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JAMES WILLIAMS'S

**NARRATIVE**

**FULLY CONFIRMED**

IN THE

REPORT OF A SPECIAL COMMISSION

ISSUED FROM

**THE COLONIAL OFFICE.**

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WITH A PLATE OF THE TREADMILL.

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LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE CENTRAL EMANCIPATION COMMITTEE,

TOKEN-HOUSE YARD.

SOLD BY G. WIGHTMAN, 24, PATERNOSTER ROW.

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# NARRATIVE OF EVENTS

SINCE THE 1ST OF AUGUST, 1834.

BY JAMES WILLIAMS,

TOGETHER WITH THE

EVIDENCE TAKEN UNDER A COMMISSION

APPOINTED BY

**THE COLONIAL OFFICE**

TO ASCERTAIN THE

TRUTH OF THE NARRATIVE;

AND THE

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS THEREON:

THE WHOLE

EXHIBITING A CORRECT PICTURE OF A LARGE PROPORTION OF WEST INDIAN  
SOCIETY; AND THE ATROCIOUS CRUELTIES PERPETRATED UNDER THE  
APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM.

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LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE CENTRAL EMANCIPATION COMMITTEE,  
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1838.



## ADVERTISEMENT.

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When the *NARRATIVE* by *JAMES WILLIAMS* first appeared, great doubts were entertained as to the possibility of its truth ; these doubts having been suggested to the Members of Her Majesty's Government, at their instigation a Commission of Inquiry was issued by His Excellency, Sir Lionel Smith Governor of Jamaica, directed to the Justice of the Peace of the parish of St. James, and the Special Magistrate of St. Elizabeth, to ascertain whether facts so disgraceful to human nature, and so flagrantly opposed to the Act of Emancipation, could by possibility be true. As soon as the Commission had concluded their investigation, their Report was published in Jamaica ; and a private copy having found its way into this country, it was determined that no time should be lost in laying it before the public. The Government have not acknowledged the *Report* ; but where is the *EVIDENCE* ? Why is it not produced ? Has it been read at the Colonial Office ? If so, why is there a moment's delay in placing before the nation a document so important and so interesting ?

That the evidence may more correctly be understood, the *Narrative* of James Williams is prefaced to it ; and such references given as may identify the *Narrative* with the *Examination*.

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J. HADDON, CASTLE STREET, FINSBURY.

## A NARRATIVE OF EVENTS,

SINCE THE 1ST OF AUGUST, 1834.

By JAMES WILLIAMS, an Apprenticed Labourer in Jamaica.

*The numbers, in James Williams's Narrative, in Parentheses, are placed for the purpose of giving the Reader an idea of the questions proposed to Mr. Senior and the other witnesses, by the Commissioners of Inquiry.*

I AM about eighteen years old. I was a slave belonging to Mr. Senior and his sister, and was brought up at the place where they live, called Penshurst, in St. Ann's parish, in Jamaica.

I have been very ill treated by Mr. Senior and the magistrates since the new law come in. Apprentices get a great deal more punishment now than they did when they was slaves; the master take spite, and do all he can to hurt them before the free come;—I have heard my master say, "Those English devils say we to be free, but if we is to free, he will pretty well weaken we, before the six and the four years done; we shall be no use to ourselves afterwards."

Apprentices a great deal worse off for provision than before time; magistrate take away their day, and give to the property; massa give we no salt allowance, and no allowance at Christmas; since the new law begin, he only give them two mackerel,—that was one time when them going out to job.

When I was a slave I never flogged,—I sometimes was switched, but not badly; but since the new law begin, I have been flogged seven times, and put in the house of correction four times.

Soon after 1st August, massa tried to get me and many others punished; he brought us up before Dr. Palmer, but none of us been doing nothing wrong, and magistrate give we right.

After that, Mr. Senior sent me with letter to Captain Connor, to get punished, but magistrate send me back—he would not punish me, till he try me; when I carry letter back to massa, he surprise to see me come back, he been expect Captain Connor would put me in workhouse. Captain Connor did not come to Penshurst; he left the parish. Massa did'nt tell me what charge he have against me.

[No. 1.] When Dr. Thom'son come to the parish, him call one Thursday, and said he would come back next Thursday, and hold court Friday morning. He come Thursday afternoon, and get dinner, and sleep at Penshurst, and after breakfast, all we apprentices called up. Massa try eight of we, and Dr. Thompson flog every one; there was five man and three boys; them flog the boys with switches, but the men flog with the cat. One of the men was the old driver, Edward Lawrence; Massa say he did not make the people take in the pimento crop clean; he is quite old—head quite white—hav'nt got one black hair in it, but Dr. Thompson ordered him to be flogged; not one of the people be'n doing any thing wrong; all flog for trifling, foolish thing, just to please the massa.

[No. 2.] When them try me, massa said, that one Friday I was going all round the house with big stone in my hand, looking for him and his sister, to knock them down. I was mending stone wall round the house by massa's order; I was only a half-grown boy that time. I told magistrate, I never do such thing, and offer to bring evidence about it; he refuse to hear me or my witness; would not let me speak; he sentence me to get thirty-nine lashes; eight policemen was present, but magistrate make constable flog at first; them flog the old driver first, and me next; my back all cut up and cover with blood,—could not put on my shirt—but massa say, constable not flogging half hard enough, that my back not cut at all;—then the magistrate make one of the police take the cat to flog the other three men, and him flog most unmerciful. It was Henry James, Thomas Brown, and Adam Brown, that the police flog. Henry James was an old African; he had been put to watch a large corn piece—no fence round it—so the cattle got in and eat some of the corn—he could'nt help it, but magistrate flog him for it. After the flogging, he got quite sick, and began coughing blood; he went to the



hot-house,\* but got no attention, them say him not sick. He go to Capt. Dillon to complain about it; magistrate give him paper to carry to massa, to warn him to court on Thursday; that day them go to Brown's Town, Capt. Dillon and a new magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson was there. Capt. Dillon say that him don't think Henry James was sick; he told him to go back, and come next Thursday, and he would have doctor to examine him: the old man said he did not know whether he should live till Thursday. He walk away, but before he get out of the town, he drop down dead—all the place cover with blood that he puke up. He was quite well before the flogging, and always said it was the flogging bring on the sickness.

[No. 3.] Same day Henry James dead, Massa carry me and Adam Brown before magistrate; he said I did not turn out sheep till nine o'clock on Wednesday morning; I told magistrate the sheep was kept in to be dressed, and I was eating my breakfast before dressing them: but Capt. Dillon sentence me and Adam Brown to lock up in the dungeon at Knapdale, for ten days and nights; place was cold and damp, and quite dark—a little bit of a cell, hardly big enough for me to lie full-length; them give me pint of water and two little cocoa or plaintain a day:—hardly able to stand up when we come out, we was so weak: massa and misses said we no punish half enough: massa order we straight to our work, and refuse to let we go get something to eat.

[No. 4.] The week after we let out of dungeon, Mr. Rawlinson come to Penshurst, and tell some of the people he not done with we yet about the sheep; we only put in dungeon for warning, and he would come back next Thursday, and try we again for it; he did come Thursday about four o'clock, and send call us; when we come, him and massa and misses was at dinner—we sent in to say we come—them said, Never mind till morning. We know this magistrate come to punish we for nothing, so we go over to Capt. Dillon at Southampton to complain; he write paper next morning to police-station, and policeman take us home. Mr. Rawlinson gone already, and misses said he left order that we to lock up every night, and keep at work in daytime, till he come back—but police say no, Capt. Dillon order that we not to punish till he try we himself, on Thursday, at Brown's Town;—Them took us there, but Capt. Dillon did not come, but send paper for the other magistrate to try it, and said them could'nt try us for the same thing again. Mr. Rawlinson said it was not the same thing; Mr. Senior said, No, we had been insolent to him; we call constable to give evidence, and he said we not insolent; then magistrate say to Mr. Senior, "You mean insolence by manner." Massa answer, "Yes, that is what I mean, insolence by manner." It was magistrate self that put massa up to say this; then the magistrate sentence us to get twenty lashes a-piece, which was given in front of court-house by police; the punishment was very severe—both of us fainted after it—we lie down on the ground for an hour after it, not able to move! a free man in the place sent some rum and camphor to bring we round. We went home that night, and went into hospital—they would hardly receive us, we stop there that night and Friday, lock up all day and night, and no feeding; Saturday morning massa turn both of us out—we back all sore, quite raw, and we not able to stoop.

[No. 5.] Ten days after the flogging at Brown's Town, Mr. Rawlinson come again to Penshurst on the Monday, and slept there. Next morning massa brought me up, and said that after the last punishment, when we got home, I did not turn out the horses and cows that night. I told magistrate I was sick with the flogging, and went to the hot-house, but Mr. Rawlinson order me twenty-five lashes for it; Mr. Senior said, let it be done on the place;—magistrate said yes, and ordered constable, William Dalling to do it. I begged magistrate not to flog me again, as the other flogging was not well yet, but no use, he would'nt hear me, but rode away from the place. Massa said he have no cat, but he would find some switches to do it with; I was flogged with lancewood switches upon the old flogging—it tear off all the old scabs, and I not able to lie down on my back for two or three weeks after—was made to work with my back all sore.

[No. 6.] About a month after the last flogging, massa said to me one day, that he would send for magistrate, and oblige him to do his duty, that all the gates in the pasture was down, and I never told him, and that I took up too much time to get in two turn of food for the horses; I said I could'nt do more than I was doing, I had too many things to do—first thing in the morning I had to blow shell, then to go to pasture and get in milking cow, and to milk them—then had to look over the sheep and cows, and all the stock, and to dress them that have sores—then to get them altogether and give to one little boy to take them to pasture; at nine o'clock go to breakfast for

\* Hospital.

half an hour, then have to go mend gaps in the stone wall, after that have to take two asses and a bill, to cut bread-nut food for the horses—had to climb the high trees to cut the bread-nut—then to chop it up, and load the two asses and take it home, and to come back for another load :—this finish between four and five, and by that time the little boy bring in all the cattle. I have to look over them and to turn them into different pastures, then have to go and get a bundle of wood for a watch-fire, and after that to supper the horses in the stable at night ; they don't allow me to go to negro-houses—obliged to keep watch all night, sleeping in the kitchen, and to answer all call ; massa said I was only four years' apprentice, and don't entitle to any time—that only one day in a fortnight due to me to work my ground and feed mys-lf.

[No. 7.] Massa never give me food ; he allow me every other Sunday to work my ground, and sometimes he let me change it for another day. Magistrate say that was all the time the law allow.

[No. 8.] As to the gates being down, massa go through them every day himself and see it ; but he say I ought to have told him, and he will make magistrate punish me for it, him swear vengeance against me.

[No. 9.] Mr. Rawlinson come on a Friday evening, and I was to have take next day for my day ; but massa send me word that me not to take the day, as he want to bring me before the magistrate ; I was frightened and did'nt go next morning :—Then I heard that magistrate said as I take the day against orders, when him and me meet he would settle it : I was quite frightened when I hear this, and I go away to Spanish Town to see the governor—but did'nt see him, as he was up in the mountain : I go back to St. Ann's, and hide in the woods about Peshurst and Knapdale ; I stop about seven weeks, and then go back to Spanish Town ; I went to Mr. Ramsay, and he gave me paper to Mr. Emery, the captain of police, at St. Ann's—I met him on the road—he took me and put me in dungeon at Carlton—was kept there from Wednesday till Friday morning, then policemen came and took me to Brown's Town, and put me in cage till next day ; then Mr. Rawlinson had me handcuffed and sent me to Peshurst, and put me in dungeon ten days before he try me.

[No. 9.] On the eleventh day Mr. Rawlinson came and slept there that night ; next morning he had me brought out, and asked me about the running away, and I told him I go away because I was frightened when I hear how him and massa threaten me ; then he sentence me to St. Ann's Bay workhouse, for nine days, to get fifteen lashes in going in—to dance the treadmill morning and evening, and work in the penal gang : and after I come back from the punishment, I must lock up every night in the dungeon till he visit the property again, and I have to pay fifty days out of my own time for the time I been runaway.

[No. 10.] Then they handcuff me to a woman belonging to Lilyfield, to send to the workhouse ; she have a little child carrying on her back and basket on her head, and when she want to give pickaniny suck, she obliged to rest it on one hand to keep it to the breast, and keep walking on ; police don't stop to make her suckle the child. When we got to the workhouse, that same evening they give me the fifteen lashes ; the flogging was quite severe, and cut my back badly ; then they put collar and chain upon my neck, and chain me to another man. Next morning they put me on the treadmill along with the others : at first, not knowing how to dance it, I cut all my shins with the steps ; they did not flog me then—the driver show me how to step, and I catch the step by next day ; but them flog all the rest that could not step the mill, flogged them most deadful. There was one old woman with grey head, belonging to Mr. Wallace, of Farm, and she could not dance the mill at all : she hang by the two wrists, which was strapped to the bar, and the driver kept on flogging her ;—she get more than all the rest, her clothes cut off with the cat—the shoulder-strap cut with it, and her shift hang down over that side—then they flog upon that shoulder and cut it up very bad ; but all the flogging could'nt make she dance the mill, and when she come down all her back covered with blood.—They keep on putting her on the mill for a week, and flog her every time, but when they see she could not dance it, they stop putting her on ; if they no been stop, they would have kill her.

[No. 11.] There was about thirty people in the workhouse that time, mostly men ; nearly all have to dance the tread-mill morning and evening ; six or eight on the treadmill one time, and when them done, another spell go on, till them all done ; every one strap to the bar over head, by the two wrists, quite tight ; and if the people not able to catch the step, then they hang by the two wrist, and the mill steps keep on batter their legs and knees, and the driver with the cat keep on flog them all the time till them catch the step. The women was obliged to tie up their clothes, to keep them

from tread upon them, while they dance the mill; them have to tie them up so as only to reach down to the knee, and half expose themself; and the men have to roll up their trowsers above the knee, then the driver can flog their legs with the cat, if them don't dance good; and when they flog the legs till they all cut up, them turn to the back and flog away; but if the person not able to dance yet, them stop the mill, and make him drop his shirt from one scoulder, so as to get at his bare back with the cat. The boatswain flog the people as hard as he can lay it on—men and women all alike.

One day, while I was in, two young women was sent in from Moneague side, to dance the mill, and put in dungeon, but not to work in penal gang; them don't know how to dance the mill, and driver flog them very hard; they didn't tie up their clothes high enough, so their foot catch upon the clothes when them tread the mill, and tear them; and then between the cat and the mill—them flog them so severe,—they cut away most of their clothes, and left them in a manner naked; and the driver was bragging afterwards that he see all their nakedness.

Dancing tread-mill is very hard work, it knock the people up—the sweat run all down from them—the steps all wash up with the sweat that drop from the people, just the same as if you throw water on the steps.

One boatswain have to regulate the pole\* of the mill, and make it go fast or slow, as him like; sometimes them make it go very fast, and then the people can't catch the step at all—then the other boatswain flogging away and cutting the people's legs and backs without mercy.—The people bawl and cry so dreadful, you could hear them a mile off; the same going on every time the mill is about; driver keep the cat always going while the people can't step.

When they come off the mill, you see all their foot cut up behind with the cat, and all the skin bruise off the shin with the mill-steps, and them have to go down to the sea-side to wash away the blood.

After all done dance the mill, them put chain and collar on again, and chain two, three, and sometime four together, and turn we out to work penal gang—send us to different estate to work—to dig cane-hole, make fence, clean pasture, and dig up heavy roots, and sometimes to drag cart to bring big stone from mountain side, about two or three miles from the bay; have to drag cart up steep hill. About ten o'clock they give we breakfast,—one quart of corn boiled up with a little salt; sometime they give we a shad between two or three of we.

[No. 12.] They keep us at work till between four and five o'clock, then take us back to the workhouse—take the chains off we all, and make us go upon the mill again, same fashion as in the morning. After that them put us into the bar-room—put the chain and collar on again, and our foot in the shackle-bar, to sleep so till morning. All the women put into one room, and all the men in another:—them that have any of the breakfast left from morning, them eat it after lock up, but them that eat all the allowance at breakfast must starve till morning.

[No. 13.] We keep on so every day till Sunday. Sunday the women sent to Mr. Drake's yard† to clean it—and half the men go cut grass for his horses, and the other half carry water for the workhouse. After that they have to grind all the hoes, and the bills, and the axes, ready for Monday. Them work we all with chains on, on Sunday, but they don't put us on tread-mill that day.

[No. 14.] When the nine days done, them send me home; I so weak I hardly able to reach home; when I get there, Mr. Senior put me in the dungeon, and keep me there for four days and nights, he give me four little bananas and a piece of pumpkin with a little dry salt, and a pint of water. Magistrate didn't order me to be locked up in the day, only at night, but massa do it of his own will.—Then I begg'd massa to let me out, and I would do whatever I can to please him, and he do so, and order me to get a bundle of wood and keep watch every night, instead of going to the dungeon.

[No. 15.] After coming out of workhouse I never feel well, and about three weeks after, I got quite sick with fever and head-ache, and pain in the stomach; almost dead with the sickness. Massa told me one day, another punishment like that, and it will just do for me—it would kill me quite. Dr. Tucker pay good attention to me, and at last I get over it.

[No. 16.] After this, it was long time before they punish me again, but they make me pay off the fifty days; them give me no Sunday at all; every Wednesday they give me half a day to work my grounds, the other half them take to pay off the fifty days;

\* The Lever.

† Mr. Drake is Supervisor of the House of Correction at St. Ann's Bay.

—for one year and three months, them keep on take the half day from me every week, and never give me any feeding.

[No. 17.] In November, about five or six weeks before this last Christmas, one Friday, massa blow shell at nine o'clock for the gang to go to breakfast; it was the time them begin to get half Friday;—them say no, they would rather work for the four hours and a half one time, and then get the rest of the day. Joseph Lawrence, the constable, go to massa, and said the people would not go to breakfast, they wanted to work out the time at once. Massa said no, he would make them go to breakfast, and then work them till one o'clock. He ordered Lawrence to go away from the gang, and sent head constable, William Dalling, to order the people to breakfast; they said no, they would not; then massa go and order them himself, but they refused to go—then there was a great row and noise, and massa make them take up Joseph Lawrence the constable, and Thomas Brown; he say it must be them advise the people not to go to breakfast, and he put them in the dungeon—and he take William Mills and put in, because he don't go to breakfast, and Miss Senior call out for them to put in Benjamin Higgins, the old mason, for the same thing.

[No. 18.] While massa was putting the people in the dungeon, I was passing from the pantry to the kitchen: Miss Senior was cursing at me, but I did not give any hearing to what she was saying. Massa was standing near the kitchen—he ask me what I had to say about it; I say, sir, I have nothing to do with it, I don't interfere; he say You do interfere; I tell him no—he raise up his stick three times to lick me down. I said, you can't lick me down, Sir, the law does not allow that, and I will go complain to magistrate if you strike me. He answer, he don't care for magistrate, he will lick the five pounds out of me that the magistrate will fine him:—then he order me to be lock up along with the rest.

[No. 19.] While they was putting me in, I said, "*It was't a man made this world, and man can't command it: the one that make the world will come again to receive it, and that is Jesus Christ!*" Massa called to William Dalling, the constable, to bear witness what I was saying: he said he heard it, then they lock me up, and keep us there for twenty-four hours.

[No. 20.] That time send for Mr. Rawlinson, he come Monday morning: four of us was tried, but he let off one and punish the other three. Massa tell the magistrates about the words I use—him tell the very words; magistrate ask me if I use them words? I tell him yes, but I was't mean any thing harm. Then him put constable on his oath, and he repeat the words I said; then Mr. Rawlinson told me I had no business to say so, and he sentence me to get twenty lashes in the workhouse, and to dance the tread-mill morning and evening, and work in penal gang for seven days.

[No. 21.] At same time him try Joseph Lawrence and his sister Amelia Lawrence. Massa said that on the Friday morning when he ordered Joseph Lawrence to go away from the gang, he disobeyed his order, and stopped at the gate. Mr. Rawlinson sentence him to get twenty lashes, and seven days in the workhouse, tread-mill, and penal gang same as me, and he broke him from being constable, though he only swear him in constable the Wednesday before.

[No. 22.] When Amelia Lawrence was tried, massa said that every time he go to the field, he always find she at the first row, and he want to know what let she always take the first row—being her brother was the driver, seem as if she want to take the lead. Amelia said massa ought to glad to see apprentice working at the first row, and doing good work. This was all the word that massa have to say against Amelia Lawrence, and Mr. Rawlinson sentence her to seven days in the work-house, penal gang, and tread-mill.

[No. 23.] Amelia have four pickaninies, two free and two apprentice, she left them with her family to take care of while she in the workhouse. Then put us all three together into dungeon after the court done, and send for police to carry we to workhouse. We kept in dungeon till next morning. Them don't give we a morsel to eat, and not a so so drop of water; but one of our friends, unknowing to massa, put a little victuals through a small hole.

[No. 24.] In the morning three police take us out, and carry us down to the work-house; them handcuff me and Joseph Lawrence together, and when we get there them take the handcuff off, and tie we up one after the other, and give we twenty lashes a-piece; both of we very much cut up with the flogging. When the penal gang come back in the evening, them put us all on treadmill—after my back was cut up that fashion, all over blood, it hurt me dreadful to dance the mill.

[No. 25.] The workhouse was quite full this time, they hardly have enough collar an f

chain to put on all the people, they obliged to take off the collar and chain from some of the life people,\* to put on the apprentice; and at night there was'n't enough shackle to fasten all the people, and hardly room enough for us all to lie down. There was a great many women in the workhouse, and several have sucking child; and there was one woman quite big with child, and them make her dance the mill too morning and evening; she not able to dance good, and them flog her; she complain about her stomach hurt her, and I see her several time go and beg the overseer not to work her on the mill, but him say, not him send her there, and he must do his duty.

[No. 26.] All the women that not able to dance was flog most dreadful, in particular all the women from Hiattsfeld. There was twenty-one women from Hiattsfeld, and one man—several of them have young children; I think they was in for fourteen days. I found them in when I got there, and they was let out on Saturday night; I was present when they let out, and I hear the list call, and counted the people, and it was twenty-one women from Hiattsfeld.

[No. 27.] When I go to the workhouse on the Tuesday, there was only three of these women able to work in the field, all the rest was in the hospital, from being cut up with the mill and the flogging; them all look quite shocking when them let out, some hardly able to walk to go home, the most lively among them was all mashed up with the mill, all the skin bruised off her shin: she had a young child too: she tell me that she was put in the workhouse three weeks before and now them send her back again.

[No. 28.] There was more than a hundred people in the workhouse this time—I reckon the life people and all; there was about seventeen or eighteen of them, and when penal gang turn out, them send ten or twelve of the life people along with apprentice, and all have to work together. The life people better treated more than apprentice; them get better feeding, them have quart of flour every second day instead of corn, and always get shad or saltfish every day; they don't put life people on treadmill, and I never see them put a lick upon one of the life people.

[No. 29.] Almost every apprentice that sent to workhouse by magistrate, have to dance treadmill, except the sick in the hospital. It was miserable to see when the mill going, the people bawling and crying most dreadful—so they can't dance, so the driver keep on flogging; them holla out, "massa me no able! my 'tomach, oh, me da dead, oh!"—but no use, the driver never stop—the bawling make it rather worse, them make the mill go faster—the more you holla the more the mill go, and the driver keep on flogging away at all them not able to keep up; them flog the people as if them was flogging Cow.

[No. 30.] One day one of the women from Hiattsfeld fainted on the mill; they been flogging at her, and the mill bruise all her shins; when she faint she drop off the mill, and look as if she dead; all her fellow apprentice set up crying, and ask if she going to dead left them; she not able to speak—two men carry her out into the yard, and lay her out upon the ground, and throw water upon her to bring her to: but for a long time them think she dead already—she did'n't come to till next morning.

[No. 31.] There was one old woman, named Sally, from Mr. Cohen's at Cool Shade, was in workhouse when I go there, and she stop in there long time; she was in shocking condition—they had been putting her on the mill, and she don't able to dance at all, and them been flog her most terrible, but still she not able to dance, and at last them obliged to leave off putting her on the mill; but them keep on make her go out to work in penal gang, and chain her to one of the strong women; she was badly treated more than any body I ever see in the workhouse; every day them flog her, she hardly able to stand. Two of the drivers, James Thomas and Robert Lyne, make constant practice to flog this old woman, and Mr. Drake sometimes beat her himself with supple-jack.

[No. 32.] One day we was working at Bank's negro-houses, cutting Penguin to plant at Springfield—old Sally was chained to a young girl named Mary Murray; it was heavy rain time; driver was pushing the people on to run fast—was flogging them on, the young girl was trying to get on, and was hauling and dragging the chain that was on him and Sally neck, as Sally don't able to keep up; at last the old woman fall down, right in a place where a stream of water was running through a negro-house street, and she don't able to get up again, then the driver stand over her with the cat, and flog her, but she not able to get up with the chain on, so he take off the chain and make the young girl tie it round her body, and go along with the rest; then he stand

\* Convicts for life.

over the old woman, and flog her with the cat till he make her get up, and keep on flogging her till she get to the cook's fireside; the old creature stand there trembling, all wet up—for two or three hours she not able to move away, she look quite stupid; all the other people in the workhouse quite pity this poor old woman, it would make any body heart grieve to see her. The under-driver tell the head-driver one day, that if him keep on beat her so, some of these days she will dead under it, and then he will get into trouble—every day I was in the workhouse, except to Sunday, I see them beat this old woman, and I left her still in.

All the drivers and the boatswains in the yard, is the people that sentence to the workhouse for life, two of them was very bad, them don't care how much them punish the apprentice.

[No. 33.] Them women that have young sucking child, have to tie them on their back and go the field chained together; when it rain ever so hard they have to keep on work with the children tied to their backs, but when the weather dry, them put down the child at the fire-side; when Mr. Drake there, he don't allow them to suckle the child at all, if it cry ever so much; him say the children free, and the law don't allow no time to take care of them; it is only the good will of the driver that ever let woman suckle the children.

[No. 34.] The drivers constant try to get after the young women that put into the workhouse,—even them that married, no matter; before day in the morning, when the driver open the door to take the people out of the shackles, he call for any one he want, to come to his room, and many of them worthless ones do it; Amelia Lawrence complain to her brother and me, that never one morning pass without the driver after her—she don't know what to do, she quite hurt and disheartened about it—but she did not give way; I heard him myself one morning call her to come.

One day, Mr. Hilton, who is clerk in the Court-House,\* come to the workhouse soon in the morning, while the treadmill was going. I been on already, but another spell was on, and Mr. Hilton take off one of the weights from the pole, and make the mill go faster; after him gone, some of the people tell me that in the afternoon he often come half-drunk, while the mill is going, then him take off the weight, and take off the man from the pole, and let the mill go flying round: When the mill let loose so, no person can step the mill—them all throw off, and hang by them two wrists, then him take the Cat in his own hand, and flog all the people with all his strength.

[No. 35.] Them say that sometimes he drive out with his wife, and come round by the workhouse, and if the mill going, he will leave his wife in the gig, and go in to punish the people, and all the call his wife can call to him to leave off, no use.

[No. 36.] On the Wednesday next week they let us out,—we been sent for seven days, but they don't reckon the Sunday for one day; we reach home Thursday—I was quite weak with the flogging and the tread-mill, and the hard work in the penal gang; had a terrible pain in my stomach—hardly able to walk up hill; all the people that been flogged always complain of pain in the stomach.

[No. 37.] The day after I come out of the workhouse, massa order me to go get bread-nut food for the horse. I said I was not able to climb tree; I was sick, and my shoulders was quite sore, and I could hardly use it, and I tell massa that this make six time that they flog me. He answer, he will make it ten time too, and if I sick I must die. Every day he keep order me to go for the bread-nut, but I was not able, and massa t' reaten me sorely—him tell me, that if I don't make an end of him, he will make an end of me.

[No. 38.] On the Thursday next week, he told me he would take me to the magistrate next day, and he swear very vengeance against me. I get frightened, and on Friday morning I go away to complain to the Governor. When I get to Byndloss late at night, the overseer, Mr. Allen, meet me, and take me up, and put me in confinement till next morning, then he put me in charge of two constables, who carry me to police station, and the captain, Mr. Mackaw, put handcuffs on me, and send me to the special magistrate at Linstead, and he put me in the workhouse, till massa should send for me; them chain me to another man, and make me work with the penal gang.

[No. 39.] On Thursday, William Dalling, the constable came for me, and them deliver me up to him. We set out, and walk most of the night—get to Walton school, and slept there; in the morning we start again, and reach home about twelve o'clock at night. On Saturday morning, William Dalling take me down to massa,

\* Deputy Clerk of the Peace, perhaps.

and he send me on to Brown's Town; when the magistrate come, he shook his head at me, and said, Are you here again? Then they hold court. Massa said he ordered me to cut bread-nut, and I would not do it: me disobeyed his order, and on Friday went away, and he did not see me again till this morning. I told magistrate that I did not cut bread-nut, because I was quite sick with my stomach, and massa threaten my life so hard, that make me go away to complain to the Governor. Then the magistrate called the sergeant of police, and tell him, Lay hold of that fellow, and give him five-and-twenty good lashes—and after the flogging I must be sent to the workhouse for seven days, and after I come out of the workhouse, I might go to the governor or whoever I like to complain. I told him that the old flogging is not well yet, but he would not listen to me. They take me into the market-place, and tie me up to a tree, and give me the twenty-five lashes; all the people surprise to see them flogging me again, when the old one not well. The flogging was very severe; after it was done, I lay down before the door of the court-douse, rain came on, and the police came and told me to go inside. I went in to where the court was sitting, and I said to Mr. Rawlinson, You don't do justice betwixt I and master. He tell me, that constable swear that I run away without a cause. I ask the constable, and he declare he never say any further than he took me out of Rodney Hall workhouse. Then Mr. Rawlinson say I have been before him eight or nine times already; I say, if I have been twenty times before you, you ought to do justice 'twixt I and master. He said, He do justice. I told him, You don't do justice. Then he said, If you say another word, I will put you out in the rain; then he made police take and handcuff me, to carry to workhouse. While I was standing outside the door, I hear massa say to Mr. Rawlinson, he had better let me stop in the workhouse for fourteen days; magistrate answer, That will make till after new-year's-day; and then he said Yes.

