

whole colony possessed only 218 weedy, badly-bred horses. Of horned cattle, which succeed best, there were over 6,000, and about the same number of pigs, besides those running wild in the woods. A few hundred sheep, goats, asses, and mules complete the list of livestock.

The industries, properly so-called, are in a rudimentary state, being limited to a few *tafia* (coarse rum) distilleries, some saw-mills, and other small establishments. The largest industrial operations are those connected with auriferous quartz-crushing. But the yield of gold has gradually fallen off since 1875. In that year the registered return rose to about 4,500 pounds, valued at £227,000, to which, perhaps, half as much more should be added for the pilferings at the works and for the gold smuggled abroad. The iron ores, which abound in some districts, have never been worked.

Despite certain statements to the contrary, the trade of French Guiana is certainly greater at present than it was before the Revolution. The yearly exchanges with the rest of the world average from £520,000 to £720,000. The imports greatly exceed the exports, most of the merchandise brought into the colony being destined for the convict stations and the garrisons, which produce nothing in return. At present the whole of the shipping falls below 100,000 tons, but it is steadily increasing, thanks to the greater facilities of communication enjoyed by steamers over sailing vessels. Cayenne is connected by a regular line of steamships with Martinique and France by the Surinam and Demerara route. Small steamers ply on the coast, and a telegraph line 200 miles long connects Cayenne with the Maroni.

ADMINISTRATION.

Although French Guiana possesses a general council of 16 elected members, of whom seven for Cayenne, and also nominates a deputy to the French Chambers, the population is too small and the army of officials too strongly organised for the absolute power of the governor to be checked by this initial measure of local representation. Under the direct orders of the governor are the military commander, the heads of the naval forces and of the marine, the director of the interior, the procurator-general, the head of the penitentiary department. All these functionaries constitute his privy council, to which, as a matter of form, are added three of the inhabitants whom he chooses, and whose vote he can always depend upon.

But even were the whole council in opposition, the governor might still defy them, and even manipulate the annual budget, not to say expel any refractory members. Except during the elections, the *Moniteur Officiel*, issued weekly, is the only journal in the Colony. In a word, the penitentiary system of administration may be said to mould civil society itself.

After the Coup d'Etat of 1851, the transportation system was introduced by special decree, and is now the sole motive for the maintenance of French rule in Guiana. The first convoy of condemned criminals arrived at the Salut Islands in 1852, and by the year 1867 over 18,000 had been despatched to the various