

Elite Identity and Political Accountability: A Tale of Ten Islands*

Jean-Paul Carvalho[†] Christian Dippel[‡]

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Abstract

Major political transitions involve not only changes in formal institutions, but also shifts in elite composition: unaccountable elites (e.g. aristocrats, colonial elites) are replaced by elites who are more closely connected and accountable to the citizenry. In a model of legislative voting, we show such changes in elite identity have little effect on political outcomes. Three mechanisms are identified that preserve an *iron law of oligarchy* in the face of rising elite accountability. The theory is applied to an historical analysis of ten Caribbean plantation islands after the emancipation of slaves created a mixed British (unaccountable) and local (accountable) elite.

Keywords: Institutions, Elites, Identity, Political Accountability, Economic Development
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[†]University of California, Irvine.

[‡]University of California, Los Angeles, and NBER.

“If we want things to stay as they are, they will have to change.” – di Lampedusa, *The Leopard*

1 Introduction

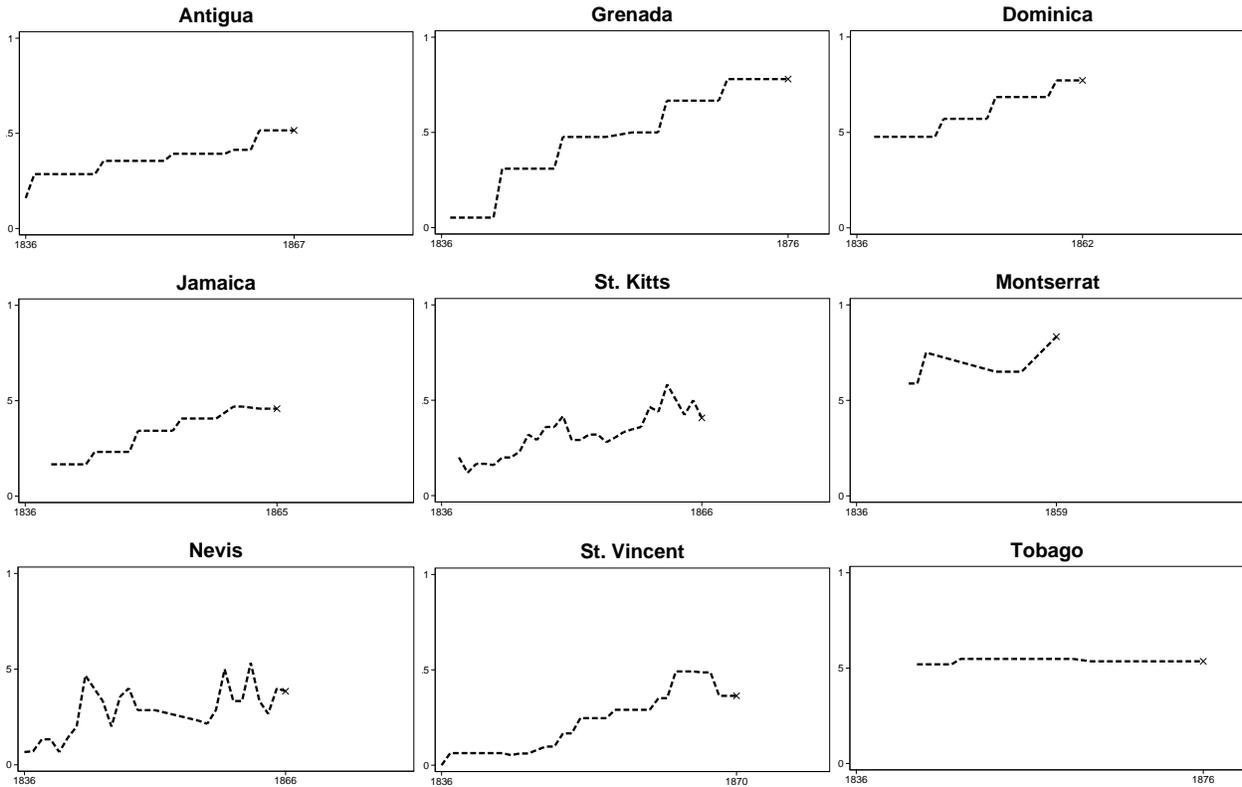
In 1836, slaves were emancipated throughout the British Empire. In the British Caribbean ‘sugar islands’, this had dramatic consequences for the islands’ elites and their interaction with the newly formed citizenry. At the time of Emancipation, the islands’ population consisted of “two to three percent whites, mostly landed [...] eight percent coloreds, who had been freed earlier and possessed, in many cases, substantial property [...] and almost ninety percent blacks, recently emancipated” (Taylor, 1885, p. 207). After Emancipation, many whites left the islands. Furthermore, newly enfranchised freed blacks tended to support colored elites (who met the property qualifications for office) to represent them in the islands’ legislative assemblies. As a result, the colored elite dramatically increased in prominence, and was expected in return to support policies that would benefit the new black citizenry. Figure 1 shows how, within 20–30 years of Emancipation, colored elites gained sizeable portions, in many cases even majorities, of the islands’ legislative assemblies.¹ Yet, the plotted shares in Figure 1 are also demarcated by endpoints, which signify the voluntary self-dissolution of the assemblies, with the support of the newly empowered colored elites: Between 1861 and 1877, elites in all but one of the 10 islands dissolved their assemblies,² and replaced them with legislative councils that were to be appointed by colonial administration under ‘Crown Rule’ (Wrong, 1923). For the remainder of the 19th century and into the 20th century, “each major inquiry [by English Parliament] into the British West Indies noted with amazement that nothing had been changed since the last report” (Craton, 1988, p. 165).

How could the emancipation from slavery of over ninety percent of the population, a sizeable fraction of whom actually obtained the franchise, not lead to a more dramatic change in policies? Rather than being due to the peculiarities of these islands, we propose that this is part of a broader phenomenon known as the *iron law of oligarchy*. Acemoglu and Robinson (2006) describe it as follows: “The reason for persistence is not persistence of the elites, but the persistence of incentives

¹We postpone discussion of data sources until Section 4.

²For reasons we will discuss, white elites in Barbados held over ninety percent of assembly seats and Barbados never dissolved its assembly.

Figure 1: Colored Elites' Share of Assembly Seats



Notes: The figure plots the evolution of the share of elites who were ‘colored’ in the legislative assemblies of six of the Caribbean islands. The end-point is marked in each island by its assembly’s self-dissolution.

of whoever is in power to distort the system for their own benefit.”³ It is not hard to see how an ‘iron law’ might operate in non-democratic settings, making political outcomes independent of elite identity, e.g. when new elites hijack existing extractive institutions after military coups (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2012, ch.12). But how could an ‘iron law’ hold under electoral institutions? And how could it continue to hold when new elites are more closely connected (and thus accountable) to the citizenry? This puzzle is the motivation for our analysis.

We identify three mechanisms that preserve an iron law of oligarchy under conditions usually thought to be conducive to democratic reforms: (a) electoral institutions and (b) changes in elite identity that promote political accountability. Changes in elite composition, in terms of both political accountability and economic interests, do matter for political outcomes. Accountable types are less likely to vote for extractive policies, i.e. policies that benefit the elite at the expense of

³Michels (1911) first coined the term to refer to the ‘inevitable’ emergence of a leadership class, or oligarchy, in organizations.

the citizenry.⁴ Hence the likelihood that extractive policy is passed falls as the share of accountable legislators rises. But the effect is weaker than expected, and in some cases political outcomes worsen. The three factors that preserve an iron law of oligarchy are:

- (1) *Stepping up*. When accountable types are rare, it is mostly unaccountable types who vote for extractive policy because they do so at lower electoral cost. Accountable elites free-ride because they do not vote for extraction despite economically benefitting from it. Unaccountable types thus provide an elite ‘club good.’ As the share of accountable types grows, however, they need to ‘step up’ and begin voting for the extractive policy for it to pass.⁵
- (2) *Dynamic incentives*. Speeding up the replacement of unaccountable types weakens their reelection concerns and increases their support for extractive policy. Under certain conditions, the likelihood that extractive policy is passed increases as a consequence.
- (3) *Substitution*. When legislators anticipate a collapse in support for extractive policy due to their increased accountability, they may alter the institutional framework, at some cost, in order to reduce their accountability.

Our theory is applied to an historical analysis of ten British Caribbean sugar-plantation islands after the emancipation of slaves. The great strength of this application is that we can get an unusually complete picture of the identities of the local elites, because social and economic identities were clearly identified by the islands’ histories of slave-based plantation agriculture. Using an array of novel archival data on Caribbean legislators’ race and occupation, and their roll-call voting in the assemblies, we describe a number of empirical patterns that show that colored legislators were more politically (electorally) accountable. Their roll-call voting behavior depended on their type and the overall composition of the legislature in the manner predicted by our theory. As the share of white planters in the elite declined, individual colored elites indeed ‘stepped up,’ i.e. increased their support for extractive policies. Finally, we show that the timing of the dissolution of

⁴Extractive policies are typically modeled simply as a regressive tax in the related literature (Meltzer and Richard, 1981; Acemoglu and Robinson, 2001). In our empirical application, we will have three types of extractive policies: (i) policies to depress agricultural wages, (ii) regressive land taxes, (iii) lowering of public-good provision.

⁵ The ‘stepping up’ is needed because a legislative majority is required to pass extractive policy, giving it the character of a threshold ‘club good’ (Schelling, 1978; Palfrey and Rosenthal, 1984). Modern-day examples of stepping up may include the *Muslim Brotherhood* in Egypt during the presidency of Mohamed Morsi and Aung San Suu Kyi’s *National League for Democracy* in Myanmar.

the assemblies is consistent with the political-accountability explanation suggested by our theory, but inconsistent with the conclusion of many Caribbean historians — who did not have access to our newly collected data on Caribbean elites’ identities and their voting patterns — that the dissolution of the legislatures was as an attempt by white elites to prevent the colored elite from taking control ([Ashdown 1979](#), p.34, [Lowes 1994](#), p.35).⁶

Our theory and empirical analysis illustrate that democracy is not necessarily a self-enforcing system. Expansion of the franchise, as happened with a bang after Emancipation in the Caribbean, does not automatically produce an absorbing democratic state, but requires sufficient ongoing support among the elite. This support depends not only on conflict between the elite and the masses, but also crucially on inter-elite and intra-elite dynamics ([North, Wallis, and Weingast, 2009](#)). Moreover, it can be undermined by attempts to increase political accountability.

Section 2 places our paper in the context of the existing political economy literature. Section 3 presents our theory. In Section 4, we apply our theory to explain why the iron law held sway over the ten Caribbean islands after Emancipation. Section 5 concludes.

2 Existing Literature

By examining the effect of elites’ social identity on political outcomes, our paper extends the literature on the economics of identity into political economy (see [Akerlof and Kranton, 2000, 2010](#); [Bénabou and Tirole, 2011](#); [Akerlof, 2017](#)).⁷ Major political transitions not only involve changes in formal institutions (e.g. [North and Weingast, 1989](#)), but also shifts in the composition of the political elite. Many countries have experienced a transition in power from elite groups with distinct social and economic identities (e.g. aristocrats, colonial elites) to elites that are more closely connected (and accountable) to the citizenry. Examples include the Reform Act in 1832 which made British Parliament more representative by removing rotten boroughs and the aristocrats elected by them. Latin America in the 18th century saw the emergence of ‘Creole elites’ who were tied to the land and had incentives that were fundamentally different from those of Spanish colonial administrators ([Anderson, 1983](#)). In much of the developing world, the end of colonialism saw

⁶ This interpretation is akin to [Trefler and Puga \(2014\)](#), who show that in Medieval Venice incumbent elites eroded formal institutions in an attempt to shut out new elites.

⁷ The paper of course also speaks directly to the literature on Caribbean post-Emancipation political history. See for example [Rogers \(1970\)](#), [Heuman \(1981\)](#), [Brizan \(1984\)](#), [Craton \(1988\)](#), and [Holt \(1991\)](#).

the replacement of European elites with a mix of indigenous, European-origin Creole, and transplanted elite groups. Despite the abundance of historical examples, there is relatively little work on the political consequences of changes in the identity composition of the elite.

There are two primary channels through which changes in elite composition can affect extractive policies by the elite. The first is the *ingroup bias channel*: elite members who are socially closer to the citizenry support non-extractive policies due to altruistic in-group preferences and norms (Shayo, 2009; Bramoullé and Goyal, 2016).⁸ The second is the *political accountability channel*, which is our focus. Political accountability is the degree to which elite members are punished for supporting extractive policies. Punishment can take several forms, including revolt (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2000; Aidt and Franck, 2015), social sanctions (Miguel and Gugerty, 2005), and electoral punishment—voting against candidates who support extractive policies in subsequent elections. There is a large literature demonstrating that better institutions and policy outcomes are brought about by greater political accountability, due for example to shocks to the cost of collective action by citizens (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2001; Brückner and Ciccone, 2011) and improvements in monitoring of elites (Tabellini and Persson, 2000; Besley and Prat, 2006; Ferraz and Finan, 2008). By contrast, elite identity has received relatively little attention as a determinant of political accountability. Yet, it is clearly important: Elites that are socially closer to the citizenry may face greater political accountability because they have less control over voters, weaker military protection and poorer exit options than the aristocrats and colonial elites that came before them. In addition, social sanctions against elites may be more effective when social distance to the citizenry is low, as in Miguel and Gugerty (2005), and citizens may feel greater betrayal by leaders from their own group, as in Di Tella and Rotemberg (2016).

