

FRENCH CONGO SLAVES.

THERE ARE PLINY OF BONDSMEN IN THE BIG TERRITORY.

Slavery is not a thing of the past in the French Congo—White Men do not keep slaves but there is domestic slavery—Price of Young Slaves.

Slavery is not entirely a thing of the past in the French Congo. White men do not keep slaves, but domestic slavery exists all through that territory. Nearly every free native has slaves, and often slaves invest their little all in slaves. They are truly servants of servants. Often when a slave is asked, 'Who is your companion?' he replies, 'Oh, he be my nigger master. I done buy him.' There are slaves and half slaves. The slaves are bought from other tribes for salt and cloth, and prisoners of war are sold as slaves.

Twenty to forty native dollars will buy a slave boy. The girls are a little higher in price. The price is about \$5 to \$15 in American money. Nearly always the slaves purchased are children, because they will be more obedient to their master when they grow up. One novel way exists among our people of procuring slaves in the interior. They go there to trade with salt. Salt is the most precious article in the market some days distant from the coast. To attract attention, the salt merchants leave their baskets or matkets of salt by the roadside and apparently go away, but in reality hide themselves near by. The natives cannot resist the temptation very long, and soon some one sneaks up to take 'just a little bit.' If the owner catches the thief, he makes him pay a slave or carries him along with him as a slave. Slavery is the punishment for theft among the Lumbus, Beacas and others in the interior.

Sometimes a small offence makes a slave of the offender. For instance, when the people go into the bush to dry meat they often return with new slaves. Each one erects his own drying rack and keeps the fire going under it. Should any one pass this place and make remarks about the smell or look of the meat, he insults the owner and becomes his slave. One of our former mission boys suffered this penalty for his rashness, and though he was only 15 years old, he became the slave of the insulted person. He will be his slave until the man dies, and then he may return to his people. His people might redeem him for the usual amount paid for a slave.

If any one cannot pay his debts, he is obliged to go to his creditors town and stay there until he pays or until the creditor dies. He remains a half slave until this time and works for his master just like other slaves. The only privilege he enjoys is that he is allowed to have his family with him. Surely a nice way to pay debts. Slaves are generally treated well, just like the children of the family, in fact, and often they intermarry with their master's relatives. There are exceptions to this rule, however. Some masters punish a small misdeed severely, even with death. I remember one instance. A slave claimed to be his master's brother, and for this, which is considered the greatest insult his master ordered the other slaves to kill him. He sent four slaves, the offender among them, into the bush to carry rubber. Two of them were provided with guns, powder, and shot to put the poor fellow out of the way and they did so.

The fourth man not knowing about the game, ran away, and in his fright told everything to other people. The facts soon came to the ears of the Government and they imprisoned the master and the two murderers for three years, besides allowing all of the man's other slaves to leave him. The younger ones were put into the Catholic mission by the official, but the older ones could go where they liked. Only one of them went away. The others carried on their master's business and remained with his family until his return. This may seem strange when the master was so cruel. But here is the explanation of it.

A slave, when he runs away must seek shelter somewhere, and if he goes to any chief's town he will be his slave. It is impossible for him to pass as a free man, because his name and the mark on his body, a small but somewhere about the head or arms, will betray him. So he does not gain much by running away. When slaves intermarry with free people their children become half slaves, and if they marry free persons the next generation will be free.

Slaves do the work of their masters, and are sent by them to work for white people. When I went to the French Congo I found that the slaves worked and the masters drew the wages, the slaves hardly getting sufficient to dress themselves. We soon changed this by refusing to give more to the masters than the proportion the slave wished him to have. Often we would save the wages for months until the slave enough to buy a wife. One of our best workmen had been saving up his money until he had

nearly enough to get married. His master kept at him for money at different times, but he refused to give more than a dollar or two. So the master's people, who needed money resorted, to poison. At first, only a slight dose was administered, but when the slave remained firm in his refusal they killed him with a stronger dose. So they got the money after all.

