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called Wye at Monmouth; but it is out of my prains what is the name of the other river; but it is all one; 'tis as like as my fingers to my fingers, and there is salmon in both.' (Vind. p. 103).

We shall conclude with stating, very briefly, our general opinion of the Vindication of the Celts. It certainly completely fails in its attempts to prove the grand positions with which it sets out, and to overturn Mr Pinkerton's hypothesis; but it destroys what is weak, and exposes what is false, in that gentleman's Dissertation. It may thus be of great service to him, if he be not too obstinate to give up what is untenable, and too proud, or too hardened, to confess and correct his literary delinquencies. The cause of truth must at all events be benefited; it will be freed from error: and the complete and frequent detection of mistake, and want of fidelity, in Mr Pinkerton, will induce the readers of similar works not to put implicit confidence in the most solemn asseverations, but to examine every authority, and judge for themselves.

ART. VIII. *The History of the Maroons, from their Origin to the Establishment of their Chief Tribe at Sierra Leone; including the Expedition to Cuba, for the purpose of procuring Spanish Chasseurs; and the State of the Island of Jamaica for the last ten years; with a succinct History of the Island previous to that period.* By R. C. Dallas, Esq. Two Volumes 8vo. pp. 987. London, Longman & Rees. 1803.

WHEN the title of a work extends to such a length, and embraces so minute a detail of the contents, there is reason to suspect that the author has either misnamed his performance, or that his design is defective in unity; and the most cursory perusal of the volumes now before us must convince any one that it is liable to both these exceptions in no common degree.

The design of the book is stated by the author, in a very turgid and diffuse preface, to comprehend the History of the Maroons, a subject extremely short and simple, not necessarily connected with any other branch of West Indian politics, and capable of being handled, without reference either to the general topics of colonial affairs, or the private adventures of individuals. But the conciseness of the subject was apparently its chief drawback in the eyes of Mr Dallas; and we are indebted to his desire of eking it out for at least one half of the pages which compose these volumes. Because the Maroons lived in Jamaica, a '*succinct history*' of that island is prefixed; occupying a hundred pages. Above twenty pages are added, repeating some of this history, and describing the state of affairs in St

Domingo.

Domingo, because these bore some relation to the interests of Jamaica. Then, because the Maroons were negroes, and other negroes are slaves, a copy of the consolidated Slave act of Jamaica is allowed to occupy above fifty pages. Colonel Quarrell was sent to Cuba to hire bloodhounds during the last Maroon war; therefore the whole adventures of this gentleman are related in a hundred and twenty pages, with a minute description of the towns through which he passed, the personages whom he happened to visit, and many of the entertainments at which he was present. After the whole subject of the Maroons has been exhausted, our author finds he has nearly two hundred of his pages yet to fill; and this he does handsomely enough with desultory remarks, anecdotes, descriptions, and statements, relative to Jamaica and the negroes. The same glaring want of taste, and obvious spirit of book making, which united in dictating this plan, appear to have presided over its execution: The style is throughout wretched, and the composition is precisely that of a novel. We believe few works, under the name of History, furnish so many specimens of flippancy, bombast, and dereliction of dignity, as this of Mr Dallas. It is written not only in the form of letters, but with all the pertness and levity of female epistolary correspondence. The meanest forms of expression are constantly resorted to, without the excuse of necessity, or the remuneration of humour. The most pompous images are introduced, where the subject required only plain narrative; and, as if to render the appearance of those figures more ludicrous, they are usually surrounded with the lowest allusions of which our language is susceptible. The more trivial and undignified incidents are selected for the purpose of amusing; and the whole mass appears to have been combined with a rapidity that excluded all chance of correction or arrangement.

To justify these strictures, we shall lay before our readers a few specimens, taken almost at random, from the rich assortment which every letter presents us with. Partly from the inelegance of manners, and the vulgarity of character, which prevails in most of the commercial settlements of the New World, and partly from the admixture of the gibberish used by the negroes, the nomenclature of the West Indian islands is extremely ill adapted to the purposes of a dignified or affecting narrative. It would have been difficult even for Robertson to have sustained the complete propriety and decorum of his style, had he been called upon to narrate the actions of Cudjoe, Johnny, and Cuffy—at the Cockpits, Hellshire, Nanny, Parlison Trash-house, Amity Hall, One-eye, or Putty-putty bottom. But a writer of the most limited skill in composition will perceive the necessity of

introducing

introducing all such names as seldom as possible in his finer passages; and will, upon no account whatever, aggravate the natural meanness of his subject by detailing the remarks of negroes in broken language, and adopting, unnecessarily, their low and disgusting expressions. Of this rule our author seems lamentably ignorant. His negroes are always chattering, and his epithets are rather vulgar and ludicrous, than easy or familiar. Such of our readers as wish to see the effects of negro eloquence, in working up the eulge of a conquering general, and in elucidating the doctrines of ethics, may turn to vol. i. p. 246. and vol. ii. p. 226.

