

have not been attended by the improvement which was expected in that branch of industry. The cultivators want capital, the farms have become extremely dear, and the predilection for the cultivation of coffee is prejudicial to that of tobacco.

The oldest information we possess respecting the quantity of tobacco which the island of Cuba has thrown into the magazines of the mother country, go back to 1748. According to the Abbé Raynal, a much more exact writer than is generally believed, that quantity, from 1748 to 1753 (average year) was 75,000 arrobas. From 1789 to 1794, the produce of the island amounted annually to 250,000 arrobas; but from that period to 1803, the increased price of land, the attention given exclusively to the coffee plantations, and the sugar factories, little vexations in the exercise of the royal monopoly (*estanco*), and impediments in the way of export trade, have progressively diminished the produce by more than one-half. The total produce of tobacco in the island, is, however, believed to have been, from 1822 to 1825, again from 300,000 to 400,000 arrobas.

In good years, when the harvest rose to 350,000 arrobas of leaves, 128,000 arrobas were prepared for the Peninsula, 80,000 for the Havannah, 9200 for Peru, 6000 for Panama, 3000 for Buenos Ayres, 2240 for Mexico, and 1000 for Caracas and Campeachy. To complete the sum of 315,000,000 (for the harvest loses 10 per cent. of its weight in *merma y aberias*, during the preparation and the transport), we must suppose that 80,000 arrobas were consumed in the interior of the island (*en los campos*), whither the monopoly and the taxes did not extend. The maintenance of 120 slaves and the expense of the manufacture amounted only to 12,000 piastres annually; the persons employed in the *factoria* cost 54,100 piastres. The value of 128,000 arrobas, which in good years was sent to Spain, either in cigars or in snuff (*rama y polvos*), often exceeded 5,000,000 piastres, according to the common price of Spain. It seems surprising to see that the statements of exportation from the Havannah (documents published by the Consulado) mark the exportations for 1816, at only 3400 arrobas; for 1823, only 13,900 arrobas of *tabaco en rama*, and 71,000 pounds of *tabaco torcida*, estimated together, at the custom-house, at 281,000