervais, Sol and Alexandre, belonging to M^{me} Regnaud.

RESULT:—It appearing that the slave complaining, had behaved with great insolence to his mistress, and that the punishment inflicted upon him was not more severe than his disorderly conduct called for, the Protector returned him to the estate of his master; reprimanding him for his want of respect, and recommending him to greater sobriety for the future; M^{me} Regnaud was also recommended to abstain hereafter from striking a slave in the warmth of passion, and to confine herself to the mode of punishment authorized by law.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.
Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Complaint, No. 10.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 7th January 1830.

Samedi, a Mozambique slave, aged 40 years, belonging to M. Pierre Loustau, of the quarter of Savanne, complains of being frequently punished with the block and martinet, because he is behind-hand with his work as a sawyer; that he works with another slave named Célestin, much younger than himself, who neither knows how to saw nor will be told, in consequence of which, they are often in arrear with their work; that he was kept in the block the whole of the week preceding new-year's-day, and even on that fête he was also confined. Complainant states, that he is fed on potatoes, which is a description of food not sufficiently nourishing for those who have to work in the woods.

Samedi, on being examined, appeared to be in excellent health and condition, well clothed, and without a single mark of punishment of any description whatever on his person.

The Sieur Prosper Loustau, régisseur of the estate, appeared at the office of the Assistant Protector on the part of his uncle, the said Pierre Loustau, and declared the whole of the statement made by the complainant to be false, and himself incapable of imagining upon what grounds or at whose instigation *Samedi* had been induced to make it; that he is one of the best slaves on the estate, and has never before given declarant cause to be discontented with him; that with respect to provisions, all his slaves employed as sawyers, have a loaf and a half of manioc and one pound of rice *per diem*, or one pound of rice and five pounds of potatoes, according to their choice. It is true that complainant absented himself from work during a whole day of the last week, on which occasion his companion Célestin complained of him. Fear of punishment for this offence, might perhaps be the cause of his appearance before the Assistant Protector.

Athanasse, the chief commandeur, and the two slaves Etienne and Célestin, were examined on the complaint of their comrade; they declare his complaint to be entirely groundless; that, like themselves, he is well treated, and well fed on the estate, and has never been punished; that he is also false in saying Célestin did not work so well as himself; on the contrary, he is a good workman, and has, since complainant's absence, been employed on the very timber which the latter had been set to work upon.

RESULT:—The Assistant Protector, finding the complaint to be altogether unfounded, severely reprimanded the slave, and sent him back to his master, who, in consideration of the long and faithful services of *Samedi*, expressed his readiness to overlook, for this time, the fault he had committed, in not only absenting himself from his work, but also in preferring a false charge against him.

Complaint, No. 11.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 9th January 1830.

Casimir, a Creole slave, aged 30, belonging to Mr. Charles Pison, of the Savanne, complains of maltreatment received from the commandeur, Henri; and states, that he quitted the estate yesterday morning; that his employment is to feed the furnace under the direction of the said Henri, who, being jealous of a young negress named Eugénie, is constantly threatening and beating the other slaves; that yesterday morning passing near to complainant, he gave him a stroke with his whip across the loins, and afterwards beat him on the shoulders with the same whip doubled; complainant did not go to his master, or to the régisseur to state these circumstances, fearing they might not listen to a complaint against the commandeur; he has however, no reason whatever to complain of the treatment he receives from them.

The complainant appeared to be in excellent health, well fed, and well clothed, and had no other mark on his person than a very slight scratch on the loin of about four inches long.

Mr. Pison attended at the Assistant Protector's office, and stated, that his slave, the complainant, is not, as he says he is, employed at the furnace; he works in the storehouse in drying and packing sugar, and it was in consequence of great insolence towards the commandeur that he received two or three stripes; declarant hearing the circumstances relating to the mutinous conduct of complainant, approved of the light punishment inflicted upon him; that knowing his justice, and consideration for his slaves, *Casimir* ought to have come to him, and not have marooned. All the slaves employed in the storehouse, as well as the régisseur, can testify as to the groundless nature of this complaint, and the ill conduct of *Casimir*.

The Assistant Protector, viewing the charge brought by the complainant as frivolous and unfounded, admonished him to be more circumspect and obedient in his future conduct, and then returned him to the establishment of his master.

Complaint,

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Complaint, No. 12.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 9th January 1830.

Fanny, a Creole, aged about 34 years, and belonging to the Widow Achille Larcher, of Port Louis, has been sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of Police, together with a procès verbal of an examination into the circumstances which induced her to attempt suicide, by hanging herself this morning in the court-yard of her mistress; her sole complaint is, that her mistress will not allow her to go to see her paramour, nor allow him to come to see her. M^{me} Larcher declares, that the debauchery of this negress is without bounds, and that the black she alludes to, is of so bad a character that she cannot with security allow him to sleep on her premises. The Protector, however, obtained leave from her mistress that one husband only should come to visit her; with this the negress appeared satisfied; and, after receiving a due admonition for attempting suicide, promised never again to commit such a crime. No mark of punishment whatever was found upon her, and she said she was well fed and clothed.

Complaint, No. 13.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 11th January 1830.

Marie Louise, a Creole negress, aged 32 years, complains that her master M. Nid, of Port Louis, refuses to give her the medical treatment which her ill state of health requires; on the contrary, she is obliged to work in the kitchen, although suffering much pain from a wound in her foot, occasioned by her having run a nail into it eight months ago; that she has received several kicks and slaps from her master and mistress during her illness, and in consequence of this treatment, complainant preferred to make this complaint, than to remain longer in such misery.

The complainant was immediately sent to the Civil Hospital, and the following Certificate from the Surgeon in charge of that establishment was transmitted to this office:—

Civil Hospital, 12th January, 1830.

I certify, that the negress, *Marie Louise*, belonging to M. Nid, and sent to hospital yesterday by the Protector and Guardian of Slaves, has elephantiasis of both legs, with extensive ulceration of right little toe, and a loss of two of its phalanges.

(signed) *A. Montgomery*, Surgeon in Charge.

The Sieur Nid denies the charge of ill treatment, and declares that complainant has been attended by his medical man, Dr. Marchaud. He declined to receive the negress again, preferring to abandon her to Government; but on being remonstrated with by the Protector on the apparent want of attention to her malady, he agreed to receive and to treat her with all necessary attention.

Complaint, No. 14.

Protector's Office, 11th January 1830.

René, a Creole, aged 26 years, *Létiller*, a Malgache, aged 35, *Bécard*, a Creole, aged 30, *François*, a Creole, aged 30, and the two boys, *Joseph* and *Philogène*, belonging to the Sieur Langlois, of the quarter of Flacq, and carters on his estate, complain of ill-treatment received from their master; and state, that whenever an ox belonging to the plantation happens to be sick, it is immediately killed and salted, and themselves always punished, their master observing that the injury was occasioned by them. An instance of this kind happened on the day before new-year's-day, when Joseph, Létiller, Favori and Etienne were punished; that the slaves on the habitation are obliged to pay for every fowl which may chance to be lost, twenty sous; and in the same manner they make good the injury done by wear and tear of the carts and waggons, in default of which they are punished; that they have not time allowed them to take their meals, and if the task allotted to them be not completed, then they are put into the block; that they are forbidden to excite the cattle to work by the whip, on pain of receiving the same punishment themselves. They further state, that a sick ox was killed the day before yesterday, and salted; and on their return to the court-yard the commandeur was ordered to put them all into the stocks to be punished on the following morning; that seeing this, complainants escaped, in order to complain of this treatment.

M. Langlois declares their statement to be false; he admits that the slaves Létiller, Etienne, Favori and Petit Joseph were punished on the 19th December last, for having mutilated so as to cause the death of an ox while at work; a fact recorded in his Register Book of Punishments. Declarant states it to be as false as absurd that he should make his slaves pay for the poultry missing on the estate; and it is equally opposite to common sense to suppose that they are obliged to pay for the waggons, &c. For the good order of his establishment, however, declarant makes the waggoners responsible for the small articles under their charge, such as hammers, chains, &c. and does not think it unjust to punish a slave for the loss of them. Their complaint of want of time to take their meals, is grossly false; they work but eight hours a-day, and have extra provisions allowed to them as those slaves have who work in the sugar-house.

The charge of their being prohibited from striking the oxen, on pain of being themselves punished, is altogether groundless. They are, however, most strictly prohibited to use any violence or excess whatever in the treatment of the cattle under their charge.

Declarant

Declarant further states, that the complainants were ordered to be confined in the stocks on Sunday last, for disobedience and neglect of duty; but that no orders were given for their being corporally punished, as may be proved by their comrades, Favori and Neva, who submitted to the punishment assigned to them.

The slaves Léandre, Denis and others, were examined on the circumstances complained of. They unanimously declare them to be false, and state, that complainants, instead of having reason to complain of the treatment they receive on the estate, ought to be the most contented, inasmuch as they work for a less number of hours during the day, and have extra provision, either in salt meat, haricots, &c. It was for disobedience, and not for having struck an ox, that they were condemned to the stocks on Sunday last. Complainants were once punished for so maltreating an ox, as to make it necessary to kill the animal, and a similar case of cruelty had before occurred.

RESULT :—The Protector directed that the four men should receive fifteen lashes each, for a false complaint, and their cruelty to the animals under their charge, as well as for their general negligence, as proved by the master and witnesses. The two boys were forgiven, as they appear to have been led astray by their companions. They were severely reprimanded, and then returned to their master.

Complaint, No. 15.

Protector's Office, 19th January 1830.

Adèle, a Creole negress, aged 18 years, complains that her mistress, M^{me} Audebert, of Port Louis, caused her hands to be tied behind her, and complainant to be punished with ten stripes of a cane, immediately on her return from the police prison, whither she had been sent for previous punishment by her said mistress. Complainant was then put into the stocks, and there confined six days and nights at needle-work, without being supplied with any other food than that which her comrades brought her by stealth.

On the seventh day she escaped, and on the following morning was arrested by the police as a maroon, and from that department was sent to this office. Declarant further states the cause of the ill treatment received from her mistress to have been, an idea on the part of the latter that she had stolen or lost certain goods given her to sell, but which in truth were either lost or stolen by a black who accompanied her.

Victorine, Lisa, and other servants were present when the punishment complained of was inflicted.

The examining surgeon certifies, that “*Adèle* has marks on both her arms of recent punishment, and which she states were occasioned by having been beaten with a rattan.”

M^{me} Audebert says, that *Adèle* does not belong to her, but to her partner, M. Vaudière; that she bought complainant about eight months past, since which time she has been constantly a maroon, and often stealing her merchandize; that she did receive a few stripes of the cane for insolence to her master, and was afterwards placed in the stocks for two days. M^{me} Audebert further states this to be the first correction she has caused to be inflicted on the negress, although her conduct is so bad as daily to merit her displeasure.

The evidence of the other witnesses before mentioned agreed with that of their mistress, in showing *Adèle* to be a girl of bad character and marooning habits. As a contravention of the 18th Article of Ordinance 43, however, had been made by M^{me} Audebert, in inflicting corporal punishment on the negress, the case was denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly. The slave was at the same time severely admonished for her past conduct, and recommended to be more circumspect for the future.

Complaint, No. 16.

Protector's Office, 23d January 1830.

Carlin, Malgache, aged 30, *Charlot*, a Creole, aged 35, and *Fortuné*, a Mozambique, aged 50 years, belonging to the heirs of the late M. Durup, together with *Auguste*, a Mozambique, aged 32 years, the property of the Sieur Mazère, chained together by the neck, presented themselves at the office of the Assistant Protector of the District of Grand Port, soliciting his protection, and complaining of excessive ill-treatment received from the overseer under whom they work. The said chains being removed from these slaves, were found to weigh, one six pounds and one ounce, another three pounds three ounces, a third seven pounds six ounces, and the fourth four pounds four ounces, French weight. *Charlot* (speaking on the part of all) declared, that yesterday at seven o'clock in the morning, the Sieur Castérés, régisseur on the estate of M. Mazère, nephew, of the quarter of Savanne, gave each of the complainants twenty-five stripes of a martinet, and then chained them together, two and two; that this punishment was inflicted without declarants being able to imagine for why; that yesterday evening, desirous of making their complaint, declarants, for fear of being arrested on the road, and to enable them to walk more at their ease, broke their chains, which were previously connected in the manner before stated. Complainants, although they belong to proprietors living in the quarter of Savanne, did not go to the Assistant Protector of that district to make the complaint, being at present at work in a forest within the quarter of Grand Port.

The Certificate of the examining Surgeon states :—“*Je, soussigné, chirurgien traitant, certifie avoir ce jour, sur requisition de M. l'Assistant Protecteur des Esclaves, visité les quatre noirs, nommés Carlin, Malgache; Charlot, Créole; Fortuné, Mozambique; et Auguste, Mozambique; ne leur avoir trouvé aucune trace de fustigation récente sous aucun rapport. Pourquoi sur la requisition susdite je donne le présent pour servir en ce que de raison.*”

(signé) “*André.*”

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On the receipt of these documents, the Assistant Protector of Slaves for the quarter of Savanne was directed to inquire into the complaint made against the régisseur Castérés, and to report the result of the inquiry to his Protector.

On the 16th January the said Sieur Castérés having taken cognizance of the declaration made by complainants, replied as follows:—That he is innocent of the charge of ill-treatment towards the four individuals complaining, who are all bad characters, and who have falsely accused him; they were not at work in the forest as they say when they quitted the estate; they had returned to the court-yard, where declarant was employed in giving to the other blacks their rations of food, rice, rum, &c. Complainants had previously been punished for stealing planks and tools: they received, in the presence of the whole band of slaves upon the estate, punishment with the martinet; Charlot, twenty-four stripes, and each of the others eight, and were then chained together. Of the weight of the chains declarant was ignorant, having taken those which first came to hand, and seemed fit for the purpose. During the last five months that declarant has been in the service of M. Mazère, he has inflicted no other punishment than occasional confinement in the block, and which all the slaves on the estate can testify. He has not kept a Register Book of Punishments, not knowing that the law called upon him to do so, and having no other punishment to register than that now complained of.

The four slaves were again examined: they persisted in their former story, and declared that they left the establishment only because of the very different treatment they received now and when they belonged to their late master, M. Font, junior.

RESULT:—It appearing from the investigation made into this affair, that the punishment complainants stated themselves to have received by the cat-o'-nine-tails, had not been inflicted to the extent, or at the time declared, they were returned to the estate; but the overseer having contravened the laws in putting upon the individuals Carlin and Auguste chains of greater weight than are permitted, was denounced to the Procureur Général, for prosecution for that offence, and also for not keeping a Register Book of Punishments

Complaint, No. 17.

Protector's Office, 22 January 1830.

Roméo, a Mozambique slave, aged 25, complains against his master, M. Gustave Mayère, of Port Louis, for having inflicted upon him 25 stripes of a cane immediately after his return from the Police prison, where he had already undergone confinement and corporal punishment for the offence of maroonage.

The fact in this case being clearly proved by the several witnesses called by complainant, and the admission of the master, M. Mayère was denounced to the Procureur Général on the 16th February, for an infraction of the Ordinance 51, of the 26th September 1829.

Complaint, No. 18.

Protector's Office, Port Louis, 22 January 1830.

Louise, a Creole negress, aged 25, says, that her master, M. Lapière, of the quarter of Pamplemousses, caused her to be punished with 25 stripes of a martinet, by the économe, named François, on her return from maroonage; that she is often beaten by her master and mistress, and for this reason it was that complainant marooned.

M. Lapière admits that he did punish Louise with nine stripes of the martinet on her return from maroonage on the 19th instant; that he was ignorant of the law prohibiting such punishment, and did not register it, thinking himself not called upon to do so, inasmuch as the number of lashes inflicted did not exceed nine. The économe and several slaves proved the punishment to have been inflicted, and that it was limited to nine lashes.

On the 19th February, M. Lapière was denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution for an infraction of the 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43, and also for a contravention of the laws, in not having kept a Register Book of Punishments.

Complaint, No. 19.

Protector's Office, 25th January 1830.

Hyacinthe, a Creole, 30 years of age, and belonging to the heirs of the late Sieur Pipon, complains, that he is obliged to rise at one o'clock in the morning, and go to his work in the sugar-house; that being somewhat later than usual at the Sunday corvée of yesterday, he was punished by the commandeur Henri, with 25 stripes of the martinet, in the presence of Pierre Louis Auguste, and Lavau; that the Sieur Legros was also present; complainant declares, that being threatened with further punishment, unless he should be found at work at the proper hour, and knowing well the brutality of the said commandeur, he left the "habitation;" he also declares that Sunday corvée continues until ten o'clock in the morning; that the slaves on the estate have no "breloque" allowed for breakfast-time; and that they are punished if found with food about them when at work. Complainant is well dressed, and apparently in good bodily health, and is said (by the examining surgeon) to exhibit no other mark of punishment than a very slight scratch on his right breech.

M. Pipon says, that he ordered complainant and two others of his slaves, named Blaize and "Isidor," to be punished with 15 stripes of the martinet each, for being absent at a time when they were particularly required to convey a quantity of sugar to Port Souillac, of which they had been apprised the preceding day; that the complaint is maliciously false in every point, as may be found by M. Legros and complainant's comrades, who are all ready to be examined thereon. Henri, the commandeur, is an active servant, but far from being

being inclined to severity; he is never on any occasion permitted either to strike a slave, or to punish him in any other manner without declarant's previous authority, and then only conformably with the Ordinance, No. 43; that if certain of his slaves have not their hour allowed at the usual time of breakfast, it is by their own particular request, they preferring to have an extra hour at dinner.

The Sieur Le Gros residing with M. Pison, declares that he was in the magasin when complainant was punished; he received fifteen stripes on the shoulders; that Hyacinthe is rarely to be found at the muster of the slaves preparatory to their going to work, which is at five o'clock in the morning, and that the Sunday *corvée* is generally finished by eight in the morning.

Henri, commandeur, says, that complainant is one of the greatest "reasoners," and one of the most lazy blacks on the estate, seldom at work before seven o'clock in the morning, and giving daily cause of discontent to the overseers; that he is absent every night from the camp, and having a long way to come, cannot return by the time at which the slaves of the establishment go to work.

Auguste, Lavau, Pierre, Louis, and Isidore, say the same thing, and declare complainant to be an idle, lazy fellow.

RESULT:—Hyacinthe was sent back to his master severely reprimanded; and M. Pison was recommended to alter the usual custom of allowing one hour for breakfast, and two for dinner, instead of three hours for dinner, notwithstanding it might be in opposition to the wish of the slaves on his estate.

Complaint, No. 20.

Protector's Office, 25th January 1830.

Henry, a slave boy, aged about 10 years, has been sent to the office by the Chief Commissary of Police, with chains on his legs. He says, that his master, the Sieur Fanchin Neptune, of Tamarius, in the quarter of Rivière Noir, directed the slave Prosper to put these chains upon him, about three weeks past, for having lost a small barrel, with which he had been sent for water.

The Sieur Neptune positively denies the charge, and says, if chains were put upon complainant, it must have been by his commandeur Prosper, and without his knowledge. Henry is an exceedingly bad boy, a constant thief and maroon. Declarant not having inflicted any punishment on his slaves, since the promulgation of Ordinance, No. 43, has not kept a Register Book of Punishment.

Prosper (the commandeur) also denies having put the said chains on complainant; and Jean Pierre, another slave of Sieur Neptune, declares the same thing.

RESULT:—Notwithstanding the contradiction given by the master and his slaves to the declaration of Henry, the Protector conceives it his duty to denounce the parties to the Procureur Général for a contravention of the 2d Article of the Ordinance, No. 51, in having put fetters upon a slave under 15 years of age.

On the 12th February this case was denounced accordingly.

Complaint, No. 21.

Protector's Office, 29th January 1830.

Eugène, a Creole, aged 25 years, complains of having been punished by order of his master, M. Farly, of Flacq, with 25 stripes of the martinet, and afterwards put in the block, for being absent from muster on the Thursday preceding new-year's-day; that he was afterwards confined in the stocks, where he remained all the following day. That six or seven days afterwards he again missed muster, and was again punished with the same number of stripes; and then, complaining to his master of being unwell, was sent to the hospital. On the same day, however, the Sieur Baricon came and took him out, and, sending him to the mill, directed that fifteen stripes more of the cane should be inflicted on complainant. Jolicœur, Philogène, Pedre and Etienne were the slaves who held his hands and feet.

Complainant exhibits marks of slight punishment, and that apparently of long standing.

On the 2d February M. Farly appeared at this office, and in reply to the complaint of his slave, declared it to be totally false with regard to his being punished at the different periods stated by him; that he is in the constant habit of absenting himself from the plantation without leave, particularly at night, going all over the district after different women, although he has a wife on the plantation; that he is consequently seldom present at morning muster, often returning to his work an hour or two after sun-rise. About a week before new-year's-day he absented himself as above stated, after being warned that he should be punished if he did so; for that offence he was punished with ten, but not with twenty-five stripes, as he has falsely stated, and was put into the stocks at night, and for the whole of new-year's-day. He was then released. On the Monday following he again absented himself, but was excused on a promise of not repeating such conduct; notwithstanding this, complainant did maroon again the next Sunday, and remained absent all the following day, and then returned so jaded from drinking and debauching, as to be incapable of work; he was then put into the hospital, and when the effects of his debauch were passed, was punished with fifteen stripes of the martinet. This was proved by the Register Book of Punishment kept on the estate.

The Protector having examined the slave, and finding no marks of punishment on his person, except a few old and slight ones, and that he was in good health and condition, and well clothed, recognized the statement of the master to be correct, and that no greater punishment had been inflicted than the law allows. In order therefore to mark his sense of

Eugène's

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Eugène's libertine and debauched conduct, which occasions his frequent absence from the plantation, he ordered the complainant to be punished with ten stripes of the martinet, on the estate of his master, and in the presence of his comrades. The punishment was accordingly inflicted.

Memorandum.—On Sunday the thirty-first of January one thousand eight hundred and thirty, I, the undersigned Protector and Guardian of slaves, being at the Reduit, the country residence of his Excellency the Governor, was informed by the Governor's butler, Mr. Goddard, that a slave belonging to M. Martin Noël had presented himself for the purpose of complaining to his Excellency the Governor, of having been ill-treated by a neighbouring planter named Gentil, whose plantation he had visited for the purpose of seeing some of his acquaintance; that the said Mr. Goddard was requested to direct the said slave to go to Port Louis on the following day, where his complaint should be heard; that in a very short time (half an hour or thereabouts) the said Mr. Goddard came and reported, that the said slave had been struck with a knife on the head by a Government slave named Casimir, in the service of his Excellency, and that he had been cut to the bone, and was bleeding much; that the cause thereof was a quarrel between the two slaves on account of a debt claimed by one from the other.

On the receipt of this report, I made an inquiry into the affair; and the wound appeared to be slight, being a longitudinal cut on the crown of the head, about an inch and a half in length, and just penetrating through the skin; I recommended the application of Friar's balsam, and then to be fomented with vinegar, which was accordingly done. The slave Casimir, on being interrogated, admitted the fact, and it appeared from the testimony of other blacks who saw the transaction, that it occurred whilst Casimir was in the act of cleaning knives, and that he seized a carving knife, and ran after the other slave to some distance, and gave him a blow with it on his head. I then went back, and after reporting to his Excellency the preceding circumstances, proposed to his Excellency that a summary punishment should be immediately inflicted on the Government slave Casimir, of twenty-five or thirty lashes, in the presence of all the slaves of the Reduit establishment. His Excellency approved of the proposal, but thought the crime merited a more severe punishment, inasmuch as if the blow had been given with a little more strength, the consequences might have been very serious, and his Excellency thought he should be punished to the extent which the law allowed; the punishment was accordingly extended to fifty stripes, but forty-four only were inflicted, as the black fainted, or pretended to faint, under the correction.

On inquiring for the black that came to complain, it appeared that he had quitted for the purpose of returning to his master's plantation, as he had not been beaten, but complained of his hat having been cut to pieces by M. Gentil, one of whose negroes he had been to visit.

Port Louis, 1st February 1830.

(signed) *R. M. Thomas,*
Protector and Guardian of slaves.
(signed) *W. Goddard.*

Complaint, No. 22.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 3d February 1830.

Charlotte, a Creole, aged 31 years, and belonging to M. Amédé D'Emérez, of the quarter of Savanne, complains of ill treatment received from the régisseur, M. Ténermont; that she is beaten while at work, without reason; that the slaves are not allowed to return to their huts from the fields, to take their meals; complainant did so yesterday, but was punished with blows of a stick by M. Ténermont, who came to look for her; Marcelin, a slave on the estate, saw complainant so punished.

The Certificate of the examining Surgeon states—

Je, soussigné, sur la réquisition de M. Ducray, Commissaire Civil et de Police de ce quartier, déclare, que j'ai attentivement examiné la nommée Charlotte, et que je n'ai trouvé qu'une légère contusion sur la rotule de la grandeur d'une demi couronne, mais qui ne paraissait être fait avec un bâton; elle avait aussi beaucoup de vieux eschars.

Quartier de la Savanne, }
ce 3 Fevrier 1830. }

(signé) *H. Rogers,*
Chir. L. S. P. L.

On the following day M. Ténermont appeared to answer to the above complaint, and declared it to be false that he had caused Charlotte to be punished as she states; that the bad conduct and disobedience of complainant have never been punished with the severity they merit; she was allowed to absent herself on Saturday, but, abusing the permission, remained from the estate until Monday, for which offence she received two "soufflets;" that on Monday last, the slaves being employed at a considerable distance from the habitation, orders were given that they should carry their dinner with them, and be allowed the usual hours of "breloque," on the ground; complainant, however, in opposition to these orders, left the field, and returned to the court-yard, where she remained until four o'clock, when declarant seeing her, took up a small switch from the ground, and giving her one or two slight taps for being insolent to him, sent her back.

Marcelin denies having seen complainant struck by M. Ténermont, or knowing any thing of the matter, being at the time with the people in the cane fields. Declarant reported to his master the idle habits of complainant.

M. D'Emérez declares Charlotte to be the most drunken and unruly subject on the establishment, and a constant maroon; that she was never punished on her return from her maroonage; that

that her accusation against the Sieur Tènermont is absolutely false, and the more evidently so, as he has, during the last month, been under medical treatment, which confined him to the house, and therefore prevented his being with the slaves otherwise than in the sugar-house; that his slaves rise at day-light, and return from work at sun-set, and have no corvée to make. Declarant, therefore, finding that Charlotte has made a false and calumnious complaint against this régisseur, solicits that an exemplary punishment may be inflicted upon her, for the sake of maintaining the good order of his establishment.

RESULT:—The régisseur admits that he gave the negress two or three blows, at two different occasions, with a small branch, but is silent as to kicking her. The witness cited as being present when the régisseur did so beat her, denies having been present, or that he knows any thing of the matter. By the Surgeon's certificate, the blows with the branch must have been few and light, as there were no other marks but those of old punishment inflicted by her former master, except a small contusion on the knee, which, although certified by the surgeon not to be the effect of a blow with a stick, may yet have been occasioned by the kick. For these reasons the master was told, that although he did not cause to be regularly flogged the negress, yet he beat her with a branch, according to the admission of the régisseur, and therefore acted against the spirit of the law. The negress's character does not appear to be good; she was therefore reprimanded, and the master was cautioned against permitting a negress to be struck either with the hand or the branch in future.

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Complaint, No. 23.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 4th February 1830.

Marie Louise, a Creole, aged 22, belonging to M^{me} Furteaux, of Grand Rivière, complained on Monday last of ill treatment received from her mistress; but the complaint appearing to the Protector to be extremely frivolous, she was returned to M^{me} Furteaux, and recommended to be more circumspect in her future conduct. Complainant now states, that, arrived at the house of her mistress, she was asked where she had been, and not replying to the question, received two "soufflets;" was then ordered to undress herself, when M^{me} Furteaux collecting her clothes and necklace, took them aside, and obliged her to dress herself in a piece of Madagascar matting, and then cut off her hair, after which complainant received other slaps of the hand for not having starched the linen of her mistress; all this took place in the presence of another negress, named Marie Louise; complainant also stated, that she is not permitted to see her husband even on Sunday.

M^{me} Furteaux states, that complainant marooned on Saturday evening last, without the slightest reason; that at the expiration of three days she was brought back to declarant by a detachment of police; that declarant's husband then cut off the negress's hair, and dressed her as described, as a punishment for her frequent maroonage and great libertinism, notwithstanding which, complainant found means to steal other linen, and maroon a second time.

RESULT:—The master was remonstrated with for cutting off the negress's hair, although done with a view to shame and mortify her on account of her libidinous habits, and the negress was severely reprimanded, and sent back to her master.

Complaint, No. 24.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 6th February 1830.

Dimanche, a Mozambique slave, belonging to M. Lambert, of Rivière du Reupart, states, that being on a neighbouring plantation on Thursday evening last, and returning a few minutes after the hour of muster, he was told by one of his comrades, that himself, Fidèle and Paul, had been asked for by their master; that on the following morning, while working in the mill, he saw the latter slave taken out and punished with the cat-o'-nine-tails, and then seeing a commandeur coming towards him, complainant escaped, and now presents himself, praying for protection. Dimanche further states, that he was last week punished by order of the régisseur with several blows of a stick, one of which, striking him on the hand, has since caused him to suffer great pain; complainant further states, that on new-year's-day the slaves on the establishment of his master received no clothing, and that the only extra provisions issued to them on that occasion were a bowl of salt, three bowls of rice, a little meat, and a glass of arrack each; that on Sundays they work at corvée until eleven o'clock in the morning, and sometimes until noon, and have no remuneration whatever for such work. When punished about a week past, it was for talking to another black while at work.

The examining Surgeon states, that complainant has on his back a small ulcer, and on the joint of his little finger a small contusion, which he says were occasioned by the blow of a stick, but both are exceedingly slight.

On the 12th February, a band of nineteen slaves, male and female, appeared before the Protector from the same estate, to complain of ill treatment received from M. Collet, the économe of the establishment. All excepting Paul (a domestic servant) declare that they have not a sufficiency of food, having only two maniocs and half a pound of rice per day each; that they have not time to take this food, being allowed half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner; that on Sunday they rise at day-light, clean the stables, and then go to work in the fields until nine o'clock, after which they each bring a bundle of grass and then a bundle of cane heads for the cattle, thus prolonging their hour of Sunday labour until eleven o'clock, and sometimes even later; that in addition to this, at five in the evening they again make two journeys for grass for the cattle, and after that, are not allowed to

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to leave the court-yard on a Sunday ; that the muster bell is rung three times every night between ten and one o'clock ; that they work in heavy rains, are continually struck and annoyed by the régisseur with a "martinet en peau ;" that the negress Casy was punished some time past with a number of stripes on the shoulders, for having begged pardon for her son while he was under the same description of punishment ; and the negress Rosine was confined in the stocks during the time she was with child. Complainants did not know they erred in leaving the estate of their master in a band, or they would not have done so ; they fancied the complaint, if brought before the Protector by one or two slaves only, would not have been so readily believed, as if they all appeared to attest it.

Complainants were immediately returned to the estate of their master, and the Assistant Protector of the district was instructed to repair to the plantation, and there make a full and minute investigation of the circumstances complained of.

The RESULT was as follows :—

The master was reprimanded for the nightly musters, and cautioned against a recurrence of a custom so vexatious to his slaves. He was denounced for prosecution for flogging his negress Casy, and severely reprimanded for having confined Rosine in the stocks whilst pregnant. He was also admonished for exacting two *corvées* on Sunday, one only being permitted by law.

With respect to the other points of the complaint, they were proved to be false. The food issued to his slaves by M. Lambert is good, and in quantity that which is required by law ; neither have they any reason to complain of the manner in which they were treated on new-year's-day. The slave Paul was punished for being absent from his work, a fact which was attested by all his comrades.

Complaint, No. 25.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 12th January 1830.

Frontin, a Malgache, aged 35 years, and belonging to M. M. Noël, of Moka, sent to the Protector's Office by the Chief Commissary of Police as a maroon, complains, that his master, in placing a chain about his neck, also beat him with a stick ; that in consequence of this treatment, he left the estate three weeks past ; that the régisseur is too severe ; that he is often beaten with a stick, and told that he does not take care of the oxen ; that he has but one pound of rice *per diem*, as his rations, and had no clothes on new-year's-day ; has been in chains upwards of two months.

The Certificate of the examining Surgeon states, that complainant has no appearance of being ill-fed, but is ill-clothed.

M. Noël declares, that he has never punished complainant except on his return from maroonage ; that he has never before heard a complaint against his *économe* Denis, who is not allowed to punish a slave but by declarant's order ; that *Frontin*, instead of one pound, has two pounds of rice *per diem*, in consequence of his being a herdsman ; the slaves who live in the court-yard have one pound and a half ; the chains were put on complainant for having abandoned his charge, and marooning ; that if he is ill-clothed, it is because he loses or sells his clothes whilst a maroon, which was the case on new-year's-day ; declarant has possessed this slave but five months, during which period he has twice marooned.

Denis, the commandeur, states the same thing, and denies ever having struck complainant with a stick. He has often remonstrated with and scolded him for his irregular conduct and inattention to the cattle.

Solider, *Azor* and *Edward*, also slaves of M. Noël, state, that they have two pounds of rice a-day ; that they work from sun-rise to sun-set, have their "breloques" and Sundays, are well-dressed, and are taken care of when sick, and have no complaint to make of the treatment they receive from M. Denis.

RESULT :—As it does not appear that the punishment complained of was inflicted, excepting that for the offence of maroonage, and neglect of the charge with which complainant was intrusted, the Protector admonished him to be more obedient for the future, and then returned him to his master.