The character of Mr Dallas's nomenclature may, indeed, be estimated by the circumstance of '*fellows*' generally being preferred to '*men*,' or '*soldiers*;' and by the following assortment of terms, which all occur in two pages, '*villain*,'—'*villanous*'—'*rascals*'—'*tars*'—'*vagabonds*,' vol. ii. p. 46, 47.

Our author is not more happy in his combinations of words, than in his selection of simple applications. The difficulty of confining the Maroons by a cordon is compared to that of '*penning pigeons in a meadow*,' vol. i. 238. A subaltern, at a certain post, had '*a ticklish game to play*,' vol. ii. 82. And, immediately before, we are told, that '*Senor* (or, as he calls him, Signor) Pedrasso' *would not sport his toe*,' although Mr Quarrell, '*dressed a la militaire*,' walked a minuet with the Marquisa, and supplied, by good humour and address, '*the place of gestive love*,' ib. 79.

In the larger patches of composition, which are intended to strike the reader, Mr Dallas is, if possible, still less felicitous. Our unfeigned and conscientious admiration of the person bedaubed in the following passage may lead us to excuse a digression of this sort; but it inclines us, at the same time, to lament that so little taste should be displayed on so fine a subject.

'And here, my dear friend, suffer me to pay a tribute of gratitude and admiration, however slight it may be from my pen, to the consummate statesman, whose wisdom and foresight, whose prudence and perseverance, whose talents and firmness, whose energy and virtue, have saved this realm; saved the majesty of a Sovereign, the dignity and spirit of a gentleman, the independence and happiness of a people. The brilliancy of such a character cannot be eclipsed by the turbulence of party-sophistry, and the fermenting crudities of mob-leaders. Who observes any obscurity in the transit of Mercury across the Sun? Nay, although the glorious orb of heat and light is at times darkened by an inferior interposer, the opaque body soon passes away, and leaves its splendour undiminished,' &c. vol. i. p. 16. 17

'Our author's talents for describing the beauties of natural scenery are somewhat of the same cast with his powers of eulogizing great characters.

‘ The site of the New Town commands a prospect, in which the charms of the sublime and of the beautiful are united, and presents subjects that would have been worthy of the Italian pencil in the age of Leo, and are worthy of the English one under George III. Imagine that you have rode in a carriage from Montego-Bay to John’s Hall, that you have mounted and walked your horse up the long ascent to Kensington, that you have trotted through majestic woods to Vaughan’s field, made your way to the Old Town, and scrambled a-foot through the defile to the New one; you will stand in need of rest, and I shall therefore let you sleep till the next morning. The smoke of the habitations has been condensed by the weight of the night-air, and has mingled with the thick and fleecy-looking fog rising from innumerable glades. Injure not my description, by suffering the intrusion of a misplaced idea of an insalubrious exhalation,’ &c. Vol. i. p. 84. 85.

If, to the manifold imperfections now pointed out in the style and arrangement of this work, we add the want of any correct reference to authorities upon disputed points; the excessive rapidity of the narrative in the most important parts of the subject, contrasted with extreme minuteness of detail on more trivial occasions; and the most unpardonable negligence in quoting the opinions or statements of those who are attacked for error or inaccuracy, it will perhaps be admitted, that the author has somewhat too highly estimated the importance of his work, when he ranked it with that class of writings in which the qualities of elegance, dignity, and correctness, are most peculiarly required. But if, instead of a history, we had only been led to expect in these volumes an amusing collection of anecdotes, founded in truth, we must admit, that we should have risen from the perusal highly satisfied. This is, in fact, considered as a book of *entertainment*, one of the most pleasing and interesting that we have ever met with. Taking it in this point of view, the selection and arrangement displays no small portion of skill; but, then, there is too much statistical detail and protracted narrative for a mere miscellany intended to amuse: so that although the perusal of the greater part may give pleasure to those who read without any other object than the gratification of a curiosity quickly excited, satisfied, and forgotten; in a word, to the readers of novels, magazines, and newspapers; yet they will pass over a considerable portion without finding any thing to arrest their attention: while the readers of history will probably discover little in the whole work which is not better told elsewhere, and will be disgusted with the manner in which that little is delivered. To a certain class of readers, indeed, this work may prove a source of more unmingled delight. They who consider the present system of

West Indian policy as right and expedient, that is to say, they who possess West Indian estates, which require new supplies of negroes, will probably receive great satisfaction from the principles maintained by Mr Dallas; and we cannot help wishing that he had ventured to act upon what must be his belief or conviction, that those persons are the least respectable of his readers.