Surprisingly, we find that increasing the political accountability of individual elite members does not necessarily aggregate to greater accountability of the political system as a whole. This finding complements the literature on political institutions (North and Weingast, 1989; Persson, Roland, and Tabellini, 1997; Acemoglu and Robinson, 2001) by extending the iron law of oli-

⁸ There is a large literature on ethnic, religious or caste-based politics (e.g. Franck and Rainer, 2012). While an elite member's social identity shapes his political choices in this literature, it does not examine interactions among different elite types, nor does it distinguish between elite types based on their social distance from the citizenry. A critical distinction is that this literature examines cases where different elites represent different identity groups among the citizenry, as opposed to one elite group being closer to the citizenry overall.

garchy to democratic settings and a disaggregated (heterogenous) elite.⁹ We identify three mechanisms that preserve the iron law under these conditions. How these mechanisms are related to the broader political economy literature is now discussed.

First, to our knowledge, we are the first to uncover the ‘stepping up’ mechanism. This behavior makes it difficult to infer the political preferences of minority political factions. The logic of ‘stepping up’ is in fact more general than the specific model of legislative voting that we use to operationalize it and could be explored in alternative settings. For example, ‘stepping up’ could occur if a shrinking bloc of unaccountable elites uses side-payments to co-opt accountable elites, as in the literature on vote-buying in legislatures (e.g. [Groseclose and Snyder, 1996](#)).¹⁰ Another possible approach could focus explicitly on coalition formation, where a stable ruling coalition may re-form to include accountable elites (in a manner different to the process we analyze), as in e.g. [Acemoglu, Egorov, and Sonin \(2008\)](#). We have chosen a model that conforms closely to our motivating Caribbean example, but the more general logic should only strengthen confidence in the empirical prediction. Second, our results on dynamic incentives connect to the empirical ‘common agency’ literature where term limits are found to promote corruption by removing re-election concerns ([Besley and Case, 1995](#); [Ferraz and Finan, 2008](#)). We prove a stronger result: exogenously replacing legislators can worsen policy outcomes even when incoming legislators are more politically accountable. Third, our substitution result is related to the interplay between *de facto* and *de jure* institutions. [Acemoglu and Robinson \(2008\)](#) present a model in which elites respond to a loss of *de jure* power by investing in *de facto* power, e.g. collective action. In our case, the direction of causality is reversed. We show that extractive policies may persist despite increasing *de facto* accountability if elites can alter *de jure* institutions to protect themselves. The dissolution of legislative institutions in the Caribbean sets an interesting counter-point to the more common empirical pattern whereby temporary increases in political accountability tend to strengthen, re-

⁹Like us, [Acemoglu and Robinson \(2000\)](#), [Lizzeri and Persico \(2004\)](#), and [Ashraf, Cinnirella, Galor, Gershman, and Hornung \(2017\)](#) decompose the elite into groups by economic interest. Similarly, [Mattozzi and Snowberg \(2015\)](#) analyze a model of legislative bargaining with rich and poor legislators. None of these papers focus on the social distance between the elite and the citizenry. On the other hand, [Shayo \(2009\)](#) and [Abramson and Shayo \(2017\)](#) examine the identity composition of the citizenry but not in relation to the elite. In modeling an elite member’s type as having both a social (political accountability) and economic dimension, our approach is closest to that of [Bisin and Verdier \(2015\)](#) who model elite heterogeneity along economic and cultural dimensions. Their focus is not on the political accountability channel we study here, however.

¹⁰ See also [Auriol and Platteau \(2017\)](#) on co-optation by an autocrat of religious elites through side payments. A setup like that could also see accountable elites being co-opted to permanently change electoral institutions.

inforce and lock in democratization (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2000; Brückner and Ciccone, 2011; Aidt and Franck, 2015). Unlike prior work, we find that elite composition plays a crucial and surprising role in determining whether good institutions last.

3 The Theory

Existing work models the political elite as a monolithic and unified actor. We examine repeated roll-call voting in an n member legislature, disaggregating the elite into groups with different degrees of political accountability (determined, for example, by traits such as race or ethnicity that make some elite members socially closer to the citizenry) and different economic interests. Changes in elite identity/composition are formally defined as changes in the distribution of types. As in the literature on political agency, legislators with career concerns, but no commitment, are disciplined by retrospective voting: voters punish candidates with a record of supporting extractive policy (Barro, 1973; Ferejohn, 1986). We focus on electoral accountability because it is the most prevalent notion of political accountability in the literature.¹¹ Unlike prior work, we analyze how electoral discipline depends on the distribution of types. To our knowledge, we are the first to analyze a model with (i) re-election concerns, (ii) multiple decision makers (legislators), and (iii) a changing distribution of political accountability and economic interests among legislators over time. While existing work has focused on conflict between elite groups, in many cases political factions cooperate to enact extractive policies.¹² Hence, in our model, all legislators benefit from extractive policy to some extent, reflecting the fact that policies are often made by an established political class whose interests are partially aligned.

3.1 The Model

Consider an infinite-horizon model with discrete time indexed by $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. Policy is determined by voting in a legislature composed of $n > 2$ members. (Our model could also apply to other entities where members have varying re-election concerns, including committees and

¹¹ We examined riots as a source of political accountability in an earlier version of the paper (Carvalho and Dippel, 2016).

¹² As Frey (1994, p. 340) suggests: “The Schumpeter-Downs model of democracy needs to be complemented by a model in which (between elections) [...] members of parliament are a well-defined group jointly reaping rents. They have (with exceptions) spent their lives together in all kinds of meetings and sessions, committees and commissions.”

boards.) Each legislator is a member of the elite, which is a finite set of individuals E_t with typical member i .¹³ The set of legislators in period t is denoted by N_t . While the size of the legislature n is fixed, its composition N_t changes over time.

Voting and Policy: Each period t , every $i \in N_t$ votes either for extractive economic policy $v_{it} = 1$ or against it $v_{it} = 0$. Denote the profile of voting choices in period t by $v_t \equiv (v_{it})_{i \in N_t}$. The policy implemented is determined by majority rule and denoted by $x_t \in \{0, 1\}$, where $x = 1$ is the extractive policy. For example, $x = 1$ could be a wage-depressing policy which increases economic rents to the elite. For convenience, ties are broken in favor of the extractive policy.

Elite Types: Elite members, hence legislators, differ in their political accountability and economic interests. We model economic interest as a separate trait, though it may be correlated with political accountability, especially if both traits are connected through race, ethnicity, or religion.¹⁴ Agent i 's political accountability is denoted by $\theta_i \in \{L, H\}$, where L (H) denotes low (high) political accountability, in a manner to be made precise below. Agent i 's economic interest is $\vartheta_i \in \{h, \ell\}$, where h indicates a larger direct benefit from extractive policy. A legislator's two-dimensional type is denoted by $\Theta_i = (\theta_i, \vartheta_i)$, which is fixed for all time. The space of individual types is denoted by $\mathcal{I} \equiv \{L, H\} \times \{\ell, h\}$.

Payoffs: Legislators are forward-looking and maximize the expected discounted sum of their payoffs over time. There are two (additively separable) components of stage-game payoffs. First, every elected legislator receives per-period political rents worth r , which could be salary, perquisites, and 'ego rents' from being in office. All others receive no political rents. Second, each elite member (elected and unelected) receives an economic rent worth $\pi_{\vartheta_i}(x)$ which depends on whether extractive policy is passed. Naturally, we assume

$$\pi_h(1) - \pi_h(0) > \pi_\ell(1) - \pi_\ell(0) > 0.$$

That is, all elite members benefit directly from extractive policy, with h types benefitting more than ℓ types.¹⁵

¹³This is a departure from citizen-candidate models in which a single decision maker is selected from the citizenry (Osborne and Slivinski, 1996; Besley and Coate, 1997). Models of legislative bargaining have more than one political decision maker (Buchanan and Tullock, 1962; Weingast, 1979), but their focus is on dividing a fixed budget among districts (Baron and Ferejohn, 1989), whereas we examine voting over a common, extractive policy.

¹⁴For example, most large farmers in Zimbabwe were British under Mugabe until the land reforms in 2000.

¹⁵Our results do not hinge on the assumption that every elite member benefits from the extractive policy. One

Changes in Elite Composition: Political turnover occurs both endogenously and exogenously. With probability λ_i , $i \in N_t$ is exogenously replaced in period $t + 1$. We refer to λ_i as i 's *replacement rate*. If i is replaced exogenously in period t , his successor is of type Θ with probability $q(\Theta|\Theta_i)$. The replacement rates $(\lambda_i)_{i \in N}$ are an important exogenous force in the model. Together with the transition probabilities $(q(\Theta|\Theta_i))_{\Theta \in \mathcal{I}}$, they determine the pace of change and the long run distribution of elite types.

With probability $1 - \lambda_i$, i is not exogenously replaced, and his likelihood of re-election depends on his roll-call voting choice.¹⁶ Though we do not explicitly model voting by the citizenry, re-election of legislators occurs in a manner consistent with retrospective voting by citizens.¹⁷ If legislator i votes against extractive policy in period t ($v_{it} = 0$), he is re-elected with probability $\bar{p} \in (0, 1]$. If he votes for extractive policy in period t ($v_{it} = 1$), his likelihood of re-election is a random variable P_{it} , which determines his electoral penalty for supporting extractive policy. The realization p_{it} is drawn from the distribution F_{θ_i} , independently across agents and time.¹⁸ F_{θ_i} is continuous and strictly increasing on $[0, \bar{p})$ with a mass point at \bar{p} (i.e. no electoral penalty). Specifically, $\mathbb{P}(P_{it} = \bar{p}) = \psi < 1$ and $\mathbb{P}(0 \leq P_{it} < \bar{p}) = 1 - \psi > 0$. Thus, a legislator voting for extractive policy faces no electoral penalty with probability ψ and a random electoral penalty with probability $1 - \psi$.¹⁹ Naturally, H accountability types expect to pay a larger electoral penalty than L types when supporting extracting policy. Formally, F_L dominates F_H in the sense of first-order stochastic dominance: $F_H(p) > F_L(p)$ for all $p \in (0, \bar{p})$. Note that the re-election probabilities $p_t \equiv (p_{it})_{i \in N_t}$ need not be deterministic functions of a legislator's type; they can also depend on variation in district-level conditions, including electoral mobilization, information and discontent.

can imagine models where some elite members do not benefit from extractive policy directly: elite members who are socially closer to the citizenry might dislike voting for extractive policy due to altruistic in-group preferences and norms (Shayo, 2009; Bramoullé and Goyal, 2016), or elite members with $\vartheta_i = \ell$ may actually have a negative payoffs from extraction, as in Lizzeri and Persico (2004). Such models could still generate very similar results to ours in the presence of side-payments that co-opt elites groups into supporting extraction, as in the literature on vote-buying in legislatures (e.g. Groseclose and Snyder, 1996).

¹⁶Unlike standard political agency models (e.g. Barro, 1973; Ferejohn, 1986), electoral turnover occurs in equilibrium in our model.

¹⁷The importance of retrospective voting in practice has been established since Fiorina (1981). Much of the literature focusses on the role of monitoring in political accountability (Besley and Burgess, 2002; Ferraz and Finan, 2008; Bobonis, Fuertes, and Schwabe, 2016). Monitoring in our context is straightforward. An extractive policy can be unambiguously identified and support for extractive policy is observable from voting records.

¹⁸Independence over time is assumed for expositional convenience. Our results hold more generally, with various forms of autocorrelation in P_{it} .

¹⁹The equilibrium construction and all comparative static results hold when $\psi = 0$. The mass point simply permits equilibria in which a supermajority of legislators vote for extractive policy in some states.

In summary, a legislator's likelihood of re-election is

$$(1 - \lambda_i) \times [\mathbb{I}(v_{it} = 0)\bar{p} + \mathbb{I}(v_{it} = 1)P_{it}].$$

If a legislator fails to be re-elected in this manner (endogenously), we assume his successor j has the same type, $\Theta_i = \Theta_j$.²⁰ Whenever a legislator fails to be re-elected, endogenously or exogenously, we assume he is never elected again but remains a member of the elite.

The complete information case is analyzed in which period t voting choices are made after p_t is publicly observed.

Timing: The stage game unfolds as follows.

1. The vector of electoral penalties determined by p_t is publicly observed.
2. Each $i \in N_t$ votes for or against an extractive policy, $v_{it} \in \{0, 1\}$.
3. The policy $x_t \in \{0, 1\}$ is implemented based on majority voting in the legislature.
4. Payoffs are received.
5. N_{t+1} is determined by replacement and election, given voting behavior v_t and electoral penalties p_t .

Agents have a common discount factor $\delta \in (0, 1)$. There is no discounting within periods. The structure of the game is common knowledge.

3.2 Equilibrium

We focus on subgame perfect equilibria that exhibit a particular kind of monotone voting, to be defined shortly. These equilibria will also be Markov perfect.

The stochastic stage game to be played by legislators is described by a two-dimensional state denoted by (z, p) . Let $n_t(\Theta) \equiv \sum_{i \in N_t} \mathbb{I}(\Theta_i = \Theta)$ be the number of type Θ legislators in period t .

²⁰Replacement by an identical agent is assumed for convenience in models with retrospective voting (e.g. Barro, 1973; Ferejohn, 1986; Persson et al., 1997). Relaxing this assumption, i would have to consider how his replacement would affect the likelihood that extractive policy is passed when deciding how to vote himself. This effect, however, would disappear as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and the likelihood that any given legislator is pivotal goes to zero.

An *ex ante* state is a type distribution

$$z_t \equiv (n_t(\Theta))_{\Theta \in \mathcal{I}}.$$

An *ex post* state is the vector of realized re-election probabilities $p_t \equiv (p_{it})_{i \in N_t}$. Notice that the likelihood of each *ex post* state depends on the current *ex ante* state.

