

**A SPEEDY END TO SLAVERY IN
OUR WEST INDIA COLONIES: BY
SAFE, EFFECTUAL, AND EQUITABLE
MEANS, FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL
PARTIES CONCERNED**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649487639

A Speedy End to Slavery in Our West India Colonies: By Safe, Effectual, and Equitable Means,
for the Benefit of All Parties Concerned by T. S. Winn

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

T. S. WINN

**A SPEEDY END TO SLAVERY IN
OUR WEST INDIA COLONIES: BY
SAFE, EFFECTUAL, AND EQUITABLE
MEANS, FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL
PARTIES CONCERNED**

A

23

SPEEDY END TO SLAVERY

IN OUR

WEST INDIA COLONIES,

BY

Safe, Effectual, and Equitable Means,

FOR THE

BENEFIT OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED.



"FIAT JUSTITIA."

By T. S. WINN,

Formerly Resident in the West Indies :

Author of "EMANCIPATION ; OR, PRACTICAL ADVICE TO BRITISH SLAVE-
HOLDERS ; with Suggestions for the General Improvement of West
India Affairs," to be had at the same Publishers.

LONDON :

Sold by W. PHILLIPS, George Yard, Lombard Street; J. & A.
ARCH, Cornhill; and J. HATCHARD & SON, Piccadilly.

1825.

500.22 v. 72

ok-

24751 d 2

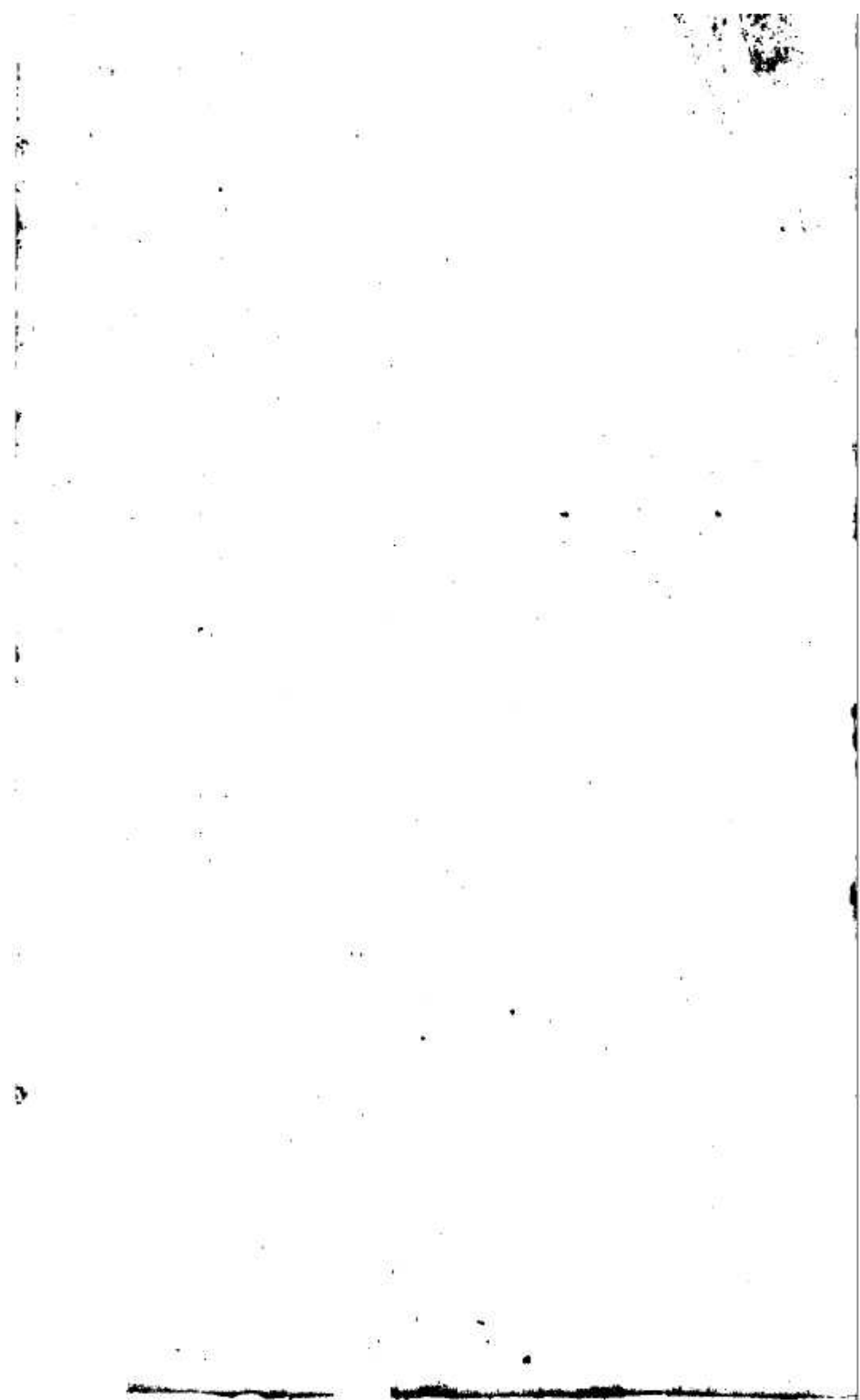


PREFACE.