Complaint, No. 26.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 8th February 1830.

Estelle, a Creole negress, aged 20 years, and belonging to M. Ducray, of Plaines Wilhems, having been arrested as a maroon, and sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of Police, states, that she is continually confined either in chains or the block, in consequence of which she left the habitation on Monday morning last ; that about fifteen days past, *Charles* and *Barraque*, two of her master's slaves, being found intoxicated, she was charged with having supplied them with arrack, and as a punishment, was confined in the block ; *Estelle* complains of being ill-fed and ill-clothed, and that she is made to work from sun-rise until dark, without being allowed the usual hours of *breloque*.

In the investigation of this case, it was discovered that the complainant had been arrested in the act of selling stolen vegetables to the blacks of the Reduit Establishment ; she was well dressed, and had with her at the time a packet of linen, which there is much reason to believe she had also acquired by dishonest means. Her complaint of want of food and prolonged hours of labour, was found to be equally false ; and as she is well known to the Protector as a very abandoned character, she was returned to the police to be dealt with as a maroon.

Complaint,

Complaint, No. 27.

Protector of Slaves' Office, February 15th, 1830.

Bastion, a Mozambique, aged 40 years, and belonging to M. Villecollet, of Bois Rouge, in the quarter of Pamplémousses, complains of want of medical treatment, and states that he has been suffering during the last twelve months with violent pains in the stomach; that he was at first sent to the hospital of the estate, and placed under the care of a surgeon; but after a time, not getting any better, he was withdrawn from the hospital, and put into the mill to work. Continuing to suffer much pain, he again complained to his master, but no notice was taken of his situation; under these circumstances, complainant left the estate, in order to represent his case to the Protector.

Bastion, on being examined by the medical man attached to this department, was found to be labouring under dysentery: he was accordingly sent to the Civil Hospital, and died there on the 14th April.

Several communications having been made to the Sieur Villecollet, inviting him to explain the circumstances under which he neglected to afford to his slave the medical assistance his situation required, he appeared here on the 1st March, and declared the complaint to be totally false, as a proof of which he produced a certificate of the Surgeon Boileau, who attends his blacks, showing that Bastion had been under his care from the month of November till the day he escaped from the hospital, and that his cure was retarded by the impossibility of keeping him to a proper regimen; the black was retained at the hospital with the consent of his master, and at his expense.

Complaint, No. 28.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 15th February 1830.

Cazy, a negress, aged about 24 years, and belonging to M. Lambert, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, complains of having been punished with ten stripes of a martinet about a fortnight past, by Jean Pierre, a commandeur, in the presence of the male and female slaves of the estate; that the punishment was inflicted upon her in consequence of her having requested pardon for her son Paul, who had been in like manner corrected. Complainant also states, that she was flogged by order of her master two or three months past; once for having escaped from confinement in the stocks, and once because some of the kitchen utensils were found to be dirty.

Port Louis, 15th February 1830.

I certify, having examined Cazy, a negress belonging to M. Lambert, and find she has on her back some marks of both old and recent punishment; the old ones are about three or four in number, and appear to have been slight; and the recent ones are scarcely perceptible: all these she states were occasioned by her having been flogged at different periods with a martinet.

(signed)

H. Hart, M. D.

Surgeon to the Police.

RESULT:—It appears, by an extract from the Register Book of Punishment kept on the estate of M. Lambert, that complainant has been corrected in the manner stated, not for the reason set forth by her, but for extreme insolence to her master; as such conduct, however, could not warrant a deviation from the mode of punishment prescribed by law, M. Lambert has been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 29.

Protector of Slaves' Office, January 16th, 1830.

L'Eveillé, a Mozambique slave, aged 40 years, and belonging to M. Amédé D'Emérez, appeared before the Assistant Protector of the quarter of Savanne, apparently in a state of suffering, and walking with difficulty; he complains that the Sieur Leopold Ténermont, régisseur of the estate, is very severe, beating the slaves under his orders frequently without the slightest reason; the negress Charlotte was corporally punished a few days past; that yesterday evening returning from his work in the wood where he had been squaring timber, he reported to the said régisseur what he had done; that leaving his hut this morning when the bell rang to call the people to work, complainant was met by the said régisseur, who taking up a large stick from the ground, beat him violently; then calling the commandeur Argon, ordered him to hold complainant by the hands, whilst he again beat him on all parts of his body with the stick now produced, in consequence of which, he (complainant) left the estate, in order to seek protection from the Assistant Protector.

The following is the Certificate of the examining Surgeon:—

Quartier de la Savanne, 16 Fevrier 1830.

Je, soussigné, sur l'appel de M. G. Ducray, Commissaire Civil et de Police de ce quartier, déclare, que j'ai examiné le nommé L'Eveillé, et que j'ai trouvé une forte contusion sur le côté droit de la poitrine, s'étendant depuis la clavicule jusqu'à l'insertion de la quatrième côte dans le *sternum*, apparamment faite avec un gros bâton: il paraît aussi plusieurs marques de coup de bâton sur le dos, et paraissait respirer avec beaucoup de difficulté.

(signé)

H. Rogers, Chirurgien.

The Sieur Ténermont appeared at the office of the Assistant Protector, to answer the charges preferred against him: he declares on oath, that the slave coming late to his work

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yesterday morning, was reproached by him for his inattention, a complaint having previously been made against him by the head workman Fabien; L'Eveillé replying in an insolent manner, received a soufflet from declarant, who was unwilling to punish him with the martinet, but still continuing his insolence, declarant ordered the commandeur to seize complainant, to whom he then gave three or four stripes of a small twig, which might possibly have bent round his shoulders, and thus caused the mark said to be on his chest; upon this the slave escaped, as he had often threatened to do, in order to make his complaint before the Assistant Protector; it is false that the negress Charlotte was ever punished in the manner stated by complainant; the commandeurs Argon and Marcelin can verify all that declarant has now stated.

The commandeur Argon declares, that the stick presented to him by the Assistant Protector, is not that with which complainant was beat by M. Ténérmont; that it was a small flexible twig, about the size of his finger, with which he was struck on the back; declarant does not know whether the slave was retaken and punished by the régisseur after his first escape; but he is certain that the negress Charlotte has never received any corporal punishment whatever from her present master; but that she was once put into the block for the night.

The commandeur Marcelin declares the same thing.

The Protector, considering that further information was requisite to explain the circumstances attending the wounds exhibited by the complainant, directed the Assistant Protector to enter on a second investigation of the case. The free man of colour Fabien, économe on the estate of M. D'Enerez, and the slaves Simon, Charlotte and Oliver were then examined: their evidence agrees in every point with that of the preceding witnesses; and the negress Charlotte further states her entire ignorance of the motives which could induce the complainant to advance so great a falsehood as he has done, in saying she was punished in the manner described.

RESULT:—Notwithstanding the nature of the evidence taken in this case, it appears to the Protector, that as the slave went direct from the estate of his master to the Assistant Protector, and was there found to be in the state of suffering set forth by the certificate of the examining Surgeon, an undue severity must have been used towards him; and he therefore considered it his duty to denounce the case to the Procureur Général for prosecution, as an infraction of the Ordinance in Council, No. 43, of the 7th February 1829.

Complaint, No. 30.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 15th February 1830.

François, a Creole of Bourbon, aged 35 years, and belonging to M. Staub, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, complains that M. Berne, the économe, obliges him, although ill, to dig in the fields; complainant states, that he suffers much pain in his left knee, which is so swollen as to prevent his walking without the assistance of two sticks; that four days past he was sent to the hospital, where his master happening to see him unemployed, directed him to go and wash empty bottles; that at noon the said économe again sent complainant to "Pische;" that he has been sixteen years in chains, and employed in preparing the food of the slaves of the establishment, and was only released a short time past, when the Deputy Commissary of Police and the Civil Commissary of the quarter made a visit to the establishment of his master; all the slaves on the estate can testify, that the chain worn by complainant was twenty feet in length; François does not complain of his masters Messrs. Staub, but of the économe only.

On the 22d February, the said Jean B^{te} Berne appeared at the Protector's Office, and declared his surprise at the complaint made against him by François, whom he describes as one of the worst of characters, and capable of committing any crime; that during the time of the late M. Staub, complainant was confined in chains for having attacked and robbed a free person on the public road; when the present Messrs. Staub took the estate, François was set at liberty, and was for a time employed, as he states, in preparing the food of the blacks; but finding him in the constant habit of stealing the rations of his comrades, declarant was obliged to put him to other work; that complainant a very short time past violated a child of eight years of age, and has since furnished another child of six years old with a false key of his own making, for the purpose of robbing its mother; that François, in short, is dangerous to the general tranquillity of the establishment: with respect to the wound on his knee, it was caused by a musket-ball he received when engaged in a revolt against the whites, at Bourbon; declarant further says, that all the circumstances stated by him are as true, as it is false that complainant ever received any kind of ill treatment on the estate.

M. Nicolas Staub confirms in every point the declaration of the Sieur Berne, and asks, for the sake of good order of the estate, that complainant may be punished before his comrades, and in the presence of the Assistant Protector of the district.

It appearing, by a further investigation of this complaint, made by the Assistant Protector, that the establishment of Messrs. Staub is one of the best regulated in the quarter; that the treatment of his slaves is mild, and the work imposed on them proportionate to their strength; that their food is abundant and good, and that punishment is inflicted only in cases where it is justly merited; and that complainant is well known to that officer as an infamous subject, having even been guilty of murder; the Protector ordered him to receive twenty-five lashes of the martinet, in the presence of the Assistant Protector and the slaves of the estate.

Complaint,

Complaint, No. 31.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 18th February 1830.

Marie Joseph, a Creole, aged 34, and belonging to M^{lle} C. Rouillon, of Port Louis, states, that she left her mistress on Monday morning last, having on the preceding Friday been violently beaten by her with a horse bridle, notwithstanding her advanced state of pregnancy; this punishment was received in consequence of complainant's not having prepared certain linen which had been set aside to be starched and ironed, and which Marie states she could not do, because her mistress had left her neither starch nor charcoal; that she was repeatedly beaten on the same day, and afterwards had a chain put upon her feet.

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Port Louis, 20th February 1830.

I certify, having examined Marie Joseph, a negress, belonging to M^{lle} Clarisse Rouillon, and find she has on both her arms, near the shoulders, several marks of punishment, which appear to be recent, and in two places the skin appears to be cut out; she has also on her back, some other marks, that appear more slight; these, she states, were occasioned by her mistress having flogged her with a horse bridle about three days ago; she also appears to be pregnant about four months.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D.

Surgeon to the Police.

The mistress of Marie Joseph appeared at the Protector's office, to answer to the charge preferred against her; it appeared from her statement, that it was for drunkenness and inattention, and not with a bridle, as she has stated, but with a cord, that the negress was punished; complainant is known to the Protector as a very bad subject, and of whom her mistress has frequently had to complain; in the present instance, however, the punishment inflicted being in contravention of the Ordinance, No. 43, M^{lle} Rouillon has been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 32.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 22d February 1830.

Jacquette, a Mozambique negress, aged 35 years, belonging to M. Daulne, of Rivière Sèche, in the quarter of Flacq, and arrested as a maroon by the police department, states that she left the habitation of her master on Monday morning last, on which morning complainant had a dispute with Allure, another negress of the establishment; and being separated by the commandeur Augustin, went to complain to the régisseur M. Lafraisière, of the treatment she had received; that, instead of being heard by the said régisseur, he gave her eight stripes of a cane on the shoulders, and then sent her back to her work; complainant's intention was then to leave the estate; in the evening, however, she was accused of being drunk, and was put into the block; three days afterwards she marooned, and went to the Sieur Autard (an old friend of her master's), whom she requested to beg pardon for her; this he declined to do, or even to receive her into his yard, and complainant was consequently taken in charge on the following day by a police guard; there was no witness to the punishment inflicted on her by the économé.

Port Louis, 20th February 1830.

I certify, having examined Jacquette, a negress belonging to M. Daulne, and find she has on her back and shoulders several marks of recent punishment; these she states were caused by her having been flogged by order of her master, about nine days ago; two of the blows received on the right side of the back are slightly ulcerated.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D.

Surgeon to the Police.

From the investigation made into this complaint it appears, that the blows which the complainant states to have been given to her by the régisseur, were administered with a rattan, for the purpose of separating the two women, who were quarreling and fighting, the one being jealous of the other, and the complainant in a state of inebriety. The Protector reprimanded the complainant severely, and ordered her to be confined for two Sundays for getting drunk, and beating her comrade, who was with child. She was then given up to her master, who was also cautioned strictly to forbid for the future the use of a cane or any other instrument of corporal punishment on a female slave.

Complaint, No. 33.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 23d February 1830.

Marie Louise, a Creole negress, aged 25 years, and belonging to Messrs. Desfontaines & Warwick, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, being found in the high road near to their establishment, chained to a billet of wood, has been conducted to this office. The said negress states, that the said chain was put upon her by order of M. Desfontaines, because she had marooned; that she has no cause of complaint whatever against her said master, other than that of being punished with a chain and billet much too heavy.

On being weighed, the billet was found to be thirty-six pounds, and the chain four pounds.

M. Desfontaines admits it to have been by his orders that the chain was put on the said negress, but says it was not his intention to keep her so confined any longer than was necessary to prepare the prison for her reception, and which at the moment was not ready. He declares

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declares complainant to be a maroon of the most determined class, and that he had no other means of keeping her on the establishment than by using the chain until the prison should be ready.

RESULT :—The weight of chain used in this instance being greater than that authorized by law, the case was denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 34.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 25th February 1830.

Félix, a Mozambique, aged 22 years, and belonging to M. Carette, of the quarter of Grand Port, complains of being constantly beaten by him, his master always saying it is because complainant is lazy, and does not work like the other slaves. This, however, is false, as he does all he is desired to do, notwithstanding which he is thus maltreated; complainant further says, that he has but one pound of rice *per diem* as his rations; that on Friday last his master gave him several kicks on the body, one on the stomach and another in the private parts, from the effects of which he suffers much: this punishment was inflicted upon him in consequence of his having been rather long in executing a commission. The slave Pierre can testify to all that complainant has stated.

Port Louis, 25th February 1830.

I certify, having examined *Félix*, a slave belonging to M. Carette, and find he has some marks of punishment on his breech, but they are very slight, and apparently of very long standing. He complains of having been kicked in the pit of the stomach; but he has no mark whatever of having received such an injury.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The Sieur Auguste Carette declares, that, during the time he has possessed the slave *Félix* (twelve months), he has neither struck nor inflicted upon him any other description of punishment whatever, notwithstanding which he has frequently deserved it by his ill conduct; that complainant is an habitual drunkard and thief, and even boasts among his comrades of the success of his robberies; declarant has neither stocks, martinet, cane, nor any other instrument of punishment, being unwilling to punish his slaves on the estate; and this feeling induced him some time past to sell a slave named Jean Baptiste, also a thief and maroon; that if his slave *Félix* has about him any marks, they are the consequence of the continual quarrels he is engaged in with his comrades; that with respect to food, his slaves are allowed the quantity required by law.

Pierre and several other slaves of M. Carette were then examined, all of whom bore the strongest testimony against complainant, and fully proved his complaint to be false and malicious to the last degree: in consequence of which, the Protector directed him to be punished with twenty lashes of the martinet on the estate, and in the presence of the other slaves of the establishment.

Complaint, No. 35,

Protector of Slaves' Office, 25th February 1830.

Adonis, a Mozambique slave, aged about 25 years, and belonging to the heirs of the late Jeanne Romanet, complains that his present masters, Messrs. Blancard & Thèvenin, of Rivière du Rempart, to whom he is let, do not allow him sufficient food; that he has no hours of "breloques;" that he is, with the other slaves, called to work at four o'clock in the morning, and does not leave off until from seven to eight o'clock in the evening; that the Sunday corvée lasts till ten or eleven o'clock, and is used for the purpose of putting sugar to dry, after which there is a Sunday evening corvée; that although unwell, complainant is compelled to work like the healthy blacks, and is often beaten by Auguste, Bazile, and by a free man named Bonhomme; that lately a slave named Baptiste, of Mr. Basset's, hired by Thèvenin, was beaten by the régisseur named Hypolite, with a stick until his arm swelled; when, instead of obtaining for that slave medical advice, Thèvenin put him into the stocks; that a slave named Thomas is often maltreated, and his hut vexatiously searched without just cause.

The Sieur Thèvenin, in his reply to this charge, swears, that the blacks on the estate receive two meals of boiled rice, with either salt meat or brède (one for breakfast, one for dinner), and at night each receive half a pound of rice uncooked.

On being asked the quantity of each meal, he said, the quantity is not measured nor weighed, but each slave has as much as he can eat.

Declarant states, that his slaves rise at four and go to work at five o'clock, and continue till sun-set, after which they cut each a bundle of grass, and bring it to the court; that the Sunday corvées last till eight o'clock, and is availed of for putting sugar out to dry; and on being told, that such was not lawful, answered, he did it in order to avail himself of the fine weather; that complainant's statement with respect to his treatment when unwell, is very idle; that at present there is not any hospital on the plantation, but declarant intends to build one; that the commandeur sometimes gives complainant a few strokes of the cane when he is lazy.

Bazile, a slave on the estate, says, the quantity of boiled rice given at each meal is one pound, with either salt fish, or meat, or brède, and at night half a pound of unboiled rice; and that they go to work at six o'clock; that the Sunday corvée lasts until eight o'clock in the morning, and that it is used for putting out sugar to dry; that the slaves make another corvée on Sunday evening in cutting grass for the horses.

The slave Auguste says, the quantity of boiled rice given at each meal is half a pound, with either salt meat or brède, and at night half a pound of unboiled rice; that they have one hour for dinner, and half an hour for breakfast; that they go to work at day-light, and quit at seven o'clock in the evening; that there are two corvées on Sunday, one in the morning till eight o'clock, and one in the evening to cut grass; that complainant has no right to say he is beaten, and not taken care of when unwell; for four months he has been ill with venereal, and is only employed in the stables, and in putting out sugar to dry.

Thomas says the same as Auguste, except that brède only is given, and never any salt meat; that they have one hour for dinner, and half an hour for breakfast; that they go to work at four o'clock in the morning, and quit it at seven o'clock at this season, but that during the crop season they work till ten and eleven at night; that on Sunday they work on the plantation till eight o'clock, and are employed afterwards in putting out sugar to dry, and are then set to watch it all day in case it should rain, and that they are not paid when they thus work all day; that the slaves are in general very ill-treated by Thèvenin, who flogs them for the most trifling fault, for even a moment's absence, and if they complain of being ill, they are instantly put into the stocks; there is no hospital on the plantation; that when ill, they remain in their huts; that he was menaced this morning by Thèvenin if he made any complaint to the Assistant Protector.

Hypolite, a régisseur, says, the slaves have one pound and a half of boiled rice per day each, with either salt meat or brède; that they have one hour and a half allowed for dinner, and three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and go to work or rise at four o'clock in the morning, quit at sun-set, and then cut a bundle of grass to bring home; that the Sunday corvées last till seven o'clock only, and are consumed in cleaning the court, stables, &c.; in the evening there is another corvée to cut grass for the animals. On being asked, if they were not employed at any other work on Sundays, he replied, no; and on being desired to recollect himself, he said, that the domestic slaves were alone employed in putting out sugar to dry, and if there be an appearance of rain, the rest of the slaves are called to carry the sugar into store; declarant denies the charge of the slaves being obliged to work when ill, and says, that he never beat any slave with a stick, and that all punishments are registered in the Punishment Record Book; he also says, that there is no slave of the name of Baptiste on the plantation, therefore he could not beat him; Thèvenin says the same thing.

RESULT:—The Protector having duly considered the complaint of Adonis, and the investigation made into it by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, is of opinion that, much disorder reigns on the establishment of Mess^{rs} Blancard & Thèvenin, since, by the declaration of the latter, as well as by that of his slaves, it appears that the provisions of the Ordinance in Council, No. 43, have not been strictly complied with; it would therefore be the duty of the Protector to denounce the same for prosecution: under the circumstances, however, of this being the first complaint presented from the estate (which has but recently fallen into the hands of its present possessors), he is desirous of giving the masters an opportunity of removing the evils complained of; with this view the parties have been severely reprimanded, and strictly enjoined to be more circumspect in their observance of the law for the future.

Complaint, No. 36.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 27th February 1830.

Adeline, a child, aged about 9 years, and belonging to M. Gautier, of Port Louis, states, that she marooned on the day before yesterday, and complains that her master, the said M. Gautier, beat her on Sunday last with a "martinet de peau," for not having well cleaned the house; complainant does not recollect how many lashes she received, but states, that she was beaten in the presence of her mistress, and the negresses Adelaide and Adèle; complainant further states, that she has no other clothes than what she now appears in.

She was arrested by a Police Guard at Grand Rivière, and having stated the cause of her maroonage to the Chief Commissary of Police, has been sent to this office.

Port Louis, 20th February 1830.

I certify having examined *Adeline*, a child about eight years old, and belonging to M. Gautier, and find she has on her shoulders and back several marks of recent punishment, which she states were caused by her master having flogged her with a "martinet en peau," about six days ago. I am of opinion that her punishment was severe, and more than a child of her age should receive; she appears also badly clothed.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D.
Surgeon to the Police.

RESULT:—The Protector having examined this complaint, finds there is no evidence upon which to bring it into Court, although there is no doubt of the child having been beaten severely by its mother, who admitted the fact, stating that the girl is an incorrigible thief, and disobedient to the last degree; and also, that she always punishes her when in fault, either of her own accord or by her master's orders. She was recommended to use more moderation in future in her corrections, and by no means to use the cat for that purpose. The master was afterwards cited to come to the office to take cognizance of the Protector's decision, but refused to do so; and after allowing a reasonable time for that purpose, the child was sent back to him, with an injunction that she was not to be punished or in any way molested for having brought this complaint, the want of evidence alone being the cause of its not being denounced.

Complaint,

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Complaint, No. 37.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 1st March 1830.

Simon, a Creole, aged 25 years, belonging to the *Sieur Adolphe Vincent*, and sent to the Protector in consequence of his having been arrested by the Police Department with chains on his ankles of greater weight than is allowed by law, states, that about twenty days past he was discharged from the *Bagne Prison*, where he received twenty-five stripes of the cane for maroonage; that on his return to the estate of his master, he was immediately put into the stocks, and only released during the hours of labour; that on the third day he was put in chains, and at night set to watch the manioc fields, continuing to work during the day with the other slaves, who were told by his master to give complainant a slap in the face whenever they saw him at all behind-hand. In consequence of this treatment, he marooned on Friday last, and was on the following morning arrested by the Police.

The *Sieur Vincent* appeared at the Protector's office, and having heard the complaint made against him by his slave *Simon*, admitted that he had put upon him the irons alluded to; that he had done so, however, in consequence of the insolent conduct of the black, and the impossibility of retaining him on the estate by any other means; on being informed that he had contravened the law in having used a greater weight of chain than is allowed, viz. three pounds seven ounces, the *Sieur Vincent* declared that the contravention was unintentional on his part, and that for the future he would avoid a recurrence of it.

RESULT :—The case was denounced to the *Procureur Général* for prosecution on the 19th instant.

Complaint, No. 38.

Protector of Slaves' Office, March 2d, 1830.

Caroline, a *Malgache*, aged 36 years, complains that her master, *Mr. W. Ellis*, of *Port Louis*, assaulted her yesterday evening in *Bazar-street*, giving her several blows and soufflets, and by which he broke one of her teeth; complainant afterwards went to her house in the "*Camp des Yolloffs*," whither the said *Ellis* followed her, and there finding the outer gate closed, endeavoured to force an entrance. On being interrogated, as to what had passed previous to the assault committed in the street, complainant replies, that yesterday morning her said master, coming to her house to take away a dog and a piece of flannel belonging to another person, he threatened so to beat complainant as to oblige her to keep her bed for the next three months: of this menace complainant took no notice; but finding herself so ill treated, and seeing no other means of escaping the violent conduct of her master, she is come to seek protection.

The *Sieur Linder* and *Jean Louis* were present when *Ellis* beat her.

Jean Louis, a free man of colour, confirms the statement of complainant, as far as relates to the assault made upon her in the street; and further adds, that she did not, on that occasion, make any observation whatever to her master.

On the 13th March the *Sieur Ellis* appeared at the Protector's Office, to answer the complaint of his negress; he admits it to be true that he did twice strike complainant in the face with his open hand, in consequence of her insolent conduct towards him; declarant did not attempt to follow his slave after she had quitted him, neither did he (as she states he did) repair to her house at the "*Camp des Yolloffs*," and there throw stones at the door, or in any manner whatever endeavour to gain admittance.

Declarant did take from the house of complainant, as set forth by her, a dog, his own property, and a flannel jacket belonging to one of the crew of His Majesty's ship *Tweed*; but did not, on the occasion of his being there, or on any other occasion, threaten the said *Caroline* that he would so beat her as to oblige her to keep her bed for three months.

Declarant did once threaten a free man named *Jean Louis*, who cohabits with *Caroline*, that he would so treat him, should he again offer declarant an opportunity.

Denounced for prosecution on the 26th instant.

Complaint, No. 39.

Protector of Slaves' Office, March 2d, 1830.

Julien, a slave boy, aged 13, and belonging to *M^{me} Sturbel*, of the quarter of *Savanne*, complains of ill treatment received from his mother, the negress *Perine*, who on Friday last accused him of having stolen a fowl, and then violently beat him with a cane; that he was again beaten on the following evening; on Sunday he was a second time accused of stealing another of his mistress's fowls, and dividing it with his comrades, who were by the sea-side fishing, for which he was a third time punished with much severity; complainant admits that he did purloin the fowls in question.

The examining Surgeon states, that "*ses fesses sont toutes couvertes des marques de coups de bâton, appliqués d'une manière à tirer du sang; toute la fesse droite parait en état de suppuration, et il n'y a pas de doute que toute la surface deviendra un grand eschar.*"

(signed) "*H. Rogers.*"

From the investigation made into this case by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, it is quite clear that the boy committed the thefts for which he was punished, and that the correction was inflicted by his mother, in consequence of the absence of *M^{me} Sturbel* from the plantation; the Assistant Protector considering, however, the chastisement to be quite as great as the offence called for, returned him to the estate, with an injunction to *M^{me} Sturbel* not to molest him in any manner, until the decision of the Protector should be

be known, and to cause him to be forthcoming, should he be required to attend at the Protector's Office.

RESULT:—Although the boy (Julien) merited to be well punished for the two thefts, which appear to have been proved against him, still the Doctor's certificate is of that nature, as to give to the punishment a shade of unnecessary severity, although it was inflicted by his mother; and it is evident that the marks of the first punishment could not have been healed, when the second was inflicted: the Protector, under all circumstances, deemed it proper to confirm the decision of his Assistant, but directed him to inform M^{me} Sturbel, that she is equally responsible for the consequences of any correction given to slaves when inflicted by their parents as when given by her order, and that any infraction of the law committed by them, will be visited upon her; and he also directed her to be informed, that a split rattan such as was used on the present occasion, is not a proper instrument of punishment.

Complaint, No. 40.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 4th March 1830.

Frontin, a Mozambique, aged 32, complains that his master M. Mallet, of Rivière du Rempart, put upon him on his return from the Protector's Office 12th December last, the chain and collar he now wears; that he has also been kept in the stocks since that time, and was the day before yesterday punished with ten blows of a stick, because, as his master said, he would not work: complainant finding himself thus treated, broke the stocks in which he was confined, for the purpose of presenting his present complaint to the Protector.

Port Louis, 4th March 1830.

I certify having examined *Frontin*, a slave belonging to M. Mallet, and find he has marks of recent and old punishment on his left shoulder, and in one place the skin is removed to the extent of half an inch; these he states were occasioned by his master having flogged him with a rattan, about three days ago.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The *Sieur Jean Mallet*, in reply, declares, that since the return of his black, *Frontin*, he has been but one day in chains; that he marooned the next day, and repeatedly since, being always taken in the neighbourhood, and conducted to declarant, who having no other means of keeping complainant on the estate, put upon him the chains in which he appeared before the Protector. Declarant is aware that he has contravened the law, by the weight of chains used, but hopes the determined ill conduct of *Frontin* may be an excuse for his having done so.

The other circumstances complained of are absolutely false. Declarant did not inflict any corporal punishment whatever on the complainant, as stated by him; and his only employment while in the block, was to pick hemp,—a labour light enough, to prove that declarant had no other object in confining his slave, than that of keeping him on the estate.

RESULT:—*Frontin*, who is known to the Protector as a very bad character, was severely admonished; M. Mallet was denounced for prosecution for an infraction of the Chain Ordinance, No. 51.

Complaint, No. 41.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 9th March 1830.

Mardi, a Mozambique, aged 22 years, belonging to M. Charles Aveline, of the quarter of Pamplemousses, arrested as a maroon and sent to this office by the Chief Commissary of Police, says, that he absconded some days past from the estate of his master, because a false report had been made against him by the negress *Thérèse*, of his having stolen a marmite from her hut; that three or four days afterwards, being arrested and re-conducted to his master, he was put in chains, and afterwards to the stocks; that he then received some stripes of a martinet on his back, and twelve blows of a stick on the sole of his left foot, by the slave *Adrien*, by order of his master; *Milie*, *Jupiter* and *Honoré* were present; on the following morning complainant was released, and sent to work with his comrades, when he escaped in order to make his present complaint.

Port Louis, 10th March 1830.

I certify having examined *Mardi*, a slave belonging to M. Charles Aveline, and find he has on several parts of his body and arms marks of recent punishment, which he states were occasioned by his having been flogged with a martinet about a week past, by his master; but they do not appear to me to resemble in any way the marks usually made by such an instrument. He also complains of having been flogged on the soles of the feet, but he exhibits no marks of such punishment.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The *Sieur Feline* states, that complainant does not belong to him, as he has stated, but to M. François Dioré, of Pamplemousses; that *Mardi* and *Honoré* are the only two troublesome slaves on the establishment, both being thieves of the most determined nature, and constantly occupied in robbing from their comrades; that *Mardi* was caught in the fact of stealing in the hut of *Thérèse*, the best proof of which is, that he absconded from the plantation the moment he was discovered; that on the 6th instant he was brought back to the establishment, and placed in the stocks, from which he was shortly removed, and then put in chains. With respect to his having been flogged, his statement is positively false, as every black on the estate can testify; he did not receive a blow of any description.

Many

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Protector of Slaves.

Many of the slaves of the Sieur Dioré were then examined, one and all of whom declared complainant to be the greatest thief and worst-disposed black on the estate.

From their evidence there is no doubt whatever of his having committed the theft in question; in consideration, however, of his having already suffered the punishment of confinement in chains, he was returned to his master, strongly admonished for his past irregular conduct, and recommended to guard against a repetition of it.

The weight of chains used in this case being greater than that authorized by law, M. Dioré was denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 42.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 9th March 1830.

Charly, a Creole, aged 23 years, states, that he quitted the estate of his master the Sieur Ravelle, in the quarter of Flacq, yesterday morning, in order to make known to the Protector the ill-treatment to which he is exposed; he complains, that being cook and domestic servant, he has not a moment to himself; that he is forbidden ever to leave the court-yard, and has not even Sunday as a holiday; complainant, the day before yesterday, absented himself for the purpose of seeing his father on a neighbouring estate; that on his return early on the following morning he was put into the stocks by the slave Fanchin, and then punished with a "martinet de peau," his hands and feet being held by the slaves L'Amour and Jean Baptiste; after this being sent to his work, complainant found an opportunity to escape, and did so.

Port Louis, 9th March 1830.

I certify having examined Charly, a slave belonging to M. Ravelle, and find he has several slight marks of old punishment on both sides of his breech, which I think must have been of some years standing; he complains also of having been flogged with a "martinet de peau" about two days ago; but the marks are very slight, few in number, and scarcely perceptible.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The Sieur Ravelle says, in reply, that he certainly did correct Charly; not, however, as he has stated, for having been to see his father; but for having a third time left the room wherein he was placed as a guard during the night, and by leaving the doors open, having exposed declarant to the danger of being robbed; on the night his slave admits being absent, complainant's child was very unwell, and it was in going down stairs to procure assistance that he again found complainant absent from his post, who, instead of having been to his father, was at a neighbouring canteen, where he remained until four o'clock in the morning, and then returned in a state of intoxication; for this offence he received eight or nine stripes of a cat-of-four-tails, without knots. It is false that complainant has ever been denied the privilege of going to see his father.

Fanchin says, that he punished complainant with nine stripes for having absented himself the whole night in opposition to his master's orders; to declarant's knowledge, Charly has never been subject to any ill treatment whatever from his master.

L'Amour does not know why complainant was punished; he assisted at the punishment, and declares that Charly has no right to complain of the manner in which he is treated by his master.

RESULT:—The complaint of this slave being entirely false and groundless, he was returned to his master, to be punished in the presence of his comrades with fifteen stripes of the martinet, for drunkenness and inattention to his duty.

Complaint, No. 43.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 18th March 1830.

Aly and *Songol*, two Mozambique slaves belonging to M. Marcellin Barry, of the quarter of Flacq, with each a collar and chain about his neck, complain of ill treatment received from their master. *Aly* states, that on the day after his return from the Protector's Office, (three months past) he was immediately put in chains, and kept so confined for a fortnight; that having absented himself from muster a few days after he was liberated, he marooned for fear of being punished. On the following day being arrested by a guard of the police, complainant was conducted to the Bagne prison, where he was kept for a month, and also punished with twenty-five stripes of the "martinet;" that on his return from the Bagne, he was again put in chains, and confined in the block during the hours of "breloque," and at night, until the day before yesterday, when he escaped. He also complains of being ill-fed, and kept in an out-house, exposed to the rain and damp.

