

called Colonel Pearce's Revenge, where the road is completely overhung by large masses of rock, which seem ready to fall. The rapid pace of the horses, the frequent sharp turns, and the overhanging cliff, excite some alarm in those not accustomed to them; and I must confess that I was quite satisfied when we passed the last turn, and were safely landed at the consulate.

On our return to Jamestown, the consul and myself called to pay our respects to Colonel Trelawny, whom we found at his office; he is a tall well-formed man, with a pleasant expression of countenance, and a frank soldierlike air. He is much respected by the inhabitants, has made himself acquainted with their wants, and is doing his best to satisfy them. They call him the "good man," in contradistinction to his predecessor. He received us with great kindness, and asked me to visit and spend some days at Plantation House.

Several hundreds of recaptured slaves are at present inhabiting the gullies to the eastward and westward of Jamestown. The most convenient way of visiting them is by sea; some of our officers expressed a desire to do so, but the inhabitants seemed much shocked at the mere mention of such a wish. The males and females are separated, and both sexes are supplied with rations by government.

The population of the island is about four thousand. It consists of whites, who, if the garrison be deducted from their numbers, form the smallest portion of the inhabitants; of negroes and their descendants of the mixed blood, and some few Chinese. The negroes were brought by the East India Company from Madagascar, and, with their descendants, now form the largest portion of the population. The first class include all engaged in trade, auctioneers, tavern-keepers, and mechanics.

The number of Yankee "notions" displayed in all the shops, indicated that the island derives its chief supply of useful articles from the United States.

St. Helena is a free port: the imports consist of supplies for the inhabitants, and necessary articles for the shipping that visit it; the latter can only be obtained at an advanced price.

The number of vessels that touch annually at the island is now about eight hundred, having much increased since the opening of the East India trade.

The usual rates of exchange, with the value of coins current, fixed by proclamation, will be found in Appendix XVI.

We embarked in the afternoon, regretting that our time was so limited, and that no opportunity was afforded us to return the kind attentions bestowed upon us by the consul and his family.