The component state spaces are respectively

$$Z = \{z \mid n(\Theta) \in [0, n], \sum_{\Theta \in \mathcal{I}} n(\Theta) = n\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{P} = [0, \bar{p}]^n.$$

Define the following random variable as a function of the re-election probability P_{it} :

$$D_{it} = \underbrace{\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0)}_{\text{Increment in economic rent}} - \underbrace{\frac{\delta(1 - \lambda_i)}{1 - \delta(1 - \lambda_i)\bar{p}}}_{\text{effective discount factor}} \underbrace{(\bar{p} - P_{it})}_{\text{electoral penalty}} \underbrace{r}_{\text{political rent}} \quad (1)$$

We refer to D_{it} and its realization d_{it} as *i*'s *interest in extractive policy* in period t . The first term is the increment in *i*'s economic rent when extractive policy is passed. The second term is an upper bound on the discounted sum of lost political rents as a result of the electoral penalty $\bar{p} - P_{it}$. Thus, *i*'s interest in extractive policy is a lower bound on his net benefit from voting for extractive policy. *H* accountability types expect a larger electoral penalty for a given increment in economic rent and so have a smaller expected interest in extractive policy. In contrast, *h* types have a larger interest in extractive policy for a given electoral penalty.

Denote the $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ th largest values of D_{it} and d_{it} among $i \in N_t$ by D_t^* and d_t^* respectively. Also define the rank of i as $\tilde{R}_t(i) = \sum_{j \in N_t - \{i\}} \mathbb{1}(d_{it} \leq d_{jt})$. The unique rank denoted by R_t is a bijective function ranking players as in \tilde{R}_t except with ties broken at random.

Definition 1 A voting equilibrium is defined as follows. For each $i \in N_t$ and $t \geq 1$:

- (i) If $d_t^* \geq 0$, $v_{it}^* = 1$ if only if $p_{it} = \bar{p}$ or $R_t(i) \leq \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$.
- (ii) If $d_t^* < 0$, $v_{it}^* = 0$.

Proposition 1 *A voting equilibrium is a subgame perfect equilibrium of the game.*

All proofs are in Appendix A.

Several remarks are in order. Denote the $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ th largest value of p_{it} among $i \in N_t$ by p_t^* . First, if the legislators incurring no electoral penalty comprise a (weak) majority ($p^* = \bar{p}$), they each vote for extractive policy and $x = 1$ passes, possibly with a supermajority. Otherwise, either a minimum winning coalition votes for extractive policy or nobody does. In this case, the extractive policy is passed if and only if a weak majority of legislators has a non-negative interest in extractive policy. Second, a voting equilibrium specifies not only when extractive policy is passed, but also who votes for extractive policy. The legislators voting for extractive policy are those who face no electoral penalty and those who have the largest interest in extractive policy. In this sense, voting choices are monotone. Note that we do not directly condition the equilibrium on a legislator's political accountability or economic interest. Rather, a legislator's type is related to his voting behavior through his interest in extractive policy. Equilibrium voting behavior can thus be conceived as a noisy kind of coalition formation, in which the coalition supporting extractive policy is a probabilistic function of the identities involved. Third, while a voting equilibrium is not the most efficient from the perspective of the elite, it is simple, with voting choices in each period T depending solely on the current *ex post* state p_T . A more efficient equilibrium, involving a tighter bound on the net benefit of voting for extractive policy, would impose an unrealistic computational burden requiring agents to compute the likelihood of each trajectory $\{z_t, p_t\}_{t=T}^\infty$, among other things. Thus, we have constructed a subgame perfect equilibrium that can be played by plausible (boundedly rational) human players.

Henceforth, all references to equilibrium behavior are with respect to voting equilibria defined above. It should be clear now, if it were not already from the setup, that rent extraction through voting is akin to provision of a threshold club good, the club here being the elite E_t and the club good being economic rents from extractive policy. A subset of the elite needs to contribute to the good (i.e., vote for extractive policy) for it to be provided. All elite members benefit from provision of the club good, but only contributors bear the cost of provision, in terms of an electoral penalty. For the good to be provided, the benefit must exceed the cost for the threshold number of club

members. This is a simple but powerful insight which we exploit in the theoretical and empirical analysis.

3.3 Elite Composition and Political Accountability

Proposition 1 characterizes voting equilibria for a given realization p_t . We are interested in how voting depends on the composition of elite types z_t . Because p_t is not always observable, we compute expectations conditioned only on z_t , without any knowledge of p_t other than its prior distribution. We call this the *ex ante* perspective. In this section we examine how z_t affects (i) the likelihood that extractive policy is passed and (ii) the likelihood that a given elite member votes for extractive policy.²¹

Henceforth, we focus on type-symmetric replacement rates: for each $i \in N_t$ and all t , $\lambda_i = \lambda(\Theta_i)$. We assume

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda(L, \vartheta) &\geq \lambda(H, \vartheta) \text{ for } \vartheta \in \{\ell, h\} \\ \lambda(\theta, h) &\geq \lambda(\theta, \ell) \text{ for } \theta \in \{L, H\}.\end{aligned}$$

This assumption of (weakly) higher attrition rates for legislators with low electoral accountability and high economic rents is empirically motivated by changes in elite identity over the last century. The roll-back of colonialism after the two world wars involved a transition in many countries from a colonial or European-backed elite to a mixed elite composed of indigenous groups, colonizer-origin creole elites and ‘transplanted’ elite groups. The end of the Cold War also removed foreign-backed elites, replacing them with elites purportedly more accountable to their citizenries.

3.3.1 Elite Composition and Policy

Across all elite members $i \in N_t$, we have n random variables $(D_{it})_{i \in N_t}$. The $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ th largest value is a random variable D_t^* . In equilibrium, extractive policy is passed whenever its realization d_t^*

²¹One could also analyze the long run frequency that extractive policy is passed. Recall that if i is replaced, his successor is of type Θ with probability $q(\Theta|\Theta_i)$. When $q(\Theta|\Theta_i) > 0$ for all $(\Theta, \Theta_i) \in \mathcal{I}^2$, the Markov chain z_t on Z is irreducible and aperiodic. Hence there is a unique stationary distribution μ which provides substantial information about elite composition in the long run. The long run frequency with which extractive policy is passed, $\sum_{z \in Z} \mu_z \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z)$, could then be analyzed.

(which depends on p_t) is nonnegative. Without any knowledge of p_t , the (prior) likelihood that extractive policy is passed in state z_t in a voting equilibrium is then

$$\mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z_t) = \mathbb{P}(D_t^* \geq 0 | z_t).$$

Observe that (1) is negative for some $P_{it} \in (0, \bar{p})$ if and only if

$$\frac{\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0)}{r} \leq \frac{\delta(1 - \lambda(\Theta_i))\bar{p}}{1 - \delta(1 - \lambda(\Theta_i))\bar{p}}, \quad (2)$$

that is, if economic rents from extractive policy are sufficiently small relative to political rents from holding office.

If (2) is violated then i will vote for extractive policy whenever pivotal irrespective of the state (z_t, p_t) . Hence if (2) is violated for all types $\Theta \in \mathcal{I}$, the likelihood that extractive policy is passed equals $\mathbb{P}(D_t^* \geq 0 | z_t) = 1$ for all z_t . In this case, policy outcomes are invariant to elite composition.

To focus on the case in which the composition of the elite matters for political outcomes, we henceforth make the following assumption.

Assumption 1 (2) holds for all types $\Theta \in \mathcal{I}$.

Proposition 2 Consider two states z and z' such that $n'(H, \vartheta) \geq n(H, \vartheta)$ for $\vartheta = \ell, h$ and $n'(\theta, \ell) \geq n(\theta, \ell)$ for $\theta = L, H$, with at least one inequality strict.

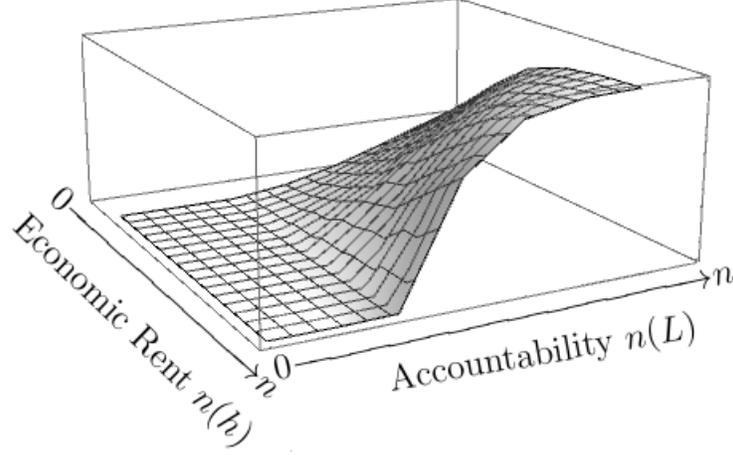
The likelihood that extractive policy is passed is lower in state z' :

$$\mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z) > \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z').$$

Ceteris paribus, the likelihood that extractive policy is passed is decreasing in the share of legislators with high political accountability (H types) and low economic rents (ℓ types). The relationship between the composition of the elite and extractive policy is illustrated in Figure 1.²² When

²²Figure 1 is constructed as follows. Let $n_h = n(L, h) + n(H, h)$ be the number of h types and $n_H = n(H, h) + n(H, \ell)$ be the number of H types. Each point (n_h, n_H) can potentially be generated by a number of distributions $z = (n(\Theta))_{\Theta \in \mathcal{I}}$. Let $S(n_h, n_H) = \{z | n(L, h) + n(H, h) = n_h \text{ and } n(H, h) + n(H, \ell) = n_H\}$. For each $s \in S(n_h, n_H)$,

Figure 2: Probability of extractive policy being passed



Notes: Parameter values: $\lambda(L, h) = \lambda(L, \ell) = 0.5$, $\lambda(H, h) = \lambda(H, \ell) = 0.25$, $\delta = 0.5$, $\bar{p} = 1$, $r = 6$, $\pi_h(1) - \pi_h(0) = 0.8$, $\pi_L(1) - \pi_L(0) = 0.2$, $n = 6$, $f_L(P_i) \sim \text{Beta}(3, 1)$, $f_H(P_i) \sim \text{Beta}(1, 3)$, where $\text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$ is the pdf of the Beta distribution with parameters α and β .

we start with a high proportion of (L, h) types, the likelihood of extractive policy being passed is high. As L accountability types are replaced by H types and h rent types are replaced by ℓ types, the likelihood of extractive policy being passed falls. For the particular numerical values chosen, the effect of a rising share of H types is larger than the effect of a rising share of ℓ types.

Thus the composition of the elite matters for political outcomes. The reader should recall, however, that this conclusion holds when economic rents from extractive policy are not too large relative to political rents from holding office (Assumption 1). Otherwise, the benefit from voting for extractive policy can be too large for differences in electoral accountability to have any effect on policy outcomes.

3.3.2 Individual Elite Type and Voting

Let us now examine how a legislator's own type affects his voting behavior. By Proposition 1, i votes for extractive policy whenever $d_i^* \geq 0$ and either $P_{it} = \bar{p}$ or $R_t(i) \leq \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$. By computing the likelihood that this occurs, we arrive at the following proposition:

we computed the probability that extractive policy is passed $\mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0|s)$. The functions depicted in Figures 1 and 2 are unweighted averages over all relevant combinations. That is, the function evaluated at (n_h, n_H) equals $\frac{1}{|S(n_h, n_H)|} \sum_{s \in S(n_h, n_H)} \mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0|s)$.

Proposition 3 *High accountability and low rent types are less likely to vote for extractive policy:*

- (i) *Suppose $\Theta_i = (L, \vartheta)$ and $\Theta_j = (H, \vartheta)$, for $\vartheta \in \{\ell, h\}$ and $i, j \in N_t$. Then $0 < \mathbb{P}(v_{jt} = 1 | z_t) < \mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1 | z_t)$ in all states z_t .*
- (ii) *Suppose $\Theta_i = (\theta, h)$ and $\Theta_j = (\theta, \ell)$, for $\theta \in \{L, H\}$ and $i, j \in N_t$. Then $0 < \mathbb{P}(v_{jt} = 1 | z_t) < \mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1 | z_t)$ in all states z_t .*

Voting for extractive policy depends on a legislator's accountability and economic interests. Low accountability and high economic rents from extractive policy raise the likelihood of voting for extractive policy. (L, h) types are the most likely to vote for extractive policy and (H, ℓ) types are the least likely. This is apparent in Figure 1. But for a fuller understanding of the figure, we need to analyze not only how an individual's voting choices depend on his own type, but also on the distribution of types in the legislature.

3.3.3 Elite Composition and Voting Interactions

Legislative voting is an interactive exercise. Let us now examine how an individual's voting behavior depends on the distribution of elite types z_t .

Proposition 4 *From state z , produce state z' by switching the type of one player j , such that $n'(H, \vartheta) \geq n(H, \vartheta)$ for $\vartheta = \ell, h$ and $n'(\theta, \ell) \geq n(\theta, \ell)$ for $\theta = L, H$, with at least one inequality strict.*

For all $i \neq j$:

$$\mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1 | z) - \mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1 | z') < \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z) - \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z') < \mathbb{P}(v_{jt} = 1 | z) - \mathbb{P}(v_{jt} = 1 | z').$$

Proposition 4 reveals a more complex relationship between z_t and voting outcomes than suggested by Propositions 2 and 3. Raising j 's accountability or lowering his economic interest in extractive policy reduces the likelihood that j votes for extractive policy more than it reduces the likelihood that extractive policy is passed. The difference is made up by an increase in the relative frequency with which all other members of the legislature $i \neq j$ vote for extractive policy. We call

this behavior ‘stepping up’. It arises from the underlying structure of the strategic environment which is akin to provision of a threshold club good. When H types are rare, they tend to vote against extractive policy, free riding on the large number of L types who are likely to vote for it. An increase in the share of H types induces legislators who did not previously support the extractive policy to step up and vote for the policy in order to get it passed. The same applies to economic interest, i.e. an increase in the share of ℓ types. Thus one can underestimate the support for extractive policy by high accountability and low economic rent types when extrapolating from their voting behavior when they are rare.