The policeman carry me to St. Ann's Bay, but night catch me in the pass, and police take me into Cardiff Hall, and we sleep there that night; next morning, Sunday, he take me on to workhouse, and I had to dance tread-mill and work penal-gang like before.

[No. 40.] The workhouse was nearly full like the last time, but the most of them was different people—some that I left in I found still there; there was plenty of women there, but only one have young child, that was Elizabeth Watson, from Mount Carmel, she was in for seven days to dance the tread-mill; she not able to dance good; after she had been on little time, she miss step and drop, and hang by her wrists, then the boatswain flog her with the Cat, as hard as he could put it,—then she try to fetch up and catch the step, but fall again, and them keep on flog, and when they tire of flogging then they let her alone, and let the mill go on mashing her legs; all the skin was bruise off her shins, and her legs cut up with the Cat.

[No. 41.] There was one young mulatto girl in for about ten days; she was name Margaret, and belong to Mr. Chrystie, the saddler, on the Bay; she complain of her stomach, and not able to dance the mill well; they flog her severe, and all her leg bruise with the mill; one evening her master come to the workhouse, when she was on the mill—he beg the boatswain to let the mill go fast, and flog Margaret well, and make her feel it so that she will keep away after.

[No. 42.] There was another woman from Drax Hall on the mill—she didn't dance good, and they flog her very much; and when she find the flogging come too hard, she call out, "Massa, me no one flesh, me two flesh;" she was in family way, but the overseer said he didn't care, it wasn't him give her belly, and after that they was harder upon her.

On Christmas day they make me and five other men go cut grass for Mr. Drake's horses, and some of the woman go clean his yard and carry water.

[No. 43.] As magistrate been sentence me only for seven day, I ask the overseer on the Sunday if my time no up? He looked at the book and say it was put down for fourteen day, so them keep me in till Tuesday night after New Year's day, that make two weeks and a half, for they don't count the Sunday.

There was one girl, named Mary Murray, in the workhouse same time as me, from Seville; she tell me not the magistrate write the paper for she to come to the workhouse—the busha write it, and show it to magistrate, and him say it was all right; she tell we all, that what make them send her to workhouse was, that busha say the gang didn't turn out soon in the morning, and when the magistrate, Major Light, come, he send for the gang from the field, but them all frighten and run and hide—only she Mary Murray didn't run, and them take she before the magistrate, and send her straight off to the workhouse. All the people that speak to me, complain very

bad about Major Light; them say him always drunk,—I see him drunk myself many times, going about the properties,—sometimes I see his servant obliged to hold him in his chaise, he was so drunk; him name is quite common for drunkard through the parish; them tell me that where him sleep, him put the room in such a condition that they were obliged to clean it all out next morning. When he go upon the estate he call to the overseer, Have you got any thing for me to do,—any person to flog? and if they tell him yes, then him stop, and if they give him rum to drink, he will do whatever thing them want him.

[No. 44.] One day when I was working in the penal gang, I saw six or seven of the Windsor apprentices, was going to the workhouse to be flogged—It was Major Light sent them.

[No. 45.] Another day I meet Major Light and the New Ground book-keeper coming down to the Bay, and six men, handcuffed, and tied with rope, was following after, with two constable in charge of them; they was carried down to workhouse and flogged, and then sent back. Every body say they never see crueller man than Major Light—him in a manner begging the overseer to let him punish the people. Mr. Sowley was a king to Major Light.

[No. 46.] The tread-mill at St. Ann's Bay mash the people up quite dreadful; I see two women at Knapdale, one named Nancy, married to Jarvis Webb, the other named Bessy, married to Philip Osborne; them been sent to dance tread-mill, and when they come back, all them leg bruise up, and make bad sore. I see them with bandage round their legs, and obliged to walk with stick; but the overseer and master no care for the work, or the time them lose, if them can only get the people well punish. Massa tell me to my face that he could do without me very well, if he could get me in the workhouse for six months.

[No. 47.] One day Miss Senior say to me and some other apprentices, that Mr. Clarke, the busha at Knapdale, tell her that him send two women to the tread-mill, and them come back so well hacked, that them not able to do nothing for three or four months, and she don't know what the devil in we, that we not well mashed up when we come back from the tread-mill.

[No. 48.] Mary Ann Bell, a mulatto girl, one of Miss Senior's house servants, was quite large in the family way; Mr. Rawlinson send her to dance the tread-mill, and when she come back she quite sick, and them strap her hand so tight upon the mill that she partly lost the use of her right hand ever since; she can't hold nothing heavy in that hand.

[No. 49.] One day when I was at home in the pastures, close the public road, I see policeman carrying down an old man and woman handcuffed together; the man was very old, he look more than sixty years old—he was all trembling and hardly able to walk. I beg the police to stop and let me give them some orange; he do so, and the woman tell me that them sending her to the workhouse about her not delivering her free child to the overseer to let it work. I hear that many people begin to talk that the free child no have no right to stop on the property, and they will turn them off if the mothers don't consent to let them work: this woman come from Orange Valley, but I don't know any thing more about her story.

[No. 50.] The old man tell me that Mr. Rawlinson send him down to gaol, but him don't say what for; but about two months after I see him coming back from St. Ann's Bay. It was between Penhurst and Hinton Hill: him hardly able to crawl, his legs and back hackle most dreadful, and all his shirt and trowsers soak up with blood; I look at his right shoulder, and it was all in one sore, in a manner rotten up with the flogging; I don't think him could live to reach home—he tell me he was two weeks coming from St. Ann's Bay (16 miles), obliged to beg victuals and shelter any place he come to. It was Mr. Rawlinson send him to gaol, and after he been there for a little time, them take him out and carry him before Mr. Sowley, and him put the old man in the workhouse.

[No. 51.] Some of them magistrate don't care what them do to apprentice, as long as them can get good eating and drinking with the massa, and busha, and sometimes them set the massa on to do worse than them want. All the apprentice say that Major Light make it constant rule to do so, and myself see Mr. Rawlinson do so one time—it was the very morning them flog me with the lancewood switches; after the court over, Mr. Rawlinson order his mule ready to go away, and him and massa and Miss Senior was standing at the door. Misses was wanting something, and she called Nanny Dalling—when Nanny come, her face "tie up" (*i. e. looked sour or displeased*)—I believe she been have some dispute with her fellow-servant outside; Mr.



Rawlinson say she look sulky and insolent, and him lay hold of her with him own hand, and haul her along to the dungeon, and push her in and lock the door; he left her child, a sucking baby, outside.

I was standing by the gate and see it all, and when Mr. Rawlinson mount his mule to go to Hinton Hill, I hear him say to massa, You must try to get up some good charge against that woman, and let me send her to the workhouse for about a fortnight; but massa answer that she have young child. The magistrate answer, That's no consequence; but massa didn't like to send her there. Mr. Rawlinson call again at Penshurst same day, as he coming back from Hinton Hill, and he make them bring Nanny Dalling out of the dungeon, and then he sentence her to be locked up in the dungeon for fourteen nights; and them did lock her up every night along with her young pickaniny.

[No. 52.] As I tel about other things, I want to tell about one time I do something bad; it was when massa get up a barrel of pork, last year, in April; John Lawrence tell me he know where the pork was put, and he would help them with a part of it; two or three nights after they open the barrel, John Lawrence get a long stick and tie a fork at the end of it, and then he go to the store window and stick the fork into the pork barrel, and get a piece of the meat and draw it to the window, but it couldn't come through the bars, so he come to the kitchen where I was sleeping, and he call me to come and help him; I go with him, and I hold the piece of pork while him cut it into two, and take and boil one half and give me some, and I eat it.

[No. 53.] Misses and massa found out that the pork gone, and make noise about it, and accuse all the house-servant about it; I can't bear to hear them accuse for wrongful, and I know who did it, so I tell William Dalling the constable that I know all about the pork. Then him tell massa, and they call me up and I tell the truth, that John Lawrence tief the pork and I help him to cut it, and I eat some of it; them carry we before a magistrate about it, and I tell Mr. Rawlinson the same thing, and John Lawrence confess it, and magistrate sentence John Lawrence and me to pay ten shillings a piece to massa for the pork; I borrow the money from my father and another man, and pay it to misses. This is one bad action I do, them don't punish me for it.

[No. 54.] It was the Tuesday evening after new year's day that they let me out of the workhouse, and I reach home next day. Miss Senior say them been looking out for me since last week, as I only sentence for seven days, and she think say, that I run away and go back to Rodney Hall again. She made pretence she don't know that magistrate alter it to fourteen days, and massa pretend the same, for him send William Dalling the constable to the magistrate the week before to say I don't come home yet, and him suppose me run away, but massa know very well that I was in the workhouse all the time.

[No. 55.] Mr. Rawlinson self pretend him don't know I was in the workhouse so long, him say so to make William Dalling fool, because him was present when Mr. Rawlinson try me, and hear him sentence me to no more than seven days in the workhouse. Them don't know that I hear them make the bargain to keep me in all Christmas week.

[No. 56.] Next time Mr. Rawlinson come to Penshurst massa try to get me punish again. Him say me didn't come home same day them let me out of the workhouse—he would have it me no come home till Thursday, but it was Wednesday, and I offer to call constable to prove it, and, at last, magistrate put an ending to it, and told massa he must accuse me wrongfully.

This was the last time they carry me before Mr. Rawlinson, and that was last January.

One Saturday afternoon about the end of February, Philip Osborne of Knapdale came to me, and say that James Finlayson want to see me at Brown's Town that night. James Finlayson was my fellow-apprentice before that time, but been buy himself free, and he was a leader in the church. He send tell me that two gentlemen was there that want to ask how apprentice treated, and him know me been treated very badly, so him send for me.

At night I go to the chapel, and see Mr. Sturge and Mr. Harvey, and I tell them all about my bad living; Mr. Sturge tell me, me mustn't discourage, that it only to last seventeen months; I tell him, I don't know if I can live to see the seventeen months out; I was quite maugre and hungry that time, quite different to what I stand now, I hardly able to get anything to eat then, my ground all gone to pieces, the time them put me in workhouse, and if my father and other people no been give me something, I would have starve. Mr. Sturge gave me a shilling; and then I go back home.

[No. 57.] On Monday night, Finlayson send for me again, I go Tuesday night, and he send me to Mr. Clarke, the minister. Him ask me if me would like to be free—I tell him, Yes, and him ask me if I would pay him back when me free? I said, Yes, I would do all in my power, and try my best endeavour to work hard and pay him back. Then Mr. Clarke tell me I must go to magistrate, to give warning to have me valued: I was quite happy and joyful, when I hear this; and on Saturday, I go to Mr. Rawlinson at Brown's Town, and ask him to value me, but him say massa entitle to fourteen days' warning; he give me paper to serve massa about it, and said he would very glad if I could buy myself, as he have more trouble with me and massa than any body else. I give the paper to misses, as massa was in Spanish Town, and second Saturday after, I go to Brown's town, to be valued; but when I get there, Mr. Rawlinson tell me, as massa don't come, he couldn't value me, and all I can say no use, he keep on refuse to value me; then I go to Mr. Clarke, the minister, and he come to the Court House, and speak to Mr. Rawlinson, and at last he agree to go on with the valuation.

Him and Mr. Abraham Isaacs and Mr. Fairweather value me; Mr. Joseph Isaacs, that keep a store at Brown's Town, give evidence. He say he want a boy like me, to mind his horse, and follow him to town, and when me free, he would be willing to give me two dollars a week, and feeding and clothes besides; so them fix the price upon me for eight doubloons, ten dollars and a half, and two bits.

[No. 58.] After it done, Mr. Clarke take me to his house, and give me the money, and I carry it straight to Mr. Rawlinson, and then he give me my free paper, and when I come out of the Court House, I call out quite loud, "Bless God Almighty—thank the Lord, I get out of devil's hands." Mr. Clarke, the Busha, at Knapdale, was present—he look quite black at me, but him don't speak.

[No. 59.] Then I go straight to Mr. Joseph Isaacs store, and I tell him, I going to come to him on Monday, as he say him would give me two dollars a week, and feeding and clothes; he tell me he get a boy already, but he don't get any—he only take swear he would give that, to make them put high value upon me.

Then Mr. Clarke the minister told me, it was Mr. Sturge that pay the money for me, and I must go to him at Spanish Town, as he want to carry me to England.

I feel so happy, I don't know what to do with myself hardly; I bless the Lord, and I bless Mr. Sturge for him goodness. If he no been take me away, I couldn't have live long.

On Tuesday I start off, and get to Spanish-Town next day, after that we go to Kingston; and two weeks after Mr. Sturge take me with him on board the ship, and we go to New York, and then sail to Liverpool, and so here I am in England.

At the close of their labours the Commissioners handed in to the Governor the following REPORT :—

*Falmouth, Oct. 21, 1837.*

*To His Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, &c. &c.*

May it please your Excellency,

The Commissioners, in the prosecution of the inquiry which your Excellency was pleased to intrust to them, having taken the fullest evidence they could obtain upon the several subjects which the investigation was designed to embrace, have now the honour to transmit, for your Excellency's information, an authentic copy of their entire proceedings.

In reporting upon the general results of this extended inquiry, it has become the duty of the commissioners to state, that the allegations of James Williams's Narrative have received few inconsiderable contradictions, whilst every material fact has been supported and corroborated by an almost unbroken chain of convincing testimony.

Such being the conclusion of the commissioners with respect to the Narrative, it can scarcely be necessary to add, that the Abolition Law has not been properly administered in some parts of the parish of St. Ann's; that the House of Correction of that parish was, until recently, a place of licentiousness and cruelty; and that the tread-mill has been, from the time of its erection, and still is, an instrument rather of torture than of just and salutary punishment.

Upon these topics the commissioners have thought it right to report specifically, but with reference to others of no less interest, they leave the evidence to speak for itself; persuaded that the whole detail will be found important enough to command your Excellency's immediate attention.

GEORGE GORDON, J. P., St. James'.

J. DAUGHTREY, s. m.

(True Copy.)

MINUTES  
OF  
PROCEEDINGS AT BROWN'S-TOWN, ST. ANN'S.

UNDER A COMMISSION FROM HIS EXCELLENCY SIR LIONEL SMITH, GOVERNOR OF JAMAICA, DIRECTED TO GEORGE GORDON, ESQUIRE, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES, AND PROPRIETOR OF MOOR PARK ESTATE, IN THE SAID PARISH, AND JOHN DAUGHTREY, ESQUIRE, SPECIAL MAGISTRATE, ST. ELIZABETH.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1837.

THE Commissioners commenced their sittings at this place by directing that the Commission from which their authority is derived, and the Letter of Instructions which accompanied it, should be read in open Court; they, at the same time, announced that their proceedings would be public.

(COPY OF THE COMMISSION.)

JAMAICA. ss.

VICTORIA, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, and of Jamaica, Supreme Lady, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c.

To our trusty and well-beloved subjects, John Daughtrey, and George Gordon, Esqrs., Greeting:

WHEREAS we have thought it expedient, for divers good causes and considerations, We thereunto moving, that an Inquiry should forthwith be made into the Administration of Justice, under the provision of the Law for the Abolition of Slavery, and for promoting the Industry of the manumitted Slaves in this our Island, but particularly with respect to the administration of the said Law, in the Parish of St. Ann's, touching the nature and truth of the Allegations contained in the Pamphlet of James Williams, late an apprentice of G. W. SENIOR, Esquire, with the Narrative of Events contained in the same Pamphlet, as having taken place in the said Parish of Saint Ann's:

Know YE, That we, reposing great trust and confidence in your fidelity, discretion, and integrity, have authorized and appointed, and do and by these Presents authorize and appoint you, the said JOHN DAUGHTREY and GEORGE GORDON, to make a diligent inquiry, whether any and what part of the said Law hath not been faithfully administered by the Justices who then held, and who now are holding Special Commissions in the said Parish, and to ascertain the truth of the Allegations contained in the said Pamphlet of James Williams, and for the better discovery of the truth in the premises, We do, by these presents, give and grant to you, as Special Justice of the Peace, in and over the Island of Jamaica, and as a Local Magistrate, according to the authority of your Commissions respectively, full power and authority to call before you, or any one of you, all persons being apprenticed labourers or free persons as you may judge necessary, by whom you may be better informed of the truth of the premises, and to inquire of the premises and every part therefore, by oath, and all other lawful ways and means whatsoever, and you will certify to us your proceedings, when the same have been completed and perfected.

Witness his Excellency, Sir Lionel Smith, Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Military order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, a Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's Land Forces, and Colonel of the 40th Regiment of Foot, Captain-General, Governor-in-Chief and Commander of the Forces in and over the Island of Jamaica and the Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor, Ordinary, and Vice-Admiral of the same, at St. Jago de la Vega, the eighth day of September, and in the first year of the Reign of Our Most Gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria, Annoque Domini, 1837.

By his Excellency's Command,  
(Signed) LIONEL SMITH.

(Copy of the Letter of Instructions.)

The King's House, Spanish Town,  
9th September, 1837.

GENTLEMEN,

As you have kindly consented to be associated as joint Commissioners to investigate and report on certain abuses in the Administration of Justice towards the Apprenticed

Labourers, represented in a Pamphlet stated to be "A Narrative of Events, since the 1st of August, 1834, by James Williams, an Apprenticed Labourer in Jamaica," I now do myself the honour to enclose you a Copy of the Secretary of State's Despatch, calling for inquiry, together with the Pamphlet itself.

I have to request that, at your earliest convenience, you will proceed to the different places in which the abuses complained of are said to have occurred, and there, by Depositions of Parties cognizant of the different transactions, you will probably be able to substantiate or refute the various allegations against either the public authorities or accused individuals.

I need not impress upon two Gentlemen, distinguished in society by upright principles, that it is no less due to the cause of Justice, than to the credit of the Colony at large, that you should carefully search for, and faithfully declare, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and it is a source of great pleasure to me to reflect that your honourable characters will guarantee this object to the satisfaction of her Majesty's Government as well as to the people of Jamaica.

In examining into the different allegations stated in the Pamphlet, you will probably find it convenient to number each case in the order in which they occur, and may require to be inquired into; and to aid your inquiry, as regards the accusations against Mr. Special Justice Rawlinson, I transmit copies of his Diary, and the entries of his notice of "James Williams's" offences.

I have the honor, to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

LIONEL SMITH.

John Daughtrey, Esq., Special Justice, and }  
George Gordon, Esq., Gen. Magistrate. }

[The numbers in Parenthesis refer to the same numbers in the Narrative of James Williams, which accompanies this Evidence; by these the reader will have an opportunity of observing how far the Statements of Williams are corroborated.]

MR. SENIOR attended the Court at the request of the Commissioners, and produced books containing his own record of the complaints brought before the Special Magistrates, with the adjudications and sentences.

Referring to the first page of the Narrative, MR. SENIOR stated that, since August, 1834, he had discontinued giving herrings to the Apprentices, from their bad conduct: the same with regard to the usual Christmas allowances.

His late apprentice, James Williams, is now about nineteen and a half years old; he was never flogged, but may have been occasionally switched during Slavery.

MR. SENIOR admitted that James Williams had been flogged six times between the 1st of August, 1834, and the day of his release from Apprenticeship, by order of the Special Magistrate, and three times committed to the House of Correction.

MR. SENIOR denies the truth of every part of the paragraph immediately preceding that marked No 1, in the Narrative of James Williams, which accompanies the evidence taken before the Commissioners, but admits the punishments described to have been inflicted by order of Dr. Thompson, in paragraph No. 1.; he denies, however, that his Apprentices were complained of without just cause. Dr. Thompson, as therein stated, partook of the hospitalities of Penshurst on the occasion.

[No. 2.]—MR. SENIOR also denies having accused James Williams of having a stone in his hand for knocking down Mr. Senior or his sister; James Williams did on that day pretend to be mending a wall round the house, although not ordered to do so; he was occasionally employed in work of that kind, and was, at that time, about the age of sixteen; the constable of the property commenced inflicting the punishment ordered on the occasion, but the Magistrate not being satisfied with his manner of discharging his duty, desired the police to finish the flogging. Mr. Senior denies having said that the constable was not flogging hard enough, and is certain that the back of James Williams was not cut at all. Mr. Senior states that there was a sufficient fence round the cornpiece, but that the corn was, notwithstanding, all destroyed through the neglect of Henry James, who was always complaining of being sickly; it was in consequence of his sickly state that he was put to watch. The flogging he received was trifling, and he was attended in the hospital by Dr. Tucker. Mr. Senior believes Henry James to have been an African, and about forty-eight years of age at the time of his death—he is well aware of the sudden death of Henry James in Brown's Town, but has no know-

ledge of the place where he fell being covered with blood. Mr. Senior never received any notice from Capt. Andrew Dillon to attend at Brown's Town, in consequence of Henry James's complaint to him as a Magistrate.

[No. 3.]—Mr. SENIOR admits that James Williams and Adam Brown were brought before Captain Andrew Dillon, charged with repeated acts of insolence and disobedience of orders. One of the charges might have been for not turning out the sheep until a late hour. Captain Andrew Dillon sentenced them to be confined in the dungeon, at Knapdale, for ten days and nights, during which time Mr. Senior asserts they were furnished daily with sufficient provisions for their support, which were generally carried by the father of Adam Brown; Mr. Senior is confident that on the return of James Williams and Adam Brown to Peshurst, that he never made any such remark as "that they had not been punished half enough," but that he simply desired them to go to their work as usual.

[No. 4.]—Mr. SENIOR recollects Mr. Rawlinson's coming to Peshurst, and is aware that the people were sent for to ascertain whether they had any complaints to make. This mode of proceeding is always usual when a new magistrate comes to the district, James Williams and Adam Brown, apparently under some apprehension, went to Captain Andrew Dillon, next morning, who sent them back, under the protection of the police, with a letter stating that they could not be punished twice for the same offence. They were carried by Mr. Rawlinson's orders to Brown's Town, on the same day, where they were tried before him, and sentenced to receive twenty lashes, which were inflicted on the spot by the police, and which were very severe. Mr. Senior was not aware of their fainting or laying on the ground for some time; they returned from Brown's Town that afternoon, with the constables, and refused to turn out the horses; slept in the kitchen that night, and on the following day they were admitted in the hospital, the door of which was not locked, except at night. No food was given to them, but their friends had access to them during the day. On the morning of the next day they were ordered to turn out and return to their duty, which order, after much hesitation, they obeyed, and went to their work as usual; their backs were dressed on that day (Friday) by the hot-house woman. Mr. Senior did not examine the backs of James Williams and Adam Brown on the Saturday, nor take any report of the hot-house woman of the state they were in, but it was his (Mr. Senior's) opinion, that the men were fully capable of resuming their duty. Referring to his book, Mr. Senior stated, that the above punishment was inflicted on the fifth of March, 1835, and this statement was confirmed on perusal of Special Justice Rawlinson's official return of that date.

[No. 5.]—Mr. SENIOR states that he again complained on the 4th April to Mr. Rawlinson, at Peshurst, against James Williams, who had been insolent to his mistress. On my return from the garden, said Mr. Senior, Miss Senior, my sister, told me she was glad I had returned, as the people in the yard were taking the canes which had been cut for the hogs, and that she saw James Williams eating some. On James Williams being asked by me what right he had to the canes, he said "It was a lie, and he wished that people would speak the truth." Although repeatedly told to be silent, he would not cease his insolence. I deny having complained of James Williams as soon as ten days after the 5th March, or that he received any further punishment before the 4th April; I believe that Mr. Rawlinson might have slept at Peshurst the night previous to the punishment on the 4th April being ordered. I am not aware that James Williams begged the magistrate not to flog him again, on the plea of his back being still unwell from the previous flogging, and I feel persuaded that Mr. Rawlinson remained to witness the execution of the sentence, as it was his custom to do so: James Williams resumed his work, as usual, after receiving the punishment.

[No. 6.]—Mr. SENIOR affirms, that James Williams was allowed to take one day in each week up to the period of his being sentenced by the magistrate to forfeit time, and that he was only required to watch at night alternately with Adam Brown, sleeping in the kitchen; that Sundays were not allowed him except occasionally, and that he, Mr. Senior, was in the habit of giving him food from his table, till he forfeited the kindness by his bad behaviour.

[No. 9.]—Mr. SENIOR said, On the 11th of July, I ordered James Williams to appear before Mr. Rawlinson, on the next morning; instead of doing so, he absented himself, and was not seen again until the 5th September, when he was sent home from Brown's Town by Mr. Rawlinson. I have no recollection of his being confined in the dungeon ten days before trial. The sentence on this occasion was, nine days' confinement in the House of Correction, to be worked in the penal gang, and placed on the

tread-mill twice a day, and on his return, to be confined during shell-blow, till the magistrate's next visit to the property, and to forfeit fifty days; he came home on the 25th September.

[No. 15.]—Mr. SENIOR states, that James Williams was in the hospital, and remained there twelve days, from the 13th to the 25th October, receiving the attention of Dr. Tucker.

[No. 16.]—Mr. Senior states that James Williams paid from the 27th Sept., 1835, to the 20th Nov., 1836, thirty of the forfeited days, by working the half of every Wednesday, the remaining part of the day being at his own disposal. Mr. Senior adds that instead of working the whole half Wednesdays, he (James Williams) was always released from duty at nine o'clock, and, though a non-prædial, was frequently called upon to perform no other work or duty until the next morning: Mr. S. admits that James Williams subsequently made up the whole of the fifty days.

[No. 17.]—Mr. Senior admits the allegations of this number, with the exception of having told the people that they must work until one o'clock; all that he said was, that they should work the four hours and a half, taking their breakfast as usual; Mr. Senior, however, denies having himself put the people into the dungeon, but states that he merely gave orders to the constable to do so; the people put into the dungeon were Joseph Lawrence, Thomas Brown, William Mills, and Benjamin Higgins.

[No. 18.]—Mr. SENIOR states that Miss Senior observed to James Williams, "that he had no business here, and it would be better for him to go and eat his breakfast." Mr. Senior adds, that he might have threatened to strike James Williams, but that he did not do so, and denies having spoken disrespectfully of the Magistrate; having ordered James Williams to be locked up with the rest, while the constable was putting him in, he said, "God never made man to rule the world, and man should not rule it." Mr. Senior is not certain whether the people were kept in the full twenty-four hours.

[Nos. 20, 21, and 22.]—Mr. SENIOR said, "I sent to Mr. Rawlinson directly after confining them, and he came on the Monday and tried Joseph Lawrence, James Williams, and Amelia Lawrence; Mr. Rawlinson sentenced the two former to work in the penal gang for seven days, and to be placed on the tread-mill twice every day: I have no recollection of their being ordered to be flogged, nor have I any memorandum of that part of the sentence. Amelia Lawrence was sentenced to seven days in the House of Correction."

[No. 23.] Mr. SENIOR is not certain as to the number of Amelia Lawrence's children: the three people, after being sentenced, were put into the cell until the next morning, when the police came to take them to the House of Correction; Mr. Senior is not sure that they were supplied with food from the House, but states that their friends were not prevented from carrying any to them.

[No. 36.] Mr. SENIOR said, "All three of them came home on the 1st December; James Williams complained of being unwell; he asked for, and received a dose of salts on the next day, and took day on Saturday the 3rd December.

[No. 37.] Mr. SENIOR states that James Williams, after he returned from the workhouse, refused to bring bread nut, alleging that his stomach pained him so much that he could not climb the trees; Mr. Senior denies having made use of the threatening language attributed to him in this paragraph.

[No. 38.] On the 8th December, it being James Williams's turn to sleep in the kitchen, Mr. Senior states that he inquired for him before he went to bed, and was told that he had fed the horse, and gone away; Mr. Senior believes that he might have expressed his intention of taking him to the magistrate, but not within the hearing of James Williams himself.

[No. 39.] Mr. SENIOR said, "I received information from the Supervisor of St. Thomas in the Vale workhouse, that James Williams was in custody there; I sent the constable (William Dalling) to bring him home, and caused him to be carried to Brown's Town the next morning, for the purpose of being brought up before the Special Magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, who sentenced him to receive a catting; to be worked on the treadmill, and to remain in the House of Correction fourteen days. I then observed to Mr. Rawlinson, "That will make it till after New-Year's day."

[No. 48.] Mr. SENIOR said, "I know that Mary Ann Bell was sentenced on the 26th August, by Mr. Rawlinson, to the House of Correction for eight days, and to be worked on the tread-mill. On her return she complained of having received an injury on the right arm; I have no reason to think that the injury was at all serious; she was pregnant at the time, and gave birth to a child, I believe, in January following;

but I solemnly declare that I was not aware of her condition at the time of her sentence."

[No. 51.] Mr. SENIOR states that Nanny Dalling was very insolent to Miss Senior, in the presence of Mr. Rawlinson, and upon that gentleman's going to speak to her, she treated him with contempt, by turning her back upon him, upon which he called for a constable, and, as no one of them was at hand, he thrust her himself into the dungeon. On my informing him that she had a young child, he ordered it to be put in with her.

