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NARRATIVE

OF A

RECENT VISIT TO BRAZIL,

BY

JOHN CANDLER AND WILSON BURGESS :

TO PRESENT AN ADDRESS

ON

THE SLAVE-TRADE AND SLAVERY,

ISSUED BY

THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

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## NARRATIVE.

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### THE VOYAGE OUT.

By the steam-packet *Severn*, bound to Brazil, we left Southampton early in the ninth month of 1852, together with about ninety fellow-passengers of many nations,—English, French, Spanish, Belgian, Italian, Brazilian, and Portuguese, some of whom were bound for Lisbon and Madeira, the greater part for the Brazils, and a few for Monte Video and Buenos Ayres. The wind blowing from the North-east was favourable, and in crossing the dreaded Bay of Biscay we had almost constant sun-shine and a smooth sea. As we passed Cape Finisterre, we could trace, by the naked eye, a long line of shore, barren and mountainous, on the North of Spain, almost as far as Corunna. It was the first day of the week. The service of the Church of England was read in the saloon to a large company; our little band retiring at the same time for spiritual worship after the manner of Friends, under the lee of a huge iron barge, facing the great sea. All was calm, and the feeling somewhat solemn. Thankfulness arose in our hearts to the Great Preserver of men, for his abundant goodness and our many undeserved mercies. On pacing the deck during the day, our attention was attracted by sudden elevations of spray on the ocean, like the jets of a fountain, and looking out for the cause, we soon observed a large whale rise to the surface, and presently disappear. A shoal of porpoises also, apparently the most joyous of the animal creation, full of life and activity, were seen to the larboard, leaping and gambolling, as if existence itself were a pleasure, and nothing could ever harm them. In four days after leaving Southampton we came in sight of the rock of Lisbon, and soon after of the



mountains of Cintra, dimly discerned through the thick haze. The approaches to Lisbon, and up the broad Tagus, differ greatly in beauty according to the season. Early in the spring, the fields were of a vivid green; the hills reflected fine lights and beautiful colours: the pastures were now sun-burnt; the trees had lost their blossoms, and nature looked drooping and dreary. The city itself is always a fine object, rising, like Rome, on its seven hills, and presenting at many points of view some striking objects, as palaces, churches, and other public buildings. Lord Byron seemed to think the Tagus almost equal in interest to, and to afford a panorama nearly as splendid as the Bay of Naples, or even that of Constantinople. Not having been in Italy or on the Bosphorus, we could form a comparison only from the descriptions of others, and the sketches they have given us of the surrounding scenery: thus judging, we should suppose it to be much inferior. The Bay of New York, in the western world, although much less spoken of than that of Lisbon, affords a grander spectacle: it has less of mountain scenery, but excels in all that gives animation to the mind. Around it, and on its shores, you trace the beginnings of a seat of empire destined to increase; a vast city, a magnificent river, forests of shipping, rising towns, and a well-cultivated country. Lisbon, with all its beauty, is cold: it looks like a city without power: its shipping is scanty; its broad flowing stream bears but little commerce on its bosom.

The Severn remained a day and night in the Tagus, and we took advantage of the time to visit the public gardens, the Estrella cathedral, the protestant burial-ground, and the magnificent aqueduct. The English burial-ground is very distinguishable by the number of fine cypresses which adorn it,—a hundred and eighty; some of which attain a height of 50 feet. A monument to the memory of Dr. Doddridge arrested our attention; he died at Lisbon, whither he went for the benefit of his health in 1751; and the inscription on the monument states that it was erected in 1828, by — Taylor, his only pupil then living. We also went to the fruit-market, and purchased some ripe figs, peaches, and grapes for our onward voyage. At 2 o'clock, P.M., we left our mooring at the custom-house, and soon reached the open ocean. The wind had turned to the South. A head-wind in any latitude is always more or less perplexing to the mariner: the motion of our steam-boat became slower and somewhat unsteady, and the waves rather



rued, but not boisterous : we made only six knots an hour. Some grampuses appeared in sight, snorting and spouting, attended by shoals of porpoises. It is a cheerful sight to stand on a ship's deck, and observe these tenants of the ocean gambol among the waves, and to watch the sails that glisten on the deep. "There go the ships : there is that Leviathau, whom thou hast made to play therein." Until the 16th the sea continued moderate, and we had much enjoyment : the air was delicious to breathe, and we could walk and read, or sit in the cabin and write, nearly as well as on shore ; but on that and the following day the wind caused the ship to pitch and roll so as to occasion a general sickness on board. Several copies of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' had been brought out by the passengers, and observing one of them intent on reading it day after day, we ventured to ask him what he thought of the work. "It is all true," he replied ; "I know it to be true. I am, unhappily, a slave-holder myself. Slavery is as much a curse to the master as to the slave." Much, and with great reason, as we may object to works prepared in this manner, to suit the public taste, it is quite certain that the reading of this extraordinary book has done much good : it has led many persons to see, what they never saw or thought of before, that slavery is a great moral evil, whether in America or any other land, — a hideous institution, which no professing Christian can with consistency tolerate for a single hour. England has abolished slavery : France has abolished it : so have Sweden and Denmark. The United States of America must shortly follow the example thus placed before them, or cease to hold a high rank among Christian nations. Never before were the two continents of the Old and New World agitated on this question as they now are ; there is, doubtless, an overruling Providence in it ; the words of a modern poet, himself an American, are beginning to be realised :—

" 'Tis the waking up of nations  
From slavery's fatal sleep :  
The murmur of a universe :  
Deep calling unto deep."

May the movement, so long and so much needed, hasten on from murmurs to lawful action, until freedom is everywhere secured to the slave!

From Lisbon to Madeira is 535 miles, and it took us nearly four



days to run the distance. Skirting the shores of Porto Santo late in the afternoon, we arrived at Funchal in Madeira early on the following morning. This good-looking town, with 15,000 inhabitants, stretches a mile and a half along the shore: it is built in terraces on the hills, extending far upwards to the mountain side. Instead of proceeding from the steamer to the nearest landing-place, our boatmen rowed us to the fort, to avoid the perilous surf. Here we found horses ready saddled, with palanquins and their bearers for invalids; and without difficulty proceeded to the town to one of the large hotels, where we ordered breakfast for a large party. The table was supplied with beef-steaks, different sorts of fish, eggs, new milk, tea and coffee, excellent bread, wines and fruit. Horses being brought to the door of the inn, a cavalcade of us set out for a morning ride. Each horse was attended by a guide, bearing in his hand a staff or mountain pole. Our way led up a well-paved ascent of two miles, through streets or between walls supporting terraces, on which were trellis-work vineyards, with occasional open spaces by the hill-sides, adorned with mansions, boarding-houses and gardens, or planted, park-like, with walnut, chesnut, peach, apricot, and pine or palm trees; one of the apricots we noticed was as large as a good-sized oak tree. It grieved us to survey the dark-stained vines, hitherto so green, and affording such delicious fruit, and to see them smitten with a powder-blight, in deep mourning, and all the grapes black and shrivelled. The blight, they told us, was universal; no grapes left for wine, or to be purchased for the table. The fig-trees had happily escaped the visitation, and good ripe figs were selling by the bushel at a moderate price. At the end of this long precipitous paved road, we turned off into a mountain bridle-path and over a deep ravine for an extended excursion among the hills. The scenery is semi-tropical: numerous gardens, belonging to the small cultivators, abound in the ravines, and on the mountain sides: the articles chiefly cultivated are bananas, yams, the sugar-cane, sweet potatoes, and luxuriant kidney or butter beans. We were now elevated 2,000 feet above the margin of the sea; the views on every side were grand and pleasing; but we all agreed that the mountains, hills, and valleys had a more picturesque and Eden-like appearance from the ship's deck, as we entered the roadstead, than could be gained through any single *coup d'œil* by riding among them. Madeira is a beautiful island, and J. H. Forsyth, a recent



resident there, says the scenery in some parts surpasses in beauty that of Switzerland. The natives, like other Portuguese, are a dirty, sallow-looking race, and are not ashamed to beg. On returning to the town after our pleasant excursion, we refreshed ourselves with draughts of new milk, and purchased some bananas and figs. At Funchal we parted with twenty-two of our fellow-passengers, and went forward with more cabin-room, which proved a comfort to us, as we had been much crowded.

On the 18th, at 5 o'clock, P.M., the wind still contrary, but the weather serene, we left the shores of Madeira, taking leave of its mountains, some of them 7000 feet in height, in the light of a setting sun. The voyage between Madeira and Teneriffe proved so delightful, that narrow as were our limits on ship-board, we could have been content, with such weather, in good company, and in a good cause, to have sailed round the world. We were now approaching a new quarter of the globe, and were about to enter on the limits of Africa. If an American, on reaching the Scilly Isles, can say he has been in Europe, a European, on reaching the Canaries, can say he has seen Africa. Early on a fine morning, the sun beaming fiercely, we came abreast of Santa Cruz, the chief town of Teneriffe, exactly 200 miles from Cape Juby, on the continent of Africa. The climate and the natural scenery were both African: the hills were covered with the Cactus, or prickly pear, and camels worked in the public streets as beasts of burden. Camels do not breed here, but are brought from Lanzarote and Fuerte Ventura, islands nearer the coast. The products of the country for exportation are wine and cochineal, with cattle, corn, and vegetables as food for the native population. The cochineal insect, as is well known, feeds on the juicy leaves of the Cactus, and the gathering and preparing of it for purposes of commerce affords abundant employment, and is superintended with great care. The cultivation of the Cactus and export of cochineal from Teneriffe is increasing very much, which must be a great relief to the inhabitants, as, from some cause which we did not learn, the wine trade has been going down: the latter trade is entirely in the hands of the English. The streets of Santa Cruz are some of them handsome, and the inhabitants, about 9000 in number, are now building a theatre, which for size, and fine architectural proportions and ornaments, would be admired in Pall Mall or Piccadilly. It is much to be regretted that they find no better manner of spend-



ing their time and money; but the circumstance serves to mark the character of the people, who are of Spanish origin, and are still subject to the Crown of Spain. Several of our ship's company breakfasted at the hotel, and were regaled with chocolate after the Spanish custom. The British Consul attended us to the shore. In directing our course back again to the steamer, several young men who were bathing in the open sea swam out after us to solicit money. We had bought some baskets of delicious grapes, and held out to one of them a bunch equal in size and flavour to those produced in an English hot-house. The sturdy mendicant was so angry at being offered grapes and not money, that he dashed his hands with might and main on the water, and dexterously scooped a wave over us. The water was pure and did us no harm, and the incident amused us. The vines of Teneriffe were not blasted like those of Madeira, and we bore away from the island a sufficient quantity of the fine fruit to feast us for many days. The price we paid for it was a dollar a peck, including the basket.

On leaving Santa Cruz, we came in sight of the Grand Canary, whose eastern shore is about 100 miles from the continent. Its fishermen gain a good livelihood by fishing on the African coast. But what shall we say of the Peak of Teneriffe, one of the finest mountains in the world? Some of our passengers had probably visited Mont Blanc, which is somewhat higher; one of our company had traversed the Himalayas; another of us, a Peruvian, might have seen Chimborazo; we ourselves had stood on the St. Catherine Peak of Jamaica, and the Black Mountain of Hayti: but here was a scene nearly or quite equal in grandeur to any of them. On approaching the island from the North, we found it shrouded with a garment of mist, but could still discern it at intervals at a distance of eighty miles. Captain Chapman, our commander, told us that he had seen it, in fair weather 150 miles off. Towards evening, on the day of our departure, as we passed over the deep blue sea, and when about fifty miles to the South, the clouds which had hitherto enveloped it cleared away, and the whole mountain, 12,180 feet in height, stood out before us in bold relief, its peak covered with snow, and reflecting the light of a descending sun. It was a scene of impressive grandeur: the wide ocean on which we sailed, dwindled for the moment into comparative insignificance. The sight, so extraordinary and so captivating, recalled to us the beautiful lines of Goldsmith: —



“ Like some tall cliff which lifts its awful form,  
 Swells from the vale and midway leaves the storm ;  
 Though round its breast the rolling clouds are spread,  
 Eternal sunshine settles on its head.”

The shades of evening soon shut out all land from our sight, and we bade adieu to the sublime spectacle.

On the 22nd of the month we crossed the Tropic of Cancer ; and, by a singular coincidence, we first encountered on this day oppressive heat, and saw a company of flying fishes. On the following day a Spanish woodpecker alighted on the rigging of the ship, and all were intent on observing it. Little incidents are pleasing at sea, and serve to relieve the monotony of a voyage. This bird had a crested head and a red breast, and its wings and tail were tipped with silver : as it sat in the sun-light, and plumed its feathers, it spangled like a diamond and looked very beautiful. We had now arrived at St. Antonio, the most northern of the Cape de Verd Islands, which we coasted, having St. Lucia to the East, and St. Vincent to the South. St. Antonio is a large island, some part of which is fertile and well peopled ; but to us, as we sailed by it, it appeared rocky and rugged : often parched and brown and dreary, it was now, owing to long-continued rains, covered with a carpet of moss, and had a picturesque and cheerful appearance. The island of St. Vincent, where we cast anchor, has been selected by the Steam Navigation Companies for a coaling depôt, owing to its spacious land-locked harbour. The coals are sent out chiefly from South Wales, in lieu of ballast, usually at a moderate freight, and, when landed, the ships that bring them proceed to a neighbouring island for salt, or not unfrequently to the ports of South America for cargoes of sugar, cotton, and coffee. It is a poor sterile spot : a miserable village skirts the barren strand, such probably as are met with on the coast of Africa, and which constitute its slave-marts ; and here reside the agent of the Steam Company, and one or two other Englishmen, shut out from the civilized world, a Portuguese custom-house officer, and about 500 black and coloured people, some of whom are slaves.

The agent came alongside the steamer with the sad intelligence that fifteen of his servants were sick of fever, and that we therefore must not expect an early despatch. A few black Portuguese soldiers, however, came on board to assist in the coaling, and we escaped before midnight. Some of us went on shore : nothing could



well be more desolate; the hills had a rugged volcanic appearance; not a single tree was to be seen, and the only vegetation was a sort of dwarf nettle, and a few scanty shrubs which grew in the dry bed of a water-course. The island, on an average, can support about a hundred of the inhabitants: the food which supplies the remainder, consisting of beans and plantains, is brought over by the people of St. Antonio. Here the American and other whalers resort to repair damages encountered at sea; and here the Cape of Good Hope, the Australian, and the Anglo-Indian steamers supply themselves with fuel. It is by affording assistance to foreigners, and the export of goat-skins, that the inhabitants live. We were told there were 50,000 tame goats on the island.

Between this poor island and Pernambuco, where we next landed, there intervenes a distance of 1600 miles of ocean, occupying in its transit an average of eight days. The thermometer on the main deck, in our cabin-berths, stood at this time at 82° of Fahrenheit; on the spar-deck at noon, under an awning, a few degrees higher. Scarcely had we left the Cape de Verds, when, on first-day, the 26th, at mid-day, we were thrown into consternation by a cry of "Fire! Fire!" from some German female passengers, who rushed on deck and kept uttering loud screams and frantic exclamations. We were at that moment in our own cabin, and taking down our life-preservers, hastened to ascertain the truth. One voice was heard to say, slowly and solemnly, "God have mercy upon us!" About five minutes had elapsed since the first cry of fire was heard, and we found the hose of the fire-engine already laid down towards the ladies' cabin, which was filled with smoke; men and boys were standing with buckets in their hands; the sailors stood by the ship's boats, ready to lower them at a moment's notice; whilst the officers were gone down to the lower cabins to detect the cause of the alarm. A few moments of awful suspense ensued; we thought of the "Amazon," but endeavoured to trust in God. Our anxieties and fears were soon relieved. The purser came to us with the welcome intelligence that the mischief was occasioned, not by fire, but by the spontaneous bursting of Phillips's fire-annihilator, which had filled the aft of the ship with its volume of extinguishing gas. All was now mutual congratulation, and with some few of the more thoughtful amongst us, of thanks to Him in whose hands is the life of man. The wind on the following night was very high, accompanied with torrents of



rain, which so filled the ship's boats, that the men were obliged to bale the water out.

On the 30th day of the month, soon after the Equinox, we crossed the Equator in 30° W. long. We had expected, from the reports given us, to encounter in this part of the globe sultry heats and a deluge of rain, to have the port-holes closed, and the cabin-windows fastened down. Just the contrary. From sun-rise to sunset the day was nearly unclouded; the thermometer was under 80°; a fresh breeze blew on us from the South, and cooled the air; it seemed to us like a warm English summer. At 6 o'clock the sun went down; a dull and leaden light succeeded for about half an hour, and then a canopy of orange and violet, covering the dark clouds of the horizon, but soon fading off, closed the scenes of day. The moon now rose, and constellations new to us spangled the southern sky; among which was the Southern Cross, of which we had a beautiful view.

10th month, 2nd.—The Severn this day, at 11, P.M., made the northern coast of Brazil. We landed at Pernambuco the following morning, and took a drive through the city and its environs. The landing at Pernambuco is very difficult, except it be very calm, owing to the heavy swell of the ocean, which almost constantly exists; and it requires skilful management on the part of the boatmen, to save their passengers from a wetting. This is a large town, of about 100,000 inhabitants, chiefly slaves. In giving the population of towns in Brazil, the numbers can only be regarded as an approximation, as no accurate census has at any time been taken; and if you ask six persons the same question, you will get as many distinct answers, differing very widely. The business streets are narrow and dirty, and the houses are many stories high. The merchants have mansions in the country, to some of which beautiful gardens are attached. The slaves go without shoes, to distinguish them from the coloured free people.

On loosing from Pernambuco, we kept for a time pretty near the coast, which, though low, is not flat and level like Demerara and Berbice, but agreeably diversified by hills, and fairly wooded. Smoke was rising from many points, denoting the presence of sugar-manufactories. In two days we reached Bahia, a still larger city, where we again landed, and were exceedingly struck with the appearance of its population. The slaves and free blacks of Bahia have been chiefly brought from the coast of Benin, near the



province of Mina, and are a remarkably fine race of people. The slaves are decently dressed on their lower limbs: the men go naked to the waist, and the women wear only a loose wrapper of cotton cloth; they thus display their fine limbs and noble proportions, and exhibit forms that a statuary would be emulous to copy. They perform an immense amount of labour, such as ought to be performed by horses, mules or oxen, and are evidently treated as if belonging to a lower grade in the animal creation. In bearing great loads up the steep ascents of the city, their nostrils expand with hard breathing, and they sing somewhat dolefully to relieve the chest. Sometimes, when the work is not hard, they sing cheerfully. About fifty of these fine men came on board to assist in coaling the ship, and as they lifted up the huge and heavy sacks of coal by a long rope, they marched in time on the deck, and sang an African song, which some of us thought had as much of melody in it, as the performances of our Italian opera-singer, who was going on a professional visit to Rio de Janeiro.

From Bahia to the capital of Brazil by sea is 720 miles, in passing which distance but little of the coast is seen. One morning, whilst far out of sight of land, a large moth, exhausted by flying, settled on the rigging, and suffered itself to become an easy prey to a naturalist on board, who was struck with its size and beauty. At this part of our voyage fishing-vessels came in sight, and the captain stopped occasionally to purchase a supply of fresh fish for the cabin table, which proved very welcome to us, as they were of a good kind, and such as sell on land at very high prices. We crossed the course of the Rifleman steam cruiser, on her look out after slavers, and, on a signal made, stopped the engine to communicate with her. A lieutenant, in a well-manned boat, speedily came alongside to inquire "What news from England?" A newspaper or two being thrown to him, we passed steadily on. One of the passengers, anxious to reach land, murmured at the detention;—"Stop a ship for a newspaper?—it was a shame!" Most of us thought otherwise. To men at sea, cruising perhaps for months together without hearing from home, such a gift must be most welcome; and common courtesy demands a trifling sacrifice to satisfy such a reasonable longing for news.