IN a Pamphlet published in February last year, entitled "Emancipation, or Practical Advice to British Slave-holders; with Suggestions for the General Improvement of West India Affairs," I chiefly pointed out the necessity and advantages of an Abolition of Slavery in our West India Colonies.—The principal object of the ensuing pages, is to propose a specific plan for that purpose; and to shew that, under certain Regulations, it may be effected at once and for ever, with safety, justice, and benefit to all parties concerned.—And if not done at once, it is not likely to be done at all, or not until the lapse of ages.—If so, then ought Slavery to longer exist in the British dominions?

1st June, 1825.

N. B.—The former Pamphlet was intended as, and will be found a necessary introduction and accompaniment to the present Work.



A Speedy End to Slavery.



IN a late pamphlet entitled "Emancipation, or Practical Advice to British Slave-holders," I have stated that "Slavery in our West Indies might safely and beneficially be Abolished at once and for ever, at least in name and odium, with many of its greatest evils, and ought to be done."—I there suggested measures in part of a plan for that purpose, and undertook to enter more fully on the subject in a supplementary work.—I here endeavor to fulfil that engagement.

It is now generally admitted by disinterested persons, that Slavery in any mode or degree ought not to be tolerated within the British dominions longer than it can well be got rid of—and that such is the nature of the system, as not to admit of any modification, so as to render it just or tolerable for permanent continuance, but only as a preparation for its total Abolition.—It follows, that the sooner and nearer we can safely bring slaves to the condition of freemen, and put an end to Slavery altogether, by the most eligible means for all parties concerned, this is the great desideratum—with such view let us consider

First,—What is best to be done respecting the present existing race of slaves.

Secondly,—As to their descendants henceforth born, or now under a certain age.

Thirdly,—Indemnification to Slave-owners.

The Abolitionists, I believe almost universally, have given up in hopeless despair the present existing race of slaves, as unfit subjects for general emancipation; and only aim at ameliorating their condition as slaves.—'Tis true they wish to allow them to purchase their freedom in whole or in part, whenever they can obtain enough by their earnings or otherwise, and chuse so to appropriate it—but this, though a favorite plan, and not without its advantages where it can be well effected, yet is it unjust in principle, and moreover, I believe, will be found nugatory in general practice.

That it is unjust in principle will appear, because the slave (and fairly) denies the right of his task-master to enslave him at all, and is entitled to his freedom without fee or reward; having been no party to the bargain of his own enslavement, effected against his will and deserts by force or fraud. Moreover, to compensation for the time he may have been unjustly deprived of this his natural right, bestowed on him by his Creator, and may claim the same indemnity for his wife and children.—The Slave-holder may well compound for henceforth ceasing from such injustice, if the injured party will allow him to escape for the past with impunity.—Is it just, is it a boon, to allow a slave his freedom, which is his right, on the sole condition that he pay his unjust detainer the price he values him at as his slave, so as to render it immaterial to the Slave-holder whether he retain the man or the money—why he would so dispose of the slave to any dealer in the market! is the injured party to have no other redress or advantage?—And even were the slave to pay for his redemption at an under valuation, however low, it would in principle be equally admitting the right of his oppressor to hold him in slavery.—As well might the holder of stolen goods refuse to make restitution to the rightful owner 'till indemnified by him in full

or in part for their worth.—No, no, West India proprietors have no claim, in any mode or degree, on their slaves for their supposed value as such, whatever they may have on the Government that has tolerated, and even encouraged, if not guaranteed their nefarious system—let them look to that quarter, if they must be paid for ceasing from oppression! and not meanly as unjustly further seek to work such compensation out of the bones and sinews of their poor slaves, whom they have already so long and deeply injured.—Thus is the scheme unjust in principle.

That it would prove nugatory in general practice I believe, because comparatively few slaves would be able, even if disposed, thus to purchase or work out their freedom—their time and strength being usually so much employed in their owner's service even if slaves should be allowed the *talked of* extra half day, besides Sundays, for their own use, and are otherwise so limited in their resources, that in most cases, even if industrious and prudent, they could not earn more on their own account than sufficient to provide necessaries for themselves and families not furnished by their owners, and keep their affairs in order, which at present they have not time or means to do—and female slaves generally would be still less able to work out or purchase their freedom—so that husbands thus effecting their own emancipation would also have to redeem their wives, or leave them in slavery—even supposing their children should be rendered free by other means.

Most slaves work for their owner six entire days of the week, exclusive of Sundays, for the nights of their labour during the crop season are at least equal to the Saturday afternoons, or 26 days in the year allowed by law to the slave for his own use, even if bona fide he gets them, which is not always the case. And even on