Some white agents deal in slaves in another way. A black man owes them something—perhaps a good deal. He cannot pay, but gives a slave to the white man. The white man sells the slave to his cook or other employee, or rather he pays them over for wages. The readers may judge about the equity of this transaction.

The officials know about these practices as well as I do, but they are silent on the subject. It is an official were honest enough to complain of their doings they would soon accuse him of some offence and get him removed. And the officials pay no attention to cases of the second sort, because this sort of slave dealing by white men is carried on far more secretly. As far as domestic slavery goes the government does nothing to interfere. Anyone who would help the slaves needs money enough to redeem them and settle them in towns by themselves, and to put means of substance in their reach. This alone will put a stop to domestic slavery.

TRIED TO FOOL BILL NYE.

A Conjuror who Came Near to Paying for His Little Joke.

The travelling conjuror, who seizes favorable opportunities to play tricks upon people in public places in order to advertise his business, may be made to wish that he had let his victim alone, as an incident related in the Chicago Times-Herald goes to show.

When the late 'Bill' Nye, the humorist, was, on one of his last lecturing trips, travelling through Ohio, he happened to be placed at the dinner table at a hotel with a well-known 'magician.' The magician doubtless knew who Nye was, but he supposed himself to be unknown to the humorist—as no doubt he was.

Nye had gone on with his dinner as far as the preparation of a salad, and was picking his lettuce to pieces when the magician turned to him and said:

'Excuse me sir, but I thought I noticed something queer in your lettuce.'

The humorist carefully looked over his lettuce leaf by leaf, and found nothing. He began once more to prepare his salad, when he was stopped by a sharp cry from the conjuror.

'I beg a thousand pardons,' said the man 'but I surely could not have been mistaken that time! There, just look at that!'

He raised one of the lettuce leaves and disclosed underneath it a splendid cluster diamond ring, worth several hundred dollars.

By this time, of course, everybody in the room was gazing. Nye picked up the ring without the smallest expression of surprise. Then he drawled out:

'This thing has gone far enough. I seem to be shedding diamonds wherever I go. Day before yesterday I lost a solitaire in a sugar-bowl at Pittsburgh, and at Cleveland the chambermaid swept up three or four in my room. It's too much work to keep track of these things.'

He summoned the waitress and said to her:

'Miss, you've served us very well here. Please accept this as a reward. Yes, keep it; it's yours.'

The girl took the ring, and the magician who of course had slipped it into the lettuce for a joke on the humorist, had a great deal of trouble in recovering it.

HEALTH'S PARADISE

Regained After Twenty Years' Torture From That Dread Disease, Catarrh—Hon. Geo. Taylor of Scranton, Pa., Tells the World What Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder Has Done For Him.

I was a martyr to catarrh for twenty years—tried every known remedy, but got little or no relief. Was troubled with constant dropping in the throat, terrible pains in my head, and my breath was very offensive. I was induced to give Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder a trial, and the result was magical. The first application cleared my head instantly. I persisted in its use, and today I am a cured man, and it affords me pleasure to lend my testimony.

Only an Imitator.

"That young Borus, who writes verses for the papers, is rather clever, but he's merely an imitator."

"Do you know, I've often suspected that? If anybody yawns in his presence he always yawns, too."

"Odorama," the perfect teeth powder, goes further and lasts longer than any other. Druggists—25 cents.

BORN.

Hebron, Dec. 25, to the wife of H. S. Crosby, a son.

Dayspring, Dec. 23, to the wife of Levi Hewett, a son.

Canning, Dec. 20, to the wife of Samuel Birelow, a son.

Pette Revier, Dec. 20 to the wife of Mr. Fralic, a daughter.

Caribou, Dec. 25, to the wife of Colin McDonald, a daughter.

ODOROMA

Sweeten the Breath,
Hardens the Gums,
Whitens the Teeth,
Preserves the Enamel,
Prevents Decay.

Price 25 cts. All druggists.
THE AROMA CHEMICAL CO.,
TORONTO, ONT.