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## RIO DE JANEIRO.

OUR long voyage of 5240 miles was now drawing to its close. On the 9th of 10th month, being the 30th day after leaving England, we passed Cape Frio and entered the harbour of Rio Janeiro, not indeed under a laughing sky, such as is said to belong to Brazil, but in mist and rain. Enough, however, disclosed itself on every side to lead us to suppose it, what travellers confirm it to be, the most beautiful harbour in the world. A chief officer of the customs, to whom we had brought out a letter of introduction, cleared our luggage with kindness and despatch. On reading the letter, he said, "I am glad of your mission: I have been striving with others these twenty years to put down the slave trade: we cannot go so far as you do in regard to slavery; our circumstances forbid it; but I will do what I can to help you." Passing from the pier at once into the city, we hired a carriage and proceeded to Botofoga in the environs, a few miles distant, where one of our party obtained accommodations at the English hotel, and the other two of us repaired, by previous invitation, to the country house of Nathaniel Sands, grandson to David Sands, a minister of the Gospel, who once paid a religious visit to his friends in England. We were now happily located for a short time in a delightful dwelling-place. Our esteemed friends Nathaniel and Emma Sands are Episcopalians by profession, but are both descended from members of our own religious Society, and when in New York are surrounded by them, so that we felt ourselves completely at home. They have a good house, and a spacious garden well planted with bananas, with orange and lemon trees, and many other tropical fruits. Botofoga, the handsomest suburb of the capital of Brazil, fronts an inlet of the sea, and lies between the two well known mountains of the Sugar-loaf and the Corcovado, the one three miles, the other seven miles distant. It has the appearance of a village or hamlet situated in a lake district, amidst scenery richer than that of our English lakes, inasmuch as the neighbouring hills are covered to their summits with a luxuriance of vegetation unknown in Europe. Several omnibuses run from it daily to the city. After resting a day or two, we entered at once on the object

of our mission. The British Ambassador, Henry Southern, who is since deceased, resided at Botofoga: we made him an early call, and presented him with a letter of introduction from the Foreign Office. He received us kindly, and expressed his willingness to assist us, not only, as he said, because he was directed to do so, but because he felt an interest in the object of our mission. We also proceeded to the city to wait on the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, to whom we had in charge a letter of recommendation from the Brazilian Ambassador in London. On delivering this, and pressing our suit to be admitted to the Emperor, in order to present the Address which had been confided to our care, the Minister said that he would see the Emperor without delay, and arrange for us a private interview with him. He told us that he had already read the translation of that Address in the 'Diario do Governo' of Lisbon, and that we were at liberty to circulate it in any manner we pleased. In nearly all the notices taken of our visit to Brazil, in the public journals of that country, the subject of slavery was kept carefully out of view, and our mission was spoken of as if it had reference to the slave-trade only. A note, of which the following is a copy, shows the bias of the Brazilian government in this respect, and what they wished to have it understood was the object of our coming. It omits all mention of slavery.

“Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères fait ses compliments à Messrs. Wilson Burgess et John Candler, et s'empresse de leur communiquer que sa Majesté l'Empereur les recevra Samedi prochain 16 du courant à 5 heures de l'après midi au Palais de St. Christophe; et alors Messrs. Wilson Burgess et John Candler, pourront Lui présenter au nom de la Société Religieuse, dont ils sont commissionaires, les félicitations pour les mesures qu'a prises le Gouvernement Impérial contre la traite des nègres.”

“Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, le 14 Octobre, 1852.”

It was sufficient for us that the Address we were commissioned to present to the authorities, and to put in circulation, contained an uncompromising condemnation of slavery as unchristian, and we therefore took no pains to correct the misapprehension through the newspapers, although we did so in private conversation. Our appearance in the streets of Rio, our visits to the Exchange, and



our costume, differing somewhat from that of the inhabitants, attracted attention. As we were walking in the "Rua direita," a Brazilian gentleman accosted us in imperfect English, informing us that he had been in England and knew that we were Quakers. "They ask me," he continued, "who you are; I tell them Quakers, Friends—very good people. I knew a Quaker in London (William Allen) a very good man indeed." Finding him disposed to be familiar, we told him that we were seeking the way to the National Library. "I will go with you," he said. Taking us by the arm he conducted us to a narrow paved court-way which we had just avoided. A Roman Catholic church, in which high mass was performing, opened by its principal entrance into the court, and a number of persons stood bare-headed before the doors. We requested him not to take us that way, as we could not take off our hats in honour of the service, and we desired not to give offence. "Never mind," was his rejoinder, "leave that to me." On coming to the people, he took off his own hat, and as we passed through them, he said "These are my friends, you must give dispensation;" and we were suffered to go on without molestation. Such dispensation is not permitted in Portugal. The truth is that in Brazil, though a strictly Roman Catholic country, in which no natives are protestants, there is a large amount of religious as well as of civil liberty. English and American protestants are allowed to build places of public worship so long as the exterior is simple, without a steeple and without bells, and to worship in their own manner; nor are Roman Catholics forbidden, if they please, to attend a protestant service. Free permission is given by law to the circulation of the Holy Scriptures: an agent of the American Bible Society sells them at a moderate price at a store in the city, and a Roman Catholic bookseller advertises for sale the Bibles of the British and Foreign Bible Society. We found, on inquiry, that the demand was small, and that the Bibles were objected to, as wanting the Apocrypha. So little aid is afforded by the State to a persecuting spirit on the part of the Romish bishops and clergy, that a travelling agent for the selling of Bibles might pass through the country unmolested. The fault of the Brazilians in regard to religion is not intolerance, but indifference: the common people, as in all Popish countries, are deeply superstitious; the upper or educated class, who rule the nation, are spoken of, by those who observe them, as influenced



greatly by the literature of France, and strongly disposed to infidelity. In such a nation, under the combined influences of Popery, infidelity, and slavery, it would be vain to expect a commendable state of morals. Our hearts often sank within us at what we heard of the morals of domestic life: it seemed to us, from the accounts given us, that the moral condition of Brazil was as deeply diseased as that of any people in Christendom. In agriculture and commerce they appear to be prosperous: some of the large proprietors of land and nobles possess great wealth; and many of the merchants, chiefly Europeans, live like those of ancient Tyre, as "princes of the earth." The finances of the State are in a good condition. Its income exceeds its expenditure, and the Government are now able to buy up their own bonds, and are beginning gradually to extinguish the nation's debt. The Emperor, independent of his private patrimony, has a civil list of £100,000 per annum: his palaces are moderate in size, and his outlay is much less extravagant than that of many European rulers. He maintains, however, much of princely state. We saw him in his progress through the streets of the capital on a state occasion, and were struck with the elegance and even splendour of the cortège. The Emperor and Empress in a private carriage, drawn by eight gray horses, richly caparisoned, were preceded by a company of horse-guards and heralds; two carriages, with six mules each, followed the train, bearing gentlemen and ladies of the household. The sight was gay and attractive: they were well received by the citizens, and, as we were told, are highly popular.

As some days would elapse before we could present our Address, we employed the intermediate time in surveying the city and its environs. We made an excursion to the Botanic Garden and its neighbourhood, six miles from the city, and spent several hours there. Fronting the great gate, which opens to the high road, is an avenue of palm-trees, 1600 feet long, having forty-nine palms on each side. This peristyle of natural columns, with Corinthian capitals, supporting nothing, but covered with the canopy of heaven as a dome, is truly magnificent, and we hardly knew how enough to admire it. Human art has never produced such a corridor, nor can the power of man rival it. Here are also long avenues of spice-trees, a grove of cinnamon-trees, and an extensive garden of the tea-plant, introduced from China, of which we gathered specimens in blossom. Many tropical trees, indigenous and foreign, add to the beauty of



these attractive grounds. The bread-fruit tree, now naturalized in Brazil, the Cacao or chocolate-tree, the camphor, the sago-palm, and some broad-leaved forest trees flourish delightfully. This beautiful rendezvous, so well adorned by intertropical plants and so well laid out, forms an amphitheatre, surrounded on three sides by the Corcovado hills, and is open in front to a small lake. The road leading to it is in some parts wretched, perilous to carriages and mules, and distressing to travellers; but it is now undergoing a macadamizing process, and will soon become a favourite resort of equestrians. At present, it must be totally impassable after much rain: although, when we went to the gardens, it had been fine two days, the mules were completely stuck fast, and one of the traces was broken; the man took off his shoes and stockings to wade through the mire to reach the heads of the mules. Every intelligent stranger should visit the Botanic Garden of Rio Janeiro, the situation of which we should imagine to be one of the finest in the world; but the appearance of the garden must be much injured by the depredations which are committed on the flowers and trees, any one plucking what he likes, without let or hindrance: a black man offered to sell us a beautiful bouquet of flowers, which we had no doubt he had gathered in the garden.

The evenings in Brazil, as is the case everywhere else within the tropics, lose daylight much sooner than in the summer and autumn of England. The sun sets early all the year round, and there is but little of twilight. Evening parties are therefore common, and tea and coffee are the usual entertainments. On one occasion of this sort, at the house of our hospitable friend, Nathaniel Sands, we had the pleasure of meeting the American Secretary of Legation from Philadelphia, with Commodore Mackeever and Captain Pearson of the American Navy, who had landed from a cruize in the Brazilian seas in search of slavers under their own flag. The Viscount Barbascena, a Brazilian noble, an amiable, enlightened, and travelled man, and an abolitionist, was also of the company. From these gentlemen we obtained much information, both in regard to the slave-trade and slavery. We were rejoiced to find that the slave-trade is now looked upon as an odious traffic, and that the public mind is beginning to undergo some change as to the expediency of slavery itself as an institution.

On the day appointed for our reception at Court, we hired a carriage and proceeded to the palace of Christavaô, four miles from



the capital, built on the side of a lovely hill, fronting the Bay of Rio, and commanding a fine view of the Organ Mountains. A servant in attendance directed us to an ante-room. After waiting half an hour, a gentleman of the household desired us to follow him to the hall of audience, where he said we should find the Emperor. This was our only introduction. A fine tall man, dressed in plain clothes, but with a diamond star on his breast, seeing us enter, kindly walked a few paces to meet us. We knew him to be the Emperor. The gentlemen who attend him on occasions of audience, stood in a group at a distant part of the room. Holding the parchment in our hands, we addressed him in the following manner. "May it please the Emperor to permit us briefly to explain the cause of our coming to Brazil? We are Members of the Society of Friends, in England. That Society has long felt a deep sympathy for the wrongs of Africa in the existence of the slave-trade in different countries, and deploras also the continuance of slavery. Influenced by this feeling, it has believed it to be a religious duty to prepare an Address to the Sovereigns and Rulers of Christian nations on the subject. This Address has been presented to many of the Courts of Europe; and we are deputed to present it to the Emperor of Brazil. Will the Emperor condescend to receive it at our hands?" The Emperor, taking the parchment, said, "I will receive it with pleasure, and read it." "May we be allowed to congratulate the Emperor, and to express our thankfulness that the slave-trade is extinguished, or nearly so, in Brazil?" The Emperor,—“I wish to see it abolished all over the world.” May we also express our desire that He who rules in the heavens, by whom Kings rule and decree justice, may be pleased to bless the Emperor and Empress, and their children, and give prosperity and peace to Brazil?" The Emperor,—“I thank you very much.” Here the interview ended, and we retired.

The present Emperor of Brazil, Don Pedro II., is a fine tall young man, twenty-six years of age; having what is termed the Braganza countenance, on the whole somewhat handsome. He speaks several languages, among them the English, which he appears well to understand. He is the younger and half brother to Queen Donna Maria of Portugal. The Empress, his consort, is sister to the reigning King of Naples, and is much esteemed for her affability of manner and great kindness to the poor.



On returning from the palace, we called on Euzebio, the late Minister of Justice to the Empire, an earnest opposer of the African slave-trade, who expressed his gratification at receiving such a visit; and intimated his determination, though no longer in office, to continue his efforts to suppress a practice so disgraceful to the Brazilian name. Thus ended our first week after setting foot on the soil of Rio de Janeiro.

Having, during our stay in this land, spent the first day of every week in the country, devoting it to religious reading, retirement, and worship, we are unable, from our own observation, to state in what manner this day is observed by the community at large. The foreign merchants in the cities close their stores, but the shops, we were told, are kept open much of the day, as in other Catholic countries, and mechanical and servile occupations are pursued as usual: the theatres are open, and balls and festivals are in the ascendant. It is deeply to be deplored that religion should have so little influence on the mass of a nation, that they devote to mammon and pleasure that day which ought to be set apart for rest and devotion.

Before leaving the city of Rio Janeiro to visit the mountains, we called on the editors of the daily newspapers, and obtained from them a promise to insert the Address of our Society in their columns: it was found, however, too stringent and uncompromising to suit the public taste; one part of it, relating to the slave-trade, and that part only, made its appearance in the 'Correio Mercantil;' no part of it was printed in the other Government paper, the 'Journal do Commercio,' during our stay in Brazil. We resolved therefore, without delay, to send copies of it by post to persons of influence throughout the empire, and took advantage of an undisturbed residence of a few days in the mountain-district of Tejucca to carry out the design. From Botofoga to the foot of the mountains was scarcely ten miles, and we should have thought that a pair of horses in a light carriage might have conveyed us the whole distance. Not so, however, thought the Brazilians. We had to pass through the city, and on coming to the livery-stable to which the horses belonged, the master and eleven of his men came out to us to unharness the horses, and put four mules in their place; and what made us wonder the more was that each of these twelve men should find something to do in the matter; but so it was. When the work was finished, the coachman flourished a long whip,



cracking it loudly ; we set off at a rapid rate, through ill-paved streets and a dusty road, and soon reached our destination. From the foot of the hill to our hotel in Tejucca was a long ascent of four miles, which could only be travelled in safety on horseback. Three mules were in attendance to convey us ; and having hired two black men, who we feared were slaves, to carry our luggage, we set out at sunset for the journey, passing through a defile of well-wooded hills, and reached our domicile in the dark.

The city of Rio Janeiro contains what are called hotels, where board and lodging are extravagantly dear, but in which neither cleanliness nor comfort is to be found : the natives tolerate them, but they are shunned by foreigners. Whoever wishes for comfort and retirement, and charges in any degree moderate, must leave the towns of Brazil and repair to the country. Our host at Tejucca was an Englishman, and we had no reason to be ashamed of him as our countryman. His guests were accommodated with private apartments, but all boarded at a common table : the provision was abundant and handsome, and he presided at it with so much politeness and attention to all, as to conciliate the general favour. Several young men from Rio, clerks or partners in mercantile houses, were his constant boarders. The city of Rio, owing to its narrow streets and deficient drains, with the general uncleanness of its population, is far from healthy ; and the young men, foreigners, newly arrived, who are peculiarly liable to attacks of fever, are very solicitous to lodge in the country. To meet this desire on the part of their clerks, and to preserve their health and services, some of the larger mercantile houses allow them £100 per annum each in addition to their usual salary, on the condition that they provide their own board and lodging. Some put their means together, engage a country-house in common, and provide a house-keeper and servants ; and some, as we found it in Tejucca, act singly and alone, and repair to a boarding-house. Our company at the hotel consisted of Americans, English, Germans and French, with an occasional addition of Brazilian families from the town, who came up to breathe the mountain air, and to enjoy a day or two of rural quiet. We had plenty of mules at command, and could ride at any hour : the hills, ravines, and waterfalls afforded constant objects of delight, and the bathing was luxurious. A constant stream of pure water poured down a river-course from the higher mountains, and at different points were pools or basins below



the shelving rocks, overshadowed by bananas, which afforded a secure retreat, thoroughly private, where one could enjoy a plunge or a douche bath. One of these basins, the best in the torrent and the most secluded, was appropriated to the female guests, who gave notice of their being there by suspending a white handkerchief on a tree at the entrance of the wooded declivity. There was also a swimming-bath under cover, near a coffee-pulping mill. At this pleasant spot we passed eight days, much to our enjoyment, and obtained also much information. On these hills were formed the first coffee-plantations of Brazil; and here we found many still in active operation, cultivated, we are sorry to say, by slaves, but richly adorning the face of nature, and affording to some of the proprietors a liberal return for the capital employed. A morning visit paid to one of these plantations brought us acquainted with a candid slave-owner, who was not prosperous, and was about to leave his estate and settle in Australia. Coffee-trees, in the course of time, wear out, and the land becomes what is called rinate, that is, unfitted to be planted with coffee again. The trees on this estate were thirty-six years old, and going to decay; some of the slaves had been sold, and the remainder, thirty in number, were mortgaged, together with the land, to an English merchant, who was resolved to foreclose, and who, as he could not by English law hold slaves, or buy or sell them, was about to shift the whole estate, by some Brazilian stratagem, to other shoulders. The cost of these slaves to their nominal owner for food and raiment, was about £5 10s. per annum each person, or £165 sterling; to which was to be added the interest on their money-value in the market of £50 each, at 10 per cent. per annum,—£150 more. These items, with an added calculation for average loss by death, would raise the cost of the twenty effective hands out of thirty, the rest being dead weight, to a larger sum than is paid in the West Indies for the labour of free men. With a failing crop and heavy wages, it was easy to see how soon a planter may become poor. His next neighbour, on the contrary, was getting rich: many of his coffee-fields were young and healthy; the house in which he resided was a mansion; the habitations of his hundred slaves were in good repair, and everything around him betokened wealth and prosperity. The slaves on both these estates, such as we saw of them, had the appearance of content and cheerfulness, but this was in part to be accounted for from the circumstance that they had humane



masters, and that the labour on coffee-plantations is much lighter than that of the cane-field and the sugar-factory. Coffee grown on these mountains sells for 30s. the cwt. at Rio Janeiro, and some of it, if washed and well prepared, fetches a much higher price. Coffee grown in the interior of Brazil can be raised at a cost of three-halfpence per pound.

Among the guests at Tejucca, with whom we conversed much, was a French gentleman, formerly editor of the 'Journal Hebdomadaire' of the island of Bourbon, and since connected with the 'Journal des Débats' at Paris. He had come to Brazil to solicit from the Government a grant of land for some bands of German immigrants, amounting in number to 40,000 or 50,000 persons, who are willing to settle there if they can secure a good title to the land when granted. Many thousands of Germans have already arrived, and lands have been given them, but the validity of their titles has been disputed by neighbouring proprietors, and they have been so harassed by wearisome law-suits, and appeals to justice, that none now are willing to follow them until they know the issue. The French envoy told us that he would do nothing without a special Act of the Brazilian Legislature.