[No. 52.] Instead of the conversation as related in the paragraph No. 52, Mr. Senior says that Mr. Rawlinson observed he would call back on his return from Hilton Hill, and if Miss Senior would then prefer a complaint against Nanny Dalling, he would send her to the House of Correction; but Miss Senior said she would rather have her placed in solitary confinement on the property; Nanny Dalling was then taken out of the cell, and sentenced by Mr. Rawlinson to be locked up for 14 nights; she had her infant with her in the cell, from which she was released, at the expiration of two or three nights, in consequence of having begged very hard.

[No. 53.] Mr. SENIOR admits that this paragraph is substantially correct as to the quantity of pork stolen, and as to the admission, by James Williams, of the fact, that he absconded on the occasion, and was apprehended by the constable five miles from home. Mr. Senior further states, that this is not the only instance, by many, of his dishonesty, for, on going into the corn-piece on the 1st March, 1836, that watchman said that it was James Williams who had been stealing the corn, as some had been discovered in the coach-house which he claimed; the watchman in the garden also detected him stealing yams, and he was in the habit of plundering the stores, and stealing provisions of all kinds.

[Nos. 54 & 55.] Mr. SENIOR says that there was some misunderstanding as to the length of time for which James Williams had been sentenced to the House of Correction, and both Mr. Rawlinson and himself were under the impression that the confinement would have expired in seven days, but there can be no doubt that the sentence was for 14 days.

[No. 56.] Mr. SENIOR denies ever having tried to get James Williams punished for not coming home the proper day from the workhouse.

Mr. SENIOR states, that the valuation of James Williams took place in his absence from the court.

Referring to the paragraph marked No. 53, Mr. SENIOR admits, that he never preferred any charge either before a Special Magistrate or otherwise against James Williams for dishonesty, and that he considered his pilferings as petty thefts, and not worth bringing forward.

Mr. SENIOR states that Henry James was flogged on the 19th of December, 1834, and died on the 6th of February, 1835.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.

EDWARD LAWRENCE, an apprentice to Penshurst.—sworn.

[No. 1].—I remember being flogged at Penshurst, by order of Doctor Thompson; James Williams and myself were flogged: At the same time, Henry James, and Thomas Brown, were flogged, and two boys named Thomas Mills and William Graham were switched; I do not know how many lashes James Williams received, but he was one that was flogged by the constable, Alexander Mills, and not by the police; his back was not much cut on that day, and he put his shirt on after the flogging; the police flogged Adam Brown and Henry James; Thomas Brown was flogged by the constable Alexander Mills. Henry James' flogging was very severe; his stomach was bruised by the cart wheel to which he was tied to receive his punishment, and his back was more cut up than that of James Williams; Henry James was old and weakly; he had been a watchman, but was working in the field in the great gang at the time he received the flogging; I never heard him complain of his stomach before he got the flogging: [No. 2] Henry James went to the hospital after he was flogged, and complained that he could not get any medicine: he then went to Captain Andrew Dillon at Brown's town; I saw him on his way, and he had with him a small calabash containing what he said he had brought off his stomach; I looked at it, and saw it all bloody. [No. 2].—I saw his dead body on the place where he fell; some blood was oozing from the mouth; the calabash was empty, and the contents appeared to be spilt out on the ground where he dropped. I never knew that Henry James spit blood till after the flogging; he told me that at every lash he received, his stomach knocked



against the nave of the wheel to which he was tied, and he got injured by it; he said that he felt injured from that time, and he believed it was that which made him spit blood.

[Edward Lawrence is apparently about 65 years of age; his punishment was for insolence, on the complaint of Mr. Senior.]

[Upon recollection Edward Lawrence said, that Joseph C. Darrel was also switched with the others.]

[No. 1.]—THOMAS BROWN, *alias* THOS. BROWN LAWRENCE, an apprentice to Penshurst—sworn. On the same day that Doctor Thompson came, I was flogged by Alexander Mills, and got thirty lashes; the flogging was not severe: Alexander Mills flogged James Williams; his flogging was not severe: [No. 2.] I heard master complain that the flogging by the constable was too light, and upon that Doctor Thompson ordered the police to flog the rest, that is, Henry James and Adam Brown. James Williams put on his shirt after he received his flogging; his back was much bruised but no blood came from it. The flogging of Henry James and Adam Brown by the police was very severe; their backs were cut up and bloody; I saw James Williams after his return from Brown's Town, where he was flogged a second time; his back was very bloody and bad; I don't know whether he went to the hot-house; [No. 2.] I knew Henry James to be weakly, and that he was working in the field before his trial; after he received his flogging, he came to the hot-house; this was about a week after, and I was in the hot-house at the same time; I saw him vomit a great quantity of blood at nights, but I never knew him to spit blood before the flogging. Henry James himself told me that he thought the spitting of blood was caused by the severe flogging which he had received.

[No. 2.]—Dr. EDWARD TUCKER; sworn. I saw Henry James once in the hospital at Penshurst, when he complained to me of a cough and pain in the stomach; he shewed me a small quantity of blood in a calabash, which he said he had spit up during the night; I was present on the day that the Special Magistrate, Doctor Thompson, visited, and during the punishment; I am not certain, whether I prescribed for Henry James previously or subsequently to the infliction of the punishment; I remember the return of James Williams from the workhouse and his being in the hospital; he was seriously ill, and I think it probable, that his sickness may have arisen from his confinement in the workhouse. I prescribed for Henry James, whose complaint I thought was slight; from his appearance that day I thought him a weakly old man; I saw the backs of all the people who were flogged, but I did not particularly examine them; none came to me to complain of the severity of the flogging but I recommended to Miss Senior the usual applications.

[No. 48.] MARY ANN BELL, a mulatto, non-prædial apprentice to Penshurst; sworn. I remember being sent to the workhouse and tread-mill by Mr. Rawlinson when I was quite heavy in the family way, nearly half of my time being gone; I was tried on the 26th of August, and I gave birth to my child in the third week of January: Two or three weeks after I returned home I felt pains in my wrist; the pains were on that part which had been strapped to the treadmill; I also felt pains in my knees; I do not feel the pains now at all times, I only feel them now and then; I have the perfect use of both my arms and hands, with the exception of the little finger on the left hand, which I cannot straighten owing to the effects of a sore, which was caused by the hoe at the time that I was in the penal gang and digging cane holes. The pains in my arms and knees left me soon after the birth of my present child; I was able to keep my step on the treadmill except once, when I hung for a short time by the strap; Mr. Drake then stopped the mill and took me down; I never knocked my shins against the wheel so as to cause a sore; Mr. Drake knew me at Penshurst, and I believe he was more kind to me on that account; I only saw one woman (from Ballintoy) flogged whilst on the mill, because she could not keep the step; she was whipped about the legs and shoulders, and wherever they could strike her. I was never punished again after my return from the workhouse, but one day when I was in the kitchen and unable to go to my usual duty from the pains already described, Mr. Rawlinson was at the house, and the house people having been called up, I heard Miss Senior complain to Mr. Rawlinson about my not doing any work, when he said, 'that if she would bring a charge against me, that he would send me back to the house of correction;' this circumstance, I believe, took place about a month after I returned from the workhouse: mistress did not wish me to be sent back there, or Mr. Rawlinson would have done it. Before Mr. Rawlinson began to visit Penshurst my mistress gave the house people Friday and Saturday one week, and Sunday the next; but Mr. Rawlinson told her that they were not entitled to

half a day in each week, and advised her not to give it to them any more ; my mistress however, has continued to give them more time than that, but not so much as they received before. I know that Henry James sent to Miss Senior for medicine when he was sick in the hot-house, and that she always gave it when he sent.

Mr. JOHN PATTERSON, a carpenter, and residing at the Ridge settlement, in the parish of Saint Ann; sworn. I knew Henry James, of Penshurst; I am at present a master carpenter, and reside at the Ridge settlement, and am employed by Mr. Utten Todd, the proprietor; I lived at Penshurst up to November, 1836, and had the management of Mr. Senior's tradesmen: I knew Henry James as a sawyer in 1820, or 21, but of late he was a watchman; he was put to watch from inability to do other work; he used to complain of his stomach, and was a very old man, about sixty years of age. When I first knew him he was a true African, I mean by that, that he was a good negro, not like a creole; he was always willing to do his work; I was not at Penshurst when Henry James was punished in 1834; I went to Penshurst in November 1835, and left in 1836. I knew James Williams; when I first knew him, in 1820, he was then a little boy, and would often come and play with me; but when I returned to Penshurst, in 1835, he was a wicked worthless boy, and was very impudent to his master and mistress; he was also a great thief, stealing every thing that he could lay his hands upon, indeed, he was so bad, that at last I would not have him near me; he would not mind his master's cattle, and Mr. Rawlinson used to talk to him by way of intimidating him; I am not aware that he was flogged seven times; he did not work under my management, but I often saw him, and considered him a very unfaithful servant. I never preferred any charge against him for theft, although he used to rob my cupboard. He never stole any valuables from me, all that he took was, something to eat and drink. He was always coming about me, and, whenever I came in on horse-back, he would run to hold my horse and take my saddle and do any little thing for me; I only wonder he did not put me in the paper too. I believe that his motive in serving me this way was to get something for himself in return for his services, or to get opportunities to pilfer my cupboard. When James Williams was a child he was under my care, and used to call me 'father' or 'daddy.' Independent of the piece of pork which he was charged with stealing from his master, he used to steal my yams and meat. I knew that it was him, for he used to acknowledge it to me. I had some yams in a bag over a beam in the house, he took out two or three of them, and when I taxed him he said that he had taken them. He always had plenty to eat, and did not steal from the want of food; he thought he could take the liberty with me, as he used to call me 'daddy,' and he, therefore, imagined that he could daddy me out of any thing. I cannot specify any other instances of his having stolen things from me.

WILLIAM DALLING, constable on Penshurst; sworn. [No. 1]. I remember the magistrate coming to Penshurst and punishing the apprentices. I was one of the parties tried. I was not found guilty, and therefore was let off. Edward Lawrence, James Williams, and others, were tried at the same time that I was. I saw the flogging which James Williams got that day; his skin was whaled, but not much bruised. I did not see any blood on his shirt. Thomas Brown was also flogged. I was near by, and saw them all tied to the cart-wheel to be punished. [No. 2]. James Williams and Thomas Brown were flogged by the constable and my master, Mr. Senior, called out "that he did not flog them enough;—that their skins were not sufficiently bruised." He and the magistrate (Dr. Thompson) then came up and ordered the police to flog Adam Brown and Henry James. These two were very severely flogged. Henry James was very much cut up, and the next morning he went to the hospital. I saw him there the morning after he was flogged, when he complained of a great pain in his stomach, in consequence of having been lashed to the wheel like the rest. While they were flogging him he struggled a great deal. He was a short man, and when he stooped at each lick, the pit of his stomach came against the nave of the wheel. There was no doctor woman in the hot-house [No. 2]. Henry James remained there, and never left it till he went to Brown's-town to complain to Captain Dillon; he died at Brown's-town the same day that he went up. When he was in the hospital at Penshurst, the doctor ordered a blister for his stomach, but he told me that my mistress, Miss Senior, would not give it. All that she gave him was a candle-grease plaister, which was of no use to him. He used to cough very badly in the hospital and spit blood; and the floor on he used to spit, always looked as if a pig had been stuck there. He fell lower and lower, and when he found himself getting very bad, he determined to go to Brown's-town to the magistrate. I saw the body after he died. I was at Brown's-town, and saw it on my return home. It was on the road-side, and to prevent its being eaten by

the hogs, I watched it from six o'clock in the evening until the next morning. I observed a great deal of blood all about the nostrils and the mouth, but I did not see any on the earth. I saw, close to the body, a little cocoa-nut cup with blood in it, which Henry James brought with him to shew Captain A. Dillon. Henry James was always a very weak and sickly man, but he did not cough and spit blood until after he received the flogging: he went to Brown's-town to the magistrate, because he did not receive any attention in the hospital, and he wanted the magistrate to require my master and mistress, to give it. I am certain that the floor of the hot-house was covered every morning with the blood which Henry James puked up. He always complained to me of pain in the stomach. Doctor Tucker used to see him often enough; he was often at Penshurst when the people were flogged, but I never saw him take any particular notice of the marks from the flogging. I saw James Williams after his return from Brown's-town, where he had been flogged by the police; his back was sadly cut. Peter Atkinson carried him to Brown's-town the first time, and I carried him the second time. The first time he was flogged alone, the second time he was flogged with Adam Brown, when he was very badly cut up over the shoulders. After receiving the first flogging, James Williams came home at night and went to the hospital. I do not remember, particularly, how many days he remained there, I think it must have been about a week. He then went to cut bread-nut. Margaret Ellis attended him when he was in the hot-house. Sometimes after the first flogging which James Williams received at Browns'-town, Mr. Rawlinson came to Penshurst and slept there. On the next morning, a complaint was made against James Williams, and Mr. Rawlinson ordered him to get twenty lashes. [No. 5.] He could not receive it, as his back was not well, and my mistress, Miss Senior, ordered me to flog him with lance-wood switches. The scabs were on the old wounds. They were not well yet, and, after I found they were so bad, I struck him lower down. He was not able to beg off, for as soon as the magistrate gave his sentence, Williams was ordered off to receive it. When I first began to flog him with the switches, the scabs on the old wounds broke off and the back began to bleed. It was then that I flogged him lower. I laid the flogging on lightly, as lightly as I could, and myself and some of the other apprentices bathed his back and rubbed it with grease. He went to work immediately to cut grass. Nothing stopped him from going—he did not seem to mind the flogging much, he was a very brave boy. [No. 2]. When he ran away the first time, he was brought home by the police and put into the dungeon, by Mr. Rawlinson's orders, until he returned. I don't think he was confined a whole week. He had handcuffs on.' When Mr. Rawlinson returned he sent him to the workhouse: I don't know for how many days. I did not see him flogged there, but when he came home he said that he had been. On his return from the workhouse he was put into the dungeon, and kept night and day there for about a week, without any magistrate seeing him; but, as he got very weak, he begged to be let out, and he was. I know that he paid back a number of days. When he came home at this time he was quite sick, and Dr. Tucker attended him, as he complained a great deal. [No. 17]. I remember the Friday when the negroes were ordered to sit down and take breakfast, instead of working throughout the four and a half hours. I did not get any orders on the subject before that day, and when I went to tell them to take the usual breakfast time, I saw the people in great confusion. When massa found that they would not obey his orders to take the breakfast time, he desired me to go and fetch up Joseph Lawrence, the other constable, and lock him up. Massa also ordered me to take up Thomas Brown, William Mills, and Benjamin Higgins. They were all put in confinement. Joseph Lawrence said that he could not help it, that the people would not obey. Master said "that he would be obeyed." When I was going to the dungeon with Joseph Lawrence and the other people, I saw that master had secured James Williams and put him in the dungeon. Master ordered him to go in, and he went. I don't mean to say that master put his hands on him: I did not hear James Williams make use of any expression as he was going in, but just as I locked the door, master told me that Williams had said, [No. 19] "God made the world, it was'n't man that made it, and man can't rule it." The people were kept in the dungeon until six o'clock the next morning, and were then let out. [No. 20]. In a few days after, Mr. Rawlinson came, and the whole gang was brought up. James Williams was tried for saying, "man did not make the world, and man can't rule it." James Williams said that he did not mean any harm—that he did not mean the words as magistrate took them. Mr. Rawlinson ordered him to go to the workhouse, but I don't remember the nature of the sentence. [No. 21]. Joseph Lawrence and Amelia Lawrence were tried on the same day. They were also sent to the workhouse. [No.

22]. Amelia Lawrence was tried for being always at the first row. This was the complaint brought against her to Mr. Rawlinson by my master, who said to her, before he brought her up, "it is because that your brother is the head driver that you want to be a head woman." She replied, "that she never neglected her work, and that massa ought to be glad to see her keeping up with the strongest people." Joseph Lawrence was tried for disobedience, in not getting the people to draw off when master wanted, [No. 23]. Amelia Lawrence had four children. I know that two of them are free, and that one of them is an apprentice. I am not certain whether the other is free or not. James Williams, Joseph Lawrence, and Amelia Lawrence, were all three of them put into one dungeon. I don't know whether they had any thing to eat. The next morning the police came for Lawrence and Williams—they handcuffed them, and carried them to the workhouse. Amelia Lawrence was carried also to the workhouse, but they did not put handcuffs on her. Amelia Lawrence is a married woman; she is the wife of Richard Lawrence. [No. 34]. When she came back from the workhouse she told me, "that the driver, James Thomas, was always persuading her to be unfaithful to her husband; that he used every means to deprive her of her virtue, and when he found, every evening, that he could not succeed, the next day he was sure to treat her ill at her work." She did not say that James Thomas had used any force, but told me, "that he kept following her every day until she was discharged," and the way he used her ill, was by putting her to do two persons' work, and giving her heavy weights to lift up. She said "that her feelings were so much hurt at the way she was pursued by Thomas, that she was more than glad when she was discharged from the workhouse." She has four children; they are all by Richard Lawrence, her husband. She further mentioned, "that the same attempts made by Thomas to make her do wrong, were made on other women who were in the workhouse, and that with some of them he succeeded." When James Williams came home he did not look very droopy, as he was always a lad of good spirits; he complained of his stomach, and said, "that he was not able to cut breadnut as he could not climb;" [No. 38] he remained at home about three weeks, and then he ran away; I went for him at Rodney-hall workhouse, in Saint Thomas in the Vale. [No. 39]. I brought him to massa at Peshurst, and he sent him to Brown's-town, under my charge to be carried before Mr. Rawlinson. He told Mr. Rawlinson, "that he had tried all he could to please master; that he had brought as much breadnut as he was able to cut, and, as master was not satisfied and threatened to have him punished again, he was going to the governor to complain." Mr. Rawlinson ordered him to be flogged again by the police; I was present at the flogging. I don't know how many lashes they gave him. Before the magistrate passed sentence he said to James Williams, "I have more trouble with you than with any one else, and you may go and complain to the governor, or to any one else you like." [No. 39]. James Williams's back was not yet sound well from the last flogging. I was by the whole time that the police were flogging him; he was tied to a tree; he was very severely catted; his back was all in one sore, from the nape of the neck to the small of the back. Williams told me, "that Mr. Rawlinson threatened to put him out in the rain," because, he said, "Mr. Rawlinson, you only do just on one side." I did not myself hear Mr. Rawlinson threaten to turn him out in the rain. I went down with him and the police to Peshurst, and he got a clean shirt, and Margaret Ellis bathed his back. The police then took him to St. Ann's bay workhouse. I thought that he was sent there for fourteen days when I heard the sentence passed; but, on counting the days, I found that he had remained there longer than that. He came home on a New-year's day. I did not hear any conversation with master and him after his return, nor did he appear sickly, as he was always a brave boy.

[No. 52, last part] I remember his being charged, on one occasion, with stealing pork out of a barrel in the cellar. James Williams and John Lawrence, at that time always slept in the kitchen. Lawrence got a fork, which he tied with a piece of string to a stick, and lanced the meat in the barrel, which drew near to the window. When I discovered that John Lawrence was concerned in the theft, Williams got ashamed of his share of it, and ran away; he was absent for two days; I went after him, and found him at Miss Smith's at Runaway Bay. On his way home, he confessed to me that he had a share in eating the pork, but that he had no hand in stealing it. (No. 53.) He was brought here to be tried by Mr. Rawlinson, when he said he would pay for it. He said he would pay 10s. The magistrate then consented that he should pay 10s. as a settlement of the affair. If James Williams had been encouraged, he would have been a very good servant. I miss him now a great deal; he was trying to make a good ground, but he did not have his regular time, and his

father, who is a watchman, also assisted him. I do not know that he was a bad thief; nor was he an upstart. He was always laughing and making fun, and I used to reprove him for it. I don't think he could, with justice, be called a dishonest man; he had never been brought before a special magistrate for theft, except in that one instance about the pork. He was never proved to have stolen any thing.

THE COURT.—William Dalling, you have given your evidence in so correct and highly creditable a manner, that we cannot dismiss you without expressing ourselves extremely pleased with your conduct.

DALLING.—Thank you, Gentlemen!

Mr. DAUGHTREY.—You appear to have benefited much by the instruction of your minister, the Rev. Mr. Clarke, and his predecessors (of the Baptist Mission). Observing many persons present, I cannot resist the inclination I feel to avow my perfect conviction that the labours of ministers, missionaries, not of the established Church, have been of incalculable value to the Colony. In the district in which I have chiefly resided, their efforts have always come in aid of the proceedings of the magistrate. Crime has been repressed and industry promoted by the influence they have exerted. For myself, indeed, I hesitate not to declare that, but for such auxiliaries, my own duties might have become so irksome and oppressive, that I should very likely have abandoned them.

Mr. SENIOR—Indeed, Sir! Then you have been a great deal more fortunate than we have been!

Mr. GORDON.—I feel confident that these gentlemen are doing great good in the country; the properties under my charge have been considerably benefited by their instructions.

CHARLES TRUMAN, an apprentice to Peshurst, about seventy years of age, sworn.—When I am sick I receive attention from massa. I have no fault to find with him. He gives me physic, and takes great care of me. I remember James Williams digging some yams out of the ground. I was watching. I did not see him. Massa came to the ground and missed the yams. I saw the yams two days afterwards in a pear-tree hole. I saw James Williams come to the tree in the evening with a basket, and put his hand in the hole as if to take out the yams.

Mr. SENIOR—I believe this the only one of my people who will speak the truth.

THE COURT.—Mr. Senior, we will not allow any imputation of that sort; the witnesses who have before us to-day have given their testimony in an honest and creditable manner.

ADAM BROWN, apprentice of Peshurst, sworn.—[No. 1] I remember when Dr. Thompson came to Peshurst, and ordered some of the people to be flogged. I was one of them; I was flogged by the police and received twenty-five lashes. Some of the people were flogged by the constable, but [No. 2] Dr. Thompson said that they were not flogged hard enough; I am certain that it was Dr. Thompson who said so, and not master; James Williams and Edward Lawrence were flogged by the constable; Henry James and myself, and Thomas Brown were flogged by the Police; Henry James's stomach hit every now and then on the axle of the wheel: every lick that he received his stomach knocked against the cart; he never complained of his stomach before the flogging, but he complained a great deal about it afterwards; he went to the hospital, and I used to see him there; I used to see the blood on the ground that he spit up. He complained that nobody from the house took any notice of him. I saw a round calabash, in which there was some of the blood that he spit up: he remained some time in the hot-house, and then he came here to Brown's Town to complain to Captain Dillon; [Nos 2 and 3] I was here at the same time to be tried myself. When he made his complaint, Capt. Dillon said, "You must come back again next Thursday." He replied, that he had no strength to come back, and that "he did not think he should live so long." A little while after he went out, he dropped down and died! I saw the body as I was passing on my way to Knapdale under sentence of the magistrate to be placed in solitary confinement in the Knapdale dungeon. The earth on which the body was, was covered with blood, and blood was also gushing out of the mouth and nostrils; the calabash was on the ground with the blood in it, which he brought up to show to the magistrate; none of the blood was lost out of it; I helped to move the body to the side of the road; it was raining at the time; the rain would have washed away the blood from the part of the ground where the body was. The frock that I had on was all stained with blood which came from Henry James when we were lifting him.

[No. 3.] I was taken to Knapdale dungeon and locked up with James Williams ; it was very damp ; the ground was not floored : I could lay down at full length and stand upright ; the dungeon was very dark ; there were no holes at the top nor at the sides ; there small holes in the door which gave a little air, but Mr. Patterson, the carpenter, came and peeped in, and when he did that he stopped the holes. [No. 3] All the food that we got in the dungeon was two plantains each, and sometimes three, with a pint of water for a whole day's allowance. The last day that we were in the dungeon we were pretty well fed ; they gave us a good allowance of plantains and cocoas. Our food was brought every day by William Atkinson, the head constable on Penshurst ; since then he has bought himself free. We were never let out of the dungeon for the necessities of nature, nor did any body ever clean the dungeon out during the ten days ; the filth was allowed to remain in it the whole time in a bucket which was placed for our use. I was very weak when I came out, but I went home the same day, although I could scarcely walk ; [No 3, last part] when I reached Penshurst, before I could speak, master cried out, "*You are not punished hal enough yet.*" He sent me immediately to cut breadnut, and desired James Williams to go and mend a gap in the wall. I told master that I had nothing to eat. He replied, "Go away and cut breadnut." As I had eat a hearty breakfast in the morning, I said nothing and went to my work. I was punished after that by Mr. Rawlinson, who sent me to the workhouse at St. Ann's Bay for not sleeping in the yard ; he ordered me to be put on the treadmill twice a day for ten days. There were a number of women worked on the wheel ; some of them had young pickannies. There were a great number of men also [No. 11] and when we could not keep the step, both men and women were flogged with the cat. I heard Mr. Drake myself order the driver to flog a woman who could not keep the step. James Thomas, Scipio, and Richard Laing were the drivers who went into the field. John Thomas followed the sickly gang in the yard, and James Bolt attended the mill ; dancing the mill was very hard work. A man by the name of Smith, who came in from Dry-Harbour, had his shins nearly cut off. I remember seeing a woman come off the mill with scarce any of her clothes on ; they had been nearly all stripped off by the labour and the flogging. The boatswain called on Mr. Drake, when she was unable to keep up, and Mr. Drake replied, "Flog her." Mr. Drake sometimes for spite, would put the mill at great speed by raising up the *lever*. I don't remember the boatswain's having done so. I remember seeing persons so bruised, after coming down from the mill, that they have been obliged to go to the sea-side to wash off the blood from their knees.

[No 13.] Parson Johnson used sometimes to come and read prayers at the workhouse on Sundays ; and after that the men were obliged to go and cut grass at Draxhall, and bring wood and water ; the women were employed on Sundays in cleaning out Mr. Drake's yard, and also in cutting grass. I was fed very well in the workhouse ; a quart of flour and the half of an alewife was the allowance for each person for a day. I used to cook my flour myself, as I would not trust it to the cook. We were worked in chains on Sunday, the same as on any other day, but we were not put on the mill. I was in the house of correction for ten days. During that time I never saw any local magistrate or doctor there. They may have visited when I was absent in the field. I have not been punished since the time that I returned home from the workhouse.

WILLIAM DALLING recalled.—When I flogged James Williams with switches, I did not observe Mr. Rawlinson standing up to see the punishment laid on ; I don't know when he went away. [Nos. 51 and 52.] I remember when Nanny Dalling was locked up in the dungeon with her young child. Mr. Rawlinson got into such a passion with her, that he would not allow her to say a word. He was very violent ; he laid his hands on Nanny Dalling, and shoved her in the dungeon. She is my daughter. Mr. Rawlinson rode away and returned some time after the same day ; I did not go to hear what orders he gave about her, as I was very much hurted. She was locked up at nights, but not during the day. She was locked up for about five or six nights ; her child was always put in with her.

[No. 48.] I remember when Mary Ann Bell was sent to the House of Correction ; she was then pregnant. Any person without being told so, could have seen from her size that she was pregnant. Her child has got the yaws now ; it has had the yaws for twelve months. Mary Ann Bell stops at the negro-house to mind her child. In the pimento season she sews bags, and at other times she does any little work that mistress sends to her. I am certain that Atkinson, and no other, carried food

to James Williams and Adam Brown when they were confined in the dungeon at Knapdale. [No. 3.] Sometimes two plantains and a pint of water were carried to each of them for a day's allowance; three plantains were very seldom sent. I only remember one occasion that so many were sent. The last day they were in, in addition to the plantains, they had some cocoas; I know the dungeon in which James Williams and Adam Brown were confined; it was very damp and close.

The following affidavit was then put in by Mr. Senior:

*Jamaica, ss.*—Personally appeared before us, George Gordon, Magistrate for the parish of St. James, and John Daughtrey, Special Justice, Commissioners for the investigation of certain alleged abuses in the administration of the Abolition Law in the parish of St. Ann, Gilbert William Senior, Esq. of Peushurst, in the said parish, and deposed as follows:—That one day, at Penshurst, Nanny Dalling, an apprentice on that property, was very insolent to Miss Senior, in the presence of Mr. Special Justice Rawlinson—that, upon Mr. Rawlinson going to speak to Nanny Dalling, she treated him with contempt by turning her back upon him; on which Mr. Rawlinson called a constable to place her in confinement, but none being at hand, Mr. R. laid hold of her and thrust her into the dungeon himself. And Deponent further saith, That on his informing Mr. Rawlinson that Nanny Dalling had a child at the breast, he ordered the same to be put in the dungeon with the mother. Deponent also saith, That Mr. Rawlinson observed, before leaving Penshurst, that he would call back on his return from Hilton-Hill; and that, if Miss Senior would then prefer a complaint against Nanny Dalling, he would send her to the house of correction; but Miss Senior replied, that she did not approve of that mode of punishment in the case in question, and would prefer her being placed in solitary confinement on the property. [Nos. 51 and 52.]

Nanny Dalling was thereupon sent for from the cell, and sentenced by Mr. Rawlinson to be locked up for fourteen nights; and Deponent further saith, that after having been locked up two or three nights, Nanny Dalling begged Miss Senior, and was then released.

Nanny Dalling always had her infant with her in the cell.

(Signed)

G. W. SENIOR.

Sworn before us this 21st day of September, 1837.

(Signed)

GEO. GORDON,

(Do.)

JOHN DAUGHTREY.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.