Songol says, that some days past having omitted to furnish the customary bundle of grass for the cattle, he was punished with ten stripes of the martinet, and then put in the chains he now wears; that in the same manner as his comrade, he has been confined in the block, and kept without a sufficient quantity of food.

The Sieur Barry, in reply, declares the complaint of the slaves to be false; that by the Protector's orders *Aly* was condemned to one month in chains, notwithstanding which he was liberated at the expiration of eight days; that *Songol* was not confined for omitting to furnish his bundle of grass, but for constant maroonage during several months; that complainants were not kept in the block during the hours of breloque, as stated by them; they were only confined in a place of safety during the night and on Sundays, without adopting which precaution there would have been no means of keeping them on the estate.

Declarant

Declarant has at this moment eighteen slaves, maroons, without any reason whatever, and much disorder reigns on the establishment.

The Assistant Protector of the quarter having visited the "hut" in which complainants say they were confined, found it to be a fit place for such purpose, and perfectly free from humidity. The daily ration of rice allowed to each slave was found to be one pound and three quarters, and to be of good quality.

Nelson, a creole slave, and commandeur on the estate, declares, that complainants were punished with confinement in chains for repeated maroonage, and not for the reasons set forth by them; that they were not kept in the stocks during the hours of breloque, but only on Sunday and at night.

Toby, Jeannot, and other slaves, declare the same thing.

19th March. **RESULT**:—The Protector, having taken the circumstances of this case into his consideration, is of opinion, that the complaint of Songol is altogether groundless, as is also that of Aly in every point, excepting that of his being confined in chains immediately on his return from the Bagne prison, where he had already undergone punishment for the maroonage committed, and which, being a breach of the 5th Article of Ordinance, No. 51, has been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.

Songol was returned to his master to be punished with fifteen stripes of the martinet, in the presence of his comrades, and of the Assistant Protector of the quarter.

30th April. The above denunciation having been made upon the grounds that there had been no intermediate maroonage on the part of Aly, declared at the Civil Commissary's, between the 21st of January, the day upon which he was sent back to the plantation, and the 27th of January, the day upon which the punishment of the claim is recorded in the Register Book of Punishments; but as it appears that, by the Maroonage Laws, masters are allowed eight days for declaring as maroons such of their slaves as absent themselves from the plantation without leave; and as it results from a subsequent investigation, that the entry in the Punishment Register Book, although equivocally expressed, was meant to state, that Aly had committed a "nouveau maroonage," between the 21st and 27th of January, for which the punishment of the chain was inflicted, and not for the previous maroonage for which the slave was punished at the Bagne;—the Protector represented these circumstances to his Excellency the Governor, with a view that the proceedings taken in the case might be quashed; his Excellency approving of the same, the prosecution was arrested.

Complaint, No. 44.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 17th March 1830.

Adèle, a Mozambique, aged 40 years, and her daughter *Augustine*, aged 22, both belonging to M. Aurier, of Flacq; the former states, that she left the estate because her daughter, the said *Augustine*, although suffering under much bodily pain, receives no medical assistance or care whatever. Declarant herself has no complaint to make against her master, otherwise than with reference to her daughter, who on new-year's-day was even deprived of her common daily rations of food, so that declarant was obliged to share with *Augustine* her own allowance.

Augustine interrogated, states, that she does not know the nature of her malady; that it affects almost every part of her body, causing her great pain when walking, and that she has been suffering under it during the last twelve months; there is an hospital on the estate, but for two months past she has not been in it, neither has she during that period been allowed any food; her master saying that she has already been of too great expense to him, and she may find food and assistance where she can.

Port Louis, 18th March 1830.

I certify having examined *Augustine*, a negress belonging to M. Aurier, and find she is affected with a chronic cutaneous disease to such a degree as to render her unfit for work. I would therefore recommend her being sent to hospital.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

On the 24th March, this case was investigated by the Assistant Protector of the quarter before whom the *Sieur Aurier* appeared, and declared the complaint of his negresses to be absolutely false; that they did not abscond, as they say they did, on Monday last, but on the 6th of the month, thirteen days past; that *Augustine*, about a year and a half ago, was attacked with an inveterate venereal disease, for which she was treated by the medical man of the establishment (as will be seen by his certificate), though without his being able to overcome her complaint: *Augustine* was subsequently placed, at her own request, under the care of a person in Port Louis, whose exertions were equally unsuccessful; that having occasion for her appearance on the estate at the periodical registration of his slaves, declarant sent for his negress; instead of finding *Augustine*, however, in Port Louis, he was informed that she had, notwithstanding her state, marooned some time past; and, although her mother *Adèle* knew very well where to find her, she constantly refused to do so when directed by declarant.

RESULT:—M. Aurier, on being informed that the negress *Augustine* was in the hospital, and her mother *Adèle* at the Bagne at his disposal, consented that both should be retained at his expense, it being his intention to sell them when recovered. The complaint of the negresses is false in all its parts. The master did all that could be done for their disease, but their own imprudence rendered all useless.

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Protector of Slaves.

Complaint, No. 45.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 17th March 1830.

Désiré, a Creole slave, aged 23, and belonging to M. Mazière, of Port Louis, states, that on Monday last his mistress put him in irons because he had not dressed some sago just as she wished; that not being a good cook, it was no fault on his part, and therefore the punishment was not deserved; besides, he would rather be punished with a few strokes of a cane than be confined with irons to his feet.

The "entraves" were found to weigh four pounds and three quarters.

On the 20th March the Sieur Mazière appeared at the Protector's Office, and declared that he had put complainant in irons, and not his wife, as stated; that it was because his slave had marooned, and was drunk on Monday last, a fault which he is continually committing, and that without the slightest reason. Declarant was not aware that the weight of the chains he had used exceeded that allowed by law, otherwise he would not have put them upon complainant.

RESULT:—Denounced to the Procureur Général on the 23d instant for prosecution, as an infraction of the Chain Ordinance.

Complaint, No. 46.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 10th March 1830.

Jack, a Malgache slave, aged about 32 years, belonging to the Reverend R. E. Jones, residing at Terre Rouge, in the quater of Pamplemousses, states, that he quitted the estate of his master this morning, to complain of having been flogged, although he committed no offence; on being interrogated as to the cause of such punishment, complainant says, that the negress Marthe and the commandeur Isidore accused him of having stolen a dollar belonging to the former, making a false report thereof to his master, who, without making further inquiry into the fact of the case, ordered the said commandeur to give complainant twenty-five stripes of a cane on his breech, his hands and feet being held by the slaves Bon Miguel, Coutoubin, Toussaint and Troupereau; that the commandeur is very severe; also charging complainant with having often sold his master's milk, though he could produce no proof to substantiate such a charge; that he as well as the other slaves rise at half past three in the morning to work in the garden, cut grass or clean the cattle-yard, ceasing at six in the evening; that he has not a sufficiency of food, the ration being less than a pound of rice and one manioc *per diem*; and that they are allowed but half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; neither has he Sunday to himself, for if not employed with the cattle, he is out with his master's carriage. Complainant further states, that his wife, named Cécile, was flogged with a cane by order of his master, on the 29th December last, for having beaten another negress called Mathurine, marks of which punishment Cécile still bears.

Port Louis, 10th March 1830.

I certify having examined Jack, a slave belonging to the Reverend Robert Jones, and find both sides of his breech considerably swollen and painful, particularly the right side, from whence a great portion of the skin is removed; both exhibit marks of recent punishment; and from the complainant's account it would seem, that he was flogged this morning with a rattan, by order of his master; as he cannot sit down, nor bear the contact of his clothes, I would recommend his being sent to hospital.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

On the following day the Reverend Mr. Jones was invited to attend at the Protector's Office to answer the complaint of his slave; he declined however to do so, sending the undermentioned slaves to be examined touching the complaint in question.

Marthe, a Creole, aged 15 years, states, that on Sunday night last she slept in Jack's hut, and that in the morning when she awoke she found a dollar missing which she had tied up in a little bundle of linen; that Cécile told her, Jack had taken it; but beyond this she has no proof of his guilt. Declarant works on the estate from four o'clock in the morning until six in the evening; children like herself have one pound of rice *per diem* as their rations; while the grown-up slaves have the same quantity of rice, and one manioc; that their "breloque" is half an hour for breakfast, sometimes two and sometimes one hour for dinner. In the Sunday corvée they are employed from four until ten o'clock in the morning, in cleaning the premises, and cutting grass for the cattle. On being interrogated as to the manner in which the female slaves of her master are punished, declarant states, that about two months past she was flogged with several stripes of a cane on her breech by the commandeur Isidore, by order of her master, laid on the ground with her hands and feet held by Combo and Romeo; this punishment was inflicted at the instigation of her mistress, who charged her with having stolen a rupee found in her possession, although the same had been given to declarant by her father on new-year's-day. Declarant saw another negress, named Cécile, flogged in the same manner about the middle of January last, by order of her master, who was present at the punishment, because she had struck a child called Mathurine.

Port Louis, 13th March 1830.

I certify having examined Martha, a slave belonging to the Reverend Robert Jones, and find she has, on both sides of her breech, slight marks of punishment, which she states were inflicted about a month ago; having been flogged by order of her master.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

Cécile was then examined; she denies having ever told Martha that Jack had stolen her dollar; but corroborates all else deposed by the preceding declarant, with reference to working hours, food and Sunday *corvée*; differing only in stating, that the slaves have regularly two hours allowed for dinner, instead of sometimes having but one, as stated by Martha. With respect to the corporal punishment said to have been inflicted upon her, she states, that about three weeks after new-year's-day she received from the slave Troupereau five stripes of a cane on her breech, by order of her master, her hands and feet being held by four blacks (her master and the negresses Fifine, Julie, Adélaïne and Caroline being present) because she gave the child Mathurine, who had insulted her, a "soufflet." Declarant recollects the punishment inflicted on Martha, which was similar to that suffered by herself.

The slave Bon Miguel corroborates the statement of Cécile with reference to food, hours of work, and Sunday *corvée*, and the manner in which female slaves are punished. He did not see either Martha or Cécile punished in the manner stated, though he heard from his comrades that they were so flogged.

Troupereau confirms all stated by the former witnesses, and adds, that it was himself who inflicted five or six stripes of a cane on Cécile, in the manner described, and by the order of his master, who, with the negresses named by Cécile, were present at the punishment.

Romeo states, that he was present at the punishment of both negresses; and confirms all declared by the other witnesses as to "breloque," food, working hours and *corvée*.

Coutoubin was present at the punishment inflicted on the person of Cécile, but only heard from his comrades that Martha had been so flogged.

Isidore, a commandeur, states, that he flogged the complainant Jack by his master's order, for stealing the money of Martha; that the slaves begin to work at four o'clock in the morning, and cease at six in the evening; that they have regularly one hour for breakfast and two for dinner. The grown-up slaves have one pound of rice and one manioc *per diem* each, and the young slaves one pound of rice only whilst he himself, as commandeur, has one pound and a half of rice and a manioc; that Sunday *corvée* begins at four and finishes at eight o'clock in the morning; declarant was not present at the punishment of Cécile, nor did he hear it spoken of. He did punish Mortha, however, in the manner stated, by order of his master, who, with a free man named Joseph Romeo, was present.

The free man, Joseph Romeo, overseer of the blacks belonging to the Reverend Mr. Jones, was then examined. He states, that he was present at the punishment of Jack, three days ago; that he also witnessed that of Martha, about a month past, inflicted under the circumstances stated by the other declarants; but with respect to the alleged punishment of Cécile, he knows nothing.

Toussaint, cited by Jack as being present when he was flogged, could not be examined, Mr. Jones declaring him to be a maroon.

RESULT:—With respect to the punishment inflicted upon the slave Jack, although (as it would seem by the Doctor's certificate) inflicted with some severity, there has been no other infringement of the law than that the registration of it in the Punishment Record Book does not contain all the particulars required by the Ordinance No. 43. A more correct observance of which, Mr. Jones was recommended to adopt for the future: upon application from that gentleman for the return of his slave, an order was given by the Protector for his discharge from the Civil Hospital, whither he had been sent, in consequence of the certificate of the examining Surgeon.

A similar recommendation was made to Mr. Jones, with reference to the other charges contained in Jack's complaint; viz. first, of being overworked; secondly, of insufficiency of food; thirdly, of want of time for repose and meals; fourthly, of being employed on Sunday *corvée* a greater length of time than is allowed by law. With respect to the fifth charge, that corporal punishment had been inflicted upon the negresses Cécile and Martha, and which is fully established by evidence, the Protector denounced the infraction in the first case, to the acting Collector of Customs, to be dealt with as he might think proper, Cécile being a Government apprentice, and therefore under that officer's special superintendence. Whilst the infraction of the Ordinance No. 43, in the case of Martha, was denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly; wherein Mr. Jones, allowing judgment to go by default, was fined in the penalty of £.20 sterling.

Complaint, No. 47.

Protector of Slaves Office, 17th March 1830.

Julien, a Mozambique, aged 26 years, and belonging to M. Osughrué, of the quarter of Pamplemousses, having been arrested by the police as a maroon, with chains upon him of greater weight than is allowed by law, has been sent to this office by that department.

He states, that having absented himself from the estate of his master on the 1st January last, and not returning until the 4th, he was put in chains, and has continued in them until this time. Having several times begged his master's pardon for the fault committed, and promised not to repeat it, and being always refused a hearing, complainant has again marooned, rather than suffer the punishment of constant confinement in the block, where he is kept at nights and on Sundays, and being beaten by the commandeur Henry with a martinet, which he takes to the fields in order to make the slaves work.

The chains in question were found to weigh four pounds three ounces, consequently exceeding the weight allowed by the Ordinance, No. 51, of the 3d October 1829.

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By the investigation made into this complaint, it appears that the complainant is a very bad subject, much addicted to theft and maroonage; his master, however, having committed an infraction of the law, has been denounced for prosecution accordingly; whilst the slave has been severely reprimanded, and cautioned as to his future conduct.

Complaint, No. 48.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 18th March 1830.

Marc, a Mozambique, aged 35 years, belonging to M^{me} Brouard, of the quarter of Flacq, states, that for the last five years he has been attacked by a disease which has eaten many parts of his body; that, about two years past, he was purchased by his present mistress from M. Robillard, without being examined by a medical man, and latterly has been employed to guard the canes, his mistress having entirely abandoned him, refusing him food, even preventing his coming into the court-yard; that when he has complained, she has always said, "Go and get assistance where you can; it is only throwing away money to spend it on you;" that finding himself thus treated, he left the estate on Monday last, and being arrested by a guard of the police on the following morning, has been sent to the Protector's Office.

Port Louis, 18th March 1830.

I certify having examined Mars or Marc, a slave belonging to M^{me} Brouard, and find he is affected with a cutaneous disease, and ulceration of several parts of the body. I would recommend his being sent to hospital.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

Madame Brouard declares the charges brought against her to be false; that, so far from complainant's being deprived of his food, he has had the same rations as the other blacks of her estate; that she purchased Marc two years past, knowing him to be afflicted with an incurable disease, for which, however, he has been treated by several medical men, though without any beneficial result: in consequence of which, declarant placed him to guard a small piece of cane, and directed him to come weekly for his food, and which he has never failed to do.

Ariste, *Boniface* and *Martin*, slaves of Madame Brouard, confirm in every part the declaration of their mistress, particularly with respect to the allowance of food, and the medical assistance given to complainant.

RESULT:—The slave was given up to Madame Brouard, upon payment of the hospital expenses, and upon condition that he should continue to receive medical assistance in the hospital of the plantation.

Complaint, No. 49.

Protector of Slaves Office, 17th March 1830.

Adonis, a Mozambique slave, belonging to the heirs of the late *Jeanne Romanet*, and let to the *Sieurs Blancard, jun.* and *Emile Thèvenin*, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, complained to the Assistant Protector of that district, of being confined in the stocks immediately on his return from this office, where he had lodged a complaint against his said masters fifteen days past; that, before being put into the stocks, he was beaten with a cord by the *Sieur Blancard, jun.* who asked him who had advised him to go and complain. Since that time he has been confined, without having a sufficiency of food allowed him. *Jean Louis* put complainant into the block, by order of his young master, and the *Sieur Thèvenin* knew him to be there, because he came into the hut, and gave him several stripes of a cord on his back. These blows left no marks, the cord being large, and therefore only causing a swelling. All the blacks on the estate know him to have been so confined, particularly *Thomas*, *Jean Louis*, *Léveillé* and *Hypolite*. Complainant was confined when the Assistant Protector inspected the slaves of the estate, and was only released at that time by the commandeur *Auguste*, for the purpose of being inspected. He escaped by the assistance of his comrade *Léveillé*, and would have destroyed himself, had he not succeeded in getting away, not being able to support the ill treatment to which he is exposed.

Laurent, a slave belonging to M. Romanet, declares, that on the day of complainant's return from the Assistant Protector, where he had made a complaint, the *Sieur Blancard, jun.* put him into the stocks, where he remained until the moment of his escape, on Saturday the 13th instant. Declarant does not know why *Adonis* was confined in the stocks; but knows that he was beaten when there, with a cord and his fists, by the *Sieur Emile Thèvenin* (who is very severe), because he complained to the Assistant Protector. Of Mr. *Blancard, jun.* the slaves have nothing to complain; but with respect to the complaint of *Adonis*, that he has not food enough, it is very true that the slaves have not a sufficiency of food allowed them.

Thomas, another slave of M. Romanet, says, that on the day complainant was brought from the Assistant Protector's, he was put into the stocks by M. *Blancard, junior's*, order, and beaten while so confined, by the *Sieur Thèvenin*. Declarant did not see complainant thus punished, but was told it by *Adonis*, whom he understood to be confined because he had complained to the Assistant Protector. He was removed for the purpose of being inspected at the general examination of the slaves, and afterwards sent back to the stocks.

Jean Louis states, that in his return from the Assistant Protector's, he was ordered by his master to confine *Adonis* in the stocks, although he told him that the Assistant Protector said complainant ought to be sent to the hospital for medical treatment. Declarant did not

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see him struck, either by M. Blancard or the Sieur Thèvenin; but Adonis said he had been beaten by them.

Léveillé gives the same evidence, adding, that he saw the complainant beaten by the Sieur Thèvenin; but M. Blancard (who is kind to the blacks) did not beat him. Declarant helped Adonis to escape, from pity at seeing him so ill-treated.

The Sieur Thèvenin then presented the following slaves for examination, viz. Madou, Gérôme, François, Lubin, Jean, Boniface, Francisque, L'Amour, Célestin, Pierre, Hypolite, Charles, Simon, Sanspareil, Prestot, Arsène, Adèle, Eléonore, Pédre, Pompée and Phanor, all of whom declared the complaint of Adonis to be true; that he was punished for having previously complained to the Assistant Protector; that they are ill-fed on the estate; that they have not sufficient time for repose, and are ill-treated by the Sieur Thèvenin; but they have no complaint to make against M. Blancard.

The Sieur Thèvenin, on his part, declares, that on his return from Port Louis, he found Adonis confined in the stocks, by order of M. Blancard, jun. and was at the same time told by Hylaïre (one of the heirs of Jeanne Romanet) that complainant had desired to remain in his service, and had said, that if declarant did not consent to such an arrangement, he would maroon; that fearing this threat might be put into execution, declarant kept Adonis confined, and determined, in consequence of the unfounded complaint he had brought against his masters, not to let him return to the service of the Sieur Hylaïre, lest it should prove a bad example to the rest of the establishment.

With respect to the blows said to have been inflicted upon complainant, declarant did give him two with a cord, because he refused to work in making halters for the mules.

The Sieur Blancard did inform declarant of the message sent by the Assistant Protector respecting Adonis, and his detention in the stocks is attributable only to the reason above given.

RESULT:—It being clearly proved that the punishment inflicted on Adonis, was in opposition to an injunction from the Assistant Protector of the quarter, who, in the examination of a previous complaint from the said slave, found sufficient grounds to induce him to issue the injunction in question, and as Mess^{rs} Blancard & Thèvenin have, in inflicting this second punishment, as well as in not registering it, contravened the law, the Protector denounced the parties for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 50.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 19th March 1830.

Célestin, a Creole, aged 12 years, belonging to M. Daumont, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, complained to the Assistant Protector of the district of ill treatment received from his master; that about four days past he was directed to boil some "tisane;" that his master coming into the kitchen, ordered him to put more water into the boiler; that his said master seeing him put a little more than was sufficient, caught up a lighted brand, and pressed it against complainant's stomach, thereby causing the wound which he now bears upon him.

The Sieur Daumont says, that seeing the boy intentionally disobey him by filling the boiler with water, instead of adding a little, as directed, he did in a moment of impatience seize a piece of wood, and strike *Célestin* in the stomach. He was entirely ignorant, however, that the wood was ignited.

" Sur la requisition de M. le Commissaire Civil et de Police du quartier, en date du vingt Mars, mil huit cent trente, je, soussigné, chirurgien juré, certifie avoir scrupuleusement examiné le nommé *Célestin*, Créole, esclave de M. Daumont, lequel se plaint d'avoir été maltraité par son maître."

" J'atteste n'avoir observé aucunes marques d'une fustigation récente, mais bien une cicatrice circonscrite d'une étendue de deux pouces et demi, un peu au-dessous de la région épigastrique (qui me semble être le résultat d'une brûlure), plus trois pustules encore en suppuration au-dessus de la région ombilicale."

" Le sujet est d'ailleurs en parfait état de santé; en foi de quoi, j'ai délivré le présent certificat pour servir et valoir."

" Rivière du Rempart, le vingt Mars, mil huit cent trente.

(signé) "*Adèle Bonsergent*."

RESULT:—The Certificate of the examining Surgeon, the state of the wound remaining on the boy, together with the admission of the master fully proving the fact; the Sieur Daumont has been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 51.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 12th March 1830.

Paya, a Creole, aged 13, belonging to the Sieur Goulamsène, of Port Louis, arrested as a maroon, and sent to the Protector by the Chief Commissary of Police, complains, that his master put upon him the chains which he now wears, because he marooned, and remained absent for two days; and that he absconded in consequence of his being often beaten with a cane and the fist by his master and mistress for the slightest fault.

The Sieur Goulamsène having appeared at the Protector's Office to answer the above complaint, states, that he did put *Paya* in chains, in order to prevent his marooning, of which

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which he is in the constant habit. It is false that complainant is often beaten, as he states; declarant was ignorant that the law forbade his putting chains on a boy of complainant's age, or he would not have offended against it.

RESULT:—The Sieur Goulamsène has been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution for an infraction of the second Article of Ordinance, No. 51.

Complaint, No. 52.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 22d March 1830.

Jean François, a Creole slave belonging to the Sieur Bruneau Marquet *alias* Cottry, of Grand Port, presented himself before the Assistant Protector of that quarter, to seek protection from the ill treatment to which he is exposed. Complainant states, that on Sunday last he was sent to the Sieur Bignoux, of Plain Bois, for a sack of maize; that not finding M. Bignoux at home, he waited until about nine o'clock in the morning, when complainant returned without having fulfilled the object of his commission; that his master seeing him come back without the maize, took a stick, and beat him with fury, whilst complainant in vain protested his innocence, and begged mercy; the wife of the Sieur Bruneau interfering at this time, intreated her husband not to give way to passion in such a manner, but to direct a commandeur to punish Jean François, if he had committed a fault requiring it. To this remonstrance, however, he was equally deaf, continuing to beat complainant until he was perfectly exhausted, and afterwards repeating the punishment, sometimes with a stick, and sometimes with a piece of rope; swearing at the same time that he would murder complainant with his own hands. Complainant was then put into the stocks by his master, who tied his hands behind him, and then fastened them to a neighbouring tree, thus placing him in a position so painful, that by the evening he could no longer support it. M. Bruneau then liberated his hands, and left him in the stocks, under the charge of Narcisse, another of his slaves; but this latter going to work early on the following morning, afforded to complainant an opportunity to escape. He further states, that whenever any poultry happens to be missing from the yard, himself and comrades are obliged to work all Sunday. That the ordinary corvée on that day lasts until nine o'clock, and that in the afternoon they make another corvée, in order to supply the cattle with grass.

“ Je, soussingé, chirurgien du Port Sud Est, y demeurant à Mahébourg, certifie avoir, sur la requisition de M. le Commissaire Civil du quartier, visité le noir nommé Jean François, qui est blessé sur différentes parties du corps, tant antérieures que postérieures, par des coups de bâtons et de cordes, qui ont déchiré la peau, avec contusion dans plusieurs points, et notamment sur la partie antérieure de l'épaule droite et postérieure des deux épaules, et supérieure de l'épaule gauche, et un coup violent, avec contusion, sur la branche et l'articulation de la mâchoire du côté gauche: l'ensemble de ces blessures n'offre pas de danger.

“ Mahébourg, le 22 Mars 1830.

(signé) P^r B^{il} Jalabert.”

The Sieur Bruneau declared, that on Sunday the 21st instant, he sent complainant, as stated, to the Sieur Bignoux, to get a sack of maize; that, instead of executing this commission, complainant got drunk with part of the money intrusted to his care. Declarant then sent his son to seek Jean François, who was brought home in a state of inebriety; that the only punishment inflicted upon him for this offence was nine stripes of a small cord, and he was then put into the block, there to remain until he should be sober.

The slaves cited by complainant were not witnesses of the punishment inflicted on him; they all heard that he had been beaten by his master. With the exception of two, they agree in stating that a Sunday corvée is exacted of them in the afternoon.

RESULT:—This case has been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution, as an infraction of the 29th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43; for although the master denies the charge of having exercised any unusual severity in the punishment of the slave, it fully appears, by the Surgeon's certificate, that great violence must have been used to cause the wounds exhibited on the person of complainant, and which, in contradiction to the assertion of the master, are represented as having been caused by blows of a stick as well as of a cord.

The slave, for several days after his appearance before the Assistant Protector, was in a state of such suffering as to render him incapable of being removed to Port Louis; and when he did present himself at the Protector's Office, the marks described by the examining Surgeon were still apparent on his person.

With respect to the afternoon corvée, as it was admitted by some and denied by others of the witnesses examined, the Sieur Bruneau was instructed as to the work permitted by law on Sunday morning, and strongly recommended to regulate his establishment accordingly.

Complaint, No. 53.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 24th March 1830.

Baptiste, a Creole, aged 22, belonging to M^{lle} Henriette, of Port Louis, states, that he absconded on Sunday last, for the purpose of cutting two bundles of grass for a comrade, and did not return until half after one o'clock, when he informed his mistress of what he had done, to which she replied, “very well;” that having nothing to do in the house at that time, complainant went out with a companion, and returned at six o'clock in the evening. His master, the

the Sieur Furcy Maugueret, then hearing that he had been cutting grass for his comrades, gave him fifteen stripes of a cane on his shoulders; on the following day complainant marooned, but having been arrested this morning, was re-conducted to his said master, who immediately gave him (with a doubled cane) upwards of a hundred stripes on his arms, face and shoulders, continuing to beat him in this manner until he was quite fatigued.

Baptiste further complains of not being allowed Sunday to himself, although he is not a domestic servant and says that the Sieurs Tome and Dédé; and the slaves L'Eveillé and Sidi were present when his master punished him.

Port Louis, 24th March 1830.

I certify having examined Baptiste, a slave belonging to M. Maugueret, and find his back, shoulders and neck covered with livid contusions; he has also a lacerated wound on the right side of his neck, under his ear, and a contused wound on the right eyebrow, and there are several contusions on his head, and his arms are marked in several places with contusions; all these he states were occasioned by his master having taken him by the hair of his head, and having beaten him with a twisted or double rattan.

I am decidedly of opinion that his punishment has been unusually severe, and inflicted with a degree of cruelty that deserves reprehension.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The master, in his reply to the charge preferred against him, denies that the punishment was inflicted with the severity represented, and states it to have been confined to fifteen or twenty stripes of a cane. He accuses complainant of being inattentive to his duty, and much given to maroonage.

The two free persons cited by complainant as witnesses of his punishment, state, that they knew nothing whatever of what passed on the occasion. One of the slaves being sick, was not examined, but the other, L'Eveillé, confirms the declaration of complainant.

RESULT:—The punishment in this case has been greater than that authorized by law, and evidently inflicted with a degree of severity highly reprehensible. The Sieur Furcy Maugueret has been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 54.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 29th March 1830.

Daniel, a Mozambique, aged about 25 years, belonging to M. Le Goy, of Pamplemousses district, states, that on Friday last he was placed as guard on the poultry house; that having slept during the night, he did not ring the bell to announce his being upon guard, in consequence of which, the commandeur Etienne, coming and finding him asleep, gave him several stripes of a cane on the stomach and legs, and two blows with a stick on the head; Antoine was present when this occurred; complainant afterwards told his master how he had been treated, but gaining no redress, he thought it better to leave the estate in order to make his complaint to the Chief Commissary of Police, by whom he has been sent to the Protector of Slaves.

Port Louis, 31st March 1830.

I, the undersigned *H. Hart*, M. D. being duly sworn, have this day examined *Daniel*, a slave belonging to M. Le Goy, and he has on his chest and left thigh some marks; six or seven in number, all of which (except one on the temple), were occasioned by his master having ordered him to be flogged with a rattan. He also states that he got a blow of a stick on the temple; the punishment does not appear to have been severe.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

RESULT:—The commandeur, in his answer to this complaint, admits the statement of the black, and declares, finding him asleep on his post, he gave him a few strokes of a martinet by way of awaking him, and making him work, which he was very disinclined to do. The Protector censured the master for allowing his commandeur to use a martinet as a stimulus to labour, and forbade it under a threat of prosecution, should it again come under his notice; as well also as the use of the stick, for which, had there been sufficient evidence, he would now have been prosecuted. The slave was returned to his master, with a request not to molest him for having made this complaint.

Complaint, No. 55.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 31st March 1830.

Prosper, a Creole slave, aged 25, and belonging to M. Aubert, of the quarter of Pamplemousses, complains, that for the last three months he has been made to sleep in the stocks, because he has occasionally absented himself at night from the establishment; that he has not a sufficiency of food (having only two small manioc *per diem*), and has scarcely any time for repose; that he works the whole of Sunday, without receiving any recompense whatever; that he was punished the day before yesterday with several stripes of the martinet, because he was said to have sold some fruit with which he was sent into town by his master; instead, however, of his having sold the said fruit, he declares that it was taken from him by some soldiers at the powder-mill.

It appears, from an investigation of this complaint, made on the estate, by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, that the whole of *Prosper's* statement is utterly false and groundless; his comrades all agree in stating that he was confined but once, and then it was to prevent

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prevent his escape; that they are all sufficiently fed, are well treated, and have their regular hours of "Breloque;" that their Sunday corvée lasts only until eight o'clock in the morning, after which the day is their own. Complainant did receive nine stripes of a cane for selling fruit entrusted to him to carry to town.

RESULT:—The Protector ordered the slave to be punished with fifteen stripes on the plantation, and in presence of his comrades.

Complaint, No. 56.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 31st March 1830.

Adolphe, Malgache, aged 33 years, complains that his master, the Sieur Baptiste Ithier, of the quarter of Flacq, obliges him to work on Sundays; that he has no hours of repose; that he is ill-fed and ill-clothed, and notwithstanding his present state of sickness, is forced, by blows of a stick, to work much beyond his strength; that on Sunday last, having prepared a large basket of maize, complainant, in endeavouring to lift it on his head, let it fall, upon which his said master beat him violently with a stick, and broke his head.

The Certificate of the examining Surgeon says:—"J'ai trouvé ce noir Adolphe maigre, et dans un mauvais état; il porte une plaie contuse triangulaire, d'un pouce environ, à la tête, derrière l'oreille droite; il dit que cette plaie lui a été faite Dimanche dernier, avec un bâton; il a deux contusions au sommet de la tête; il porte aussi deux cicatrices, une à chaque joue à l'endroit, qui répond aux dents molaires de la mâchoire inférieure; une cicatrice à chaque bras, résultant de vésicatoires, et au-dessus d'autres plus petites, qu'il dit être à la suite de plaies qui lui ont été faites à coups de bâton: ce noir a le doigt annulaire de la main gauche dans un état de demi-flexion par l'ankilose de la première, avec la seconde phalange; il a sur le dos trois égratignures récentes, et plusieurs cicatrices anciennes sur les fesses; il a aussi plusieurs cicatrices, dont quelques unes assez larges: enfin, sur les cuisses et sur les jambes il porte aussi des cicatrices, qu'il dit toutes résulter de coups de bâton.

"Flacq, le Mercredi, 31 Mars 1830.

(signé) *Ullcoq.*"

The Sieur Ithier, in reply to the complaint of his slave, declares, that Adolphe has imposed on the Assistant Protector, in saying that he was beaten with a stick. Declarant punished him with a cane on Friday last, because he was found stealing manioc. With respect to food, complainant has abundance, and his hours of repose are regulated by the bell of his neighbour.

Declarant denies having beaten complainant on Sunday last, and cannot account for the severe marks of punishment borne by his slave, unless they are the result of that inflicted on him on Friday last.

RESULT:—Although the charge made by Adolphe is denied by the master, it would appear to be fully substantiated by the certificate of the examining Surgeon: the Protector therefore considered it his duty to denounce the Sieur Ithier for prosecution, for an infraction of the 29th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.

Complaint, No. 57.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 4th April 1830.