Another of our fellow-guests was a retired and wealthy Brazilian merchant, who has a son in the office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who was also with us at the hotel, and with both of whom we had much communication on the subject of our mission. The son objected to slavery on Christian principle, and took Christian ground in opposing it: the father thought it a bad institution, but maintained its expediency. From these two intelligent men, and from a physician who lived in a mountain residence not far off, who came two or three times to converse with us, we gained an insight into the state of the Brazilian mind in regard to this momentous question: we treasured up the information they gave us, and found it amply confirmed as we travelled further and saw more. The physician, Dr. Ildefonso Gomez, is a benevolent man and warm abolitionist; he showed us ten or twelve different petitions and letters on the subject of slavery and the slave-trade, which had been inserted by himself in the 'Correi Mercantil' (a daily newspaper published at Rio Janeiro) from time to time, beginning with the year 1845, and coming down to 1851, in which he makes use of as strong language as the most ardent abolitionist could desire. He appeared to be deeply impressed with the evils



which prevail in his country, particularly slavery and the want of religion : he spoke highly of the Emperor, and seemed to think him almost the only individual in a high station sincerely desirous of the abolition of the slave-trade. The Doctor has been called upon to endure many domestic afflictions, which have probably had a chastening effect, as he appears to be a solid serious character. All these gentlemen agreed in assuring us that the African slave-trade in Brazil is honestly suppressed. The suppression thus far, and though only a short time has since elapsed, has produced satisfactory results. The capital heretofore devoted to this traffic being disengaged, has flowed into the money-market, to the benefit of lawful commerce : the interest of money has fallen, and remains greatly reduced, bills being now discounted at a moderate rate. When slaves could be bought in any number, newly landed from the slave-ships, many of the large land-owners whose credit was good, and who had sugar and coffee land unemployed, were induced to keep adding to their stock of live chattels, by buying them with bills of long date. They could boast at the end of the year of their wealth and power : one could say, "I have eight hundred slaves;" another, "I have a thousand:" but, at the same time, they were under the power of the money-lender, had to pay enormous interest for the advances made,—often as much as 15 or even 20 per cent. per annum, and were really becoming embarrassed. The situation of these men is now much more easy : they can no longer encumber themselves with new slaves from Africa, for there are none such to be had ; and some of them who prefer the comfort of being out of debt to the pride of power, begin to feel, with the community at large, that the slave-traffic is bad for themselves and for the country. There is little or no outcry against its suppression from the planters, nor, generally speaking, from the native Brazilians. The chief opponents of this new measure of the Government are the Portuguese traders, who have grown rich by these iniquitous transactions, and who have become, from this cause, a powerful class, but whose race, it is to be hoped, is now nearly run. Between the native Brazilians and the resident Portuguese, there has long been a rivalry of feeling, and the profits of the slave-trade, monopolized by the latter, had served to exasperate it. The same rivalry, combined with other causes, may tend to prevent its revival.

Although, viewing Christianity as a Religion of Peace, we cannot but deplore all resort to arms to further any cause, however



righteous, we must state our conviction that the late conduct of Great Britain in chasing the African slavers into the harbours of Brazil, and making seizures of them under its very forts, has contributed mainly to stimulate the Government of Brazil to put down the African slave-trade to that country. It deeply wounded the pride of the nation to see its past insincerity and bad faith thus exposed to the whole world: the Emperor therefore resolved to take the matter at once into his own hands, and, by bold measures, to crush the traffic. The dread of again incurring the odium of Europe; the high character and undoubted sincerity of the Emperor; and the support he receives from the native Brazilian party; these considerations combined afford us the honest hope that it may now be crushed, not for a short time only, but altogether. Although the African slave-trade is detested by perhaps a majority of the native Brazilians, slavery, as an institution, is not viewed in the same unfavourable light. Very few indeed are the individuals who object to it on Christian grounds: many deem it inexpedient; some pronounce it a curse; but the great body of the nation contend for its necessity, and have no desire to get rid of it. Brazil, they acknowledge, can never become a great nation till slavery is abolished, and all the land is cultivated by free men; but they are impressed with a conviction that if the slaves were made free, they would leave the service of their white masters, and become squatters on distant parts of the territory, and thus that the coffee, cane, and cotton fields would become abandoned. "We must introduce free labourers from abroad as fast as we can;" such is the language they hold out: "and when we have a sufficient number of new hands to allow the experiment to be tried, without loss to ourselves, we will abolish slavery. We do not love slavery for its own sake, but we cannot do without it: we treat our slaves well: a bad master may be found here and there, as in other countries where the system prevails; but everybody knows, and everybody will say, that, in general, they are well off here." With such arguments as these, fallacious as they are, some humane men endeavour to satisfy their consciences; but they must see, or they ought to see, that free white labour from abroad can never be introduced to such an amount as to have any sensible effect in diminishing the evils of slavery, or in promoting the freedom of the slave. If slavery in Brazil be not abolished till free immigrants arrive from Madeira,



the Azores, and Germany, in sufficient numbers to supplant the blacks who are in bondage, it will last for many centuries.

Not a few Englishmen, we are sorry to say, hold slaves in this country, although such conduct, were they in England, would expose them to the danger of prosecution in our criminal courts. By an Act of Parliament, passed in 1843, known by the name of Lord Brougham's Act, it is made unlawful for an Englishman to buy or sell a slave in any land. Some Englishmen in Brazil have bought slaves since that period, and one unhappy man, a short time since, had so far lost all sense of honour and decency, as to employ his steam-boat to convey contraband slaves from the ships of the man-stealer to the shore.

While riding out one morning during our stay in Tejucca, we witnessed a sight that caused us to shudder: it was a black man being tied up by another black, probably for the purpose of flogging, and his owner or overseer standing by with apparent unconcern. We were admiring the lovely scenery by which we were surrounded, but on seeing this, it immediately cast such a gloom over the whole that admiration gave way to a feeling of sadness. The hills of Tejucca abound with beautiful rides. We ascended a mountain called the Padra Bonita, from which there is a splendid view of the harbour of Rio, studded with its numerous islands, on one side, and the open sea on the other. The Padra Bonita is separated from the Gavia or Table Mountain by a deep chasm: the latter is nearly inaccessible, and the descent from its summit to the sea-shore is almost perpendicular. Many of the hills around Rio Janeiro assume singular shapes: the astonishing variety of their outline adds materially to the beauty of the landscape, and renders the situation of the city one of the finest imaginable. A merchant, in the course of half an hour, may be transported from the midst of his business to the most lovely scenery. To be surrounded by such a country is an advantage to the inhabitants which, in various points of view, can hardly be estimated. The Corcovado mountain, adjoining the city, is spoken of by all travellers as very beautiful. It certainly embraces the finest views to be obtained in the whole neighbourhood, particularly in descending by the course of the aqueduct. The harbour, the shipping, the opposite shore, clustered with hills clothed in perennial verdure to the very summit, the city with its suburbs stretching for several miles, the castle-hill rising in the centre of the city, the hills of St. Theresa

and Gloria, altogether form a panorama which few places in the world can equal.

At Tejucca, we encountered some days of very heavy rain: whilst we remained there, and could get out into the country, we walked and rode among the mountains, visited coffee-plantations, saw slaves at their toil in the open fields, and called on English merchants at the houses they occupy on the hills. Yellow fever was prevailing at the capital: we thought mountain air was the best for us, and wishing to see more of the land at a distance from the coast, and to become acquainted, if possible, with the workings of slavery on some of the large plantations of the interior, we set out for Petropolis.



## PETROPOLIS.

RISING early on the morning of the 30th of tenth month, we mounted our mules and came down to the city to take the steam-boat, twenty miles across the bay, to Estrella. The weather was now fine, and we saw this magnificent bay, as it has often been depicted by travellers, full of interest and beauty. The sun shone upon its numerous islands and gilded the shore: the Organ mountains rose in majesty before us, and Rio de Janeiro, a large city as we left it, gradually diminished till it became a speck: the houses and shipping faded from view; but not so the Sugar-loaf mountain, and the Corcovado, on the flank and rear: these remained in their native, now distant grandeur, and, with the ocean beyond, made the whole panorama truly delightful. At Estrella we entered a carriage drawn by four mules, and proceeded across the plain to the foot of the Organ range, and began its ascent by a broad macadamized road, lately formed by an able engineer, among the hills, on a gradient rise of one foot in seventeen. The ascent is about seven miles, and occupied us two hours and a half. So fine a mountain road for carriages we had never before seen. The mountains on each side were lofty, and covered with trees and verdure to the summit. At different points of the road, as we ascended the mountain, splendid views burst upon us, comprising the beautiful harbour with its islands and the surrounding heights, with the city of Rio Janeiro in the distance.

At about three-fourths of the height of this part of the range, at an elevation of 2000 feet, we came to Petropolis, a city not yet seven years old, but which already contains 4000 inhabitants, the larger part of whom are German colonists, to whom the Emperor has allotted land in small portions of about half an acre to each family. These Germans, many of them, at least, who were poor, began by being day-labourers in opening and improving the road, working on Government pay at 18s. per week, and as they made money, they cut down wood and built themselves small houses. They now cultivate the land given them chiefly in grass, which they sell to the muleteers who bring down gold from the mines, and coffee from the plantations, to Rio Janeiro. Their first



habitations were rude huts, of which a few specimens remain, for some of them smoke, and drink, and loiter, and will not be urged on; but most of these huts have disappeared, and their present dwellings, which are neat and substantial, are scattered through all the defiles of the hills, and form a fine picture of what industry, duly rewarded, may quickly accomplish. About two-thirds of these colonists are Roman Catholics, the remainder Protestants: a Roman Catholic church is already built, and a Protestant one is in embryo. A Protestant pastor is soon expected out, under the patronage of the King of Prussia. We took out with us some German Testaments, which here found a useful destination.

Petropolis is the germ of what will soon be a large city: the people are levelling the hills, filling up chasms, building bridges, and improving the highways. Some persons think it will become, for purposes of government, the capital of the empire: it is nearly forty miles from the present capital, twenty by water, and nearly twenty by land; and a rail-road is now making, to begin at a point on the harbour, and to run to the foot of the hills near Tragoza, which, combined with swifter steam-boats on the harbour, will materially lessen the time between Petropolis and Rio Janeiro. Petropolis is delightfully situated in a sort of basin of the Organ mountains, and is a favourite resort of persons from Rio Janeiro, particularly since yellow fever has been so fatal at the latter place during the hot season; as, from its elevation, it enjoys a comparatively cool climate: indeed, our host told us it was no uncommon thing to see ice in winter. The Emperor is building a palace here, and many handsome private dwelling-houses have already risen. There are three large hotels, one English, one French, and one Brazilian, all of them good, and maintained on charges not much higher than those of the best hotels in the United States. This is saying much for Brazil; as our fellow-countrymen assured us, and our own experience often confirmed the fact, that a milrei, equal in value to 2s. 4d. sterling, goes no further in this part of South America than a shilling in England. We repaired to the English hotel, much frequented, during the summer season, by parties and families from Rio, who come here to enjoy the coolness of a mountain climate. The charge per diem for each individual, for lodging and board, at a common table, is four milreis, or £3 5s. per week. Much kind attention was manifested towards us by our fellow-guests, and, as they were pleased to tell us, because we came out



on so good an errand. Among those who attended the dinner-table was Sir Camille de Goffredo, a Neapolitan engineer, a Lieut. Colonel in the Spanish army, and a friend of the Empress. Having understood that it was our purpose to visit the district of Parahyba, he kindly offered to conduct us thither, and to supply us from his own stable with mules for the undertaking: we gladly accepted the generous proposal; and he sent his servant onward a day's journey to prepare for our being received at houses by the way. We cannot speak too highly of the kindness and attention of the Colonel to us, which was unremitting and uniform throughout the journey; his cheerful, and at times animated conversation, added to our enjoyment; he is a man of great affability, and having travelled extensively, has a large acquaintance with men and things; he speaks also five languages so fluently, that a stranger would be at a loss to conjecture what country he could call his own. It is his ambition, he told us, to travel, and in particular to visit countries hitherto but little explored. It would have given him great delight, he said, to have been the companion of Gordon Cumming in South Africa, and to have hunted elephants and lions: something of this kind, or equally adventurous, he hopes yet to perform. He furnished us with mules, and the necessary accoutrements for the journey; and mounted himself on his own favourite horse, we all set out from Petropolis on our way northward to the river Parahyba.

Our first stage of six miles, over a road made wretched by recent rains, brought us to the *fazenda*\* of Luis Marquis de Sa, a wealthy proprietor, where we breakfasted. This individual holds an estate of six miles square, chiefly mountain land, upon which are ninety slaves. Ten miles further on, we came to the house of Roberto, a trader, and dismounted, to give the animals rest. Whilst we tarried, a gang of thirty able-bodied slaves passed us, who were going to work on a new tram-road, being hired of their owner at 16 milreis each per month, or £22 8s. per annum; the road-company agreeing to feed them, and the owner to supply them with clothes. Another stage of fourteen miles, through hills of great loveliness, giving us rock and ravine, mountain torrents, and a beautiful water-course, brought us to the comfortable dwelling of Sarmiento, also a trader; with whom we were to dine, or rather to sup, and lodge.

\* *Fazenda* is the name given to a farm or plantation where corn and coffee are chiefly cultivated. Sugar-plantations are called *Engenhos*.



During the day we had met or overtaken nearly 500 mules, laden with coffee for shipment at Rio Janeiro, or returning home to the mountains with merchandise from that city : a number of these animals, with their wild-looking drivers, were resting in *ranchos*, or covered sheds, by the road-side, and afforded an admirable subject for the pencil. A land so wild and picturesque, and animated at the same time by such numerous groups of men and animals, marching in single file, and often seen to a great distance, is a highly interesting sight.

We did not know, until we rose in the morning, that the host at whose house we had received such good entertainment, was a slave-trader, but so it proved. He was a good-looking man, a native of Portugal, not unbenevolent of face, but was evidently subdued in countenance, we could not tell why : perhaps it was that knowing beforehand the object of our mission to Brazil, he suspected that we looked upon him as a guilty man. Society in Brazil is in a very unsatisfactory condition : slave-owners, slave-dealers, and immoral men, throng the path of the traveller ; and to avoid the company of such persons, " we must needs go out of the world." There are, indeed, many honourable exceptions, as we found to our great contentment ; but speaking generally, there is much cause of sorrow in this respect, so that what we heard and saw of the people often made us sick at heart.

Rising early in the morning, we again mounted our faithful steeds, and after a ride of a few miles in an open country, came to an original forest, through which has been cut a road leading to the *fazenda* and mansion of Dr. Joaquim Antonio Pereira da Cunha, the son of a deceased baron, who has married a widow possessed of large landed property, on which they reside. A letter of introduction from our estimable friend, the Viscount Barbascena, ensured us a cordial reception. This fine estate is twelve miles square : there are planted upon it 240,000 coffee-trees, of which a fourth part are strong and healthy, and yield a produce of nearly 3 lbs. of coffee to each tree. About 100 acres of the land are devoted to the cultivation of the sugar-cane ; and a large portion of it to rice, maize, and beans, for the support of the mules, horses, oxen, and slaves. The live stock, as enumerated after the country fashion, is 150 oxen, 100 mules, and 350 men, women, and children. The mansion, the sugar and coffee factories, and the slave-habitations, are in good order, and every-thing around,



and on the whole estate, indicates wealth, prosperity and presiding care.

Colonel Goffredo and one of our party set out after breakfast through a range of coffee-growing hills to the river Parahyba, one of those many large streams which water South America. On the road thither we saw two or three native Indians, of a handsome countenance. The river Parahyba, on which stands the town of the same name, appears nearly as wide at that point as the Thames at London Bridge. There are several small islands in it, which, with its banks, are very pretty. The river at present is crossed by a floating bridge and pier, but a stone bridge is begun, which however appears to go on very slowly,—the grass growing on the top of the abutments. We did not cross the river, contenting ourselves with a view of the town from the opposite banks. The district on the borders of the river Parahyba is the richest coffee-growing district in Brazil.

The 54,000 coffee-trees in full bearing on Da Cunha's *fazenda*, yielded him last year 64 tons of coffee, which, delivered at Rio Janeiro, and worth there at least 30s. per cwt., would realize £1900. The sugar made was 6000 arrobas of 32 lbs. each, which at £10 per ton would yield £865. The rum made was more than equal in value to that of the sugar, say £1000. The slaves are fed on the maize, beans, rice, and pork, which they contribute to raise; their only cost is for clothing and medical care, which may be estimated at 40s. per annum per head. It is very easy to see that such an estate, carefully managed, must in its present condition yield a good revenue; but when the coffee-trees lately planted are fully grown, and become added to those already in full bearing, the revenue will be vastly increased. The total estimated expenses of slave labour on a coffee-estate, where no provisions are raised on the property for the support of the slaves who work it, and where food, consequently, is purchased for them, is one-sixth of the money-value of the coffee; on a sugar-estate it amounts to one-third of the value of the sugar and rum.

In going over parts of this fine estate, particularly near the mansion, and listening to the statements of its intelligent owner, we had no reason to doubt that the slaves, viewed as chattels, possessing bodies to be fed and nourished, but neither mind nor soul to be cultivated, were ruled by a kind considerate hand. The young children seemed to be carefully attended to by nurses in the



absence of their mothers: marriage, when sought after, was said to be encouraged; and every mother who bears six children, is made free. The mothers are allowed to nurse their own infants, and are withdrawn from field labour for two full years after each confinement, to perform work only in and about the house, of which there is always plenty to do. We had no opportunity of seeing for ourselves the routine of the plantation, in regard to general operations, or at all to judge whether too much labour is exacted of each slave; but we can bear testimony to the fact that the slaves we saw looked in good condition. There were, however, some set-offs to this subdued picture. On both of the days which we spent here, we observed gangs of slaves, about seventy in each gang, at work in the fields, under a driver armed with a whip, and with an overseer at a distance, bearing a heavy stick, and engaged, as we supposed, in urging on the labour: and in the evening, one of us witnessed the slaves beating out Indian corn by lamp-light, which seems rather hard upon the poor creatures, after performing a day's work in the fields. Our attention was called to it while sitting in the house, by hearing the monotonous kind of melody which the slaves keep up when at work. Much immorality was stated to prevail among the sexes at an early period of life, which no watchfulness or care on the part of the proprietor could prevent; and all were growing up in profound ignorance.

We found no disposition on the part of this candid gentleman to justify slavery on any ground; and he congratulated himself on being the son of the Brazilian Prime Minister who negotiated with England the first treaty for the suppression of the African slave-trade on the coast of his own country. He accepted with courtesy a copy or two of our Address against both of these great wrongs. Pleased as we were with the kind reception he gave us, and grateful as we were for his hospitality, we could not stifle our feelings of sorrow at the system under which such wealthy land-owners live. We could not but feel how utterly unsafe it is to trust any individual, however kind and humane in his natural disposition, with unlimited and irresponsible power over his fellow men. It cannot fail sometimes of being abused, and is often dreadfully so.

On our return to Petropolis, we passed through some magnificent natural scenery, and from one elevated spot we looked down with admiration on three of the provinces of Brazil,—Rio de Janeiro, Santo Paulo, and Minas Geraes. We also passed again



through a portion of the primitive forest, containing tall trees, abounding with parasites and Epidendrons, and interlaced and entwined together by a natural cordage springing from the ground. We saw lizards and snakes, and heard the noise of a frog called the "blacksmith," which makes the hills to ring with a sound like the smiting of a hammer on an anvil. Monkeys abound in the woods, but we saw none: parroquets are numerous, and we saw two flights of them; we observed also, flying from tree to tree, a pair of the birds of Paradise. Sarmiento, the slave-dealer, at whose house we lodged, lived at a point where three roads meet; we called on him again as we passed by, and found at his table a coffee-planter of the neighbourhood, reputed to be rich in slaves, land and houses, and very covetous, who invited us to visit his plantation. We could not accept his invitation, but placed in his hands a copy of our manifesto against slavery, which, we had no doubt, he and his friend, on our departure, would sit down and ponder together. We dined the third day, and lodged the third night, at a house by the road-side, where we were well entertained, and paid for the accommodation we received. Our good friend, the Colonel, wishing to surprise and deceive us, had endeavoured to procure a monkey to be killed and cooked for dinner, and had offered a handsome price for it; but happily no one fit for the purpose could be found, and we escaped the infliction of such a feast. In the evening, our hostess treated us with cakes and cups of *matté*, the herb of Paraguay, instead of tea. The smell of the infusion of its leaves is not agreeable, being much like what would arise from new-mown hay, chopped fine and soaked in hot water; but some of us thought it very good, and contentedly accepted it as a substitute for the better plant of China. The people of Paraguay and Buenos Ayres are so passionately fond of this herb, that if their rulers, by any fiscal regulations, were to make it dear, it is believed they would revolt and overthrow the government.