PETER WILLIAM ATKINSON, formerly an apprentice on Penshurst, sworn.—I was at one time an apprentice to Mr. Senior, but I am now a freeman. I purchased my freedom in February, 1836. [No. 3.] When James Williams and Adam Brown were confined in the Knapdale dungeon for ten days, I carried their food for them; nobody else ever carried it; sometimes I carried six plantains for the two; sometimes I carried five; I also carried a pint of water for each. I never carried so few as four plantains; Capt. Andrew Dillon said that they must be fed upon dry roasted plantains and a pint of water each; he did not mention how many plantains they were to have. As I knew that the food sent for them was too little, I sometimes carried them a little boiled food, which was made up by myself and the other apprentices; I always received the food for them from Miss Senior herself, or from the cook to whom it was sometimes given to be cooked, and handed over to me. The last day that James Williams and Adam Brown were in the dungeon some cocoas were sent for them; they never had any cocoas or any thing else but the plantains sent to them on any other day but that. I know the cell at Penshurst, a short person like me could stand up in it, but a tall man could not. One day Mr. Utten went in to see it; he was obliged to stoop; he said to master, "this is very difficult." Master said, "it is good enough to put them devils in." The dungeon at Knapdale is high enough to stand up in, it is very damp however and swampy, and not fit for a person to lay his body on; whenever there is rain, all the water runs into the dungeon, and any persons confined in it must lay down in the wet, unless a board is placed there for them; neither air nor light can get in. James Williams and Adam Brown had two small tubs in the dungeon for the uses of nature, which were never emptied until the last day that they came out; I used to let them out sometimes in the morning when I carried them their food; sometimes they would go out; at others they would not; I am certain that the tubs were never emptied until the last day. I know Mary

Ann Bell ; I can't exactly say who is the father of her children ; Mr. Drake, the supervisor of the house of correction, often visited Peshurst, but I don't know whether he had any improper intimacy with Mary Ann Bell ; there was no regular hospital at Peshurst ; the place used as such was part of a carpenter's shop ; the shingles were very bad, and when the rain came down, it poured down upon the people ; the floor was also very damp, and men and women were locked up together.

[No. 16.] I remember that James Williams had to pay up a great number of days, by order of the Special Magistrate ; I can't say how many, but it took him a long time to pay them ; in consequence of that his ground was neglected, the stock used to get in, and he became so short of provisions that I and others, through charity, were obliged to assist him with something to eat.

I was valued twelve months before I got the money to pay for my freedom ; I was badly used and cheated of my time ; I made a complaint to Mr. Rawlinson both for myself and the other people ; we were then working on the eight hour system ; Mr. Rawlinson asked if I knew what was meant by the eight hour work ; I said, Yes, and explained it ; I thought we ought to have had two hours for dinner and one for breakfast : to commence work at six o'clock in the morning, and leave off at six o'clock in the evening. Mr. Rawlinson said " Yes, that is right." I complained for loss of time, because I thought that we had not even the hour at breakfast and two hours for dinner, and because it was sometimes dark before we left off work. When Mr. Rawlinson went away, Miss Senior came out and said, " So, Mr. Peter, you went to complain about your time to the magistrate, you ought to be well punished for it." Mr. Senior then came out of his room and said, " I'll make you see the very devil before you get that freedom." He said this to all of us who were working before the house ; he then began upon me ; I was employed in sawing at the time : all that I could do would not please master ; he came to me one day when I was at the sawing pit, and found great fault at my not having finished the piece of wood which I was sawing ; it was a very hard piece of bullet-tree ; he said, " I'll see whether Mr. Rawlinson won't make you saw any more ;" my general work was to saw fifty feet of bullet-tree or ninety feet of cedar per day. Master went away after saying what he did about Mr. Rawlinson ; this happened on a Friday ; on the Monday morning following it rained very heavily, and I had to saw a stick in the yard where the pit was. George Henry Warren and myself had to do it ; the pit had a great deal of water in it, and the water reached as high as my breast, I had to hold the saw at the bottom of the pit ; I endeavoured to empty the pit of the water, but I could not do it from the heavy fall of rain which continued until shell turn out ; after that we got the piece of cedar over the pit and entered the saw upon it ; water was still in the pit, but from the constant draining, it did not reach further than the bend of my knee ; we cut off two slabs that evening ; the stick was about thirteen feet in length ; I was in the water the whole time, and did not go away until shell-blow at six o'clock ; on Tuesday, Warren and myself went to the same work at the usual time ; about eleven o'clock I observed Mr. Rawlinson coming into the yard through a drizzle of rain with an umbrella over his head ; he went into the house, and a little while after, two police men came up with a cat and rope ; Mr. Patterson, the carpenter, at that time was working near the gate with a brown man named William Grant ; Mr. Patterson brought William Grant to the pit, and said, " William, take over these two fellows to the magistrate ; I then came out of the pit, and said to myself, " it is hard for me to get a flogging when I am doing my work." I then run right off to endeavour and avoid it, Warren went away too. The police were sent after us, but not being able to catch us, they turned back ; the place where we hid ourselves was a thicket so much covered with bush that nobody could see us, although we could see every thing that was going on in the great house and negro-houses. I saw master and Mr. Patterson, the carpenter, go to the negro houses each of them with a stick in his hand ; Mr. Rawlinson remained in the house ; he was in the house, but I did not see him ; the first house they went to was George Henry Warren's ; Mr. Patterson kicked at the door, but as it was very strongly secured, it did not give way.

[Mr. Rawlinson came into Court, at this stage of the proceedings, and informed the Commissioners that he had not received any notice from his Excellency the Governor of the particular day the investigation was to commence.]

PETER WM. ATKINSON, in continuation :—My master took up a block and dashed the door open. After opening the door he went in as if to search for something ; after that they went into my house, the door of which they had kicked open, they



turned my bed upside down as if they were searching, and then they came out and went away. I then went into my house, took up a bundle of clothes, and returned to the place where I was hiding. Mr. Patterson, the carpenter, returned soon after, and began to sing—

“This is the house that these fellows preach in.  
Hallelujah ! Hallelujah ! Hallelujah !”

He could not see me, but I could see him and all that he did : I was accustomed to have family prayers in my house at night. While Mr. Paterson was in my house the people from the great-house came and took out all my chairs, tables, and benches, and stools ; they took out sixteen pieces altogether, and carried them to the great-house yard. Mr. Rawlinson was in the great-house all the time ; any body there must have seen the things when they were carried up to the yard ; I thought to myself, “if the magistrate, who is sent to protect the apprentices, allows all this to be done, and sees that it is done, I must go to the Governor, as I have no person else to go to and make my complaint.” My furniture was lodged in a room where master keeps his saddles and corn, in the great-house yard. Warren and myself went to the King’s house, and we saw Lord Sligo the Governor ; we made our complaint to him, and he told Mr. Ramsay to take down all that we said : after that, he sent us by the police to Mr. Rawlinson, at Brown’s-Town, with a letter ; when we got there Mr. Rawlinson read the letter, and said, “so you have been to the Governor with a heap of lies about your master, but you did not tell the Governor that you keep a Methodist Chapel.” Mr. Rawlinson then gave us a letter to master, and sent us back to Peshurst ; When I got to Peshurst I found that my house had been pulled down ; on inquiry, I was told that it had been cut down by four apprentices named Thomas Brown, William Mills, Joseph Lawrence, and Richard Lawrence, who were ordered to do so ; I was also told that master was present at the time ; and with a long stick assisted in breaking off the shingles. This information was given to me by the very people who were ordered by master to pull the house down ; some time after, Mr. Rawlinson came to the property and read to us a part of the Governor’s letter ; he then desired us to go to work and saw fifty feet of wood per day : he desired Warren and myself to pay back six Saturdays for the time we had been absent from the property ; from that time I was worked through all weather, and at all times : by way of punishment we were given bread and logs to cut through in their green state, even without stripping off the bark, so that it was impossible for us to get through our task ; we were obliged to work even during our dinner time to endeavour to do so. At last, on the seventh Saturday, finding that I could stand it no longer, I then got the money and brought it to Mr. Rawlinson to purchase the remaining term of my apprenticeship. While we were working at the pit one day master came to us and said, “you are not punished half enough by the magistrate : I should like to get you in the Workhouse for six months, as I am able enough to hire a pair of sawyers in your room ;” he added, “there is one good thing ! the Governor did not hear your complaint.”

My furniture was not returned until after I purchased my freedom, nor was any house given me to live in, in lieu of that which had been pulled down ; I therefore was obliged to go to Knapdale to sleep at my wife’s house ; previously to mine being pulled down she used to come there occasionally, and I would go to hers. After my house was pulled down, Thomas Brown Lawrence was desired by my master to dig up every one of my plantain suckers : he did so, and they were planted in master’s own ground.

I borrowed nearly the whole of my money to pay for my freedom ; when I was first valued I was valued for eleven doubloons, but when I got the money after a year and two months had passed I was valued for twelve doubloons ; I am still working to pay off the debt of my valuation ; a few months after I bought myself I happened to meet Mr. Rawlinson at Beverley, and applied to him about my things ; a few days afterwards they were put out on the barbacue, and my friends took them and brought them to me. They did it of their own good will ! All this has been done to me.

I consider that the treatment we all received from my master proceeded from his wish to do us all the injury he could ; from the time that the 1st of August came he said he would do every thing to annoy us : he not only said this but he did it ; he said he would have a law of his own, and that those English devils (the magistrates) and those Baptist fellows should not do as they liked on his property ; as to that boy James Williams, poor fellow ! he was a boy with a good heart !

WILLIAM MILLS, an apprentice to Peshurst, sworn—I was one of the persons who master ordered to cut down Atkinson’s house ; there were four of us, we commenced

knocking down the walls ; those posts which we couldn't pull down, we were desired by master to cut away with our axes ; master knock'd down a part of the Spanish wall, with a long stick which he had in his hand ; he said, "I will have this house down, and you must go somewhere else to preach ; I wont have it for a prayer-house." It was Atkinson's house, and he used to live there ; he kept every thing in it that he was worth : there were several tables and chairs in it which master made us take out and put into a room in the great-house yard ; the house was pulled down on the same day that Atkinson went away ; he had a noble garden with plenty of plantain suckers in it : I don't know that they were dug up, but master gave the garden to a girl named Mary Ann Bell, and I afterwards saw the cows and hogs in it. We all of us, used to meet sometimes in Atkinson's house to join in prayer : I did not think it right in master to have the house destroyed, but as he gave orders we were obliged to obey. As far as I saw, Atkinson was poorly treated during his apprenticeship ; he worked very hard and was very badly treated ; master was not satisfied with any thing that he did [No. 16] ; I knew James Williams, and remember his having had to pay a great number of days ; it took him a great time to pay them back, and therefore he could not attend his grounds ; the hogs would be one side, and the cattle on the other, eating it down. Sometimes he was poverty itself, and would have starved if he had not got help from his brother apprentices. I heard that he was accused of stealing yams ; it was not proved against him : it was at the time that he had to pay back so many days ; he was very badly off for victuals.

I remember being put into the dungeon for refusing to work as master wanted us to do on the half Friday. [No. 17.] We said that we would work our four hours and a half at once ! but master wanted to draw us off at the usual breakfast time, and make us work the balance of the time afterwards. Master put me and Thomas Brown, and Joseph Lawrence in the dungeon, because, he said, we advised the people not to work as he wished ; he ordered me in himself ; the constable met me, put me before him, and then locked me up. We were locked up on Friday, about eleven o'clock, and let out about the same time next day ; James Williams had been put in the dungeon before we were put in.

When master took Atkinson and Warren from the saw pit I was put to work there, but as I was a new hand I did not work well, and master used me very badly for it : it was the first time I ever held a saw ; I was never given any regular task, but I did all I could to give satisfaction. I was not sawing more than a week when master put me in the dungeon for not doing good work ; he always threatened to bring me before Mr. Rawlinson : I was put to saw breadnut heart, which is the hardest of woods, with another young hand like myself ; how then could I be expected to do well ? This is the first time that I was put in the dungeon ; I was put in from evening until next morning ; Richard Lawrence, the person who was sawing with me, was also put into the dungeon at the same time. [No. 17.] I know Benjamin Higgins, he and James Williams, and Joseph Lawrence, were put into the dungeon with myself the second time that I was confined there. I was not brought up before the Special Magistrate after I had been locked up for not sawing enough wood.

JOSEPH LAWRENCE, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.—I was one of the people who was sent to pull down Atkinson's house. I was in the field when master called four of us and desired us to go with axes to Atkinson's house. We went there ; master and Mr. Paterson followed us ; master ordered us to take our axes and pull down the wattling and the posts ; we did so, master was present all the time, and helped himself to pull down the wattling, he made us carry all the furniture to the great house yard : I didn't hear him give any reasons for pulling down the house further than saying that the negroes were "playing the devil," by making it a meeting-house ; his words were, "it is here you all meet and play the devil in the negro-houses ; you shan't meet here again."

I was a constable once : I had not been one for more than a week, when master put me in the dungeon one Friday ; I was driver of the gang. [No. 17.] Master one Friday blew shell for breakfast, and the people said that they would rather work their four and a half hours out at once. Master desired me to tell them to go to breakfast, I tried all I could to make them go, but they would not. I went and told master ; he said "go back and tell them that they must go to their breakfast." By the time that I could go back, master ordered William Dalling to take me up ; I went with William Dalling to the dungeon ; I was the first who was put in ; James Williams was brought in afterwards ; as I was inside I did not hear any thing that he said : Benjamin Higgins, William Mills, and Thomas Brown, were also put in ; we were kept in the dun-

geon until the next morning (Saturday), and then let out; we were let out about breakfast time. Mr. Rawlinson came one day the next week.—[No. 21.] I was tried for not making the people go to breakfast; Mr. Rawlinson sentenced me to the workhouse; as I went in I was catted; I didn't remember how many licks I got, every morning and evening I was put on the treadmill; [No. 24.] James Williams went with me to the workhouse, and received the same punishment; I think we were kept in for ten days.

[No. 22.] Amelia Lawrence was tried the same day for being at the first row: master said, "it is because your brother is the driver that you put yourself at the first row and want to be the head woman." She was also sent to the workhouse: the food that we got in the workhouse was a pint of boiled corn, which was dressed by the cook in the field, and one alewife between two persons. This was given to us in the morning, and we got nothing else until next day. I am certain that we only got a pint of corn; I know the difference between a pint and a quart. A pint is sold for 5d and a quart for 10d. We were used badly enough in the workhouse. Five persons used to put me on the treadmill at a time, and sometimes more than that. The first day I went on, the mill bruised my knee a great deal; the blood ran all down from my shins. [No. 11.] When the people could not keep the step the driver flogged them, he did not flog me because I soon caught it. The women were flogged as well as the men: they were flogged on their legs, and some of them were flogged very badly; [No. 12.] I have seen women hanging on the mill by their hands as they could not keep up; they were greatly bruised: [No. 25.] I have seen many women on the mill who had young sucking children: the children were left in the yard when they were taken to dance the mill. [No. 12.] The women were also put on the mill morning and evening, and sometimes the pain would be so great that they would bawl loud enough to be heard a great way off. [No. 26.] I saw several women from Hiattsfeld on the mill; some of them had young children: there were a great number of these women in. [No. 13.] On Sunday mornings the men were sent to cut wood and grass, and bring water: the women were employed in sweeping the yard of the workhouse, and Mr. Drake's yard at his own house: we were chained two and two on Sundays; the same as other days. While I was in the workhouse I never saw any minister of the gospel come there on Sundays. I have seen several women faint on the treadmill; when they were in that situation, sometimes they were taken down, and at other times they were left hanging by their wrists until the other people were taken off. I never saw any magistrate visit the workhouse while I was there; Mr. Drake used to flog the people sometimes with his riding whip, and sometimes with his supple-jack, both on and off the mill; he used to flog the people for his pleasure, and would say, "you are a worthless set and won't work for your master." He never flogged me: Mr. Drake used to visit master's house very often.

[No. 31.] I know an old woman by the name of "Sally," belonging to Coolshade; she was often put on the wheel but was not able to work; she used to hang on the wheel and get severely flogged; Mr. Drake used to flog her himself; I have seen the drivers flog the people both in the field and in the yard; they used to flog both men and women; the drivers were bad people. [No. 34.] I remember that Amelia Lawrence complained to me of James Thomas, one of the drivers, for wanting her to consent to his improper wishes; my sister was persecuted a great deal by this man, and felt much hurt about it, as she was a married woman. The young women whom the drivers took a fancy to were put by them to light work.—[No. 33.] The women who had young sucking children, carried the children out on their backs, and were never let out of the field even if it rained; the children were placed at the fireside with the cooks; sometimes when the children cried very loudly the mothers were allowed to give them suck, but this was when Mr. Drake was not in the field. If he was in the field he would not permit the women to give the children suck. I don't remember seeing the women working in the field with the children tied to their backs.

[No. 12.] When the people are on the mill sometimes it is made to go faster than at other times: the driver always holds the pole, and he can make it go faster or slower as he pleases: sometimes it went so fast that some of the people missed the step and hung, by which means they cut their feet. I don't remember its going so fast as to make all the people who were on hang by their wrists. [No. 15.] I remember that James Williams used to complain a great deal about his stomach, particularly when he had to climb the breadnut trees. [No. 5.] I was not by when he was flogged by William Dalling with the lancewood switches. [No. 16.] I remember that at one time he had to pay to master a great number of days: he could not attend to his

grounds, and his provisions were eaten up by the hogs and cows. I used to go and help mould up his cocoas for him, and gave him provisions sometimes to help him in his distress. I heard that he was accused of stealing yams, but I don't remember the particular time. With regard to Atkinson's garden, master sent Thomas Brown desiring him to dig up the plantain suckers, and plant them in his master's corn piece. The whole of them were not dug up, only the young suckers were dug up. I believe that the ground was given to Atkinson's children, Peter and Willy; William Dalling is a constable now; he can't please massa: nobody can please him.

AMELIA LAWRENCE, an apprentice on Penshurst, sworn.—I was tried once by Mr. Rawlinson, in consequence of master's disputing with me about work; Mr. Rawlinson sent me to the workhouse, but did not mention to me how many days I was to be in the workhouse; when I came back master told me that Mr. Rawlinson said I was to pay back ten days as an additional punishment. [No. 22.] The next time that I was punished, I was sent to the dungeon at Penshurst, in consequence of a dispute about my working at the first row. The next morning I was brought up before Mr. Rawlinson, and I begged him not to punish me. Master's complaint was that I worked at the first row, and that I took upon myself to do so because my brother was a driver; I was sent to the workhouse for this. [No. 23.] I am a married woman with a family of four children; I was put on the tread-mill morning and evening; there can be no harder work than tread-mill punishment; the mill bruised my legs and gave me great pain, but the greatest pain I felt was between my shoulders; I have never recovered up to the present moment from the punishment of the tread-mill; I have pains all about my body since then, which I can't get over, particularly those in the small of the back; my wrists and fingers are so hurt, that they are swelled even now. [Nos. 11. and 12.] Some of the people used to feel very faint upon the mill, and when they could not keep up, the boatswain would not take them off, but would whopp them well to make them go on. One day, a man by the name of Jenkins, who was an under busha hit me a whopp, after I came off the mill, and made use of very bad expressions to me; the expressions were so bad that I can't make use of them now. [No. 34.] Jenkins had a spite against me, because I would not consent for him to have an improper connexion with a girl named Catherine Bayley, who was in the workhouse; I was obliged to say that Catherine Bayley was my daughter, in order to protect her from Jenkins; James Thomas, one of the boatswains, wanted me to consent to do what was wrong with him; he kept on following me for this purpose all the time I was in the workhouse; I could'n't get any rest for him. I saw a woman go one night to one of the drivers, but I could not distinguish which of the drivers it was who called her. [No. 26.] I saw a whole set of women who had come in from Hiattsfield; they were sent to the workhouse before I went in, and they were dreadfully cut up on the mill; several of them had young children. There were very few of them able to work in the field; not more than four or five; the rest were locked up having been knocked up by the tread-mill: they were quite lame, and sometimes they would fall off the mill, and water would then be thrown upon them to bring them to. [No. 27.] One young woman in particular had her leg so bad that she could not turn herself, and another who was big with child was dreadfully hackled; but an old woman who had a daughter named Affy, from Hiattsfield, was worse knocked up than any of the rest; there was another woman named Mrs. Byfield, also from Hiattsfield, with a young sucking child; she was also placed on the mill; the woman that was so big with child had such pains, that she could not bear any person even to touch her. I do not remember her name; there was no doctor woman, nor any woman whatever to attend to the sick people. [No. 34.] The drivers always came before day to count them, and it was at that time they would endeavour to gain over the women for improper purposes: they frequently put questions of this sort to me, but I never consented; I know one woman, however, who was bad enough to do so. I never saw any doctor come to the workhouse; to tell the truth, if the people wanted medicine it was the boatswain who gave it. James Thomas was the driver who used to follow me and ask me to give myself up to him; I used to fret much, and told James Williams about it; he said, "never mind; they can't do you any thing." Mr. Drake often used to say, "You, Penshurst and Chester people are always neglecting your master's business and minding preaching, and I'll make you sick of coming here; I'll beat the methodist out of you." Him and master were great friends; he used to visit master very frequently. When James Thomas found that I would not consent to his wishes, he used to treat me very badly; one day Mr. Drake gave Catherine Bayley a good beating, saying, she was Miss Senior's waiting maid, and must have been impudent to her or she would not have sent

her to the workhouse ; the people were all shackled at night ; when Catherine Bayley and I were in the first time, we used to sleep in shackles, and with big chains about our neck every night ; the last time I was in, they were not so particular. [No. 12.] The life people were fed with flour every day, and the rest were fed with corn ; one shad was given between two persons. When I came out of the workhouse, some time after, about Christmas I was going to the hothouse, but was obliged to lay down on the ground from exhaustion. Master passed, and when he saw me, he laughed, and calling out to some of the apprentices said, quite gladly, "you see what she is come to." He appeared quite glad at the way I was reduced, and made use of the most indecent expressions and oaths towards me ; one would not think that a gentleman could make use of such words. [No. 30.] I remember a woman from Hiattsfeld who fainted on the mill. They took her down, and she laid down tumbling in the dirt like a log. Water was thrown upon her, and her fellow-apprentices fretted a great deal about it ; I was chained to a woman named Susan White ; she was big with child, and was put every day on the mill ; she used to hang very often on the mill ; the woman were always strapped tightly to the board above the mill. [No. 31.] I knew a woman named Sally, belonging to Coolshade ; she was old and weak, she was chained to a woman named Mimba, I don't remember the Christian name of the woman to whom she was chained ; these women were beaten from morning to night ; Mr. Drake used to beat them himself ; Mimba was a young woman, but a poor thing ; I don't remember seeing Sally on the mill, but they used to beat her at all times. [No. 32.] I know Bankes's negro-houses ; one particular day when the gang was working there, the rain fell very heavy. On the way home the old woman Sally could not keep up with the rest, and they beat her well that day. The drivers used to beat her until she tumbled down : they never played with her but beat her cruelly. She was beaten every day when we were doing hard work, and she could not keep up with the rest. [No. 33.] When the women with young sucking children went to work in the field they left their children at the fireside ; if rain came the children got wet : the mothers were hardly allowed to give the children suck ; sometimes they made a woman named Rebecca, belonging to Tobolski, tie her child to her back and work in the field : [No. 35.] I don't remember seeing Mr. Hylton, the clerk of the peace at St. Ann's Bay, in the workhouse, but I have heard of his being there. [No. 46.] I remember a woman named Eliza Nathan, who was in the workhouse ; she was there at the same time that I was, she could not dance good, but was always very faintish, as she was with child : one day she dragged upon the mill, and was obliged to be taken down ; I did not see her catted : her shins were much peeled, she was obliged to be sent into the hospital of the workhouse ; her shins were much cut up, but not so bad as those of a woman at Knapdale. She was mashed up in a very bad manner : [No. 13.] The women's work on Sunday was to clean Mr. Drake's yard, and carry water : the men were employed in cutting grass : the chains were kept on us on Sundays as well as on other days. [No. 12.] All that we got to eat was a quart of corn, which was given out in the morning, and a shad between two of us. This was to last us the whole day. [No. 11.] I have seen women come off the mill with a great portion of their clothes torn, but not so bad as so expose their persons indecently. The negroes of Peshurst have no half Fridays now, and when we complained about it to Mr. Rawlinson, he told us that the Governor himself could not compel our master to give us the half Fridays.

This witness after finishing her testimony, informed the Court that her master Mr. Senior is now in the constant habit of flogging her daughter, and that he does so every day without any cause whatever.

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23.

Mr. SENIOR appeared, and having been informed that Peter Atkinson had charged him with pulling down his house, admitted having pulled down a house *which had been considered as the house* of Atkinson, which he afterwards claimed, as it was a nuisance. Mr. Senior said that he did not consider the house as the dwelling-place of Atkinson, as he did not sleep in it, but went at night to his wife at Knapdale ; Mr. Senior claimed the right of pulling down the house as a nuisance, as it had been made an improper use of ; he admitted having done so during the temporary absence of Peter Atkinson. Mr. Senior then mentioned that Peter Atkinson used to make excuses for turning out late, in consequence of sleeping at Knapdale, alleging that he had no house at Peshurst : this was previous to the destruction of the house ; Mr. Senior said, that there was a small bed-room attached to the house, which was not taken down, and that Atkinson had no other house on the property than the one which was destroyed ; he

considered it a nuisance, in consequence of the great noise made there at nights by the strange people who congregated there, for purposes which he does not know; he considered their meetings unlawful, and wished to prevent them; he did not know where the nuisance was previously to the day when he went to see if Atkinson had gone from the house; there was a bed there which he did not trouble, but he took out some chairs and benches, which were delivered up afterwards; there was only one bed in the room, which was not pulled down; the house appeared to be appropriated entirely as a sort of chapel; there were one or two packages with clothes, which were taken away, but were given up afterwards on being claimed.

ELIZA FINLAYSON, an apprentice to Peshurst, apparently between twelve and thirteen years of age, sworn.—I am the daughter of Amelia Lawrence; I was born before she was married; I have been switched since the 1st August, 1834; no longer than Monday last, master flogged me with his chaise-whip; I have been fumed often, and put into the dungeon. On Monday last, master came up and hit me a lick, and I run off; he then came back and hit me two licks with the chaise-whip over my head; I was digging dung in the yard with a boy named Richard Brown; some of the dung was left, and master called me to dig it up: as soon as I went to the place, he took his chaise-whip and struck me. Master has flogged me often enough before this time, particularly one day when we were working in the grass piece; he came that day with his chaise-whip and flogged me and a boy named Davy; he flogged me on my back; he never made the constable fume me, but often said that he would make him do so; he flogged me this day because, he said, that we were standing up, and not doing any work. Master not only fums me sometimes, but he fums the other boys and girls. Last Monday he was standing on the barbacue, and when he called me to dig up the dung, he went into the house, brought out the chaise-whip, and then flogged me with it. I never complained to the Special Justice, nor did any of the other boys and girls complain. Plenty of us have been put into the dungeon at times; I was there not long ago; I was put in on the Friday night, and let out the next morning at buckra's breakfast time; I was put in with old Ann Campbell, Abis and Phillis; we were put in for not being in the field in time after breakfast; we had been working in the morning, and went to breakfast at shell-blow, and as our breakfast was not ready, we returned to work a little late; master was there when we went to work; he made the constable put us in the dungeon when we drew off from work at four o'clock in the evening; the other people had not worked much when we returned to the field in the morning; they had not worked more than ten or twelve feet; the work they were doing was hoeing grass. I have been put into the dungeon often enough before that time,—not by orders of the Special Magistrate, but by master's own orders. In answer to a question put by Mr. Senior, this witness said—I was only brought up one time before Mr. Rawlinson, and I never told him that I would not work, when he told me to do so. One day master carried us all to Mr. Rawlinson, but he did not complain of us; he only complained of the great gang. Mr. Rawlinson ordered the great gang to pay a Saturday; I was sitting under a custard-apple tree, and did not hear what the magistrate said; he may have ordered all the people to pay the Saturday. The third gang, to which I belong, I am certain was ordered by master to pay the Saturday, but I don't know whether the Magistrate told him to make us pay it or not.

MR. SENIOR, on question from the Court, said that he had at times put parties in the dungeon, but had always mentioned his having done so to the Special Magistrate on his visit to the property, although he had not preferred a subsequent complaint against them, and that the Special Magistrate had given his sanction to him to act in this manner. Mr. Senior then asked the Court, as they mentioned that such a proceeding was illegal, What was to be done with the small gang when they committed faults; he wished to know whether he had not authority to switch them?

THE COURT—No, decidedly not; you have no legal right to do so.

MR. SENIOR—Dr. Thompson, a Special Magistrate, told me that I had a right.