Mathurin and *Joinette*, two Creole slaves, belonging to the Sieur Pierre Loustau, of the quarter of Savanne, complained to the Assistant Protector of that district of being obliged to work with the rest of the slaves on Sunday morning until ten o'clock; that the commandeur Etienne, in the absence of their master, treats the slaves on the estate with great severity, and even threatened the complainant Mathurin if he complained of being worked too long on Sunday. The negresses Marguite, Reine, Joséphine and Virginie can bear testimony to the vexatious conduct pursued by the said commandeur against complainant, Joinette, because she refuses to cohabit with him.

The Sieur Prosper Loustau, together with the witnesses cited by Joinette, appeared before the Assistant Protector. The former declares, with reference to the complaint of Sunday corvée, that his orders were that each slave should bring three bundles of grass for the cattle, a work that was finished by seven o'clock in the morning; that they were afterwards sent to clean their huts, which they would not do unless regularly sent in a body to do so. Declarant has no knowledge of any act of injustice ever committed by the commandeur Etienne; had such come to his knowledge, it would not have been suffered.

Etienne declares, that he has never struck a slave, unless by order of his master; that Sunday corvée is always finished by eight o'clock at the latest. It is true, that on the Sunday stated, the slaves were, for once, employed some time longer, for the purpose of cleaning away the high grass around their huts, which served as a shelter for the rats, and which, from their number, were very injurious to the establishment. This extension of corvée was by order of his master, whose instructions, with reference to such work, have always regulated declarant's conduct.

The witnesses cited by complainants were also examined; they state that they have never heard or seen Etienne treat complainants in any other manner than he treats the other slaves, and that Sunday corvée is always finished between eight and nine o'clock in the morning.

RESULT:—The Assistant Protector, considering the principal accusations made against the commandeur Etienne to be fully contradicted by the evidence of the several parties examined,

examined, caused complainant to be returned to the estate, recommending the said overseer to be more particular hereafter in his observance of the hours of Sunday corvée. Mathurin, who had shown much audacity and improper conduct during the investigation of the complaint, was admonished as to his improper conduct, and recommended to be more orderly for the future. This decision was approved of by the Protector.

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Complaint, No. 58.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 2d April 1830.

Jolibois, a Mozambique, about 45 years of age, and belonging to M. Charpentier, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart (sent to the Protector's Office by the Chief Commissary of Police), states, that about three months past, whilst the commandeur was employed in distributing provisions to the blacks, two small barrels were found missing, without its being known by whom they had been taken; that on the following day complainant made every search, though ineffectually, to recover the said barrels; his master then hearing of the loss, interrogated him respecting it; complainant could only reply by saying, that he knew nothing of the barrels, and that they must have been taken away from the store at the time the commandeur was serving out the rations; his master then said, that for his negligence, or perhaps for having stolen them himself, complainant should be confined in chains until he had returned the barrels to their place. He was accordingly put in chains, and has remained so until the present time; being also confined in the block every night, and fed with one manioc only *per diem*.

The chain and collar attached to complainant were found to be of the weight authorized by law.

The Assistant Protector of the quarter having been instructed to repair to the estate of the Sieur Charpentier, for the purpose of investigating this complaint, did so accordingly; that during thirty-two years that he has possessed this black, he has had every cause to complain against him; that on the 21st of last month, complainant stole a barrel, and marooned on the following day; he had also committed several thefts on the domestic servants of the house, and was confined in chains for having robbed a neighbour of declarant's, and has of late, in short, committed so many outrages in that way, that it would be impossible to enumerate them all; that he has not been confined at night in the block; and with respect to food, complainant being cook on the estate, has, of course, rice, "brède" and salt meat, as all declarant's other slaves have; that from his malicious habits, complainant is capable of creating the greatest disorder amongst the other blacks of the establishment; and on the very night of his evasion, *Jolibois* stole a waistcoat and a pair of trousers from his comrade François.

Several of the slaves of the establishment were also examined by the Assistant Protector, they fully corroborated the declaration of the master; appeared perfectly contented with their treatment on the estate, and spoke in unqualified reprehension of the conduct and character of complainant, whom they considered as the disturber of their comfort.

RESULT:—The Protector directed that *Jolibois* should receive twenty stripes of a cat-o'-nine-tails on the premises, and in presence of his comrades, for having preferred a false and malicious complaint against his master, as well as for his general bad conduct.

Complaint, No. 59.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 5th April 1830.

Sylvin, a Mozambique, aged 35 years, complains that M. Odillard, the régisseur of the estate of the Sieur M. Barry, of the quarter of Flacq, does not give the slaves a sufficiency of food, they having only half a pound of undressed rice *per diem*. 2d. That they are not allowed time to take their meals, having only half an hour for breakfast; that in quitting work at noon, each slave is obliged to collect a bundle of grass, which so encroaches upon their dinner-hour, that scarcely have they begun to eat, than the bell calls them again to work, and thus deprives them of any time for repose. 3d. That they rise at four in the morning, and finish work at sun-set, after which they are employed in collecting the bruised canes till eight o'clock. 4th. That they are made to work in the rain, and are punished if they endeavour to protect themselves against the bad weather. 5th. That they are (men and women alike) punished at the caprice of the commandeur. Declarant was flogged with a whip three days past, by order of the régisseur. Casimir inflicted the punishment. Rosalie, a negress, was also so punished about a week past, by the commandeur Nelson. 6th. That they work on Sunday morning in the "cour" until seven o'clock, and then go to carting-work until three or four in the afternoon, for which labour they receive no other remuneration than a glass of arrack.

Port Louis, 5th April 1830.

I, the undersigned, H. Hart, M. D. being duly sworn, have this day examined *Sylvin*, a slave belonging to M. Marcellin Barry, and find he has on both sides of his breech marks of old and recent punishment; the latter appear to be about five in number, and were inflicted, as he states, with a cart-whip about three days ago; they do not appear to have been inflicted with much severity.

(signed) H. Hart, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The substance of *Sylvin's* complaint being precisely that of the fifteen individuals who appeared at this office on the 4th of January last from the same estate (see Complaint, No. 5), the

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the Protector was the more anxious fully to investigate the matter, and with this view, his Assistant, accompanied by the Assistant Protector of the quarter of Flacq, visited the establishment of the Sieur Barry, and there having instituted a minute inquiry into the points complained of, fully established the groundless nature of Sylvin's statement, not only by the testimony of the slaves Charly, Jean Jacques, Casimir, Louisa, Marille, Adrien, Grand Baptiste, Adolphe and many other slaves, but by the admission of complainant himself, who it appeared had been instigated by a discarded servant of his master to prefer the complaint in question.

The quantity of rice produced as the daily allowance of each slave (and admitted by Sylvin as that which he was in the habit of receiving), was found to weigh one pound and three quarters.

RESULT:—It appearing from the inquiry made, that the said slave had grossly imposed on the Protector, he was sentenced to receive twenty stripes of a cat-o'-nine-tails on the estate and in the presence of his comrades; but the Sieur Barry, however, having requested that complainant might not receive corporal punishment, but a punishment with chains of the weight authorized by law for the period of two months, the request was accorded, and the slave punished accordingly.

Complaint, No. 60.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 6th April 1830.

Eight slaves belonging to M. Mullet, of Port Louis, and let by him to the Sieur Menazé, of the quarter of Flacq, complain of being deprived of their hours of repose; and state, that no sooner have they commenced their meals, than they are again called to work; that they are only allowed three manioc cakes *per diem* each; that they are obliged to work in the rain, and when ill, are sent to labour, under a threat of being confined in chains if they refuse.

Complainants were conducted to this office by their proprietor M. Mullet, who declared it to be his opinion, that their statement would prove (upon investigation) unfounded in every way; they are well clothed, and appear to be in excellent health and condition.

The Sieur Menazé declares, that nothing can be more false than the charges brought against him by these slaves; that so far from being ill-treated, they have every consideration shown them; that they have, in like manner with his other slaves, one hour for breakfast and two for dinner, in conformity with the law; with reference to their false and wicked accusation of being obliged to labour when unwell, declarant will only appeal to the surgeon of the establishment for the manner in which the sick are treated; and with respect to food, declarant would refer to all the blacks upon his estate (and to the condition of complainants) for refutation of so gross a calumny; whilst, with respect to their being exposed to the weather, the accusation is equally false, as may be proved by the same witnesses.

Complainants are the individuals, who about two months past preferred an unfounded complaint to the Protector of Slaves, for which they were reprimanded, and returned to declarant, who now requests, for the good order of his estate, that an example may be made of them.

The greater part of the slaves of M. Menazé were then assembled, and examined by the Assistant Protector; they declared themselves to be well treated and well fed by their master, with whom they were perfectly satisfied; that the complaint of their comrades is altogether false; and they are unable to imagine the motive that induced complainants to make it, unless it were from laziness, and desire to avoid their work.

RESULT:—The Protector directed the two chiefs of this band to be punished with twenty stripes each; the other male slaves to receive ten stripes each, and the negroesses to be confined fifteen nights, and on Sundays.

Complaint, No. 61.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 8th April 1830.

Laurent, a Creole slave, about 30, complains that his master, M. Bestel, of the quarter of Plaines Wilhems, put upon him the collar and chain which he (complainant) now wears, without his being able to imagine the cause of such punishment; that his master returning from the Savanne about five weeks past, and finding that the slave Bazille had marooned, immediately ordered complainant and his comrade Jacques to be chained together, giving as a reason, that Bazille had marooned, and he had no doubt but they would soon do the same; in this state they were confined at night in the stocks, and obliged to work on Sunday; they in vain remonstrated against this treatment; Bazille, however, having returned from maroonage, they again requested to be liberated, and were a second time sent away without being heard, upon which they marooned, and having broken their chain on the road, complainant came direct to this office to make the present statement.

That part of the chain left on the person of complainant was found to weigh seven pounds and a half.

The Sieur Ferré, régisseur of the estate of M. Bestel, appeared at the Assistant Protector's Office, and declared his entire ignorance of the reason for which complainants were confined in the chain described; it was by M. Bestel's orders, and about a month ago that this punishment took place; it is false, however, that complainant was ever confined in the stocks, as declared by him, or that he was made to work on Sunday during the period

period he was in chains; declarant recollects Laurent's applying to M^{me} Bestel in order to obtain his release, and his being referred by her to M. Bestel himself.

RESULT:—The real weight of the chain put upon this black could not be ascertained, because, by his own statement, it appears that he and another slave were chained together, and they broke the chain, but what portion of it remained on the other black who did not accompany Laurent to this office cannot be known, and therefore it is impossible to say whether the master has committed a breach of the law or not; the master was, however, sent for, and, in addition to the statement given by his régisseur in the answer to the complaint, he admitted that he did put the chain upon Laurent and his comrade, to prevent their marooning, which they are in constant habit of, and not for any crime they had committed: the Protector could only reason with him upon the injustice of putting men in irons under a supposition that they would maroon: but he failed of making any impression upon M. Bestel, who declared that he should continue to treat all his maroon slaves in the same way, and that there was no law to prevent it. This last is certainly the case, there being no limits to the time an owner may keep his slave in chains; the man was therefore returned to his master.

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Complaint, No. 62.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 9th April 1830.

Sylvain, Plutus, Mikelly, Jean, Le Roy, Léveillé and *La Tendresse*, slaves belonging to the Sieur Lisis Damain, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, appeared at the office of the Assistant Protector, to complain of ill treatment received from the régisseur of the estate.

When called upon to state the nature of the ill treatment they experienced, Sylvain and Plutus declared that themselves and comrades were constantly beaten when at work, with a large cat-o'-nine-tails, by the commandeur Antoine and régisseur Théodore; they have nothing else to complain of, being well fed, well clothed and otherwise well treated; the other individuals, upon being interrogated, contradicted the assertion of their comrades, and stated, that they had been induced to leave the estate by the artifice of Plutus; that they now regretted having taken such a step, as they had no ground whatever of complaint against their master.

Je, soussigné, Docteur en Medecine de Paris, etc. juré près le Tribunal, sur la requisition de M. le Commissaire Civil et Assistant Protecteur du quartier de la Rivière du Rempart, me suis transporté sur l'établissement Damain, frères, du dit quartier, pour y examiner les noirs sousnommés, lesquels j'ai tous trouvés en bon état, peau lisse, indique certain qu'ils sont bien nourris; et de plus, 1°, Le nommé Sylvain, Créole Seychelles, présentait trois égratignures sur le dos, mais pas de traces d'un moindre coup, ni sur cette partie, ni les épaules ou les jambes: 2°, Mikelly, Mozambique, parfaitement portant; pas la moindre trace de corrections: 3°, Le Roy, Mozambique, quelques cicatrices très anciennes sur le dos, mais pas de traces récentes: 4°, Plutus, Malgache, le plus fort, et pas la moindre petite trace de correction ancienne ou nouvelle: 5°, Jean, Mozambique, absolument rien: 6°, Léveillé, Mozambique, absolument rien: 7°, La Tendresse, Malgache, est tatoué aux deux bras, mais nulle trace de correction.

En foi de quoi, j'ai délivré le présent certificat au quartier de la Rivière du Rempart, 9 Avril 1830.

(signé) A. Boileau, D^r Juré.

The Assistant Protector having repaired to the estate of the Sieur Damain, by the testimony of the other slaves of the establishment, fully established the totally groundless nature of this complaint; proving at the same time that the slave Plutus had been the sole instigator of the same, and that his conduct, in endeavouring to create mutiny and insubordination on the estate, had been highly reprehensible.

RESULT:—The Protector therefore condemned Plutus to receive thirty lashes, and Sylvain twenty; the other five slaves he deemed it necessary to pardon, as they showed evident signs of contrition, and declared the truth as to the chief mover of the plot.

Complaint, No. 63.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 11th April 1830.

Jean, a Malgache, aged 30 years, belonging to M. Mazère, of the quarter of Savanne, complains of ill treatment received from the régisseur M. Castères, who yesterday flogged him with a cat-o'-nine-tails, and afterwards beat him with the handle of the same instrument, one blow of which having struck him on the elbow, caused him to fall to the ground. Complainant states the cause of this punishment to have been, his not having done so much work in squaring timber as the régisseur expected; that not being accustomed to this kind of work, he could not possibly complete the task allotted to him.

Denis L'Eveillé and Grand Courti were present when complainant was punished in the manner described. He has nothing else to complain of.

Complainant is perfectly well clothed, and appears to be in excellent health and condition.

Jacot, ce 12^{me} Avril 1830.

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Sur la requisition de M. G. Ducray, Assistant Protecteur des Esclaves de ce quartier, je, soussigné, ayant fait l'examen d'un noir nommé Jean, declare, que je n'ai trouvé aucune marque de violence sur sa personne, et qu'il ne se plaignait que d'une légère tuméfaction sur la partie supérieure et postérieure de l'avant bras.

(signé) Henry Rogers, Chir. L. S. P. L.

The Sieur Bernard Castérès, in reply to this complaint, declares that Jean's conduct, for a long time past, has been most mutinous and reprehensible; that he has often resisted the orders given him, and that his band of slaves is the only one on the estate that ever fails to complete their ordinary task, notwithstanding which, they have less to do than any other on the establishment; that complainant has repeatedly gone unpunished for his disobedience, and has always evinced the most insolent conduct when spoken to on the subject; that on Friday last he was threatened with confinement in the stocks, unless he did his duty as others did. He replied, however, that he would not be put into the block, and left the premises immediately, remaining absent until the following morning. Declarant, to suppress Jean's disorderly conduct, then found it absolutely necessary to show to the other slaves that such disobedience could not be tolerated, and with this view, intended to punish him as permitted by law. Complainant then vowed he would not be punished, and became so furious, that the other slaves would not approach him. Declarant was himself obliged to give the slave a few stripes of the martinet on his back, upon which complainant left the estate. It is absolutely false that declarant struck complainant on the arm, as he has stated, and if he has a wound there, it must be the result of his own violence.

The witnesses cited by complainant, one and all, confirmed the statement of the Sieur Castérès, and declare, that at most complainant received but two or three stripes of the martinet, and that was in consequence of the violence of his threats against any of his comrades who should dare to attempt to seize him.

RESULT:—This complaint appearing to be false and malicious, and the conduct of the black of the most insubordinate and mutinous nature, the Protector ordered him to receive thirty lashes of the martinet, in the presence of the whole band.

Complaint, No. 64.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 13th April 1830.

Rose, a Mozambique negress, aged about 35, and Marie Jeanne, a Creole, aged 27 years, complain of ill treatment received from their master, the Sieur Jean Pierre Morey, of Trois Islots, in the quarter of Flacq.

Rose states, that on Monday last being much indisposed, she applied to her master for assistance, instead of obtaining which, she was sent back to work; that she has but two manioc allowed as her rations *per diem*; that with the other slaves of the estate she works until twelve o'clock every Sunday, and the whole of the day, whenever it appears that a theft has been committed by any of the blacks of the establishment, and for such Sunday labour they are never paid.

Marie Jeanne says, that she is over-worked, being obliged to make seven sacks *per diem*; that being unable to complete such task, she marooned about six months past, and after being taken and confined in the Bagne prison for one month, was returned to her master, who flogged her with a martinet on the shoulders, and put her in chains night and day; that she works all day on Sunday, without any recompense whatever; that she has not a sufficiency of food, having, as Rose has stated, only two manioc cakes a-day.

The Sieur Morey declares, that the complaint of his negress is absolutely false and malicious; that Rose did complain of a head-ache on Monday last, but instead of being sent back to work, she was desired by declarant to return to her hut, and remain quiet; that with respect to food, their complaint is absurd, as every black on the estate will attest. Instead of being placed on an allowance of manioc, they take it at discretion, the estate furnishing infinitely more than is necessary for consumption upon it. That Marie Jeanne's complaint is equally false, she being constantly drunk, and very often a maroon. Declarant was for some time obliged to make her sleep in the house with a small dog-chain fastened to her foot, as the only means of preventing her running away; and with respect to her complaint of having been beaten, nothing can be more false, neither has she ever been called upon to make, as she states, seven vacoa sacks *per diem*; when she was employed on such work, which is some months past, her task was four sacks, and never more.

The slaves of the estate were then examined; they declared the complaint of Rose and Marie Jeanne to be malicious and unfounded, accused them of being drunken and disorderly negroes; and stated, that they have abundance of food, inasmuch as they often sell their surplus quantity; that complainants have their Sundays to themselves, in like manner with the rest of the slaves after the usual morning corvée, and have nothing whatever to complain of on this subject; and as to the punishment said to have been inflicted upon Marie Jeanne, on her return from the Bagne, it is false as the other parts of their complaint.

RESULT:—This complaint being false and groundless, and the negroes proving to be very bad characters, the Protector, in order to mark his displeasure at their drunken and debauched habits, directed that they should be made to sleep for one month in the stocks.

Rose had once before appeared at the Protectors' Office with an unfounded complaint.

Memorandum.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 14th April 1830.

Memorandum.—Referring to the result of the Complaint, No. 57, wherein the slaves Mathurin and Toinette were admonished for bringing a false charge against the "régisseur" on the estate of the Sieur Loustau, as well as for insolent and improper conduct during the investigation of the case by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, that officer having transmitted to this office the result of a second investigation he was called upon to make in consequence of the mutinous and disorderly conduct of the said slaves on their return to the establishment, by which others of their comrades, and particularly a slave named Grégoire, were induced to join in a refusal to obey the orders of their master; the Protector therefore directed the two male slaves Mathurin and Grégoire to be punished with twenty stripes of the martinet each, and the negress to be confined ten days in the prison of the estate.

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Complaint, No. 65.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 14th April 1830.

Pierre, a Creole slave, aged 28 years, the property of M. Maure, of Port Louis, and let by him to the Sieur Dioré, a baker, having been found in the street by M. Desmarrais, Substitute of the Procureur General, loaded with chains, and assaulted by several individuals, was by that officer's interference sent to the Chief Commissary of Police, before whom Pierre declared, that, on being withdrawn from the Bagne prison, where he had undergone one month's confinement and corporal punishment in January last, he received, by his master's order, 100 stripes of a cane; that five days after this punishment complainant quitted the establishment, and presented himself to M. Maure, who caused him to be arrested by a police guard, and conducted back to M. Dioré, from whom he again received 100 stripes; that the chains he now wears were put upon him four months past, but for what cause complainant cannot tell, and at that time he also received forty stripes of a cane, was confined in the stocks for the interval between the baking of each batch of bread, and was also further punished with five stripes; that being incapable of supporting such treatment, he escaped at half past seven o'clock this evening, and was arrested under the circumstances above stated.

In his declaration before the Protector, complainant adds, that the first punishment alluded to was inflicted upon him by Narreau, in the presence of all the slaves of the establishment, and was for the maroonage, for which he had been the day before corporally punished by the police; that the second 100 stripes was also for maroonage, complainant having again left the establishment in consequence of his master's refusing his request to be relieved from the chains which had been put upon him a month before.

That the punishment of forty stripes, inflicted upon him yesterday, was because his master had found complainant to have a file in his possession, which he supposed was intended as the means of his release; and after he had been thus punished, he received four blows on the shoulders, and one on his eye, from the Sieur Robert, with a large piece of fire-wood.

The chains taken from the complainant were found to weigh seven pounds and three quarters, consequently were of greater weight than is authorized by law.

Port Louis, 15th April 1830.

I, the undersigned, H. Hart, M. D. being duly sworn, have this day examined Pierre, a slave belonging to M. Maure, hired to M. Dioré, the baker, and find he has on both sides of his breech, particularly the right side, innumerable marks of recent and old punishments, the right side being in a state of ulceration; he has also on his back several marks, some of which he states were inflicted with a stick, and some with a rattan; both his eyes are swollen and discoloured, particularly the right, and he has also on both his legs marks occasioned by chains. I have therefore no hesitation in saying, that he has been punished with a degree of severity which I consider highly disgraceful. I would recommend his being sent to hospital, in consequence of the ulcerated state of his breech.

(signed) H. Hart, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The Sieur Aréside Mangeot (on the part of M. Dioré), together with the Sieur Emile, Robert, and Jean Louis, a commandeur, appeared at the Protector's Office, to answer the complaints of Pierre.

The former declares, that in December last complainant broke the lock of the yard-door, and marooned, without any reason whatever; that being arrested by the police, he was detained in the Bagne prison, and corporally punished; that on his return he was sent to work in the ordinary manner, and not punished, as he has falsely declared himself to have been; that in a month after this he again marooned with irons on his legs, and was arrested some days afterwards, and brought back without his chains, and for this offence he received no other punishment than that of being confined in other irons, and has consequently again grossly imposed upon the Protector, in saying that he got another 100 lashes. Declarant further states, that complainant being found the day before yesterday in the act of filing off his chains, M. Dioré ordered declarant to give him twenty stripes of a cane, and not forty, as he has falsely stated; that complainant immediately after this punishment escaped from the court-yard: the Sieur Lafond and three blacks were sent to arrest him, when Pierre refusing to walk, they were obliged to call the sieur Dioré, and it was at this moment of complainant's mutinous conduct that a guard of police coming by took him into custody; that complainant is an incorrigible subject, as may be proved by the evidence of his master M. Maure; that the marks on his back are the results of punishment inflicted upon him for his "brigandage," and the

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the mark on his eye might have arisen in the scuffle with his companions, who arrested him yesterday.

With respect to the weight of chains, the *Sieur Dioré* having found it useless to put upon the complainant such as are permitted by the second Article of Ordinance, No. 51, thought it necessary to use irons of a greater strength.

The *Sieur Robert* states, that he yesterday evening inflicted upon complainant, by order of his master, twenty stripes of a cane, for having been discovered in the act of filing the chains he had been condemned to wear. Declarant's evidence in other respects is precisely that of the preceding witness; and he altogether denies ever having struck complainant with a piece of wood, as he has maliciously stated.

Jean Louis, the commandeur, states, that complainant, the day after his return from the *Bagne* in January last, wishing to escape from the premises of his master, was ordered to be confined in chains, and that on his refusing to submit to this punishment he was punished with fifteen stripes of a cane by the slave *Narreau*, but not with 100 stripes, as complainant has falsely stated; neither was he punished for his second maroonage in any other manner than by a return to confinement in chains; the punishment of twenty stripes, inflicted upon him yesterday, was for the offence of filing his chains, as already stated. Declarant further says, that *Pierre* is a drunken, marooning, troublesome character, who has no cause whatever of complaint against his master, all of whose slaves, except complainant, are perfectly happy and well treated. Declarant did not see the *Sieur Robert* strike complainant with a stick, and is convinced the mark on his eye arose from his scuffle with the blacks in their attempt to arrest him.

Narreau confirms the foregoing, and contradicts the declaration of complainant as to the punishment inflicted upon him; and states, that the day after his return from the *Bagne*, he (declarant) did give *Pierre* fifteen stripes, by his master's orders, for disobedience of conduct, but the other punishment alluded to never took place.

The *Sieur Dioré* having been called upon for his "Register Book of Punishments," produced the same, wherein the corrections inflicted on complainant were found recorded as required by law.

RESULT:—It appearing from the evidence taken in this case, that the punishment inflicted upon complainant (although characterized by the examining Surgeon as having been severe) was not in number of stripes greater than is authorized by law, and that the same was duly registered, the Protector could only recommend the master of the slave to try the effect of more moderate treatment upon this slave, who is evidently of vicious and depraved habits. With respect, however, to the excess in the weight of chains put upon complainant, the *Sieur Dioré* has been denounced to the *Procureur Général* for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 66.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 16th April 1830.

Frontin, a Mozambique, aged 30 years, and belonging to the *Sieur Mallet*, of the quarter of *Rivière du Rempart*, states, that about fifteen days past he was left alone on board a small coasting vessel, then anchored in *Grand Bay*, and from which the master and the other slaves had gone on shore; that in consequence of the ebb-tide, complainant was unable to keep the vessel from grounding; that at six o'clock in the evening, the *Sieur Mallet* and the master of the vessel coming off, and finding her aground, tied complainant's arms and wrists before him, and then, suspended by cords passed around his elbows to the main-mast, kept him in this cruel position all night. The master and the slaves *Dick* and *L'Eveillé* were present when this happened, and *Fortuné* was the slave who tied him up; that arriving at *Poudre d'Or*, complainant was landed, and confined in the stocks with a chain around his neck fixed to three blocks, each weighing 50 lbs., and was thus detained nine days.

Complainant yesterday made a similar declaration before the Chief Commissary of Police, by whom he has been sent to the Protector.

Port Louis, 21st April 1830.

I, the undersigned, *H. Hart*, M. D. being duly sworn, have this day examined *Frontin*, a slave belonging to *M. Mallet*, and find he has at the bend of both arms, above the elbows, a circular mark or ulcer, and one also on his right wrist, of the same description; all of these, he states, were occasioned by his master having suspended him by cords passed round his elbows, and attached him to the mast of a boat about three weeks ago.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The *Sieur Mallet* declares, that it is upwards of a month past that he was at *Grand Bay*, and that his vessel was not there at the time; that with respect to *Frontin's* having been suspended to the mast, it is absolutely false, as is also his statement, that declarant was present. The fact is, that complainant marooned, and to prevent a repetition of maroonage on the voyage, he was confined on board while the vessel was at anchor, by having his arms tied, and that was the only punishment inflicted upon him; that on his return to *Poudre d'Or*, declarant put him in chains, the instant he was relieved from which, he again marooned. Declarant further states, that complainant is a most infamous character, with whom he can do nothing, and who is a constant disturber of the quiet of his establishment.

The master of the vessel, *Joseph Castel*, denies the accusation made by *Frontin*, and states, that so far from his ever being left alone to take care of her, his vicious habits are such as would endanger the security of the vessel, complainant being fully capable of either burning
or

or running her upon the rocks; and for their security when at anchor, it has been necessary to confine complainant's arms, to prevent his escape, or his doing mischief in the manner alluded to. This was the only punishment inflicted upon him, and Frontin has advanced a wicked falsehood in making the declaration he has done.

Dick swears that the accusation is false; his hands were tied on their approach to land to prevent his escape, and that was the only punishment inflicted upon him. Had he been suspended, as described, the people in the boats along-side, as well as those on shore, must have heard and seen him, for there are many persons always at Grand Bay, and they are quite close to the anchorage.

L'Eveillé declares the same thing, adding, that the master of the vessel is a just and good master, but that Frontin is a "coquin," who destroys the peace of all his comrades, and is a very bad subject indeed.

RESULT:—The complaint was found false and malicious; it is the second time that the slave, who is a drunken, worthless fellow, has been pardoned. The Protector thought it, therefore, necessary to direct him to be punished with twenty-five stripes, at his master's habitation, with the permission to the latter to diminish the number.

Complaint, No. 67.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 17th April 1830.

François, a Mozambique, aged about 45 years, complains, that his master, M. François Hérisson, of the quarter of Savanne, often kicks and strikes him without any reason whatever; that on Wednesday last he was tied to a tree by his master, and then severely beaten with a small stick by the negress Constance, by his master's order; complainant, with the said negress, are the only two slaves at present on the estate. They have a certain quantity of manioc allowed them per week, and which is given them every Sunday; but complainant's allowance not lasting longer than Wednesday, and his master having given him some maize to grind, he naturally took some of that for his supper, which being discovered by his master, complainant was again punished.

Quartier de la Savanne, ce 17^{me} April 1830.

Je, soussigné, sur l'appel de M. G. Ducray, Commissaire Civil et de Police, et Assistant Protecteur et Gardien des Esclaves de ce quartier, déclare, que j'ai examiné François, et qu'il porte sur les épaules les marques de six à sept coups d'une petite baguette; et l'ayant montré plusieurs choses de diverses grosseurs, il m'a déclaré, que le bâton avec lequel il a été battu était de la grosseur d'un crayon; il a aussi la marque d'un coup sur le côté droit de la visage, qui traverse ce côté du nez.

(signé) *Henry Rogers*, Chir. L. S. P. L.

The preceding certificate not being sufficiently explanatory of the apparent ill condition of the slave, the Protector deemed it necessary to cause François to be again examined; of which second examination the following is the result:—

Je, soussigné, Chirurgien, juré, exerçant au quartier de la Savanne, certifie avoir examiné le dit noir François, et qu'il résulte de mon examen et des éclaircissemens qui m'ont été donnés par ce noir et par son maître, que par suite d'une gonorrhée chronique, il éprouve de temps en temps les accidens d'un catarrhe chronique de la vesie; de plus l'état de morasme, dans lequel se trouve ce noir, doit aussi déterminer souvent chez lui des digestions laborieuses, surtout par suite des écarts de regime auxquels les noirs en général se livrent chaque fois qu'ils en ont l'occasion.

En foi de quoi, j'ai signé le présent, au quartier de la Savanne.

(signé) *Le Déau*.

The Sieur Herisson declares, that he has the greatest cause for complaint against his slave, who is of such indolent and lazy habits as to render him quite useless, and to prevent his taking the necessary care of himself, which his bodily indisposition requires; that, in consequence of his ill conduct, declarant found himself obliged to inflict upon François a light punishment of seven or eight stripes with a very slight twig; and this is the only punishment that he has ever inflicted upon the slave, who has, on the contrary, had every attention and care bestowed upon him; that as far as regards food, his complaint is false; his slaves have maize three times in the week, and manioc the other four; that the maize of which complainant speaks of having stolen, was given him to grind, and he could not have taken it to eat, because he had plenty of provisions of the same kind that had been served out to him.

The negress Constance states, that she did give complainant a few stripes by her master's orders with a small twig; that she might by accident have struck him once on the face, but it was by accident if she did; and the punishment was altogether very slight, and the first and only one he has ever received from his master; that complainant is a lazy, indolent slave, and states a positive falsehood when he says he wants food; they have a sufficiency both of manioc and maize, and rice if they please.

RESULT:—This complaint being frivolous and partly unfounded, inasmuch as it appears from the second certificate of the examining Surgeon, that the emaciated state of the slave arises from disease, and not from want of food, and that the punishment inflicted upon him was very slight, and not exceeding that allowed by law, François was returned to his master, admonished to be more obedient and industrious for the future, while the Sieur Herisson was recommended to treat him with all the care his situation requires.

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Complaint, No. 68.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 26th April 1830.

Fifteen slaves, five males and ten females, belonging to M^{lle} Henriette Jouan, of the quarter of Plaines Wilhems, complain of ill treatment received from the régisseur, the Sieur Désiré.

Félix, a Malgache, aged about 22 years, having his face much swollen and bruised, declares, that the wounds at present upon him arise from the régisseur's having beaten him with a stick the day before yesterday, for being somewhat late in lighting the kitchen fire, which he could not help, as he had been detained in feeding his master's horse, which had just come in from a journey; that after this punishment, he was put into the block, and kept there until yesterday at noon, when he was released in order to feed the horse, and at that time he made his escape. All the slaves of the estate witnessed the punishment he received from the régisseur.

Félix further complains on the part of himself and comrade, that they are not allowed a sufficiency of food, having only a small quantity of potatoes *per diem* each, and nothing else; that they work every Sunday from four in the morning until dark, without receiving any recompense whatever; that whenever the régisseur happens to have drunk a little too much, which is often the case, he beats them with a stick, and annoys them while at work.

On being individually called upon to state their cause of complaint, complainants said that the circumstances detailed by Félix, were those to which they were all liable, and on account of which they had quitted the estate.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 26th April 1830.

I hereby certify, that I have examined the person of a black named Félix, belonging to M^{lle} Henriette Jouan, and find considerable tumefaction and contusion of both sides of the face and head, with ecchymosis of both eyes, effusion of blood from the left ear, and slight abrasion of the skin on the right cheek, the effects, apparently, of blows by the fist, or some blunt weapon.

(signed) A. Shanks, M. D. Acting Chief Medical Officer.