Journeying onward the next morning, we observed, sitting in a *rancho* where muleteers sleep and mules lie down to rest, a gang of thirty-four slaves, not chained as in some lands, who were travelling through the country to be disposed of at the first market. Their master, with a horse-whip in his hand, was one of those *respectable* citizens who buy slaves from distressed owners, or at public auction in the cities, and drive them into the interior for sale: when they arrive at a proper place to stop at, like the *rancho*, they

send notice to the neighbouring planters, who, if they want slaves, or have a wish to speculate, come to purchase them. The thoughts to which it gave rise were calculated deeply to distress the mind. May the wretched system soon pass away, and may Heaven, in its mercy, spare this guilty land!

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## THE JOHN DEL REY GOLD-MINES.

DURING our stay in the mountains of Tejucca and Petropolis, we became acquainted with the agent of the John Del Rey gold-mines, with a gentleman also who has long lived in the mining district, and with an Englishman who came out as sub-engineer to the Brazilian Mining Company, which, after sinking £400,000 in attempts at mining, is now extinct, owing to the bursting in of the mountain in which their mine of Cata Branca was situated. From them we obtained the following particulars in regard to the very rich and productive region of John Del Rey. The mountain which contains the gold is possessed by an English company, and is worked by English capital. There are three classes of labourers employed in the mines:—1. Slaves, who were bought by the Company previous to 1843. 2. Slaves hired of their owners. 3. Free white men, or half-castes, the descendants by their mothers of Africans or Indians. The power of the mine to yield gold seems only limited by the want of labourers: the superintendents can easily calculate, by the appearance of the mineral bed, the quantity of gold it will yield by crushing. The shaft of the mine is deep, and the air, which is usually foggy in the morning on its surface, is deleterious below, and the mortality of the miners is very great. Able-bodied slaves are hired of their owners in gangs, for a term of five or seven years, at £15 per annum each, under an agreement by bond to pay such owners the full market-value of every slave who dies sooner, or, in other words, is worked to death, or destroyed by mephitic air, before the time agreed upon expires. If the Company is relieved from the liability of payment on death, in that case the owner is paid £18 15s. for the hire and service of each slave, and takes his chance of life or death, trusting to the humanity of the governor and superintendents not to overwork them, or place them needlessly in danger. Free labourers work only eight hours in the day, and receive 7s. 6d. per week for their six days' work. The cost of feeding and clothing the labourers is estimated no higher than at about £6 10s. per annum each, provisions being cheap in that part of the country, which is nearly 300 miles distant from the capital.

The slaves held in bondage by the Company, as part and parcel of their estate in possession, are now reduced, we were told, to about 800; the hired slaves amount to 1,000; and the free labourers fluctuate in number, according to the value of labour in the neighbourhood. Owners of slaves, who let them out to the Company, make an interest on their market-value of at least 15 per cent. per annum, which is more than in many instances they could make by employing them in the cultivation of coffee or sugar.

We have some reason to hope, from the evidence before us, that the slaves under the management of the Company are well fed, and suitably attended when sick; and we are told that moral and religious instruction is not altogether withheld from them. The present superintendent of the mines has a high character for humanity and kindness. Still, we have the startling fact before us, that Englishmen are slave-holders, and work their slaves in unhealthy mines for the paltry love of gold: they obtain 10 per cent. per annum, and often much more, for the capital they employ; but the sinews of their servants are in the mean time shrinking, their bodily powers decay, and a fearful rate of mortality goes on! Had the slaves whom the Company now hold been purchased by it since the passing of Lord Brougham's Act, in 1843, instead of before that period, every individual shareholder, we presume, might be looked upon by law as a felon, and be liable to a prosecution in our criminal courts. But every shareholder is a slave-holder now; and if slave-holding be a crime, where is the difference, *in foro conscientiæ*, between having slaves purchased before a given date, or after it? The subject is a national reproach: and all who possess a share in the capital of the Company, may adopt the language of Scripture,—“We are verily guilty concerning our brother.”

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## RETURN TO RIO DE JANEIRO.

ON the 8th of eleventh month we left Petropolis, and a delightful ride of two hours down the new mountain road brought us to the plain. The weather, which was cool and pleasant among the hills above, became sultry, and we drove over a dusty road to Estrella : there taking the steam-boat, we passed down the river and through the bay, and arrived speedily at the capital. A few days only remained to us before our departure for Bahia, which we busily employed in the objects of our mission. Public opinion is so far changed in the cities of Brazil, that open market-places for the sale of slaves are everywhere suppressed ; but slaves are chattels still, and are sold by auction at private marts with other advertised lots of merchandise. Several such sales took place during our stay in the city. On one occasion, ten or twelve men, women and children were made to stand up to be examined by the company ; and it was loathsome to see the manner in which they were handled and gazed upon, whilst the auctioneer, a fluent Frenchman, was extolling their qualifications for service, and urging the spectators to bid. This sight was more harrowing to our feelings than any other that we witnessed. To see human beings, possessing immortal souls, made a matter of bargain and sale, and to such persons as some of the buyers appeared to be, was enough to make us sick at heart, and to bring the horrors of the system very vividly into view. Some of the better Brazilians begin to be ashamed of these things, and express a hope that sooner or later their country may be rid of the reproach.

The registered slaves in Rio de Janeiro are 82,000 : the total population of the city is said to be 250,000. The slavery which exists in towns is very different to that of the country ; and except that the slaves bear heavy loads, and make a monotonous singing as they pass through the streets, there is little that is very revolting to attract notice. The general practice on the part of owners is to exact a daily stipend from the slave, and to leave him the remainder of what he can earn, for his own sustenance and support, or to make savings for the purchase, when he pleases, of his own freedom. The laws of Brazil are favourable to the



slave in this respect, as he may at any time go to a magistrate and get himself valued; and, on payment of the value so fixed, he may either then, or at any future period, demand his liberty. Many of the slaves of towns and cities, where almost all operations are performed by manual labour, make a great deal of money: they work excessively hard to obtain it; and when obtained, the first object with most of them is to become free. They rejoice, not only because they are no longer slaves, but because, though black in skin, like their fellows, they are seen and known to be freed men: they may now wear shoes and boots, which is a privilege denied to the slave. We could not ascertain the number of this class of blacks in Rio, but it must be large, and would undoubtedly be larger, were it not for the law of conscription, which forces free men of every class into the army as common soldiers. Many fine young men, who guess what their lot would be if they purchased their own freedom, are content to remain slaves rather than be condemned to the ranks, and to military toil.

Some of these free blacks had heard of our coming to Rio, and had learned, we know not how, the nature of our visit; and sent a request to us that a deputation of eight or ten of their body might have an interview with us. To this we readily assented, and met them, in strict privacy, at the office of a ship-broker, an Englishman, who possessed their confidence, and acted as interpreter between us. They gave us their history. They were of the Mina tribe of Africans, from the coast of Benin, torn away many years since by the ruthless man-stealer, and brought and sold into slavery. They had earned money enough by very hard labour to buy themselves of their master, and were now wishing to return to the land they came from. They could pay their passage back again across the ocean, but waited to know whether the coast was sufficiently free from the slave-traders to warrant their making the attempt. Sixty of their companions, we found, had left Rio Janeiro for Badagry last year, and had reached home in safety. It seemed surprising to us at first, that any among them should have been able and bold enough to make so perilous an experiment; but the broker confirmed the statement by putting into our hands the charter under which they sailed, and of which the following is a copy:—



## "CHARTER PARTY.

"Rio de Janeiro.

"On the 27th of November, 1851, It is agreed between George Duck, Master of the British brig called the Robert, A 1, and Raphael Jose de Oliveira, free African, that the said ship shall receive in this port, sixty-three free African men (women and children included in this number) and their luggage, and shall proceed to Bahia, and remain there if required fourteen days, and then proceed to a safe port in the Bight of Benin on the coast of Africa, not South of Badagry (the port of destination being decided in Bahia), and deliver the same on being paid freight, here in this port, the sum of Eight Hundred Pounds sterling, to be paid before the sailing of the next British packet. The master binds himself to provide for the said passengers, sixty pounds of jerked beef, two and a half alquierés of farinha, and half an alquieré of black beans daily; a cooking-place and the necessary fire-wood to be furnished by the captain, half a pipe, say sixty gallons, of water to be supplied daily. The master is allowed to take any cargo or passengers and luggage that may offer at Bahia for the benefit of the ship. Passengers and luggage to be on board on or before the 15th of December, 1851, and disembark within forty-eight hours after the ship's arrival at the port of destination.

"Penalty for non-performance of this Agreement, Five Hundred Pounds sterling.

"GEORGE DUCK.

"RAPHAEL JOSE DE OLIVEIRA."

These fine-looking men, for such they were, bowed to us respectfully on leaving the room, and we shook hands heartily with them all. A few days after they sent us a paper, beautifully written in Arabic by one of their chiefs, who is a Mahommedan.

Among the city slaves, artizans and skilled cooks are in great request, and when hired out, large sums are demanded for their services. The cook in the family of our friend, Nathaniel Sands, of Botofoga, was of this class, whose master received for him £30 per annum, and demanded more. This poor man had been cook in an eating-house in the city, and had been worked day and night, until his health was broken down. Being now recovered, and, through kind treatment, become strong, his former employer was



bidding a higher sum for him than our humane friend thought it prudent to give; and it was only through the earnest entreaties of the poor slave, and the representation he made, that if he went back he should die, and thus occasion loss to his owner, that the covetous task-master consented to relax his grasp, and allow him to remain where he was. One slave-owner in the city told us, apparently with much self-satisfaction, that he took from his slaves, who were artisans, only 3s. a day, and left them the rest of their earnings to themselves! It is quite evident that a covetous master may oppress his slave by cruel exaction of his hard-earned wages, and all masters may, if they please, and many no doubt do so, oppress them with undeserved contumely and blows. The chief prison of the capital contained, at the time of our visit, a large number of slaves, who had been sent thither by their owners to be flogged!

Till very lately, all the work of carrying bags of coffee and sugar, and other articles of merchandise, to and from the stores of the city, has been performed by slaves, who generally work in gangs, under the direction of a chief or leader. This mode of conveying heavy loads has been found so costly to the merchants, that they have begun to use carts and horses. The change, when first introduced, was so distasteful to the slaves, that they revolted against it, thinking, and justly so, that if their services were no longer wanted as burden-bearers, they might cease to make extra earnings of their own, and perhaps be sent from the city to the country, and be sold to the plantations. It is now the policy of the Legislature to lay an increased poll-tax on all the town slaves of Brazil, with a view of driving them to the interior, and to get their work performed by the use of carts and machinery, and by white labourers from Europe. What may be the result of such a policy, stringently enforced, cannot yet be ascertained: the probability is, that it will occasion an immense amount of dissatisfaction, and ultimately lead to awful consequences.

Some few of the planters are beginning to see that free labour would be less costly to them than that of slaves, and are therefore introducing German and other immigrants to work their lands; this change, together with that of improved implements and machinery, has already proved beneficial. Although self-interest is the main-spring of this movement on their part, as they sell their slaves off to other masters; there are a few individuals who make



humanity a consideration, and who endeavour to improve their bondmen by encouragement and reward, and to fit them to become tenants. One landed proprietor of this class kindly called on us, and invited us to visit his plantation, seventy miles South of Rio de Janeiro. He had, he told us, thirty-five slaves, of whom twenty-seven are first class or effective hands, and all these he had placed on their trial for freedom. He proposed to give them allotments of land, on which to work as tenant labourers, paying no money-rent, but yielding him half the produce in kind. If they work industriously, and improve the estate, they are to have unconditional freedom, with the liberty of commencing on their own account, as tenants under lease. Several European labourers are already employed, and a ploughman is coming out from England. Black and white work together, and have perfect equality. We were sorry that our time was too limited to allow of our visiting this spot.

We heard much of a Brazilian senator, in the province of Santo Paulo, who has sold his own slaves, and employed the proceeds in importing poor Germans, to whom he allots land, and furnishes the capital for working it, and who also proposes soon to make them his tenants. This plan is said to be popular with the Germans, and has thus far answered so well as to induce other planters to follow his example. Not less than 7,000 German immigrants are already, we were told, in that province alone.

These experiments are much talked of among the well-disposed people of the country, and many who think slavery an inexpedient and bad system, seem to imagine that a continued immigration of this kind is calculated to effect its overthrow. It is on this principle that the Anti-Slavery Society in the city of Rio de Janeiro is founded, and to this mode of exterminating slavery they cling as their sheet anchor: but until they can show clearly, and make it manifest to the planters, that the labour of *free blacks* is less costly than that of their slaves, and that they can always have them in sufficient numbers, they will never be able by such measures alone to change the system, and conquer the crime. Immigration may do good; but alone, and unattended by other expedients, can lead to no extensive result. The only cure for the evils of slavery is its immediate abolition. A free man working for himself, and enjoying the fruits of his toil, will perform a much greater amount of labour than a slave working under fear of the lash. Emanci-



pation of the slaves, and kindness to the emancipated, would work out, with immediate benefit to all parties, the social change so ardently desired.

The patrons and friends of the anti-slavery cause invited us to meet them before we left the city, in accordance with the following advertisement, which was inserted in the newspapers:—

“Society against the Traffic in Africans, and for promoting Colonization and the Civilization of the Indians.

“Extraordinary Session.

“The Directors invite all Members, and those persons who interest themselves in the cause of the Society, to attend a Meeting that will take place on Thursday the 11th instant, at 6 o'clock in the evening, at the Saloon da Floresta, with the assistance of the Deputation from London of the Religious Society of Friends of Great Britain and Ireland.

“DR. MANUEL DA CUNHA GALVAO,

“2nd Secretary.”

On the evening appointed, we repaired to the hall in which they usually assemble, and had the gratification of meeting there the Viscount Barbascena, another nobleman, three public functionaries, and twenty-eight other gentlemen,—thirty-five of us in all. The President of the Society delivered an address in Portuguese, sitting: the Vice-President read an address in the same language; and a member of the Committee another in French. The Viscount then explained to us in English the nature and objects of their Society, at the same time bidding us welcome to Brazil. From his address, it appears that the Society had been two years and a half in existence, and at first consisted of only 21 members, now it numbers 215; which is some proof of a growth of right feeling: indeed, such is the altered state of public feeling, that they now hold their meetings with open doors; five years ago, the Society would not have been tolerated. Its first object was to oppose the African slave-trade; its next, to promote the immigration of white labourers, and to civilize the native Indians; its final aim is to promote the abolition of slavery. We then gave the assembly a brief history of the present state of our West India colonies, showing how favourably emancipation had worked there, notwithstanding the great outcry to the contrary, and explained the manner in which



that happy and blessed change had been brought about in England, through the prevalence of enlightened public opinion. Our estimable friend, Leopoldo, a chief in the custom-house, acted as our interpreter. We left the assembly impressed with the conviction that a good work is begun in the land, and that Rio Janeiro contains a band of sincere and enlightened men who detest the slave-trade, and are resolved, if possible, to keep it suppressed; and who, although not taking, as we do, the high ground that slavery itself is a national crime, and should be immediately abolished, are convinced of its inexpediency, and are resolved, by ameliorating measures, to improve the system, and, as they thus hope, ultimately to overthrow it.

In the city of Rio and its suburbs, about one-third of the inhabitants are born in slavery, for whom, of course, no education is provided; but elementary schools, not very good of their kind, are supported by the municipality, and thrown open equally to the children of the poor whites and of free blacks. Every parish or civil district has its public school; but these not being found sufficient for all who apply to be taken in, a Society, called the Imperial, under the patronage of the Emperor, has been formed, to extend primary instruction to what may be denominated the ragged population. Having brought over a bountiful stock of school lessons, in Portuguese, as a gift from the British and Foreign School Society, we added a number of New Testaments in the same language, and presented the whole to this very useful Society. So acceptable was the donation, that the President and two members of the Council took the pains to meet us at Botofoga, to thank us personally, and, through us, their friends in England, for the sympathy thus manifested towards them in the great and good work; and expressed to us, at the same time, a desire to maintain a correspondence with England, as to the best way of further promoting education in Brazil.

Elementary instruction for the poor is at a low ebb throughout the empire; but good schools are not wanting for young people whose parents can afford to pay handsomely for their tuition. We called at one of these schools, or colleges, as they are called, presided over by an Englishman, who gave refuge to George Pilkington when he visited this country many years since on an anti-slavery mission. The act of hospitality thus afforded to a fellow-countryman, cost him at that period much loss and trouble:



his pupils were withdrawn, and his prospects became cruelly blighted. All is now changed; a better and a brighter day has dawned on Brazil: he is now respected, and sought as a teacher; and can speak his mind openly and freely on slavery or any other subject. In corroboration of his statement as to the freedom of thought and speech now permitted in the land, we can give one significant proof. We found a copy of the 'Anti-Slavery Monthly Reporter' on the table of every news-room in each of the three great cities—in Rio Janeiro, Bahia, and Pernambuco; which shows that open discussion on the subject of slavery is allowed: and we ourselves were never borne down or frowned upon, either in the Exchange room or anywhere else. Public opinion is in favour of liberty of speech, and of the press.

Before leaving the capital we were allowed, through the appointment of our Ambassador, an interview with Souza Ramos, the present Minister of Justice for the Empire, which proved highly satisfactory. This gentleman gave us the assurance which we had received from other quarters, that the Government was resolved to extinguish the slave-trade. On our expressing a hope that the Brazilian people were also in earnest about its suppression, he replied that the people supported the Government, and that the traffic, thus condemned both by the rulers and the ruled, would never be suffered to revive again.

While at Rio we visited the Treasury, which comprises a variety of offices, including the Stamp-office and the Mint. The coinage of Brazil is at present deficient in silver, so that one is often obliged to take sums less than two shillings in dirty copper. Bank-notes for a milrei and upwards are the common currency; and although a few half-milrei silver pieces are to be met with, they by no means supply the general want.

Funerals in Rio Janeiro are conducted, as in other Catholic cities, with much pomp; but when a child dies, the parents are so certain of its felicity, according to the dogmas taught them by the Church, that they put on no mourning habiliments, but act as if it were a festival: sometimes the parish bells are rung, as if for joy, and their friends pour in congratulations. The remains of the deceased child are decked out to represent an angel; the coffin is profusely adorned; the hearse is an open canopy, supported on pillars, painted and gilded; the driver of the hearse, with a footman behind and several outriders, are all dressed in scarlet; and



the whole cortège, when viewed from a distance, looks like a hunting party. We overtook a funeral of this kind, in which twenty-three carriages preceded the hearse: we observed no women among the company, and some of the men were smoking! Custom forbids women from attending funerals in Brazil, and forbids also the attendance of very near relations, such as father, mother, brother, sister, and son. If the deceased be above ten years of age, the immediate relatives remain at home for eight days, during the first of which they maintain perfect silence, receiving their friends who call. The customary salutation from those who enter is, "Will you permit me to offer my condolence for the loss you have sustained?" The party sits down in silence with the company for a quarter or half an hour, and then withdraws.