ANN CAMPBELL, an old weakly woman, apparently about sixty years of age, sworn.—I was driver to the little gang, and master told me when they behaved wrong, I must switch them; I said no! I could not do it, as the law would not give me right if I switched any body; I told him that if he wanted the children to be switched, he must carry them to them mammies and let them switch them. After this Mr. Rawlinson came, and massa said, "You must send this woman to the jigg-mill." Mr. Rawlinson said, "What has this poor old woman done, to be sent to the jigg-mill?" Master replied, "She wont flog the pickaninies." From that time master cursed, and cursed, and cursed me at all time. One day, after the *Mulgrave* law came in, I was in the

field, and I said to driver, that I wanted to go aside for a particular purpose, but when master heard it he cried out, "There was no law for that." This was Friday; I was obliged to go aside, and master took and locked me up in the evening, and let me out on Saturday. Master told constable that he locked me up on that account. Another time the shell blow for breakfast; I had been carrying dung, and went to my hut to get my breakfast; when the shell blow to turn out I left the hut, but as I could not walk as fast as the others, I was lated in the field; when I got there I saw massa; he abused me for turning out late, and in the evening he made the constable put me and Abis, and Lizzy Finlayson, and another of the girls, in the dungeon. Mistress (Miss Senior) called out to the constable and said, "Hawl her by the neck, and put her into the dungeon." Mistress said it was me who they were to hawl; but the constable said, "No! he could not do so, as the law did not tell him to do any thing like that. Master threatened me after I came out of dungeon, to send me down to Brown's Town to the Magistrate. He then told me, "you are driver for the pickaniny gang, and if you won't fum them when they do wrong, you must work!" he then turned me out to work in the small gang and I am now working there. I have a big swelling or rising in my back; on Monday last I went to mistress and begged for some grease to make a plaster to put on it; mistress cursed me, and said, "Go to Mr. Clarke, the Baptist parson, since you carry your master to law, and make him cure you." I told her, that I had never carried master to law. She then cursed me, and walked away without giving me the grease. Sometime before this, I had a blister on my back: Dr. Tucker ordered it to be put on; but before mistress gave it to me, she and master abused me in such a manner that I was ashamed as a dog. At the time I had on the blister, there was no doctor-woman in the hot-house, and as I wanted to get it dressed, I got a mulatto woman named Mary Mills to cut it; when massa saw her cutting it, he abused her a great deal. Rather than remain in the hot-house with such treatment, I went out, raw as the blister was, to work; I went first to my ground on a Saturday, and cut a few corns and dug a little victuals, so as to prepare for the Monday; on my return it rained very hard: *It rained like thunder!* The constable came up to me, took me in my wet clothes, and locked me up with them on in the dungeon. There I remained with them on till next morning. Constable locked me up by master's orders.—I did not get any food all the time I was in the dungeon, although I told my master that I had not had any thing to eat the whole day. I begged him for something to eat, and he said he would not give it.

In reply to a question from Mr. Senior, this witness stated, that some time last week she was met by her master, in his time, with a basket of provisions on her head: she was then going to her work, and believes that it was about an hour and a half after the time she ought to have turned out.

Mr. SENIOR assured the Court, that there is very little truth in the statements made by Ann Campbell and the other apprentices from Penhurst: on being asked by the Court, whether he wished to ask any questions, or bring forward any witnesses to refute what had been already given in evidence, he replied in the negative, saying at the same time, that it was unnecessary for him to do so, as it was his intention to bring a number of them before the Quarter Sessions, on indictments for perjury, more especially the man named William Dalling.—Mr. Senior also remarked, that there was no occasion for his further attendance, as it was his intention to go to Spanish Town, where he would communicate with his Excellency, the Governor, and report to him all that he had seen and heard.

SUSAN WHITE, an apprentice to Dunbarton Estate, sworn.—I recollect being sent to the workhouse some time ago; I was chained to Amelia Lawrence of Penhurst, and I was then in the family way; I was five months advanced, and had a mischance at seven months; my pregnancy was plain to be seen by my size.—(No. 11.) I was put on the treadmill twice a-day, but I don't know how long I was kept on. I was sentenced to the workhouse for ten days: on a Thursday evening, I danced the mill longer than usual, and was so tired that I fell off; one of my hands first slipped out of the strap: I called to them to stop the mill, but they did not; it went round quite fast; then my other hand slipped out of the strap, and I fell down quite senseless. When I recovered I found myself in the room where they used to lock us all up at nights, and I was told that some of the women had picked me up, and carried me there. No doctor attended me, and I was never put on the mill again. I went out of the workhouse about two weeks before Christmas, and I had a mischance in February: the pains never left me from the time I came out of the workhouse till I had the mischance. I have never been in good health since

then : when I was in the workhouse I was never flogged on the treadmill, as I used to keep the step very well, but the driver used to flog the other people, both men and women.—I went out to work with the workhouse gang in the field on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday ; I got wet sometimes, but as I had dry clothes of my own, I used to change when I returned from work.—(No. 12.) We used to get a quart of flour and a half a shad each for our day's allowance of food.—(No. 33.) I saw several women in the workhouse with young sucking children ; one woman from Tobolski had a child almost naked ; she used to carry it to the field, and it got wet from rain very often : the child was generally left with the cook, and when it rained the mother would, by consent of the drivers, go and shelter it as well as she could ; she also was allowed time to go aside and suckle it.—(No. 13.) On Sunday mornings, we were obliged to sweep out Mr. Drake's yard and carry water ; we were chained two and two, the same as on other days ; the men were employed in carrying grass. The first time I went to the workhouse, I did not see any doctor come there, but one used to come there the last time I was there ; I never saw any parson there on a Sunday. (No. 34.) I was chained to Amelia Lawrence, of Penshurst : one day she said to me, " Partner, look here : look upon this ring on my finger : I am a married woman, and the driver, James Thomas, is always putting bad questions to me."—I felt for her and cried ; I said to myself, " After Amelia is a married woman, and the driver puts such questions to her, what must I expect who am not a married woman." No question of the sort, however, was put to me at that time ; but when I went in a second time, a man by the name of Thomas White, who was a driver and boatswain, tried to do what James Thomas tried with Amelia Lawrence : I told him No, that I was a married woman, and to make him believe it, when my sister came to see me, I took a ring off of her finger and put it on. The next time he asked me, I showed him the ring as a proof, and he did not trouble me again. This was about the month before last. At the time Amelia Lawrence complained to me, I did not hear the driver myself put the question to her, but I used to hear him joke her. The drivers always opened the women's apartment quite early in the morning. It was Mr. Rawlinson who sent me to the workhouse that time.

MARIA HENDERSON, an apprentice to New Hope plantation, the property of Mr. WILLIAM CODNOR, sworn—I have been in the St. Ann's Bay house of correction. No driver ever endeavoured to have any improper intimacy with me. I was sent to the workhouse for two weeks by Mr. Rawlinson. I was chained and worked with the other people in the field. I have no reason to complain of the boatswain or any one else. I was not there when Amelia Lawrence was in, nor did I ever see the people working on the mill. I was always locked up at night with the other women, and the drivers opened the door in the morning to let us out, but I never saw them endeavour to have improper intimacies with any of the women. I was never on the treadmill.

MR. RAWLINSON.—I know that I sentenced you to be worked on the treadmill.

MARIA HENDERSON, in continuation—The treadmill was not yet finished ; they were just completing it when I went in.

THE COURT.—We are glad that Mr. Hamilton Brown, a magistrate of the parish, is present, because we have been informed by Mr. Codnor, the owner of New Hope, that Maria Henderson had boasted that she had not been put on the tread-mill, in consequence of the very improper intimacy which existed between her and one of the drivers : it is necessary that such conduct should be checked by the magistrates of the parish.

MR. BROWN admitted that he had heard of such reports, and

MR. RAWLINSON said, that the fact was quite notorious with regard to the witness Maria Henderson, and another woman, who is an apprentice on Bertram's Bowers. He was decidedly of opinion that Maria Henderson preferred being sent to the workhouse to any other punishment.

SARAH HIGGINS, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.—I have six children alive : three are free, and three are apprentices ; since the birth of my last child, which I have in my arms, I have been picking pimento. I am turned out with the rest of the people, and am obliged to do the same work as those who are in the great gang. No time is given me to attend to my pickaniny. One day I was rather late at work ; when I came to the place, massa said, " Don't you see that the sun is up ? " He then quarrelled a great deal. When shell blew in the evening, he put me in the dungeon, and kept me there till it was time to turn out to work next morning. I got nothing to eat or drink, nor would master allow me to go to my house to give anything to my chil-



dren : he would not even allow me to go and get a little water to drink ; this was about two months ago. Master did not send anything for my children to eat, nor did he bring me up before Mr. Rawlinson.

WILLIAM DALLING, recalled—I know that Sarah Higgins is in the great gang. She was put into the dungeon, as she stated, because master said that she had turned out late. She has six children, but she does not get any indulgencies. I received a general order from Mr. Rawlinson, to put any body in the dungeon by my master's orders, but Mr. Rawlinson did not leave, to my knowledge, any orders that any person so put into the dungeon, should be brought up to him afterwards on his visiting the property.

[Nos. 51 and 52.]—NANNY DALLING, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.—My mistress called me one Friday, and said "Go to Mr. Rawlinson, and he will tell you the law." When I went to him, he ordered me to the house of correction. As I knew that I had not done any thing to mistress, I turned my back, and she accused me of being sulky and tying up my face. When I turned my back, Mr. Rawlinson took me by the arms and shook me in such a way as to pop a button in front of my frock ; he did not order any body, but took me with his own hands and put me into the dungeon. I had a sucking child, and master told him to give me the child, but he said that he would not. He went away, and came back a few hours afterwards, and ordered me to be locked up for fourteen nights in the same dungeon. I went one evening, and begged mistress not to lock me up again ; I asked her to forgive me : she said, No ! that if she did that Mr. Rawlinson would not punish me again. I slept in the dungeon thirteen nights, and on the fourteenth night they let me out.

JANE SHAW PENNOCK, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.—The child in my arms is about five months old. Since its birth I have been picking pimento in the great gang. I am obliged to break the branches myself, and therefore leave my child with the field nurse. I have carried home in the evening, as much pimento as I ought to have done if I had had a person to break the branches for me. When I got home one evening with my load, master said, "I saw you going up this morning to Knapdale side." I told him that it was not me, but he insisted that it was, and ordered me to go into the dungeon : this was about six o'clock ; I was put into the dungeon, and kept there until six o'clock next morning without any thing whatever to eat. When I came out in the morning, I went to the negro-house, and took up something to carry to the field for breakfast : when I got to the field I found that massa had taken away Ellen Dalling, who used to mind the sucking children in the field ; she was not removed because she was sick, but massa said that the children were born free, and he was not going to give them any nurse, as they were born free and did not deserve any mercy. After keeping her away two days, he put her back to mind the children. I was never before the magistrate after being put into the dungeon, neither did I make any complaint to him. Master does not allow us to give our children suck in the field : when he comes into the field, if he finds any of us in the act of doing so, he makes us get up.

WILLIAM DALLING, recalled.—Says that a young girl is put into the field now at Penshurst, to mind the sucking children.

ALEXANDER MILLS, an apprentice on Penshurst, sworn.—I was once a head constable on Penshurst, but was broken ; I was made driver to day in consequence of another man's having given up his situation. The women are allowed a little time to suckle their children, and a little girl is put in the field to mind them. When I was broken as head constable, Mr. Rawlinson did not break me. It was master did it ; he took the staff from me himself. [No. 17.] I remember the row which took place between James Williams and the rest about the half Friday ; they were put into the dungeon ; I don't remember the expression said to have been made by James Williams, as I was not by. The house of Peter Atkinson, which was pulled down, was his own house ; it was his dwelling house ; he lived and slept there ; his wife used to come from Knapdale sometimes to stop there. There was a bed there besides the one which was in the little room, and it was there when the house was pulled down. We used to meet there for worship on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday nights. Atkinson and his wife always slept there on meeting nights ; if even his wife did not come down on meeting-nights, he slept there himself. No person ever met there except Atkinson was there himself. Prayers were always done between eight and nine o'clock, and always before master or mistress went to bed. We never made a noise loud enough to disturb them. When Atkinson went to take his meals it was at that house he went to. It was only on meeting nights that the benches were arranged for the meeting. The meeting never

exceeded eighteen or twenty persons; sometimes eight or nine were strangers. We used to offer up a short prayer, and then sing a hymn. I remember when master ordered Thomas Brown to dig up the plantain suckers from Atkinson's garden. He also ordered Thomas Brown to dig up suckers out of several of our gardens: some were actually dug out of mine, and then planted in master's own ground. I think that master's anger against Peter Atkinson was in consequence of his house being used for us to offer a little prayer in. When they were pulling Atkinson's house down Mr. Rawlinson, the Special Magistrate, was at the great house the whole time. The meetings used to be held in Atkinson's house before the 1st of August, 1834, and master knew very well, long before Atkinson went away, that they were held there; master used to quarrel with us all along about it. I remember the time that James Williams had a great many days stopped: he had no time to attend to his ground then, and was badly off, so much so, that he scarcely had anything to eat, and we were obliged to assist him. At the time that he was accused of stealing yams, I believe that he had plenty of bread-kind of his own. I know the dungeon at Peshurst; it is a very bad place, so damp that there is no dry place to lay down; when nobody is there, the fowls sleep there, and it is generally quite filthy with the dirt. When people are to be confined they must sweep it out themselves, or they would have to lay down in the filth.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

JANETTE SAUNDERS, an apprentice on Orange-Valley, sworn.—[No. 49.] I remember being sent to the workhouse, handcuffed, to a very old man. We were taken out of the cage at Brown's-Town. On my way down, I remember seeing a young man in the pasture at Peshurst, who gave me five oranges; he spoke to the police, and they allowed me to stop; he then took my bundle off my head, loosed it, and tied up the oranges in it. I did not know the young man; I have often tried to find out his name, but I never could do so. He asked me if I knew the place where I was going to. I said, no. He then said, "You must keep a bold heart, you will find plenty more there like yourself; I know what that workhouse is, for I have been there by myself." He then asked me what I had done to be sent there, and I told him. When I got to the workhouse there were plenty of people there. [No. 33.] I saw a woman with a sucking child, but I don't know where she came from. When she went out to work in the gang, she tied the child to her back, and put it under a tree when she got into the field. If it rained, she was allowed to stand aside and shelter it with her pennystone cloak. I don't remember seeing any pregnant women in the workhouse. [No. 34.] We slept every night with the chains on our necks, and our feet in the shackles; the door was always locked at night, and by the dawn of day the driver used to open it to let us out. I never saw nor heard the driver call any of the women to him for improper purposes. [No. 11.] The first day I was on the mill I got a catting on my back, because I could not keep the step. My clothes were lashed off by the cat. I had on a body frock of Oznaburgh. I was not catted very severely on the legs. The flogging was laid on by order of the Police Captain. I remember that one of my hands slipped out of the strap, and I hung by the other while the mill went round, and knocked against me. The Police Captain ordered the driver to pull the other hand out, and let me fall, but the driver did not do it; he took my hand out and let me down. I never saw any other women catted on the wheel, for they kept their step good. After coming down from the mill, the first time, my stomach pained me so much that I could not even lay down at night. I was obliged to stand up the whole night with my feet in the shackles. I was on the mill eight days. Every time that I became very faint, and could not keep the step, Mr. Drake ordered the mill to be stopped, and let me down. [Nos. 12 and 13.] [This witness then gave the same account as those who preceded her with respect to the work in which the prisoners of the workhouse were employed on Sundays, and the food received by each individual.]

MARY JAMES, a Guinea negro, apparently about 60 years of age, very weak and infirm, an apprentice to Mr. Wallace, of the Farm, sworn. [No. 10.] I remember being sent to the workhouse, and as I could not dance the mill, Mr. Drake flogged me himself. The boatswain also flogged me very badly; so badly that I could not contain my urine. He flogged me on the back till it bled, and when he saw that it was so bad, he took me to the sea to wash it. They made me take off my upper clothes, so as to leave my back and shoulders quite bare. [No. 10.] I danced the mill for six days, twice a day, and was catted every day. When I was put on the mill it was impossible for me to keep the step, and I hung by the straps, and my shins used to be so badly bruised that Mr. Drake would make me go to the sea-side to wash them. I was put to dig

cane-holes with the gang, and was chained to another woman. James Bolt was the driver who always flogged me. Sometimes when I hung on the mill, and could not keep step, I would call out, "Massa, me da go dead, oh! my stomach, oh!" Then Mr. Drake would take me off. When he saw the fum-fum quite bad on the back, he gave some oil to oil it. The flies took my back, and when I got home some of the negroes saw how it stood, and said, "Old woman, your back is fly blown!" When in the workhouse I slept every night with the chain round my neck, and my feet in shackles. They gave me so-so negro yams to eat with no salt, nor fish. I got enough to fill me. They never gave me any corn. No doctor ever looked at my back when I was in the workhouse. I got home at night after being let out, and the next day master packed me off to the field with my raw, raw back. I slept in the path one night in my way home from the workhouse. I knew James Williams; he was in the workhouse at the same time with myself. When he saw how I was treated he would say, "Grandy, keep heart—keep heart!—poor thing!—you no go dead in the workhouse, you will live to go home!" After I got home I felt my shin quite weak. Master did not take me in to the hospital. I worked along with the pickaninny mothers and the weakly people. After I got home, turpentine was put to my back by Amelia Lawrence, to take the maggots out, and she bathed my back with warm water. I continued working in the field until my back got quite well. I did not lay up on account of it. It was Captain A. Dillon who sentenced me to the workhouse and treadmill, because I went away about three months.

Mr. JOHN WALLACE, part Proprietor and Attorney of the "Farm," sworn.—[No. 10.] —Mary James has been under my management upwards of sixteen years. Many times during that period, she has been a runaway for months together. On the occasion to which she has referred she was taken up and brought to the property. From her frequent absences of this kind, I thought it my duty to bring her before the Special Magistrate. A little before the termination of slavery she had been absent upwards of six months, and was tried at the Quarter Sessions, and sentenced by the court to three months in the workhouse; but, before the expiration of half her sentence, I happened to be at the Bay, and saw her. She complained of being sick, and as I perceived that she was so, I told her that I would endeavour to obtain her release, if she would promise to behave better in future. She made the promise, and I then went to Mr. Drake, the Supervisor, for the purpose of ascertaining whether he had the power to discharge her without the authority of the magistrates. He said that he had not. I then went to Mr. Cox, the Custos, who happened to be on the Bay, and who was the presiding Magistrate when she was convicted, to solicit his interference on her behalf. The Custos said that he did not feel he had the power to order her discharge, but he advised the Supervisor to let her go, and said he would take no notice of the irregularity. She was immediately let out, but ran away about two months afterwards. When she returned from the workhouse, I did not observe anything the matter with her back. She did not complain to me of being sick, nor did I know of her having a sore back till a long while afterwards. It was cured without my knowledge, as I never was made acquainted with the circumstance. She is working in the field, and has been put lately to cut grass. I work my people on the nine hours' system, and give them fish occasionally. I give them always the usual Christmas allowances.

Mr. JOHN CLARKE, formerly an Overseer on Knapdale estate, sworn.—[No. 56. last part.] I knew James Williams and urged his valuation, considering that it ought to take place, as the legal notice had been given. Instead of looking black and not speaking, I said, "Well, James Williams, I am very glad that you are a free man: I shall be saved a great deal of trouble, and I hope you will behave much better, as a free man, than you have done as an apprentice." I had frequently to carry him over to Mr. Senior during his apprenticeship, to intercede for him when he got into any trouble, and many a time I saved him from deserved punishment; I had, however, frequent cause to complain of him, as the horses under his care often trespassed on the Knapdale canes by means of his neglect. [No. 57.] I beg to observe, in reference to the valuation of James Williams, that Mr. Rawlinson offered no obstruction to it, but only suggested that, as Mr. Senior was absent, attending a sister who was dangerously ill, that it should be postponed for a few days.

JAMES FINLAYSON, formerly an apprentice on Peshurst, but now free by purchase, sworn.—[Examined on 26th September.] I knew Henry James; he was an old sawyer, and it was under him that I learnt the trade. We were going on very well until he got weak, and could not manage the saw. I told master, Mr. Senior, that Henry James was too weak, and said, "You had better let him go and watch, and put

Henry Warren to the saw." Master said, "Yes." We were sawing up at Hill-Top, at a place called the New Ground. Henry James was put to watch a corn-piece, and a few days after he came to me, and thanked me a great deal. He watched the corn-piece for a long time, and was very attentive. There was no fence at all round it, except some parts which had a few rails that were tied, and which were constantly breaking down. The cattle and hogs trespassed there a great deal at night, and master was told of it. Master, at one time, sent Thomas Brown and Richard Lawrence to help mend the fences, but they left them half finished, as they were called away to another job. The stock still trespassed, and master brought Henry James before Doctor Thompson, the Special Magistrate. [No. 2.] Henry James told the Magistrate that he could not manage the ground for it was very large, and the stock broke in on every side, but the doctor ordered him to be catted. He was catted, and when I came home, as he was a great friend of mine, I went to see him. He told me that he had been shamefully treated, but he did not mind the flogging so much as the pain he felt in his stomach from it; he did not go to watch that night, and laid flat on his belly on a piece of board. Next day he went to his watch. Some weeks after he came and told me that every night, as he went to his bed he coughed a great deal, and that whenever he coughed, blood came from him. I said, "You had better go to the hot-house and get something to check it." He went to the carpenter's shop, which was also used as a hot-house, and I saw him there every day. I asked him what they did for him? He said "nothing." He told me that Dr. Tucker had ordered a blister, but in place of that, his mistress, Miss Senior, had sent him some candle-grease plaster, saying that he must put that on his stomach. I saw him again next day, and asked him how he was last night? He answered, "Oh, brother, I will never get better again." He then showed me a cup which held about a pint; it was half-filled with blood, which he said he had brought up during the night. The next day I returned, and he showed me as much more. In the course of that day master went into the carpenter's shop, and said to him, "What! ain't you dead yet?" [No. 2.] Henry James told me that he wanted to go to Brown's Town to see Captain Andrew Dillon; he told me this the same day that I was to be valued; he set off before day, taking with him the blood which he had passed the night before! When he arrived at Brown's Town, he complained to Capt. Dillon. Master was present, and said that there was nothing the matter with him, and "that he had had all the doctor ordered, that Doctor Tucker was not here himself, but would be present at the next Court." The Magistrate said, "Do you hear that old man? Go back, and come again next week." Henry James replied, "Ah, massa, I don't know whether I am going to live to come back again." [No. 2.] He went out, and a little while after somebody ran back to tell us that he was dead, and that his body was laying by the jack-fruit tree, near the corner of the church. I was very much alarmed, and ran out to see. The place on which the body was laying was coloured with a great deal of blood, which came from his nose and mouth; he was an African, and must have been upwards of sixty years of age. I knew James Williams; he was not a thief to my knowledge. I do not know anything about his having to pay a great number of days. I did not see the flogging that he got at Brown's Town, for I could not bear to go and see it. Mr. Gabaudon, at Brown's Town, saw it. I knew Peter William Atkinson's house at Penshurst; it was his own house, his dwelling-house. He used to sleep in it; I helped him to raise it. We used to live together at one time. Atkinson used sometimes to have prayers in his house in the evening. There was no bed in the hall; there was a bed-room with a bed in it, but as the room was taken by wood-ants he moved out of that, and used to sleep in a small room which joined the house. When we met for prayer, we were always over before master's bed-time. The girls from the house used to come up to prayer, when master was at supper, and go down again to mind their business before the family went to bed. We never made any noise to disturb the family. Sometimes about twenty persons used to be present at prayer; at others, not more than a half of that number. One of the elder brethren used to commence with a little prayer; after that we sung a hymn, which was given out by one of the brethren. Then we had another prayer and another hymn, and the meeting ended with a prayer. Every body then went away to get their supper, and nobody remained to make a noise. These meetings worked great good in me—they taught me to be honest in my dealings; to speak truth at all times, and to do to others as I would wish them to do to me; they taught me also to be thankful for all things. I used at one time to take a good deal of my master's time, without thinking that I was doing any harm, and I used to do many other bad things. Religion told me that all this was wrong. I never knew any of our people who would turn their backs on

others because they did not belong to the same church as ourselves. That would not be a Christian feeling. I am now working for myself, and getting a comfortable livelihood, and I am always ready to help a fellow creature who is in want of assistance. Since I purchased my freedom I lent Peter Atkinson £30 5s. to buy the balance of his apprenticeship, and I have also lent £12 to Francis Johnson. I have a large family to support: there is my wife, myself, five of my wife's children before marriage, and five of my own, which I got before marriage. Atkinson is now working for himself; he first worked with me to pay me off the sum I advanced for him, but he was so sickly that I was obliged to let him off; he will pay me when he can, and if he should not be able, I don't mind the money. I paid £73 6s. 8d. for my freedom. I have bought a little land since I was free, and I have a ground which I work, but still I am obliged to buy ground provisions, as I have so many mouths to feed. I have been free two years and a half. I think that the negroes are generally better off as apprentices than they used to be as slaves, for there is not the same interruption to the acquirement of gospel knowledge than there used to be, and they have better opportunities to get justice now than they had then.

GEORGE GABAUDON, an apprentice to Lincoln plantation, but living in Brown's Town, by sanction of his owner, sworn.—(No. 4.) I remember when James Williams and Adam Brown were flogged at Brown's Town: they both of them lay down and complained of their stomach. I saw them in that situation and pitied them, and gave them some camphor and water to relieve them; I did not see them faint, but they complained dreadfully of their stomach.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

CATHERINE BAYLEY, apparently about 15 or 16 years of age, an apprentice to Peshurst. (No. 34.) I remember Amelia Lawrence and myself being in the workhouse about two years ago. I was in for seven days; the women were all locked up in one room at night, with chains on our necks; our feet were put in shackles. A man by the name of Jenkins came into the room one night and put improper questions to me, but I would not listen to him; he stopped some time endeavouring to persuade me to do wrong. Amelia Lawrence heard him, and bawled out. She told the boatswain that she would not allow him to follow me that way, because my mother had begged her hard to keep me safe. It was the second night after I went in that Jenkins came to put these questions to me. I heard him put the same questions to a girl belonging to Mr. Moncrieff; it was the same night that he came to me. He asked her first, and as she would not consent, he then came to me. The tread-mill did not hurt my legs, nor was I catted by the boatswain. Mr. Drake came into the field one day, and licked me. Other girls as young as myself, were in the workhouse, but they were not put on the mill. I am worked about the house at Peshurst.

THOMAS BAYLEY, an apprentice to Peshurst, sworn.—Catherine Bayley is my daughter, but I don't remember her age; I have heard of the affair between her and the boatswain at the workhouse, but not from herself, nor from her mother; I heard it from a strange person.

[No. 10.] MARY JANE KIDSON, an apprentice to Southfield, sworn. The day I was sent to the workhouse, I went from Lily-field, but I belong to Southfield: both places belong to the same owner, and are quite close together. I was tried at Lily-field, and went down to the workhouse with James Williams, of Peshurst: we were handcuffed together. I had a young sucking child, which I carried tied to my back; I had on my head a basket, containing my baby's bed and clothes; when I was tired of carrying the child on my back, I begged the police to stop and slack my hand out of the handcuff, so that I might carry it in my arms; they refused, but allowed me to stop, and I then loosed the child, and rested it on my arm, and carried it in that manner all the way till I got to the workhouse; I never gave it suck on the road; I asked the police, but they would not allow me.—[No. 11.] I was in the workhouse for ten days and nights, and was put on the mill twice every day. As I could not keep step when I was first put on the mill, I was flogged by the boatswain round the waist; the mill cut my leg badly the first day, and it bled a good deal; I was then sent to the sea to wash it. I was not flogged after the first day, as I learnt to keep the step good. [No. 12. last part.] I saw an old woman from the Farm, who was flogged on her back till it bled; her back was quite bad; they took her into the yard and oiled it, when it got quite bad, and before this they used to send her to the sea to wash it. She was not put on the mill again, after her back got so bad as to require oiling. I never saw Mr. Drake himself flog the old woman; she was sent to the house of correction before me; she was put on the tread-mill for three or four days after I went in, and then her back

got so bad that they were obliged to oil it. One day the old woman could not dance the mill, and she hung by the wrists to the straps, and her legs knocked against the board of the wheel: she cried out to Mr. Drake that she could not keep the step, and she was taken off. [No. 33] We who had children carried them to the field, tied to our backs, and we were allowed to take it by turns to suckle them; whenever it rained we were allowed to go out of the rain to shelter them, and return to work when the rain was over. [No. 12, last part.] The women were locked up at nights in separate rooms from the men, and we slept with the chains round our necks, and our feet in the shackles: no difference was made in this respect, with regard to the women who had sucking children: we were all chained and shackled alike. The door of the room in which we slept was always opened by the driver early in the morning, who took us out to put us on the treadmill. I never saw any of the drivers come into the room at night, nor call the women to them for improper purposes. [No. 13.] The other women used to carry water to Mr. Drake's house on Sundays, and sweep out the yard, but they did not make me do it, as my child was quite young and sucking. The chain was taken off my neck on the Sundays, and the collar left on. The men used on Sundays to carry wood for the workhouse, and grass to Mr. Drake's yard. On the morning after we got to the workhouse, James Williams was catted by the boatswain: I saw him catted myself; he was put on the treadmill immediately, and then sent out to work with the rest of the gang. I was in the workhouse two Sundays, but I did not see any person come to read prayers. There was no matron nor doctor woman in the workhouse, but there was a doctor man. [No. 10, last part.] I remember that the frock which the old woman from the Farm had on, was quite cut up: her back was quite bare: she had no frock at all over the back: it was cut up into shreds. [No. 33.] One day when I was in the field, it was my turn to give my child suck, but the driver would not allow me to do so. I had not given it suck in the field for two days before. I complained about the hardship, and the driver carried me to the busha of the workhouse, who put my two feet in the stocks, and kept me there till the next day after buckra's breakfast time: I was then sent to the field: I had nothing to eat all the time I was in the stocks.