Milltown, Dec. 26, to the wife of J. Marshall Kerr, a daughter.
Yarmouth, Dec. 25, to the wife of Thomas Andrews, a daughter.
Fredericton, Dec. 31, to the wife of L. C. McNutt, a daughter.
West Quoddy Dec. 25, to the wife of J. H. Mason, a daughter.
Brookfield, N. S., Dec. 28, to the wife of John D. Murray, a son.
Masstown, N. S., Dec. 28, to the wife of C. Tupper Upham, a daughter.
San Jose, Cal., Dec. 18, to the wife of Marshall Hanson, a daughter.
Brookline, N. Y., Dec. 20, to the wife of John A. McDougal, a daughter.
Hamilton, Dec. 22, to the wife of Rev. V. Wilson, H. M. S. Crescent, a daughter.

MARRIED.

Truro, Dec. 24, by Rev. T. Cumming, John Reid to Mary Graham.
St. John, Dec. 31, by Rev. Mr. Dewdney, Thomas Potts to Julia Suits.
Waterville, Dec. 24, by Rev. E. O. Reid, Edward Gould to Nancy Moody.
Truro, Dec. 24, by Rev. A. L. Geggie, Herbert Kent to Mabel S. Todd.
St. Croix, Dec. 17, by Rev. M. G. Henry, Daniel McIver to Hattie Trider.
Halifax, Dec. 29, by Rev. R. Smith, Arthur W. Powell to Isabella Etter.
Knowlesville, Dec. 24, by Rev. E. B. Grey, J. W. Kicker to Etta W. Hobbs.
Amherst, Dec. 24, by Rev. Jas. L. Batty, Warren McDonald to Cassie Nollis.
Argyle, Dec. 23, by Rev. J. W. Freeman, Wm. D. Harding to Sarah J. Daley.
Esdrascon, Dec. 24, by Rev. J. B. Gough, David A. White to Ella M. Adams.
Truro, Dec. 19, by Rev. A. L. Geggie, Edward S. Vance to Annie M. Wright.
Woodstock, Mass., Dec. 20, by Rev. Alva Scott, N. C. Foulis to Annie D. Kilian.
Millstream, Dec. 23, by Rev. Thos. Pierce, Fred W. Masson to Eurida Bettenson.
Sussex, Dec. 30, by Rev. James Gray, William Hyde to Annie M. Buchanan.
Chatham, Dec. 24, by Rev. H. T. Joyner, Michael Morris to Mary A. Goughan.
Truro, Dec. 22, by Rev. T. B. Layton, David Weatherbe to Hannah Lynde.
Truro, Dec. 20, by Rev. J. W. Falconer, Bernard Black to Clara M. Archibald.
Newport N. S., Dec. 25, by Rev. T. W. Johnson, George Mosher to Janie Ross.
Kewick, Dec. 23, by Rev. W. C. Kierstead, Harry Ingraham to Althea Williams.
Berkley, Dec. 24, by Rev. G. W. F. Glendinning, Charles Lutz to Lizzie Tupper.
Leamington, Dec. 22, by Rev. David Wright, Cyrus Corbett to Eddie Gihrov.
Chatham, Dec. 28, by Rev. Canon Fosyth, Arthur E. Ruddock to Isabella Forbes.
Milltown N. B., Dec. 23, by Rev. S. H. Rice, Frederick Redmond to Ella M. Todd.
Waterville N. S., Dec. 30, by Rev. S. M. Allen, Ernest Johnson to Lillian Banks.
East Mountain, Dec. 24, by Rev. R. Barry, Mack Warren Little to Ellen J. Johnson.
Milford, Dec. 30, by Rev. James Ross, James A. Summerville to Maggie Donaldson.
Yarmouth, Dec. 24, by Rev. T. J. Deinstadt, George H. Sullivan to Bertha M. Stoddart.
Bridgewater, Dec. 23, by Rev. A. H. C. Morse, Jason Woodworth to Abbie Verner.
Jamaica Plain, Dec. 23, by Rev. W. G. Jones, Frank P. Jenkins to Annie C. Leland.
Newport N. S., Dec. 25, by Rev. T. W. Johnson, Wm. A. Fader to Mary J. Reynolds.
Steeves Cote N. B., Dec. 30, by Rev. W. Camp, James L. Gunning to Jennie Steev.
Dipper Harbor, Dec. 23, by Rev. J. D. Wetmore, Geo. D. Thibault to Annie A. Belmore.
St. John, Dec. 31, by Rev. J. W. Clarke, Capt. James Somerville to Mary Wetmore.
Lower Stewiacke, Dec. 24, by Rev. A. L. Geggie, George H. Kent to Annie M. Wright.
Vancouver, Dec. 22, by Rev. Mr. Meikle, R. J. Myles to Mary A. Henry of Moncton.
Ashland N. B., Dec. 24, by Rev. J. N. Barnes, Geo. D. Thibault to Annie A. Belmore.
Mill Cove, Dec. 23, by Rev. A. A. Gollmer, Frederick Orchard to Minnie B. Burns.
Dartmouth, Dec. 3, by Rev. Fred Wilkinson, Charles H. Rowland to Jessie M. Finlay.
Fennant, Halifax Co., Dec. 15, by Rev. W. R. Turner, Wm. Hamilton to Mary Nickerson.
Grafton N. S., Dec. 23, by Rev. G. W. F. Glendinning, John Armstrong to Edna R. Parker.
Middle Stewiacke, Dec. 23, by Rev. Charles McKinnon, Colin Brenton to Clara M. Rutherford.