A paragraph had appeared in the English newspapers, that some English boys, lately from Liverpool, had been reduced in Brazil to a state of semi-slavery, and were subjected to cruel treatment under the eye of the authorities. On inquiry made at the British consulate, and of the British Ambassador, we found that the charge was too well founded: instructions had been sent out from the Foreign Office at home to have the matter investigated, and the boys were ordered to be given up. These poor children, about thirty in number, had been allured by some Brazilian agent at Liverpool, to enter into the navy of Brazil, on the specious promise of good pay and promotion. The officers of the Amazonas frigate, which brought them out, treated them badly on the passage; and when they arrived at Rio, they were sent to an island in the harbour, and employed, as if they were common felons, in the laborious task of breaking stones. We saw and conversed with one of the victims. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, at Rio, as soon as the complaint was made, issued a commission of inquiry, and on the proofs adduced of harsh treatment to these poor boys, ordered instant reparation. The warning to be deduced from the tale is simply this:—Let no boys be suffered to ship themselves from Liverpool, or any other English port, for Brazil, on any pretence whatever. The Brazilian navy is in a low condition; the Government, in order to stimulate its own sailors to activity and animal courage, seeks an infusion of Saxon blood, and obtains these boys for the sole purpose of training them to war: the officers of the navy and of the dock-yards oppress them, and they become broken-hearted.

Our municipal authorities at home are bound, in all good conscience, to set their faces against the evil.

One of our last calls at Rio was on the Minister of Police, who was represented to us as an earnest opponent of the slave-trade, and who received us with much apparent cordiality. He has, we understand, been presented with a gold medal, for his exertions against the slave-trade, by the Society against the Traffic in Slaves. We had the satisfaction of finding, soon after, that passports of leaving, which are usually subject to fees of about 40s. each, were sent to us free of charge. We left Rio on the 14th of the eleventh month, by the Teviot steam-packet, for Bahia.



## BAHIA.

THE distance of this city, the second in the empire for trade and population, is 720 miles from the capital. In a good ship, with pleasant weather, and a calm sea, we reached it in four days. Before leaving England, we received from Frederick Youle, of the firm of Deane, Youle, and Co., of Liverpool, a letter of introduction to his partners in trade at Bahia and Pernambuco, in which he stated, that knowing the impossibility of our obtaining suitable accommodation at either of the hotels in those cities, he should confide us to their hospitality, requesting them to extend to us, at the same time, every kind attention and assistance. Nobly and generously, and, we may add, most undeservedly on our part, as entire strangers to them, was this request responded to. On our arrival at Bahia, a clerk from this respectable house was sent on board to meet us and facilitate our landing; and our esteemed friend, Robert Baines—"Senhor Roberto"—one of the firm, took us in a carriage, drawn by four mules, to his country house at Victoria, and placed us under the care of his bride, whom he had lately brought from London: and there spacious lodging-rooms were allotted to us, affording thorough ventilation, so needful in a tropical summer, and commanding rich views of land and ocean. How great the difference between such apartments and the narrow cabin of a steam-boat; and how delightful the change! Here also we enjoyed good health, and the luxuries of a bountiful table, without cost and without care. Long shall we remember, and with grateful feelings, the more than common hospitality extended to us by our friends, Nathaniel Sands at Botosoga, Robert Baines of Bahia, and Alfred Youle of Pernambuco, and their estimable partners in life. It makes one's heart glow with kindness in thinking of the sacrifices of domestic ease and privacy continually made on the part of these generous friends to promote our comfort. The captain and purser of the Teviot steamer were invited to dine at Victoria on the day of our landing: we formed a cheerful evening party, and after long conversation, retired late to rest. On the morrow we resumed the duties of our mission.



The city of Bahia consists of two towns: the one which forms the trading part, stretches along the shores of the bay, and contains numerous narrow streets with high houses, having shops below and dwellings above, and a large number of stores and warehouses: the other, or upper town, stands on a high abrupt hill, near and adjoining it, and is only reached by broad paved ways of steep ascent, very difficult to encounter in a carriage. To remedy this inconvenience, as walking is seldom practised in tropical countries, the inhabitants have recourse to palanquins, or, as they are termed, *cadeiras*, borne on poles by two men, one before and one behind. The passenger sits in this cadeira (a corruption of the word cathedra, or chair), open at the sides, or closed at pleasure, and is thus borne from place to place. The bearers are a numerous class, mostly slaves, who earn what they can, and pay their masters an exacted daily stipend out of their hire. In this manner, and at a moderate cost, we passed to and from the city daily. No one needs suppose that to do so was an oppression to the slaves: on the contrary, it was to them a coveted employment: all were anxious, we found, to obtain us as passengers: a kind look, and a very small gratuity added to the fare, always made us welcome. In this manner, and thus conveyed, we waited first on the Archbishop of Bahia, the Primate of all Brazil: we found him surrounded by his clergy, at a sort of levee; but as soon as he understood that we were strangers seeking admission, he desired them all to withdraw, and gave us an immediate audience. Most of the well-educated natives of Brazil, especially those who fill offices in church and state, are conversant with the French language, and in this language, though sometimes in English, our conversation was usually carried on. We expressed to the Archbishop our satisfaction at the noble stand he had taken in the Chamber of Deputies against the slave-trade. He told us that he felt himself allied to every Society, in every land, which had for its object the abolition of this shameful traffic. He had received and read the Address to Sovereigns from the Society of Friends (a copy of which we had sent him from Rio), and we might depend on his efforts to promote the objects it embraced. He was well pleased, he said, that we had paid him a visit, and took leave of us courteously.

On going to and returning from the palace of the Archbishop, we were again forcibly struck with the fine athletic forms and robust limbs of the black men and women who thronged the streets.



They are chiefly of the Minas tribe, from Benin, and principally *bozals*, or newly imported negroes, as may be seen from the tattooing on their bodies, from all of which marks the creoles or country-born negroes are free. Out of the 125,000 inhabitants which Bahia contains, seven-eighths are said to be blacks, and nearly all of these are slaves. In such a community, with a slave population so concentrated and so superabounding, there cannot, one would suppose, be much systematic cruelty, or it would lead to insurrection. The merchants assured us that these city slaves are exceedingly well off; and, except from the circumstance of their toiling under very heavy loads, which often excited our compassion, we should suppose this assertion to be true. They appear cheerful and even merry, and form a striking contrast to the prædial slaves, who labour on the sugar-plantations, and who are in general a dejected race. The enormous preponderance of the blacks in Bahia, where they find constant employment among the merchants and the shipping, has given, at times, great uneasiness to those in power. Being mainly of one nation, they speak a language of their own, which their masters do not understand, and this facilitates secret confederacies whenever they are disposed to form them. About twenty years since, some political party feuds disturbed the free population: the blacks took advantage of the commotion, and rose to assert their right to freedom. The city was alarmed; the balance was nearly poised; and the military forces were but just sufficient to gain an ascendancy. In the conflict, 400 or 500 blacks lost their lives. A sense of inferiority of condition, combined with physical strength, is the great uniter of mankind to deeds of daring. This feeling, and this latent power, are both blended in the black population of Bahia, and may, at some future period, introduce disorder and dismay. Some of the white inhabitants have trembled at the thought of it already.

The slaves, many of them deeply superstitious, sometimes put on the show of religion, such religion, at least, as the priests teach them, and which the "Holy Catholic Church" takes no pains to disown. In walking the streets on one of the Saints' days, we saw rockets in the air and heard the sound of loud crackers. We asked what the rejoicing meant: "The host is lifted up in the church, and the people outside send up the rockets to let the Saint know, and to beg his prayers." A short time since, after a long period of dry weather, the people began to be uneasy, and



asked the priests what they could do to obtain rain. After serious consultation, it was agreed that there should be an exchange of Saints: the images of two of the churches should be removed and take each others' places; and there should be music, and rockets, and a long procession. The day came: men and women of every class, in holiday attire, attended by priests in their paraphernalia, with long black gowns, and broad black hats, moved slowly along from one church to the other, to assist in the ceremonies. The work was accomplished: rain fell, and priests and people proclaimed a miracle of grace! "And do you really think," said our friend Baines, to an intelligent priest, "that the changing of these images has brought these showers?" "Indeed I do," was his reply; "as soon as the work was done, it began to rain: what else could it be?" With a religion of this sort, and with occasional holidays of mirth, the poor slaves are taught to believe that they may become happy here and hereafter. The fetters, however, that bind the limbs of some of them are felt to be galling, even in the cities. The newspapers abound in advertisements of runaway servants, with offers of large rewards for their apprehension. They are sold by public auction, with other chattels, and are separated from their families, and sent under slave-drivers to be sold to the plantations. The lot of the slaves in Bahia is alleviated by their concentration and immense number, and the bold front they exhibit of strong forms and physical power, which silently says to their masters, "It is better to treat us well:" but still, slavery is, and must be, a bitter draught, even in that city; "and though many are made to drink of it, it is not the less bitter on that account."

Not understanding the language of the country, nor, of course, any African language, such as that of the Nagoes, Egbah, and Gengè nations, whose captives abound in the city, we were unable to enter into conversation with any of the black people: we had no key to their secret thoughts and feelings, and could only judge of their condition by what we saw, and what we heard from others: our sketch is therefore necessarily very imperfect.

We had visited the Archbishop in the hope of inducing him still more intently to dwell on the wrongs of this unchristian system, and still more boldly to denounce them: and, in pursuance of our mission, we ventured also to call on other persons of influence. Attended by our friend, the American Consul, from whom we received many kind attentions, we paid a visit to one of the Judges of the



province, and his son, who resides with him, and who is a representative in the Provincial Chamber of Deputies. Whilst we were conversing with the father,—a man of intelligence, and an ardent friend of public liberty, — the son, who sat near the window, was attentively reading our Address, a copy of which we had put into his hands. When he had finished it, he came up to us and said, in a serious manner, and with apparent emotion, “These are the true principles:” and before we left he said to the Consul, “I will make this mission known in the journals.” The reading of this Address had made a deep impression on his mind, of which we soon had a full proof, as, in a day or two after, a paragraph from his own pen appeared in one of the daily newspapers of the city, which we here copy. We place it on record, not because it speaks flatteringly of ourselves, for we deserve no encomium, but because it does homage to a principle, and shows to a slavery-loving community, that if they mean to be Christian, they must become just. The newspaper has for its motto, “Order, Liberty, Constitutional Rights, Material and Moral Progress.”

“There are now in this city two members of the Society of Friends, of Great Britain, who are come from Rio de Janeiro, and who, during their brief stay in the capital, have been collecting information on all the questions which bear on Brazilian slavery. Messrs. John Candler and Wilson Burgess have paid their compliments to His Imperial Majesty, and have presented to him, in the name of the Society which they represent, a Memorial, in which are unfolded the bitter fruits of slavery, and principles of the purest religion and the most eternal truth. These gentlemen, who have left their country, their families and the comforts of their home, thus to peregrinate, have lifted up a sublime and disinterested banner, and certainly deserve the thanks and benedictions of the whole community. Most earnestly do we pray that the seed they scatter in their travels on the ground we tread upon, may spring up in a day to come, and that, visited by the benign breezes of the Gospel, it may grow up into flourishing and fruit-bearing trees!”

Not only was our visit thus kindly announced and spoken of, but we had the gratification to find that through the solicitation of our Consul at Bahia, the whole Address was published in the daily official journal, which has a wide circulation in the city and pro-



vince. We were the more anxious to procure the insertion of this Christian Address in the newspapers of Bahia, inasmuch as that city was the chief seat and emporium of the African slave-trade, which had lately flourished here in all its vigour. Every possible influence had been used to extend it. Young boys and clerks in the warehouses were induced to invest all the moneys they could save or procure, in these infamous speculations, and were thus all interested more or less in the success of the slave-merchant; they looked out with anxiety for the arrival of each successive slaver on the coast, and watched, with intense interest, the lighting up of the distant bonfires on the islands and along the coast, that signalized to them the important fact, that the slaves were landed and sold.

Desirous, if possible, to arrest the attention of the President of the province to the great evils of slavery, our Consul procured us an interview with him at his palace: he received us politely, allowed us to speak freely, and was courteous at parting.

We obtained permission to view the public prisons, but had time only to visit the principal one. On our presenting to the chief jailer the order to admit us, he called out a file of musqueteers, with fixed bayonets, to attend us. At first, we wondered at this strange precaution; but our surprise ceased when the doors of the prison were unlocked—heavy massive doors, that required strong arms to open them—and we were introduced into one long vaulted chamber, with iron gratings for air and light, and found ourselves in the midst of a band of murderers! The inmates in this part of the prison were forty in number, most of whom had committed murder, and were incarcerated for life, or for a limited term of years. Here, confined in a long narrow dungeon, with nothing to do, they frequently quarrel, and sometimes fight. The laws of Brazil, or rather, perhaps, the feelings of the people, are opposed to capital punishment, even for the worst of crimes, so that executions seldom take place. What there is of good in this, and we cannot but commend the feeling that leads to it, should now be directed to some humane secondary punishment, which, whilst from its severity it may deter others from guilt, may conduce at the same time to the reformation of the guilty. It was a sad spectacle that we witnessed: the poor wretched men fell back and ranged themselves in a long row: we saw their ferocious-looking faces, and would gladly have addressed them, but their



longue was an unknown one to us, and we could only give them a sorrowing look, and our silent sympathy. The other parts of the prison were less revolting.

We had just left the great gate, when we were called back again to converse with a prisoner at the lodge. He was a genteel good-looking man, and addressed us in excellent French. He supposed we were the gentlemen who had come to present an Address to the authorities in Brazil on the subject of slavery. We told him we were, and asked him if he had seen it? Yes, he said, and had read it and approved it: we had taken right ground: slavery was an unchristian institution; but if we thought, by good words, to put it down in Brazil, we should find ourselves greatly mistaken. Our principles were pure, but the moneyed interests of the nation offered too much resistance; the shock, on collision, would be too great: we could never make way in a contest so unequal. This individual was an Italian by birth, imprisoned for insolvency and fraud. We had higher faith in the ultimate prevalence of Christian principle in the world than he seemed to think any man ought to have.

The state prison of Bahia was the only public building we had time to visit. Passing by one of the principal churches on a Saint's day, we observed groups of men talking together in front of the principal porches: the devotees go inside, the loungers are content to stay without. The black women who can afford it are excessively fond of display. On one occasion, near the parish church of Victoria, were two young women (one of whom had an infant), adorned with white turban handkerchiefs, with folds of white muslin on their bosoms, and wearing superb chains of gold: although slaves, as they probably were, they looked like sultanas, and seemed very proud. Some of these good-looking young mothers are selected by white women as nurses to their children, and obtain handsome gratuities, which they expend in this vain and extravagant manner for personal attire, and to be looked at and admired on festive days.

The immediate neighbourhood of Bahia affords some agreeable rides on horseback. A Spanish merchant, one of our fellow-passengers by the Severn steamer, called on us to propose an excursion, and offered to furnish us with horses for the journey. Rising early, and mounting spirited steeds, we set out, and passing through a few miles of hill and valley, richly adorned with trees.

and shrubs, we came to a village by the sea-side inhabited by fishermen, who, having been slaves, had become free : they were now living in good houses, possessed good boats, had plenty of fishing-tackle, and seemed quite prosperous. The village was scattered over with cocoa-nut palms : they kindly fetched us some newly-gathered cocoa-nuts, and regaled us with draughts of the refreshing liquid they afford.

Bahia is not surrounded by mountains, like Rio de Janeiro, but has a magnificent bay, in which lies a very large island, and a few smaller ones : it is thought by some travellers to surpass in interest all other bays ; we were greatly pleased with it, but not so enraptured as an American commodore whom we met and conversed with, who said he had never seen anything in nature so beautiful before.

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## PARAGUASSU AND CACHOEIRA.

OUR friends, desiring to afford us pleasure, and to assist us in the object for which we came out, arranged for us a visit to some sugar-plantations in the interior, and set at liberty one of their clerks who was conversant with the Portuguese language, to attend us through the journey, and introduce us to their friends. Nothing they could have done for us would have pleased us better: it was the very thing we desired to accomplish. The weather was serene, though somewhat sultry: the Brazilian steamer Don Pedro, a beautiful boat, commanded by an Englishman, lay at anchor with her flag flying, ready to depart, and we all repaired on board, taking with us an ample supply of fruit for refreshment by the way. Joyously did we bound over the waves: it was a swift boat, and we ran fifteen knots an hour. The distance across the bay in the direction we traversed, was twenty-two miles, and here we entered the mouth of the river Paraguassu, a stream remarkable for the sylvan beauty of its banks, its many villages, its numerous sugar-plantations, and its distant hills and mountains. We were furnished with a letter of recommendation to Egas Moniz Barreta d'Arogaô, one of the four sons of the Baron de Paraguassu, who has an *engenho*, or sugar-plantation, on its left bank, about four miles below the town of Cachoeira. The steamer stops only when a canoe comes alongside to bring or take away passengers: our captain hoisted a signal as we approached; a canoe and boatmen soon made their appearance, and conveyed us to the dwelling-house. Three gentlemen, besides our party, were bent to the same spot—seven of us in the same boat—all unexpected, going at the same time to solicit the hospitalities of the same mansion! Right nobly were we all received. Our generous host, nothing daunted by our number, descended the steps of the wharf to the boat-side to give us all a greeting: he glanced at the letter brought by our party, observed the signature, and, without reading it, offered his arm to the female Friend who was with us, and conducted us all to an upstairs drawing-room, of large dimensions, which overlooked the beautiful river. The family were at dinner when we arrived, and the wife, the mistress of the large establishment, left the table to



solicit us at once to join them and partake of the repast. We had already dined on board the steam-boat, but our three stranger companions accepted the invitation. When dinner was over, both master and mistress came out to bid us welcome: our lodging-rooms were apportioned, and we became for a few days members of their family. We had been in the families of slave-proprietors before, but in no one like this. The owner, the son of a Baron of the Empire, was a travelled gentleman, well acquainted with the continent of Europe, who had married a German lady, the daughter of a military man, a woman of lovely countenance and of great accomplishments. They had four sons, the eldest fifteen years of age; and though themselves Catholics by profession, they had placed these fine boys under the judicious care of a Protestant tutor, a graduate of Gottenburg, who lived with them in the house, and superintended their studies. The Germans, as a nation, are known to be strongly attached to music, and their attachment to it, as a science, has been transplanted to Brazil: part of the evening—a short part—was devoted to it; some conversation followed, and we retired to rest. We presented copies of the Address to the gentlemen who came with us in the boat, but who left them on the table at their departure early the next morning, to signify, as we supposed, their displeasure at its contents.

We now found ourselves at the breakfast-table alone with the family: with the tutor we conversed in English; with our host and hostess, and their eldest son, in French; and where Portuguese was needed, we looked to the young man who conducted us as guide, to interpret. The name of the property we thus visited is Vittoria, large of extent, but owing to some parts of it having indifferent soil, not so productive as other estates in the neighbourhood. Its owner has 150 oxen, and employs 250 slaves. The estate makes annually 250 cases of sugar, of 40 arrobas each, in all, 142 tons; which, delivered at Bahia, and selling there at nearly £13 per ton, realises about £1800. The rum, distilled from 200 pipes of molasses, sells for £750. Besides these products, some provisions are grown, and provender for the horses, mules and oxen.

The growth and manufacture of sugar on this *engenho*, would have afforded us much more interest had the operations been conducted and carried on by free men, and not by slaves. It would be impossible for strangers, such as ourselves, known to be opposed to slavery, and remaining only two or three days on the spot,



to estimate correctly the condition of the labourers. Any glaring wrong, had there been any, would have been hidden from our observation. The wrong of slavery itself, as an institution, is glaring enough everywhere, nor did the candid owner of the property attempt to justify it in his own case; but we had reason to believe, from all we saw and heard, that much humanity influenced his rule and government, and that his slaves had reason, comparatively speaking, to rejoice in such a master and mistress. There was, indeed, a gloom upon the faces of the negroes, such as prædial slaves are said generally to exhibit: but their clothing was decent; their food, we believe, was abundant; their habitations were respectable; and their toil, *so far as we observed it*, was no greater than many masters would willingly exact of those who are free, and who work for wages. The adult slaves are allowed provision-grounds for their own benefit, and are permitted to make money for themselves by selling the produce: some of the slaves, who had made from 600 to 1000 milreis, or from £70 to £116 each, had purchased their own liberty. Four of them bought their freedom last year. They are allowed to name those to whom their property is to be given when they die. Marriage is encouraged, but not enforced; and the people, from long habit, and the pernicious example of too many of the whites, prefer a promiscuous and immoral life.