With this in hand, let us return to Figure 1. We know the likelihood that extractive policy is passed is decreasing in the share of high accountability (H) types and the share of low economic rent (ℓ) types (Proposition 2). The precise curvature of the graph can be understood as follows. Replace one L type with an H type. The direct effect is that the new member of the legislature votes for extractive policy at a lower rate (Proposition 3). This is partially offset by existing members who increase their likelihood of voting for extractive policy (Proposition 4)—the indirect effect. The difference in the sizes of the direct and indirect effects depends on the type composition of existing members of the legislature. For the numerical values used in Figure 1, the difference is non-monotonic in the share of high accountability types. Hence the likelihood that extractive policy is passed could fall at an increasing or decreasing rate depending on the composition of the legislature.

3.4 Speeding up the Process of Elite Change

Policy outcomes can be improved by replacing low accountability types with high accountability types [Proposition 2]. When the replacement rate of low accountability types $\lambda(L, \vartheta)$ is low, this transition in the elite’s composition occurs slowly. One possible response is to raise the replacement rate for L types, for example through voter mobilization and political purges. We show, however, that attempts to speed up the process of elite change can produce unintended consequences. The first consequence is polarization in the voting behavior of low accountability and high accountability types.

Let $\lambda \equiv (\lambda(L, \ell), \lambda(L, h))$ be the vector of replacement rates for low accountability L types.

Proposition 5 Compare voting equilibria under replacement rates λ and λ' for L types, such that $\lambda'(L, \vartheta) > \lambda(L, \vartheta)$ for some $\vartheta \in \{\ell, h\}$, all else held equal.

Denote the prior likelihood that i votes for extractive policy in state z given replacement rate λ by $\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z, \lambda)$.

Suppose $\Theta_i = (L, \vartheta) \neq \Theta_j$.

(i) $\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z, \lambda') > \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z, \lambda)$.

(ii) $\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z, \lambda') - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | z, \lambda') > \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z, \lambda) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | z, \lambda)$.

Replacing L types more frequently (independent of their voting record) weakens re-election concerns, reducing the expected value of the stream of political rents they stand to lose when voting for extractive policy [see (1)]. Therefore, low accountability types vote *more* frequently for extractive policy [part (i)]. In addition, raising the replacement rate of L types induces H types to ‘step down’ and vote relatively less frequently for extractive policy. Hence attempts to speed up the transition to a more accountable elite polarizes legislative voting behavior along political accountability lines [part (ii)].

Now we turn to the effect on extractive policy. First, we show that raising the replacement rate of L types increases the likelihood that extractive policy is passed in a given state z . The rise in voting for extractive policy by L types [Proposition 5] is only partially offset by the stepping down response of H types. It could still be that raising $\lambda(L, \vartheta)$ lowers the likelihood that extractive policy is passed *over time* as low accountability legislators are more rapidly replaced by high accountability legislators. To investigate this possibility, denote a finite sequence of states from T running through \hat{T} by $s = \{s_t\}_{t=T}^{\hat{T}}$. The average likelihood that extractive policy is passed over time horizon $(T, T + 1, \dots, \hat{T})$ is then

$$\bar{\mathbb{P}}(x_t = 1 | z_T, \hat{T}) = \sum_{s \in Z^{\hat{T}-T+1}} \mathbb{P}(s | z_T) \frac{1}{\hat{T}-T+1} \sum_{t=T}^{\hat{T}} \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z_t = s_t). \quad (3)$$

Recall that if i is replaced, his successor is of type Θ with probability $q(\Theta | \Theta_i)$. We show that raising the replacement rate of L types increases the likelihood that extractive policy is passed over any finite time horizon if L types are sufficiently likely to be replaced by their own type, i.e. if $\min_{\vartheta \in \{\ell, h\}} q((L, \vartheta) | (L, \vartheta))$ is sufficiently close to one.

The results are stated in the following proposition.

Proposition 6 *Compare voting equilibria under replacement rates λ and λ' for L types, such that $\lambda'(L, \ell) > \lambda(L, \ell)$ and $\lambda'(L, h) > \lambda(L, h)$. All else is held equal.*

(i) *Denote the equilibrium likelihood that extractive policy is passed in state z given replacement rate λ by $\mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z, \lambda)$. For all states z in which there is at least one L type legislator,*

$$\mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z, \lambda') > \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z, \lambda).$$

(ii) *Denote the average equilibrium likelihood that extractive policy is passed over time horizon $(T, T + 1, \dots, \hat{T})$ given replacement rate λ by $\bar{\mathbb{P}}(x_t = 1 | z_T, \hat{T}, \lambda)$, as defined by (3). The following holds for all z_T in which there is at least one L type legislator and all finite time horizons \hat{T} :*

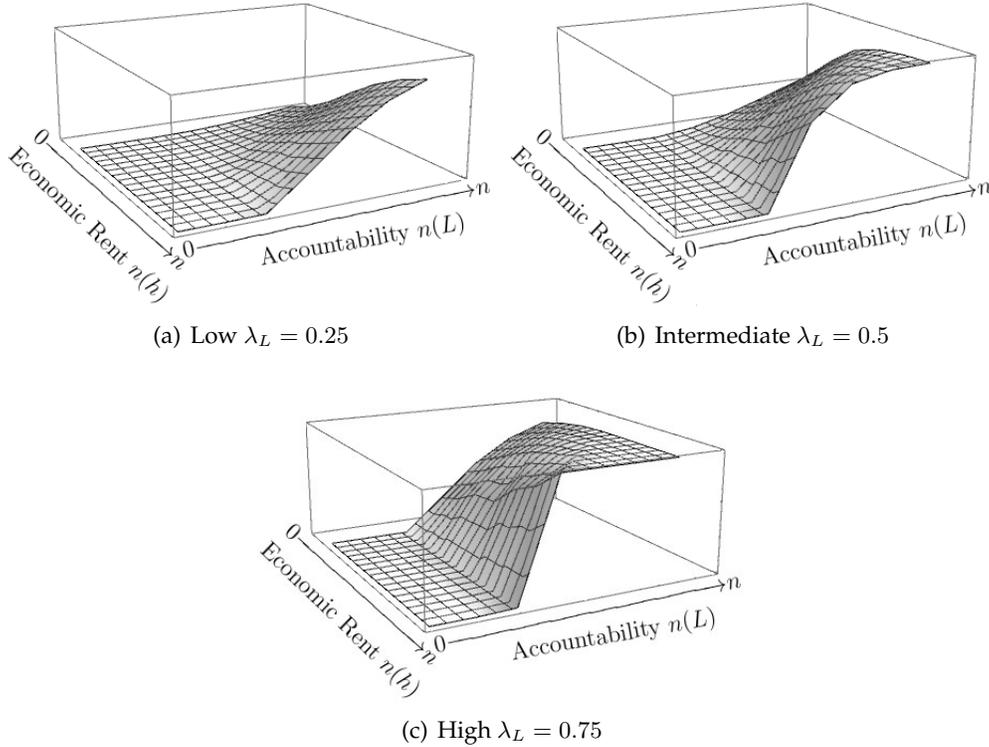
If $\min_{\vartheta \in \{\ell, h\}} q((L, \vartheta) | (L, \vartheta))$ is sufficiently close to one, then

$$\bar{\mathbb{P}}(x_t = 1 | z_T, \hat{T}, \lambda') > \bar{\mathbb{P}}(x_t = 1 | z_T, \hat{T}, \lambda).$$

Figure 2 illustrates Propositions 5 and 6(i). Increasing the replacement rate of L types λ_L raises the graph, i.e. raises the likelihood that extractive policy is passed. It also polarizes voting among H and L types, dividing the elite primarily along political accountability lines. This is apparent in Figure 2(iii) in which the likelihood that extractive policy is passed is far more sensitive to the composition of the elite along political accountability lines n_H than economic lines n_h . Thus attempts to remove L types render political accountability more salient in voting patterns.

Finally, removing L accountability types from office at a faster rate only improves political outcomes over time when they are replaced by H types with sufficiently high probability. Otherwise, citizens face a succession of L types with weaker re-election concerns. As such, attempts to speed up the transition toward a more accountable elite can be counterproductive when there are few high accountability alternatives to existing low accountability legislators. This can occur, for example, when the elite has control over the nomination of candidates, and simply replaces like with like.

Figure 3: Probability of extractive policy being passed



Notes: $\lambda(L, h) = \lambda(L, \ell) = \lambda_L \in \{0.25, 0.5, 0.75\}$. Parameter values are otherwise as in Figure 1.

3.5 Elite Composition and Institutions

Despite mitigating factors, an increase in the share of high accountability types reduces the likelihood that extractive policy is passed in a representative democracy (Proposition 2). Since all elite members gain from extractive policy, legislators may respond to increasing electoral accountability by weakening institutions in manner that shields them from greater accountability. The question we address here is how much would legislators be willing to do so?

The weakening of institutions can take many forms: In Sierra Leone, Siaka Stevens simply severed physical railway connections to parts of the country where he did not enjoy political support, at a great cost to not only the country but also the elite's ability to raise tax revenue (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2012, ch.12). When Mugabe in Zimbabwe came under increasing pressure in 2000, he eventually re-distributed land from white land owners as he had long promised, again at high

economic cost to the country and Mugabe himself (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2012, ch.13). A particularly interesting response is to purchase institutional protection by abolishing elections and ceding power to a foreign nation or the military. Many past military coups and foreign interventions were clearly invited or encouraged by a local elite trying to preserve its own power. In [Online Appendix E](#) we discuss some examples, including the military coups in Greece in 1967, in Turkey in 1971, and Thailand in 2014.

We consider one example of an institutional response, the dissolution of the legislature and end to elections, though other responses could be analyzed. Suppose that prior to date 1 at some stage T , there is a date 0 at which legislators $i \in N_T$ can choose to pay an amount B to permanently abolish elections. If this occurs, extractive policy is permanently imposed and each $i \in N_T$ receives political rents of r in every $t \geq T$. If not, the game proceeds as usual. We are interested in the maximum amount members of the legislature as a whole would be willing to pay for such a change in institutions, denoted by $B(z_T)$.

If elections are abolished in period T , the discounted sum of subsequent payoffs to each $i \in N_T$ is $\frac{\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1)+r}{1-\delta}$. Prior to observing p_T , each legislator $i \in N_T$ would thus be willing to individually contribute up to an amount $B_i(z_T)$ equal to the difference between this payoff and his expected equilibrium payoff under elections. The maximum the legislature would be willing to pay as a whole in period T is $B(z_T) = \sum_{i \in N_T} B_i(z_T)$. The amount the legislature would pay to abolish elections depends on the elite's composition in the following manner.

Proposition 7 *Consider two states z and z' such that $n'(H, \vartheta) \geq n(H, \vartheta)$ for $\vartheta = \ell, h$, with at least one inequality strict, and $n'(H, \vartheta) + n'(L, \vartheta) = n(H, \vartheta) + n(L, \vartheta)$ for $\vartheta = \ell, h$.*

Legislators would pay more to abolish elections in state z' :

$$B(z') > B(z).$$

The price the political elite is willing to pay to shield themselves from electoral accountability is increasing in the share of H accountable types (holding economic composition fixed). Hence

the relationship between accountability of elite members at the individual level and political accountability at the aggregate level depends critically on the quality of institutions. If institutional quality is low, that is, if the political elite can alter institutions at low cost, then it will respond to rising electoral accountability by weakening formal institutions. This is another way in which attempts at boosting political accountability by changing the social composition of the political elite can be counterproductive. Thus, the elite's composition matters for political outcomes, but not independently of institutions.

4 The British Caribbean Sugar Islands After Emancipation

We apply our theory of elite identity and politics to an historical analysis of ten British Caribbean sugar colonies, i.e. Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, Dominica, Tobago, St. Vincent, and Grenada, where we can get an unusually complete picture of the identities of the local elites, and where the economic and social identities of each elite group are clearly identified by the islands' histories. Sugar was introduced into these islands around 1700, and with this emerged an elite that was dominated by a small white planter elite; white commoners left the islands for the American colonies, their place taken by an ever-expanding population of imported slaves (Taylor, 2002, ch. 11).²³ From around 1800 the tide turned against the Caribbean planters. Slavery, which was critical to Caribbean wealth, came under increasing attack from the rising Abolitionist movement in London (Ragatz, 1928, ch.10). In 1807, British parliament abolished the slave trade. Finally, in 1833, British parliament passed *An Act for the Abolition of Slavery* which ended slavery throughout the Empire in 1836. We study the islands in the 30-40 years that followed.

Post-Emancipation Changes in the Racial Composition of the Islands' Elites: Shortly after Emancipation, the *Colonial Office* drew a distinction between "whites, mostly landed, [...] coloreds, who had been freed earlier and possessed, in many cases, substantial property, and [...] blacks, recently emancipated" (Taylor, 1885, p. 207). This distinction between colored and black was rooted in the fact that non-white Caribbean elites were the mulatto descendants of white slave-owners and slave mistresses, subsequently freed and bequeathed property (see e.g. Lowes, 1995,

²³ The first six (plus the Virgin Islands for which we have no data) were founded in the 1600s by British settler-farmers. The other four were annexed from France at the end of the Seven Years War in 1765, and were then resettled by sugar planters from the existing British Caribbean islands. The British annexed three more Caribbean colonies — Trinidad, St. Lucia, and Guyana — from Napoleon between 1797 and 1803, but these never had comparable legislatures.

p.37).²⁴ Emancipation was followed by a slow and steady exodus of whites returning to England. As one contemporary lamented: “The English of the islands are melting away. [...] Families who have been for generations on the soil are selling their estates everywhere and are going off” (Froude, 1888, ch. XVII). As colored elite members filled the void left by the existing white elites, the social composition of the Caribbean elite became much more mixed.²⁵

Post-Emancipation Changes in the Economic Composition of the Islands’ Elites: The changing racial composition did not immediately upset the dominance of plantation interests among the elite: “men of color [...] acquired the plantation property,” and by the 1870s in Tobago “coloreds owned or operated 32 of the 73 estates” (Craig-James, 2000, p.200, 296).²⁶ Overall, however, the colored elite segment was economically “far more heterogeneous than the class it was gradually displacing [...] consisting of merchants, successful estate owners, members of the professions, and an expanding managerial sector” (Meditz and Hanratty, 1987, p.31).

