

EUROPE AND THE TRIANGULAR SLAVE TRADE



- 1 - Portrait of an English ship-owner Négrini, 1757
Castle Museum (Nantes)
- 2 - A ship-owner's office
Setting for the "Anneaux de la mémoire"
exhibition
- 3 - The prisoner's storage
Setting for the "Anneaux de la mémoire"
exhibition

The exploitation of the resources of the New World thus resulted in the creation of regular sea routes from Europe to Africa to exchange manufactured products for prisoners, and then to deliver those prisoners to the American colonies. Tropical products were brought back from America to Europe, as well.

The triangular slave trade was born. It has reached its peak during the 18th century and has lasted until the 19th century.

Portugal, Holland, England, France and after the American independence, the states of New-England, took part in the slave trade.

The English trade alone accounted for nearly 10,000 expeditions whereas their French rivals organized over 3,700 of them, of which 1,400 left from Nantes.

The dealings of colonial products permitted Europe to develop and expand rapidly. It also deeply modified the ethnic map of the world as a consequence of the deportation of millions of human beings.

Map of the transatlantic slave-trade