The good lady of the household told us, that when she came out from Europe, as a young wife, to take charge of the family and the female slaves, her heart sank within her at the sickening sights she saw and the tales she heard; but that custom, and the seeming impossibility of working out a change, had in degree reconciled her to the evils of the sad system. An admirable lady we found her: she entered with much apparent feeling into the subject of slavery, for which she offered no defence, and seemed strongly solicitous on behalf of her four sons, that, through a guarded education at home whilst young, and a finished education in Europe, they might be preserved from the contamination of bad example, and become honourable men.

The tutor of these young people is a learned, pious man; he instructs them, though Catholics born, in the knowledge of Holy Scripture, and endeavours to train them in the paths of virtue. Our profession as Friends excited curiosity in the minds of our host and hostess, and numerous were the inquiries made to us



regarding our religious principles. Were we baptized: how did we marry, and how did we bury our dead? What was our faith, and what ordinances did we observe? The tutor, who, like many of the studious Germans, seemed to know almost everything, understood us and answered many inquiries: on our asking him how he had obtained so much correct information about us, he fetched from his study an octavo volume in German, the 'Kirchengeschichte' of Dr. Karl Hase, Professor in the University of Jena, and read to us about two pages under the head of "Quakers," in which our religious views are more clearly stated than by any author, not himself a Friend, that we can remember having consulted. The style is compendious, the words are few, and every statement is confirmed by reference to our own authors, from George Fox to Joseph John Gurney. The Hicksite controversy is also noticed. We felt a strong attachment to this worthy tutor, and were edified by his conversation.

During our brief stay at Vittoria the first day of the week occurred: no public religious service was held on the estate, as the Curé of the district is a covetous man, and refuses to give any instruction to the slaves, or to perform mass before them, unless he is largely paid. The sugar-mill was at rest during much of the day, and the slaves, neatly dressed, seemed at liberty to take rest, or to walk out, or to work on their grounds, as they pleased. In the evening only, the shell was blown to bring them together to feed the furnaces: the night-workmen then remained in the boiling-house, and the others retired to rest. A room was allotted to our little party for social worship during the morning, whilst the tutor, with his young charge, retired to their apartment for religious reading: the master of the establishment went abroad to view his estate, and the mistress received calls from many of her numerous dependents, to whom she distributed new or clean garments. In the afternoon we sat in the shady parts of the garden, or rambled by the river-side, and were permitted to close the day by the reading of a portion of Holy Scripture in the family.

Having a strong desire to visit the town of Cachoeira and St. Felix, our hospitable host ordered a canoe to be prepared, and sent with us four strong men to paddle us up the stream. The river Paraguassu has a strong ebb and flow: broad at its mouth in the Bay of Bahia, it had become narrower as we approached Vittoria, and was at this place about half a mile broad. It recalled to



our recollection the descriptions given us in the Old Testament of the river Nile. The owner of Vittoria farms land on both sides of the water: we observed about twenty of his oxen, guided by herdsmen, swimming over the river, as we supposed to work on the sugar plantation; when their work is done, they swim back again, sometimes without a guide, to the pasture fields. As we saw these oxen in the river, we thought of Pharaoh's dream, and seemed for a moment to be living in ancient Egypt. "And, behold, there came up out of the river seven well favoured kine and fat fleshed, and they fed in a meadow." As we advanced on the stream, we were delighted with the beauty of its banks: birds of rich plumage sat on the trees, which came down, in some places, to the water's edge, and a setting sun gave mellow tints to the whole picture. Some grand water-plants of the *Nymphæa* tribe adorned the shallower parts of the stream. In an hour and a half we reached Cachoeira, and presenting our letter of introduction to a store-keeper in the town, were at once received as lodgers in his house, without payment, and were treated with kind hospitality. This place is built at a point of the river, where, shallows abounding, it ceases to be navigable: it forms the entrepôt and key to an extensive inland district, and is one of the most important marts of Brazil. Tobacco is largely cultivated far in the interior, and thousands of horses and mules are daily employed to bring it, in closely packed bales, to this spot for the schooners that convey it to Bahia. Part of it is unpacked and manufactured into cigars in the town and neighbourhood, but the larger proportion goes on, as raw produce, for shipment to Germany. Cotton is also brought from the inland plantations, and sent down to the sea for exportation.

Cachoeira is a closely built, respectable looking, bustling town of about 7,000 inhabitants, and bids fair largely to increase in population and commerce. It has one good public school, where boys and girls, black, white and brown, without distinction, receive an elementary education at the public expense. When we had well surveyed it we took leave of the family who had so generously entertained us, and taking boat, crossed the river to the town or hamlet of St. Felix.

On reaching St. Felix, we at once proceeded to the country-house of a merchant to whom we had brought a letter of recommendation. It is surprising to observe with what readiness



strangers are received in Brazil, who come with good credentials. Our host, a native of Schaffhausen in Switzerland, glanced at the note we put in his hand, conducted us to our respective apartments, ordered lunch, told us that he dined late, and that as time might be precious to us, we were at liberty to go where we pleased, and do what we pleased, till the dinner-hour arrived. A long morning afforded us the opportunity of visiting a cigar-manufactory, and workshops where cigar-boxes were made, as also to make use of a swimming bath, which was formed on the premises, and was fed by running water from the neighbouring hills. We dined at seven o'clock; the company consisted of our own party, our host, his daughter and her husband, and a favorite grandchild. It was a handsome repast, introduced by a soup of tapioca flavoured with claret wine. Our conversation during the day had been much on slavery, an institution which our new friend defended as indispensable to the wants of the country: he was himself a slave-holder, he said, but he allowed all his slaves who were employed in the factory to work over hours, by which means they earned a good deal of money: they seemed, indeed, ambitious of obtaining it, as we found some of them working till midnight, and yet these were the men who, our host maintained, would not work if set free! The only wonder is that in a hot and relaxing climate like that of South America, such continued toil should be persevered in without breaking down the energies both of body and mind, though there can be little doubt such a melancholy result must often ensue. The immigration of Europeans seemed to be in favour with this gentleman, as a means of keeping together the commerce of the country: on our observing that it might be kept together and even extended, through the natural increase of the native labourers, he denied that there was such an increase; the slaves, he said, annually diminished in number. We asked him why it should be so? Because, he replied, the slave mothers feel no interest in rearing their children to slavery: they neglect them in infancy, and the mortality is great. There are no accredited statistics to prove this fact, but we believe it to be true. Here, as in most other places, our 'Address to Sovereigns' was apparently well received, and we left it to make its own way.

After a cup of coffee early the next morning, we hired a canoe, and ran down the stream to Vittoria to a late breakfast, and found the same kind reception as before. We did not quit this interesting



spot without riding over some of the neighbouring sugar-estates : and one afternoon was devoted to a long excursion of this sort. A canoe was fitted up for the mistress of the house and our female Friend, who, with the tutor, descended the stream to an *engenho* a few miles distant, whilst the rest of us, eight in number, attended by a slave on horseback to open gates, formed a cavalcade which had often to march in line through narrow pathways, and rode for many hours over hill and dale, among cane-fields and pastures, till we reached the same spot. Here, with the family of another son of the Baron of Paraguassu, we formed a large group, and soon found ourselves seated round a table in the great hall, to partake of a bountiful evening meal, which we much needed after our great exertion. We had stopped at the sugar-works of one plantation by the way, to examine a mode, then in process, of claying or purifying sugar to make it white ; but arrived too late at our destination to inspect the works at Baruco. Our return by moonlight, some in a boat, and some on horseback, by a new and much shorter road than we came, afforded us enjoyment. The river part of our day's excursion was very pleasing, but that by land still more so. A field of sugar-canes in full blossom, is one of the most beautiful productions of nature : the russet yellowness of the stem of the plant, streaked with purple and red, its green top, its long and narrow leaves, and its feathery crown, delight the traveller ; and this delight is increased by the often highly picturesque hills on the sides of which these cane-fields are planted. A sugar-growing district abounds also with human habitations, and the occupations of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce are combined. One band of negroes is cutting down ripe canes ; another band, with teams of oxen harnessed to strong rude carts, conveys them to the homestead ; some carry the canes to the crushing-mill ; others remove the trash ; everything at home and around the estate is a scene of intense industry. The employment during crop, continued as it is night and day, is much too laborious, and is calculated to excite compassion for the toiling slave ; but regarded as a picture only, apart from all moral considerations, a sugar-plantation and its manufactory, form an animating sight. Coopers and carpenters are at work on the casks and hogsheads, to prepare them for the curing-house ; and if the property happen to lie, as it often does, at the edge of a river, ships are seen



ready to bear away the produce, and sailors engaged in stowing it on board.

We shall long remember the Paraguassu, its lovely banks, and its wealthy homesteads, and can only regret that an occupation so useful to mankind as that of producing sugar for distant markets, should remain here, and in so many parts of the world, contaminated by the guilt of slavery.

The steam-boat that brought us to Vittoria called for us there on its descending trip: it was early in the morning, and the surrounding scenery was shrouded in a mist which gradually cleared away as the sun rose in the heavens. Our passage down the stream and across the bay was exceedingly agreeable, and we soon once more found ourselves safely landed at Bahia.

The warehouses for sugar and tobacco, built in front of the harbour are very extensive. These articles, during the crop season, accumulate there in immense masses, to be ready for exportation. Sugar is packed in boxes of about 15 cwt. each, and in bags of 160 lbs. each, to suit the different markets that receive it. The price of sound, dry, muscovado sugar, at the time of our visit, gave an average, *in the warehouse*, of 3s. 6d. per arroba of 32 lbs., or rather more than five farthings a pound: that of pure white sugar, fit for the tea-table in Great Britain, fetched 4s. 8d. per arroba, or about seven farthings a pound. Muscovado sugar, free on board ship, the export duty, and all expenses, including commission, paid, was 13s. 10d. per cwt. White sugar, 17s. 10d. or 18s. per cwt. The growers of the sugar which is shipped at Cotiniquiba, about 200 miles North of Bahia, pay half a milrei, or 1s. 2d. per arroba, for the expense of getting their sugar to the coast: the planters therefore realise only 8s. 2d. per cwt. for the best brown sugar, and 12s. 3d. per cwt. for the purest white, which is nearly equal in appearance to our English crushed loaf. Good sugar, therefore, we see, can be produced in this part of Brazil at less than 1d. per pound, and even at that price yields a fair profit to the cultivator.

The sugar of Cotiniquiba is esteemed the finest in Brazil, and we were assured by a gentleman who lives there, that the land is so rich, that in some cases the sugar-cane has been cut from the same plant for twenty-five years together. It is, however, usually considered advantageous to plant fresh canes every two or three years, as they produce more sugar when young than afterwards.



The export duty on sugar in the province of Bahia is 7 per cent., a most impolitic tax, levied by the general government, and justified on the erroneous plea that foreigners pay it. Freights to England vary from 50s. to 55s. the ton. As the sugars of Brazil are, in general, dryer and more fit for refining than those of our own colonies, and are consequently worth more money, it is quite evident that a competition between these sugars in the British market will be a very trying one to our own planters when the duties come to be equalized, and especially if the Brazilian Government take off, as it probably will do, its export duty of 7 per cent., so injurious to the growers. Can our planters in Jamaica and Barbadoes ship their good sugars at 10s. per cwt. ? Can they do so in Demerara and Trinidad ? If they are not prepared to do this, they must struggle to increase the produce, or by machinery to lower the cost of producing it ; otherwise the Brazilians will have the advantage over them. Brazil and Cuba, and some of our own colonies, such as Demerara and Trinidad, are in one respect on nearly an equal footing : they all contain an immensity of cheap unemployed land fit for the cultivation of sugar, which only requires more capital and more labourers to make it highly productive ; but whilst sugar continues to afford a profit to the grower, and a market is found for all that can be grown, it is quite evident that the country which has the largest quantity of fertile soil, and which can command the greatest amount of labour, is likely, all other things being equal, to obtain the most wealth. It is this which leads the planters in some of our colonies to clamour for immigrants, no matter how obtained, and which has induced Brazil to foster the African slave-trade. And here it is that the change in our fiscal policy of 1846, by lowering the duties on slave-grown sugars, has served so effectually to augment the traffic in slaves. In regard to Brazil, we trust that increased competition with our planters, as arising from this cause, is nearly at an end : not so with Cuba however ; in that island the slave-trade will be actively carried on, and slavery be maintained with a more steadfast and unrelenting rigour, unless Spain interfere, as Brazil is now doing, and put a stop to the importation of fresh victims.

Before quitting Bahia, we called again and again at the British consulate to obtain information, and to read the correspondence maintained with the Home Government in regard to the slave-trade. A blue book lately published, which we had not before seen, was

laid before us, in which all the secrets of this detestable traffic with the chiefs of Africa are laid bare. Here are given numerous letters, lately seized at Lagos, on the African coast, between the merchants of Bahia and Kosoko, king of Lagos. A more infamous correspondence, perhaps, never saw the light. We inclosed in envelopes copies of the 'Address to Sovereigns,' and sent one by post to each of the guilty parties, but received neither reply nor notice from any of them.

Our passports, obtained at Rio de Janeiro, had been sent to the police-office at Bahia; and on calling to take them previous to our departure, we found a demand made upon us of six milreis for the supervision. As they had been granted to us by the Secretary of State, free of charge, and allowed us the ingress and egress of the ports of the empire, we thought the demand an improper one, and resisted it. We put ourselves on the class of privileged subjects; and after long altercation, and moving from one office to another, and from the subalterns to their chief, we gained the point. The word "Gratis" was written under the endorsement, and all future annoyance was spared us. It is the policy of the Government, though rich enough to act otherwise, to allow but small salaries to the clerks in public offices, and to permit them to exact fees, not provided for by law, and also, there is little doubt, in many cases, to take bribes.



## MACEIO.

HITHERTO we had sailed in English steamers, or in steamers commanded by Englishmen: it was now our lot to tread a Brazilian deck. We took passage on board the *Bahiana*, bound to Pará, but taking the port of Maceio by the way. Great was the change in point of comfort, as compared with the *Severn* and the *Teviot* of Southampton. The berths were all in one cabin, without port-holes, and when the skylights were closed for rain, there was no ventilation: the passengers were numerous, and except a few who slept on deck, all were crowded into this single cabin, some sleeping on the table and some on the floor. No linen or towels are provided for the passengers, nothing except a mattress and a very hard pillow. We had a civil, obliging captain, a native of Monte Video, who spoke French; he took considerable pains to keep the vessel clean, but from the filthy habits of the blacks and Brazilians, and having several sheep, and a pig and goats constantly on the deck, it was in a very dirty state.

The weather was beginning to be sultry as we drew northward to the Line, and such a feeling of suffocation from bad air occurred in the night time, that it made us think of the middle passage, and excited our compassion for the poor victims who are made to experience the horrors of that sad transit. We had a good table and a civil mate, and the engineer, who was born of English parents, shewed us marked attention: but here our comforts ended. Truly glad we were to discern Maceio from the ship's deck, and to have the pleasure, though only for one day, to go again on shore. Maceio is a shipping port for sugar, rather a poor town of about 3000 inhabitants, and the environs are not very picturesque. Having hired horses, we rode on the sands of the bay, and up to the residence of the British Vice-consul, where we found good accommodation, and were very handsomely treated. After the refreshment afforded by a plentiful washing, and some tropical fruit, we returned to inspect the wharfs and warehouses on the shore. The Vice-consul assured us that he could buy good brown sugar at 10s. 8d. per cwt.; that he could put it free on board at 12s. 2d. per cwt. exclusive of the export duty, and that he had just

chartered a ship at the very low freight of 42s. a ton to convey a cargo to England. The planters in this part of Brazil are many of them poor, and borrow money in advance of the merchant to gather in the crops, for which they pay interest at the rate of 2 per cent. per month, or 24 per cent. per annum, till the sugar comes down to him for shipment! No wonder they become poor, and continue so. The planters allow that they can raise sugar on the spot at 7s 6d. per cwt.: the Vice-consul says that they can do it for less: their operations are generally rude, and they live, we may suppose, not much better than their slaves. After four days of sailing at sea, we arrived at Pernambuco on the 10th of eleventh month.

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## PERNAMBUCO.

THIS large and flourishing city is 410 miles from Bahia, and 1130 miles from Rio Janeiro: it spreads extensively along the shore, and is defended from the swell of the ocean by a natural break-water, within which is a safe harbour, where merchant-vessels may lie at anchor, and take in and discharge their cargoes. A little beyond it, on the north line of coast, lies the town of Olinda, on two hills rising from the sea, which, viewed at a distance, looks like a suburb of Pernambuco. We were received on landing by Alfred Youle, a merchant of the city, and conducted by him into the country, where we enjoyed, for two weeks, the hospitalities of his mansion, and social visits to the families of several British merchants who lived in the same neighbourhood.

Olinda is the seat of a university, and was one of the earliest points of attraction to us: we hired a carriage, and made to it one of our morning calls. Unhappily for us and our object, it was the time of their vacation: the college had just broken up, and only about forty of the students out of three hundred and fifty remained. The Director of the college was not at home, but we were introduced to one of the Professors, by a student who spoke French, and English also, though somewhat imperfectly. Having briefly stated the object of our visit to Brazil, we handed him a copy of our Address in the Portuguese language: he sat down in his arm-chair, and read it through deliberately, aloud, without a comment: then addressing us, he inquired, "What is your pleasure in this matter: what do you wish us to do?" We replied, that our desire was to have the subjects treated of in that document brought under the notice of the university, and that the paper itself should be read to the students in their classes, on their re-assembling to pursue their studies. The Professor, who was a man of few words, but of business habits, then said, "Write down your request in French, and I will lay it before the authorities." We did so, and left the cloister: but have had no opportunity since of hearing whether any, or what step has been taken in the matter; or whether the other copies of the Address which we left behind, were ever distributed.



The studies pursued in this university are law and theology, but the pupils also pass through the usual courses of a classical education. The question was asked us, "Do you wish to see the building?" We assented, and were conducted through the chapel to a large gloomy room beyond it: returning, and descending a flight of stairs, we came to a long corridor, but here we were stopped from proceeding farther. A tall, lank figure of a man, who seemed to possess much college authority, came out of a side apartment: seeing us with our female friends and companions, and probably suspecting us all to be heretics, he said in a loud and angry tone in Portuguese, "Such a thing was never heard of," and, putting on a violent and forbidding look, turned us back again. We passed quickly away, and gave no further offence. A band of students crowded around us, and behaved so unpolitely, by asking many questions, as to provoke a reproof. One of them begged pardon if he had been rude to the ladies, and of course was readily forgiven. The road from Pernambuco to Olinda runs through a mango-swamp. Olinda itself, attractive as it looks from the ocean, is a poor town, and the college-buildings, once a large monastery, are in a state of decay. Brazil has three universities, all Roman Catholic, of which this is the chief; or, if not the chief, is the most resorted to, we were told, by the sons of the wealthy, and of other persons who have influence in the State.