Measuring Elite Type: As in our model, we assign each elite member i in our data a two-dimensional type denoted by $\Theta_i = (\theta_i, \vartheta_i)$, consisting of a political accountability type $\theta_i \in \{L, H\}$, where L (H) denotes low (high), and an economic interest type $\vartheta_i \in \{h, \ell\}$, where h (ℓ) indicates a higher (lower) direct benefit from extractive policy. One great advantage of the post-Emancipation British Caribbean context is that these labels had very specific interpretations that we can observe in the data. In this highly racialized context, political accountability to the citizenry was determined by the most salient dimension of elite social identity, namely race. The Caribbean’s monocrop plantation agriculture also meant economic interest could be captured by a simple binary classification of elites into planters and non-planters (‘merchants’). British planters were (L, h) types, colored merchants were (H, ℓ) types, and colored planters (H, h) types. Appendix B.1 describes the data we used and the details of the coding.

Changes in the Composition of the Islands’ Assemblies: The political elite—the assemblymen elected to the islands’ legislatures—had extensive legislative powers, it was they who set

²⁴ For our purposes the distinction between colored and black plays no special role in either the theory or the empirical analysis. We refer the reader to the excellent social histories on this topic in Carmichael (1833), Smith (1953) and Cox (1984). See also Bodenhorn (2015) for a related study of the U.S. South.

²⁵ Craig-James (2000, p. 201) emphasizes that there “was little intermarriage between whites and coloreds,” so that the latter “must be seen as a distinct segment of the dominant class.”

²⁶ As noted by Green (1991, p. 199), “the planter oligarchy was, over time, no longer almost exclusively white.”

extractive policies.²⁷ The assemblymen were a subset of the broader elite whose changing composition we have just described. In the Caribbean, the composition of the political elite was changing even faster than the overall elite, as we now explain. The franchise in the Caribbean had always been small, not because of tight restrictions such as property requirements, but simply because of the small number of free people.²⁸ In fact, the actual requirement for the franchise was low, at only 10 acres across the islands, and these requirements were not changed after Emancipation. In addition, “because of pressures from the Colonial Office, a comfortable translation of pre-emancipation legal distinctions into distinctions of skin color was not possible” (Lowes, 1994, ch. 5).²⁹ As a result, it was inevitable that the black citizenry would gradually obtain the property-based franchise in the post-Emancipation era. As smallholding expanded throughout the Caribbean, blacks did not obtain enough property to run for elected office, but many did soon obtain enough for the franchise. It is also clear that the vote of the black citizenry went largely to the colored elite, if only for a lack of black legislators (Rogers, 1970, p. 187).³⁰

Green (1991, p.296) writes that “in Dominica and Montserrat colored men quickly assumed a dominant role in the legislature. They were a powerful element in Jamaica. [...] Although whites continued to dominate society in most colonies [...] in numbers [the colored elites] constituted the largest segment of the European culture group at the end of the period.” This increase in colored assemblymen is clearly visible in Figure 1. In the early years after Emancipation, white planters dominated the assemblies, just as they had done in the previous 200 years. Only “a few merchants, lawyers, and medical practitioners secured seats in the Jamaica Assembly before 1840. In 1837, twenty-two of twenty-five Antigua assemblymen were planters” (Green, 1991, pp.73). Thereafter, the assemblies became not only racially but also economically more diverse: Holt (1991, p. 221) writes that between Emancipation and its self-dissolution “more than a third of the brown representatives [in Jamaica’s assembly] were lawyers. Several others were merchants, editors, or public

²⁷They were considerably more powerful relative to the colonial governor than the average British colony by the end of the 19th century (Xu, 2018). Caribbean assemblies “in addition to their legislative functions, had extensive executive powers. Colonial Acts assigned all important administrative tasks to special boards, or commissions, upon which members of the assembly enjoyed either exclusive or majority control” (Green, 1991, p. 68). The main reason for this was that the Caribbean colonies were the oldest British colonies and had been formed under much more decentralized institutions than later colonies.

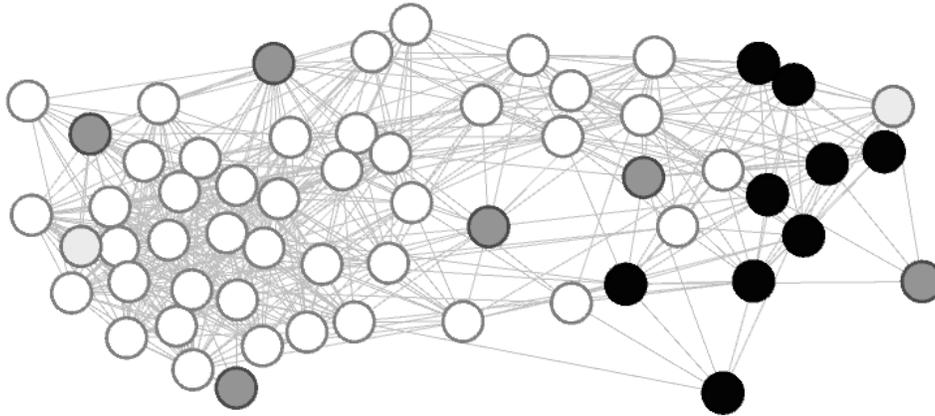
²⁸ Before Emancipation it had been, throughout the Caribbean, “distinctly the exception for a member of the legislature to be returned by more than 10 votes” (Wrong, 1923, p. 69).

²⁹ The threat of brute force was not viable for whites in the Caribbean, given their tiny numbers.

³⁰In his investigation of Jamaican post-Emancipation politics, Holt (1991) finds that there were a total of two black assemblymen between 1836–1865, compared to over 30 colored ones.

employees, not dependent on agriculture. Unlike the planters, they did not identify the interests of the island exclusively with the success of its plantations.”

Figure 4: Voting Network in Jamaica’s Assembly, 1844–1848 Session



Notes: White nodes are ‘white planters’, the six dark-grey nodes are ‘colored planters’, black nodes are ‘colored merchants’. The two light-grey nodes on the far-left and far-right are ‘white merchants.’ This network visualization has no scale and no axis. Two nodes are connected by an ‘edge’ if they agreed on more than two-thirds of the bills on which both voted, or not connected if they agreed on less. The placement of nodes in the graph is determined by these edges.

Postponing a discussion of the voting data to the paragraph preceding equation (5), we illustrate the relations between the different types in Figure 4. It depicts the voting network (over all proposals) for the assemblymen in Jamaica’s 1844–1848 legislative session. White nodes are white planters ($\Theta_i = (L, h)$), the dark-grey nodes are colored planters ($\Theta_i = (H, h)$), and black nodes are colored merchants ($\Theta_i = (H, \ell)$). In this visualization, two nodes are connected by an edge if they agreed on more than two-thirds of the bills on which both voted, or not connected if they agreed on less.³¹

There are clearly discernible blocs for white planters and for colored merchants, while colored planters’ voting connections were more spread between the two blocs. In our theory, voting blocs result from shared accountability or shared economic payoffs, since an elite member decides whether to support extractive policies only based on their individual payoffs. All accounts of politics in the Caribbean assemblies are consistent with this view in that they emphasize the absence

³¹ There are also two light-grey nodes (one on the far-left and one on the far-right) representing white merchants ($\Theta_i = (L, \ell)$). The placement of nodes in the graph is determined by these edges, i.e the white planters and the colored merchants appear to be separate blocs because they tended to agree among themselves and disagree with each other. Figure 4 was built in Gephi, using the Yifan Hu visualization algorithm.

of stable coalitions or any form of party discipline (Heuman, 1981; Holt, 1991; Honychurch, 1984). Figure 4 depicts a period in Jamaican politics when white planters still had a firm grip on the assembly. Our theory suggests colored assemblymen had no need to support extraction in this period. The visual blocs in Figure 4 are consistent with our theory but on their own they are not enough to rule out alternatives. In the following, we will present more rigorous evidence for our theory.

Support for Extractive Policies: In the model, the elite votes on a binary extractive policy proposal $x_t \in \{0, 1\}$. In practice, extractive policies in the post-Emancipation Caribbean could be grouped into three categories:

(i) Policies were passed to depress wages and ensure a steady supply of plantation labor. These included anti-squatting and anti-vagrancy laws.³²

(ii) There was political conflict over revenue raising, especially land taxes and customs duties. Plantations favored land-taxes that taxed any land-holdings but had declining marginal tax rates for larger holdings. Black small-scale farmers protested that “parochial land taxes pressed hard on small proprietors” McLewin (1987, p. 184). Import tariffs on foodstuffs were also a bone of contention, since these were primarily bought by plantation owners to feed their workers. Policies in categories (i) and (ii) had closely related aims: high taxes on small-holds were not only regressive, but also contributed to sustaining a labor pool because failure to pay them led to loss of title (Satchell, 1990, ch. 4). Similarly, import tariffs on foodstuffs were “opposed by the estate interests” not only because they raised the cost of feeding workers but also “since they tended to deplete labor reserves by driving workers from plantations to the hinterland, where they grew ground provisions” (Rogers, 1970, 96).

(iii) A third contentious issue was policies about public good provision. The emancipated former slaves’ primary concerns were land redistribution and public good provision. Elites were disinterested in the expansion of education and health services because they provided these to themselves as club goods rather than as public goods (Sewell 1861, p. 39, Dookhan 1977, Brizan 1984, p. 163).³³

³² According to McLewin (1987, p. 189), “assemblies brought into law an umbrella of coercive acts with the purpose of creating a landless peasantry.”

³³ Holt (1991, p.196) argues that “Planters generally opposed all measures to expand education. Very likely the idea of spending money primarily for the benefit of the black majority did not appeal to most planters. The wealthier resident planters sent their children to a few select private academies on the island and to England.” The same was arguably true for the islands non-planter elites.

In our theory, *all* elite members derive an economic benefit from extractive policies, and are only kept from supporting them by re-election concerns. While it is plausible in the Caribbean that colored merchants ((H, ℓ) types) would have favored some of the extractive policies discussed above, it is also possible that they would not have favored others. Revenue raising and public good provision were the areas of policy where the incentives of all elite members were closely aligned, hence $\pi_\ell(1) - \pi_\ell(0) > 0$. Policies aimed at securing a steady labor supply and undermining small-scale farming were more critical to the landed gentry. Therefore, in the overall policy bundle $\pi_h(1) - \pi_h(0) > \pi_\ell(1) - \pi_\ell(0) > 0$, as in our model. These inequalities highlight the importance of being able to identify a legislator’s economic as well as social type, which we can do in our data.

Political Accountability: In the model as well as the data, we focus on differences in *electoral* accountability. Voting in the Caribbean assemblies was by voice vote, and thus publicly observable. Assemblymen were therefore politically accountable for their voting record. However, British white assemblymen were less accountable to the black citizenry than their colored counterparts. A major reason for this difference was that almost all white elites were planters, and that these white planters were returned to the assemblies via long-standing landlord-tenant patronage relations. For the traditional Caribbean British planter-legislator, his “relationship to his constituents had a similarity to the relationship of the classic English patron and his retainers; the core of his political support appeared to come from tenants on his own estates, whose taxes and voter registration fees he paid” (Holt, 1991, p. 293).³⁴ By contrast, colored plantation owners did not have the same patronage networks, particularly when compared to the ‘great attorneys’ who were often in charge of twenty or more estates at the same time and who constituted a majority of the white planters in many of the islands (Smith, 1953, p.56).

We observe the assembly members of each colony in each year in the so-called *Colonial Blue Books*, annual statistical accounts that were sent to London from each individual colony to report on local conditions. The *Blue Books* started reporting on local legislatures right around the time of Emancipation. From this data we know the parishes from which each assembly member was returned. See [Appendix B.2](#) for data details, including a list of the electoral districts (islands parishes) from which assemblymen were returned. As the older British elites were shielded from

³⁴ Baland and Robinson (2008) describe such relational voting and its pernicious effect on political development in Chile.

Table 1: Variation in Parishes Presented by Social Group

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| outcome: | No. of Parishes Represented | | | |
| I(Colored Elite) | 0.089* | | 0.394*** | |
| | [0.065] | | [0.000] | |
| I(Colored Planter) | | 0.125* | | 0.413** |
| | | [0.073] | | [0.047] |
| I(Colored Merchant) | | 0.102* | | 0.387*** |
| | | [0.086] | | [0.002] |
| First Year in Assembly | -0.013*** | -0.013*** | -0.011*** | -0.011*** |
| | [0.000] | [0.000] | [0.000] | [0.000] |
| | Ten Islands | | Jamaica | |
| | 1838-onward | | 1664-1865 | |
| colony fixed effects | Y | Y | - | |
| Observations | 867 | 867 | 329 | 329 |
| R-squared | 0.077 | 0.078 | 0.149 | 0.149 |

Notes: Columns 1–2 report on all assemblymen we observe across the 10 islands and who first appeared in the assemblies after 1836. Columns 3–4 report on Jamaica only, where we observe all assemblymen from the assembly’s inception in 1664. The two data-sets partially overlap, with over 100 Jamaican legislators in the data in columns 1–2. *P-values* for robust standard errors are reported in square brackets, ***, **, * denote 1%, 5% and 10% statistical significance.

political accountability by long-established patronage networks in the parishes from which they were returned, we expect them to be more closely tied to a single parish than their colored elite counterparts. We verify this in Table 1, where we relate each assemblyman’s type to the number of parishes that represented during their tenure. Columns 1–2 focus on assemblymen in all 10 islands for the roughly 30 years from Emancipation to the island-specific year an assembly was dissolved. Instead of comparing assemblymen only within the post-Emancipation period, in Jamaica we can also compare them prior to Emancipation because we have Jamaica’s full history of assemblymen going back to 1664. (See Appendix B.2.) This is done in columns 3–4. As predicted, we find that colored assemblymen on average represented more parishes during their tenure than white assemblymen, both in the post-Emancipation period, and in a long-run comparison going back to the 17th century.³⁵ Columns 6 and 8 show that this is not due solely to colored elites being more likely to be merchants, and thus more mobile. Indeed colored planters appear to be just as likely to represent several parishes as colored merchants; they often owned plantations in more than one parish.