DIED.

Carlton, Jan. 1, John Bourke, 84.
St. John, Jan. 1, Louis Bourke, 30.
St. John, Dec. 30, Daniel Mullin, 65.
Moncton, Dec. 30, Stephen Peters, 15.
Halifax, Dec. 27, John Coveyduck, 39.
Boston, Dec. 28, Mrs. Leonard Brown.
Yarmouth, Dec. 30, John Churchill, 77.
Sea View, Dec. 15, Nancy Dugan, 47.
Tower Hill, Dec. 26, Hiram T. Hill, 24.
Carlton, Dec. 30, James Bettinson, 67.
Halifax, Dec. 30, Edmund B. Power, 79.
Onslow, Dec. 24, Mrs. Hugh Dickson, 82.
Moncton, Dec. 28, Robert Eastwood, 73.
Halifax, Dec. 30, Mrs. Maciel Daniels, 27.
Truro, Dec. 29, Frank J. McCafferty, 15.
Salmon River, Dec. 27, John Martin, 25.
Pablico, Dec. 14, Sylvanus Nickerson, 75.
St. John, Dec. 31, Thomas A. Harrison, 75.
Cambridgeport, Jan. 1, John E. Smith, 24.
Little River, Dec. 25, William Colpitts, 74.
Mohanass, Dec. 25, Mrs. Mary L. Chute, 62.
Jemseg, Dec. 16, G. Wallace VanBuskirk, 72.
Bridgetown, Dec. 24, Rev. Aaron Cogswell, 56.
Charlottetown, Dec. 31, Mrs. James Doyle, 77.
Bridgewater, Dec. 24, Rev. Aaron Cogswell, 56.
Fredericton, Dec. 26, Mrs. Annie McDonald, 31.
Grays River, Dec. 26, Mrs. James Benjamin, 75.
St. John, Dec. 30, Mary, wife of Edward C. Moran.
St. John, Jan. 3, Lucy, widow of John Coleman, 75.
Appin Road, P. E. I., Nov. 24, John McAulder, 51.
Bay Road, N. B., Dec. 23, Henry Fitzsimmons, 73.
Coverhead Road, P. E. I., Dec. 22, Patrick Tracey, 60.
Newcastle, Dec. 23, Jane wife of Peter McKernin, 64.
Boston, Dec. 28, Mrs. Leonard Brown formerly of Moncton.
Yarmouth, Dec. 26, Sophia, wife of Frederick E. Allan, 45.
Lynnfield, Dec. 26, Nancy E., wife of Thomas Hasty, 44.
Guysboro, Dec. 22, Rebecca, widow of Jesse Cunningham, 75.
Toronto, Dec. 30, Eleanor, wife of Peter Van Malder, 78.
Troy, N. Y., Dec. 21, Patrick Caples formerly of St. John, 80.
Truro, Dec. 28, Ethel M., child of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Aston, 1.
Truro, Dec. 29, Melissa E., wife of Malcolm McInnes, 51.
Chester, Pa., Dec. 12, Fred A. Hobart formerly of Windsor, 39.
Barrington, Dec. 15, Lorana, widow of Jacob S. Kendrick, 63.
Woodstock, Dec. 28, Fay, daughter of Fraser Grant, 8 months.
Grand River, P. E. I., Dec. 10, Margaret, widow of Walter Taylor, 81.
Middleton, Dec. 20, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Reed 2 months.
Barrington Passage, Dec. 21, Nancy, widow of William Robertson, 71.
Brookway Settlement, York Co., Martha, wife of William Brockway, 67.
Whitehead, Dec. 25, Minnie Alyenia, child of J. R. and Fannie McFarland.