Insurrections occasionally take place in almost every country where slavery prevails: the slaves on sugar-plantations are sometimes driven by hard-hearted masters, and by a cruel exaction of labour, to a state of desperation. We were grieved to hear of a rising of the slaves which recently took place on seven small plantations on a neighbouring part of the coast, about forty miles from Maceio; which convinced us that these poor creatures are not so contented with their condition as their outward appearance might lead a casual observer to suppose. The revolt was put down: the masters gained the ascendancy, and flogged their slaves so indiscriminately and with so much severity, that a number of them hung themselves in the woods. One poor woman, a leader of the insurgents, was so ill-treated by the military force, on her march to Maceio to take her trial, that she died on the road: a large number were sentenced to receive, the men 600, and the women 300 lashes, by a jury who investigated the affair; but this sentence was thought too lenient by the local judges, who considered that



an example should be made by *shooting* some of the blacks: the case was therefore referred to the twelve chief justices of the province of Pernambuco, who had it under consideration at the time we were there. Judging this to be a suitable time to press the question of humanity, we inclosed a copy of the Address to each member of the Court, to be forwarded by the British Consul.

We had been willing to hope, from all we had previously heard, that slavery, on the whole, existed in a milder form in Brazil than in some other parts of the world; but we were led to fear, after continued investigations as we passed along, that such is not the case. Wherever man is invested, by law or custom, with unlimited irresponsible power over his fellow-man, dreadful abuses must arise. What our West India colonies were before the great Act of Emancipation, Brazil is now. From the British and American Consuls in different towns of the empire, we obtained much information; and are deeply indebted to our own Consuls for the permission so freely granted us of looking through their despatches to the Home Government. We were allowed to copy the following extracts from the correspondence of the Consul at Pernambuco, Henry A. Cowper, which states things that, on mere floating evidence, we should be unwilling to believe.

“November, 1851. — I repeat, that I was an eye-witness to an unfortunate slave cutting his throat at a dinner-table at which I was a guest; and that invitations were issued in this province by a proprietor, to witness the boiling alive of a slave in the cauldron of his estate! Urban slaves are less dependent, and consequently less worked and better clothed, than rural slaves, who are not uncommonly worked for twenty hours out of the twenty-four, including a period termed on the estates “Kinningo,” that is, from two to four o’clock in the morning. Time is, of course, allowed for eating their food in the fields where they work; but they have only four hours of actual sleep!”

“November, 1852. — The Brazilian landlord has to bear the blighting influence of slavery, which I have ever maintained is more expensive than free labour. I can understand, and I know, that the latter is not to be obtained in sufficient quantities; but as a question of expense only, I feel assured that it is more economical. I will take the expenses of the engenho *Salgade*, one of the finest in the province. That estate produces 3000 loaves of sugar,

or about 171½ tons, valuing about £2137 10s. The cost of its production by 100 slaves was £1221 7s. 11d.; thus:—

“CAPITAL EMBARKED.

	£	s.	d.
“ Value of 100 slaves, at 500 milreis, or £57 5s. 10d. each, .....	Total, 50,000ff.	or 5729	3 0
“ Ditto of land and house-works, .....	60,000ff.	or 6875	0 0
			<hr/>
	£ 12,604	3	0

“ANNUAL EXPENSES.

	£	s.	d.
“ <i>Slaves.</i> —Clothes for 100 slaves, 1250ff. or 143	3	0	
Salt meat and fish, 1800ff. Farin-			
ha, 750ff. ....	292	3	0
Exclusive of molasses and rum.			
Supply of six new slaves in conse-			
quence of death,.....	343	15	0
Charges on account of sickness, and			
loss of labour from this cause, 183	6	0	
			<hr/>
	£ 962	7	0
“ <i>Works.</i> —Potash and lime, 300ff. New boil-			
ers or repairs of old, 200ff. New			
pans or repairs of ditto, 200ff.			
New machinery or repairs of old,			
400ff. Oxen, 600ff. Horses,			
100ff. Carts, 160ff. Agricul-			
tural implements, 100ff. Total,			
2060ff. or .....	236	0	0
“ <i>House.</i> —Repair of dwellings, 200ff. or .....	23	0	0
			<hr/>
	£ 1221	7	0

“ So that the balance, after all expenses are paid, amounts to 8340 milreis, —£955 14s., or nearly 8 per cent. upon the capital embarked. But in a comparison between the expenses of free and slave labour, those charges which belong to each should be well considered. First.—The interest of money expended on the purchase of 100 slaves, at 500ff. or £5725, at 18½ per cent., the rate of interest varying from 1 to 3 per cent. per month, equal to



£1031 5s. Expenses of support, clothing, &c., £962 7s. Total, £1993 12s. Wages at 400 reis per day, without food or clothing, for 100 free labourers, for one year, Sundays included, would be 14,600 milreis, or £1672 17s. Balance in favour of free labour, £320 15s."

So far the statement of the Consul. In another part of his despatch he writes : —

"I defy any one who has visited a Brazilian *engenho*, to deny the miserable, overworked, enfeebled, idiotic, I had almost said, inhuman, appearance of the slaves." In addition to this lamentable description, he observed to us, that he had never seen a slave on a sugar-plantation laugh! "I have visited forty or fifty of these *engenhos*, and I never saw a slave laugh : but I have seen them sleep over their work : they are ill fed, and are generally treated without feeling or consideration."

It was a great comfort to us to be assured, that one, at least, of the numerous productions of Brazil, — cotton, — is but little, if at all, tainted with slave labour. This article is cultivated largely in this province ; and the city of Pernambuco alone exports six millions of pounds weight per annum, all to Liverpool. Cotton is cultivated in the interior, at a distance of about 150 or 200 miles from the coast, by poor white inhabitants, descendants from the original Portuguese, or half-castes, the offspring of Portuguese and the aboriginal Indians. These natives are mostly too poor to hold slaves as their own property ; and not having the degradation of slave labour constantly before their eyes, they are not ashamed themselves to work : they keep horses, which they can feed at little expense, and on the backs of these animals they take their produce, or send it, often a journey of eight or ten days, to the coast, for shipment. This cotton is of a good quality, and fetches a higher price than the generality of American cotton, although not always carefully cleaned. It would be impossible at that port to distinguish the slave-grown cotton from the free ; but, as a general rule, it would be safe to consider by far the greater part of it as free produce.

## THE SUGAR MARKET.

SUGAR is mostly brought to Pernambuco in bags on horseback, though some is brought by boats : sometimes as many as 5000 or 6000 horses pour into the city in a single morning. It is brought on horseback, as much as two days' journey from the interior by the common roads of the country, and from a much greater distance by water. As soon as a cavalcade or boats arrive, samples of each package, or sets of packages, are delivered to a broker, who takes them to the sugar-market, and sells them to a class of dealers denominated packers. These packers receive the sugar into their warehouses, and empty it into different large bins according to its colour and quality : the producer, when he is paid, leads his horses away ; and these return to the country laden with articles of merchandize from the stores and shops of the city. The merchant now takes his rounds, inspects the different bulks, makes his purchases, and agrees with the packer to place what he buys on ship-board. Much of the sugar is packed in canvas bags of 160lbs. each, which is now beginning to be a favourite sort of parcel with the importer, both in America and England. The Brazilian sugars are mostly dry, and therefore admit of this mode of packing. A broker is a necessary intermediate agent between the packer and the seller, inasmuch as the boys and men, although native Brazilians, are mostly common labourers, who could not be entrusted with the discretion of selecting a purchaser, and making sales. There are, therefore, three profits to be made before the sugar is shipped, that of the broker, the packer and the merchant ; and sometimes a fourth profit, as not unfrequently an agent is employed for a number of estates, who goes between the producer and the broker, as a watchman to see fair play. It seemed surprising to us that after all these deductions, and the charges of coming to market, the producer could have any profit left for himself.

It was highly interesting to us to pass through the sugar market, examine the bulks of sugar, and witness the despatch of business that prevailed on every side. What so animating as the bustle of commerce, connected as it is with the thoughts of its civilizing



tendency and results? The only draw-back to our satisfaction at this spot, was the consideration that slavery sustained the commerce, and the commerce, slavery.

By the time the sugar is on ship-board, and all charges paid, export duty included, which here amounts to 10 per cent., its value is raised, for Muscovado or brown, to 12s. 4d. per cwt., and for pure white to 18s. 4d. per cwt. To this, add commission and freight—say 3s. per cwt., and we have the cost of Brazilian sugars free on board, at our own ports. The clayed or white sugars are exported to Sweden and the United States: much of the brown is sent to the Mediterranean: the consignments to England remain chiefly in floating cargoes, at Falmouth and Cowes, ready for despatch to some continental port.

So little of Brazilian sugar is consumed at English tables, that it becomes a fair object of inquiry, how Brazil itself should have derived pecuniary advantage from that change in our fiscal policy which has lowered the differential duties between our own colonial and foreign sugars: and how such a change in our policy could have increased the Brazilian trade, and aggravated its horrors? When, by the Act of 1846, the duties on colonial sugar became reduced, and sugars from foreign possessions were admitted into our market, the effect produced was to lower the price of the commodity in England, and greatly to increase its consumption. The increased consumption, arising from a reduced price, could not be immediately met by a sufficient supply from our own possessions, and the price being somewhat higher here than Cuba and Brazil could obtain on the continent, the sugars of those countries—of Cuba more especially—were poured into the British market. Just in proportion to the vacuum created in continental ports by the withdrawal from them of the sugar of Cuba for England, a demand arose for Brazilian sugar to supply its place. Hence Cuba and Brazil both profited by the changes made in our fiscal policy—Cuba, by an immediate and direct market with Great Britain—Brazil, indirectly by an increased demand for her produce on the continent. An increased demand is always followed by a higher price, and this higher price, the reduction of our import duties enabled foreign nations to obtain. A very small increase in the price of sugar in Europe, adds greatly to the profit of the producer abroad; and our lists of prices are watched by these parties with intense



interest. The advance of a shilling the hundred-weight, or even of sixpence, is eagerly caught at; whilst a reduction to that amount spreads a gloom among the planters. It is evident that in a country where sugar can be produced at 10s. per cwt., a nett increase of one shilling per cwt. in the price must be a great boon: this gives an advance of 10 per cent. in the value of a whole crop to the producer. In England, where owing to our custom-house duties, and other charges, sugar sells at 40s. per cwt., a small increase in the price is scarcely, if at all, felt: abroad, it works a revolution. The opening of our ports to slave-grown sugars occasioned at once a more convenient market for them in England, and a small increase in price for them everywhere, and this circumstance, with the prospect of the trade becoming, every year, more and more beneficial to them, induced the planters of Cuba and Brazil to put out all their energies in the cultivation of fresh land, of which they have a great plenty, and by means of the horrible traffic in slaves, to supply themselves with the additional labour required. The latter was a race which our colonies could not run. Greatly was the traffic augmented. The number of Africans landed in Brazil, so far as can be ascertained, amounted in the four years from 1842 to 1845, both inclusive, to 78,830. In the four years 1846 to 1849, it rose to the awful number of 220,496. Here was an increase, in this very short period, of 141,666 captives landed alive on the Brazilian shore; and if we take into calculation, according to Sir T. F. Buxton's estimate, the number of persons slain in Africa to procure these victims, and of those who die on the middle passage, we multiply them threefold, and find the dreadful amount of more than 400,000 human beings, living and dead, sacrificed in four years to Mammon!

Friends as we are to the principles of free trade, we think we have a right to ask, how that commerce can be called free which leads, as a consequence, to such enormities as these, and conduces to the continuance of them? Happily there is now a lull in this dreadful trade, and we have a dawn of hope. Supposing the slave-trade to be honestly put down, or in a course of being put down by the authorities in Brazil, which we presume is now the case, we have only Cuba left to contend with. Should Cuba come to her senses, and act as Brazil is doing, a much fairer competition is open between our colonies and them, which will depend mainly on improved modes of cultivation and improved implements and



machinery. So long as slavery prevails, or, at least, so long as Africans, imported contrary to the faith of treaties, remain as slaves in either of those countries, we shall have a right to remonstrate and complain : our planters will have a right to complain : but, so far as it regards the mere economical question, we may remain pretty well satisfied. In a simple race between slave labour and free labour, the slave-trade being forbidden, we have no fear of the result : our colonies will yet prosper.

Among the calls made by us on persons of influence in Pernambuco, was one on the Bishop of the province, at his palace in the city. Our Consul, who was with us, said to him familiarly at parting, " I suppose, Sir, you withhold your blessing from me, because I am a heretic." The Bishop answered, that Christian benevolence was not limited to sect or party ; and then bestowed his blessing upon him. This prelate, an aged man, seemed gratified at the visit we paid him, and soon after came into the country to return our call.

A time being fixed for seeing the President of the province at his town mansion, we were introduced to his notice also by the Consul, and had a satisfactory and not very short interview with him. This public functionary, like all the others with whom we were brought into contact, was courteous and polite, but manifested, as they had done, a disposition to keep slavery out of view, and to speak only of the slave-trade ; which accounts for the absence of all allusion to that subject, in a letter addressed to the Consul, acknowledging our visit. In the excessive courtesy of diplomatic correspondence, he addresses the Consul, as " My Lord." The following is a copy : —

" Most illustrious Senhor, Henry Cowper.

" I request your Lordship to make known for me to Messrs. John Candler and Wilson Burgess, members of the religious Society of Great Britain and Ireland, called Friends, how pleasing to me was the visit which I received from them in your Lordship's company on the 11th instant, and how much I appreciate it ; thanking them for their attention, and at the same time for the two copies, in English and Portuguese, of the Address made in the name of the Society on the subject of the illicit traffic from the African coast, and its consequences, offered to the Governments of all Christian nations. And moreover, that I was highly gratified



at being told by your Lordship, that they came on a mission from the Society, to congratulate his Majesty the Emperor upon the measures adopted by his Government for the extinction of the traffic, and especially for the desire and determined resolution which he himself feels upon so important a subject. May they return, and arrive in peace, to their own country and Society! In the mean time, while they remain here, they may calculate upon all the aid which this Government can afford.

“ I renew to your Lordship the assurance of my particular esteem and consideration.

“ I am your Lordship’s

“ Most obedient Servant,

“ FRANCESCO ANTONIO RIBEIRA.”

Our Consul, in sending us the foregoing letter of the President, expresses his belief, that could we have protracted our stay in this province, not the authorities only, but the planters also, would have shown their readiness to aid our inquiries; and concludes his note by saying, “ I need not repeat how much I sympathise with the objects of your mission, or how greatly I wish you success.” From this individual, as from others, we received much assistance, and mention it gratefully. The Editor of the Pernambuco daily newspaper promised him that our Address should appear at full length in its columns.

The environs of the city, unlike those of Bahia, are level for many miles around: *cadeiras*, or chairs for conveying passengers, are not in use: horses and carriages are used both for necessity and pleasure, and in this manner we travelled to and from the city, and in going out to dinner or tea. We lodged always in the country. One night during our stay, our hostess was disturbed by the sad shrieks of a slave under the torture of the lash: happily for ourselves, we were fast asleep, and did not hear of it until the morning.

Much has been said, and with some exaggeration, of the insecurity of life and property in Brazil; but we are bound to say, that from all we heard in town and country, there is at least a great negligence in the seeking out and apprehension of delinquents. Houses were pointed out to us in the neighbourhood of Pernambuco, where assassinations had lately taken place, of which the



police, though cognizant of the guilty parties, had taken no notice, and the culprits were still at large.

The road-sides for many miles towards the interior of the country are graced with villas and gardens, and are studded with villages, containing the huts of the poor, and *ranchos*, or covered sheds for horses and mules. In the villages, children, chiefly half-castes and black, are seen running about nearly or quite naked, as they do in the West Indies. Many of the darker Mulatto women are excessively forbidding in their appearance : we saw some who resembled furies ; and their offspring (a poor prospect for Brazil), were nearly as bad-looking as themselves. There must be something in the promiscuous intercourse of the sexes to occasion this : it may be accounted for in part, we think, from the utter neglect of all right training in youth, and from the lessons of lust and cruelty learned on the plantations. In proportion as a population emerges from the effects of slavery, the human countenance undergoes a change : the Mulatto women of Hayti, generally speaking, are much more agreeable in person than the same class in our own colonies, who were born in bondage. Should slavery be abolished, the same change will doubtless take place in Brazil.

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## THE FOREIGN MERCHANTS.

THE commerce of the empire is carried on chiefly, not exclusively so, by foreign merchants, and by foreign capital, and foreign merchants are the aristocracy of its cities. Engaged in extensive operations, with branch trading establishments in different parts of the world, many of them become wealthy; and although the wealth they accumulate is obtained with the view of spending it, in after life, at home, in their native country, they are not indifferent to present enjoyment themselves, nor do they neglect hospitality to strangers. Some of the best houses and gardens in and near to Bahia and Pernambuco belong to British merchants. In the day-time, and till four o'clock in the afternoon, they superintend their business in the city; after which they return to their country abodes to dine, and claim the evening for study, rest, and recreation. The usual time for taking an airing is immediately after dinner, before the sun sets, or later in the evening when it is moonlight. At this part of the day equipages are to be observed on all the roads, with ladies and gentlemen on horseback, and afford a pleasing and animating sight. Visits of friendship also take place in the evening. The wealthy merchant, and his bride, at whose house we were so generously entertained, desirous of showing us kindness, invited a number of their friends to meet us at their dinner-table; and the guests so invited, solicited from the party similar visits in return. By this means we were brought into acquaintance with many of our country-people, much to our enjoyment. On one occasion we sat down, a large company, to an early dinner at three o'clock, and immediately after made an excursion, some in carriages, and some on horseback, to the foot of the proud hills that form an amphitheatre, somewhat distant, around the city, passing by several sugar-plantations, and through a country well cultivated, and of sylvan beauty. At one spot we observed a garden, or rather field, of pine-apples, which are of a peculiar shape, and finer in flavour than any other sort grown in Brazil. They are cultivated entirely for home or domestic use, or for sale in the city, as they are too rich and juicy to bear transporting to a foreign clime. These pines, called Bakkashee, formed the principal fruit of the dessert at each dinner-



table, and were served, though costly, in great abundance. Oranges abounded in the orchards, but were not yet generally ripe. The other fruits of the season were mangoes, cashews, and sappodillas. Grapes seem but little cultivated. There is a very handsome tree which grows luxuriantly in this neighbourhood, and which yields fruit of enormous size and weight, called Jack-fruit or monkey-bread—not relished by the rich and never used by them, but which is largely eaten by the negro population, who gather it in the fields and highways, or buy it in the market at a very low price. We heard of one single tree, that yielded fruit enough every year, cheap as it is, to produce its owner more than £5 sterling. At the country-house of one English gentleman we were invited to pass a long day, and to take with him a ride among the hills, instead of stopping, as we had done before, at the foot of them. The toil of horseback at mid-day in a climate so sultry was almost too great, but the recompense was ample in delightful scenery. Spots of loveliness, grandeur, and beauty may be found in many countries; but in tropical regions nature puts forth its powers with a luxuriance of blossom and growth quite unknown in colder climates; and wonders of vegetation attract the attention on every side. The mosses and fungi that cleave to the roots of the trees are rich in colour, and the Epidendrons that fasten on the trunks and branches are full of beauty, exhibiting some of the most lovely flowers in creation. The attention of Mungo Park was attracted to a very small flower in Africa that gave an immediate impulse of joy to his sinking heart: the traveller in South America may find pleasure in almost every natural object he observes. So much is new, and so much is interesting, that although he may be no botanist, and unable to name what he sees, he cannot but rejoice in the scenes around him.

At one of our evening parties, and again afterwards at his own home, we had the pleasure of meeting the chaplain of the British Embassy, who, in addition to his occupations as an Episcopal minister, receives young men for classical instruction. This individual, among others, entered warmly into the object which brought us out to that distant part of the world, and promised his endeavours to promote it. On our departure for the steam-boat that conveyed us home, he called to take leave of us, and assured us, with emotion, that he felt for that object, and for us, the sympathy of a Christian brother: the Address to Sovereigns from our religious Society, had



his cordial approbation, and he would bring it under the notice of his friends.