As some of the subjects of Mr Dallas's work are in themselves highly interesting, and as, we doubt not, the qualities which, according to the foregoing estimate, it may be allowed to possess will procure it many readers, we shall now direct our attention more particularly to the plan and substance of the book; pointing out, in the first place, the real amount of the new information which the author pretends to communicate; and then stating what appear to us the chief questions of more general discussion, that arise out of the historical detail.

The '*Succinct History of Jamaica*,' we are informed in the preface, is the work of a Mr Cutting; and Mr Dallas bestows upon it a very liberal eulogium. Now, this information happens to be as incorrect as the eulogium is unmerited; for the '*Succinct History*' is a very bad abstract from Edwards, frequently expressed in the same words, and sometimes adorned with the very quotations of that well known author.

The first letter, which is pretty much on the same subject, Mr Dallas has derived from the same source; but this he partly acknowledges in a note. In one part of the letter we meet with a theory, given under the form of a fact, and, we will venture to say, equally unfounded in both these capacities. The expedition to St Domingo is charged with being the cause of the negro emancipation in that ill fated colony. He must, indeed, be grossly ignorant of West Indian affairs who can discover, in the British invasion, the slightest connexion with the internal dissensions which, both before and after the year 1793, overthrew the colonial system of the French islands. We wish Mr Dallas had studied those parts of Edwards, from which instruction was to be derived, as attentively as he has perused the parts from which he could extract and abridge. It is difficult to say in what chapter of the '*History of St Domingo*' the most complete refutation of this calumny may be found: And yet Edwards, like every Jamaica landholder, is loud in condemning the St Domingo expedition; he even seems willing to believe in some mysterious connexion between that measure and the proclamation of the French commissioners. But the whole of those memorable events, which preceded the invasion under General Williamson,

concur

concur to demonstrate, that the negro emancipation was not even accelerated by the fears of the Republican agents.

In the account which Mr Dallas gives of the Maroons, he is much more copious and amusing than Mr Edwards; but only now and then gives us more real information. Among the *desiderata* which common readers must have found in Edwards' tract, and which the present work supplies, we may mention as most important the distinct statement of the difference between the original Maroons and the runaway Negroes, who afterwards received the same appellation. The former were the slaves of the Spaniards, left behind them at their expulsion; and they settled in the eastern and northern parts of the island. The latter left their masters in the rebellion 1690, and settled on the south side. They were afterwards joined by a number of fugitives, chiefly Coromantees; by the Cottawoods, a tribe of the Maroons; and by the Madagascars, a tribe of uncertain origin. This new race of independent negroes was consolidated under the famous chief Cudjoe, in 1730; and became so formidable, that, after various unsuccessful attempts to seduce them, Governor Trelawney was induced to give them an advantageous peace in the year 1738. It was this tribe alone that engaged in the last rebellion. Now, from Mr Edwards' account no such information can be collected: He makes no distinction between the original Spanish Maroons, whose descendants still remain in the island, and the tribe of Cudjoe, the Trelawney Town Maroons, composed of rebels and fugitives from the English plantations, with a few Spanish Maroons. These were sent off, after the last rebellion; first to Nova Scotia, and then to Sierra Leone.

Another obligation, under which Mr Dallas has laid the inquisitive reader, arises from the clear and accurate description of the Cockpits, and the Maroon mode of fighting. For want of this, the narrative of Edwards is extremely obscure in many parts. We are still farther indebted to our author, for correcting several misrepresentations into which Edwards has been led by his interested zeal against every thing that tends to favour the negroes. Accustomed, as we have been, to the inaccuracies of that writer upon all negro questions, we were not surprised to find abundant confirmations of our general opinions respecting his historical merits. We never believed his account of the Maroon character. Mr Dallas brings his own testimony, and that of his respectable informers, to strengthen our disbelief.

