

cles of wood, placed on *clarificadoras*, accelerated the evaporation, and led me to believe that a system of cuvercles and moveable frames, furnished with counter-weights, might extend to other cauldrons. This object merits further examination; but the quantity of *vezou* (*guarapo*), of the crystallized sugar extracted, and that which is destroyed, the fuel, the time, and the pecuniary expense, must be carefully estimated.

An error, very general through Europe, and one which influences opinion respecting the effects of the abolition of the slave-trade is, that in those West India islands called *sugar colonies*, the majority of the slaves are supposed to be employed in the production of sugar. The cultivation of the sugar-cane is no doubt a powerful incentive to the activity of the slave trade; but a very simple calculation suffices to prove that the total mass of slaves contained in the West Indies is nearly three times greater than the number employed in the production of sugar. I showed, seven years ago, that, if the 200,000 cases of sugar exported from the island of Cuba, in 1812, were produced in the great establishments, less than 30,000 slaves would have sufficed for that kind of labour. It ought to be borne in mind for the interests of humanity, that the evils of slavery weigh on a much greater number of individuals than agricultural labours require, even admitting, which I am very far from doing, that sugar, coffee, indigo, and cotton, can be cultivated only by slaves. At the island of Cuba it is generally supposed that one hundred and fifty negroes are required to produce 1000 cases (184,000 kilog.) of refined sugar; or, in round numbers, a little more than 1200 kilog. by the labour of each adult slave. The production of 440,000 cases would consequently require only 66,000 slaves. If we add 36,000 to that number, for the cultivation of coffee and tobacco in the island of Cuba, we find that about 100,000 of the 260,000 slaves now there, would suffice for the three great branches of colonial industry on which the activity of commerce depends.

COFFEE.—The cultivation of coffee takes its date, like the improved construction of cauldrons in the sugar houses, from the arrival of the emigrants of San Domingo, especially after the years 1796 and 1798. A hectare yields 860 kilog.