The inquiry into this case was made by the Assistant Protector of the quarter, before whom the Sieur Désiré Henriette appeared, and declared his entire ignorance of the reason for which the slaves in question had quitted the estate; that Félix was not upon the establishment at the time he states himself to have been so punished, he having marooned (as announced to the Suppléant Commissary Civil by declarant) on Thursday last, three days previous to the time at which he says he was beaten; and the same of Thomas and Françoise, who have been absent since Saturday last. With respect to food, the slaves are fed one day on potatoes and the next on manioc alternately; and have five pounds *per diem* each. The children are fed on rice prepared for them. That on Sunday the only work they do, is that of bringing water for the use of the horse, which is always finished by six o'clock in the morning, excepting in the case of Euphémie, who is a domestic servant. Declarant this morning saw the wounds on Félix's face, and states, that those bruises were not upon him at the time he marooned. Declarant positively denies having struck Félix on Saturday last; repeating the impossibility of his doing so, inasmuch as the slave had quitted the estate three days before, and declarant not having seen him since his evasion, until sent back by the Protector of Slaves.

The certificate of the Suppléant Commissary of the quarter, declaring the maroonage of Félix, was then produced; and the following slaves (not complainants) were separately examined touching the circumstances complained of by their comrades; viz. Mouta, a commandeur, Céleste, Eline, Irma, Rosette, Euphémie and Mathurin. They agree in declaring, that the whole number of slaves on the estate is twenty-two, including five children; that they dig on alternate days 100 pounds of manioc and 100 pounds of potatoes as their food, which quantity is served out to the grown-up slaves daily by the commandeur Mouta, whilst the children are fed with dressed rice; that they never work on Sunday morning except in digging their provisions, and bringing each a small cask of water for the use of the establishment. That Félix, Thomas and Françoise left their work on Saturday last, the former early in the morning, and the two latter early in the afternoon. Declarant did not see his master beat Félix in any way: he has no cause whatever of complaint against his mistress, nor can he imagine that his comrades have, unless it be that having but one barrel in which to bring water, (the blacks having destroyed four,) they are sometimes discontented at being kept waiting for their turn on Sunday morning.

The other slaves were then separately examined; they confirmed the deposition made by the commandeur, and expressed themselves as perfectly satisfied with the provisions and treatment they received on the estate.

RESULT:—It appears by the declaration made by the master to the Commissary Civil, that Félix, the slave whose face appeared so swelled, was a maroon on the Thursday previous to the Sunday on which he says his master beat him, and also by the evidence of all the slaves, that none of them saw him beaten, although he declared he was beaten in their presence. It is therefore clear that his swelled face must have been occasioned by fighting, after he quitted the habitation; and in fact the state of his face appeared as if it had been done by fists rather than with a stick. As the complaint of Félix is consequently false and unfounded,

unfounded, the Protector ordered him to receive a punishment of fifteen stripes for such false complaint, and for his insubordinate conduct; the master was at the same time admonished as to working his slaves on Sundays, and recommended to procure the necessary water-barrels, so as to do away the necessity of detaining his slaves after eight o'clock.

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Complaint, No. 69.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 26th April 1830

Désiré, a Creole, aged 24 years, appeared at this office, carrying in his hand irons, which he states he this morning removed from his ankles, and having on his neck an iron collar, attached to a heavy weight by means of a chain. He complains of these being put upon him by his master M. Vasseur, of Port Louis, because he does not make three pairs of ladies' shoes *per diem*, which is impossible for him to do, being also employed as cook, and often in selling milk. These chains were fixed upon complainant about twelve days past.

The weight of the chains and "sabots" were found to exceed that permitted by law, the former being 9, and the latter 4½ lbs. The weight to which the chain was attached is 52 lbs.: it was used for the purpose of preventing complainant's escape from the room in which he was employed, and was fixed in that room.

The Sieur Vasseur declares, that he confined complainant in the collar and chain six days past, as a punishment for constant maroonage and thefts committed by *Désiré*. With respect to "sabots," declarant knows nothing; he presumes them to be a small pair of stocks which he has occasionally used for the detention of those of his slaves who required punishment, and declares, that complainant could have brought them from the house only to make the apparent weight of the chains to which he had been subject, much greater than it really was. As to the other parts of his complaint, they are false and absurd; he has never been required to make shoes and serve as cook too; and as it is well known that the best workman cannot make more than one pair *per diem*, declarant could therefore never have imposed a task three times as great on complainant.

RESULT:—From further inquiry made by the Protector, it would appear that the slave is a worthless marooning character; the master having, however, infringed the law regulating the weight of chains in such cases, has been denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution accordingly.

Complaint, No. 70.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 27th April 1830.

Augustin, a Creole, aged 18 years, states, that he is a domestic slave belonging to the Sieur Letellier, of the quarter of Flacq, who, about fifteen days past, discovering complainant with the key of the hospital (whither he had carried food for the negress Agathe) threatened to punish him; complainant, however, was only put into the stocks. He was released on the fifth day, when he made his escape from the estate, in order to prefer the present complaint. He has previously been confined in the stocks; and further states, that several of his companions are now in chains, and all of them subject to ill treatment from their master.

Complainant appeared to be in good health and condition, exhibiting only a few marks of slight and ancient punishment.

The Sieur Letellier declares the complaint of his slave to be entirely false; that for the offence of taking improper food to the invalids, contrary to declarant's orders, he was not punished in any way whatever; and the only occasion in which he has been confined in the stocks was, for having secreted the key of declarant's drawers, evidently with an intention of stealing a part of their contents, and which he had already been guilty of doing, but for which he had unfortunately never been more than admonished. With respect to declarant's having other slaves in chains, the statement of Augustin is perfectly correct; there are two, whose punishment, however, is conformable to law, and it will be seen by the registration made of the same, that the fault committed by those slaves fully warrants correction.

The whole of the slaves of the estate (excepting the two confined in prison) were assembled, and called upon to state, whether or not they had cause to be dissatisfied with the treatment they experienced from their master: they unanimously answered in the negative, saying, that they were well fed and treated, and that it was only the "mauvais sujets," such as complainants and the other two, who would be malicious enough to say the contrary.

The "Register Book of Punishment" being produced, was found to be in the form required, and states the confinement of the two slaves alluded to, to be for repeated maroonage.

RESULT:—This complaint, independent of being proved false by the declaration of the master and the several witnesses, partakes also of malicious motives in the accusation brought against his master, of cruelty towards others of his slaves, which accusation appears totally unfounded. The Protector therefore directed a punishment of fifteen stripes to be inflicted on complainant for his false and malicious statement.

Complaint, No. 71.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 4th May 1830.

François, an Indian, aged about 60 years, arrested as a maroon, and sent to the Protector by the Chief Commissary of Police, states, that he quitted the estate six days past, in consequence of his master (the Sieur Jean Pierre La Victoire, of Flacq), having given him several

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several blows of a stick, because he left his work in the fields to procure a little tobacco. François also complains of being obliged to carry water and wood, and to break rice, &c. which work is too severe for a man of his age; that he has been kept in the chains he now wears, during the last seven months, on account of a previous maroonage, being confined in the stocks every night and every Sunday; besides which, his master has taken from complainant two "iron pots," a blue shirt, and a pair of razors. Complainant declares, that if returned to his master, he must again maroon, in order to avoid the ill treatment to which he is exposed.

Port Louis, 4th May 1830.

I, the undersigned, H. Hart, M. D. being duly sworn, have this day examined François, a slave belonging to M. Jean Pierre La Victoire, and find, he has near his left wrist on the outside of the fore-arm, a small contusion about the size of a nut, which he states was occasioned by his master having struck him with a stick, about a fortnight ago. He appears an old slender delicate man, and not fit for any employment that would require much bodily exertion.

(signed) H. Hart, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

In reply to this complaint, the Sieur La Victoire declares, that François has again imposed on the Protector. That he (declarant) did not strike him; that he marooned on the 15th of last month, as declared before the Civil Commissary, and not on Wednesday last, as complainant has stated; that he is only employed in cleaning the yard, and never in the fields, or in bringing water or wood, or in any such work. With respect to the contusion on his arm, declarant says it must have arisen from a blow received during his maroonage; again declaring, that he has never inflicted a blow upon complainant. The irons were put upon François on the 2d January by authority of the Protector of Slaves, and not seven months ago, as stated by complainant, and it was as a punishment for his constant maroonage. It is equally false, that declarant had taken from François the iron pots and shirt alluded to, they were left in his hut when he absconded, and are there still; as to the razors, declarant never knew that he had any.

Pyram, a Mozambique, another slave belonging to the Sieur La Victoire, declares, that complainant was neither beaten by his master nor employed in the maize field; that his only occupation has been that of keeping the court-yard clean, and feeding the pigs; that he was certainly confined in chains the day after new-year's-day, but has never been kept in the stocks at night or on a Sunday; his complaint of that must evidently be false, as he could not possibly be put into the stocks with "entraves" upon his legs: complainant and declarant are the only slaves their master possesses.

RESULT:—Notwithstanding that the complaint of François is unfounded, the Protector, on account of his advanced age, and the certificate of the examining Surgeon, did not think it proper to inflict any other punishment on him than that of the confinement to which he was liable as a maroon; and on his return to the Sieur La Victoire, the latter was strictly enjoined not to employ him in any description of work requiring bodily exertion. The "entraves" which had been put upon François were very slight, and had been used only to prevent his marooning.

Complaint, No. 72.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 4th May 1830.

Clémentine, a Malgache negress, complains, that her master, the Sieur Sénèque, of the quarter of Grand Port, immediately after the death of his late concubine, compelled complainant, against her inclination, to live with him in adultery; partly from fear of bad treatment, and partly by being forbidden to see her husband in the camp. In December last, she discovered that the Sieur Sénèque had connection with another of his slaves named Zéline; that therefore she availed herself of this opportunity to get rid of her master's familiarities, to which she had great repugnance, and to rejoin her former husband; that the Sieur Sénèque seeing this, became furious, so as to strike complainant with his fist, and cut off her hair, and then put her in the stocks; and a little time after he shut her up in prison, obliging her to go thither by blows of a branch; complainant has been ever since December thus confined, except when sent out under escort to make vacois sacks, of which her master obliges her to complete four *per diem*; that she has for some time expected to be released from this durance, but in vain; she therefore yesterday escaped the vigilance of her guards, and went to the Assistant Protector to complain. She named Martin, Zirondelle, Babet, Grénade, Samedi, Lafleur, Léandre, Ladouceur and Hortense, as witnesses to the truth of all she stated.

Martin proves nothing more, than that Clémentine has been in confinement since December last, and that the black who prepares the food of the pigs, prepares also the maize for Clémentine; he knows nothing else of the matter of the complaint.

Zirondelle says, that all she knows of the business is, that Clémentine was for a long time her master's concubine; that from December to the present time, Clémentine has been shut up in prison, and that since then Zéline became her master's concubine; that she knows nothing further of the circumstances stated in the complaint.

Babet declares, that being a field labourer, she is not acquainted with all the circumstances that irritated her master against Clémentine, but she knows that Clémentine has been kept locked up since December last in the granary; before that period, Clémentine was her master's concubine, and was succeeded by Zéline; she knows nothing more.

Grénade

Grénade declares, that a long time before last new-year's-day, his master took Clémentine into keeping; that Clémentine quarrelled with several negresses of the establishment, and therefore her master put her into prison, where she has continued since December last; that Zéline then became his master's concubine. That Clémentine suffers no more than the imprisonment, because she has not even the trouble of cooking her own food, maize, which is given to her ready cooked.

Samedi declares, that being constantly working in the fields, he knows nothing whatever of the circumstances stated in the complaint.

Lafleur declares, that the negress Clémentine was for a long time his master's concubine, but that she is a wild savage; that in December last his master took Zéline into keeping, and shut up Clémentine in the granary, where she has been confined ever since; knows nothing more.

Léandre declares, that in December last his master took Zéline into keeping, and shut up Clémentine in the granary, where she has continued ever since; on being asked if he knew the cause of Clémentine being put in prison, he replied, that it was an affair of man and wife; he knew nothing more.

Ladouceur declares the same as Lafleur.

Hortense declares, that Clémentine was put in prison for having stolen a shift and some rings, and for quarrelling with the other negresses; that she is the person in whose custody Clémentine is, and that she often lets her out of prison to wash her clothes, and to beat the vacois for sacks.

Marie, an enfranchised negress of M. Sénèque, says, that Clémentine maroons very often; that she is a thief, because she stole a shift belonging to her young mistress, and a pair of gold rings belonging to Mme Ricao, who lives in her master's house; that that theft was the cause of her having been kept in prison for the last five months; that she is the person who cooks Clémentine's food, which consists of maize and salt meat; that Clémentine is only confined at night; that she (witness) conducts Clémentine to wash or bathe herself, and then leaves her free in the day to go to the children in the kitchen; she knows nothing more.

The Sieur Sénèque, in his reply to this complaint, says, that Clémentine does not speak truth when she states that he compelled her to live with him after the death of her mistress (who was also his concubine), because he called her one evening to a place behind the kitchen, and said, "I have many children, and it is not my intention to take into keeping a free woman; if you will live with me, I will take care of you, and give you all that you may want or desire; and if you should have a child and your conduct correct, I will render you happy."—To which she replied, "If, for some time, my conduct has been incorrect, it was for the sake of getting something to support myself; but if you will give me such things as I may stand in need of, I promise you to be very prudent and correct, and I say so to you from the sincerity of my heart." Declarant then accuses Clémentine of having stolen certain linen and some gold rings, belonging to one of his family; and says, that it was in consequence of this robbery committed by an inmate, who ate and drank at his table (as complainant did) that he thought it right to punish her with six months' confinement in an airy granary. Her work was to make four sacks *per diem*, Sundays excepted. But this task, however, she never completed; nor was she employed in any manner whatever during a whole month, when she complained of being unwell. She had double rations of food, and that always ready cooked. Her declaration, therefore, with respect to food is false, as it must also be evidently made to appear by her personal condition. And her only object in making this complaint is revenge, well knowing that her bad conduct will prevent her ever returning to live in declarant's house.

When the master's letter was read, charging Clémentine with having stolen linen belonging to her young mistress, she replied, that, in fact, sick of the brutality of her master, caused by his new taste for Zéline, she frequently secreted herself, but never for more than two days; that with regard to stealing her young mistress's linen, she stated, that it is true a shift of her young mistress was found in her box; but that the shift was a long time in the possession of Florine, a negress of her master's, from whom she received it in pledge for payment of fifty sols, which she had lent to Florine; that when she wished to prove this fact to her master, by appealing to Florine, he refused to allow it.

RESULT:—From the minute investigation made into this case, it appeared that the Sieur Sénèque had confined the negress Clémentine rather from a motive of resentment, for infidelity towards him, than as a punishment for the theft committed: and as the explanation he has given of the transaction, only shows the great immorality of his conduct, even in the midst of his numerous family, the Protector felt it his duty to direct the Assistant Protector of the quarter to impress upon the mind of the Sieur Sénèque, the highly reprehensible manner in which he has neglected the duties of a master, by thus demoralizing his slaves, and setting them so pernicious an example, against all laws, human and divine.

The negress was returned to her master, who was, at the same time, strictly enjoined not to molest her in any the slightest manner for the complaint she had preferred against him.

Complaint, No. 73.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 6th May 1830.

Maingard, a Creole slave, aged about 13 years, arrested as a maroon, and sent to this office by the Police department, states the cause of his maroonage to be, want of sufficient food, and being kept in chains by his master, the Sieur Collard, of Port Louis.

M. Collard

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M. Collard says, that he did confine the boy in irons, in consequence of his perfect inability otherwise to prevent his marooning; that with respect to insufficiency of food, his complaint is absolutely false, the boy being fed and treated as declarant's own children. He has been ten times taken by the police, during the last month, and is so addicted to maroonage, that declarant knows not how to keep him in his house, unless permitted to do so by means of a chain. He was not aware of having infringed any law in the present instance.

RESULT:—Denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution, as an infraction of the 2d Article of Ordinance, No. 51.

Complaint, No. 74.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 11th May 1830.

Alexandrine, a Creole, aged 32 years, complains, that her mistress, M^{lle} Eliza Salomon, of Port Louis, beat her yesterday on the shoulders and head, with a piece of tarred rope, because complainant had not returned to the court-yard at so early an hour as her mistress expected. She states, that she had been sent to wash for the father of her mistress, and the rain coming on, obliged her to delay her return; that after complainant had been thus treated, her child was also beaten in the same manner. The mother of M^{lle} Eliza was present when this occurred, and can testify to the truth of complainant's statement.

Port Louis, 11th May 1830.

I, the undersigned, H. Hart, M. D. being duly sworn, have this day examined *Alexandrine*, a negress, belonging to Eliza Salomon, and find, she has on her back and shoulders several livid marks, all of which, she states, were occasioned by her mistress having flogged her with a "corde goudronnée," yesterday evening.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The mistress admits having given her negress a few stripes of a martinet, for having imposed upon her, in saying, that she had been employed in washing at her father's house, instead of which it was clearly ascertained, that complainant had left the linen, with which she had been charged, in the wet and dirt, and absented herself for the purpose of getting drunk. Declarant also gave the child two or three strokes, because she would not say where her mother had obtained the arrack. Complainant was not beat with a tarred rope, but with the cat now produced.

RESULT:—M^{lle} Eliza Salomon has been denounced to the Procureur Général, for a contravention of the 18th Article of the Ordinance, No. 43.

The negress, who had previously been complained of as a drunken subject, was severely admonished, and recommended, on pain of the Protector's severe displeasure, to abandon her evil habit of drinking.

Complaint, No. 75.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 21st May 1830.

Antoine, a Mozambique, aged 37 years, and belonging to the Sieur Castera, of Flacq, complains of being obliged to work on Sundays until three or four o'clock, P. M., without being remunerated; that he has not sufficient time for meals, and works from before day-light till six o'clock P. M., and is then obliged to cut grass until gun-fire; that for the last month complainant and his comrades have been obliged to stay all day and take their meals on the spot where they work, though not far from the court; that neither he nor his comrades who came lately here to complain, got any new clothes at Christmas, and their master said, they should have none, because they carried a complaint against him; it is now cold weather, and for want of such clothes they are obliged to cover themselves with gunny bags.

The Sieur Castera declares, that his slaves never work later than nine o'clock A. M. on Sunday; that they have sufficient time for meals, as the time is regulated by the commandeur without his interference; that they never go to work before day-light, and quit it at sun-set; that sometimes (but not always, as Antoine says), and when they work near the road where there is grass, they cut and bring a bundle of grass each, and leave it in the cattle-yard on their way to their huts; that they are kept from the court-yard all day, only at such time as they work at "Three Islots," which is very distant from the plantation; they therefore then eat on the spot where they work, and they also sleep there in sheds made on purpose for them, and that this has been the case for the last sixteen days; the complaint of not receiving clothes, is admitted by the master, but he qualifies it, by stating that it was not with the intention of depriving them of the clothes altogether, but merely to make them feel his displeasure, and the difference he made between his slaves of good conduct and themselves.

The above was confirmed by the testimony of the rest of M. Castera's slaves, and the clothing verified by the Assistant Protector, as also the good condition and clothing of all the slaves.

RESULT:—Antoine was sentenced to sleep seven nights in stocks for mingling falsehood with his complaint, this being the second time he has done so; the master was at the same time strongly remonstrated with, and recommended to a strict observance of the law regulating the hours of "breloque," which in the evidence before the Protector do not appear to

to be regulated upon so just a principle towards the slave as they ought to be, inasmuch as it is the duty of the master, and not of the commandeur, to see that the time accorded by law is granted.

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Complaint, No. 76.

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Protector of Slaves' Office, 26th May 1830.

Adolphe, a Malgache, aged about 34, who presented himself at this office on the 31st March, complaining of ill treatment received from his master the *Sieur Ithier*, of the quarter of *Flacq*, now states, that on his return from hospital, his said master, after threatening him with punishment, tied him to a ladder, and there kept him from morning until noon, without, however, striking him; that the work he is obliged to do is too severe for his present weak state of body, it being that of clearing away underwood on the estate; that having represented this to his master, he was desired to return to his work without receiving the slightest commiseration; declarant left the estate three days past, and could not present himself earlier, on account of the difficulty he experienced in walking.

The following is an extract from the Certificate of the examining Surgeon:—" Nous avons examiné et avons reconnu et constaté le nommé *Adolphe*, Malgache, âgé d'environ 34 ans, être atteint d'une fièvre hectique, avec oedème des extrémités inférieures, ce qui nous le fait juger en danger; cet état exige des soins prompts et assidus. Nous n'avons reconnu aucunes traces de corrections récentes sur cet individu, que nous avons trouvé mal vêtu.

" *Flacq*, 26 Mai 1830.

(signé) *Dupin, D^r M^{ia}.*"

Complainant was immediately sent to hospital for medical treatment.

On the same day appeared the *Sieur Ithier*, declaring that *Adolphe* had this time imposed on the Assistant Protector a false statement; that in taking complainant from the hospital, declarant paid every attention to the recommendation of the Protector, directing that he should not be treated with any resentment on account of his previous complaint; he neither threatened nor punished *Adolphe*, and the only work to which he was put, was that of collecting grass for two heads of cattle, and clearing by hand a small patch of maize; he was not even always employed in this, for he remained much of the time in his hut, saying that he was unwell; that he has been continually robbed of the provisions of the house by complainant, who has also assumed a most impertinent manner towards declarant, and who likewise stated a falsehood, in saying that he had left the estate only three days past; he has been absent nine days, as may be proved by declarant's notification to the Civil Commissary.

Vendredi, another slave belonging to the *Sieur Ithier*, declares, that complainant was tied to the ladder, as he has said, but it was only for an instant, in order to frighten him, after which he was sent to collect grass; declarant says, that his master is certainly not a kind one; but in the present instance *Adolphe* has no cause whatever of complaint, for he is an idle slave, always unwilling to do his duty, and much given to pilfering.

RESULT:—In this complaint there does not appear sufficient proof of ill treatment; and as there is an action already against the master for ill treating the same slave, these papers were submitted to the Substitut du Procureur Général, to be produced in aggravation of damages, but he did not think them necessary.

Complaint, No. 77.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 27th May 1830.

Chéri, a Creole, aged about 12 years, arrested as a maroon by the Police department and sent to this office, says, that he marooned because his mistress M^{ie} *Joséphine Doger*, of *Moka*, often beats him with a cane; that she neither gives him clothes nor sufficient food, allowing him only three sous a-day with which to purchase his provisions.

The *Sieur Arestide Veckranges* appearing on the part of his mother, states, that four days ago *Chéri* was sent into *Port Louis* to buy rice, but since that time has not returned to the house; that complainant's statement is false and malicious; he is never punished with the cane, and, in common with the other young slaves on the estate, he is allowed six sous *per diem* to find himself in rice, the older slaves having nine sous each; complainant had a new suit of clothes on new-year's-day, and the reason why he has not got them now, is, that he sold them; that about ten or twelve days past *Casimir* (another slave belonging to declarant) made a bet of three sous with *Chéri*, that he would not receive ten stripes of a cane from him; he did receive them, however, and won his three sous; and if he has any marks of punishment upon him, they must have originated in this manner.

Casimir examined. Says he does not know the motive of *Chéri's* maroonage; he has never seen his master beat him in any manner, and knows that he got a change of linen on new-year's-day, as the rest of the slaves did. Declarant did some days past lay a wager with *Chéri*, that the latter would not receive from him ten strokes on the breech. Declarant gave him the ten strokes, and paid him the three sous.

RESULT:—The answer given to this complaint (and supported by the only testimony that could be produced) appears very incredible; but there not being sufficient proof to sustain a denunciation of the case, the mistress was severely admonished for allowing such disorder upon her estate as would permit a boy's receiving castigation, even under the circumstances declared, of the truth of which the Protector is very doubtful. The mistress was

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was also reprimanded for allowing the boy to appear in so unclothed a state. On her promise to prevent such for the future, Chéri was returned to his mistress, who was at the same time forbidden to treat him with resentment on account of the complaint he had brought against her.

Complaint, No. 78.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 27th May 1830.

Valentin, a boy aged about 12, belonging to the Sieur Louis Simon, of Port Louis, having been arrested with irons on his legs, has been sent to the Protector by the Chief Commissary of Police. He states, that his master placed them upon him about fifteen days past, because he had marooned for six days, and which he did because he had staid away longer than he ought to have done, when sent on a commission by his master, and he was therefore afraid to return to him. He has nothing else to complain of.

The master declares, that he put the irons upon complainant three days past, and not fifteen, as he has falsely stated; and it was for constant maroonage, not, however, as a punishment, but as the only means by which he can possibly keep the boy at home.

RESULT:—Denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution, as an infraction of the Chain Ordinance, No. 51.

Complaint, No. 79.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 1st June 1830.

Adolphe, a Creole, aged 23 years, and belonging to the Sieur Boileau, of Rivière du Rempart, states, that on Monday last, he was sent to the house of a neighbour for the purpose of getting small change for a piece of money; that he was kept waiting for the change almost half an hour, when his master meeting him on his way home (and having a "martinet" in his hand) asked complainant the cause of his delay; he explained his having been kept by M. Staub; but notwithstanding this, his master gave him eight stripes of the cat on his shoulders, and then directing complainant to take off his jacket, inflicted upon him many more; that on the following Wednesday, feeling himself unwell, complainant spoke to the régisseur, who directed him to remain in his hut; his master, however, returning on the next day, and inquiring into the cause of complainant's not being at work, said that he was only feigning sickness, and giving him a blow with his fist, sent him to work.

That being thus treated, he left the estate, and would prefer to be sold, rather than return to it again.

I, the undersigned, H. Hart, M. D. being duly sworn, have this day examined Adolphe, a slave belonging to M. Boileau, and find, he has on his back and shoulders several marks of recent punishment, which he states were occasioned by his having been flogged about eight days ago, by his master; I do not think the punishment severe; he complains, also, of being sick, but he exhibits no symptom of being so.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The Assistant Protector of the quarter repaired to the estate, and finding the Sieur Boileau absent from the district, proceeded to examine the Sieur Dorval Féline, régisseur, touching the complaint of Adolphe; he declared upon oath, that complainant marooned on the 29th ultimo, without any causé whatever; that the Sieur Boileau certainly did reprimand him, for having been unnecessarily long in executing a commission, and also scolded him for carelessness, in allowing his pigs to get into the garden and plantations, after being repeatedly admonished for the same fault. Declarant has been overseer on many estates, but has never seen one on which the slaves were better or more kindly treated, than upon that of M. Boileau; complainant is a great gambler, is very insubordinate in his general conduct, and a frequent maroon.

The slave Prosper swears, that Adolphe is a false black, and a great maroon, for he stays out two or three days at a time, when sent on an errand; that complainant was not beaten at the time he says he was; that his master (who is a medical man), finding that Adolphe had imposed on the régisseur, and that he really was not unwell, sent him to work, as he has stated; that the slaves are well fed, well clothed, and well treated on the estate, and that complainant sold all his clothes and a new blanket, in order to get money to gamble with.

Several other slaves were then examined, whose declarations perfectly agree with that of the preceding witnesses.

The Assistant Protector then examined the food of the slaves (at that time ready for distribution), and found it to consist of salt fish, vegetables and rice, good in quality, and abundant in quantity.

To this evidence the Assistant Protector added his own testimony (founded upon observation), that the treatment of the slaves of the Sieur Boileau is in accordance with the laws relating thereto, and that the complaint of Adolphe is not only unfounded, but malicious.

RESULT:—The Protector directed the slave to be punished with fifteen stripes of a cat-o'-nine-tails on the estate of his master, and to be severely admonished on his gambling propensities.

Complaint,

Complaint, No. 80.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 1st June 1830.

Carlin, a Mozambique, aged about 37 years, states, that he left the estate of his master, *M. Castera*, of Flacq, yesterday morning, in consequence of the ill treatment he has received; that on Sunday, the 23d ultimo, he was placed as guard in the poultry-yard, and that wishing for water, he went to a neighbouring river to get some; during his absence, the commandeur of the estate coming to the post where complainant should have been, found him absent; that returning a few moments afterwards, the commandeur said he had come by his master's order, to call complainant and his comrade, *Bordeaux*, before him; that endeavouring to explain to his master, the circumstances under which he had absented himself, complainant was not listened to, but with his comrade, was immediately put in the stocks, where they remained all night; and on the following morning were each punished with forty stripes of a cane, their hands and feet being held by *Jean Louis* and another black, whose name complainant does not recollect; that had he merited this punishment, he would not have come to complain, but feeling that he did not deserve it, he resolved to leave the estate.

Port Louis, 1st June 1830.

I, the undersigned, *H. Hart*, M. D. being duly sworn, have this day examined *Carlin*, a slave belonging to *M. Castera*, and find, both sides of his breech, and a great portion of his left hip and part of the thigh, in a state of ulceration, which he states was occasioned by his master having ordered him to be flogged, about nine days ago. I am of opinion that his punishment has been exceedingly severe; I would therefore recommend his being sent to hospital.

(signed) *H. Hart*, M. D. Surgeon to the Police.

The *Sieur Castera*, in answer to this complaint declares, that on the night of the 23d or 24th ultimo, he called to the two guardians of the poultry house, when no one replying, he himself went to the spot, and finding both absent, sent for a commandeur, that he might ascertain whether or no the blacks were in any other hut; in a short time afterwards, the commandeur returned with the slave *Bordeaux*, whom he had found asleep in the "hangard" of another poultry-yard; that upon interrogating this slave, as to where he had been, *Bordeaux* replied, that he had been his round to find *Hilaire*, who was asleep in the hut which he had just quitted; this, however, being only a pretext for his own absence, declarant directed *Bordeaux* to be put into the block; at about eleven o'clock, *Carlin* arrived, and he was also, by declarant's order, confined in the stocks until the following morning, when they each received fifteen stripes of a cane, for having neglected the watch upon which they were set, and thereby exposing the poultry-yard to depredations, which, of late, had frequently been practised upon it; it is not true that either of them received forty stripes, as will be seen by declarant's Register Book of Punishment; about a fortnight before, complainant received six stripes of a cane, for the same fault: if the slave *Carlin* does bear marks of severe punishment, it was not inflicted by declarant's order, or upon his estate; it is probable that he might have been stealing, and been punished off the estate, without coming to declarant to complain.

Hilaire, the commandeur, declares, that the complaint of *Carlin* is totally false; that neither of the blacks were upon their guard, when he (declarant) went to their post. *Carlin* said, he went to fetch water, but when he returned, he had none with him; declarant punished each of the two slaves with fifteen stripes, by order from his master, and not with more, as falsely stated by complainant.

Jean Louis recollects the day on which he held *Carlin's* hands when punished, but does not recollect how many stripes he received; he does not think many, because the correction was soon over.

Lindor makes the same declaration.

Bordeaux says, that he was on guard at the same post with complainant, but does not know whether *Carlin* left in order to get water or not; he did not see that he had any bamboo in his hand when he went away, nor did he bring any water back with him. Declarant was punished at the same time as *Carlin*, but does not know how many stripes he received.

The Register Book of Punishments kept on the estate was then produced, and sworn to by the *Sieur Castera* as correct; it states, that *Carlin* and *Bordeaux*, on the 24th ult. each received fifteen stripes of a cane for having abandoned the post at which they had been placed as guards on the previous evening.

RESULT:—Notwithstanding the severity with which the punishment of this slave appears, by the certificate of the Surgeon, to have been inflicted, it would seem, from the declaration of the master and the register, sworn to, in the Punishment Record Book, that there was not a greater number of stripes inflicted than is allowed by law. The Protector, therefore, could only recommend to the master more moderation in the chastisement of his slaves.

Complaint, No. 81.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 2d June 1830.

Seven slaves belonging to the *Sieur Poisson*, of the quarter of Savanne, complain, that they are not allowed their Sundays, as the blacks of the neighbouring estates are, being employed on that day, as on all others, without receiving the slightest recompence whatever. This is the only thing they have to complain of. They quitted the estate four days past, and could not arrive earlier in Port Louis, because one of them was lame.

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The Sieur Louis Poisson, having appeared at the office of the Assistant Protector to answer to this complaint, declared, that since the publication of the Ordinance, No. 43, he has strictly followed the regulations prescribed therein, and has always allowed his slaves the Sabbath to themselves, after the work absolutely necessary for their own subsistence, and that of the animals on the estate, is done; and which work rarely continues later than ten in the morning. On one occasion, however (Sunday last) it was extended to a later hour, and then he gave each of his blacks a glass of arrack as a recompence. Complainants, however, did not come for their arrack and provisions, but made that instance of extended work the pretext for going into town to complain, leaving declarant on his estate with one negress only.

RESULT:—It appearing by the admission of the master, that the usual hour of *corvée* had certainly been exceeded in the instance complained of, the master was severely admonished, and recommended strictly to confine himself, for the future, to the regulations established for this description of work, as well with respect to the hours of *corvée*, as to the rate of payment to be made to his slaves for Sunday labour, when such shall be absolutely requisite upon the estate; and he was at the same time enjoined to abstain from all resentment against his slaves on account of the present complaint.

Complaint, No. 82.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 3d June 1830.

Seven Mozambique slaves belonging to the Sieur Tosté, of the quarter of Flacq, complain of not being allowed sufficient time for repose, nor sufficient food; having each, for his daily ration, nothing more than a manioc cake: they have nothing else to complain of.