When I went home, the busha ordered me one Monday evening, after drawing off from work, to go to Lilyfield to be confined in the dark-room, and he sent a young man to carry me there: I told the young man I could not go, for I was wet, and I could not take my child in the dark-room with nothing but my wet clothes on. On Tuesday the busha sent for Mr. Rawlinson, and when he came I told him my case, and he committed me again to the tread-mill for ten days. My child could just creep. In reply to a question from the Court, witness said "I told my overseer yesterday that it was a bundle I carried on my head, but I now recollect that the bundle was in the basket, and I am quite sure that I had the basket on my head. The police who were carrying us down stopt at Laughlands a short time, and bought some grog; they gave James Williams a drink, and gave me a piece of bun which I took with me to the workhouse.

[No. 2.] Dr. SAMUEL TUCKER, sworn.—I attend professionally at Peshurst, and was in the habit of seeing Henry James: he complained of his stomach and spitting of blood; at one time he showed me a calabash with blood in it, which he said he had brought up: his decease was a very formidable one: his cough was very severe; I saw him a day or two before his death, but I have no recollection of seeing him previously to his punishment, nor do I know whether it was before or after his punishment that he commenced spitting blood; I am of opinion that his walk from Peshurst to Brown's Town was the immediate cause of his death: I attended the inquest after his death, but did not see the body: the body was not opened. I should think that Henry James was about sixty years of age.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.

[No. 58.] Mr. JOSEPH ISAACS, merchant of Brown's Town, sworn.—I was called upon to give evidence in the valuation of James Williams: I was asked by the magistrates to give evidence: I said that I very much wanted a boy like him, and that I would give him two dollars per week if he would come to me: I am actually now paying that sum for a man servant, and a like sum for a woman servant: I cannot get a negro with a good character for a less amount. I did not hire James Williams when he applied to me after being valued, as I heard he was a bad character and was always carrying his master before the magistrate; I also heard that he was a thief, and as I had silver plate about my house, I told him that I did not want him; I told him

that the servant I then had, had brought me a character before I would hire him. [No. 59.] When James Williams came to me, I told him that I did not want him, but I did not give him any reason. I was in the habit of attending the special magistrate's courts, and saw Williams brought up on various complaints by Mr. Senior. I have not seen him flogged here more than once to my knowledge: I do not remember his being sent to the tread-mill. I know that before the Abolition Act Mr. Senior's people were in a state of mere nominal restraint, and I was of opinion that after the passing of the Act, Mr. Senior might have pushed them, and by that means they were frequently brought here and complained against; I therefore thought that James Williams might not have been altogether a bad boy; I don't think that it was more than three or four days after his valuation, that James Williams came to me and offered his services. My opinion of him was altered about two or three hours after his valuation: Somebody said, "Are you going to hire that boy?" I said "Yes." I was then advised not to hire him, as he was a thief. [No. 53.] When I offered him two dollars per week, I told him that I would give him occasionally a suit of clothes, a hat, a couple pairs of shoes every year, and more too if he required it, and besides that, I would give him any little thing from the table; that the other servant who I had was getting that, and he should get the same. I always looked upon him as a fine intelligent boy, and never had any doubt of his character until after receiving the information I did after his valuation. I think that the person who gave me this information had a better knowledge of his character than I could possibly have. I was very much in want of a servant at the time, and was considerably put to. If I had thought Williams of a bad character, I should not have put any value whatever upon him. When I gave evidence as to his value, I was under the impression that he was a very honest and good boy. It was only after the information which I received that I was induced to change my opinion of him.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

MARGARET JANE CAMPBELL, a sambo non-prædial apprentice to Miss Ford of Rio-Bueno, about 18 years of age, sworn. [No. 41.] I was once hired to Mr. Chrystie the saddler at St. Ann's Bay; I remember being sent to the house of Correction; I knew a young man there named James Williams, but I don't know where he belong to. I was in for 10 days, and danced the mill twice a day. I could not keep the step at first, and they flogged me on my feet the first day very severely. (*The witness here showed her shins on which were marks of what must have been two dreadful sores.*) My shins were very badly bruised by the mill; after I came off the mill my stomach hurt me a great deal, and it continued to hurt me for a long time afterwards; my stomach never pained me before I was sent to the Treadmill; Mr. Drake often came to the workhouse when we were on the mill, and quarrelled with the boatswain for not making it go fast; he told him to flog the people when they would not dance quick; I was sent to the workhouse because Mr. Chrystie sent me to buy a bottle of castor oil; I bought the oil, and the bottle broke as I was going home; I went home and told him of the accident, but I did not carry the broken bottle to show him; Mr. Chrystie told me that I must go and bring the oil or the money, and I then ran away for four days. When I returned home I was brought before the magistrate, who sentenced me to the tread-mill for ten days. There were some women there from Draxhall; one of them was pregnant: she was not put on the mill; I never saw any pregnant women from Draxhall on the mill: I went out of the workhouse before James Williams. I knew a girl named Mary Murray in the workhouse; she belongs to Seville; I saw a woman named Elizabeth Mason on the tread-mill. She came from Mount Carmel; she never could keep step on the tread-mill at all, and always hung by her hands; she used to scream and make a great noise. [No. 29.] When she hung on the mill she was flogged on the feet to make her get the step, but she still hung, and the mill going round, bruised her shins quite bad. Every day she was put on and received the same flogging and treatment. She had a young child with her; I don't remember the name of the boatswain who flogged me; my legs were hurt very badly the day I was first put on, and got worse and worse by being put constantly on the mill at working hours. No white doctor ever saw me; neither was I seen by any doctor man or woman. No person ever told me what to do with my legs, nor was any thing done to them till I went home. I was not even allowed to go to the sea side to wash them. [No. 44.] I knew Major Li. ht, he was the special magistrate who tried me; I used to see him very often: I heard that he was not a sober man, but I never saw him drunk; nor did I ever see him at the workhouse. [No. 41.]

Mr. Christie came to the workhouse about a week after I was in; he said that he came to see me put on the mill: I showed him my legs, and he said that he had nothing to do with it: that they must put me on the mill, that he came on purpose to see me worked on it, and hoped that my feet may be so cut up as to make me wish never to go on it again. He and the boatswain and Mr. Jenkins then had a long talk together. He stopped the whole time that the mill was working; while he was there a woman from Draxhall hung on by the straps the whole time: she had her legs dreadfully cut up. She screamed a great deal, and cried for the stomach; nobody was flogged on the mill the day Mr. Chrystie was there. [No. 35.] I never saw Mr. Hylton the clerk of the peace come to the workhouse while I was there, but I have heard people say that he used to do so, and that he always kept them on very long; it was the common talk, but I can't remember who it was that told me; I am certain that there was not any matron or doctor woman at the workhouse; I don't know if there was any at the gaol; several of the town's people used to come in the evening to see the mill going; they used to stop outside and see the mill at work as the door of the millhouse was kept open. The persons who used to come were principally negroes; I never saw any of the gentlemen of the town, nor any of the magistrates belonging to the parish, come to the workhouse; I never saw any of the drivers wishing to take improper liberties with the women, nor did I ever hear any of them say so. James Williams used to call after me and tell me to keep the step good, that I must not put my feet too far in on the treads, but just on the edge: he always worked next to me on the mill: when I came off the first day he showed me himself how I was to put my feet on, so that they might not get cut. I did not know James Williams before I saw him that time in the workhouse; I never saw any person come to the workhouse while I was there, but I was told that some time ago Parson Johnson used to attend there: I am now at home with my mistress, and go either to church or chapel every Sunday.

ELIZA NATHAN, an apprentice to Mount Carmel, sworn.—I remember being sent to St. Ann's Bay Workhouse; there were plenty of persons in at the time; there were two men there from Penshurst: I was in the workhouse for ten days; I was pregnant at the time with the child I now have in my arms: I was three months in the family way, but I did not tell either the magistrate or the busha: a woman by the name of Eliza Watson was in the workhouse with me: she belonged to Mount Carmel also; she had a pickaninny with her: I did not know James Williams: I was put on the tread-mill twice a day. Before I was taken to Mr. Rawlinson at Brown's Town for trial, I was put into a dungeon and confined there for five nights. When I was going to Brown's Town, I was taken out of the dungeon, and was not even allowed to go to my hut to get a suit of clean clothes to bring with me; I came down here quite dirty, and my sister, who was in the market, went aside and took off her own clean shift, which she gave to me to put on; I was taken to the workhouse by the police; four of us went at the same time in charge of three police men; we reach St. Ann's Bay workhouse about six o'clock in the evening; this was on a Saturday. [No. 11.] On Monday morning they put me on the tread-mill; I kept the step very well when I was first put on, but when the mill turned hard I felt very faintish, and my knees got very weak, but still I kept on; we were sent to work in the field after being put on the tread-mill in the morning, and when we returned in the evening we were put on again; the edge of the steps of the mill always cut my shins; whenever I got tired on the mill and cried out, Mr. Jenkins used to flog me with the whip, but he did not hurt me a great deal; I was quite sick in the workhouse in consequence of being in the family way, and was put in the hothouse for three days. Mr. Drake and Mr. Jenkins ordered physic for me; a doctor came to see me, and the doctor man gave me physic; the doctor came to the workhouse two days while I was there, and saw me. There was no female in the workhouse to attend to the women; I was not sick when I came out of the workhouse; I went to my work, and kept at it until the week before Christmas; I was then near my time, and I went to the busha to ask for a month to sit down, but he refuse to give me; my child was born on the new year's day; when I was near my time, and went to busha to ask for a month to sit down, I stated what I wanted to do; I wanted to pick oil nuts to make oil for burning after my delivery. The busha then ordered me to be locked up in a dungeon, and sent for the magistrate. When the magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, came, he boxed me all about my jaws and head, and put me again in the dungeon; he boxed me with a paper book which he had in his hand. When Mr. Rawlinson and the busha go into the house together, if the apprentice have ever so much right, he is not allowed to speak. On my return from the



workhouse the time I was there, I was made to pay back 10 days to the estate. The day the magistrate boxed me was about a week before Christmas. I was put by the busha into the dungeon on a Saturday morning, and was taken out on a Monday.

[By the Magistrate's return, it appeared that the above-mentioned witness was committed to the House of Correction on the 23rd April 1836.]

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2.

PETER WILLIAM ATKINSON, recalled.—When James Williams and Adam Brown were put in the dungeon at Knapdale, they were put in one of the bottom dungeons at the works. They were put in separate dungeons, and the bottom of the dungeons was very swampy; Mr. Patterson kept the keys of the dungeons, and came to open the doors in the morning. I was the person who carried the food the whole ten days that they were in the dungeons.

MR. WILLIAM CODNOR, proprietor of New Hope Pen, sworn.—Maria Henderson was sent to the House of Correction the latter end of March 1835, and a woman named Peggy was sent there also on the 28th May 1835. From the 4th of October 1834 to the 7th May 1835 she absented herself at 4 different periods about 196 days. Maria Henderson went to St. Ann's Bay to see a man in the workhouse whom she had formed a connexion with, and on her return reported to the people on the property the death of Peggy in the workhouse; I never inquired into the circumstances of her death; if I had been told that one of my horses had died, I should certainly have inquired as to how it came to its death. Peggy was sentenced to the workhouse by Mr. Rawlinson; she was sent there on the 27th May 1835, to remain there for one month, and to be put on the tread-mill five minutes each day. No communication whatever was made to me from the workhouse of the death of the woman; nor have I to this day learnt anything connected with her death but from loose reports. She was in the habit of eating firecoal, but broke herself of the habit about two or three years before she was sent to the House of Correction.

MARIA HENDERSON recalled.—When I was at St. Ann's Bay Workhouse, a woman living on the Bay used to behave very kind to me; after being at home about three months I went to the Bay and paid her a visit; I also went to the workhouse to tell Peggy how dy'e. When I got there the driver and boatswain told me that she was dead: Martin Brown told me that the first day she was put on the mill the blood gushed out of her nose and mouth; that they stopped the mill and took her off, and she was never put on again from that time until the day of her death, which he said was two days before the day I went to inquire after her; he did not say that she could not keep the step and hung on the mill, but that she was not able from the first to work on the mill; she was a sickly woman, and was troubled with pains in the stomach before she was sent to the House of Correction.

EDWARD GABBEDON, constable on New Hope, sworn.—I remember Maria Henderson's coming from the workhouse, as well as Peggy's going there. Maria Henderson went some time after to St. Ann's Bay, and came back with the news of Peggy's death; I did not hear the cause of her death stated, nor did I make any inquiry; she was a young woman, and I am told that she used to eat dirt, which made her very sickly; I can't say whether she complained of her stomach before being sent to the workhouse; she was always fed from the house, and master therefore claimed a part of her own time; she had no grounds, and had nothing to do but sweep the yard on Saturdays, and feed the hogs.

MARIA HENDERSON, recalled.—I remember that some apprentices were passing by one Friday from Hylton Hill; they had the half Friday, and stopped where we were working: we said to ourselves "every body's negroes have the half Friday except us;" master heard it, and said "shut your mouths, women; I have my eyes upon 2 or 3 of you." When he said that, the apprentices would not be silent, but kept on talking. Master then desired the head constable, Richard Johnson, to take myself and Clemence Brodie, and put us in the dungeon; just as we were going along, another gentleman came up, and told my master the head constable was laughing and upholding us. Master then sent for the head constable and put him in the bilboes: the second constable, Cupid Williams, then took charge of us, and carried us to the dungeon, where we were locked up; this was on Friday; we were let out next morning after breakfast. On the Thursday following Mr. Rawlinson came up, and we were brought before him; he ordered me to 14 days hard labour in the House of Correction, and Clemence Brodie, who had a young child about 3 months old, he

ordered to be locked up for ten nights in the dungeon; he ordered Richard Johnson to be catted, and broken from being a constable.

Mr. CODNOR said, I have been working on the nine hours' system, but in consequence of the general bad conduct of my people, by way of punishment I adopted the eight hours' system. On Friday the 27th March 1835, I rode out to where the people were working on the road, and while there, about eleven o'clock, the Mount Edgcombe negroes passed by. The New Hope men had just taken up a turn of stones, and the women were in the act of doing so, but when they saw the Mount Edgcombe people passing they called out "massa negroes, you have the half Friday, it is we who are killed; it is we who are punished; we don't get any half Friday." They broke out in a very noisy and violent manner; Maria Henderson and Clemence Brodie were the most conspicuous: I threatened to make the constable lock them up unless they ceased, and told them that I would send for Mr. Rawlinson: they, then became more clamorous: I ordered Cupid Williams to take Maria Henderson and Clemence Brodie while they were making a noise; Mr. William Fairweather and Mr. Wallcott rode up to where I was, and Mr. Wallcott said "what the devil is the matter here? you seem to have your people in a state of rebellion." I then mentioned the cause, and Mr. Wallcott observed, "your men are worse than the women, or equally bad." Richard Johnson was one of the most conspicuous among the men, instead of endeavouring as he ought to have done to make peace; I should have ordered him to be locked up had he not been in charge of the gang. I however had him locked up at shell blow, and sent for Mr. Rawlinson, who was not to be found. I let them all out at eight o'clock next morning. When Mr. Rawlinson visited the property, they were tried and sentenced by him as stated by Maria Henderson. Richard Johnson was sentenced to be flogged at Brown's Town, and his sentence was carried into execution by the police I believe.

GEORGE SHUTTLEWORTH, a constable, on New Hope; sworn.—I carried Peggy to the House of Correction, she was neither hearty nor strong. We set away about day-light and got to St. Ann's in the evening, about sun down; if she had been hearty and strong we would have got down about 12 o'clock, mid-day. She was a very weakly disabled woman and had a big swelled foot; she complained all the way about a pain in the stomach and could scarcely walk. When she got in the boatswain's yard, she was so sick that the boatswains said they could not keep her in; they told me to take her to Mr. Drake; I did so, and he desired me to go back with her to the House of Correction and desire one of the boatswains to lock her up in a room by herself. I then carried her and gave her in charge and went away. When I got home in the morning, master asked me, "if I saw how she danced on the treadmill;" I told him, "that I did not see, as it was late when I got down." I never heard anything again of Peggy, until Maria Henderson came up with the report of her death.

THOMAS TULLOCH, an apprentice, on Retreat Pen; sworn—Peggy came to the workhouse a few days after I was in; she was a weakly woman and had a swelled leg, all her face and skin were puffed out. I did not see her on the treadmill, nor did I ever talk of her; after I went away from the workhouse, I understood that she died; I was in the workhouse for two weeks. I remember hearing of her death, but can't recollect who it was that told me of it.

ELIZA WATSON an apprentice to Mount Carmel, called Eliza Mason of Mount Campbell in James Williams's narrative; sworn. [No. 40]. I remember being sent to the workhouse at St. Ann's; I was put on the treadmill; while on the mill my shins were much cut up, and when I missed the step Mr. Drake and Mr. Jenkins flogged me very hard, and when I got home I was very sick from it. When I was on the mill, I could not keep the step and I hung by my hands and the mill went round quite quick and knocked against my shins and cut them; I kept on hanging all the time till it was time to stop the mill, and it was only then I was taken down; I was flogged on my legs as well as my back. I knew James Williams; he and I were in the workhouse together; I was put in for ten days and was put on the mill once every day, in the morning. Mr. Rawlinson sentenced me to be put twice a-day, but I was only worked once a-day, as I had a young sucking child in my arms; this was just before Christmas, 1836. Eliza Nathan, from Mount Carmel, was in the workhouse before me: she was pregnant when she was in; quite young with child and had her shins cut up also.

MARIA GREAVES and MARY BROWN, apprentices to Hyde Park Estate, were sworn, and said. [No. 34]. That they were sometime ago in the St. Ann's House of Correction, and were sent to work in the field with the penal gang. That James Thomas, the

driver, often made proposals to them of an improper nature; that he put them on one side by themselves to work, and then he would come and endeavour to persuade them to consent to his wishes; on the last day that they had to remain in, they were put aside to work by themselves, and as they knew why they were placed by themselves, they looked very sulky: James Thomas came up to them and repeated his request to Mary Brown, but as she looked very cross at him and refused to listen to him, he ordered both of them to go and work with the rest of the gang. Maria Greaves and Mary Brown said, "they were both chained together."

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3.

JULIAN MORRISON, an apprentice to "Dornoch," sworn. [No. 34]. I was sent some time ago to the workhouse, and was put on the treadmill: the field driver persuaded me to consent to his wishes, and I did so, three times; I used, on these occasions, to go to his room and remained with him during the whole of the night; his name is Thomas Aikin; in consequence of my consenting to his wishes, he made a difference of my work in the field.

This witness on being asked, "why she consented to the desires of the driver," said, "I was afraid if I did not go, that he would punish me." She subsequently said, "that she was placed on the mill twice a-day, and that her shins were bruised only the first day.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4.

The Rev. JOHN CLARKE, Baptist Missionary; sworn.

Ques.—A reference having been made to the meetings for prayer by negroes held on some properties in this neighbourhood, be good enough to inform us, what you know of such meetings, and how they are conducted?

Ans.—On many of the properties where there are individuals attending the chapel of which I am minister, a class is formed consisting of those who lead moral lives, and are desirous of obtaining religious instruction. To each of these persons a ticket is given, and his name is entered in a book kept for the purpose. A person is selected or recognized by me to conduct the meetings of the class, and from time to time to report on the conduct of those composing it. Whenever any persons are found to have been guilty of improper conduct or immorality, their names are erased from the book and they are requested to return their tickets.

On some properties the classes meet once a-week, on others two or three times, in the largest or most convenient of the cottages which can be procured for the purpose.

The strictest injunctions are given, that such meetings be conducted in a quiet orderly manner, that they be broken up at an early hour; that especial care be taken to avoid disturbing the inmates of the great-house, and these directions are carefully attended to. The meetings are solely for religious purposes; two or three hymns are sung, the Scriptures are read, prayers are offered, and inquiries are made as to the Christian consistency of the members of the class.

Ques.—What number of persons generally compose your congregation?

Ans.—My general congregation consists of nearly a thousand hearers; there are three or four hundred, besides, who cannot obtain admission inside the chapel, who are obliged to remain partly in the school and partly on the steps and about the premises. There are about 300 children who attend the sabbath-school, and about the same number of adults. About four or five hundred Testaments have been distributed since the commencement of 1835 to those who are capable of reading them.

Ques.—What is the general appearance of the congregation?

Ans.—The greater part are well dressed, and their general appearance is that of health and comfort.

Ques.—What appears to you to be the general means of which they are possessed?

Ans.—I have every reason to believe, that with some exceptions, they are remarkably industrious, and, that when the seasons are favourable, their grounds are so productive as to enable them to be comfortable themselves, generous and attentive to those who are in distress and sickness, and liberal in their sub-criptions towards assisting the payment of the debt incurred for the erection of the chapel. Since the opening of the chapel, in May, 1836, upwards of £1000 have been subscribed by apprentices.

In reference to a question put by the court respecting James Williams, the Rev. Mr. Clarke said, "Mr. Sturge saw James Williams here and had some conversation with

him, and requested me to purchase his freedom for him." [No. 57]. James Williams came to me in consequence of a message having been sent to Penshurst by James Finlayson at my request, informing the people, that two gentlemen were here who were desirous of knowing how the apprentices were treated. Mr. Sturge after receiving the statement of Williams, requested me to purchase the remaining term of his apprenticeship. I asked him the several questions stated by him in the narrative, and he promised on my advancing the money to work hard and try to pay me back. Mr. Rawlinson made some hesitation to value, in consequence of the absence of the master, Mr. Senior, but on my representing to Mr. Rawlinson, that it was a matter of great importance, that the boy should be valued that day, and, indeed, could admit of no delay, the valuation was proceeded with; after the payment of the money, I told Williams that he must go to Spanish-town or Kingston to Mr. Sturge, as he wished to take him to England, and would take good care of him. I previously inquired, whether he would like to go to England, and he immediately assented and expressed a great deal of pleasure at the idea of going.

ABRAHAM ISAACS, Esq., justice of the peace for the parish of St. Ann's; sworn. [No. 58]. I was one of the justices who valued Williams, and I am certain, that James Williams would not have been valued at so high a rate, but for the evidence of Mr. Joseph Isaacs. My usual mode of valuing domestics of that description, was 10s. per week; deducting therefrom one-third for casualties and contingencies, leaving the nett sum 6s. 8d.

[Before the Commissioners left the neighbourhood of Brown's Town, they made it their duty to ride over to Knapdale to inspect the dungeons there. These cells were found to be exactly six feet square, and about twelve feet in height. Although, not now observed to be damp, yet having been just completed at the time of the incarceration of James Williams and Adam Brown, and being from their situation totally excluded from the influence of the sun, it is impossible, that considering the strong masonry with which they are built, they could have been otherwise than damp.]

[In each of these cells is one narrow and indirect opening for the admission of air, there is, consequently, no ventilation whatever, when in connexion with this it is remembered, that nature's relief was allowed to accumulate during nearly, if not the whole period of ten days and nights, it may be almost a matter of surprise, that human life was sustained for that long period under such revolting circumstances. The Commissioners inspected also the dungeon of Penshurst, which they found about seven feet in breadth and not deficient in ventilation. It is, however, so low, that a person of ordinary size must be denied in it, even the slightest but natural alleviation of an erect position.]

Note.—The following alteration of the report, respecting the sufferings of James Williams and Adam Brown in the Knapdale dungeons, was subsequently forwarded to Government-house by the Commissioners:—

“Saint Elizabeth, 14th of November, 1837.

“SIR,—As Commissioners of the St. Ann's Inquiry, having reviewed the Evidence given with respect to the sufferings of James Williams and Adam Brown during ten days' confinement in the Knapdale dungeons, we beg permission to withdraw the remarks on that subject which intimates “that nature's relief was allowed to accumulate in the cells during nearly, if not the whole, period of their confinement,” deeming the balance of evidence against such a conclusion.

“A regard to candour and accuracy having suggested this correction, we request that it may be appended to that part of the proceedings to which it applies.

“We have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient Servants,

(Signed)

“GEORGE GORDON.  
“JNO. DAUGHTREY.

“RICHARD HILL, Secretary, S. J. D., &c., &c., &c.”

ST. ANN'S-BAY, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 1837.

GEORGE GORDON, esquire, general magistrate, and JNO. DAUGHTREY, esquire, Special ditto, removed their court to this place, where the investigation was continued.

The Commission, and other documents, having been published as before, the Commissioners repaired to the house of correction, and made a minute observation of the state of that institution, the result of which will be detailed at length in the report of the

proceedings of the commissioners in this town. The commissioners were put in possession of the books and papers relative to the discipline of the house of correction, and were subsequently afforded every opportunity, at the office of the clerk of the peace, to obtain whatever information they required. His honor the Custos was apprised, during the day, of the arrival of the commissioners for the purpose of prosecuting their inquiries. Various persons were summoned to attend the court on the following day, and a requisition was sent to the officer in charge of the police station at Wakefield, for a corporal and three privates to act as messengers.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6TH.

**JAMES BROWN**, head-constable on Draxhall; sworn.—I knew Elizabeth Bartley, she was carried before Mr. Sowley to be tried for not doing her work, so as to keep up with the gang in the field, and for turning out late. When she was tried, I told the overseer and the magistrate that she was with child. They made no answer, and the magistrate sentenced her to dance the treadmill four days. When she returned her legs were not cut, nor did she say to me, that she had been caught while on the wheel. She looked sickly on her return, as she had been put on the wheel in a state of pregnancy. Many of the people who were sent from Draxhall to the tread-mill were severely cut, on the shins; several of them were cut like Lavinia Reynolds, who is brought down this day for the purpose of showing her wounds. It was Major Light who sent her to the workhouse; she went in about March, and her foot has never been well since. The men who were sent to the workhouse returned home with their backs much cut up from the whip. Some of them would go to their work on their return, and some would be obliged to go to the hot-house; but those who went to their work could never keep up their row, as they used to complain much about their shoulders being cramped. I have often seen Major Light trying people at Draxhall; he could scarcely even write the paper to send the people to the workhouse.

Ques.—Did you ever see Major Light in a state of intoxication?

Ans.—He was scarcely ever sober. (See No. 44, last part.)

Ques.—What magistrate succeeded Major Light? and how do the people behave under him.

Ans.—The people behave much better now, because there is not so much punishment as in Major Light's time. They have confidence in Captain Reynolds, who always gives them a fair trial and good advice. The people are worked on the eight hour system. As I have not a watch, I cannot say whether we have been worked more than eight hours, but, during the last week, we have been drawn off rather earlier than usual. We do not get herrings regularly; sometimes we are two months without them. We know that we can't claim them as a right, and, therefore, we don't think it hard when we don't get them. [No. 44.] I was present on two occasions when Major Light tried the people; one of those occasions was after dinner, and he was so tipsy that he was obliged to hold his head over the paper. He then asked Busha what to do, and Busha told him what to write. Two of the book-keepers were present. One day Major Light was so drunk that he fell off the step. One reason why the people are more satisfied now is, that Captain Reynolds does not visit the Busha's house.

**MR. JAMES LARCHIN MILLER**, book-keeper on Draxhall; sworn.—I am book-keeper at Draxhall, and attend the people in the field. We work on the eight hours' system. The list is called at twenty minutes to seven o'clock. Some of the people turn out regularly, but others do not come into the field until a quarter of an hour after the time. They are given an hour for breakfast, and generally take a quarter of an hour more. They have field cooks; there are given two hours for dinner, and they take a half hour more. Until within last week they have been drawn off at about a quarter to six in the evening; for the last week, they have been drawn off at a quarter after five, by which time, those who have turned out early have completed their eight hours, and those who turned out late and lost time, have been noted to be brought up before the special magistrate.

In reply to a question from the court, Mr. Miller said that, previous to this last arrangement, those who turned out early were drawn off as soon as they had completed their eight hours; and those who turned out late were kept in the field until they completed their time; but, on such occasions, they did but little or no work. The most distant cane-piece is about a mile and a half from the furthest corner of the negro-houses.

This witness, in continuation, said, Mary-Ann Shaw and Eleanor Howell were in the workhouse before I went to the property, I have therefore, no knowledge of the state in

which they returned; nor of the fact, that they were so lame, as to be put into a truck by Mr. Drake to be sent home. [No. 44]. There is not so much punishment now as in Major Light's time; he was always a little in liquor, but never so much so as not to be able to do his duty and write his name. I never saw him what may be called sober; he was generally betwixt and between. When holding his court, he always gave as patient and as full a hearing to the apprentice as to the employer. The Draxhall negroes have never been worked on the nine-hour system, since I have been there, and, I believe, that the eight-hour system is common among the estates in this neighbourhood.

SAMUEL PINK, head-carpenter and a constable to Draxhall estate; sworn.—I remember Elizabeth Bartley being tried by Mr. Sowley; I was present, and heard James Brown tell the magistrate and overseer that she was with child: she was tried for turning out late, and not keeping up with the gang; she could not do so, because she was pregnant: Those women who returned from the workhouse with their knees cut up from the treadmill, generally went into the hospital for four or five weeks. When Mary-Ann Shaw and Eleanor Howell returned from the workhouse, they told me, "that as they could not walk, they were put into a cart, belonging to Roaring-River, by Mr. Drake, and were taken out in Draxhall-gate, where the road turns into the works; they were put into the hot-house, and I went in and saw their legs terribly cut up; they were quite bad: they were upwards of a month in the hot-house before they were well enough to come out. Another woman, named Lavinia Reynolds, got very much damaged on the shins; she has been in the hot-house for five months since her return from the workhouse, and is still there. She was tried for quitting the hot-house frequently; she was in at that time with a sore toe. Her shin is very bad now, and at one time the wound was so bad on it that I saw the bone. The whole of the shin was in one sore, and I began to think that it would have been necessary to cut the leg off. Doctor Bailey is the doctor for the property, but I can't say whether he ever did any thing for Lavinia Reynolds. [No. 44.] Major Light was the special magistrate who sent Lavinia Reynolds to the House of Correction. He was a man who was scarcely ever sober; he drank too much spirits, and used to commence very early in the morning. I have seen him at his business, between nine and ten o'clock in the morning quite tipsy. I have seen him so bad that way, that he could not sit down in his own chaise: I have seen him at Draxhall going away, after he had done his duty, so tipsy that his servant was obliged to hold him in his chaise. He never allowed the apprentices to have much to say for themselves before he committed them. At the off-set, when the New Law first set in, the people were very ignorant and unruly; but within this year they have begun to behave a little better. This has been since the new magistrate (Captain Reynolds) came; he gives them much satisfaction. Mr. Sowley was the magistrate before Major Light; he used to flog the people very hard.

