

12,000 persons, principally French people and their slaves from the neighbouring French Islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe. At the time of its capture by the English in 1797 it had a population of nearly 18,000, which within six years grew to nearly 30,000. In the old slavery times the population was increased by the introduction of considerable numbers of negroes from the surrounding islands and from Africa itself: whilst, since the date of Emancipation, a great many Asiatics, mostly coolies, have been brought from India. Of the 200,000 people who now have their homes in Trinidad, more than one-third are of Indian origin, and the number is steadily increasing, not only at the ordinary birth rate, but by the immigration of some 2,500 persons every year. Besides these, Englishmen and Scotchmen were here from the earliest days of British possession, some of them as servants of the Government, others as proprietors or managers of estates, others as merchants, lawyers, physicians, &c. Forty-six years ago there was an accession to the population by the arrival of some 800 Portuguese refugees from Madeira, driven out of their former homes by the iron hand of Romish persecution. These facts will show why our population is so diverse, as diverse in religion as it is mixed in race, and they will help to explain the story of our recent religious census which shows that, while we have a Pagan population of about 64,000, the nominally Christian portion of our people claim connection with the different churches as follows:

Roman Catholic Church...	73,733
Church of England.....	46,921
Wesleyan Church.....	6,322
Baptist Church.....	3,947
Presbyterian Church.....	3,363

The descendants of the old Spanish and French settlers, as well as the offspring of their slaves and the immigrants from Catholic countries, are mostly Roman Catholic, so that the Church of Rome has quite one-third of the people. Englishmen, and those of the various races who have come under their influence, have naturally identified themselves with the Church of England, which is usually designated here as "The Protestant Church." From 1844 to 1870 the Church of England was the Established