The Assistant Protector having repaired to the estate of the Sieur Tosté for the purpose of investigating this complaint, received his declaration as follows:—That the complaint of the seven individuals in question, is maliciously false; the food he gives them is good, and will be proved to be abundant, by the fact of their being in the constant habit of selling a portion of it; they have two manioc cakes *per diem*, and not one only, as they falsely state, and on this they are fed alternate days, having on the other, each five pounds of good potatoes. That the cake, which was presented to the Protector, was made by the slave César, (the chief instigator of the desertion), and from the refuse manioc left at the bottom of the mill, thinking thereby to strengthen the grounds of their complaint. That with respect to their hours of *breloque*, they are regulated by Ordinance, No. 43, viz. one hour for breakfast and two for dinner; that César is a malicious bad black, and habitual thief; that on the evening of his departure from the estate, he stole a duck belonging to declarant, for which offence, however, he was pardoned.

Twenty-five other slaves of the estate were then examined; they unanimously declared, that the manioc presented by complainant, is not at all of the description with which they are fed; that they have two good manioc cakes, or five pounds of potatoes *per diem* each; that their comrades have been equally false in their complaint with respect to *breloque*, for they have no cause whatever of discontent on that score.

RESULT:—This complaint found false and very malicious, and a most wicked attempt to impose upon the Protector; he therefore condemned the slave César to receive thirty lashes, and two of the most culpable of the others to receive twenty each, upon the estate, and in the presence of their comrades.

Complaint, No. 83.

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, 7th June 1830.

Michel, a Creole slave, aged 25 years, appeared at the Protector's Office, with fetters on his legs, complaining that his mistress, M^{lle} Hermise, of Port Louis, does not allow him a moment to himself either on Sunday or any other day; that having been hired out to work for three days, complainant, on his return, accounted to his said mistress for two days of such hire, promising to pay to her the third proportion on the following morning; when entering the yard for that purpose, he heard his mistress call to another slave to bring her a chain, upon which complainant immediately fled, and remained absent during a month; at the end of that time he was captured by the police, detained in the Bagne prison another month, flogged with twenty-five stripes of a cane, and then returned to his mistress's house, where he had scarcely arrived, before he was kicked and struck by her nephew, the Sieur Voley, and then put into the chains he now wears.

The fetters put upon Michel were found to be of 4 lbs. weight, consequently heavier than those allowed by law.

M^{lle} Hermise declares the complaint of Michel to be absolutely false; that since she bought him (which she did by his own desire), he has conducted himself in a most insubordinate manner. It is utterly untrue that complainant was either kicked or struck, as he states himself to have been, but he did receive one "soufflet" from the Sieur Voley, for great insolence towards him. Declarant was ignorant of the law regulating the weight of fetters, or she would not have infringed it: she confined complainant, in order to put a stop to his constant maroonage and thefts.

Denounced to the Procureur Général for prosecution on the 9th June.

Complaint,

Complaint, No. 84.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 9th June 1830.

Twenty-six slaves belonging to M^{me} Veuve Pilot, of the quarter of Rivière du Rempart, complain, that the commandeur, named Cazimir, is continually beating them with a cat-o'-nine-tails while at work. They have nothing to complain of against M^{me} Pilot, her son, or the régisseur.

Complainants admit, that not one of them has any mark of punishment upon his or her person; and on its being observed to them, it was odd that 26 out of 200 slaves should only complain of such treatment, one of the number, named Charles, immediately acknowledged that himself and most of his comrades had been induced to make this complaint by the advice of Salamy, Babet and Christine; they admit that they are well fed, have their Sundays and regular "breloques," and have nothing to complain of but the strictness of Cazimir.

M^{me} Pilot says, that the only reason she can imagine for this complot, is, her having taken into her service a new commandeur, who is an active, regular man in his duty; that he has the strictest injunctions from her never to lift his hand against a slave in any manner whatever, without first making her acquainted with the circumstances attending the case; and she has every reason to believe that her orders are obeyed, particularly as not one of the complainants can exhibit a mark of punishment.

Ten slaves of the estate then came forward, and in the name of their comrades (160 in number) requested that the complainants might receive a severe punishment for their wicked complaint, declaring the whole of it to be false, and that it was impossible to have a better mistress, or to be better treated than they were in every manner; that complainants were the only "mauvais sujets" on the estate, and they had proved themselves such by thus trying to give pain to the best of mistresses.

RESULT:—This complaint being evidently false, and made with an intention to annoy their mistress, the Protector, in order to mark his great displeasure with the complainants, as well for their false conduct, as for quitting the estate in a band, directed Salamy (as chief of the complot) to receive twenty-five lashes of a cat-o'-nine-tails. Five others of the most culpable to be punished with from ten to twenty lashes, according to the mitigating circumstances that might appear in their case. Whilst Babet and Christine (who excited the other negresses) were condemned to receive five stripes of a small cane in the manner pointed out by law, to sleep eight nights in the stocks, and not to be permitted to leave the estate for the period of a month.

Complaint, No. 85.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 11th June 1830.

Edmond, a Mozambique slave, belonging to the Sieur Dalais, of the quarter of Grand Port, complains, that he is the least liked of all the slaves by his master; that the slaves all work on Sundays, without being remunerated; that he is compelled to rise at midnight, or at the first crowing of the cock, to work; that his mistress owes him \$ 16 $\frac{1}{2}$, for two pigs he sold her (having sold them to her for \$ 20 $\frac{1}{2}$, of which he only received \$ 4), which she refuses to pay, under pretext that he had stolen a bottle of arrack.

Adonis declares to his knowledge of one pig having been sold to his mistress for \$ 8, of which Edmond received \$ 4, but he knows not whether he received the remainder, nor does he know any thing of any other pig being sold to her.

Zépher, another witness, knows nothing of the pig transaction.

La Fortune says, that he only knows of one, which was sold for \$ 8, of which his mistress paid Edmond \$ 4 cash, $\frac{1}{2}$ p^{ce} of blue calico \$ 2, and the other \$ 2 were consumed in the payment of several small debts due from Edmond to his comrades; that he is a very idle and bad subject; that he works two or three days very well, and then spoils, on the other days, what he has previously done, and shuns work, and when his master grumbles at it, he goes a maroon; that he is a thief in trifles, but not to any extent.

Louis says, that when a slave is deficient in his weekly task (cutting and sawing timber), he is made to work on Sundays to complete it, by way of punishment, which is the only Sunday work the slaves are subjected to; that the task imposed upon the slaves, is reasonable, and that if they are industrious, it may be finished daily by three o'clock in the afternoon, which frequently happens, and after that they have the rest of the day to themselves; that the slaves never go to work till day-light, it were useless to do so before, as the work requires, broad day-light to be performed. Louis says, he knows nothing of the pig transaction, but he says, that the reason why Edmond quitted the habitation as a maroon and came to complain, was, that having been placed as a guardian of a hut of one of his absent comrades, he stole therefrom a bottle of arrack and a salted fish, for which his mistress made him pay \$ $\frac{1}{2}$.

Another speaks precisely as the first witness, and adds, with regard to the pigs, that he knows that two pigs were sold by him to his mistress for \$ 20, and that he received in part payment money and blue cloth; and that his mistress paid besides, many small debts due from Edmond to his comrades, but he does not know whether any thing still remains due to him, but he is sure his mistress is incapable to wrong him of a single sous.

Another witness confirms all said by the preceding witnesses.

Edmond was confronted with all the witnesses, their evidence read to him, and he was told, that if he had any thing to object to it, on the score of any malice they might bear him, he

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he might then state it. He replied, that all his comrades were good fellows, and that he had nothing to say against them; but that his master esteemed him less than any other of his slaves, and that his mistress had actually cheated him.

Mr. Dalais then declared, that certainly Edmond was less esteemed by him, as he truly said, and for the very reason, that his conduct was very bad and idle, yet he had the same privileges as his other slaves, to rear pigs, &c. That with regard to Sunday work, he obliged only those to do such work who had been idle, and had not finished their task-work; and he did this as a punishment rather than flog them; and even this Sunday work is never exacted but after repeated acts of idleness.

That Edmond sold to his mistress two pigs for \$ 20, and he begged his mistress to keep the money for him, lest he might lose it; this his mistress did, and paid it out in various sums as well to himself as to several others to whom he was indebted, and who were brought to his mistress by him for that purpose. That nothing is now due to him, on the contrary, he has had more than the \$ 20, and is now in debt to his mistress.

RESULT:—The Protector cannot but view this complaint as false and unfounded in every particular; it has been falsified by the testimony of six of his comrades, as well as by the declaration of his master, and his comrades, who speak highly as to the good treatment they receive from the latter and his mistress, and, although Edmond appears under some delusion as to his mistress not having paid him all his money, still the Protector cannot for a moment suppose that a respectable lady, like M^{me} Dalais, would retain, unjustly, any of the money which Edmond says was deposited with her; therefore the Protector deems it necessary to punish Edmond with twelve stripes for bringing this false complaint, that it may serve as an example to his comrades, of the Protector's determination to discourage all false and unfounded complaints.

Complaint, No. 86.

Protector of Slaves' Office, 1st February 1830.

Lindor, a Mozambique, and *Clémentine* (with her infant child) appeared at this office to complain of their master, the Sieur Guiot, of Plaines Wilhems; the former states, that yesterday morning, the muster bell being rung at two o'clock as usual, he repaired to the court-yard; that when there, the Sieur Guiot asked him why he was later than his comrades; to which he replied, that he had been on guard that night at the cabbage field, situated at a considerable distance from the yard, and therefore could not be earlier; his master, however, paid no attention to this explanation; and then, taking a cane from M. Philogène the overseer, gave complainant a number of stripes on all parts of his body; he does not recollect how many, but after this punishment he was told to go to work, when observing to his master that he felt unwell, he was excused from labour; that he works, with the other slaves of the estate, the whole of Sunday, on which day the mill is employed as on others, and for which work they get no other remuneration than a little salt and dried fish; that he is obliged to rise at too early an hour; has not time sufficient for his meals; is often beaten by his master for the slightest fault, and had no clothes given him on new-year's-day. Complainant knows that it is at two o'clock in the morning the slaves go to work, because the économe, when calling them, says, "It is two o'clock, and time to go to work;" besides which, the mill is worked by candle-light. Hippolite, Cotte and Chéri were present when complainant was beaten with the cane.

Clémentine says, that although she has a child to nurse, she is obliged to go to the mill to work with the other slaves, at two o'clock in the morning; that her child being ill, she told her master of its indisposition, who only replied, "It is not true;" that she leaves off work between five and six in the evening; is employed on Sundays, often the whole day, and sometimes only until noon, and for which she gets but little recompense, sometimes twelve or fifteen sous, and at others a little salt and dried fish; that she has not time allowed to eat her food, and has, with all her comrades, cause to complain of the treatment received from M. Guiot; she had no linen given her on new-year's-day, on which fête she only received fifteen sous, a little salt and a little dried fish.

Port Louis, 1st February 1830.

I certify, having examined Lindor, a slave belonging to M. Guiot, and find, he has on several parts of his body marks of recent punishment, all of which he states were occasioned by his having been flogged by his master, last night, with a rattan; the punishment does not appear to have been very severe.

(signed) H. Hart, M.D. Surgeon to the Police.

On the following day the slave *Polux*, Mozambique (with his child), also belonging to M. Guiot, presented himself at the Protector's Office. His complaint is precisely that of Clémentine's, excepting that for the work done on Sundays he sometimes gets no remuneration whatever. Complainant brought his child with him, because his wife had marooned, and he was sure he should find her at Port Louis.

Chéri (one of the witnesses cited) says, that the slaves of the estate go to work at gun-fire in the morning; that they have one hour for breakfast and two for dinner; that they sometimes work on Sunday, but not regularly, and never more than half the day; that this is with their own free will, and for which they receive without distinction 1 s. 3 d. each; that with respect to linen, each slave on the estate receives two changes a year, and that complainants themselves received theirs on new-year's-day last; that the negroesses who have children to nurse, do not begin work until after breakfast, and that is the time at which Clémentine goes.

Lindor

Lindor further says, that the muster bell is not generally rung on Sunday morning; if it was on the day stated, declarant knew nothing of it, nor of what passed with respect to the punishment of Lindor.

Cotte makes the same declaration, with the exception that the negresses go to work at broad day-light and leave off at about six in the evening, and that they received a blanket each on new-year's-day, and not linen.

The slave Azor, and the negresses Estelle, Jeanne and Cocliste all confirm the evidence given by the preceding witnesses, and add, that the complainant, Clémentine, is treated in every manner like themselves.

The Sieur Philogène d'Houdetot appeared on the part of the Sieur Guiot, to reply to the complaint: he declares on oath, that on the Sunday alluded to, Lindor, coming late to muster, endeavoured to hide himself amongst the other slaves; that M. Guiot asked him why he was so late, when Lindor replied, in an insolent tone, that he had been on guard, and could not come sooner. His master then said, if that was the case he might at least have answered more respectfully, at which Lindor was again out of humour. That seeing this, the Sieur Guiot took a cane from declarant, and gave complainant five stripes for his insolence. It is true that the place at which Lindor was guard is at some little distance from the court. It was not for being late, but for his impertinence, that he was so punished.

RESULT:—The witnesses heard in this complaint, differ in their evidence with respect to clothing. Chéri alone persists in saying, that the slaves received a change of linen on new-year's-day, whilst all his comrades state that they only received a blanket. The other points of the complaint the Protector could not but consider as satisfactorily contradicted. With respect to Pollux, M. Guiot admits that he gave him some stripes of a cane, notwithstanding the économe had represented that the ground on which the slave was keeping guard was at a considerable distance from the court. The master was therefore severely admonished on the impropriety of punishing a slave in a moment of passion, although he might have given cause by his insolence for correction. That complainants were returned to their master, on condition of their being received and treated without any resentment on account of their complaint.

Memorandum.—On the 3d June instant, a negress, named *Perrine*, presented herself at this office with a child, whom she stated had died in her arms at two o'clock that morning; declaring at the same time, that the death of her child was caused by ill treatment received from the Sieur Gustave Dumée, of the quarter of Pamplemousses, who, she said, was the father of the infant.

The Protector, viewing the serious nature of this charge, addressed the following Letter to the President of the Tribunal of First Instance:—

Protector of Slaves' Office, 3d June 1830.

Sir,—A negress, named *Perrine*, belonging to the Sieur Gustave Dumée, of Grand Bay, in the quarter of Pamplemousses, having presented herself at my office, charging her master with having been instrumental to the death of her infant child (who expired this morning at two o'clock,) I have the honour to acquaint you with these circumstances, in order that such steps may be taken in the investigation of this case, as you may deem fit; the negress having at the same time declared the said Sieur Dumée to be the father of the infant.

Perrine, with the remains of her child, are now at this office.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(signed) *R. M. Thomas*,
Protector and Guardian of Slave .

To *J. Lefèvre*, Esq.
President of the Tribunal of First Instance.

Upon this an inquest was immediately had upon the body, in the presence of three surgeons, who examined the same, and pronounced it to be their opinion, that the child had died from natural causes, and not from any violence. A procès verbal was then drawn up of all the circumstances, by M. Colin, the Judge named by the President for that purpose, and proceedings were instituted in the Court of First Instance for a further investigation of the affair. These are now in progress through the Court, and will be reported upon when terminated.

The affair being of a criminal nature, and therefore appertaining specially to the duties of the President of the Instance Court, the Protector is unable to report more fully upon it, not having yet received further notification of the proceedings.

Protector of Slaves' Office,
Port Louis, 28th June 1830.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

No. 2.—LIST of COMPLAINTS transmitted by the PROTECTOR and GUARDIAN of SLAVES, to the PROCUREUR GENERAL, for Prosecution, from the 25th of December 1829 to the 24th of June 1830, inclusive.

When Sent.	NAME of S L A V E.	NAME of M A S T E R.	NATURE of C O M P L A I N T.	When brought before the Court.	NATURE of D E C I S I O N.	REMARKS.
1830 :				1830 :		
Feb. - 2	Carlin and Auguste.	-- M. J ⁿ Bernard Silvé Castéré, régisseur on the estate of M. Mazère. (Savanne.)	-- For having put chains on the said Carlin and Auguste, contrary to the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51, and for not having kept a Register Book of Punishments on the Estate: an infraction of the 21st Art. of the Ord. No. 43.	- -	- - -	Not yet brought to trial.
Feb. - 12	Henry -	-- Messrs. Fanchir and Nicolas Neptune. (Rivière Noire.)	-- A contravention of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51, in putting fetters on the said Henry, he being a boy of ten years old.	March 5	-- Fanchir Neptune condemned to a penalty of £. 5 sterling, for not having kept a Register Book of Punishments; and Nicolas Neptune, to £. 2 sterling and costs, for putting chains.	-- The fine for not keeping the Register Book was remitted, and that of £. 2 for the irons imposed.
Feb. - 16	Adèle -	M ^{me} Audebert (Port Louis.)	-- For having inflicted corporal punishment on the said Adèle, an infraction of the 18th Art. of the Ord. No. 43.	- -	- - -	Not yet brought to trial.
- 16	Roméo -	M. Gustave Mayère (Port Louis.)	-- As a contravention of the 5th Art. of the Ord. No. 51, in inflicting twenty-five stripes of a cane on the said slave, immediately after his return from the Bagne Prison, where he had already undergone confinement and corporal punishment for the offence committed.	- -	- - -	- ditto.
Feb. - 19	Cazy -	M. Lambert (Riv. du Rempart.)	-- For having inflicted corporal punishment on the said negress, contrary to the 18th Art. of the Ord. No. 43.	- -	- - -	- ditto.
- 19	Brutus -	M. Cayeux - (Pamplemousses.)	-- Refusing to give the said Brutus the necessary medical assistance required in case of sickness.	- -	- - -	- ditto.
- 19	Louise -	M. Lapière - (Pamplemousses.)	-- As an infraction of the 18th Art. of the Ord. No. 43, in inflicting corporal punishment on the said Louise.	- -	- - -	- ditto.
March - 4	Marie Joseph	M ^{lle} Clarisse Rouillon (Port Louis.)	-- For having inflicted corporal punishment on the said negress, notwithstanding her being in a state of pregnancy: an infraction of the 18th Art. of the Ord. 43.	- -	- - -	- ditto.

No. 2.—LIST of Complaints transmitted for Prosecution, from 25 December 1829 to 24 June 1830—*continued.*

When Sent.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of MASTER.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When brought before the Court.	NATURE of DECISION.	REMARKS.
1830 :				1830 :		
March 19	Simon - -	M. Adolphe Vincent (Pamplemousses.)	--- For having put chains upon the said slave, of a greater weight than is allowed by the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51, and punishing him thereby, for an offence which he had already expiated by a previous punishment, at the Bagne, of thirty days' imprisonment and twenty-five lashes.	- - -	- - -	Not yet brought to trial.
- 19	Frontin - -	M. Mallet - - (Riv. du Rempart.)	-- As an infraction of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51, in putting on the said Frontin a collar and a chain weighing ten pounds.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
- 19	Marie Louise	Mess ^{rs} Desfontaines and Warwick. (Riv. du Rempart.)	--- For having put upon the said negress a chain, attached to a billet of wood: a breach of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
- 19	Aly - - -	M. Marcelin Barry (Flacq.)	-- An infraction of the 5th Art. of Ord. No. 51, in having confined the said Aly in the stocks and in chains, immediately after his return from the Bagne Prison, where he had already undergone confinement and corporal punishment for the offence committed.	- - -	- - -	-- The proceedings in this case stayed by the order of his Excellency the Governor, at the instance of the Protector, for the reasons given in the report of this case in the Appendix, No. 43.
March 20	L'Eveillé - -	M. L. Ténermont, Régisseur of the Estate of M. A. D'Emérez. (Savanne.)	-- For cruel treatment exercised towards the said L'Eveillé: an infraction of the 20th Art. of the Ord. No. 43.	- - -	- - -	Not yet brought to trial.
March 23	Désiré - - -	M. Mazère - - (Port Louis.)	-- A breach of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51, in having put fetters upon the said Désiré.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
March 26	Caroline - -	Mr. W ^m Ellis - (Port Louis.)	-- For having ill treated the said negress, contrary to the 18th Art. of the Ord. No. 43.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
- 26	Mardi - - -	M. Cha ^s Féline, Régisseur of the Estate of M. F ^s Dioré. (Pamplemousses.)	- For having put fetters on the said slave, weighing more than is permitted by the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
March 30	Adonis - - -	Mess ^{rs} Blancard and Thévenin. (Riv. du Rempart.)	-- For having contravened the 5th Art. of the Ord. No. 51, in punishing the said slave, in opposition to an injunction from the Assistant Protector, who, in the examination of a previous complaint from Adonis, found sufficient grounds to induce him to issue the injunction in question; and also for a breach of the 21st Art. of the Ord. No. 43, in not having registered the punishment inflicted upon the said slave.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.

(continued.)

No. 2.—LIST of Complaints transmitted for Prosecution, from 25 December 1829 to 24 June 1830—continued.

When Sent.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of MASTER.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When brought before the Court.	NATURE of DECISION.	REMARKS.
1830 : March 30	Martha -	The Reverend R. E. Jones. (Pamplemousses.)	-- For having infringed the 18th Art. of the Ord. No. 43. in in- flicting corporal pu- nishment on the said Martha.	1830 : May - 3	-- Condemned in the penalty of £. 20 and costs.	
March 31	Baptiste -	M. F. Maugueret - (Port Louis.)	-- For cruelly beating the said Baptiste, con- trary to the 29th Art. of the Ord. No. 43.	- - -	- - -	Not yet brought to Trial.
April - 1	Paya - -	M. Goulamsène - (Port Louis.)	-- For having contra- vened the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51. in putting irons upon Paya, he being under 15 years of age.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
April - 3	Célestin (a boy.) -	M. M ^r Daumont - (Riv. du Rempart.)	-- For cruelty, in burn- ing the said slave with a lighted brand, con- trary to the 29th Art. of the Ord. No. 43.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
April - 7	Julien - -	M. Osughrue - (Pamplemousses.)	-- For having put on the said slave a chain, weighing more than is permitted by the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
April - 14	Jean François	M. B ^{an} Marquet - (Grand Port.)	-- An infraction of the 29th Art. of the Ord. No. 43. in cruelly beating the said slave.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
April - 20	Adolphe -	M. Baptiste Ithier (Flacq.)	-- A breach of the same Art. of Ord. No. 43. in violently beating the said Adol- phe with a stick.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
May - 3	Désiré - -	M. Vasseur - - (Port Louis.)	-- A contravention of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51. in putting a greater weight of chains upon the slave than is permitted by law.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
May - 6	Pierre - -	M. Maure - - - and hired to M. Dioré, the baker. (Port Louis.)	-- An infraction of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51. in putting upon the said slave a greater weight of chains than is permitted by law.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.
May - 18	Maingard -	M. Joseph Collard (Port Louis.)	-- For having put chains upon the said slave, he being under 15 years of age; a breach of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51.	- - -	- - -	- ditto.

No. 2.—LIST of Complaints transmitted for Prosecution, from 25 December 1829 to 24 June 1830—*continued.*

When Sent.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of MASTER.	NATURE of COMPLAINT.	When brought before the Court.	NATURE of DECISION.	REMARKS.
1830 : June - 1	Alexandrine -	Mad ^{lle} Eliza Salomon (Port Louis.)	-- For having inflicted corporal punishment on the said negress, an infraction of the 18th Art. of the Ord. No. 43.	- -	- - -	Not yet brought to Trial.
- 1	Valentin -	M. Louis Simon - (Port Louis.)	-- A contravention of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51. in putting irons upon the said slave, he being under 15 years of age.	- -	- - -	- ditto.
June - 9	Michel -	Mad ^{lle} Hermise - (Port Louis.)	-- For having put on the said slave, fetters weighing more than is permitted by the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51.	- -	- - -	- ditto.
June - 24	Julier -	M. François - the Overseer of the Vicar Apostolic. (Pamplemousses.)	-- For having contravened the 29th Art. of the Ord. No. 43, in violently beating the said slave with a stick.	- -	- - -	- ditto.
- 24	Fanny -	M ^{me} V ^{ve} Macé - (Port Louis.)	-- An infraction of the 2d Art. of the Ord. No. 51. in putting fetters on the said negress.	- -	- - -	- ditto.

Protector of Slaves' Office, }
Port Louis, 28th June 1830. }

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

No. 3.—RETURN of CRIMINAL ACTIONS against SLAVES, of which Notice was
between the 25th of December 1829 and the

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

DATE of Notice to the Protector.	DATE of T R I A L.	NAME of S L A V E.	NAME of P R O P R I E T O R.	By whom Prosecuted.		
1829 :	1830 :					
Dec. - 12	- -	Mercure - -	M. Staub - -	Ministère Public -		
Dec. - 19	- -	Michel Florimond Castor Alcidor Espérance Télémac - -	Various Masters - -	ditto - -		
1830 :						
Jan. - 5	- -	Virginie Charles Pierre Jeannette Eufrosine - -			M. Bachet - - M. Cherval - - M. Fontenay - - M ^{me} Bertrand - - M. Bertrand - -	ditto - -
Jan. - 8	May - 1	Basile Jean Charles - -			M. Lagesse - - M. Lemesle - - M. Gille - -	ditto - -
Jan. - 11	- 1	Marie Fortuné - -			M. Josset - - Mag ^{te} Condé - -	ditto - -
- 11	March 6	Jean Marie - -			Fortuné Martin - -	ditto - -
Jan. - 12	- -	Riffar - -	M. Tissier - -	ditto - -		
Jan. - 13	- -	Alexis and Azor - -	Various Masters - -	ditto - -		
Jan. - 16	Feb. - 12	Henry - -			Antelme & Co. - -	ditto - -
Jan. - 19	- 12	Auguste - -	M ^{me} St Félix - -	ditto - -		
Feb. - 1	- 5	Edouard - -	Governm ^t (Mon Plaisir)	ditto - -		
Feb. - 3	- 19	Félix and Julien - -	M. Touche - -	M. Berrard - -		
Feb. - 4	- 5	Hypolite - -	M. Mourga - -	Ministère Public -		

given to the PROTECTOR, tried before the Courts of First Instance and of Appeal, 24th of June 1830, with the Results thereof.

NATURE of OFFENCE.	SENTENCE.	REMARKS.
Burglary - - -	- - - - -	{-- Slave in prison seven months, without being yet brought to trial.
{Stealing and slaying a Bullock - - }	- - - - -	{Same—slaves in prison eight months.
{Attempt to poison, and arson - - }	- - - - -	Same—slaves in prison six months.
{Highway Robbery and attempt to murder -	{-- Basile convicted and sentenced to two years chains; Jean and Charles acquitted -	{-- These slaves were arrested in September 1829; not brought to trial until May 1, 1830; and then, without any notification of it to the Protector, two of them were acquitted after eight months' imprisonment, and one found guilty.
Robbery - - -	{-- Marie convicted and sentenced to two years' chains; Fortune acquitted - - -	{No notice of trial given to the Protector in this case.
Murder - - -	{-- Acquitted; reserving a right to Fortuné Martin to proceed against his slave for perjury and false accusation.	
Robbery - - -	- - - - -	Slave escaped, and is since dead.
Stealing a Calf - - -	- - - - -	{-- Slaves arrested in October 1829; no notice of further proceedings served on the Protector.
Assault - - -	- - - - -	{-- Trial was fixed for the 12th February, but postponed, the slave being a maroon.
Assault - - -	- - - - -	{-- Trial was fixed for the 12th February, but postponed; no notice of further proceedings given to the Protector.
{Robbery; privately stealing - - -	{-- Sentenced to four months' imprisonment, costs, and restitution of stolen property.	
{Assault on plaintiff's slaves - - -	{Julien sentenced to 15 days' prison, and Félix acquitted -	{-- The Sieur Touche was also implicated in the assault, and condemned in the fine of \$60.
Goat Stealing - - -	{Sentenced to two months' imprisonment.	

(continued.)

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

No. 3.—Return of Criminal Actions against Slaves. &c. - - - -

DATE of Notice to the Protector.	DATE of TRIAL.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of PROPRIETOR.	By whom Prosecuted.
1830:	1830:			
Feb. - 5	- - -	Augustin - - } Zélie, and - - } Marie Louise - }	M ^{me} Labaure D'Arifat	Ministère Public -
Feb. - 8	Feb. - 9	René - - - } Pierre Louis - } Paya - - - }	M ^{me} Sturbell - - } M. Loustau - - } M ^{me} Duquillo - - }	- - ditto - -
Feb. - 11	- - -	L'Amour - - -	M. Husson - - -	- - ditto - -
March - 1	- - -	Clytus - - -	M. Marchand - - -	- - ditto - -
Feb. - 17	Feb. 19	Simon - - -	M. A. D'Epiny - - -	- - ditto - -
Feb. - 25	- 26	Adeline - - -	Succ ^{or} Moniot - - -	- - ditto - -
March - 3	March 5	César - - - } Mardi, and - - } Auguste - - - }	M. Chauvet - - -	- - ditto - -
March - 6	- 12	Etienne - - - } Lafleur - - - } Donis - - - }	Various Masters - - -	- - ditto - -
- 6	- 12	Azenor - - -	M. Collard - - -	- - ditto - -
- 6	- 12	Two Slaves (names not mentioned) }	M. L'Artigues - - -	- - ditto - -
- 6	- - -	Paul - - - } L'Eveillé - - - }	M ^{me} Assema - - - } M. Lafond - - - }	- - ditto - -
March 10	- 12	Germeuil - - -	M. P. D'Emerz - - -	- - ditto - -
March 11	- 12	Hypolite - - -	M. Vegrange - - -	- - ditto - -
March 13	- - -	Indigo - - - } Basile, and - - } Antoine - - - }	Gallet & Co. - - -	- - ditto - -
March 22	March 26	Jean Baptiste - - -	M. B. Enouf - - -	- - ditto - -
March 24	- 26	Simon - - -	M. Wicha - - -	- - ditto - -
- 24	- - -	Felix - - - } Ravala - - - }	M. Gratelorys - - -	- - ditto - -
March 26	- - -	Patrick O'Calaghan	M. Dick - - -	- - ditto - -
March 27	- - -	Uranie - - - } Charles - - - } Nelson - - - } Jean Lamarre - - }	M ^{me} César - - - } Sieur Rochery - - } — Ed ^d Vinay - - } A free man - - - }	- - ditto - -

between 25th December 1829 and 24th June 1830—continued.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

NATURE of OFFENCE.	SENTENCE.	REMARKS.
{ Attempt to poison their mistress - }	- - - - -	{ -- Slaves arrested in January; no notice of further proceedings received; supposed not to have been yet tried.
Burglary - - -	Acquitted - - - - -	{ Paya defended by Protector's counsel, an alibi being proved.
{ Robbery in a dwelling- house - - - }	{ Convicted, and sentenced to four years' chains - - }	{ No notice of trial given to the Protector.
{ Murder of a negress of his master's - }	Sentenced to death - - -	{ -- Sentence of death reversed in the Court of Appeal, and twenty years' chains substituted, on the ground of insufficiency of proof of premeditation. No notice of first trial given to the Protector.
Rape - - -	{ Sentenced to one year's impris- onment, and flagellation - }	{ Confirmed in the Court of Ap- peal.
Privately stealing -	- - - - -	Still pending.
Stealing deal boards	{ -- César and Mardi acquitted; Auguste convicted, and sen- tenced to one month's impris- onment.	
Stealing "Bardeaux"	{ -- Two first acquitted. Donis sentenced to one month's impris- onment and restitution of property, and costs.	
{ -- Menacing and in- solence to two inha- bitants, named Pois- son and Baouton - }	One month's chains, and thirty stripes.	
{ Assault on M. Mon- voisin - - - }	Acquitted.	
Robbery at Mr. Black's	- - - - -	Still pending.
{ Stealing plate, 82d Regiment - - }	{ Sentenced to three months' im- prisonment.	
Stealing a watch -	Acquitted.	
Arson - - -	- - - - -	Still pending.
{ Assault on a slave, named Camille - }	- - - - -	- ditto.
Privately stealing -	{ Sentenced to two months' im- prisonment - - - }	{ -- This slave was arrested on Oct. 17, 1829; brought to trial, and ac- quitted, 12th March 1830; yet not discharged from prison until the 16th April, after having been de- tained 35 days after his acquittal.
Burglary - - -	- - - - -	Still pending.
Assault - - -	- - - - -	- ditto.
Burglary - - -	- - - - -	- ditto.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

No. 3.—Return of Criminal Actions against Slaves, &c. - - - -

DATE of Notice to the Protector.	DATE of TRIAL.	NAME of S L A V E.	NAME of P R O P R I E T O R.	By whom Prosecuted.
1830 : March 29	1830 : - -	Marie - - - Fortuné - - -	M ^{me} Josset - - M ^{lle} Mag ^{te} Condé - -	Ministère Public -
- 29	- -	Silvain - - -	Sieur Fortier - -	- - ditto - -
March 31	April 17	Frontin - - -	M. Liénard - - -	- - ditto - -
- 31	- 2	Théodore - - J ^a Pierre Dorval - -	M. Geoffroy - - Government - -	- - ditto - -
- 31	- 2	Louis - - -	Government - -	- - ditto - -
April - 16	- 17	Baciou Zammon - Baderdy - -	Divers Masters - -	- - ditto - -
April - 19	- -	Paya - - -	M. Bourg ^h Ducoudray	- - ditto - -
April - 22	- 30	Vendredi - - Fidelle - - François - -	Mess ^{rs} Mée & Co. - Government - - M. Simanundé - -	- - ditto - -
April - 24	- -	Auguste - - Thomy - - Lindor - -	V ^o Daruty - - Sieur Kerven - - — Séries - -	- - ditto - -
- 24	- -	Alexis - - Azor - -	Yvon Lamy - - Céline Cherson - -	- - ditto - -
April - 28	- -	Emile and Louis - Cotte - - Thomy - - Jean Baptiste - -	Mess ^{rs} Douchin - Government - - M. Duperrel - - Main Miguel - -	- - ditto - -
- 28	Feb. - 4	Hercule - - -	M. Le Chartien - -	- - ditto - -
April - 29	- -	Thérésia and } Azémia - -	M. Michel - - -	- - ditto - -
May - 1	May - 3	Figaro - - - Isidore - - - Caprice - - -	M. Pastourel - - M. Fleuriot - -	- - ditto - -
- 1	- 3	Malgache - - -	M. Lay - - -	- - ditto - -
May - 6	- 7	Isidore - - -	Veuve Daruty - -	- - ditto - -
May - 11	- -	Persons unknown	- - - -	- - ditto - -

- - - between 25th December 1829 and 24th June 1830—continued.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

NATURE of OFFENCE.	SENTENCE.	REMARKS.
Robbery - -	{ Reported in p. 302 of this Return.	
Robbery - -	- - - - -	Still pending.
Burglary - -	Sentenced to one year's chains	Appealed from, but not tried.
Robbery and Burglary	{ -- Both convicted, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and restitution of the stolen property.	
Robbery - -	- - - - -	Still pending.
{ Assault upon a negress, named Julie -	Acquitted.	
Burglary - -	Sentenced to three months' chains	{ -- Arrested in June 1829; not tried till February 1830; declared not guilty of the burglary, but of larceny. No notice of trial given to the Protector.
Burglary - -	{ -- Vendredi and François convicted and sentenced to three months' chains, and restitution of property, and costs. Fidelle acquitted.	
Goat stealing - -	- - - - -	Still pending.
Cattle stealing -	Sentenced to three months' chains	{ -- Arrested in September 1829. Azor died in prison. Alexis tried 30th March. No notice of trial given to the Protector.
{ Burglary in the shop of M. Douchin -	- - - - -	Still pending
Poisoning - -	Acquitted - - - -	{ No notice of trial given to the Protector.
{ Attempt to murder M. Michel's child -	- - - - -	Still pending.
Highway robbery -	{ Three months' imprisonment, and restitution of property -	{ -- A free man, of the name of Duchène, was also implicated in the assault, as receiver, but acquitted.
Goat stealing - -	{ Sentenced to two years' imprisonment.	
Highway robbery -	{ -- Condemned, in August 1829, to two years' imprisonment, by the Court of First Instance -	Confirmed by the Court of Appeal, in May 1830.
{ Burglary in the Protector's office -	- - - - -	{ -- The burglars not discovered; preliminary proceedings gone through in case of discovery. The object appears to have been to get at papers.

