

parade in this place that any of the popish countries in Europe. But the inhabitants may pay their devotion at the shrine of any saint ; for a small cupboard, having a glass window, and in which is one of the tutelary gods, is placed almost before every house, and a lamp is kept constantly burning, lest the old proverb should be verified, " Out of sight, out of mind." Before these saints the people pray and sing with such vehemence, that in the night they were distinctly heard by our sailors on board the ship.

The inhabitants of Rio de Janeiro are exceeding numerous, and consist of Portuguese, Negroes, and Indians, which last were the original natives of the country. The township of Rio is but a small part of the Capitanea, or province; yet it is said to contain 37,000 white people, and 629,000 blacks, many of whom are free, making together 966,000, in the proportion of 17 to 1.

The military is composed of twelve regiments of regular troops, six being Portuguese, and six Creoles, and twelve regiments of provincial militia. The inhabitants are servilely submissive to the regulars, and it has been said, that if any of them should omit the compliment of taking off his hat, when he meets an officer, he would be immediately knocked down. But the subordination of the officers to the viceroy is equally mortifying, for they are obliged to wait three times a day to know, or receive his commands : the answer frequently is, " There is nothing new."

In Rio de Janeiro the gentry keeps their chaises, which are drawn by mules ; the ladies however use a sedan chair, boarded before and behind, with curtains on each side, which carried by two negroes on a pole connected with the top of a chair, by two rods, coming