It was gratifying to us to find such a response to our religious concern on behalf of the slave, in an individual living among slave-proprietors, who is well acquainted with the working of the sad system, and who, from his public station and character, may do much to promote the cause of humanity in that morally dark land.

On the day preceding our departure from Pernambuco we had a striking evidence of the vast traffic which that city carries on with the interior of the country. Early in the morning not fewer, it was computed, than 6000 horses entered, bearing on their backs bales of cotton and bags of sugar: the streets in some places were so thronged with these animals and their burdens, that it was somewhat difficult to force one's way.

The end of the year had now nearly arrived, and with it the time of our departure: the Tay steamer had arrived from Rio Janeiro on its way to England, and we made immediate preparations to go on board. The charge for boats to and from vessels lying off Pernambuco, particularly if outside the reef, is very high; one gentleman told us he had paid 30s. for himself alone on one occasion, and no one could be found willing to take us to the steamer under twenty milreis or £2 6s. 8d., about two miles: one reason for this high charge, no doubt, is the difficulty of surmounting the swell of the sea. An immediate order to proceed was, of course, given: a launch with seven men to manage it made its appearance at the pier head; and having placed our luggage on board, and said farewell to our friends on the shore, we dashed through the surf over a somewhat troubled ocean, and soon reached the steamer. The steam was already up: the mail-boat came up at the same moment; a voice was heard,—“Her Majesty's mail is on board;” the anchor was weighed, and we found ourselves on the way to England.

It was well that we did not longer delay our departure: the summer was approaching, and with it a sultriness that oppresses strangers. The yellow fever had again begun to prevail for the third time in Rio de Janeiro; 116 persons died of it in the course of the month: two English inhabitants had died of it at Bahia during our short stay in that city, and it was expected soon to revisit Pernambuco. Till the early part of 1851, the coast of Brazil had been considered as healthy as most parts of the world: the



yellow fever then made its appearance for the first time, and swept away many thousands of people in the sea-port towns: it re-appeared early in 1852, and committed similar ravages; it was now again at the threshold, and was looked upon as likely to prove a periodical and deadly visitor. Europeans are the most frequent victims of this awful malady, and especially British sailors, whose reckless manner of life when on shore, and whose determined drinking habits, predispose them to receive whatever epidemic may prevail in the countries they visit. If that epidemic be the yellow fever, and they receive it, they mostly die. Three cases of sickness, though not of confirmed yellow fever, occurred on board the *Tay* soon after leaving Rio Janeiro; one of the crew died on the passage before the vessel reached Bahia; another was under medical treatment when she arrived at Pernambuco; and one of the passengers who had been attacked was convalescent, and sat with us at the cabin-table. We had no yellow flag flying, but we were subjected to the laws of quarantine at several places on our homeward route.

Thus ended our travels in Brazil. Although we visited many towns on the coast, and saw something of the country to nearly a hundred miles inland, our sketch is a very imperfect one, and must be taken simply for what it is. Brazil is an extensive empire, and to visit its provinces, so as to describe them from personal observation, would require a travel of many years. We give the following brief outline of its geography and general features.

## GEOGRAPHY AND GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL.

WHOEVER will take up a map of South America, and observe its divisions and boundaries, as laid down by modern geographers, will find that the empire of Brazil occupies nearly half of its extensive area. The length of Brazil, from near the river Plate to Guiana, is 2200 miles, and its greatest breadth, from the Atlantic Ocean to the north-east of Peru, is about the same distance. A small part of the country lies to the South of the Tropic of Capricorn: all its immense remaining territory is inter-tropical, and contains land of every degree of fertility, has the advantage of a variety of climate, is watered by mighty rivers, and abounds in forests, mountains, hills and plains. A large portion of its surface is unpeopled, and nearly unknown, and some of its boundaries are as yet undefined. Its chief cities are all on the coast of the Atlantic, and serve as the outlets of a great and continually increasing commerce. Beginning at St. Paulo, South of the tropic, which exports mules and cattle, we come to Rio de Janeiro, the capital, and proceeding northward we arrive at Bahia and Pernambuco, two emporiums of the sugar-producing districts—cities of great importance, and thence, by the coast trending westward, just below the Equinoctial line, at the towns of Maranham and Parà, from which cotton is exported. Parà is situated at the mouth of the mighty Amazon, on a delta of the stream, at the extremity of an Indian territory, and has often been menaced by irruptions of the aboriginal races. There are a few pretty good towns in the interior, and among the mining districts, but the foregoing are the principal cities of the empire. The population of Brazil, amounting to five or six millions, is so small in proportion to its immense area, that if spread equally over its surface, it would be difficult to trace the inhabitants: the habitation of every single family would be distant about three miles every way from its nearest neighbour: the land would be a solitude. It has been long contended in the Old World that the pressure of population on the means of subsistence keeps increasing in geometrical progression, and that unless an outlet be soon found for its superabounding peoples, multitudes must perish for want of food. If this be true, and more land be needed on



which to expatiate, the empire of Brazil lies open before us, and as years and centuries advance, may absorb hundreds of millions of the human race. Its soil, if diligently cultivated, and its mineral riches, if explored and worked out, are capable of sustaining a population equal to that of all modern Europe. As time advances, and generations improve, a way will be made in the wilderness of South America for the settlement of new nations from the Old World: the counteracting causes of slavery and Popery which hinder immigration, will give way; slavery in time will cease to be a domestic institution — it will no longer morally and physically blight the land; and Popery, now in the ascendant, will be replaced, we may safely trust, by a purer faith. It needs no poet's fervour to depict what this country may yet be, situated as it is under a tropical climate, and abounding in all the elements of wealth, which nature with a lavish hand can bestow. Let those who wish to know what Brazil is capable of becoming, consult the instructive pages of Southey and of Humboldt.

The civil government of Brazil, leaving out of consideration the subject of slavery, is one of constitutional liberty, that goes far to secure the freedom of its people. It embraces a limited monarchy, and a representative system, and affords sufficient checks to the abuse of power, so long as that people are true to themselves, and act on enlightened principles of law and order. There is an aristocracy, but without the privileges that attend such a class in some other countries. The Emperor can only act in obedience to the laws. The legislative power is vested in a general assembly, consisting of two chambers, that of deputies and that of senators. The deputies and senators are nominated by indirect election; the body of qualified citizens choosing the electors in parochial assemblies, and the latter nominating the representatives. The qualification of an elector is a proved annual income of 200 milreis or £24 sterling, per annum: that of a deputy is double. The bishops and nobles are eligible to either house of assembly, and are so chosen at the pleasure of the electors. A new assembly is elected every four years, unless sooner dissolved, and must sit for the transaction of business four months in every year. Such is the Government centralized at the capital: but in addition to this general Government, and as supplementary to its power, are the Assemblies of the several provinces. Brazil, being divided into many extensive provinces, each having its separate jurisdiction, is

denominated *The Brazils*. Each province has its local legislature, with a President appointed by the Crown, who resembles in his honours and functions our Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, or the governors of some of our colonies. The provincial assemblies pass laws for local purposes, and are not unlike in power to our British municipalities: they tax the inhabitants for roads, prisons and public improvements: they sometimes go beyond this limit, and if they require more money than the common taxes produce, they levy a duty on goods exported, in addition to that imposed by the State. Hence, in one province, the export duty on sugar is an *ad valorem* one of 7 per cent.: in another, it amounts to 12 per cent. This liberty of adding to a state impost a provincial one, is most injudicious; but as the people choose their own law-makers, they can put an end to it as soon as they please.

The Government of the Brazils thus centralized, and thus subdivided, appears to work to the pretty general contentment of the whites, or free people. Symptoms of revolt occasionally manifest themselves in the distant provinces, but civil and religious liberty are, on the whole, tolerably provided for and secured. It is a remarkable fact, that while all the republics of North and South America, which have separated from Spain and set up for themselves, have been, since their separation from the parent State, the scenes of almost perpetual conflict and disorder, one military chief deposing another, and ruling the people with a rod of despotism, Brazil has retained its constitutional monarchy, and remains in peace and tranquillity.



## THE VOYAGE HOME.

GREAT is the difference in point of comfort between a crowded ship and one that has room to spare. The *Tay* had less than half its complement of passengers, so that each one could have a cabin to himself, and one long dinner-table sufficed for the whole company. We had on board about an equal number of English, French and Brazilians. The English and French sat together, or near each other at one end of the table, for the benefit of mutual conversation and because their social habits were in accordance: the Brazilians, who spoke only the Portuguese language, formed a group by themselves; but a good understanding prevailed throughout, and a fair degree of politeness. The time of winter in England is that of summer in Brazil, and we expected sultry weather at the line; instead of which the weather was salubrious: the thermometer stood at 80° of Fahrenheit, with a fresh-blowing breeze, and under an awning on deck it was agreeably cool. Small shoals of flying fishes skimmed the surface of the ocean, and sea-gulls sailed in the air. Our French companions, with all the vivacity of their nation, amused us with their animated talk: they differed much among themselves in politics; one was a socialist, and another a conservative, but all were pretty good friends, and condescending to each other. After a pleasant run of ten days from Pernambuco, we once more came in sight of the Cape de Verde Islands, and cast anchor in the harbour of Saint Vincent: fever prevailed in the village, but we were glad to go on shore for a ramble, and to vary the monotony that always attends a sea life. Here we received, as a fellow-passenger, a sickly-looking mortal, whom we soon discovered to be the captain of a slave-ship. He was recognised by an American sailor on board, who gave us his history: his ship had been captured on the coast of Africa, and awaited judgment at Havanna, and he was going to Teneriffe, and thence to Cuba, with the hope, by means of false evidence, of securing it from condemnation. He wisely kept aloof from most of us, and seemed only at home with a few of the Brazilians. From the American sailor and one of our officers, we obtained information of the barbarous and horrid transactions which so constantly disturb



the peace of Africa. Is the time near at hand, when we may hope to see realised the prophecy of Scripture—"Ethiopia shall stretch out her hands unto God?"

Arrived at a latitude of  $26^{\circ} 51'$ , longitude  $17^{\circ} 13'$ , the captain having just taken an observation of the heavens, we again saw the Peak of Teneriffe: our geographical distance from it was 107 nautical or 132 statute miles, and although at intervals it became shrouded by a garment of white mist, we kept it in view most of the day. The next morning on waking, and coming on deck, we found ourselves once more abreast of Santa Cruz. At sun-rise, so clear was the atmosphere that we seemed almost to touch the mountains. "Do you see the snow on that mountain?" said one of our fellow passengers to us. "It cannot be snow," was our reply, "snow never remains on the ground within the tropics at so slight an elevation." "How high do you take the mountain to be?" "Two thousand feet," we said. The captain was appealed to as to its elevation, and whether what we saw was snow or not. To satisfy our curiosity, and to settle the point, he fetched his chart, pointed out to us the position of the ridge, assured us that it was snow, and that the mountain in that part was 9200 feet in height. "Look," he said, "at the cone behind it, about a foot in appearance above; that is the Peak." Never was illusion more complete. Some of us had supposed that we might have gone ashore, reached the summit and returned to the ship to breakfast. The foot of the range was 18 miles distant! The hills or lower slopes of this giant of the ocean, which rise almost from the bed of the sea, are 2000 feet in height: on these the Cactus plant is cultivated for cochineal, of which we took in 260 bags, on freight to England. Here we rode at quarantine, and a boat from the shore, coming alongside, took away our slave-dealer and placed him in the prison appointed for passengers suspected of fever or the plague, not an unfit destination. At noon the whole island of Teneriffe, which in the morning was so conspicuous and clear, became suddenly enveloped in a storm of clouds and rain, and was totally hid from view. Before we left this latitude, we caught a glimpse, near or distant, of several of the Canary islands—Hiero, Gran Canary, Palma, Gomera and Teneriffe, and scarcely had the last of them faded from view, ere the mountains of Madeira were seen. There is no lack of interest in such a voyage as this. Coming from a suspected country, we were again placed in quarantine at Funchal, but we were not left



without amusement: we had coals to take in, and passengers to send on shore; and numerous boats, under surveillance of a health officer, came to the bowsprit to deal with the passengers and the crew. They brought oranges, eggs, fowls, wicker baskets and lace-work, which, when bargained for, were drawn up by a rope, and the money was returned. It was an exceedingly busy and somewhat gratifying scene. The *Tay*, on its outward-bound voyage, had taken out from Madeira seven labourers as emigrants to St. Vincent, to be employed by the Company, at good wages, to assist in coaling the steam-vessels. On its arrival at that island, the agent of the Company told the captain that if the men were landed, with the view of remaining, he would not answer for their living five days, as a fatal fever prevailed on the shore: the captain humanely took them on to Rio Janeiro, and brought six of them back to Madeira, one having preferred to remain behind. These men appeared gratified with the consideration manifested on their account: they had been kept on board the vessel, had been well fed, with but little to do; they had seen a new country where the people spake their own language: they had traversed 8000 miles of ocean, and were now safe at home again! Instead, however, of immediately going to their homes, they were now to perform a quarantine of eight days. The announcement of an eight days' quarantine was far from agreeable to them; but to some of our invalid fellow-passengers who were to be left here, it was appalling. The government officer said that at a given hour he should send a launch to convey the whole company to the health station. An amusing scene followed. One of the passengers was an officer in the American navy: he put on his regimentals, girded on his sword, came on deck, and declared that nothing should induce him to go ashore in the same boat with dirty coal-heavers: unless he could have a boat to himself, he would go on to Lisbon, or even to England: his bluster prevailed, and a private boat was despatched to convey him: he had vindicated, he thought, the honour of a great nation, and descended and took his seat with much self-complacency. Americans can justify equality at home, but love distinctions abroad. We now bade a last adieu to Madeira, and got under way for Lisbon: the atmosphere gradually cooled down; summer garments were laid aside and winter ones substituted; but still the weather was fine, the sea moderate, and sailing delightful, and we had no very ardent longing, as at some former times, for the



termination of the voyage. Lisbon came in view, but instead of steaming up the Tagus to the city itself, we dropped anchor at the tower of Belem, six miles below the custom-house, and awaited the visits of the government authorities. The health officer appeared, and the captain, purser and mate were summoned to the capstan to answer interrogatories: this operation occupied half an hour: we had numerous passengers to land, and they received the *gratifying* intelligence that all would be subjected to an eight days' quarantine! There was no help for it; the fiat was pronounced, and nothing remained but submission. Another difficulty occurred: the coals wanted for the remainder of the voyage could not be hauled up in sacks, but must be carried in baskets from the lighters to the main deck: what should be done with the forty men to be employed in this needful task? All must go to the lazar-house! We could not help thinking that these quarantine regulations were very foolish, as the ship had then a clean bill of health; and to subject sixty or seventy innocent persons to an imprisonment for eight days seemed a great hardship. No matter: the law required it, and there was no remedy. Some of us were desirous of landing with the admiralty agent in his boat at the health station, to see what would be done with the mail, and what sort of communication would be maintained with the shore: two of us obtained this privilege: "When the boat is lowered, and ready to start," said the agent; "if you see a vacant place, jump in:" we did so, and under the protection of our national flag soon reached the strand, and were watched by soldiers on duty till we came to a long raised platform which led to the station-house. Here we found a dwelling with latticed windows, and officers looking out from behind them, who maintained conversation with us, but avoided all contact. The contents of the mail-bags were emptied, and each separate letter was struck through in two places with a hammer and chisel to admit of a more ready and complete fumigation. An immense correspondence is maintained between Brazil and Portugal: one bag contained more than 6000 letters from Rio de Janeiro alone; so that to perforate every one of them was the work of some hours. When this labour was performed, and as it was going on, the letters were put into a trough and passed through a private window to receive the finishing touch of the chemist.

When the evening drew on, an immense barge-like boat came to the ship's side to receive a living cargo for quarantine:



sixteen passengers, several Portuguese cabin-waiters, and about forty coal-heavers went down into it and took their places; the captain then weighed anchor, we crossed over the dangerous bar at the mouth of the Tagus, and were once more at sea. Our passage from Lisbon was favourable, except one day and night in the Bay of Biscay, when it blew a gale; the wind shifting rapidly from point to point, blowing from S.W., N.W., N.E., and N., in the course of a short time. One heavy sea broke over the ship at night, which completely carried in five of the ports, deluging the cabins, the decks, and the hammocks; it occurred when all were in their berths: some of the ports were carried in with their frame-work unbroken; in others the glass, though a quarter of an inch thick, was shivered to pieces: the shock caused the vessel, though of such a great size, to quiver, and seemed to bring her almost to a stand for a moment. At other times, both in going out and returning, we encountered some slight head-winds, which retarded our motion and delayed our arrival in port, but we had an almost invariably clear sky; the sun was seldom so fierce as to occasion us inconvenience, and our health was preserved. Rarely has a voyage in and out of so great a length been performed with so much comfort and satisfaction to a ship's company. After sailing, on the whole, more than 10,000 miles, we arrived with thankful hearts at Southampton, on the 15th of first month, 1853, having been absent from home between eighteen and nineteen weeks,

## CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS.

IN the foregoing Narrative we have ventured to express our confidence in the Government of Brazil, and our earnest hope that the slave-trade in that country would experience no revival. Since our departure from that coast, the sad intelligence has reached England that a small vessel, crowded with slaves, has succeeded in landing its cargo, and that a new narrow pathway had been cut through a primitive forest near the landing-place both to secrete the victims on their march into the interior, and to render a recapture difficult in case of pursuit by the military. The circumstance occasions us no surprise, as we were informed, when at Pernambuco, by the President of the province, that strong suspicions were entertained by him of such an intended importation: papers, he said, had been discovered, and impounded; and the matter would undergo a rigid investigation. One of the suspected parties was already in prison. It is gratifying to learn, by the same conveyance that brought the news of the landing of these slaves, that the guilty parties had been apprehended, and that the victims of their avarice and cruelty had been seized by the Government authorities; so that the cargo on which they depended for profit has become valueless to them, and they themselves, perhaps, will be condemned to banishment. The Government of Brazil has the power, if it please, to crush the guilty traffic altogether, and to punish its abettors, and England looks on with anxiety for the issue. Since we left Brazil, we have learned by a letter from a friend at Rio Janeiro, that the 'Address to Sovereigns and those in Authority,' issued by the Yearly Meeting, a copy of which, in Portuguese, we left with the Editor of the 'Journal de Commercio,' has appeared in the columns of that paper in full. We are gratified at the circumstance, as this newspaper is the organ of the Government, and has a wider circulation than any other. The Address has now been published in the principal daily papers of Rio Janeiro and Bahia, and we trust in that of Pernambuco also, as we received from the editor, before we quitted that city, a promise that it should soon appear. It has thus found its way to distant provinces of the empire, and we have only to express our hope that the religious



concern of the Society to give it circulation and to impress on the slave-holding countries the Christian truths unfolded in it, may meet with a response in many hearts, and lead to a useful result. If in preparing the Narrative we have not spoken so strongly, as some may think we should have done, on the evils of slavery, it must be remembered that our object has been to record what we saw and observed, rather than what we had heard, or read. A stranger passing hastily through a foreign country is seldom able, from his own personal observation, to lay bare the state of society and exhibit it with correctness to others. This applies with peculiar emphasis to slavery, as an institution, whose hideous and revolting workings are often in secret, and carefully concealed from the eye of those who are known to be engaged in searching them out with a view to public exposure. Were we disposed to lengthen this Narrative, we could fill many pages with the horrors of Brazilian slavery, as exhibited in the reports, from year to year, of our Ambassadors and Consuls residing in that country, and from other accredited and recent sources; but we forbear. It is enough to know and to say that slavery is bad in Brazil, and in every country where it is tolerated, and that it is our duty, as professing Christians, to join hand and heart in every Christian endeavour to sweep it from the world.

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