As an example of the discrepancy which often prevails among eye-witnesses of the same facts, we may observe, that both these writers ground several of their contradictory opinions upon alleged personal observation; and as a proof of Mr Edwards' zeal

to blacken the character of the Maroons, we shall mention one singular circumstance. Mr Dallas tells us, that six weeks after Colonel Fitch's death, his skeleton was found among other bones of the slain, and that the skull was thrown within the ribs (vol. i. p. 299). In order to render this picture more horrid, Mr Edwards has converted the six weeks into a day or two, covered the bones with flesh, and filled the abominable cavity with bowels (sect. 3. *sub fine*). What he thus gains is indeed trifling; but the dishonesty of a trick is not much palliated by the insignificance of the gain.

A more extensive error has been committed by the same writer, if we may trust the result of a comparison which naturally forces itself on us, in reading his account of the plan for employing bloodhounds, (sect. 1. & 4.), and contrasting it with the narrative given by Mr Dallas, (vol. ii. p. 4. *et seqq.*)

Mr Dallas ascribes the suggestion of this very dubious measure to a conversation held by Mr Quarrell with a Spaniard, who had seen it adopted successfully against the Musquito Indians. Mr Edwards, after stating a fact wholly omitted by Mr Dallas, that dogs had been employed for tracking the Maroons in the war 1780, describes the measures of 1795 as a recurrence to the laudable policy of former times. According to the former author, the only use of the dogs was to find out the retreats of the Maroons. The narrative of the latter proves, that the discovery of their haunts must be synonymous with their immediate butchery, either by the dogs or the chaffeurs. Edwards describes the dogs as trained to the chase of wild cattle. Dallas uniformly distinguishes the true bloodhounds from those used in cattle hunting; the one, being trained exclusively to the scent of men, the taste of human flesh, and the tearing of the victim's limb from limb; the other, being only common hounds, of great strength indeed, but of very inferior value, in negro warfare. We shall insert, for the information of our readers, the following description, from vol. ii. p. 56, 63, & 67.

'The dogs carried out by the Chaffeurs del Rey are perfectly broken in; that is to say, they will not kill the object they pursue, unless resisted. On coming up with a fugitive, they bark at him till he stops; they then couch near him, terrifying him with a ferocious growling if he stirs. In this position they continue barking, to give notice to the chaffeurs, who come up and secure their prisoner. Each chaffeur, though he can hunt only with two dogs properly, is obliged to have three, which he maintains at his own cost; and that at no small expence. These people live with their dogs, from which they are inseparable. At home, the dogs are kept chained; and when walking with their masters, are never unmuzzled, or let out of ropes, but for attack. They are constantly

constantly accompanied with one or two small dogs, called finders, whose scent is very keen, and always sure of hitting off a trick. Dogs and bitches hunt equally well; and the chasseurs rear no more than will supply the number required. This breed of dogs, indeed, is not so prolific as the common kinds, though infinitely stronger and hardier. The animal is the size of a very large hound, with ears erect, which are usually cropped at the points; the nose more pointed, but widening very much towards the after-part of the jaw. His coat, or skin, is much harder than that of most dogs, and so must be the whole structure of the body, as the severe beatings he undergoes in training would kill any other species of dog. There are some, but not many, of a more obtuse nose, and which are rather square set. These, it may be presumed, have been crossed by the mastiff; but if by this the bulk has been a little increased, it has added nothing to the strength, height, beauty, or agility, of the native breed.' p. 56—58.

'The pursuit of the game is entirely the province of the finder; the larger dogs, from their training, would pass a hog without notice. Were one of them to bark at a hog he would be severely punished.' p. 63.

'The Befucal chasseurs had not above seventy dogs properly broke; the others, of which they had many, though of the same breed, will kill the object they pursue: they fly at the throat, or other part of a man, and never quit their hold, till they are cut in two. These dogs, however, are seldom if ever, carried out till perfectly trained.' p. 67.

Now, let it be remembered, that one hundred and twenty dogs and *forty* chasseurs, were transported from Befucal to Jamaica; and it must be evident that few only of the number were properly trained; and, consequently, that more of the duty of hunting Maroons was meant to be left to the bloodhounds than to the drivers.

To Mr Dallas we are also indebted for a statement entirely omitted by Mr Edwards, not only of the real cause of terror, which the negroes of Jamaica had, on the landing of the hounds; a terror which Mr Edwards ascribes to false accounts of their qualities, but also of the specimens given by these animals, of their skill in the chase of men, and their thirst of human blood. vol. ii. p. 160. & 169.