(continued.)

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

No. 3.—Return of Criminal Actions against Slaves, &c. - - - -

DATE of Notice to the Protector.	DATE of TRIAL.	NAME of S L A V E.	NAME of P R O P R I E T O R.	By whom Prosecuted.
1830:	1830:			
May - 11	- -	Songor - -	M. Desfontaine - -	Ministère Public
May - 14	- -	Lahade - -	Government apprentice, in the service of Cap. Longmore -	- ditto -
May - 21	- -	Barretts - -	M. Germain - -	- ditto -
June - 2	June 4	Benoit - - Manuel - - Vendredi - -	M. Tremould - - M. Khalanee - -	- ditto -
June - 4	- -	Jean - -	M. J. P. Lagesse - -	- ditto -
June 9	June 11	Victor - -	Roslie Duverger - -	- ditto -
- 9	- 11	Gustave - - Frédéric - - Nicotte - - Marcelin - - Fanchir - - Firmir - -	Various Masters - -	- ditto -
- 9	- 11	Jean François - -	M. Corpet - -	- ditto -
June - 21	- -	Sans Souci - -	M. Noël - -	- ditto -
- 21	- -	Manuel - - Télémaque - -	M. Regnaud - - M. Jumsau - -	- ditto -
June - 24	- -	Jean - -	M. Darsac - -	- ditto -
- 24	- -	Hypolite - -	M. Sirret - -	- ditto -
- 24	- -	Barrack - -	M. Tielleman - -	- ditto -

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, }
28th June 1830.

- - - between 25th December 1829 and 24th June 1830—*continued.*

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

NATURE of OFFENCE.	SENTENCE.	REMARKS.
Highway robbery - - - - -	- - - - -	Still pending.
Murder - - - - -	- - - - -	- ditto.
Horse stealing -	- - - - -	- ditto.
{--Stealing vegetables, and assault by the two latter on the former -	- - - - -	- ditto.
Burglary - - - - -	- - - - -	-- Arrested in June 1829, and not brought to trial yet.
Robbery - - - - -	} One month's imprisonment, with restitution of property -	-- A free man (a Musician), who had caused this assemblage of the blacks, was fined 20 \$ for having done so.
{-- Riot, and disturb- ing the public peace in a ball room, where they and other slaves had congregated.	} Firmir and Fancheir 25 lashes each, the others acquitted -	
{-- Assault on the slave drivers of a wag- gon belonging to M. Brouard - - - - -	- - - - -	{-- Still pending. Three free- men named Joseph L'Amour, Voley François, and Azenor, were all implicated in the assault.
Rape - - - - -	- - - - -	Still pending.
Burglary - - - - -	- - - - -	- ditto.
Robbery - - - - -	- - - - -	- ditto.
- ditto - - - - -	- - - - -	- ditto.
- ditto - - - - -	- - - - -	- ditto.

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of SlavesNo. 4.—LIST of CONFIRMATIVE ACTS of ENFRANCHISEMENT,
between the 24th December 1829

Number in the Protector's Office.	No. in the Chief Secretary's Office.	DATE of Enfranchise- ment.	NAME of MASTER, or PERSON ENFRANCHISING.	NAME of SLAVE.	AGE.
201	64	1829: Dec. 20	Font, aîné - - -	{ Cécilia Mariette - - Adolphe Mariette - - Clara Mariette - -	{ 23 4 1
202	65	Dec. 21	Mad ^e V ^r e Gachet - - -	Augustin Saint - - -	53
203	66	— 21	Jean Charles - - -	Marion Clémentine - -	51
204	67	— 21	Héloïse Mathieu - -	Céline Françoise - -	54
205	68	— 21	Laurent Barbé - - -	Mélanie Delort - - -	51
206	69	— 21	Jean Marie Barclay - -	{ Clarisse Arlove - - - Ernest Arlove - - - Emilien Arlove - - -	{ 32 10 16 ^{mths}
207	70	Dec. 24	Valentin Keating - -	Emilie Valentin - - -	46 yrs.
208	71	— 24	By the Protector - -	{ Amédée Zamor - - - Thomy Zamor - - -	{ 26 24
209	72	— 24	M ^l e Joseph V ^r e Labutte	Jérôme Bibiche - - -	11
210	563	Oct. 8	Pierre Kercelin - - -	Honorine Luzardin - -	25
211	73	Dec. 24	Morin de Lasablionière -	Nérée Verloppe - - -	51
212	74	— 24	René Jubeau - - -	Basile Aristide - - -	43
213	75	— 24	V ^r e Poisson - - -	Marguerite, dite Poisson	61
214	76	Dec. 31	Le C ^{te} Dugarreau de St. Aulaire.	{ Hippolite Lebon - - - Athanas Serieuse - - - Eugénie Serieuse - - - Théodore Serieuse - - -	{ 39 47 46 2
215	77	— 31	{ Louise aff ^l e Adélaïde Mayeur - - -	{ Jean Jacques - - - Jean Pierre - - -	{ 26 23
216	78	— 31	Beaugeard - - -	{ Argentine Antoinette - - Emilien Antoinette - -	{ 20 3
217	79	— 31	Jean Baptiste Duval - -	Remond Bienaimé - - -	29
218	80	— 31	Jean Baptiste Papein - -	{ Eugène Beauharnais - - Louise Beauharnais - - Henry Beauharnais - - Eliza Beauharnais - -	{ 15 12 10 8
219	81	— 31	Jean Eugène Duval - -	Flore Bienaimée - - -	63
220	82	1830: Jan. 4	Edouard Barbancé - -	Louise Marie - - -	28
221	83	— 4	M ^l le Hélène Lisle - - -	Michael Narcisse - - -	24
222	84	— 4	Joseph Laguerre - - -	Zéline Adelle - - -	28
223	85	— 4	M ^l le Rosalie Marquay - -	Eliza Marie - - -	25
224	86	Jan. 11	Marion Lapeyre - - -	Felicité Discret - - -	20
225	87	— 11	Joseph Mathurin - -	{ Pelagie Jeanneton - - Héloïse Jeanneton - -	{ 58 18
226	88	— 11	Pierre Chapron - - -	Sophie Chapron - - -	58
227	89	— 11	Mad ^e Nolin - - -	Noël Joseph Elisée - -	8 mths.
228	90	— 11	Mad ^e V ^r e Hesry - - -	Frédéric Alcide - - -	3 yrs.
229	91	Jan. 16	Comte - - -	Caroline François - -	34
230	92	— 16	Cotte - - -	Célerine Rencontre - -	40
231	93	— 16	Antoine Bamboux & Bibi	Rozette Bamboux - - -	71
232	94	— 16	Jean Antoine - - -	Zaire Marie - - -	55
233	95	— 16	Jeffroy & Lepoullie - -	Jardin Fleuri - - -	43

registered in the Protector and Guardian of Slaves' Office,
and the 24th June 1830 inclusive.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

CASTE.	When received at the Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	REMARKS.
Creoles -	1830: January 2	1830: January 4	1830: January 4	Deed of gift of owner.
Indien -	— 2	— 4	— 4	450 dollars.
Indienne -	— 2	— 4	— 4	80 dollars.
Indienne -	— 2	— 4	— 4	-- Her mother-in-law was her owner, and freed her from affection.
Creole -	— 2	— 4	— 4	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles -	— 2	— 4	— 4	-- His sister and nephews, and freed by him from affec- tion.
Creole -	— 2	— 4	— 4	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles -	— 2	— 4	— 4	-- Purchased by their father Zamor; dead at Madagas- car.
Creoles des Seychelles.	— 2	— 4	— 4	By the will of late V ^e Labutte, of Seychelles.
Creole -	January 5	January 5	January 5	350 dollars.
Creole -	January 11	January 11	January 12	500 dollars.
Creole -	— 11	— 11	— 12	Deed of gift of owner.
Indienne -	— 11	— 11	— 12	120 dollars.
Creoles -	January 19	January 19	January 20	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles -	— 19	— 19	— 20	Maternal affection.
Creoles -	— 19	— 19	— 20	-- 850 dollars paid by the manumittor, for the purpose of enfranchising them, as an act of benevolence.
Creole -	— 19	— 19	— 20	By the will of late J. B. Duval.
Creoles -	— 19	— 19	— 20	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	— 19	— 19	— 20	- - - ditto.
Creole -	— 19	— 19	— 20	- - - ditto.
Creole -	— 19	— 19	— 20	Fraternal affection.
Malaise -	— 19	— 19	— 20	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	— 19	— 19	— 20	- - - ditto.
Creole -	— 19	— 19	— 20	-- 700 dollars; her grand- daughter. This sum paid by the grandmother for her li- berty.
Indienne -	— 19	— 19	— 20	Being his mother and sister; freed from affection.
Creole -	— 19	— 19	— 20	140 dollars.
Indienne -	January 25	February 1	February 2	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	— 25	— 1	— 2	- - - ditto.
Creole -	— 25	— 1	— 2	- - - ditto.
Malgache -	— 25	— 1	— 2	300 dollars.
Malgache -	— 25	— 1	— 2	356 dollars.
Mozambique -	— 25	— 1	— 2	Deed of gift of owner.
Indienne -	— 25	— 1	— 2	Parental affection.
Indien -	— 25	— 1	— 2	400 dollars.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

No. 4.—LIST of Confirmative Acts

Number in the Protector's Office.	No. in the Chief Secretary's Office.	DATE of Enfranchisement.	NAME of MASTER, or PERSON ENFRANCHISING.	NAME of SLAVE.	AGE.
1830 :					
234	96	Jan. 16	Pipon's Heirs - -	{ Aurélie Perrine - - Ernestine Marie - -	19 5 ^{mts}
235	97	— 16	Pas de Beaulieu - -	{ Colas Jupiter - - Fanchette Jupiter - - Jean Jupiter - -	58 ^{yrs} 9 5
236	98	— 16	Anne Marie - -	Colas François - -	63
237	99	— 16	J ⁿ Aug. Armand Hermans	Gertrude Labeuglose - -	51
238	100	— 16	D ^{lle} Sophie Roussel - -	Dafnie Françoise - -	49
239	101	Jan. 22	M ^{me} V ^e Sergent Pasquet	Pierre Fidel - -	16
240	102	— 22	Late M ^{me} Roblet - -	Chérubin, dit Roblet - -	50
241	103	— 22	M ^{me} Azor Orange - -	Arthémise Mirza - -	43
242	104	— 22	Eugénie Guillaume - -	Zélide Nelson - -	53
243	105	— 22	Louis Roche - -	{ Jean Baptiste - - Caroline Baptiste - -	23 19
244	106	— 22	William Herod - -	Jean Emile - -	26
245	107	— 22	Charlotte Mouna - -	Augustin Javotte - -	10
246	108	— 22	Emilie Camoin - -	Henriette Julie - -	49
247	109	— 22	J ⁿ B ^e S ^t Amour - -	François Labonté - -	33
248	110	— 22	Betty, aff ^{ie} Buttié - -	Denis Balthazard - -	63
249	111	Jan. 28	P. Sicard - -	Eliza Liberté - -	14
250	112	— 28	Henry Santussan - -	Marie Thérèse Mimie - - Marie Uranie Prioux - -	30 13
251	113	— 28	Pedre Prioux - -	{ Emilien Prioux - - Gustave Prioux - - Ernest Prioux - - Léontine Prioux - -	11 9 7 5
252	114	— 28	Perrier - -	Volsy Manancorive - -	15 ^{mths}
353	115	— 28	Charles Pauquy - -	{ Amanda Pomone - - Alphonse Nancy - -	5 ^{yrs} 2½
254	116	— 28	M ^{me} Hardy, née Lucas - -	{ Delphine Hade - - Charlotte Hade - - Jean Hade - -	45 10 9
255	117	— 28	M ^{me} V ^e Bolle - -	{ Jean Louis Prosper - - François - -	8 ^{mths}
256	118	— 28	Nicolas Pugin - -	{ Léscadie Yvonne - - Marie Yvonne - -	20 ^{yrs} 6 ^{mths}
257	119	— 28	{ Late M ^{lle} Elizabeth Broudou - -	{ Louison Liberté - - Eulalie Liberté - - Jacob Liberté - - Frédéric Liberté - - Joseph Liberté - - Caroline Liberté - - Pauline Liberté - - Mélanie Carcelle - - Eliza Carcelle - - Charles Carcelle - - Felix Carcelle - -	52 ^{yrs} 37 16 18 11 9 6 35 14 10 8
258	120	Jan. 30	Hippolite Fabre - -	Antoine Mongout - -	50
259	121	— 30	Sur. int. of the Matricule	Marcelin Jeanny - -	36
260	122	— 30	Pierre Chochot - -	Eugène Laura - -	11
261	123	— 30	M ^{me} Reader, née Rivière	Armand Lizée - -	3

of Enfranchisement, &c.—*continued.*

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

CASTE.	When received at the Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	REMARKS.
	1830:	1830:	1830:	
Creoles -	January 25	February 1	February 2	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles -	— 25	— 1	— 2	--- ditto.
Indien -	— 25	— 1	— 2	Filial affection.
Mozambique -	Feb. 3	Feb. 3	Feb. 4	Deed of gift of owner.
Indienne -	— 3	— 3	— 4	--- ditto.
Creole -	— 3	— 3	— 4	--- ditto.
Indien -	— 3	— 3	— 4	--- ditto.
Creole -	— 3	— 3	— 4	300 dollars.
Indienne -	— 3	— 3	— 4	-- 100 dollars and filial affection; the daughter having purchased her mother's freedom for this sum.
Creoles -	— 3	— 3	— 4	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	— 3	— 3	— 4	-- 60 dollars, the slave being lame, but able to get his livelihood at his trade of shoemaker.
Creole -	— 3	— 3	— 4	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	— 3	— 3	— 4	--- ditto.
Indien -	Feb. 8	Feb. 11	Feb. 12	By the will of late J ^a B ^{te} S ^c Amour.
Malgache -	— 8	— 11	— 12	With the view to marry the said Denis.
Creole -	— 8	— 11	— 12	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	— 8	— 11	— 12	300 dollars.
Creoles -	— 8	— 11	— 12	Paternal affection.
Creole -	— 8	— 11	— 12	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles -	— 8	— 11	— 12	--- ditto.
Creoles -	— 8	— 11	— 12	400 dollars.
Creole -	— 8	— 11	— 12	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles -	— 8	— 11	— 12	--- ditto.
Malgache -	— 8	— 11	— 12	By the will of late M ^{lle} Broudou.
Creole -				
Creole -				
Creole -				
Creole -				
Creole -				
Creole -				
Creole -				
Indien -	Feb. 13	Feb. 16	Feb. 17	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	— 13	— 16	— 17	400 dollars, paid to Government.
Creole -	— 13	— 16	— 17	-- 100 dollars; paternal affection; bought by her father, to be enfranchised.
Creole -	— 13	— 16	— 17	Deed of gift of owner.

(continued)

No. 4.—List of Confirmative Acts

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Number in the Protector's Office.	No. in the Chief Secretary's Office.	DATE of Enfranchise- ment.	NAME of MASTERS or PERSON ENFRANCHISING.	NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.
262	124	1830 : Jan. 30	Therèsè Flammand -	{ Marie Flammand - Delphine Flammand - Marie Joseph Labonne -	{ 36 11 29
263	125	— 30	Jean Joseph Manique -	{ Joseph Labonne - Virgile Labonne - Charlotte Labonne -	{ 9 6 4
264	5	1829 : Nov. 2	Pierre Féline -	{ Giloune Venus - Céphise Venus -	{ 33 9
265	126	1830 : Feb. 5	Domingue, aff ^{le} Marguerite	Jeanneton Batin -	62
266	127	— 5	Bastienne -	René Labroche -	38
267	128	— 5	Etienne Dupuy -	Blaise Martial -	52
268	129	— 5	Fanchin Lagrenade -	Olivette Henriette -	20
269	130	— 5	Port Louis -	Melise Souci -	11
270	131	— 5	Joseph Pottier -	{ Sophie Bristol - Rachelle Bristol -	{ 4 2
271	132	— 5	{ Mad ^e Lefebure Marcy, née Quincy -	Casimir Rievumé -	15
272	133	— 5	Jean Elie -	Larose Epine -	-
273	134	— 5	Amadie -	{ Charlotte Deguera Alphonse Deguera	{ 12 7
274	135	— 5	Maria -	Rosine Maria -	24
275	136	— 5	Charlotte Zoe -	Hélène Bistoquette -	24
276	137	— 5	Mad ^e V ^e Duvay -	Athanase Thébeau -	45
277	138	— 5	Mathieu Gust -	Jacques Edmond -	18
278	139	Feb. 12	Perrine Jubeau -	Félix Jacques -	34
279	140	— 12	Cotte D'Estrein -	{ Eliza Belœil - Louise Belœil -	{ 20 1
280	141	— 12	Esther Cupide -	Emilien Marianne -	9
281	142	— 12	Auguste Rouget -	{ Babet Isabelle - Blaise Isabelle - Isoline Isabelle -	{ 28 6 4½
282	143	— 12	Silvert Aubert -	{ Betty Marie - Hortensia Marie -	{ 24 6
283	144	— 12	Poumaroux -	Marie Louis -	8
284	145	— 12	Jean Bernard -	Juliette Joliette -	32
285	146	— 12	Cathérine Clarisse (Heirs)	{ Mélanie Rosa - Françoise Euphrasie Rosa	{ 44 14
286	147	— 12	François -	Marie Rose -	11
287	148	— 12	Héloïse Abeylard -	Brigitte Abeylard -	10
288	149	Feb. 18	V ^e Prosper Boulbar -	Pierre Dangu -	33
289	150	— 18	J. Diore -	Caroline Marie -	43
290	151	— 18	Mélanie Cazélin -	Auguste Melanie -	32
291	152	— 18	Veuve Guillemin -	Perrine Lajeune -	47
292	153	— 18	Jean François Arnaud -	Casimir Léon -	41
293	154	— 18	Mad ^e V ^e Solminihac -	Alcide Sophie -	6 m ^{ths}
294	155	— 18	Mad ^e V ^e Rolando (Heirs)	Céleste Philo -	43 yrs.
295	156	— 18	Mad ^e Diard V ^e Hugon	Adrien Evenor Pataud -	16 m ^{ths}

of Enfranchisement, &c.—continued.

PART V

Report from Protector of Slaves.

CASTE.	When received at the Protector's Office.		When Registered.		When Delivered.		REMARKS.
Creoles -	1830 : Feb.	13	1830 : Feb.	16	1830 : Feb.	17	Maternal affection.
Creoles -	—	13	—	16	—	17	88 dollars; these individuals being his wife and children.
Creoles -	Feb.	18	Feb.	18	Feb.	18	Deed of gift of owner.
Mozambique-Creole of Seychelles.	—	18	—	18	May	15	--The documents necessary to the enfranchisement of these individuals, having been transmitted from Seychelles without any declaration of the motive for enfranchising, the same must remain unknown until an answer from the parties, to an application made by the Protector, shall be received.
Indien -	—	18	—	18	—	15	
Creole of Seychelles.	—	18	—	18	—	15	
- - ditto	—	18	—	18	—	15	
- - ditto	—	18	—	18	—	15	
Mozambique-Creoles of Seychelles	—	18	—	18	—	15	
- - ditto	—	18	—	18	—	15	
Malgache Creole	—	18	—	18	—	15	
Creole of Seychelles.	—	18	—	18	—	15	
Creole -	March	2	March	2	March	4	
Creoles -	—	2	—	2	—	4	-- His daughter-in-law enfranchised from motives of affection.
Creole -	—	2	—	2	—	4	-- 100 dollars, and her son (this sum paid by the mother for her child.)
Creoles -	—	2	—	2	—	4	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles -	—	2	—	2	—	4	Paternal affection.
Creole -	—	2	—	2	—	4	-- 130 dollars, paid by the father, Villemont, for his child.
Creole -	—	2	—	2	—	4	Deed of gift of owner.
Indienne -	—	2	—	2	—	4	} Filial affection.
Creole -	—	2	—	2	—	4	
Creole -	—	2	—	2	—	4	-- 140 dollars, and paternal affection, the father having paid this sum for his child.
Creole -	—	2	—	2	—	4	-- 130 dollars, and Brigitte, being her sister; this amount was paid to her former owner by Héloïse.
Creole -	—	2	—	2	—	4	Maternal affection.
Indienne -	—	2	—	2	—	4	52 dollars.
Creole -	March	12	March	15	March	16	Maternal affection.
Creole -	—	12	—	15	—	16	-- 100 dollars, for the purpose of enfranchising herself.
Mozambique-Creole -	—	12	—	15	—	16	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	—	12	—	15	—	16	- - - ditto.
Creole -	—	12	—	15	—	16	- - - ditto.
Creole -	—	12	—	15	—	16	- - - ditto.

(continued.)

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

No. 4.—List of Confirmative Acts

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

Number in the Protector's Office.	No. in the Chief Secretary's Office.	DATE of Enfranchise- ment.	NAME OF MASTER, or PERSON ENFRANCHISING.	NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.
		1830:			
296	157	Feb. 18	By Government - -	{ Virginie Couronne - - Josephine Couronne - - Marie Thérèse Couronne Colon Couronne - -	{ 27 7 4 2 }
296	157	— 18	By Government - -	{ Marguerite Perrine - - Célestin Polidore Perrine	{ 23 29 ^{mo} }
297	158	— 18	M. Guillemeau - -	{ Louis L'Evillé - - Céleste L'Evillé - - Eugène L'Evillé - - Alfred L'Evillé - - Louis L'Evillé - -	{ 47 y ^r 44 19 18 9 }
298	159	March 1	Jean Jacques Lebrun -	Honorine Cathérine	35
299	160	— 1	Félicité Dubourg -	Auguste Julien -	33
300	161	— 1	Alexis Pierre - -	Georgette Cécile -	11
301	162	— 1	Philomèle Grangé -	Edward Delson Marie -	8 m ^{ths}
302	163	— 1	Marie Henriette Marthe	Marie Marthe - -	62 y ^{rs}
303	164	— 1	M ^{me} Hoquet - -	{ Lise Louise - - Sidonie Louise - - Georgette Jeanne - -	{ 5 3 31 }
304	165	— 1	{ D ^{lle} Adélaïde Descham- beaux - - - -	{ Ecorice Jeanne - - Caroline Jeanne - - Philippe Jeanne - - Toinette Appoline - - Uranie Appoline - - Angéline Appoline - -	{ 10 3 28 ^{mo} 29 y ^{rs} 13 11 }
305	166	— 1	Henry Monet - -	{ Arthémise Appoline - - Henry Appoline - - Frédéric Appoline - - Evenor Jules Appoline -	{ 9 7 5 2 ½ }
306	167	Mar 10	Pierre Denis - -	Nice Bellehumeur - -	26
307	168	— 10	Charles Lolotte - -	Flore Flora - -	43
308	169	— 10	Delphine Demay - -	Françoise Marie - -	53
309	170	— 10	Mathurin Joseph - -	Antoine Basile - -	15
310	171	— 10	Thomy Latour - -	Adolphe Lebeau - -	29
311	172	— 10	Laurent Pastourel -	Pierre Jacques François	31
312	173	— 10	Pierre Aubin - -	Samedi Jean Louis - -	48
313	174	— 10	Eulalie Rougé - -	Charles Noël - -	14
314	175	Mar. 11	François Courtois -	François Libre - -	9
315	176	— 11	Pierre A. Bocqué - -	Estelle Raoul - -	7
316	177	— 11	{ Philante Ex. Test. de J ^s Quinon - - - -	{ Victoire Barthazure - -	{ - -
317	178	— 11	Charles Pascaye - -	{ Julie Jeanne - - Aimée Jeanne - -	{ 39 6 }
318	179	— 11	M ^{me} V ^e Louis Mondon	Rozette Darut - -	58
319	180	Mar. 18	Jean Louis Desveaux -	{ Marianne Guillaume - - Julie Guillaume - - Noël Guillaume - -	{ 35 17 12 }
321	181	— 18	Louis Richard - -	{ Annette L'Aiguille - - Eugène L'Aiguille - - Alfred L'Aiguille - -	{ 42 10 5 }

of Enfranchisement, &c.—*continued.*

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

CAST E.	When received at the Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	RE MARKS.	
	1830:	1830:	1830:		
Creoles -	March 12	March 15	March 16	-- 700 dollars to Government ; paid by Colin Labonté, for the purpose of enfranchising and marrying Virginie Couronne, the children being his by her. -- 300 dollars; paid by P. Sira, aunt of Marguerite, for enfranchising them.	
Creoles -	— 12	— 15	— 16		
Creole -	— 12	— 15	— 16	Deed of gift of owner.	
Indienne -					
Creole -					
Creole -					
Creole -	— 12	— 15	— 16	Fraternal affection.	
Mozambique -	— 12	— 15	— 16	Deed of gift of owner.	
Creole -	— 12	— 15	— 16	-- 100 dollars, paid by Alexis Pierre, her father, to her owner for her freedom.	
Creole -	— 12	— 15	— 16	Deed of gift of owner.	
Indienne -	— 12	— 15	— 16	Filial affection.	
Creoles -	March 22	March 22	March 23	Deed of gift of owner.	
Creoles -	— 22	— 22	— 23	- - - ditto.	
Creoles -	— 22	— 22	— 23	-- The manumittor paid for them to their late owner 2,000 dollars, for the purpose of en- franchising them, they being his wife and children.	
Malgache -	— 22	— 22	— 23	-- 700 dollars, as purchase of his wife's freedom, paid by the manumittor.	
Indienne -	— 22	— 22	— 23	-- Paid 500 dollars, for the pur- pose of enfranchising herself.	
Creole -	— 22	— 22	— 23	Deed of gift of owner.	
Creole -	— 22	— 22	— 23	-- 203 dollars, paid by a slave, named Ant ^e Basile, father of Antoine Basile.	
Creole -	— 22	— 22	— 23	-- Paid 500 dollars, for the purpose of enfranchising him- self.	
Creole -	— 22	— 22	— 23	Deed of gift of owner.	
Indien -	— 22	— 22	— 23	- - - ditto.	
Creole -	— 22	— 22	— 23	Maternal affection.	
Creole -	March 29	March 31	March 31	-- The documents necessary to the enfranchisement of these individuals having been trans- mitted from Seychelles with- out any declaration of motive for enfranchising; the same must remain unknown until an answer from the parties to an application made by the Protector shall be received.	
Creole -		— 29	— 31		— 31
Mozambique -		— 29	— 31		— 31
Mozambique -		— 29	— 31		— 31
Creole -		— 29	— 31		— 31
Mozambique -		— 29	— 31		— 31
Creoles -	April 7	April 10	April 14	Deed of gift of owner.	
Creole -	— 7	— 10	— 14	- - - ditto.	

