

Appendix A1: Occupational Titles and Standardization

The large number of occupations recorded in the primary sources unsurprisingly carried some redundancy. Synonymic occupational titles, thus, were merged into one by relying on the HISCO classification system. Table A1.1 below reports the occupational titles involved in the process.

Table A1.1: Synonymic standardization of occupational titles

Occupational title	Synonym in the source	Occupational title chosen
Agriculturalist	Farmer	Farmer
Wine maker	Brewer	Brewer
Ship master	Ship captain	Ship captain
Boat builder	Boat maker	Boat maker
Supervisor	Overseer	Overseer
Washer woman	Laundress	Laundress
Bailiff	Constable	Constable
Watchman	Guard	Guard
Dresser [^]	Auxiliary nurse	Auxiliary nurse
Grumetta [*]	Labourer	Labourer

Source: Colonial Office 1831; Stephen 2010; Fyfe 1962.

[^]Dresser: The term dresser appears to have assumed a specific meaning in Sierra Leone, coming to define personnel providing first medical aid, often without training, in the rural parts of the Colony where medical help was otherwise absent (Fyfe 1962, 139).

^{*}Grumetta: The term, commonly used in the British West Indies, originally referred to freeborn blacks that, by law, could not become slave but rather ‘vassals’. According to James Stephen in his *Slavery of the British West India Colonies Delineated* (2010(1824)), the legal

mind behind the Slave trade bill of 1807, grumettas enjoyed greatly bettered conditions than their enslaved counterpart. Nonetheless, their condition was dictated by need, as Stephen continues “[T]hey might, if urged by hunger, naturally enough agree to exchange freedom for a state hardly at all distinguishable from it in point of comfort or security, by becoming ‘grumettas’ or life servants, to some who is able and willing, on that condition, to give them employment and relief” (Stephen 2010, p. 362). According to Fyfe (1962, 95), in 19th century Sierra Leone the term had come to define free black labour, rather than a vassal, who offered his/her own work for a wage or goods. It would appear as if need might still have played a role in deciding to become a ‘grumetta’ also in Sierra Leone. However, it does not emerge that this was a lifetime condition for those who chose it, from here the association with labourer above.

The primary source also mentioned sailors and mariners. In current-days English, sailors and mariners are used as synonyms, even though the latter is rarely employed at all. Nonetheless, until well into the nineteenth century, sailors and mariners would have been employed to describe two different types of seamen based on their degree of responsibility. A mariner was a seaman with a higher rank than a sailor, but below that of a ship captain (Lemire 2015, footnote 11). Due to such distinction, mariner and sailors were kept as separate occupational titles.

Appendix A2: Sensitivity Analysis

The present study relies on the upgrading of traders from HISCLASS 4 to HISCLASS 2. In this section I examine the implication of the upgrading and the robustness of the results I presented. Table 3 reports the occupational titles’ distribution across classes and across HISCLASS categories. As it appears, HISCLASS 4 belonged within the middle group, comprising lower managers and professionals along with HISCLASS 3. HISCLASS 2 instead contributes to the elite group.

The most apparent result of the upgrading is the broadening of the elite group at the expenses of the middle group of a share equivalent to 1.4 percent, and the recorded over-representation of native strangers in the elite group. Without reclassification, the result would not change drastically, with the over-representation of native stranger shifting from the elite group to that of the lower managers and professionals (Table 5), and thus to the top-level of the middle group (Table 3). The conclusion that I draw from the study would thus hold true even without the reclassification of traders into a higher HISCLASS category.

Reference list – Appendices

Fyfe, Christopher (1962) *A History of Sierra Leone*. London: Oxford University Press.

Lemire, Beverly (2015) “‘Men of the World’: British Mariners, Consumer Practice, and Material Culture in an Era of Global Trade, c. 1660–1800”. *Journal of British Studies*, 54 (2): 288–319.

Stephen, James (2010(1824)) *The Slavery of the British West India Colonies Delineated: As It Exists Both in Law and Practice, and Compared with the Slavery of Other Countries, Ancient and Modern*. Cambridge University Press.