³⁵ To address truncation at the end of the data, when an assembly was dissolved, we control for the first year an assemblyman entered, a variable that should shorten political careers, and thereby also reduce the number of parishes represented. To address truncation at the beginning of the data in columns 1–2, we include only assemblymen who appeared in the first election we observe, which was typically one or two years after Emancipation.

Table 1 provides *prima facie* evidence that colored assemblymen were less likely to be returned by established patronage networks in a single parish, and were thus more electorally accountable.³⁶ While our model focuses on electoral accountability, elections were by no means the only or even primary form of political accountability. There were a number of factors outside the electoral setting that made colored elites more accountable, reinforcing the mechanism we concentrate on. They were connected to the black citizenry by blood and kinship, and as a result may have been more sensitive to potential social stigmatization (Miguel and Gugerty, 2005) and retribution for supporting extractive policies.³⁷ The threat of violent uprisings loomed ever-large over Caribbean elites and it was the colored elites who felt most exposed to it, as they could not count on the protection of British Naval garrison and the colonial judicial apparatus to the same degree as British citizens (Trouillot, 1988, p. 101).³⁸ An earlier version of this paper studied these non-electoral sources of political accountability, and found similar results to the ones presented here (Carvalho and Dippel, 2016). Reinforcing this was the fact that white elites were often more physically removed from the consequences of policies on the ground. As British citizens, they were in fact frequently absent from the islands, preferring to have their estates managed in their stead by so-called ‘attorneys’.

Voting for Extractive Policies: The theory suggests that colored planters should be less likely than white elites to vote for extractive policies, and colored merchants should be least likely to do so. We can test this hypothesis by estimating equation

$$\mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1) = \alpha_t + \sum_{\Theta \in \mathcal{I}} \kappa_{\Theta} \times \mathbb{I}(\Theta_i = \Theta) + \epsilon_{it}, \quad (4)$$

which expresses assemblyman i 's support for extractive policies as a function of his identity Θ_i (as well as capturing broad changes in voting behavior with year fixed effects α_t).

We pursue two alternative approaches in dealing with the voting data. In a first approach, we

³⁶ We would have also liked to verify that expansions in the franchise were associated with the rise of colored assemblymen, something which is strongly suggested by historical accounts. Unfortunately, the Blue Books do not report data on the franchise until the late 1850s and in some colonies the early 1860s.

³⁷ In-group altruism, as in Akerlof and Kranton (2000); Shayo (2009); Bramoullé and Goyal (2016), surely also played some role in shaping colored elites' loyalties towards the citizenry.

³⁸ Selective protection by British troops in the middle of an uprising was probably not the important point of distinction between white and colored elites. Rather, it was clear that the colonial judicial administration would go hard after anyone who injured or killed a British citizen, while the same could not be said for injuring a local elite member.

use assemblyman i 's overall voting agreement with the white planters to proxy for $\mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1)$. While voting in the Caribbean assemblies was by voice vote, and thus publicly observable, votes were unfortunately not usually recorded in writing. The colonial records contain some rudimentary voting records of the assemblies, but as we discuss in [Appendix B](#), the records were sparse. Only in Barbados, Grenada and Jamaica did the *Assembly Minutes* report roll-call voting information regularly enough to allow us to construct voting networks. We measure voting agreement as follows: We collapse the entire network of pairwise voting relations from the *Assembly Minutes* measured over all bills for Barbados, Grenada and Jamaica. This approach is visually represented in [Figure 4](#). We aggregate voting relations for a full year to compensate for the fact that we include procedural and ambiguous votes. In this approach we take as given that the white planter bloc is the most supportive of extractive policies, and calculate each assemblyman i 's voting agreement with this bloc. We interpret an individual who displays higher average agreement with all white planters in a given year as being more supportive of extractive policies. To be precise, let $I_{ijk} = 1$ if assemblymen i and j agree on bill k , and let K_{ijt} be the set of bills that both i and j voted on in year t . We define their voting overlap as $vo_{ijt} \equiv \frac{1}{|K_{ijt}|} \sum_{K_{ijt}} I_{ijk} \in [0, 1]$. With n_{Θ_i} denoting the number of type Θ_i elites, $\mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1)$ is measured as assemblyman i 's voting agreement with the white planters,³⁹ defined as

$$\frac{1}{n_{(L,h)}} \sum_{\Theta_j=(L,h)} vo_{ijt}. \quad (5)$$

While illustrative, results based on measuring $\mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1)$ by equation (5) need to be taken with a grain of salt because measured in this way, the outcome is averaged over many bills that are not necessarily coercive, i.e. procedural bills and bills where it is very difficult to say exactly what they were about.⁴⁰ Fortunately, in Jamaica bills were additionally described in the *Jamaica Vote Book* (a publication as close to a *Hansard* as could be obtained in Caribbean records). For this island we can therefore more precisely isolate extractive bills, and measure $\mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1)$ directly. From this source we were able to confidently assign roughly one quarter of bills to one or more of the three types of extractive policies described. To validate our coding of extractive bills we verified that they

³⁹ If i is himself a white planter, he is naturally excluded from this summation.

⁴⁰ A typical record for a purely procedural bill is an October 22nd 1839 bill that read "A bill to prepare an address to the governor for the opening of the legislative session." A typical record where it was impossible to determine a bill's meaning even though the bill may well be important was a June 17th 1864 bill that read "a motion that the house do disagree to the third amendment proposed by the legislative council in their said message to the bill mentioned," with no further explanation on the bill in question.

were more contentious, i.e. were passed (or defeated) with narrower margins. Using the totality of bills, we regressed the vote-margin on an indicator for a bill being classified as extractive and indeed found that such bills had a 6% smaller vote margin, an effect that was highly significant.

Table 2 reports on the results of estimating equation (4). In Panels A and B, the outcome is as defined in (5). Panel A, for Jamaica, presents results for eight specifications. Across columns 1–4, the data suggest colored elites were on average about ten percentage points less likely to vote with white planters over all bills. Column 1 reports results of a univariate regression on only an indicator that i is a colored elite member (in the model, a high-accountability social type $\theta_i = H$). The omitted category is white planters. Colored legislators agreed eight percentage points less with white planters than white planters agreed among themselves.⁴¹ Column 2 includes year fixed effects to allow for broad trends in the composition of bills (extractive vs non-extractive) tabled for vote. Columns 3–4 weight the regressions by the number of bills over which each observation was averaged, since legislative sessions with more voting should arguably receive higher weight. This sharpens the results. Columns 5–8 repeat 1–4 but further partition colored elites by their economic identity, i.e. being a planter or a merchant (or, in the model, a $\vartheta_i = h$ or a $\vartheta_i = \ell$ type). Columns 5–8 show that colored planters indeed display much closer voting overlap with white planters than colored merchants. Panel B shows only the un-weighted specifications for the two other islands for which we have a sufficient number of bills, Barbados and Grenada. The results are very similar to those for Jamaica in Panel A, although the distinction between colored planters and merchants is less sharp in Grenada than in Jamaica and Barbados. In summary, across the three islands, colored planters are less likely than white elites to vote for extractive policies, and colored merchants are least likely to do so, as hypothesized.

We now hone in more precisely on the extractive content of the bills, focusing on Jamaica, where good information on bills exists. The data is organized by bill, and the outcome is simply an indicator for whether an assemblyman supported a bill. Columns 1–2 and 5–6 in Panel C focus on bills that we coded as extractive in the sense described beforehand.⁴² By contrast, and serving as a placebo test, columns 3–4 and 7–8 use the other bills that were either procedural or had no relation or an ambiguous relation to extractive policies. Column 1 again reports on a univariate regression

⁴¹On average, a white planter agreed with all other white planters on about 65% of bills in a given year.

⁴² If a bill was for a policy against extraction, e.g., a progressive land tax, then votes were inverted so that after inversion a ‘yes’ vote always meant supporting an extractive policy.

Table 2: Voting for Extraction by Group

Panel A. *Voting Overlap* with the White Planters: Jamaica

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| ℓ(Colored Elite) | -7.810*** | -8.903*** | -10.089*** | -11.028*** | | | | |
| | [0.000] | [0.000] | [0.000] | [0.000] | | | | |
| ℓ(Colored Planter) | | | | | -2.077 | -3.075** | -3.009* | -3.696* |
| | | | | | [0.132] | [0.028] | [0.096] | [0.053] |
| ℓ(Colored Merchant) | | | | | -9.101*** | -10.158*** | -11.374*** | -12.293*** |
| | | | | | [0.000] | [0.000] | [0.000] | [0.000] |
| weighted | | | Y | Y | | | Y | Y |
| <i>p-val</i> [Col. Pl.= Col.Mer.] | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| year FE | | Y | | Y | | Y | | Y |
| Observations | 999 | 999 | 999 | 999 | 999 | 999 | 999 | 999 |
| R-squared | 0.092 | 0.193 | 0.160 | 0.243 | 0.110 | 0.211 | 0.184 | 0.268 |

Panel B. *Voting Overlap* with the White Planters: Barbados & Grenada

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| ℓ(Colored Elite) | -3.788*** | -3.645*** | | | -4.300*** | -4.049*** | | |
| | [0.001] | [0.001] | | | [0.003] | [0.007] | | |
| ℓ(Colored Planter) | | | -2.816 | -1.610 | | | -3.722** | -3.528** |
| | | | [0.202] | [0.449] | | | [0.035] | [0.039] |
| ℓ(Colored Merchant) | | | -4.319*** | -4.744*** | | | -4.609*** | -4.456** |
| | | | [0.001] | [0.000] | | | [0.005] | [0.012] |
| island: | Barbados | | | | Grenada | | | |
| <i>p-val</i> [Col. Pl.= Col.Mer.] | | | 0.202 | 0.202 | | | 0.609 | 0.609 |
| year FE | | Y | | Y | | Y | | Y |
| Observations | 1,064 | 1,064 | 1,064 | 1,064 | 733 | 733 | 733 | 733 |
| R-squared | 0.009 | 0.156 | 0.010 | 0.158 | 0.011 | 0.097 | 0.012 | 0.098 |

Panel C. Voting for Extractive Bills: Jamaica

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
|-----------------------------------|------------|----------|---------|---------|------------|----------|---------|---------|
| ℓ(Colored Elite) | -3.503** | -3.547** | -0.304 | 0.084 | | | | |
| | [0.031] | [0.033] | [0.652] | [0.903] | | | | |
| ℓ(Colored Planter) | | | | | -0.262 | 0.255 | -0.796 | -0.520 |
| | | | | | [0.933] | [0.935] | [0.532] | [0.685] |
| ℓ(Colored Merchant) | | | | | -4.223** | -4.400** | -0.195 | 0.220 |
| | | | | | [0.014] | [0.013] | [0.785] | [0.763] |
| Bills: | Extractive | | | | Extractive | | | |
| <i>p-val</i> [Col. Pl.= Col.Mer.] | | | | | 0.219 | 0.149 | 0.649 | 0.577 |
| year FE | | Y | | Y | | Y | | Y |
| Observations | 3,848 | 3,848 | 22,249 | 22,249 | 3,848 | 3,848 | 22,249 | 22,249 |
| R-squared | 0.001 | 0.023 | 0.000 | 0.007 | 0.002 | 0.024 | 0.000 | 0.007 |

Notes: (a) In Panel A and B, the outcome is an assemblyman's average voting overlap with all white planters in a given year. Panel A shows eight specifications. Panel B shows the 4 core specifications for each of Barbados and Grenada. 999, 1064, and 733 are the number of assemblyman-year observations in each island. Data in panels A and C are for Jamaica only. In Panel C, we organize the data by bill, and the outcome is simply an indicator for whether an assemblyman supported a bill, separately considering extractive and non-extractive bills. We can only reliably glean the bills' content in Jamaica, where the data comes from a *Hansard*. The number of observations is thus the product of bills and legislators voting on them. (b) The omitted category in all regressions is white planter, i.e. the $\Theta_i = (L, h)$ type. (c) *p-values* for robust standard errors are reported in square brackets, ***, **, * denote 1%, 5% and 10% statistical significance.

of only an indicator (scaled to be 0 or 100) for supporting an extractive bill on an indicator that i is a colored elite member. Column 2 adds year fixed effects. Unlike in panel A, year controls do not matter since we have already isolated bills that are extractive. In columns 1 and 2, colored elites are 3.5 percentage points less likely than white elites to support an extractive bill. Columns 5–6 again break down the colored elite by economic identity. As before, colored planters are closer to whites than colored merchants. In panel C they in fact do not vote differently from white elites. It is only colored merchants who are about four percentage points less likely than white elites to support an extractive bill. Indeed, columns 3–4 and 7–8 do not exhibit the difference in voting by elite identity seen in the rest of panels A and B.

Table 2 provides evidence that differences in voting are driven by differences in elite identity. In Section 2 we noted that there are two primary channels through which changes in elite composition can affect extractive policies by the elite: the *political accountability channel*, which is our focus, and the *ingroup bias channel* whereby elite members who are socially closer to the citizenry support non-extractive policies due to altruistic in-group preferences and norms (Shayo, 2009; Bramoullé and Goyal, 2016). Because the estimation of equation (4) simply pools all elite members of a certain type, it is consistent with both channels to an extent. In the following, we isolate the effect of political accountability from the alternative in-group bias channel by estimating whether individual voting behavior changed with the composition of the elite, as suggested by our theory.

