

that "elements of questionable character" are to be found in the composition of a West Indian population. Permit me to say that such a remark would apply to the population of any country; but in certain instances the evil would be aggravated by the contiguity of a convict settlement. Without depreciating the Australian grievance in regard to New Caledonia, I may express a hope that the result of the discussion raised by Lord Rosebery will not be the increase, or the resumption on a large, or indeed on any, scale, of the transportation of convicts to Cayenne. Such a proceeding would cause bitter complaint and indignant protest by British Colonies lying within reach of the influences of such a vicious centre.

Yours, &c.

WEST INDIAN.

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