

been ultimately limited by restrictions which, besides being a heavy burden on the Treasury of His Catholic Majesty, will not facilitate the total exportation of these emancipated Negroes.

The expense of freight, clothing and other objects mentioned in the first condition is considerably increased by the necessity of keeping the emancipated Negroes collected here until the Governor of Trinidad may prescribe the number of those to be transported and the time of their sailing, according to the third condition, as well as by the tenor of the fourth condition which gives him the power of fixing the relative proportion of males and females to be sent. It is evident that the Government of His Catholic Majesty will have, during the time of all these delays, to maintain these Negroes, because it

will

will be impossible to distribute them out to private individuals, who will not only not demand them, but will not even admit them into their houses for uncertain periods. Neither will this Government be able to employ them in public works, as it will be difficult to put on foot such undertakings in order to give these Negroes occupation, if the local authorities are ignorant how many hands will remain to them; yet this must be the necessary effect of the Governor of Trinidad having the power to prescribe the number to be sent, and to exclude the excess above that relative proportion of males and females which may be demanded by the peculiar circumstances of that Colony.

It is thus unquestionable that this Colony would incur a certain and considerable expense for an uncertain and partial removal of the emancipated Negroes since the local Authorities

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are absolutely ignorant of the number which may suit the convenience of Trinidad. The demands of the Governor of that Colony may be slow and progressive and consequently so much greater will be both the time that the Negroes will have to remain here and the expense which they will occasion to this Government. It is on account of these various considerations that I cannot venture to recommend to the King my Master the adoption of the conditions proposed by His Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies. But I shall ever consider the esteem and distinguished consideration which you merit at my hands to be enhanced by the benevolence and effect with which you have in the execution of your Commission endeavoured to reconcile the interests of the

the

the two Governments.

God preserve you many years.

(signed) El Conde de Villanueva

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