'In this bottom Zeny encamped, judging it better to give rest to the men and the dogs, now exhausted with fatigue as well as thirst, and to advance on the Maroons in the morning, with the day before him, when the enemy would be less able to avail themselves of their superior knowledge of the ground than in the night. The party had scarcely erected their huts when the barking of a dog was heard near them. They got immediately under arms, and proceeding in the direction of the sound, discovered a negro endeavouring to make his escape. One of the Spanish dogs was sent after him. On coming up, the negro cut him twice

with his muschet, on which the dog seized him by the nape of the neck, and secured him.' p. 160. 161.

' One of the dogs that had been unmuzzled to drink, when there was not the least apprehension of any mischief, went up to the woman who was sitting attending to a pot in which she was preparing a mess. The dog smelled at it, and was troublesome; this provoked her; she took up a stick and began to beat him, on which he seized on her throat, which he would not let go till his head was severed from his body by his master. The windpipe of the woman being much torn, she could not be saved.' p. 169.

It is only necessary to add, that Mr Dallas is as keen an advocate as Mr Edwards for the use of the bloodhounds; that he derives all his original information from the person charged with the employment of procuring them, and honoured with the praise of having suggested the plan; that he evidently softens the information, as much as is consistent with truth; and that we can obtain a fair account of the scheme of the agents employed in executing it, only by comparing the different parts of his scattered narrative. We have judged it necessary to enter into these details, because they furnish the most material branch of the new matter contained in this work, and prepare the reader for the discussion of the main question suggested by the Maroon affairs—the propriety of employing bloodhounds in a war against human beings. We now proceed to offer a few remarks upon this point, chiefly because we conceive it has been much mistated on both sides, and because the situation of West Indian affairs renders the recurrence of similar discussions a matter of high probability*. We think it necessary to premise that, after the dogs arrived in Jamaica, they were uniformly kept in the rear of the army; that, unless in the two instances above mentioned, they never shed a drop of human blood; and that the commander, on all occasions, peremptorily rejected the earnest solicitations of the Spanish chaffeurs, who were eager to *finish the war*, as they termed it, and to obtain the 960 dollars *per head* of the Maroons. We do not mean this as a compliment to the gallant officer, who innocently, rather than gloriously, terminated the campaign; for, had he acted otherwise, he would have been, in our apprehension, guilty of a crime.

The question upon which we propose to offer a few remarks, is closely connected with the first principles of political science,

* If common fame may be credited, the French are at present engaged in a campaign against the St Domingo rebels, with the aid of bloodhounds. Considering the nature of the consular government, and the wretched people over whom it is stretched, we cannot avoid being astonished at this measure having only now been adopted.

and may appear to savour a little too much of metaphysical disputation. We shall endeavour, however, to steer clear of casuistical topics, and to offer a few plain criteria for the examination of the subject.

It must be observed, in the outset, that the mere consideration of humanity is by no means the chief argument against the employment of extraordinary methods of attack. In all civilized warfare, certain common and mutual rights are recognized; and the dread of retaliation will always operate as a prudential motive upon those combatants whose feelings are the most callous. It is not, therefore, from motives of humanity, but from views of interest, that the chief arguments on both sides of this question will naturally be drawn. By overlooking this principle, however, it has happened, that all the arguments of analogy which have been used to defend the employment of bloodhounds against the Maroons, if they prove any thing, prove a vast deal too much. The party who favoured the scheme, including the Legislature of Jamaica, maintained, that animals had all along been used in war, by the most refined nations in the world; that the Asiatics had used elephants, and would have enlisted lions and tygers in their service, had these possessed sufficient docility; that every European nation adopts the use of horses, principally for the purpose of following up an attack upon discomfited and flying infantry. But, surely, if the only limits to the right of employing such auxiliaries, are the previous usage of what we thus term civilized states, and the safety with which those auxiliaries may be employed, the very same limits may be stretched, so as to comprehend all the stratagems of ancient warfare, the serpent-pots of Hannibal, the assassins of the Old Man of the Mountain, the poisoned arrows of the Indians and Orientals, nay, the compendious waste of life by poisoning the meat and drink of an enemy, and the punishment of captives by tortures, not to mention red-hot balls, and refusal of quarter. The same expedients may be justified by the other more general argument which the advocates for the use of bloodhounds resorted to, that the justice of the end justifies all the means which can be proved useful towards its attainment. To poison the water of a besieged city, or to assassinate the generals of a hostile army, are measures of obvious use towards the defeat of the enemy, and are no more liable to the charge of wantonness, or malice, or needless cruelty, than any other acts of hostility.