Stepping Up: Proposition 4 of the theory postulates that when less accountable (L, ϑ) types are replaced with more accountable (H, ϑ) types, individual elite members ‘step up’, i.e. become more likely to support extractive policies. The same prediction is made when more economically invested elite types (θ, h) are replaced with less economically invested (θ, ℓ) types. An empirical prediction that arises from this in our context is that the exodus of white planters should have led colored elites to step up voting for extractive policies.⁴³ We can test this directly by interacting individual elites’ support for extractive bills with the time-varying share $\frac{n_{(L,h)}}{n_t}$ of white planters in the assembly

$$\mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1) = \alpha_i + \sum_{\Theta \in \mathcal{I}} \beta_{\Theta} \times \mathbb{I}(\Theta_i = \Theta) \times \frac{n_{(L,h)}}{n_t} + \epsilon_{it}. \quad (6)$$

⁴³ In the theory this may be partly offset by the fact that this exodus would likely be associated with a higher λ_i for the remaining white planters, making them more supportive of extraction. However, we expect this to be a second-order effect.

Because this share $\frac{n_{(L,h)}}{n}_t$ varies by electoral cycle, and individual legislators held their seats across electoral cycles, equation (6) allows us to study changes in voting behavior conditional on individual preference fixed effects α_i , i.e. controlling for i 's baseline likelihood of supporting extractive policies. If the stepping-up prediction holds in the data we should see a differential effect for (H, h) types (colored planters) and (H, ℓ) types (colored merchants) relative to the omitted category of (L, h) types (white planters) in our data. In estimating equation (6), we treat the colony-level variation in $\frac{n_{(L,h)}}{n}_t$ as econometrically exogenous to the individual assemblyman. Furthermore, inspection of the top-left panel in Figure 1 (i.e. Jamaica) makes it clear that the primary source of identifying variation in $\frac{n_{(L,h)}}{n}_t$ is a secular decline in the share of white planters over time.

Columns 1–2 of Table 3 report on the results of estimating equation (6). Indeed we see that colored elites increase voting for extractive policies when the white planter bloc shrinks, i.e. when $\frac{n_{(L,h)}}{n}_t$ falls. Column 2 shows that this interaction is more pronounced for colored planters than merchants. While the theory does not deliver a clear prediction on this difference, the patterns makes sense because colored planters have a larger economic payoff than colored merchants from stepping up. It also matches the empirical observation (Panel C of Table 2, columns 5–6) that colored planters were on average much more likely than colored merchants to support extractive bills. The variable $\frac{n_{(L,h)}}{n}_t$ is scaled to lie between 0 and 100; the indicator $\mathbb{P}(v_{it} = 1)$ is scaled to take values 0 or 100. Therefore, the estimated coefficient -0.965 implies that a one percentage point decrease in the white planter bloc increased a colored planter's likelihood to support an extractive bill by one percentage point.

With the voting data in hand, we can now test a basic premise of both the theory and the narrative case study in Section 4, that is the assumption that colored elites were more politically accountable than white elites, (H, ϑ) types. Specifically, we ask if an elite member's re-election probability was more negatively effected by supporting extraction if he was an H type:

$$\mathbb{P}(reelect_{it} = 1) = \alpha_t + \sum_{\Theta \in \mathcal{I}} \gamma_{\Theta} \times \mathbb{I}(\Theta_i = \Theta) \times \mathbb{I}(v_{it} = 1) + \epsilon_t. \quad (7)$$

If our basic premise is true we should see a differential effect for (H, h) types (colored planters) and (H, ℓ) types (colored merchants) relative to the omitted category of (L, h) types (white planters) in our data. Since the question is defined on electoral cycles, we can include electoral cycle fixed

Table 3: Evidence for ‘Stepping Up’ & for H -types’ higher Accountability

| | | (1) | (2) | | | (3) | (4) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| $\mathbb{I}(\text{White Elite})$ | $\times \frac{n(L,h)}{n}$ | -0.253 [0.192] | -0.164 [0.292] | $\mathbb{I}(v_{it}=1)$ | | 0.196 [0.215] | 0.166 [0.304] |
| $\mathbb{I}(\text{Colored Elite})$ | $\times \frac{n(L,h)}{n}$ | -0.550*** [0.009] | | $\mathbb{I}(\text{Colored Elite})$ | $\times \mathbb{I}(v_{it}=1)$ | -0.879*** [0.006] | |
| $\mathbb{I}(\text{Colored Planter})$ | $\times \frac{n(L,h)}{n}$ | | -0.965*** [0.000] | $\mathbb{I}(\text{Colored Planter})$ | $\times \mathbb{I}(v_{it}=1)$ | | -1.156** [0.034] |
| $\mathbb{I}(\text{Colored Merchant})$ | $\times \frac{n(L,h)}{n}$ | | -0.373** [0.030] | $\mathbb{I}(\text{Colored Merchant})$ | $\times \mathbb{I}(v_{it}=1)$ | | -0.653* [0.071] |
| fixed effects: | | individual | | | | election | |
| Observations | | 3,848 | 3,848 | Observations | | 204 | 204 |
| R-squared | | 0.066 | 0.067 | R-squared | | 0.160 | 0.134 |

Notes: (a) In columns 1–2 we investigate whether individual support for extractive policy depends on the composition of the legislature. ‘Stepping up’ predicts an increase in support for extraction among colored elites when $\frac{n(L,h)}{n}$ falls, i.e. a negative coefficient. Standard errors are clustered at the individual level for over 100 Jamaican legislators from 1838–1865, p -values are reported in square brackets. (b) In columns 3–4 we investigate whether an individual’s re-election penalty for supporting extractive policy depended on his social identity, as assumed in the model; p -values for robust standard errors are reported in square brackets. (c) All data in this table are for Jamaica only; ***, **, * denote 1%, 5% and 10% statistical significance.

effects α_t to control for any time-variation in re-election probabilities. Columns 3–4 of Table 3 report on estimations of equation (7). As postulated, colored elites incurred a pronounced re-election penalty for supporting extraction. By contrast, the traditional British elites incurred no re-election penalty for the same.

The Institutional Response: In combination, the results in Table 3 provide evidence of two of the key insights of our model. ‘Stepping up’ means that individuals elites will adjust their behavior to compensate for compositional changes towards more accountable types. This buttresses support for extractive policies and counteracts increases in elites’ overall accountability. However, there are limits to this compensating mechanism. When the compositional changes towards more accountable types are sufficiently pronounced, ‘stepping up’ is not enough and the equilibrium that sustains extractive policies fractures. In our theory, elites may then, as a last resort, pull the ripcord of changing the formal institutions that govern accountability, as in Proposition 7. This may take many forms.⁴⁴ In the Caribbean context we study, it meant that local elites switched to ‘Crown Rule.’ These switches mark the end-points in Figure 1. The *Colonial Office* described one such switch succinctly: “The assembly [...] addressed the Queen that it had passed a bill for its

⁴⁴ Such a rationale is not unique to our empirical case study: Many past military coups and foreign interventions were clearly invited or encouraged by a local elite trying to preserve its own power; examples in [Online Appendix E](#).

own extinction" (Britain, 1879, p. 188). As we have argued, switches to Crown Rule should be interpreted as a move to cede de jure power to an outside entity, knowing that a significant amount of de facto power will be preserved locally.

There is a clear consensus among Caribbean historians that the dissolution of the assemblies was intended to shield the islands' elites from political pressure. Lowes (1995, p.46) suggests that in Antigua "the vote took place in secrecy to forestall any public protest." This is borne out in the *Assembly Minutes* of Nevis, where the meeting of June 14th 1866, when the dissolution of the assembly was voted on, began with the reading of a petition by smallholders to prevent the constitutional changes. There is no consensus, however, on which segment of the elite the dissolution was designed to shield, and from what political pressure. Some scholars of Caribbean history have concluded that the dissolution of the assemblies was a case of white elites trying to shut down the emergent colored elites (Ashdown, 1979; Lowes, 1994).⁴⁵ Other scholars' conclusions are closer to our hypothesis by which the assemblies' dissolution may have been supported by both white and colored elites to shield the elite as a whole from greater accountability stemming from its changing composition (Rogers, 1970; Fergus, 1994).⁴⁶

Looking across islands, Figure 1 showed a clear pattern of an increase in colored elites over time in the lead-up to each assembly's dissolution. In Dominica, Montserrat, Grenada, Tobago and Antigua there were narrow colored majorities when the assemblies voted to dissolve themselves. In Jamaica, St Kitts, Nevis, and St Vincent, there were narrow white majorities. Barbados was an outlier in that the dominance of the white landowner elites was never seriously affected by Emancipation.⁴⁷ It was also the only island never to dissolve its Assembly.

The evidence is thus everywhere consistent with our theory and the hypothesis that elite members had a common interest in pulling the 'ripcord' of inviting Crown rule because their growing

⁴⁵ Lowes (1994, p.35) concludes that "in the end, the demand of an increasingly restive nonwhite middle class for a voice in island affairs proved the greater fear [than ceding power to the colonial office], and the white elites voted themselves out of office." Ashdown (1979, p.34) argues in a similar vein that "the colonies gave up their elected assemblies voluntarily, for in most cases the white, privileged classes preferred direct imperial government to the government of the colored classes who were slowly obtaining greater representation in the legislative councils."

⁴⁶ Rogers argues that "fear of political displacement by the colored middle class was a primary reason for its cooperation in destroying representative government" (1970, p. 316). Similarly, Fergus (1994, p.81) concludes that the point of *Crown Rule* was to alleviate the elite's accountability for an extractive system as it created "a more subtly exclusive system as far as free blacks were concerned. There was only room [in it] for whites and their wealthy colored equivalents."

⁴⁷ This is well known in the Caribbean socio-economic history (Engerman, 1984; Patterson, 2013). Online Appendix D provides a detailed discussion of the reasons for Barbados' special standing.

accountability to the citizenry undermined their ability to enact extractive policies.⁴⁸ By contrast, it is less consistent with the traditional view by Caribbean historians—who did not have the benefit of our newly collected data on Caribbean elites’ identities and their voting patterns—that white elites dissolved the assemblies to exclude the emergent colored elites ([Ashdown, 1979](#); [Lowes, 1994](#)).

5 Discussion & Conclusion

In 1836, the emancipation of slaves in the British Caribbean changed the composition of both the electorate and the elected, with a new group of legislators emerging who were socially closer and more accountable to the citizenry. Surprisingly, this did not produce an improvement in political outcomes, e.g. further democratic reforms and independence. Instead, a period of political stagnation followed, which culminated in nine out of ten legislative assemblies voting to shut down the democratic process and revert to rule by the British crown. Motivated by this puzzle, we model the effect of elite identity on political outcomes through a novel political accountability channel. It turns out that an ‘iron law of oligarchy’ can persist even under conditions thought to be conducive to democratic reforms, i.e. under electoral institutions and changes in elite composition that promote political accountability. We identify three mechanisms preserving an ‘iron law’: stepping up, dynamic incentives, and substitution. We apply our theoretical predictions to an historical analysis of why the iron law held sway over the ten Caribbean islands after the emancipation of slaves had created a mixed and more accountable political elite.

⁴⁸ As discussed at the end of Section 3, in a model of co-option accountable elites may also eventually choose to pay off colored elites to permanently change electoral institutions. However, the historical narrative of the dissolution of the assemblies is much more consistent with our theory of differential political accountability. Particularly important in this context were increases in the political accountability of colored elites that took the form of an increased threat of revolt. For example, it appears that the outbreak of the ‘Bellmana Riots’ in April 1876 largely explains the timing of the dissolution of Tobago’s assembly ([Craig-James 2000](#), p.237,251). The same is true in Jamaica, where it has long been held that the Assembly’s dissolution was a direct response to the Morant Bay Rebellion ([Lewis, 2004](#), p.96). The threat of revolt should be seen as a form of political accountability similar to the electoral accountability we emphasize in our theory. We had investigated the threat of revolt in an earlier version of the paper, before focusing the paper on electoral accountability, and found that colored elites’ voting behavior changed differentially around the outbreak of riots ([Carvalho and Dippel, 2016](#)), suggesting colored elites were more politically accountable in this sense as well.

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Appendix A Mathematical Appendix

Proof of Proposition 1. (i) Consider an arbitrary time T . By hypothesis $d_T^* \geq 0$.

Consider the subcase in which $p^* < \bar{p}$. In a voting equilibrium, $v_{iT} = 1$ for exactly $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ agents such that $d_{it} \geq 0$. Consider such an i .

In equilibrium, the expected payoff to i in state (z_T, p_T) is

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) + \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) + [\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0)] \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T} \sum_{z \in Z} \mathbb{P}(z_t = z | z_T) \mathbb{P}(D_t^* \geq 0 | z_t = z) \\ + r + p_{iT} r \delta (1 - \lambda_i) \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T-1} \prod_{\tau=T+1}^t \mathbb{P}(i \in N_{\tau} | i \in N_{\tau-1}), \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where $\mathbb{P}(i \in N_{\tau} | i \in N_{\tau-1})$ is the expected likelihood that $i \in N_{\tau-1}$ remains a member of the legislature in period τ .

Because i is pivotal, a one-shot deviation to $v_{it} = 0$ yields

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) + \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) + [\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0)] \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T} \sum_{z \in Z} \mathbb{P}(z_t = z | z_T) \mathbb{P}(D_t^* \geq 0 | z_t = z) \\ + r + \bar{p} r \delta (1 - \lambda_i) \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T-1} \prod_{\tau=T+1}^t \mathbb{P}(i \in N_{\tau} | i \in N_{\tau-1}), \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Comparing (8) to (9), i does not have a profitable one-shot deviation if and only if

$$\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) - (\bar{p} - p_{iT}) r \delta (1 - \lambda_i) \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T-1} \prod_{\tau=T+1}^t \mathbb{P}(i \in N_{\tau} | i \in N_{\tau-1}) \geq 0. \quad (10)$$

As $p_{it} \in (0, \bar{p})$, $(1 - \lambda_i) \bar{p}$ is an upper bound on $\mathbb{P}(i \in N_{\tau} | i \in N_{\tau-1})$. Therefore, (10) holds if

$$\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) - (\bar{p} - p_{iT}) r \delta (1 - \lambda_i) \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} [\delta (1 - \lambda_i) \bar{p}]^{t-T-1} \geq 0 \quad (11)$$

$$\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) - \frac{\delta (1 - \lambda_i)}{1 - \delta (1 - \lambda_i) \bar{p}} (\bar{p} - p_{iT}) r \geq 0 \quad (12)$$

$$d_{iT} \geq 0. \quad (13)$$

This holds since $d_{iT} = d^* \geq 0$ by hypothesis.