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

No. 4.—List of Confirmative Acts

Number in the Protector's Books.	No. in the Chief Secretary's Office.	DATE of Enfranchise- ment.	NAME of MASTER, or PERSON ENFRANCHISING.	NAME OF SLAVE.	AGE.
322	183	1830: March 18	Mad ^e de Froberville -	Desiré Mina - -	53
323	184	— 18	Mad ^e V ^e Desveaux de Marigny - -	{ Polidor Charlette - - Emilien Charlette - -	{ 13 10
324	185	— 18	Late Barthelemy Bouvary	{ Angélique - - Louis - - Charles - -	{ 60 22 19
325	186	— 18	D ^{ne} Anne Reine Legentil	{ Jeanny Jasmin - - Ernestine Jasmin - - Hortensia Jasmin - - Aurel Jasmin - -	{ 31 6 4 16m ^r
326	187	March 25	Julie Pissot - -	Hippolite Jasmin - -	3
327	188	— 25	Antoine Martin - -	Josef Joseph - -	28 yrs.
328	189	March 28	Jean Duffau - -	{ Françoise Marie - - Ernest Thélémaque - - Volsy Thélémaque - -	{ 29 16 10
329	190	March 25	Preaudet (Heirs) -	{ Orosmane Jacob - - Zélia Fidèle - - Charlotte Fidèle - - Edouard Fidèle - -	{ 53 33 16 13
330	191	— 25	Héloïse Dessonville -	{ Adéline Bibique - - Zélie Bibique - -	{ 30 3
331	192	— 25	Late Françoise Ribet -	{ Eugène - - Améline - - Millien - -	{ 23 20 18
332	193	— 25	Jacques Jérôme Denis Pitchen.	Shiragal Rose - -	4
333	194	April 6	Mad ^e V ^e Roquefeuil La- bistour - -	Louis Marie Jeanne - -	47
334	195	— 6	M ^e Louise, aff ^{ie} Gausserand	Figaro Lahache - -	54
335	196	— 6	Adélaïde Coiffique -	Némorin Victoire - -	27
336	197	— 6	Victoire Morcy - -	Céline Louise - -	53
337	198	— 6	V ^{re} Louis Roche - -	Augustin Bongarçon -	44
338	199	— 6	Mad ^e V ^e Leverger -	{ Jeannette Bonnemère - Joséphine Bonnemère -	{ 43 10
339	200	— 6	Late Robillard d'Argentil	{ Armide Tournefort - - Prosper Tournefort - - Emile Tournefort - -	{ 48 13 12
340	201	— 6	Henriette Gattereau -	Sophie Elico - -	63
341	202	— 6	Salomon Henry - -	Azémia Justine - -	32
342	203	April 26	Louis Brunet - -	Basile Coco - -	3½
343	204	April 6	Late Barbé Marbois -	{ Emile Jacinthe - - César Larose - -	{ 21 48
344	205	April 26	Henriette Thérèse -	Marie Louise Hérina -	20
345	206	— 26	Sophie Denger - -	Marie Sophie - -	28
346	207	— 26	Cotte d'Estrein - -	Marie Dalis - -	38
347	208	— 26	Angélique Domergue -	Jean Marie Barraque -	35
348	209	— 26	Marie Louise Dominique	Louise Legras - -	54
349	210	— 26	Marie Françoise Zélia Dominique.	Alphonse Françoise -	6 m th
350	211	— 26	Noël Garreau - -	Irma Anna - -	37 yrs.
351	212	May 10	Noël Cacambo - -	Anselme Case - -	23
352	213	— 10	J ⁿ Baptiste Bigaignon	Arsène Nenen - -	43
353	214	— 10	— Larcher - -	Françoise Camangue -	34
354	1	— 10	François Deschiens -	Cupidon L'Amour - -	51

of Enfranchisement, &c.—continued.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

CASTE.	When received at the Protector's Office.		When Registered.		When Delivered.		REMARKS.
Indien -	1830: April	7	1830: April	10	1830: April	14	Paid 50 dollars for the purpose of enfranchising himself.
Creoles	—	7	—	10	—	14	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles	—	7	—	10	—	14	By the will of late Barthelemy Bouvary.
Creoles -	—	7	—	10	—	14	Deed of gift of owner.
Malgache -	—	7	—	10	—	14	- - - ditto.
Creole -	April	22	April	28	April	28	- - - ditto.
Creoles -	—	22	—	28	—	28	-- Paid 100 dollars, being purchased by their mother to be enfranchised.
Malais -	—	22	—	28	—	28	Deed of gift of owners.
Malgache -	—	22	—	28	—	28	
Creole -	—	22	—	28	—	28	
Creole -	—	22	—	28	—	28	- - - ditto.
Born at Paris }	—	22	—	28	—	28	- - - ditto.
Creoles -	—	22	—	28	—	28	{ - - As children of her brother, the owner freed them from affectionate regard.
Creole -	—	22	—	28	—	28	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	—	22	—	28	—	28	- - - ditto.
Indien -	—	22	—	28	—	28	{ - - Paid 800 dollars by M ^e Louise, aff ^{ie} Gausserand, for the purpose of enfranchising him.
Creole -	—	22	—	28	—	28	Being her nephew, she freed him from affectionate regard.
Malgache -	—	22	—	28	—	28	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	May	7	May	8	May	10	-- Paid 500 dollars; being her husband, she paid this sum for his freedom.
Malgache -	—	7	—	8	—	10	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	—	7	—	8	—	10	
Creoles -	—	7	—	8	—	10	By the will of late Robillard d'Argentil.
Indienne -	—	7	—	8	—	10	Deed of gift of owner.
Malgache -	—	7	—	8	—	10	Paid 541 dollars for the purpose of enfranchising herself.
Creole -	—	7	—	8	—	10	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	—	7	—	8	—	10	By the will of late M. Barbé de Marboig.
Indienne -	—	7	—	8	—	10	
Creole -	—	7	—	8	—	10	Deed of gift of owner.
Creole -	—	7	—	8	—	10	{ - - Paid 150 dollars; from maternal affection, this sum paid to the owner for her child.
Creole -	—	7	—	8	—	10	Deed of gift of owner.
Malgache -	—	7	—	8	—	10	- - - ditto.
Creole -	May	13	May	13	May	13	- - - ditto.
Indienne -	—	13	—	13	—	13	- - - ditto.
Creole -	—	13	—	13	—	13	- - - ditto.
Creole -	—	13	—	13	—	13	- - - ditto.
Creole -	—	13	—	13	—	13	- - - ditto.
Creole -	June	7	June	8	June	8	- - - ditto.
Malgache -	—	7	—	8	—	8	- - - ditto.
Creole -	—	7	—	8	—	8	300 dollars for the purpose of enfranchising herself.
Indien -	June	9	June	14	June	14	Deed of gift of owner.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

No. 4.—LIST of Confirmative Acts - - - -

Number in the Protector's Office.	No. in the Chief Secretary's Office.	DATE of Enfranchisement.	NAME of MASTER, or PERSON ENFRANCHISING.	NAME of SLAVE.	AGE.
355	2	1830: May 10	Sophie Bigaignon -	Pierre Latouche - -	22
356	3	— 10	Julien Charles aff ⁱ Cordé Collard.	{ Olimpe Françoise - - Ovide Françoise - -	{ 41 32 }
357	4	— 10	Marie Joseph Dupré -	{ Corolie Labonne - - Charles Labonne - -	{ 5 3 }
358	5	— 10	Jean Louis Martineau	{ Agnis Françoise Céleste Marie Louise - - Victorien - - - -	{ 34 7 1 }
359	6	— 10	Late V ^e Panglos - -	{ Félicité Macotte - - Brigitte Angélique - - Jean Baptiste Angélique Jean Pierre Angélique	{ 53 21 19 5 }
360	7	— 10	Mademoiselle Dixon -	Ferdinand Sophie - -	9

RECAPITULATION - - -

TOTAL NUMBER of INDIVIDUALS, Men, Women
and Children, Enfranchised:—

MALES - - - - -
FEMALES - - - - -

Of which there are—

Under, and not exceeding 5 years - - -
Above 5, and not exceeding 15 years - - -
Above 15, and not exceeding 30 years - - -
Above 30, and not exceeding 50 years - - -
Above 50, and not exceeding 60 years - - -
Above 60 - - - - -
Age unknown - - - - -

By Deed of Gift and Testamentary Bequests -

Purchase - - - - -
Parental Affection - - - - -
Marriage - - - - -

Seychelles Enfranchisements, motives not de-
clared [see Remarks thereon] - - - }

Protector of Slaves' Office, Port Louis, }
28th June 1830.

of Enfranchisement, &c.—*continued.*

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

CASTE.	When received at the Protector's Office.	When Registered.	When Delivered.	REMARKS.
Creole - -	1830: June - 9	1830: June - 14	1830: June - 14	Maternal affection.
Creoles - -	— 9	— 14	— 14	-- Sister and brother of his wife, freed from affectionate regard.
Creoles - -	— 9	— 14	— 14	Deed of gift of owner.
Creoles - -	— 9	— 14	— 14	-- Enfranchised by Govern- ment, Martineau having given a slave in exchange for Agnis his wife.
Mozambique- Creole - -	— 9	— 14	— 14	By the will of the late V ^{re} Pan- glos.
Creole - -				
Creole - -				
Creole - -	— 9	— 14	— 14	-- A slave given in exchange by the father of Ferdinand Sophie.

RECAPITULATION.

126	256	
130		
45	256	—
62		
57		
59		
23		
8		
2		
135		
65		
34		
1		
21		

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

No. 5.—LIST of SLAVES in LEGAL PROGRESS of MANUMISSION on the
24th of June 1830.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

DATE of Application.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of OWNER.	If purchased, Amount paid.	REMARKS.
1829 :			Dollars.	
May - 24	Zélide Madelon -	M ^{me} V ^e Lambert -	- -	-- Deed of gift of owner, but the right of enfranchising disputed by M ^{me} Lambert's son, as heir to his father, who died intestate.
June - 24	Bertrand Laplaine Marie Jeanne Aniés Honorine Aniés - Toussaint Aniés - Honoré Aniés -	Marcelin Barry.	400	
— 24	Ernest Aniés - Agnés Aniés - Georgine Aniés - Edouard Aniés - Pierre Aniés - Jean Aniés - Florine Marie Edouard Marie	Alain Jacques -	- -	-- The motive inducing him to enfranchise these ten slaves, being his consideration for them as relations.
August 4	Françoise Marie - Anais Marie - Félix Marie -	Jean Félix Goulier	- -	
August 21	Marguerite L'Eveillé	By the Protector -	300	Paid by the father of the said Marie Louise.
Sept. - 10	Fanchin Bosquet -	-- ditto -	300	
October 13	Marie Louise Marie Aurélié - Louis -	Grace Bouquillard	100	
— 13	Anne Marie Jules - Charles - Auguste - Victor -	By the Protector -	- -	Deed of gift of owner.
— 13	Marguerite - Dauphine - François - Euphrasia -	By the Protector -	- -	Deed of gift of owner.
Nov. - 11	Josselin Tave Edouard Tave Cathérine Jean Marie L. Baptiste Esther Baptiste - Charles Baptiste - Céline Baptiste -	Louis Bertille -	- -	- - - ditto.
— 19	Ferdinand Baptiste J ^a Baptiste Baptiste Manon Baptiste - Eugène Baptiste - Coridon Vouardin Marcel ^e Richemond	Guillaume Mil -	- -	
Nov. - 25	Cimaté Sanschagrin	Lesur (Heirs) -	200	- - Enfranchised by their master, the late Sieur Lehelle. Their enfranchisement delayed by an opposition of the creditors of the deceased.
1830 :				
January 8	Amélie Marie -	{ - - Mrs. Laing and J. Davy, Ex. Test. of late J. Boldero }	100	Paid by a slave named Azor, father of Amélie.
January 25	Caroline Racioury	William Ellis -	250	An act of benevolence.
March - 2	Louis Auguste - Edouard Martin -	V ^e Jean Paul -	- -	
March 12	David Pecka - David Coutebot - Louise Laroulette	Louise Clotilde -	700	-- Maternal affection, having been purchased of their late owner for this sum.
March 26	Adeline Fatime - Justine Fatime -	François Antoine -	- -	

No. 5.—LIST of Slaves in Legal Progress of Manumission—*continued.*

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Report from
Protector of Slaves.

DATE of Application.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of OWNER.	If purchased, Amount paid.	REMARKS.
1830:			Dollars.	
March 27	Alexis Arthur -	{ By the Protector, <i>ex officio</i> - - }	- -	{ - - At the instance of the slave's father, who gave the owner another slave in exchange. Maternal affection. In conformity with the will of owner. Filial affection, the slave being her mother. - - Paid by Joson Maya, father of Elisa and Aurélie, for the purpose of enfranchising them, and marrying Eléonore, their mother. - - ditto. Paternal affection. In conformity with the will of owner. - - ditto.
— 27	Philogène Joseph	Marie Louise Verier	- -	
March 30	Louis Vane - -	Late J. F. Arnaud -	- -	
— 30	Louise Laïs - -	Zélie Laïs - -	- -	
April - 8	{ Eléonore Rasalam Marie Elisa Rasalam Marie Aurélie Ra- salam - - }	{ - - Superintendent of the Matricule Government slaves }	400	
April - 14	{ Felix Denis - François Denis - }	{ M ^{me} and M ^{lle} Besse Jean Félix Gourlier Telescour Courtin }	- -	
— 14	Clémence Césarine	Late J. B. Boudret	50	
April - 15	Marie Améline -	Late J. B. Boudret	50	
— 15	Jean Louis Bouvier	Late J. B. Boudret	50	
April - 16	Adolphe Louis -	Ferdinand Broër -	- -	
— 16	Victorine Henriette	{ - - Superintendent of the Matricule Government slaves }	200	
April - 17	Emile Varlet -	Marie Varlet -	- -	
April - 20	Marie Françoise Joseph	Pélagie Masson -	- -	
April - 26	Camille Joséphine	Charles Chardoillet	- -	
April - 28	Anna - - -	By the Protector -	50	
— 28	{ Eléonore Véroné - Augustine Véroné }	{ Mathias Legry - M ^{me} V ^e Lautour - }	- -	
April - 29	Louis Isoul - -	M ^{me} V ^e Lautour -	- -	
May - 1	Filladin Bébonne -	Anna Perrin -	- -	
May - 3	Marianne Steva -	Marie Joséphine -	100	
— 3	Philogène Valo -	Late Nicolas Gillan	- -	
— 3	Thomas Brigitte -	{ M ^{te} Anne Toinette Brigitte - - }	- -	
May - 5	{ Clestiné Léon - Laurencine Léon - }	{ Late J. F. Arnaud J. B. Régnard - }	- -	
May - 10	Madeleine Marmi- tonne - -	J. B. Régnard -	- -	
May - 11	{ Alfred L'Eveillé - Charles L'Eveillé - Amélie L'Eveillé - Auguste L'Eveillé - Héloïse L'Eveillé - Désiré L'Eveillé - }	{ Chipault, dit Béri- chon - - }	300	
May - 13	Mimi Emilie -	M ^{me} Cazalens -	200	
— 13	Adeline Magdelon	{ - - Superintendent of the Matricule Government slaves }	250	
— 13	Adeline Pélagie -	- - - -	- -	
May - 17	Jean Baptiste Vin- cent - -	Louis Naud aîné -	- -	
— 17	{ Louise Contrebasse Charles Contrebasse }	{ M ^{me} V ^e Bigaignon Dorothée Fouque- reaux - - }	250	
May - 18	Potine Georgette -	{ Dorothée Fouque- reaux - - }	- -	

(continued.)

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.No. 5.—LIST of Slaves in Legal Progress of Manumission—*continued.*

Report from Protector of Slaves.	DATE of Application.	NAME of SLAVE.	NAME of OWNER.	If purchased, Amount paid.	REMARKS.
	1830 :			Dollars.	
	May - 25	Sophie Rabadon -	Louise Senec -	500	
	June - 1	Orphise Louise -	Louise Coder -	-	Deed of gift of owner.
	June - 2	Arléquin Bonpère -	Jean Louis Guérandel.	150	
	— 2	Rosette Fatime -	Julliène Fatime -	-	Deed of gift of owner.
	June - 5	Michel Jack -	Marie Louise -	-	Enfranchised by his wife, Marie Louise.
	June - 8	Lise Vénus - Andrine Vénus - Virginie Rafin - Aurélie Rafin - Henri Rafin - Célestine Rafin - Frédéric Rafin -	Adrien Dupré -	-	Deed of gift of owner.
	June - 9	L'Eveillé Rafin - Armantine Rafin - Arméline Rafin - Jean Baptiste Rafin - Jean François and Célestin Rafin - Angélique Pierre -	Pierre Loustau -	150	- - These individuals were placed in a state of manumission by their late father, and the sum of 150 dollars, paid to the enfranchiser, was incurred for imports paid by him to Government for their account.
	— 9	Marie Anne Louison	André Casse -	-	Deed of gift of owner.
	June - 11	Cathérine Cathérine	- - Superintendent of the Matricule Government slaves	£. 20	Cathérine purchased by her aunt.
		Louis Julienne -		£. 50	Louis purchased himself.
	June - 14	Sophie Simitinte -	Joseph Maya -	100	Purchased by her mother.
	June - 15	Jean Alfred Frédéric Marie.	Ferdinand Bissière	-	Deed of gift of owner.
	June - 16	Baptiste Boncœur	Charlotte Nicole -	400	
	— 16	Louis Félicité -	Superintendent of the Matricule.	-	-- Reward of his good conduct, and under the condition of remaining in the service of Government at Madagascar for one year.
	— 16	Justine Lajolie - Alfred Lajolie - Henry Lajolie - Alphonsine Lajolie	Late Mad ^e V ^e Be-zard.	-	In conformity with the will of owner.
	June - 17	Zéline -	Mad ^e V ^e Lemeur -	-	Deed of gift of owner.
	June - 18	Léo -	Late S ^r Souriac -	-	- - - ditto.
	— 18	Sophie Perrina -	E. Gaud -	-	- - - ditto.
	June - 21	Rose Rozine -	Late Mad ^e V ^e Parade.	-	In conformity with the will of owner.
	June - 22	Bérenice Latripe - Phanor l'Andouille	Delphine Hade -	355	
	— 22	Frédéric Victor -	Célestina Joseph -	500	
	— 22	Augustin Lafèche	L. B. Lemasson -	300	
	June - 23	Adam Zamor -	- - Superintendent of the Matricule Government slaves.	-	-- Reward of good conduct, and under the condition of remaining in the Government service for one year.
	— 23	Gertrude Valère -	Mad ^e V ^e Léonnet -	-	Deed of gift of owner.
	— 23	Abraham Paul -	Marie Elisa Nanon	200	

R. M. Thomas,
Protector and Guardian of Slaves.

N^o 8.

DESPATCH from Viscount *Goderich* to the Honourable Sir *Charles Colville*,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

Downing Street, 19th April 1831.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Despatch of the 9th August last, enclosing the Report of the Protector of Slaves, for the six months ending on the 24th June 1830.

PART VI.
MAURITIUS.

Correspondence.

The Protector commences by stating the result of such proceedings as were in progress at the time of closing his former Report. It appears that the whole of the seventeen cases that were then pending before the Courts have been disposed of as follows:—

- In 8, the masters were convicted and fined in £. 20 sterling each, and costs ;
 2, - - - - - in £. 25 sterling each, and costs ;
 1, - - - - - in £. 6 sterling, and costs ;
 1, the master died before the prosecution was commenced ;
 3, the parties were acquitted ; and
 1, that against Marchal, the defendant was condemned to three months' imprisonment, to pay a fine of £. 50, and to forfeit the two slaves to the Crown.

As I have so fully animadverted upon this case in my Despatch of the 17th instant, it is unnecessary that I should resume the subject in my present Despatch. Of the three acquittals, two are stated to have arisen from the prevarication of the witnesses, and the third from a plea of justification, grounded upon the insolence of the negress for beating whom the action was brought. In the case of the party who died, there appears to have been great delay in bringing the action; the complaint having been denounced to the Procureur Général in November 1829, nearly seven months previous to the casualty which put a stop to the prosecution. The Protector observes, " that the same remark will also apply to the two first cases of acquittal above mentioned, in which from five to six months were suffered to elapse before they were brought into Court; a circumstance, which, considering the gross ignorance and incapacity of slaves, and their apprehension of incurring their masters' severity by giving testimony against him, may in a great measure account for the discrepancies that appeared in their evidence." I do not find in these papers any explanation of the circumstances under which the delay mentioned in the foregoing extract took place. The objection to it, stated by the Protector in the last sentence, would be conclusive, even if no other evils resulted from a dilatory administration of justice. I shall again have to advert to these delays, when I come to notice the return of criminal actions against slaves.

The instructions necessary for the guidance of the Protector in the prosecution of the claims to freedom of slaves, on the ground of illegal importation, have been so fully detailed in my Despatch of the 14th January last, that it is unnecessary to remark upon the subject here. The cases of Augustine, Rose and Victoire will of course follow the general rule laid down in that Despatch, for the decision of cases of this nature.

Only one marriage is stated to have taken place during the six months; and as it was celebrated by the civil magistrate, I am in doubt whether the religious ceremony was performed, or whether it was merely the civil contract which was entered into. The ministry of the clergyman appears to me to be highly desirable wherever it is possible to procure it, as it would tend much to increase in the mind of the slave, a feeling of respect for the sacredness of the obligation.

The neglect in keeping Punishment Record Books, which is stated to have occurred principally among the smaller slave owners, will have been remedied by the Order in Council of February 1830, which requires that copies of these books should be transmitted to the Protector or Assistant Protector half-yearly.

The Protector has called your particular attention to the want of a Court for the recovery of small debts due to slaves. Upon this you have remarked in your Despatch, that " the inconvenience attending the want of such a Court is felt by
 262. " the

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Correspondence.

“ the slaves only in common with the rest of the population of the Island, and “ from which we are inclined to hope the expected changes in our judicial system “ will relieve us.” That the other classes of society in the Mauritius feel the want of such a Court may easily be believed, but I cannot imagine that they feel it in an equal degree with the slaves. The debts due to slaves, in whatever way accruing, can seldom exceed sums of small amount; and the only means of recovering these, in case of a refusal to pay them, is by instituting proceedings in a Court of law, while their defenceless condition lays them particularly open to injustice on this point. You have not denied the expediency of the measure; and as no evil could have been apprehended from the immediate establishment of a Court for this purpose, even though the new judicial arrangements should have eventually rendered such a measure unnecessary, I regret that you did not act upon the suggestion of Mr. Thomas. You will, upon the receipt of this Despatch, take the necessary measure for the erection of a tribunal of this nature; and I shall be happy to receive from you a Report of the steps which you may adopt, and of their efficiency.

Mr. Thomas, in closing his Report, states, that the physical condition of the slaves had been much improved by the operation of the Ordinance, No. 43, and that the fears which were entertained on its promulgation were proved illusory; but that the moral condition of the slaves remains in the same neglected state as previously. I have already informed you, in my Despatch of the 17th instant, that measures for remedying this deficiency are under the consideration of His Majesty's Government, and I hope to be able to communicate to you the result of their deliberations at an early period.

Only two of the cases denounced by the Protector for prosecution, had been brought to trial. As the first case, however, was denounced on the 2d of February; and as the Report closes on the 24th of June, it appears that an interval of nearly five months had been allowed to elapse without any steps being taken.

In the Return of the Criminal Actions against Slaves, a still more remarkable delay appears. In the three first cases, the slaves had been in prison respectively seven, eight and six months without being brought to trial. In the fourth case, two of the accused were acquitted, and one convicted, after having been in prison eight months, and without any notice of trial to the Protector. Cases of a similar nature appear throughout the Return. In one, the slave had been arrested in October 1829, and no notice of further proceedings had been served on the Protector in June 1830. In another, a Slave who had been arrested in October 1829, was not brought to trial till the 12th March 1830, and though then acquitted, was not discharged from prison till the 16th April, thirty-five days after his acquittal. The last case which I shall notice, is that of a slave who was arrested in June 1829, but was not brought to trial in June 1830, when this Report closed. No reason has been assigned for the existence of these delays, nor do I find in your Despatch any remark upon the subject; I am therefore unable to decide whether they are the necessary consequences of the defective system of the Courts in the Mauritius, or whether they arise from a wanton neglect of the interests of the parties concerned, when those parties happen to be in a state of slavery. If the former should be the case, I trust that the improvements in the judicial system of the colony, the principles of which were detailed to you in my Despatch of 17th January last, will have remedied the evil before the arrival of this Despatch in the Mauritius; but you will not fail to report to me on the subject, and to suggest any alterations which may still appear necessary for expediting the administration of justice. I observe that in one case sentence of death, which had been passed on a slave for murder, was commuted to twenty years' working in chains. I wish to be informed whether this labour is to be undergone under the superintendence of a duly authorized responsible officer of the Government, or under that of the owner or manager of an estate.

I shall now proceed to a consideration of the complaints preferred by slaves to the Protector:

No. 1.

In the evidence of the slaves by whom the first complaint was refuted, it was stated, that “ if the carters do at any time work on Sunday it is only in bringing “ to the yard the cane they omitted to bring during the week.” It is not stated whether the labour here mentioned was compulsory.

Slave

Slave *Parisse* complained, on the 1st of January, of protracted confinement in the stocks, having a collar put on him, and being obliged to work on Sundays; and, it being new-year's-day, he begged the Assistant Protector to intercede in his behalf, that he might be allowed to attend the fête. The Protector interceded, but in vain; and four days after the slave again made his appearance, and stated, that having been replaced in confinement on his return to the plantation, he had made his escape, and come to complain. It appears that the confinement of the slave was merited by his frequent maroonage, but no notice was taken of the statement of his being worked on Sunday to make up the time which he lost in marooning.

No. 4.

The slave *René* complained, that his master, while in a state of intoxication, beat him severely with a stick. The result is stated to have been, that as it appeared from an investigation of the affair, that it originated entirely in a drunken bout on new-year's-day, and that the parties were equally in fault, the Protector dismissed the complaint, severely reprimanding both. In the documents before me I find no evidence to show that the slave was drunk, and I am far from considering the drunkenness of the master as a palliation of his misconduct. There is no situation in which the vice of drunkenness is less excusable than that of a Mauritius slave proprietor, since it adds the sanction of example to the inducements to excess, which are of themselves too strong for the forbearance of a slave.

No. 8.

The complaint of *Marie Louise*, of having been neglected in sickness, and of having been beaten and kicked by her master and mistress, is dismissed on the mere contradiction by the master of the charge of ill treatment, although from the medical certificate it would appear that the slave was in very bad health.

No. 13.

In complaint No. 22, it is admitted, that the complainant, a female, was struck; yet no further notice is taken of it than by cautioning the master against permitting her to be struck in future. It is indeed stated, that the negress was of bad character, and that the blows were slight; but this rests principally upon the assertions of the person charged with having inflicted them.

No. 22.

In the next complaint, M^{me} Furteaux is charged by her slave with having struck her, cut off her hair, and dressed her in matting; the two latter charges are acknowledged, and justified on the ground of the slave's bad conduct; but the charge of striking is not noticed.

No. 23.

It is not stated, in the following complaint, why the master was not denounced for prosecution for exacting a double corvée on Sunday, as well as for flogging his female slave, *Casy*. This was the more necessary, as complaints are constantly recurring of infractions of the law prohibiting Sunday labour; and I am afraid a simple admonition from the Protector could hardly be depended upon for preventing a recurrence of the illegality.

No. 24.

In the defence of the économe of the Messrs. Staub, against the complaint of the slave *François*, he is stated to be a very bad character, having been guilty of a highway robbery, for which he was punished; of a rape on a child eight years old, and of inducing another child to rob its mother, for which purpose he furnished it with a false key, for which offences it is not stated whether he received any punishment; while in the summing up of the Protector, he is stated to be well known to the Assistant Protector, "as an infamous subject, having even been guilty of "murder." Under what pretence a slave of this description is allowed to be at large, or in what manner he has eluded the punishment due to such serious crimes, is not stated. I have therefore to desire, that you will institute an inquiry into the charges against this slave, and if any of them should appear capable of proof, you will lose no time in causing a prosecution to be commenced against him. You will also report to me, by what means he has hitherto escaped punishment, if actually guilty of the crimes laid to his charge.

No. 30.

I cannot allow the validity of the reason for which the Protector abstained from denouncing M. Daulne for beating his female slave *Jacquelle*. The beating is clearly established, but it was stated in excuse, that the complainant had been drunk, and that the blows had been given, in order to separate her from another negress with whom she was quarrelling; they seem, however, from the certificate of the medical man, to have been inflicted with unnecessary severity, and were therefore less deserving of consideration.

No. 32.

- No. 35. In the complaint of *Adonis* against his master, M. Thèvenin, the following charges were fully established, viz. :—1st. That the time fixed by law for the slaves' breakfast and dinner, namely, one hour for the former, and two for the latter, is not allowed to them; 2d. That work of a description and extent not authorized by law, is required from them on Sunday; 3d. That during crop a greater quantum of labour is exacted than that fixed by law; and 4th. That there is no hospital on the estate. The result is, that the Protector having duly considered the complaint, is of opinion that much disorder prevails on the estate; but as this is the first complaint, and as the estate had only lately come into the hands of the present proprietor, he did not think it necessary to prosecute. I am sorry that I can by no means concur in the view of this case taken by the Protector. The excuse alleged was entirely inadmissible, particularly as ignorance of the law was not even pleaded by the defendants, who seem to have proceeded in a systematical violation of it to their own advantage.
- No. 36. The next complaint is stated not to have been denounced, solely from a want of evidence to convict; it is the complaint of a child 8 years old, of having been severely beaten. The certificate of the medical man confirmed the complaint of the child; and I cannot, therefore, approve of the decision of the Protector not to send the case to trial. I am not aware upon what ground he considered himself authorized to decide upon the sufficiency or insufficiency of the evidence, as this was a question which the Court alone was competent to determine.
- No. 39. By the medical certificate produced in the case of *Julien*, it appears that a punishment of illegal severity had been inflicted upon him by his mother, who, together with himself, belongs to M^m Sturbel, for the offence of stealing fowls. If this punishment was inflicted with the consent of M^m Sturbel, (and from the proceedings it is by no means clear that it was not,) she was evidently responsible for the illegality. The complaint was dismissed, with an admonition to the owner.
- No. 46. As I shall have occasion to address you in a subsequent Despatch on the subject of the complaints of the slaves of the Reverend Mr. Jones, I shall only at present express my sincere regret, that any clergyman should have laid himself open to such charges, more especially in a community like that of the Mauritius, where so much influence must naturally attach to the conduct of a minister of religion, placed in the situation occupied by Mr. Jones.
- No. 49. In the complaint of the slave *Adonis*, which is denounced for prosecution, no notice is taken of the general complaint of the slaves on the estate,—that they are ill fed, and that they have not sufficient time for repose.
- No. 52. The *Sieur Brumeau* is denounced for gross cruelty in the punishment of his slave *Jean François*, but is only cautioned with respect to the exaction of two corvées on Sunday, with which he is charged.
- No. 57. In the complaint of *Mathurin*, the infraction of the law, by prolonging the Sunday corvée, is merely made the grounds of a caution to the owner.
- No. 61. The slave *Laurent* complains of being chained, not for any offence for which he had been guilty, but merely from an apprehension of his running away.—His master, M. Bestel, admitted that he chained him for the reason stated, and declared his intention to persist in such conduct. I trust that the Order in Council of February 1830, will have been found sufficient to prevent such a practice, but if not, you will not hesitate to put down, by an express proclamation, so unjust a line of conduct as that of punishment in anticipation of an offence.
- No. 66. The slave *Frontin* complains of having been suspended by his arms to the mast of a boat, and having been put in chains. Both the master and comrades of *Frontin* contradict the charge, and state, that his hands were only tied while they went ashore, to prevent his destroying the boat, or marooning. The examining Surgeon, however, certifies that *Frontin* "has, at the bend of both arms, above the elbows, a circular mark or ulcer, and one also on his right wrist, of the same description." If these ulcers resulted from the tying of his arms, it is clear that the cords must have been so tightened as to cause considerable pain, and that the punishment must have been of a cruel nature.

By

By the Complaint, No. 68, it appears that the Sunday *corvée* on the plantation to which the complainants belong, includes the digging of manioc and potatoes for the slaves. The indefinite nature of the term "*corvée*" renders it peculiarly liable to abuse; as, however, I shall have to address you at a future period, on the subject of the provisions for securing to the slave the free enjoyment of the Sabbath, I refrain from commenting upon the numerous abuses of the provisions for that purpose, which appear throughout the document now under consideration.

No. 68.

Célestine complains, on the 4th of May, of having been beaten and imprisoned by her master, without cause. It appears that she had lived with him as his concubine, but that after some time he imprisoned her in a granary, on a charge of theft and quarrelling, and kept her shut up for five months. The accusation of beating is not proved, nor does the imprisonment itself appear to have been very strict. The complaint is dismissed with a reprimand to the master on the immorality of his conduct, and a recommendation that the slave should be kindly treated. You will transmit for my information a copy of the law which gave the master a right to imprison his slave for an indefinite length of time, without assigning a reason, and apparently without the sanction of a magistrate.

No. 72.

The result of the complaint of *Antoine* is, that he was sentenced to sleep seven nights in the stocks for mingling falsehood with his complaint, this being the second time he had done so; the master was at the same time strongly remonstrated with, and recommended to a strict observance of the law regulating the "hours of breloques, which, in the evidence before the Protector, do not appear to be regulated upon so just a principle towards the slave as they ought to be, inasmuch as it is the duty of the master, and not of the commandeur, to see that the time accorded by law is granted." I have read this decision with serious disapprobation. That the slave actually had cause for complaint is admitted in the "Result" of the Protector, which I have quoted above; yet, in spite of his own decision, the Protector sentenced him to a severe punishment for aggravation. If the slave was to be punished for his offence, equal justice required that the irregularities of the master should not escape with impunity; but exaggeration in preferring a complaint when unaccompanied by malice, is an offence of a venial nature, when the uneducated state of the complainant is taken into consideration.

No. 75.

By the complaint of seven slaves belonging to the *Sieur Poisson*, it appears that they had been illegally worked on Sundays. The master was not denounced for prosecution, but only "severely admonished" by the Protector.

No. 81.

In the course of the complaint of *Edmond*, it appears that the slaves on the estate to which he belongs, are worked on Sunday, when they have been idle during the week; this is stated to have been adopted as a punishment instead of flogging. Desirable, however, as it may be to avoid, as much as possible, the necessity of corporal chastisement, it is quite impossible to permit the adoption of a mode of punishment, which is not only illegal, but which gives the master a direct interest in the punishment of his slave.

No. 85.

On a review of the three Reports from the Protector of Slaves for Mauritius, on which I have had occasion to animadvert in succession since I assumed the seals of this Department, I cannot but come to the conclusion, that His Majesty's intentions in favour of the slaves, have been most imperfectly carried into effect. I say this with every disposition to charge upon Mr. Thomas no larger share of the responsibility for their defective operation than what, upon a full consideration of the difficult circumstances in which he has been placed, and with all allowances for the novelty and unpopularity of his office, may be found properly to belong to him. The law which he has had to administer was in itself imperfect. The enactment of the Governor in Council, which varied in so many essential respects from the model which had been prescribed, was the only law in force down to the latest period to which the last of these Reports reaches. And although I hold it to be the duty of the Protector in general to point out all defects of the law which are shown in the course of its operation, and respectfully to submit to the Governor the measures which appear to him to be necessary to render it complete and effectual, yet this was a duty which did not devolve upon him in respect of omissions and qualifications advisedly made by the Governor, when, in the exercise of his discretion, dispensing with a strict obedience to His Majesty's commands.

PART VI.

MAURITIUS.

Correspondence.

The Protector is, therefore, wholly irresponsible for defects so arising; and in regard to some others, he has not failed to offer proper suggestions of the means which might be employed to cure them. I am aware, also, that the Protector, in addition to the necessary difficulties of his situation, has met with obstructions from Law Officers of the Crown, whose duty it was to have assisted him to the best of their ability; nor (you must allow me to add) am I satisfied that your own authority was by any means so actively and decisively used as it might have been, to correct the negligence or remove the opposition of others. The Protector thus standing alone, and with no other assistance than that of the usual magistracy, for the investigation of cases lying beyond his immediate cognizance, could not fairly be expected to succeed in giving complete effect to the law; and I am willing to believe that the deficiencies which, thus circumstanced, he has evinced, are only such as, with experience and due assistance and support, he may be enabled in future to supply. But I cannot too earnestly request you to be aware yourself, and to impress upon him, that an operation of the Slave Law, so partial and feeble as that which these Reports exhibit, if in some measure excusable hitherto, could not longer continue without exciting the serious displeasure of the King's Government. The operation of the law must be carefully watched with reference to its spirit and purposes; and whatever obstacle is found to defeat its efficacy, must be promptly and completely removed. I must request you to let it be understood by all Law Officers of the Crown and other public servants, that they are expected to give their cordial support to the Protector; and I, on my part, will make the best selection in my power of persons to act as his assistants, for the administration of the law in the rural districts.

When the hands of the Protector shall have been thus strengthened, and when he shall have had from you the active support, as well as the sedulous superintendence, which I trust that you will see the necessity of affording, I shall hope to receive Reports much more satisfactory than those which it has lately been my duty to examine. But I cannot regard the Report which has formed the subject of my present Despatch, otherwise than as a renewed illustration of the necessity which I have heretofore pointed out, of a strict revision, by yourself, of the whole of the Protector's proceedings, and especially of that portion of them which is recorded in the Complaint Book.

I have, &c.

(signed) *GODERICH.*

PROTECTORS OF SLAVES REPORTS.

COPIES OF REPORTS

FROM THE

PROTECTORS OF SLAVES

IN THE

COLONIES of *Demerara, Berbice, Trinidad,*
St. Lucia, the Cape of Good Hope and
Mauritius.

PART VI.—MAURITIUS.

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