

ter of great surprize by what means they obtained ammunition (*b*). From this plantation they sent out foraging parties, with which the whites had frequent skirmishes. In these engagements, the negroes seldom stood their ground longer than to receive and return a single volley, but they appeared again the next day; and though they were at length driven out of their entrenchments with infinite slaughter, yet their numbers seemed not to diminish:—as soon as one body was cut off, another appeared, and thus they succeeded in the object of harassing and destroying the whites by perpetual fatigue, and reducing the country to a desert.

To detail the various conflicts, skirmishes, massacres, and scenes of slaughter, which this exterminating war produced, were to offer a disgusting and frightful picture;—a combination of horrors;—wherein we should behold cruelties unexampled in the annals of mankind; human blood poured forth in torrents; the earth blackened with ashes, and the air tainted with pestilence. It was computed that, within two months after the revolt first began, upwards of two thousand white persons, of all conditions and ages, had been massacred;—that one hundred and eighty sugar plantations, and about nine hundred coffee, cotton,

(*b*) It was discovered afterwards, that great quantities of powder and ball were stolen by the negroes in the town of Cape François from the king's arsenal, and secretly conveyed to the rebels. Most of the fire-arms at first in their possession were supposed to have been part of *Ogé's* importation. But it grieves me to add, that the rebels were afterwards abundantly supplied, by small vessels from North America; the masters of which felt no scruple to receive in payment sugar and rum, from estates of which the owners had been murdered by the men with whom they trafficked.

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