

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-02485-3 - Journal of a West India Proprietor
Matthew Gregory Lewis
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

History

The books reissued in this series include accounts of historical events and movements by eye-witnesses and contemporaries, as well as landmark studies that assembled significant source materials or developed new historiographical methods. The series includes work in social, political and military history on a wide range of periods and regions, giving modern scholars ready access to influential publications of the past.

Journal of a West India Proprietor

Matthew 'Monk' Lewis (1775–1818) is best known as a writer of plays and 'Gothic' novels such as *The Monk* (from which he acquired his nickname). On the death of his father in 1812, he inherited a large fortune, including estates in Jamaica. He spent four months there in 1815, during which time much of this *Journal of a West India Proprietor* was written. He became interested in the condition of the slaves on his estates, and on returning to England made contact with William Wilberforce and other abolitionists. The improvements he made on his own estates were unpopular with other landholders, but foreshadowed the reforms of the 1830s, when the *Journal* was published. He revisited the island in 1817, but died of yellow fever on the way home. S.T. Coleridge regarded the *Journal* as Lewis' best work, and the one most likely to be of lasting value.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-02485-3 - Journal of a West India Proprietor
Matthew Gregory Lewis
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection will bring back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-02485-3 - Journal of a West India Proprietor
Matthew Gregory Lewis
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Journal of a West India Proprietor

*Kept During a Residence in
the Island of Jamaica*

MATTHEW GREGORY LEWIS



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-02485-3 - Journal of a West India Proprietor
Matthew Gregory Lewis
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo, Mexico City

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108024853

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2010

This edition first published 1834
This digitally printed version 2010

ISBN 978-1-108-02485-3 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-02485-3 - Journal of a West India Proprietor
Matthew Gregory Lewis
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

JOURNAL
OF A
WEST INDIA PROPRIETOR,
KEPT DURING A RESIDENCE IN THE ISLAND OF
JAMAICA.

BY THE LATE
MATTHEW GREGORY LEWIS, ESQ. M.P.

AUTHOR OF
"THE MONK," "THE CASTLE SPECTRE,"
"TALES OF WONDER," &c.

"I would give many a sugar cane,
Mat. Lewis were alive again!"
BYRON.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.
MDCCCXXXIV.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following Journals of two residences in Jamaica, in 1815–16, and in 1817, are now printed from the MS. of Mr. Lewis; who died at sea, on the voyage homewards from the West Indies, in the year 1818.