To the illustrations given by Edwards, in his statement of the reasoning adopted by the Assembly of Jamaica, Mr Dallas adds several other topics, which he seems to think still more decisive of the question. 'Were a man,' he demands, 'bit by a mad dog, would he scruple to cut or burn out the part which had received the contagion? Do we not amputate a limb, to save

the body? and if self-preservation,' he continues, 'dictate these personal sufferings, shall not the preservation of a large community justify the use of the readiest, perhaps the only means of averting destruction?' But, besides, that this argument applies, like all the rest which we have considered, to the justification of every species of enormity, whereby military operations may be facilitated, and the destruction of war rendered more extensive and unsparing, it should be remembered, that the very act of hostilities against any tribe, presupposes it not to be a part of the community which carries on the war with it. It is ludicrous to talk of a concession, or a loss, or a sacrifice, made to preserve one of the belligerent parties, at the sole expence of the other. The act of submitting to a painful and extraordinary privation, in order to prevent a still greater evil, derives its whole merit from affecting the person or the community, that at once feels the smart, and reaps the benefit: We can give but little credit to the heroism which seeks for self-preservation, not in self-denial and sufferings, but in the pains and injuries of others.

It is indeed alleged, that the Maroons were rebels, and not enemies. But although, like many other nations, they owed their origin to a successful rebellion at a former period, it is clear that they had acquired, by the concessions of the Europeans themselves, a right to be treated, in many important particulars, exactly like an independent community. By the celebrated treaty most unfortunately concluded in the year 1798, in consequence of mutual misconceptions of the state of things on each side, lands were granted in perpetuity to the Maroons, as a separate tribe; the general plan of a system was sketched out, by which they agreed to regulate themselves towards their British neighbours; and, by their own voluntary agreement, certain limitations were imposed upon their power of arranging their own affairs. Although the seeds of a new rupture had been left to spring up gradually by the operation of this compact, (as too often happens in the transactions of greater communities), it is obvious that the immediate cause of the hostilities in 1795 was of such a nature as would, in Europe, have been held to throw the blame upon Great Britain. The letter of the treaty was observed and its spirit completely disregarded. Two Maroons were whipt for thieving. To this their countrymen would have had no objections; but, then, the punishment was performed by the hands of a slave, while it was well known that the most irreconcilable enmity has been successfully encouraged between the Maroons and the enslaved negroes. The rebellion would have been quelled, had not another step been adopted, equally repugnant to the spirit of the treaty—that of sending those who came to make
submissi^on,

submission, on board of a vessel, when it was known that the thing most dreaded by the Maroons was transportation from the country. If, to these unnecessary insults, we add, the persevering obstinacy with which the government maintained in his office a superintendant, extremely obnoxious to the tribe, and excluded from that situation the person who had gained their entire favour and confidence, we shall probably be inclined to think that the Maroons did not resort to hostilities, without having somewhat of the same pretexts which are held to justify more civilized nations in adopting warlike measures; and, at any rate, that there was nothing so extraordinary in their conduct, as to justify the adoption of uncommon methods of annoyance on the other side.

But Mr Dallas ridicules the clamour that was raised in England against the employment of bloodhounds; partly by enumerating instances of greater and more inexcusable violence; such as, the Spaniards hunting the naked Americans, the Romans exposing criminals to wild beasts in their public amusements, and the Spartans hunting the Helotes for their diversion; and partly by stating, what he considers as a parallel case, the practice of keeping watch-dogs. With respect to the last of these arguments, it is sufficient to remark, that the objection formerly urged, applies to it in full force: it proves a great deal too much, if we admit that it applies at all. With respect to the former cases, what do they prove, but that still greater enormities were once committed by the Spaniards, the Romans, and the Spartans, than those of which we have to accuse the government of Jamaica? It is no very great vindication of our countrymen in the colony, that the enormity of their conduct was less shocking than those outrageous violations of every human feeling and principle, by which the most warlike nations of antiquity, and one of the greatest states in modern times, have branded their names with everlasting infamy.