SOLOMON COHEN, Esq. Proprietor of Cool-Shade, sworn. [No. 44].—I knew Major Light, and am aware that he used to be frequently intoxicated; he has come to Cool-Shade in his capacity as a magistrate in such a state, that even if I had had complaints I would not have brought the people before him, as I did not consider him in a fit state to try them.

LAVINIA REYNOLDS, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, after exhibiting her leg with a very bad sore, was sworn.—I was in the hot-house with a sore toe. One Wednesday morning, the doctor-man ordered me out to sweep the yard. I told him my breakfast was on the fire, and he ordered me directly into the dark room. He complained of me to the busha, who sent off for Major Light. He came in the afternoon, and I was brought up and tried, and on the evidence of the doctor-man Jones M'Farlane, was convicted and sentenced to the house of correction. I was carried down on the Wednesday night, and put on the treadmill the next morning. When I went in the evening, I was locked up in a dark room. The room was very dark. When I was put on the treadmill, my toe was still bad; and as I knocked my shins against the mill, Mr. Drake took a cat with his own hands, and flogged me on the feet. On Tuesday evening I was taken ill with fever, and I told Mr. Drake the next morning, that I had fever, but he did not take any notice of me, and still put me on the mill. They never flogged me after the first time. Every time I went on the mill, I knocked my shins. The day that Mr. Drake licked me with the cat, he licked me on the bruises, and that made the shins so bad. When he put me on the mill, he took a handkerchief off my head and tied my clothes up above my knees. I was kept the whole of the first week on the mill, as Mr. Drake would not believe that I was sick. Dr. Bailey did not see me at the workhouse, nor any other doctor while I

was there. The second week I was very sick. On the Monday of the second week, I spoke to Mr. Drake, and told him that I was sick; I could'n't help myself; he said he did not care, and that I should go on the mill. He didn't care whether I broke my shins or not. He put me on the mill on that Monday, and I was so weak that I could'n't keep step, but hung on it. It was going very fast, and bruised the shin so much as to make it bleed. The next morning Mr. Drake said, he would not bother with me again, and locked me up in the dark room. I was kept in that dark room the whole of the two weeks that I was in the workhouse, except when they took me out to put me on the treadmill. I used to be let out a little in daytime to wash the sore. [See part of No. 12.] The morning that Mr. Drake was flogging me on the mill, he flogged all the other people who could not keep step, and tied all the other womens' clothes the same way as mine. To the boatswain and others standing below, our persons must have been indecently exposed. From the time I have been out, I have been in the hot-house until now, near three months. Dr. Bailey, the doctor of Draxhall, has seen the foot, but never told me what to do with it. I don't know whether he gave any directions to the doctor-man. I have been washing the foot and putting leaves on it.

MR. RICHARD WATTS, Overseer on Seville estate, sworn.—I remember Mary Murray being sent to the workhouse about the 20th of December last. [No. 44.] I do not remember any particular circumstance happening at the trial which took place before major Light. One of the constables might have been present; she was tried for running away. I am not sure, but I believe I wrote the committal, and read it to Major Light, who signed it. I wrote the committal at his request, as he was a nervous man, and read it over to him. He appeared as if he had been exceeding the day before. He had not taken any thing to drink that morning on the estate. Mary Murray was the only woman on the estate who had been sent to the workhouse for punishment. The people on the property behave very well, and have done so since I have been on it. They get fish regularly. I have been on the property about two years. We work on the eight-hours' system.

MARY-ANN SHAW, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, sworn.—[No. 11.]—I remember being sent to the House of Correction. I was sent on a charge for quitting spell; I was put on the treadmill twice a day, and when I could'n't keep the step, Mr. Drake made Thomas White, the boatswain, cat me on the legs. I was very badly cut up. On the 5th day I very bad, and I hung on the mill, but they would'n't take me down until the time was over. I had fever on me three days, and I told Mr. Drake, but he said, "they have sent you down to dance the treadmill, and you must dance it." [See part of No. 12.] Every day, when we were on the mill, they flogged us, and made us tie our clothes up so high that our persons were very indecently exposed. When the time came for us to go out we could'n't walk. I thought I should have died, as I was so very bad. I could not stand up at all; both my legs were swelled all the way up to the hip, and if it had not been for the attention of a doctor-woman, named Eliza Beckford, on Draxhall, both Catherine James and myself must have died. When our time was up, Mr. Drake told us that he sent to tell the busha that he must send a cart for us, as we couldn't walk, and that busha said he would not send the cart for us, as he didn't care whether we died or not. One day the Roaring-river wain came down with the bread-kind for the people, and Mr. Drake got the cartman to put us on it, and carry us home. The cartman dropped us at Draxhall gate, and we lay down there until the Draxhall cart, passing by on its return from carrying sugar to the Bay, we were taken up and carried to the hospital. Dr. Nicholl came to the hot-house, and told us what to do with the legs. After being in the hot-house about two weeks, and got a little better, busha turned us out to work. When in the workhouse, and on the mill, I never saw any white gentlemen come there, except Mr. Sowley, the special magistrate, who examined Catherine James and myself, and saw how we were mashed up. Mr. Drake it was who sent for him to show him our legs and the state they were in, and when he saw them he said that we deserved more than that. I was never brought up before Major Light, nor punished since then.

ELEANOR HOWELL, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, sworn. [No. 11.]—I remember being sent to the workhouse and put on the treadmill. I was well mashed up; that is, my shins were mashed up. When the legs were mashed by the mill, and I could not keep the step, particularly as I was troubled with a shortness of breath, Mr. Drake ordered the man who acted as boatswain to flog me with a cat. I was cut upon my back and my feet. I was put on the treadmill twice every day for

three days—every God's send day, that I was put on the mill, it bruised my knees; and as I hung on it from inability to keep the step, it cut my shins dreadfully. When I called out for "mercy," Mr. Drake said, No mercy is here, you should have looked for mercy at Draxhall before you came here. When I came off the mill, they locked me up in a dark room with two other women, and kept us there until we were taken out to dance the treadmill again. When the three days expired, I was sent out of the workhouse, but I could not stand. Busha sent a man down for me; he was my brother-in-law, and when he found that I could not walk, he took me on his shoulders and carried me home. I was taken to my own house, and the foot was very bad. I remained in the house three weeks, and after that I went to the hospital, but busha would not take me in, and ordered me to go into the field to work. No white doctor ever attended my foot in the workhouse, but a man named Sammy used to dress it with oil to make it moist. When on the treadmill, Mr. Drake always made Romeo the boatswain tie my clothes up above the knees.

ELIZABETH BARTLEY, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, sworn. [No. 42.] I was tried some time ago, and sent to the treadmill. The first time I went on, I did very well, but afterwards, as I was in the family way, I could not keep the step, and when I could not keep it from weakness, I begged Mr. Drake, and told him, "Massa, I can't keep up, I am in the family way." Instead of letting me off, he ordered Thomas White to flog me with a cat. Thomas White flogged me on my shoulder, my feet, and on my rump; I told him often that I was in the family way, and he said, "If you had done good, busha would not have sent you here. (See part of No. 12.) Before putting me on the mill, my clothes were tied up very high, and any body standing up below could observe how I was exposed. When I was tried at Draxhall, I did not tell the magistrate that I was pregnant, but James Brown said that I was; I don't know whether the magistrate heard him. On Sundays I was locked up, but did not have the collar and chain on. I was not in the gang, but placed in solitary confinement. (No. 13.) The other women went out on Sundays to fetch water, and sweep Mr. Drake's yard. I remember calling out to Mr. Drake, (No. 42.) "Massa, I a'n't able, I am in two flesh;" but I do not remember hearing the answer of Mr. Drake as the mill was going round, and the people crying out upon it.

JONES M' FARLANE, doctor-man on Draxhall estate, sworn.—I remember Lavinia Reynolds. When she returned from the House of Correction, she went to the hot-house; she had sores on her shin, and I washed them, and put a poultice on the shin. After dressing the wounds three days, she complained that I washed the sores too hard, and she would not allow me to put my hand upon her shin. Doctor Bailey saw the wounds and prescribed. After I left the leg she did not know how to heal it, and it got worse. I then took it in hand a second time, since which it has been getting better. She has been in the hothouse about four months. Previously to her being sent to the treadmill, I went into the hothouse, and desired her to go and sweep the busha's yard; she did not do as she was ordered, and I put her in the lock-up house, and after that she was brought before the magistrate.

DOCTOR THOMAS J. BAILEY, sworn.—I know Lavinia Reynolds; her leg has been very bad, but is now getting better. It was very bad when she came from the workhouse; it was a large sore, and I should think that it proceeded from the bruises received on the treadmill. She has always been under my observation at the hot-house, and I have prescribed for her when necessary. The sore on her leg is one of the worst I have seen from the workhouse. My directions were always written in the hospital book. I did not see her in the workhouse; she could not have been in the hospital; had she been put there, I should have seen her. I do not remember seeing Mary-Ann Shaw, or Eleanor Howell, as regular hospital patients. They might have been in the hospital off and on, and were, perhaps, absent when I visited the patients.

CECILIA RUSSELL, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, sworn. [No. 11.]—I remember being in the workhouse some time ago. They used me very bad, particularly one Sunday afternoon; when the people were sweeping the yard, Joseph Bolt (the boatswain of the yard) flogged me with a cat. I was on the tread-wheel, and when I could not keep step, I was catted on my legs by the boatswain of the mill. Mr. Drake was present, and when they catted me, he desired me to keep the step. I was catted very badly on the legs, but not on the shoulders. When I could not keep the step, I hung on the rail, and as the mill went round it bruised my feet; while I hung that way, they flogged my legs to make me keep on. I worked in the field with the



gang, and danced the mill twice each day. [See last part of No. 12.] I slept at night in the women's room with the chain and collar on.

Mr. CHARLES BRAVO, Deputy Clerk of the Peace at St. Ann's, sworn. [No. 11.]—I have seen the treadmill at work both before Mr. Drake's death and after. I observed two men on it, some time before Mr. Drake's death, suffering particular torture. One of the men whom I saw was upwards of fifty years of age I should think; he had upon his knees and shins fresh bruises, as if from the effects of working on the mill the day before. From the first evolution of the mill he never kept the step, but hung, and complained dreadfully of severe pains in the back. Mr. Drake struck him repeatedly with the cat about his legs. When the man was taken off the mill, it was with the greatest difficulty that he could limp into the house of correction. [No. 29.] I have had occasion to see many negroes in the house of correction, and they invariably declared that they would prefer any other punishment to that of the treadmill. When on, they always exclaimed very piteously, crying out to be taken off; that their time was up, &c. &c. and uttering various cries which a person suffering great pain would be supposed to do. Since the circular from the Governor, limiting treadmill punishments to ten minutes, and under the control of the present superintendent, I think that treadmill punishments have been much ameliorated, and in fact, that the whole discipline of the workhouse has undergone a considerable change for the better. I have seen a case lately, in which the present supervisor has used his own discretion in taking a woman down before her time had expired, in consequence of his considering her unable to hold out much longer. With regard to the mill itself, I consider that the steps are too wide and deep, and that the hand-rail is very defective from its height and position. I also think that it is highly improper that it should be worked merely at the caprice of the officer who attends it, instead of being mechanically regulated. By the books of the workhouse I have ascertained the fact, that on the 10th of January, 1835, there were 119 persons confined in the workhouse [See part of No. 28] and the average throughout the year 1835 would be 72 per day. From a careful and recent admeasurement of the rooms in this establishment, it is incapable of containing more than 90 persons comfortably; I think it due to the local magistrates of the parish to state that I have been in the Peace Office about six months, and that during that time, no case of whipping has ever occurred, and but three or four cases of treadmill punishments. A magistrate appointed in session to act as president of the house of correction, and the three sitting magistrates of the week, are required to inspect, weekly, the workhouse establishment, and to make what remarks they think necessary, in a book prepared for that purpose. Magistrates frequently attend without making remarks, if they find all correct. I should say that the president (Mr. Lemou) is most attentive and assiduous in his visits to the workhouse, and often goes there at times when the treadmill would be at work. Mr. Heming, the President of the Jail, is also a frequent visitor of the house of correction [No. 44.] I came to live in the parish a day or two after Major Light commenced his duties as a special magistrate, and that part of James Williams's narrative which has reference to his repeated intoxications is perfectly true; I have myself witnessed him in a state of intoxication adjudicating cases in the Court-house of this parish.

Ques.—Are you aware whether the conduct of Major Light was ever represented to the Executive either by the magistracy or other persons in the parish?

Ans.—The conduct of Major Light was almost generally condemned, and his unfitness for the situation he held generally admitted, even by persons who had occasion to submit cases to his decision. I do not know that any representation was made to His Excellency the Governor, although such a step was frequently contemplated.

Ques.—Have you any knowledge of the number of lashes inflicted by Major Light on the apprenticed population during the time he acted as Special Magistrate in this parish—say from Nov. 1836, to March, 1837?

Ans.—On examining the book containing a record of punishments in the house of correction, I find that from the 28th Nov. 1836, to the 13th of March, 1837, that the number of stripes inflicted under his sentences were 2008, varying from 15 to 45 stripes, the more general number being 30. In the record of punishment for the week ending Jan. 2nd, 1837, I find that there were no less than 348 stripes inflicted. On reference to the same book, I find that the corporal punishments inflicted by order of Special Justice Sowley, are, on an average, equal in number and severity to those of Major Light.

WILLIAM HIGGIN, constable on New-Ground estate, sworn. [No. 45.] I knew Major Light; I remember bringing six apprentices from New-Ground, by his directions; they were tied two by two with ropes. Thomas Anderson and myself brought them down, and Major Light followed us behind with his servant. He went to the workhouse himself, and saw that four of them were flogged; the other two were put in the shackles. I do not remember any bookkeeper coming down with him. Major Light called to the boatswain and told him, "You are not flogging those people well."

THOMAS ANDERSON, constable on New-Ground estate, sworn. [No. 45.] I remember coming down with William Higgin, bringing down six men to the workhouse, who were ordered there by Major Light. They were tied with ropes. We brought them down, and Major Light followed behind, all the way from New-Ground, and went to the workhouse and saw four of them catted, two were put in the stocks. He threatened the boatswain, and told him that if he did not flog them properly he would punish him. The men were flogged severely.

ROBERT STIRLING, a convict in the House of Correction, sworn. (No. 11.) I have been in the workhouse 22 years. In Mr. Drake's time I have often seen the people flogged, both men and women: sometimes they were flogged on their backs, at others on their legs. I have often seen the steps covered with blood, and I saw a pregnant woman, named Susan White, of Dumbarton, put on the treadmill. I knew that she had belly, for I had eye enough to see that she was pregnant. (No. 29.) When the people were on the mill, from the punishment they received, and the knocking of their shins against the mill, they used to cry out so loud that they might have been heard at a great distance. (No. 13.) On Sundays, both men and women were employed, some in carrying wood, grass, and water; others in sweeping the yard. The hoes and axes were all ground on the Sabbath. Parson Johnston used to come to read prayers on Sundays, but since he went away, no one came till Parson Brown, who now comes every Sunday. I have seen women faint after coming off the mill, particularly Cecilia Russell, who was pregnant. (No. 35.) When Mr. Hylton was on the Bay, he used to call sometimes in the evening, as he was riding by, but I never saw what he did when he went inside. The drivers were all selected from the convicts. (No. 34.) I have heard that Mr. Jenkins and James Thomas had illicit intercourse with the women in the workhouse, but I never saw it. I, however, know that a fellow-servant of mine, named Polly Brown, had her face scratched by Mr. Jenkins's kept mistress, because she was jealous of her. (No. 26 and 27.) I remember when a number of Hiattsfeld women came to the workhouse; I can't remember the number. James Williams came I believe, after them; he was in while they were there. They were all put on the mill, and flogged so much, that a great many of them were obliged to be sent to the hospital; they used to lay down about the streets from weakness. The workhouse is much better now than it used to be in Mr. Drake's time. There is no flogging on the mill now, and no pregnant women put on it.

MR. ALEXANDER LEVI, Supervisor of the House of Correction, sworn.—I took charge of the workhouse on the 18th April, 1837, soon after the death of Mr. Drake. I still keep the people in the penal gang, at nights with their chains and collars on, in consequence of the insecurity of the workhouse. When the people are put on the treadmill now, the cat is never used, nor any other instrument of punishment; and, if I find any woman sent to the treadmill in a state of pregnancy, I take it on myself to relieve her from working on it. It is my practice also to relieve those women who have sucking children by not working them to the extent of their sentence if I find them suffering, and the same care is taken of their children. When the people are in the field, I generally put two of the women with young children to cook; and, if there are more than two, then the others work with the gang, but are not chained two and two. They have collars on, but no chains, and the people in the penal gang twist handkerchiefs round their collars to prevent their chafing them, or burning them when they become heated by the sun. Since I took charge of the workhouse in April last, there have been but five corporal punishments; two by order of Captain Reynolds, a Special Magistrate, and three by order of Mr. St. John, another Special Magistrate. I know Mr. Jenkins, the late under superintendant of the workhouse; he was also the jailer; he was dismissed by the Magistrates and Vestry about two months after I took charge, in consequence of his gross neglect of a sick patient in the jail, who, it is said, died from his inattention. He is a man of the most violent character, addicted to liquor, and was very partial in the execution of his duty; he was a long time with Mr. Drake, not less than 12 months. I never allow the people to do work of any kind on Sunday, but generally send them to the rivers in the morning to bathe themselves. The women go to

one river and the men to the other. The Rev. Mr. Brown attends every Sunday for the purpose of giving them religious instruction. Since I have taken charge of the House of Correction, the boatswains have not been allowed to open, in the mornings, the doors of the room in which the women are confined. (No. 34.) I keep the keys myself, in consequence of the reports, that the boatswains, while they had the keys of the workhouse in which females were confined, often urged them when opening the rooms early in the morning to resort to them for improper purposes. I have also received instructions from Mr. Parke, the Custos of the parish, to lean always to the side of mercy, and that whenever any of the prisoners in the House of Correction commit faults, instead of punishing them myself, to carry them up before the Stipendiary Magistrate, and prefer complaints to him for their improper conduct.

ANN BURKE, a free woman.—I lived with Mr. Jenkins when he was in the workhouse, and positively deny ever having had any quarrel with a woman named Ann Broom; I don't even know her.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7.

[Nos. 26, 27 and 30].—ANN SMITH, an apprentice, to Hiattsfield, sworn.—I remember being sent to the workhouse last year—a whole gang of us went. There were a number of pickaniny mothers among us. We were put on the mill, and when we could not keep the step and dragged upon the mill, Mr. Jenkins flogged us on the feet by order of Mr. Drake. We were sent in for five days, and I saw a woman named Betty Williams, faint upon the mill.

[No. 26].—BETTY WILLIAMS, an apprentice to Hiattsfield, sworn.—I remember being sent to the workhouse near last Christmas: twenty-one of us were sent there. Several women who went in had sucking children: Felicia Smith, Cornelia Johnston, and Diana Johnston; there were several others, but I don't remember their names. I don't think that there were any pregnant women among them. When we were put on the mill and could not keep the step, Mr. Jenkins always flogged us with a cat on the legs. Mr. Drake told Jenkins to cat us well if we did not keep the step, as busha sent us to be punished.—[No. 30.] One day, while I was dancing on the mill, I fainted on it, and dropped down. My hands dropped out of the straps, and I fell down to the ground. I did not know anything of it myself until next morning, when my friends told me that I had fainted, and that they were obliged to burn pennistone and put to my nose to restore me: it was in the evening tread-mill punishment that I fainted. We had come from the field, and I had nothing to eat the whole day. I had not teeth 'to eat the boiled corn which they gave me, and I bought a bread when coming down; my sister also bought a bread, but Mr. Drake made us throw the bread away, and a man named Robert Stirling picked it up and took it for himself. I came to from the fainting fit during part of the night. I don't remember a boy named James Williams being in the workhouse at that time: he might have been there, but I did not know him.—[No. 29.] The people on the tread-mill used to bawl very loud, from the distress of the mill and the beating of the cat—they might have been heard at a great distance. We were sent to the workhouse on a charge of taking a day without permission: we were brought up before Mr. Woolfrys, but he would not allow us to give any explanation: the whole of the great gang took the day. The men were catted on the estate, and we were sent to the workhouse, No white doctor saw me, but the black doctor man gave me a dose of salts. I was not put upon the mill again up to the time I went out.—[No. 27.] One woman, named Leanty Thomas, was so mashed up on the mill, that she could not walk home: They were obliged to put her on a horse which her husband brought for her.

LEANTY THOMAS, an apprentice, to Hiattsfield, sworn.—I remember being sent to the workhouse from Hiattsfield. I was sent for five days, to dance the mill twice a day. There were a great many of us sent down: twenty-one of us. Isabella Richards was pregnant, Isabella Taylor was pregnant also; and Phillis Hayden, Sibby Byfield, Camilla Johnston, Diana Johnston, Felicia Smith, Eleanor Bailey, Maria Richards, and Louisa Williams, had sucking children. When I went on the tread-mill my hands were strapped, and I could not keep the step: the mill cut my legs very bad, and Mr. Drake ordered Mr. Jenkins to cat me; he abused me by calling me all manner of indecent names, and said to the boatswain, Give it to her well—cat her away. My handkerchief that was on my head slipped down over my head, and covered my eyes; my coat was loose, and it tripped my foot, and I could not keep step good. I called to Mr. Drake, and begged him quite hard to give time to catch up myself, and my daughter begged him quite hard, but all to no purpose: I called out, "Massa, I am dying;" but he took no notice of me, and would not take me off until

the time was out. I hung on the mill, and it cut me quite bad. One evening, when I went on the mill, Emily Smith, my daughter and myself, went on with one lot, and for spite's sake, Mr. Drake made us work another spell with the next lot, so that we worked twice that evening, besides our morning spell.—[No. 27.] The day I came out I could not walk, and Affy Brown and Sibby Byfield carried me to a house on the Bay and put me there, until my husband brought a beast down and took me home. When I got home, Philip Martin, one of my Christian brethren, took me on his back, and carried to the hot-house yard. I told the busha, Mr. Corbett, the state I was in, and showed him my shins: but he took no notice of me, and I lay down in the yard until after busha's breakfast time, when the doctor man William Smith, lifted me up and carried me into the hot-house: he then bled me, and next day gave me a dose of salts, and dressed my legs. The white doctor, Dr. Archer, looked at my legs one day before they were better, when busha had ordered me out on the road to break stones; the feet were running very bad, and as Dr. Archer was passing by, I showed them to him, and he ordered me back to the hot-house, and desired dressings for them. I stopped in the hot-house till after the Christmas.—[Last part of No. 12.] When I was in the workhouse the women were all locked up together, with chains and collars at night. When we went back to Hiattsfield, I saw Bella Richards in the field crying, and on asking her what she was crying for, she said that the rest of the people carried her name to her husband, saying, that one of the drivers, Charles Rose, had had improper intercourse with her. [No. 34.] I used myself to see Charles Rose kind to her, carrying soup and water to her, and one day I saw her go into his room, but I can't swear for what purpose she went into his room. I have heard from several people that this girl was kept in the workhouse; when she first danced the mill, she complained of her belly, as she was pregnant, and she was sent to the hot-house, and it was then I saw the intimacy between her and Charles Rose. When in the workhouse, eight of the women were locked up after being put on the tread-mill. Bella Richards, Letitia Forest, Jennet Smith, Isabella Taylor, and myself, were in the hot-house; the rest used to work in the field. Sibby Byfield, who went with us this time, had a young child, and was sent in about three weeks before; I am not very certain of the time. [No. 30.] I was present when Betty Williams fell off the mill, she fell down after fainting, we all cried out and thought she was dead; she was taken up and carried to the hot-house, one of our men from Hiattsfield named Peter Grant, who was in the workhouse, and another man, carried her into the hot-house. I did not see any white doctor come to her as it was most dark, and Robert Sterling burnt a piece of pennistone and put to her nose. Mr. Drake and Mr. Jenkins were both present, but I did not see them pay attention to her. I never saw either of them come into the hot-house to examine or see what was the matter with her. I remember the evening that Betty Williams had her bread taken from her and thrown away by order of Mr. Drake. One evening my daughter was on the mill and begged for some water; a man named Martin Brown gave her some, and when Mr. Jenkins saw it, he took the man and locked him up.

BELLA RICHARDS, an apprentice to Hiattsfield, sworn.—[No. 27.] I remember when the whole of the women were sent to the workhouse, I was put on the tread-mill, and I told Mr. Jenkins that I was pregnant and could not dance the mill; he said he could not help it; I hung on the mill, and Mr. Jenkins took a cat and catted me on the legs; the cat did not cut my legs, it swelled them, and the mill cut my shins. I was only able to dance twice, and I was then sent into the hot-house, I was three months in the family way; I also told Mr. Woolfrys, the Special Magistrate, that I was breeding, I told him so after he sentenced me to the tread-mill, but he said he could not help it; that the sentence was passed already!—My back gave way when I was on the mill, and kept on until after I went out of the workhouse, when I had a mischance. [No. 30.] When Betty Williams fainted off the mill, I remember she dropped down and was taken to the hot-house, and the doctor man gave her some salts next morning. I thought that she was dead, all of us tried to bring her to; one morning Mr. Drake came into the hospital and asked if we did not intend to go to work; I pleaded sickness, and he told us we were all worthless people, that we had plenty of mouth, but could not work the mill, and he then kicked me on my back, and kicked another girl named Jane Smith; I heard that some of the people were put on the mill twice in the afternoon, to pay for those who were in the hot-house.

EMILY SMITH, an apprentice to Hiattsfield, apparently about 54 or 55 years of age, sworn.—[No. 27.] I remember being sent to the tread-mill, I had a pain in my stomach, and could not keep the step; all my legs were bruised and cut up with the cat by a black man. Jenkins used to be present, and ordered the man to cat me.

[No. 30.] I saw Betty Williams when she fell off the mill; she was quite ill. I thought she was dead!

WILLIAM CLARKE, a constable, on Hiattsfield, sworn.—[No. 26.] I remember bringing twenty-one women down from Hiattsfield to the workhouse; there was a man in at the same time belonging to Hiattsfield, named Peter Grant. The women were sent in for taking a day without busha's orders. [No. 27.] I remember when Leanty Thomas came from the workhouse: she could not walk, and was brought home by her husband on a horse. I saw her legs and they were both much cut up.

REBECCA SMITH, a prisoner in the House of Correction from Tobolski estate, sworn, [No. 35.] I was in the workhouse in Mr. Drake's time; I have often seen Mr. James Hylton, then deputy clerk of the peace, come to the workhouse and desire Mr. Jenkins to take the weights off by which the mill was guided, so as to make it go round quick, and when the weights were taken off, the mill got away and we hung up by the straps, and then he would tell Mr. Jenkins to flog us till we got the step: sometimes also he would come in the evening and stop in the mill-house, and send to Mr. Jenkins to tell him to bring the people out, that he might see them worked on the mill: Mr. Jenkins then called out to Martin Brown to bring us out: this was at our regular time of punishment. Sometimes he would come with his lady in his chaise, and leave her in the chaise, while he went into the mill-house to see us dance on the mill. Where he left Mrs. Hylton with the chaise she could not help seeing us while we were undergoing the punishment.

[No. 12.] The first time I was sent to the workhouse, I did not know how to keep step, and I had on a baize coat, and the man who flogged me, named Henry Jones, cut my baize coat completely off. [No. 30.] Sometimes when Mr. Hylton came into the workhouse he was quite drunk: this was in the afternoon; I never saw him use the whip himself, nor never heard that he did it. I was once flogged with a bamboo, by a man named Robert Laing, who, first of all, chained two other women and myself together; he put two heavy chains on me, as I was the middle woman, and I then had a young sucking child in my arms: he first hit me across the stomach with a bamboo, and afterwards on the back; the bamboo cut my back, and the mark is still on it. When Mr. Jenkins came up, he quarrelled with Robert Laing, and told him that if I was a bad woman I might prosecute him when I went out. [No. 12, last part] We always slept with either the chain or collar on at night. [No. 34.] I have often heard that the drivers, James Thomas, and James Bolt, used to have improper intimacies with the women, but I never saw it: a woman named Jane Gordon was mentioned as one of the women who James Bolt had an improper intimacy with.

[No. 34.] JANE GORDON, a prisoner in the house of correction, from Home Castle, sworn. I was in the workhouse before this time, in Mr. Drake's time. James Thomas used to open the door in the morning: he called me to his room and asked me to have an improper intimacy with him; I consented from fear: for he had asked me once before, and when I refused to go to him, he beat me near the river and knocked me into it.

