

## CHAP.

## I.

alone thought proper. The application of all the publick monies rested entirely with the intendant ; — a province which created such temptation to himself as no virtue could resist, and furnished such means of corruption, as overcame all opposition from others (*a*).

FOR the better administration of justice, and the easier collection of the revenues, the colony was divided into three provinces ; which were distinguished, from their relative situation, by the names of the Northern, the Western and Southern. In each of these provinces resided a deputy governor, or commander *en second*, and in each were established subordinate courts of justice, both civil and criminal ; from whose determination appeals were allowed to the superior councils, of which there were two ; one at *Cape François* for the Northern province, the other at *Port au Prince* for the Western and Southern. They were composed of the governor-general, the intendant, the deputy governors, the king's lieutenants (*b*), a president,

(*a*) The taxes and duties were laid and modified, as occasion required, by a court composed of the governor general, the intendant, the presidents of the provincial councils, the attorney general, the commissioner of the navy (*ordonateur*) and the several commandants of the militia. This court was dignified by the title of the *Colonial Assembly*, although the colonists had not a single delegate in it.

(*b*) These king's lieutenants were military officers residing in the several towns, commonly with the rank of colonel. There were also in each town *majors* and *aides-major*. All these officers were wholly independent of the civil power, and owned no superior but the governor-general, who could dismiss them at pleasure. It may be proper to observe too that the counsellors held their seats by a very uncertain tenure. One of the governors (the Prince de Rohan) sent the whole number state prisoners to France. They were seized on their seats of justice, and put on board a ship in irons, and in that condition conveyed to Paris, and shut up for a long time in the Bastille, without trial or hearing.

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