The circumstance of a difference in civilization, cannot, by any means, render the case of the Maroons an exception to the laws which, partly from right declared by usage, partly from clear views of mutual interest, prohibit a recurrence to extraordinary modes of annoyance. It becomes a refined people to war with savages, if circumstances render such hostilities necessary, according to the same rules of honour and good faith which regulate their attacks upon more polished states. Once admit that the line may be overstepped in consideration of the character of the enemy, and you must sanction the adoption of every enormity which is practised by savages themselves in their barbarous system of warfare. It is the proud distinction of a civilized nation, to have abandoned, at a former period of its progress, all those arts of ferocious ingenuity; and there is not a

shade to separate the crime of recurring to the same state of barbarism, in order to oppose tribes who have not yet abandoned it, from the crime of introducing those modes of barbarity into contests with civilized nations, in order that this temporary dereliction of the civilized state may render the continuance of hostilities shorter, and their recurrences less frequent.

But the Maroons had various advantages, in their knowledge of the country—their acute senses—their perseverance under hardships and privation. These are the only advantages of savages; and, to counterbalance them, we apprehend, the advantages peculiar to civilized warriors are abundantly sufficient. We conceive that discipline, artillery, and regular supplies of provisions, will generally render acuteness of sense superfluous, patience and perseverance unnecessary, and acquaintance with the fastnesses of the country of little avail.

In the situation of the Maroons, the fortuitous circumstances of an uncommonly strong position, and nice adaptation to the rigours of the climate, were added to the common advantages of rude tribes. But vast superiority of numbers, all the facilities arising from a possession of the towns and coasts, and a decided preference in the eyes of the slaves, were no trifling matters in favour of the Europeans, to match the accidental superiority of the savages in these particulars.

The proceedings of the Maroons were indeed stained with those enormities which always attend a barbarian's conquests: but the perpetration of such enormities is the great feature which distinguishes a savage state: And as an immediate sacrifice of the bad passions to which they owe their origin, would by no means insure the possession of discipline and refinement: so, the sacrifice of regularity and humanity, would not secure to Europeans all advantages of systematic cruelty. In short, the contest between foes of different degrees of civilization, is a thing, on every account, much to be deprecated. But if, by our own policy, we have filled our colonies with barbarians, let us not aggravate the original crime, by adding it to another; let us not overleap the bounds which separate the savage from the civilized state. That the bloodhounds were never used, can be no vindication of the measure in question. If the Maroons had resisted, they would have been partly tracked, that is, hunted and shot, when they could not resist; partly torn to pieces by animals who are trained to the scent and taste of human blood. It was only the effects produced upon the savages, by seeing this refinement of barbarous tactics, which prevented the apparatus from being used as it was produced. It would be no vindication of a general who should poison his swords, or the enemy's water, to say, that the fear of the poison kept the enemy from either fighting or drinking, by

which he was subdued; nor would it much excuse a highwayman, that the fear of his pistol prevented him from committing murder, in order of effect a robbery. The Legislature of Jamaica, if the idea of *right* applies to national proceedings, were guilty of a breach of public duty, by hiring bloodhounds, although this measure operated by fear and not by actual murder. They were guilty of gross impolicy, in an enlarged sense of the word, unless it can be alleged that the shortest and easiest means of attaining a justifiable object, are always the most expedient, even when they are most criminal.

It is upon the Legislature of the island, and not upon the Governor or the Commander in Chief, that the foul stain, which we cannot help thinking the British name received in this transaction, must rest. The Colonial Assembly, with that meanness of plan, that precipitancy of action, and that cowardly eagerness after present safety, which might have been expected in a parish vestry, adopted this mode of proceeding, immediately after they had nearly come to a pusillanimous resolution of giving the Maroons equal terms, without trying the effects of General Walpole's system. Their subsequent conduct was marked by similar inconsistency and narrowness of views, both towards their own agents in the bloodhound scheme, and towards the Maroons themselves. They virtually acknowledged that Mr Quarrell had saved the island by his ability in executing the plan; but they were too jealous of a fellow colonist, to return him direct thanks: They treated with the enemy, and, in our humble opinion, violated their plighted faith. This is the next question of importance in considering the Maroon affairs; and we shall say but a very few words upon it; though it illustrates the absurdity of expecting much from Colonial Assemblies.

