

movement of colonization has been from east to west; and that here, as everywhere in the Spanish colonies, the places first peopled are now the most desert. The first establishment of the whites was in 1511, when, according to the orders of Don Diego Columbus, together with the *conquistador* and *poblador* Velasquez, he landed at Puerto de Palmas, near Cape Maysi, then called *Alfa y Omega*, and subdued the cacique Hatuey, who, an emigrant and fugitive from Hayti, had withdrawn to the eastern part of the island of Cuba, and had become the chief of a confederation of petty native princes. The building of the town of Baracoa was begun in 1512; and later, Puerto Principe, Trinidad, the Villa de Santo Espiritu, Santiago de Cuba (1514), San Salvador de Bayamo, and San Cristoval de la Havaña. This last town was originally founded in 1515, on the southern coast of the island, in the *Partido* of Guines, and transferred, four years later, to Puerto de Carenas, the position of which at the entrance of the two channels of Bahama (*el Viejo y el Nuevo*) appears to be much more favourable to commerce than the coast on the south-west of Batabano.\* The progress of civilization since the sixteenth century, has had a powerful influence on the relations of the castes with each other; these relations vary in the districts which contain only farms for cattle, and in those where the soil has been long cleared; in the sea-ports and inland towns, in the spots where colonial produce is cultivated, and in such as produce maize, vegetables, and forage.

Until the latter part of the eighteenth century, the number of female slaves in the sugar plantations of Cuba was extremely limited; and what may appear surprising is, that a prejudice, founded on religious scruples, opposed the introduction of women, whose price at the Havannah was generally one-third less than that of men. The slaves were forced to celibacy on the pretext of avoiding moral disorder. The Jesuits and the Bethlehemite monks alone renounced that fatal prejudice, and encouraged negresses in their planta-

\* A tree is still shewn at the Havannah, (at Puerto de Carenas), under the shade of which the Spaniards celebrated their first mass. The island, now called officially "The ever-faithful island of Cuba," was after its discovery named successively Juana Fernandina, Isla de Santiago, and Isla del Ave Maria. Its arms date from the year 1516.