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Over 5 to 7 lbs..... 20
Over 7 to 10 lbs..... 25
To Londonderry, River Herbert, Joggins, Bath, Halifax, Dartmouth and intermediate points, 2 lbs. and under..... 15
3 lbs. and under..... 20
Over 3 to 5 lbs..... 25
Over 5 to 7 lbs..... 30
Over 7 to 10 lbs..... 35
To St. Leonard's, Edmundston and intermediate points, 2 lbs. and under..... 15
Over 2 lbs and not over 3 lbs..... 20
Over 3 lbs and not over 5 lbs..... 25
Over 5 lbs and not over 10 lbs..... 30
10 lbs. and over..... 40
66 Prince Wm. St. E. N. ABBOTT
Agent

RAILROADS.

Intercolonial Railway.

On and after MONDAY, the 7th September, 1896, the trains of this Railway will run daily, Sunday excepted, as follows:

TRAINS WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN

Express for Campbellton, Pugwash, Pictou and Halifax..... 7.00
Express for Halifax..... 12.20
Express for Sussex..... 12.40
Express for Quebec and Montreal..... 17.10
Suburban Express for Rothesay..... 20.45

Passengers from St. John for Quebec and Montreal take through Sleeping Car at moncton at 20.10 o'clock.

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN:

Express from Sussex..... 6.30
Express from Moncton and Quebec (Monday excepted)..... 10.30
Express from Moncton (daily)..... 10.30
Express from Halifax..... 16.00
Express from Halifax, Pictou and Campbellton..... 18.30
Suburban Express from Rothesay..... 21.35
Accommodation from Moncton..... 24.30

The trains of the Intercolonial Railway are heated by steam from the locomotive, and those between Halifax and Montreal, via Lewis, are lighted by electricity.

All trains are run by Eastern Standard Time.

D. POTTINGER,
General Manager.

Railway Office,
Moncton, N. B., 3rd September, 1896.

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4.10 P.M. PACIFIC EXPRESS—Week days, for and arriving in Bangor 11.10 p.m., Portland 3.45 a.m., Boston 7.25 a.m., connecting for New York, South and West.

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EXPRESS TRAINS

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Lve. Halifax 6.30 a.m., arr. in Digby 12.48 p.m.
Lve. Digby 1.03 p.m., arr. Yarmouth 3.55 p.m.
Lve. Yarmouth 5.00 a.m., arr. Digby 10.47 a.m.
Lve. Digby 11.09 a.m., arr. Halifax 5.45 p.m.
Lve. Annapolis 7.00 a.m., arr. Digby 8.20 a.m.
Lve. Digby 3.20 p.m., arr. Annapolis 4.40 p.m.
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