In the convention between the Maroons and General Walpole, ratified by the Government, it was stipulated, that they should lay down their arms, and deliver up themselves and the deserter negroes, before a specified day. It was also stipulated, that they should *not* be carried out of the island. Now, it cannot be denied that the Maroons were slow in performing their part of the stipulation. The first day of surrender specified in the treaty was allowed to elapse, and another was named; which also passed over, without any considerable number of Maroons surrendering. General Walpole, therefore, deemed the treaty sufficiently infringed to justify him in hastening their surrender, by threats of using the hounds. But his principal instrument of persuasion consisted in assurances that the stipulations of the treaty would be strictly observed by Government; for he plainly saw that the backwardness of the Maroons arose entirely from the distrust which forms so distinguishing a feature of the savage character.

character. As soon as he had succeeded in removing these suspicions, the Maroons surrendered themselves, and the Assembly, on the ground of the treaty having been set aside by their delay, immediately voted that they should be transported to the British dominions in North America. The Governor left the determination of this point entirely to them; and they positively refused even to hear General Walpole give evidence with respect to those parts of the Maroon affairs which he alone had an opportunity of knowing. When we consider the difference of the British and the Maroons in point of refinement, we shall perhaps be disposed to think, that some inaccuracy on the part of the latter, in observing the precise terms of the treaty, might have been forgiven. But when it is admitted that the Maroons continued to come in gradually on the faith of the subsisting treaty; that their slowness originated in distrust; that their submission was accepted without any new stipulations, we cannot hesitate to declare the rigorous conduct of the Assembly a direct violation of justice, as well as humanity, supported by a pitiful nicety in the interpretation of a compact, the spirit of which had been observed, as far as the British had any right to expect, from their knowledge of the party with whom they bargained. The Maroons were sent to Nova Scotia, where they remained an expence to the island of Jamaica, from their habitual want of industry; and miserable from the severity of the climate, and their hankering after a more southerly exposure. Rather induced by the expence, than by the unhappy condition of these people, the Colonial Legislature took measures, in the year 1799, for transporting them to Sierra Leone, where they have since lived in greater quietness and comfort.

The opinions of our author upon all the negro questions, differ extremely from those which we have been led to form, even by attending to his own statements of fact. He positively denies the dangers of an independent negro commonwealth being allowed to grow up in the West Indies. Upon this subject we have already delivered our sentiments, and have sketched the reasons on which they are founded. (No. I. Art. XXVII.) He objects to the scheme of cultivating by free negroes, and argues against the author of the '*Crisis*,' in a vague and declamatory style. Although on this point we agree with him, yet we are not at all confirmed in our opinion, by his very loose and superficial remarks, and we cannot avoid reprobating the careless or insidious manner in which he alludes to the excellent writer just now mentioned. He describes him as the champion of negro liberty, and declaims against the idea of emancipation, as if any one could now be found willing to support so insane a doctrine. But nothing can be more absurd than his defence of the slave trade.

He seriously maintains, that it is authorized by religion and usage; that it is calculated to civilize Africa; and that the possession of liberty is rendered of little value, by the recollection of what has lately passed in France. We have often heard the French revolution pressed into the service of those who wanted an *argumentum ad populum*, to palliate existing abuses in the political establishments of Europe. But we have not until now observed that calamitous event used as a vindication of domestic slavery, and still less as a defence of the negro commerce.

Upon the whole, we cannot give much praise to Mr Dallas's performance, either as a history or a piece of reasoning. All the grave and argumentative part of it tends little to instruct or convince. The adventures of Mr Quarrell, however, and the anecdotes of the Maroon war, may certainly amuse those who delight in useless reading; and we must acknowledge, that, after giving up all idea of receiving real benefit from the book, we have been highly entertained by perusing it merely as a romance, or an unimportant piece of biography.

ART. IX.—*Nouvelle Theorie de la Formation des Filons, par A. G. Werner.* Traduit de l'Allemand, par J. F. Daubuisson. Paris, 1802.

IN the present state of society, metallic substances are among the most powerful of our moral and physical agents. The theory of their formation, and the rules that may lead to their discovery, are therefore the most important objects of mineralogical research. The circumstances in which they are found, the economy to be observed in obtaining them, their probable extent, and possible reproduction, are inquires which affect the interest of all, and involve the most intricate and interesting questions of geological speculation.

The author of the work we are about to consider, has long enjoyed deserved celebrity. His treatise 'on the External Characters of Fossils,' may be said to have first rendered mineralogy a communicable science, by substituting precise terms, accurate definitions, and infallible criteria, for the vague, unmeaning, or unintelligible descriptions with which the adepts of the old school had formerly bewildered their disciples, and involved their art itself in barbarous mysticism. Elevated by his talents to the respectable situation of Professor in the first mineralogical school in Europe, Werner has seen his system triumph over the opposition of prejudice, petulance, and jealousy. His authority