The Rev. JOHN WILLIAMS, Wesleyan Minister, sworn. I have been a resident here one year and eleven months. I have not had any opportunity whatever to obtain a knowledge of the discipline of the workhouse. I have at all times visited the sick in the hospital, but never had any time to take particular notice of the discipline of the establishment, so as to compare it with others. With regard to the working of the Abolition Law, a respectable man, an apprentice to Mr. Hull, by the name of Jones, informed me that he had been frequently disturbed in his family worship by the late Mr. Hull, the owner of the property to which he was attached. Mr. Hull frequently threatened him, if he continued to hold family worship, to pull his place down. I often inquired whether he disturbed his master; and the information afforded me was, that he was so near that his master could hear him singing psalms; but, at the same time, several of the other apprentices who would sing songs, were not complained against as disturbers. I have frequently inquired whether any thing like a public meeting was held: but I have been assured that, with the exception of one or two strange persons, the meeting was entirely confined to the family. Jones was employed in family worship, on a Sabbath morning, with only one strange person present: on this occasion, when he was summoned to the master's house, to give an account for the preaching, as it was termed, he denied preaching, but admitted the family worship, pointing out to his master the verse of the hymn which he had been singing. His master construed his denial into insolence, and brought him before Mr. Sowley, a special magistrate, who sentenced him to be flogged. Mrs. Williams, who saw him subsequently, stated to me,

that his back was much lacerated by the flogging; and he himself informed me that it was the first punishment of the kind he had received: he was apparently about fifty years of age at that time. Jones subsequently mentioned to me, that at the time of his trial, the magistrate, Mr. Sowley, desired the constable to look out for those people who were praying, and bring them to him. This is the only glaring case of abuse which has come under my consideration. I have always instructed persons who are attached to my ministry, that they are quite justified in holding family and social worship; but that they are to avoid, by all possible means, disturbing their employers; and not to allow these meetings to exceed the number of twenty. A representation of this circumstance was made to the Governor, and the magistrate was subsequently dismissed.

ROBERT LAING, alias LYNE, formerly a convict in the house of correction, examined, but not sworn, as he did not seem to have the knowledge of an oath. I was driver last year in the workhouse: I know James Thomas; he was the head-driver. [No. 31.] I know a woman named Sally, belonging to Mr. Cohen, of Cool Shade. She was not an old woman; I remember her being chained to Mary Murray. [No. 32.] I remember the day we were cutting penguins at Bank's negro-houses,—we were cutting them to plant at Springfield line-wall. Sally could not keep up that day in the work. Mary Murray was a young girl: we were working there several days, and rain used to catch us sometimes: some days it rained, and on other days it did not. James Thomas was shoving on as fast as he could, to make the people finish the work. Mary Murray could always do her work better than Sally. I never saw James Thomas cat Sally: but Mr. Drake, the supervisor, stood near me one day, and made me give her two licks with a guava-switch. I never saw the driver flog any body except her. I don't know a boy named James Williams.

MR. RICHARD JENKINS, formerly overseer in the House of Correction, sworn.—I remember a woman by the name of Peggy, who belonged to New Hope, the property of Mr. Codnor: she came to the workhouse in a debilitated state: one of her feet was swelled with crab-yaws, and she used to complain of pains in her stomach—the effect of eating dirt; I have myself caught her eating fire-coal.—She was never worked on the treadmill, for she was unfit to be put on, and Mr. Drake would not place her on it. She died in the workhouse, having been previously attended by the Doctor; and an Inquest was held on the body. I remember the man alluded to in the letter marked H. named M'Dermott: he was committed to the workhouse for running away from his master, Mr. Gyles. Mr. Drake showed me the letter when he received it.

(COPY.)—H.

DEAR SIR,—I thank you for your kind favour per post. Messrs. Harris and Palmer has made my people—and, in fact, the whole of the Walk's apprentices, so rebellious, that I dread any addition, particularly upon my property, may produce a flame: therefore I shall leave Mr. M'Dermott to your *tender mercies*.—He has done not more than one week's work for me this year: he is a particular friend of Mr. Harris.

I remain, Dear Sir, truly yours,

N. GYLES.

Recess, 26th September, 1837.

Samuel Drake, Esq., St. Ann's Bay.

My impression was, that as the people in the workhouse were then worked pretty strong, that Mr. Gyles meant he should be well worked; he was never whipped nor placed on the treadmill, but was worked in the gang, at hard labour in the field; he fell sick and died in the workhouse.—(No. 31.) I remember a woman named Sally, of Cool Shade: I never saw her come in with any marks on her, as if beaten in the field.—(No. 32.) When the gang were working at Bank's negro-houses, she complained to me that the driver was more severe with her than with any body else, and I told her I had nothing to do with the field-work, as Mr. Drake was always there himself.—(No. 31.) When she was on the treadmill she could not keep step, and was flogged by the boatswain under orders of Mr. Drake, who told him that whenever the people could not keep step, he must "touch them up a bit." This was frequently done by directions of Mr. Drake: the light cat of nine tails, knotted, was generally used for the purpose of touching them up. Whenever the people would not keep the step, while the mill was going on at a slow movement (No. 11), Mr. Drake would order it to be propelled at a quicker rate, so that it might bruise their legs a bit, by way of punishment.—(No. 35) I know Mr. James Hylton: he used to call at the workhouse during the time of treadmill punishment; but I do not remember his being there drunk, nor do I remember his throwing the weights off the lever himself; he used to call sometimes twice a week, with Mrs. Hylton in the chaise. He was one evening in the mill-house, and Mrs.

Hylton called out to him, saying, "Come, let us go." He once directed the mill to be put to a quicker speed, and it was done so, agreeably to his orders. I never saw him take the cat and flog anybody himself. I remember having worked persons six times a day, for fifteen minutes each time, by sentence of Special Justice Burford, or Bedford: there were several instances of this sort.—(No. 13.) The men in the workhouse were employed on Sundays in getting wood and grass, and the women in cleaning out the yard and carrying water. When they came off the mill they were always allowed to go to the sea-side and wash their feet.—(No. 34.) I often heard complaints that the head field driver, James Thomas, had frequently had illicit intercourse with the women in the field: here were several instances of this sort, and I have not the least doubt of it. I also understood from Mr. Drake himself, that the boatswains in the yard were also engaged in the same illicit intercourse with the women. When women complained of being pregnant, unless the Doctor declared them so, if the sentence directed them to be put on the mill, they were placed on it. Women with young children were also placed on the mill. I do not recollect Mr. Drake's putting the Hiattsfeld people twice on the mill in one evening, to pay for those who were in the hot-house. The system pursued in the workhouse, during the time of Mr. Drake's administration, was certainly a harsh one. There is one very dark room, used as a dungeon, with no ventilation, whatever, unless when the door is kept half open during the day; the same is used for condemned people, when sentenced to be hung: this room was sometimes used as a place of solitary confinement, and is closed at night; it is in the jail department, and is sometimes used for workhouse punishment. I remember the fact of a woman having been confined there at the time of Mr. Sturge's visit to the workhouse; she was confined there for seven days and nights. During the time that the Rev. Mr. Pitter was here, he constantly visited the workhouse establishment, but since his departure no other minister, in my time, came there; it was not common for the visiting magistrates to come to the workhouse and inspect the working of the treadmill: they visited the workhouse; I do not remember any other magistrates, but Mr. Hylton and Dr. Rafington, visiting the house of correction, and personally obtaining knowledge as to the working of the mill, at the time when the people's shins used to be so dreadfully bruised.

Dr. BARNETT, who was present when the evidence of the last witness was read to him, stated, *on oath*, that he is in attendance on from forty to sixty properties in the parish: that he has never, in one instance, seen in his practice, on those estates, any injury to the feet of the parties put on the treadmill, although he has heard of one or two cases, but is not aware of the parties.—(No. 34.) With regard to the illicit intercourse, stated by Richard Jenkins to have been carried on between James Thomas and the women confined in the workhouse, from time to time, Dr. Barnett observed, that it is the current report that he, Richard Jenkins himself, set the improper example. Dr. Barnett could give no information as to the discipline of the House of Correction, as he has but few opportunities of visiting that establishment, in consequence of the distance of his residence.

RICHARD HEMMING, Esq., Magistrate of the parish of St. Ann's, sworn.—I have been in the habit of visiting the workhouse frequently during the last four or five years, and more constantly since 1832. I have seen the treadmill at work: I have seen the people when taken off, during the superintendency of Mr. Drake, and never saw but one case where the shins of the party were materially injured: I have heard that others were injured.—(Part of No. 12.) I have always considered the wheel faulty for this reason; the power of quickening or lessening its speed was entirely at the pleasure of the individual who regulates the lever, and he can, therefore, either favour those towards whom he is friendly disposed, or injure others against whom he entertains any ill-will. I recommended Mr. Drake to have the wheel regulated by weights,—if this has not been done, the fault cannot be attributed to anything else but the disobedience of those orders. Mr. Drake often assured me, that the reason why the knees of some of the persons were bruised is, their determination of not treading: one instance of this determination not to tread I saw myself; the man however was not bruised: he was taken down immediately, to be put on again when a weaker gang was on; this, I believe, to have been Mr. Drake's general conduct. I have seen James Thomas threaten people on the mill with the cat, but I never saw him use it in such a way as to do them any injury, by an infliction of punishment.

[No. 31.]—JAMES THOMAS, formerly a field-driver in the House of Correction, sworn.—I remember a woman named Sally, to Cool Shade. She was able to keep up with the rest of the gang, and when she complained to me that she could not walk, I

always made her lie down in the cart, and carried her in it to the field ; and when she could not keep up with the work, I made her lie down under the cart in the shade.—(No. 32.) She was quite sick one morning when working at Bank's negro-houess ; she was chained to Mary Murray, and I loosed her and told her to go and lie down until she got better : she did not work that day, but went home to the House of Correction in the evening ; the next day she turned out in the field and did her work. I never carried a cat in the field : Mr. Drake told me not to do so ; I carried guava-switches. Mary Murray was a young active girl, but Sally was not active. I never saw any driver in the field have improper intimacy with the women. I never had any improper intimacy with them myself ; but when the women were mashed up on the treadmill and came in the field, I used to have consideration for them.—(No. 11.) I have heard that when they missed the step they kept on licking them, to make them keep up. I have often been to see the mill working in the evening, when I have returned from work, and the overseer, Mr. Jenkins, would not allow me to stop, but would drive me away. Sometimes, however, Mr. Jenkins would call me himself, and beg me to flog the people : some of them would not dance at all, and then they hung. I never saw the women's clothes tied up beyond their knees.—Mr. Jenkins gave orders to be very particular in not tying the clothes up in an indecent manner.—(Part of No. 12.) The field people were sometimes given a quart of flour, and sometimes a quart of corn for their food, with a shad between two. I have seen Mr. Parke, Mr. Lemon, Mr. Hemming, and Mr. Hylton come to see the treadmill work in Mr. Drake's time ; when they came the mill was always worked slower than at other times, and the people were never flogged.—People could not see the wounds on the shins of the persons who were bruised, as they used to wash their knees in the sea, and wear their clothes down, but they used to walk lame. Mr. Hylton used to come to the workhouse, and always told them not to make the mill go fast.—(No. 35.) One evening Mr. Hylton was there, and a woman did not know how to dance ; she hung on the mill, and the mill stopped ; but Mr. Hylton would not allow it to stop : the mill went on, and the woman bawled out ; I then went away. When people were hanging, generally the mill was stopped, to allow them to get on : it was only on the evening that Mr. Hylton was there that the woman hung, and the mill was not stopped : it went on, and Mr. Hylton said must lick her to make her get on.

[No. 44.]—Mr. Hemming recalled.—I never had occasion to bring but one case before Major Light myself. I should say, that he partook rather too freely of the bottle ; but whenever I saw him it was past business hours. I never saw much of him, as I was not much in Major Light's district.

ISRAEL LEMON, Esq., Magistrate of St. Ann's, and President of the House of Correction, sworn.—I was present once or twice during the Supervisorship of Mr. Drake, when the people were on the mill. I did not stop until they had finished. The people were stubborn, and hung, and the drivers touched them occasionally, to make them keep the step, I did not see any cruelty practised. When they hung, I gave directions that the mill should be stopped, and Mr. Drake immediately complied, and I have even known him to take them off. It has never occurred, in my presence, that lame persons, or pregnant women, or any debilitated person, has been put on the mill. Had I observed any thing of this kind, I should have thought it my duty, as a magistrate, to put a stop to it. I think that the treadmill might be altered, according to the suggestion of Mr. Gordon, in such a manner as to render it a more fit and proper instrument of punishment. I do not think that Mr. Drake's conduct was harsh : I think he was rather indulgent to the negroes ; the convicts were so indulged by him, that they will now scarcely do any thing. (No. 28.)—They did not receive any greater proportion of food than the apprentices, but they had several indulgencies : many of them were drivers, and consequently received more than the others. I never heard any confirmatory accounts of cruelty on the part of Jenkins, the late under overseer ; but I was instrumental in obtaining his discharge, in consequence of inattention to his general duties, and neglect of a woman named Ann Coombs, a prisoner, who died in jail. In one particular instance, he employed a prisoner (who had been committed for trial for assaulting an emigrant), in carrying things to a booth, which he erected on the race course : the man made his escape and has never been taken.—(No. 44.) I was acquainted with Major Light ; he was so addicted to liquor as to make him perfectly incompetent to hold so responsible a situation as that of a special magistrate ; this was a fact generally known and admitted. I do not know whether any remonstrance was ever made against him to the executive. I do not think it proper to employ convicts as drivers, but we cannot get persons to take those situations : it is, however, my intention to advertise for competent persons. On the suggestion of Messrs. Gordon and Daughtrey, Mr. Lemon



said he would take the earliest opportunity to recommend the doing away with the chains and collars being placed on the people in the workhouse at nights.

[Nos. 26 and 27.] MARTIN BROWN, late convict in the St. Ann's Bay House of Correction, sworn.—I was a boatswain attending the tread-mill: I remember when Betty Williams was in the workhouse; she came with several other women from Hiattsfield; they were ordered to be put on the tread-mill. Mr. Jenkins, the overseer, wanted to work the mill, and I said, No; it is my duty to do it; he insisted on working it, and I got hurted, and left the mill to him; he then took off all the weights, and the mill turned round as hard as it could go; the people then all all hung on, and the wheel coming in contact with their shins cut them to pieces. The same evening a girl from Hiattsfield, named Effy Brown, begged me to give her a drink of water: she had not yet been put on the mill. I brought it, and Mr Jenkins quarrelled with me for doing it; and as we got to words, he fell upon me and tore my shirt to pieces: we both of us went to Mr. Drake, and when Jenkins told him what was the matter, Mr. Drake told him to carry me down to the workhouse, and he would come down and see about it: when he came he ordered Mr. Jenkins to put me in the dark cell under the jailer's room, where they put people who are condemned to be hung. The place is very dark, and no air can get in it at all. I was kept there for seven days, and never brought before a magistrate. There is no seeing at all in the cell when the door is closed. The girl, Effy Brown, is a young girl: the reason why I was kind to her is because it is in my nature to be kind. I never had any improper intercourse with any of the women myself, nor did I ever hear of Mr. Jenkins or any of the drivers doing so. [No. 11.] When the people were on the mill, and could not keep step, Mr. Drake desired Mr. Jenkins to cat them, and as I was keeping the mill I received orders from Mr. Jenkins to cat them. I used to cat them, therefore, under these orders, and sometimes they were flogged very severely, and their shins were much bruised. I remember well that two women from Draxhall could not walk after having been put on the mill, and that Mr. Drake put them in a cart belonging to Roaring River, and sent them home. [No. 35.] I often saw Mr. Hylton come to the workhouse in the evening when the people were on the mill; he would drive near the door of the tread-mill house, and complained that the mill was not going fast enough: whenever he came down he told Mr. Jenkins that the mill was not going fast enough, and gave orders to make it go faster: he ordered me to take the weights off more than six times, and then the mill went so fast that the people could not keep step, and he ordered the people to be flogged as they hung by the wrists. He would sometimes drive there with Mrs. Hylton in the evening, and as the chaise stopped opposite the door of the tread-mill house, Mrs. Hylton would look in to see the people on the mill, and hear the noise which they made, as they were obliged to cry out loud from the pain; they were sometimes raked all down the thighs and legs. Sometimes Mrs. Hylton would send in to call him out. He used frequently to desire Mr. Jenkins to flog the people, as he said they were sent in to be punished by their masters, and they should be punished. I never saw him take the cat and flog the people himself.

EDWARD JONES, an apprentice to Chester plantation, the property of Mrs. Hull, sworn. I am an apprentice to Mr. Hull. One Sunday morning at sunrise, I thought it my duty to give thanks to God, by prayer and hymn, in the morning. My wife and my five children, and a woman who is a sister-member, were the only persons present: after we had finished singing, my master sent down the constable, Thomas Wilson, to see who was there: when Wilson came down, he said for what he was sent, and I showed him the people. A little after he called me up to master's house; master then told me, I have spoken to you about your preaching. I replied, "I was not preaching, I was merely praying with my family, I did not pretend to be a preacher;" he then told me he had often spoken to me about this praying, and on Monday he would take me to the magistrate, Mr. Sowley, to give an account of myself. He charged me with holding meetings all about, and I told him, No, that it was only in my house with my family, and that on Tuesday evenings I would have a few of my friends and neighbours, not exceeding eight or nine; we had nothing but prayer and hymn. He told me that my singing on the Sunday mornings disturbed him, and charged me with singing at nights. I replied, I never sung the hymns until after the rising of the sun in the morning, and that some of the people sung songs at nights, from Friday to Sunday, and I asked him if that did not disturb him: he said No, and that I was impudent. On the Monday morning, I was brought before the magistrate under a charge of disturbing master by singing, and also for impudence: I explained my case to the magistrate, who said that my master could not hinder me from praying,

but that he would punish me for insolence; he then ordered me to be catted. I received twenty lashes; I never was flogged but then since the apprenticeship. I have continued to hold my meetings since then to the present day, as I consider it my duty to do so.

THOMAS WILSON, constable to Chester plantation, sworn.—I have heard the evidence of Edward Jones, and I swear that it is all true: the affair took place exactly as he described it. I used to attend some of the meetings myself; there was no disturbance whatever: they used to be over between eight and nine o'clock at night.

*Note.*—On an inspection of the magistrates' visiting books by the Commissioners, no strictures appear respecting the workhouse or tread-mill; there are several notices of the insecurity of the jail, but the more common record is "all correct." With reference to the jail, the following memorandum occurs, under date December 8, 1835, and there are others to the same effect.

"Visited,—no jailer present; prisoners all at large; no exterior fences to the jail-yard, and no preparations made to carry into effect the repeated reports of Committees, that the jail is insecure and unfit for the reception of prisoners, as the late frequent escapes too plainly evince. The jail is totally insecure, unless the prisoners are put in irons; and I hereby enter my protest against the Magistrates and Vestry for their supineness.

(Signed)

RICHARD H. J. HEMING.

Examination on oath of the Rev. HENRY BROWN, officiating minister of the established church, in the absence of the Rev. G. W. Bridges, Rector of St. Ann's.

Ques.—What is the particular situation you occupy in this parish?

Ans.—I am the substitute for the Reverend Mr. Bridges, the Rector, during his absence from the colony.

Ques.—When did you enter upon the duties?

Ans.—On the 2d of July in the present year.

Ques.—Are you in the habit of occasionally visiting the workhouse and jail?

Ans.—I do so stately on Sunday mornings, before the commencement of the public duties of the day.

Ques.—What religious service do you perform there?

Ans.—I read a portion of the prayers, selecting such as appear best adapted to the capacities and condition of the prisoners, after which I address them for about a quarter of an hour, in as plain a manner as I can.

Ques.—With your other important engagements, are you able to give such attention to the unhappy inmates of these institutions as their ignorance and moral degradation obviously call for?

Ans.—I must say that at present I cannot, but I hope soon to be able to pay them some attention on week days as well as the Sabbath.

Ques.—Can you suggest any ready means of better supplying the religious wants of these Institutions?

Ans.—If I had the assistance of a licensed catechist, a man of the right spirit, I think the attention he could give might be extremely useful.

Ques.—Would not the visits of a suitable teacher, on Sundays, for the purpose of collecting such of the prisoners as were disposed to avail themselves of the advantages of a reading school, have a tendency to promote the more decent observance of the day among the prisoners, and probably their moral amendment?

Ans.—Certainly: some plan of that sort would be most desirable, and I should consider that a catechist, if he were a religious man, would be a fit person to undertake it.

The following Letter was forwarded to the Commissioners after their departure from Saint Ann's Bay,

(COPY.)

Brown's Town, 3d of October, 1837.

SIR,—In consequence of the investigation which is now pending, may I request that his Excellency will direct the commissioners appointed by him to furnish me with a true copy, as they had commenced their investigation two days before I was made aware of such commission having been sent out, in order to enable me to refute the charges.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

(Signed)

STANLEY RAWLINSON, S<sup>R</sup>L. JUSTICE.

Captain S. R. Warren, &c., &c., &c.

To this letter, forwarded by Captain Warren to the commissioners, the following answer was returned.

Falmouth, 9th of October, 1837.

SIR,—Referring to Mr. S. J. Rawlinson's letter, which you have handed to us by last post, we beg to mention, that our first act on arriving at Brown's Town was to apprise Mr. Rawlinson of the circumstance, and of the object of our visit. Three or four days elapsed before we saw him. He was then immediately informed that the proceedings were accessible to him, either for the purpose of perusal or of copying. He did, from time to time, peruse portions of the evidence, and had the opportunity of hearing or reading the whole of our minutes and the proceedings at Brown's Town.

Mr. Rawlinson was further informed, that if he wished, at any time, to propose questions to the witnesses, the court would most readily put them, and that any refutation, or any statement whatever which he might wish to bring forward, would be received and embodied with the other proceedings.

To meet, as far as practicable, the wish expressed in his letter, we have this moment informed him, by express, that the whole series of evidence will be accessible to him *here*, and, although we cannot engage to supply him with a copy of documents that have become rather voluminous, there will be no difficulty in his obtaining, at this place, the service of an amanuensis, and that every facility shall be afforded to him for that purpose.

We beg to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency, that having brought our inquiries at Brown's Town to a close, on the evening of the 4th instant, we proceeded, at an early hour, on the 5th to St. Ann's Bay, where, by means of close application, our duty terminated on Saturday night.

This place affording better means of getting a transcript made of the whole evidence than either of the scenes of our inquiries, Mr. Daughtrey remains here for a few days for that purpose. When this is completed, a brief report will be prepared, and the entire matter transmitted by the police to the king's house.

We have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servants,

(Signed)

GEORGE GORDON.  
JOHN DAUGHTREY.

Richard Hill, Esq., &c., &c.

*The following affidavits were forwarded to the Commissioners, during their stay in Falmouth, and were directed by them to be attached to the minutes of their proceedings.*

JAMAICA, SS.—ST. ANN.

Personally appeared before me, Gilbert William Senior, who being duly sworn, states that he has known William Dalling for many years. That previous to the 1st day of August, 1834, he considered William Dalling to be a faithful and attached servant, and had no fault to find with him, except that he frequently, when he had opportunity, got intoxicated, but he was always civil and obedient, to both master and mistress, who had the greatest confidence in him, and could always believe what he said. On the 1st day of August, 1834, he became insolent and discontented; and though he claimed to be classed as a domestic, he took all the time allowed to the prædials. He seemed, from the first of August, to be the director of all James Williams's movements, urging him on to be insolent and disobedient. It was part of William Dalling's duty to see that James Williams dressed the sheep, before they were turned out every morning, but from the 1st of August every thing was neglected, and the deponent lost the greater part of eighteen lambs, which were under the care of these two apprentices.

From the 1st of August, 1834, deponent observed an entire change in William Dalling. He joined the sect called Baptists, who had so much power over him, as to break him of the habit of intoxication, but they taught him another habit, never to speak truth.

In his evidence before the magistrates, when he said, "he never carried food to James Williams and Adam Brown when they were confined in the cells at Knapdale," he said what was false. A sufficient quantity of food, rather more than was ordered by Captain Dillon, was given to William Dalling to carry to Knapdale for James Williams and Adam Brown, with orders to clean out the cells. Peter Atkinson

might sometimes have carried food, but he was a sawyer, and it is not likely that he would have been taken from his work every day, leaving his fellow-sawyer to be idle till he returned. His evidence respecting the nave of the cart-wheel having injured Henry James's stomach, when he was flogged by orders of Dr. Thompson, is false, for it is impossible that his stomach could have touched the nave of a cart-wheel five feet in diameter. Henry James had for years complained of pain in his stomach, and, for that reason, was taken from the saw and placed as a watchman. His evidence that James Williams did not assist John Lawrence in stealing pork, is false; James Williams himself acknowledges the fact, and William Dalling was quite aware that they were both concerned in the robbery.

William Dalling said that he did not know if the people got medicine when sick. Marianne Bell stated that medicine was never refused. William Dalling, being always in the yard, must have known that it was so. Previous to the 1st of August, 1834, William Dalling always took the medicine from his mistress to give to the sick, but his behaviour was so bad afterwards that he was not entrusted with it.

William Dalling swore that he did not know James Williams to be a thief. Dependent has no hesitation in stating, that William Dalling knew that James Williams was a notorious thief. He knew that he robbed the provision-grounds, and that he was several times detected by the watchmen, that he stole provisions of all kinds out of the Stores, and that, the last time he was sent to the House of Correction, he stole the house-dog, which he must have sold, as the dog was never heard of again.

(Signed) G. W. SENIOR.

Sworn before me, this 10th day of October, 1837.

(Signed) THOS. RAFFINGTON, Jr.

JAMES WILLIAMS, an apprentice to Miss SENIOR, has been about the yard and house since he was a baby, his mother was a domestic and very indolent and sickly; he was almost supported by his master and mistress till within a few years. Becoming troublesome about the house, he was sent to attend the stock (which he seemed to have a taste for) and carry grass and bread nuts for them, which kept him still a good deal about the yard, where he always slept. Once in my brother's absence, who had taken the other servants with him, he came in to get my tea; when that was over, I desired him to see about his other business, but he would not, and laid himself down on the floor, to give me an account of my cattle, he said, that his master might not cheat me. When I told him to go away, he shut the door, put his foot against it, and kept thumping it with his back for some time. I said, James, this is not to be borne with, will you go about your business? From the noise he made, I think he must have had an accomplice, and wished to prevent my hearing what was going forwards. After repeatedly speaking to him, he said he would go, if I would give him a piece of candle. To get quit of him, I told him to take a piece that was on the table, though his master had often told him he should not get a candle, as there was no occasion for it. Before going to bed, I went to the store, and was astonished to find a large frock that I had made Marianne, (one of the house-women) put on the barrel of sugar at dusk, in the middle of the room. I called Marianne, and showing it to her, she said, "Hi! misses been make me put that on the sugar barrel before tea, and how it came down here?" The watchman, who was asleep in the kitchen, declared it could be no one but James Williams. A good deal of the sugar was gone, and the flour barrel next to it was also plundered. We were after that out of provisions and obliged to purchase; I put the yams in the same store, and was surprised that they lasted so short a time. I spoke to the person I bought them from; she said they did seem to go fast, but I could not blame her as I saw them weighed. I could not find out where they went, till one day my brother went to the provision-grounds and got half a basket of cocoas; he had them brought into me, and said, you must make the most of those till we can get some more; they were mostly fine large cocoas; at night I went to give some of them out for breakfast, when to my astonishment, most of the best were gone, and only a few of the smaller ones left; the servants pretended to look for them, but returned and said they were no where to be found. This kind of pilfering had been going on so long, that I then said I will search myself. After looking in several places, I thought of the kitchen; on going there, I found a large calabash heaped up with the very cocoas, and James fast asleep on a board by the fire, after, no doubt, having made a good supper on some of them. I kept what I found, and the next

morning James claimed them. I then called William Dalling, who looked at them, and said they are master's cocoas, James has none like them. The little boy (Graham) was then called who brought them in, and said they were the same that he brought in. I considered the said James Williams so friendless that he would bring his clothes to me to have made for him, and I always had them done. He never made a proper ground or attended to it, so that he could not support himself without stealing from others. William Dalling knew all this, and yet comes forward and takes his oath that James Williams is an industrious boy, and a good character. As soon as the apprenticeship began he did every thing to annoy us, and for no cause, for often when William Dalling wished to impose on him, I have prevented it.

(Signed)

S. J. K. SENIOR.

Sworn before me, this 10th day of October, 1837.

(Signed)

EDWD. TUCKER.

WILLIAM DALLING, apprentice to Miss SENIOR, has been in her family ever since a child of eighteen months old : first with her grandmother, and at her death to Miss S., on whom and her brother he has waited on ever since, and always considered by them, and all acquainted with them, as a valuable servant, remarkably civil and attentive, never disobeying an order, or dissatisfied when required to do anything in his own time. Every confidence was placed in him, and they would have vouched for his truth and honesty ; but, since joining the Baptists and the Apprenticeship system, he has entirely altered ; he has shown his ill-will to his owners every way ; he has sworn to the most abominable falsehoods ; he says he saw nothing wrong in James Williams's conduct. The last time James Williams was punished, before the apprenticeship commenced, was by Wm. Dalling, in his master's absence from home, he came to his mistress and said, I have cut some switches for James. She inquired for what fault. He replied, he took the donkeys to go for breadnut, tied them at the gate, and went about his business, and when I spoke to him about it, he took them out of sight, and beat them severely ; he is really a bad boy.

(Signed)

S. J. K. SENIOR.

Sworn before me, this 11th day of October, 1837.

(Signed)

EDWD. TUCKER.