Now consider i such that in equilibrium $v_{iT} = 0$. His equilibrium expected payoff is

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) + \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) + [\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0)] \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T} \sum_{z \in Z} \mathbb{P}(z_t = z | z_T) \mathbb{P}(D_t^* \geq 0 | z_t) \\ + \bar{p} r \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} [\delta (1 - \lambda_i)]^{t-T} \prod_{\tau=T+1}^t \mathbb{P}(i \in N_{\tau}). \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Because such an agent is not pivotal, his expected payoff from a one-shot deviation to $v_{iT} = 1$ is given by (8) which is no greater than (14) because $\bar{p} \geq p_{iT}$.

Now consider the second subcase of (i): $p^* = \bar{p}$. If $p_{iT} = \bar{p}$, then $v_{iT} = 1$ is a weakly dominant strategy [see (10)]. Hence no such i has a profitable one-shot deviation. By hypothesis, the number of such players exceeds $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$. Hence no j for which $p_{jT} < \bar{p}$ is pivotal. Therefore, there is no profitable deviation from $v_{jT} = 0$ for j such that $p_{jT} < \bar{p}$ [again comparing (8) and (14)]. This completes case (i).

(ii) In equilibrium, $v_{iT} = 0$ and the expected payoff equals (9) for all $i \in N_T$. A one-shot deviation yields

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) + \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) + [\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0)] \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \delta^{t-T} \sum_{z \in Z} \mathbb{P}(z_t = z | z_T) \mathbb{P}(D_t^* \geq 0 | z_t) \\ + p_{iT} r \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} [\delta(1 - \lambda_i)]^{t-T} \prod_{\tau=T+1}^t \mathbb{P}(i \in N_\tau), \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

which is no greater than (9) because $\bar{p} \geq p_{iT}$. \square

Proof of Proposition 2. Suppress time notation. By Proposition 1, extractive policy is passed if and only if $d^* \geq 0$. Hence the likelihood that extractive policy is passed is $\mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0)$.

Let $\gamma(N, k)$ denote the set of k -subsets of N . Define

$$\Gamma(N, K) \equiv \bigcup_{k=K}^n \gamma(N, k),$$

with typical member A . Then

$$\mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0) = \sum_{A \in \Gamma(N, \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil)} \prod_{j \in A} \mathbb{P}(D_j \geq 0) \prod_{j' \notin A} \mathbb{P}(D_{j'} < 0). \quad (16)$$

Note that the following statements are equivalent:

$$\begin{aligned} D_j &\geq 0 \\ \pi_{\vartheta_j}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_j}(0) - \frac{\delta(1 - \lambda_j)}{1 - \delta(1 - \lambda_j)\bar{p}} (\bar{p} - P_j) r &\geq 0 \\ \bar{p} - \frac{1 - \delta(1 - \lambda_j)\bar{p}}{\delta(1 - \lambda_j)r} \frac{\pi_{\vartheta_j}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_j}(0)}{r} &\leq P_j. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Define

$$\Delta_j \equiv \bar{p} - \frac{1 - \delta(1 - \lambda_j)\bar{p}}{\delta(1 - \lambda_j)r} \frac{\pi_{\vartheta_j}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_j}(0)}{r}, \quad (18)$$

which is less than \bar{p} and positive due to Assumption 1. Hence $\mathbb{P}(D_j \geq 0) = 1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j) \in (0, 1)$. (16) can then be reexpressed as

$$\mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0) = \sum_{A \in \Gamma(N, \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil)} \prod_{j \in A} [1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j)] \prod_{j \in N-A} F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j) \quad (19)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{A \in \Gamma(N - \{i\}, \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil - 1)} [1 - F_{\theta_i}(\Delta_i)] \prod_{j \in A} [1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j)] \prod_{j \in N-A} F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j) \\ &\quad + \sum_{A' \in \Gamma(N - \{i\}, \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil)} F_{\theta_i}(\Delta_i) \prod_{j \in A'} [1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j)] \prod_{j \in N-A'} F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -F_{\theta_i}(\Delta_i) \sum_{A \in \Gamma(N - \{i\}, \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil - 1)} \prod_{j \in A} [1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j)] \prod_{j \in N-A} F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j) \\ &\quad + \sum_{A' \in \Gamma(N - \{i\}, \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil - 1)} \prod_{j \in A'} [1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j)] \prod_{j \in N-A'} F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j). \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Now replace i with i' such that $\theta_i = L$, $\theta_{i'} = H$ and $\vartheta_i = \vartheta_{i'}$ as hypothesized. The difference in probabilities is

$$\mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0 | \theta_i = L) - \mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0 | \theta_{i'} = H) \propto F_L(\Delta_i) - F_H(\Delta_{i'}). \quad (22)$$

Recall $\lambda_{i'} \leq \lambda_i$ by assumption (because i is an L type and i' an H type). Hence $\Delta_{i'} \geq \Delta_i$. In addition, $F_H(\Delta) > F_L(\Delta)$ for all $\Delta \in (0, \bar{p})$ by assumption. Taken together, these facts imply (22) is negative.

Similarly replacing i with i' such that $\vartheta_i = h$, $\vartheta_{i'} = \ell$ and $\theta_i = \theta_{i'}$ as hypothesized yields

$$\mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0; \vartheta_i = \ell) - \mathbb{P}(D^* \geq 0; \vartheta_{i'} = h) \propto F_{\theta_i}(\Delta_i) - F_{\theta_{i'}}(\Delta_{i'}). \quad (23)$$

$\Delta_{i'} > \Delta_i$ because $\pi_h(1) - \pi_h(0) > \pi_\ell(1) - \pi_\ell(0)$ and $\lambda_{i'} \leq \lambda_i$ by assumption (because i is an h type and i' an ℓ type). Hence (23) is negative as F is strictly increasing.

Iterating this procedure establishes the proposition. \square

We prove Proposition 4, before returning to Proposition 3.

Proof of Proposition 4. For convenience, suppress time notation.

By hypothesis, j 's type switches from L to H and/or from h to ℓ . For all $i \neq j$, we need to establish:

$$\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z') < \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | z) - \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | z') < \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | z) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | z').$$

For agents other than j , consider a realized distribution $d_{-j} = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{j-1}, d_{j+1}, \dots)$. There are three cases, which are exhaustive, and each occur with positive probability.

Case 1: $d_i \geq 0$ for exactly $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil - 1$ agents other than j .

Denote the $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ th largest value in d_{-j} by \hat{d} .

In this case, $\mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}) = \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}) = 1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j)$. In addition, for all i such that $d_i \geq \hat{d}$

$\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}) = \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}) = 1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j)$. For all other $i \neq j$, $\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}) = 0$.

Therefore, in case 1:

$$\mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}, z') = \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}, z') = 1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j) - \left(1 - F_{\theta'_j}(\Delta'_j)\right).$$

In addition,

$$\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}, z') = 1 - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j) - \left(1 - F_{\theta'_j}(\Delta'_j)\right)$$

for all i such that $d_i \geq \hat{d}$ and for all other $i \neq j$

$$\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}) = 0.$$

Case 2: $d_i \geq 0$ for at least $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ agents other than j .

Note the following statements are equivalent:

$$\begin{aligned} D_i &> \hat{d} \\ \pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) - \frac{\delta(1 - \lambda_i)}{1 - \delta(1 - \lambda_i)\bar{p}} (\bar{p} - P_i) r &> \hat{d} \\ \hat{\Delta}_i \equiv \bar{p} - \frac{1 - \delta(1 - \lambda_i)\bar{p}}{\delta(1 - \lambda_i) r} \left[\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) - \hat{d} \right] &\leq P_i. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Hence in case 2, $\mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}) = 1$ and $\mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}) = 1 - F_{\theta_j}(\hat{\Delta}_j)$. Note that $F_{\theta_j}(\hat{\Delta}_j) > 0$ under Assumption 1.

Case 2a: $F_{\theta'_j}(\hat{\Delta}'_j) = 1$.

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}, z') &= \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}, z') \\ &= \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}, z') \\ &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Case 2b: $F_{\theta'_j}(\hat{\Delta}'_j) < 1$. Then:

$$\mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}, z') = 0 \quad (26)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}, z') = 1 - F_{\theta_j}(\hat{\Delta}_j) - \left(1 - F_{\theta'_j}(\hat{\Delta}'_j)\right) \quad (27)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}, z') = F_{\theta_j}(\hat{\Delta}_j) - F_{\theta'_j}(\hat{\Delta}'_j), \quad (28)$$

for i such that $d_i = \hat{d}$ and $\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}, z) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}, z') = 0$ otherwise.

Case 3: $d_i \geq 0$ for no more than $\lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil - 2$ agents other than j .

In this case, $\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | d_{-j}) = \mathbb{P}(x = 1 | d_{-j}) = \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | d_{-j}) = 0$.

Over all cases, the following statements are equivalent:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{P}(x = 1|z) - \mathbb{P}(x = 1|z') &< \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1|z) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1|z') \\
\mathbb{P}(\text{Case 2b}) \left[1 - F_{\theta_j}(\hat{\Delta}_j) - \left(1 - F_{\theta'_j}(\hat{\Delta}'_j) \right) \right] &> 0 \\
F_{\theta'_j}(\hat{\Delta}'_j) &> F_{\theta_j}(\hat{\Delta}_j).
\end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

This is satisfied because j switches from L to H and/or from h to ℓ , so that $\lambda_{j'} \leq \lambda_j$ and in addition one of the following applies:

- $\Delta'_j > \Delta_j$ because $\pi_h(1) - \pi_h(0) > \pi_\ell(1) - \pi_\ell(0)$ (if j switches from an h to an ℓ type),
- $F_{\theta'_j}(\Delta) > F_{\theta_j}(\Delta)$ for all $\Delta \in (0, \bar{p})$ (if j switches from an L to an H type).

Likewise

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{P}(x = 1|z) - \mathbb{P}(x = 1|z') &> \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1|z) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1|z') \\
\mathbb{P}(\text{Case 1} \wedge d_i \leq \hat{d}) \left[F_{\theta'_j}(\Delta'_j) - F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j) \right] &> \mathbb{P}(\text{Case 2b} \wedge d_i = \hat{d}) \left[F_{\theta_j}(\hat{\Delta}_j) - F_{\theta'_j}(\hat{\Delta}'_j) \right] \\
F_{\theta'_j}(\hat{\Delta}'_j) + F_{\theta'_j}(\Delta'_j) &> F_{\theta_j}(\hat{\Delta}_j) + F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j).
\end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

By the argument above, $F_{\theta'_j}(\Delta'_j) \geq F_{\theta_j}(\Delta_j)$. This establishes the proposition. \square

Proof of Proposition 3. Switch i 's type from (L, ϑ) to (H, ϑ) . Let j 's type be (H, ϑ) . We know from Proposition 4:

$$\mathbb{P}(v_j = 1|z) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1|z') < \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1|z) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1|z'). \tag{31}$$

The equilibrium is type-symmetric, so

$$\mathbb{P}(v_j = 1|z') = \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1|z'). \tag{32}$$

Combining (31) and (32),

$$\mathbb{P}(v_j = 1|z) < \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1|z). \tag{33}$$

This establishes part (i).

To establish part (ii), switch i 's type from (θ, h) to (θ, ℓ) , let j 's type be (θ, ℓ) , and repeat the procedure in part (i). \square

We prove Proposition 6, before returning to Proposition 5.

Proof of Proposition 6. (i) Pick one L type i and raise i 's replacement rate from λ_i to λ'_i . By inspection of (18), $\Delta'_i < \Delta_i$. By (21) then, $\mathbb{P}(x_t = 1|z, \lambda'_i) > \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1|z, \lambda_i)$. Part (i) of the proposition follows by induction.

(ii) Recall that

$$\bar{\mathbb{P}}(x_t = 1 | z_T, \hat{T}, \lambda) = \sum_{s \in Z^{\hat{T}-T+1}} \mathbb{P}(s | z_T, \lambda) \frac{1}{\hat{T}-T+1} \sum_{t=T}^{\hat{T}} \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z_t = s_t, \lambda). \quad (34)$$

As $\min_{\vartheta \in \{\ell, h\}} q((L, \vartheta) | (L, \vartheta))$ goes to one, $\mathbb{P}(s | z_T, \lambda') \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(s | z_T, \lambda)$ for all s .

Hence $\bar{\mathbb{P}}(x_t = 1 | z_T, \hat{T}, \lambda') > \bar{\mathbb{P}}(x_t = 1 | z_T, \hat{T}, \lambda)$ if

$$\sum_{s \in Z^{\hat{T}-T+1}} \mathbb{P}(s | z_T, \lambda) \frac{1}{\hat{T}-T+1} \sum_{t=T}^{\hat{T}} [\mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z_t = s_t, \lambda') - \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z_t = s_t, \lambda)] > 0. \quad (35)$$

(35) is satisfied by part (i) of the proposition. \square

Proof of Proposition 5. (i) By Proposition 6(i), $\mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z, \lambda') > \mathbb{P}(x_t = 1 | z, \lambda)$ for all $z \in Z$ such that $n(L, \ell) + n(L, h) > 0$. Hence

$$\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z, \lambda') > \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z, \lambda) \quad (36)$$

for at least one $i \in N_t$.

In addition, $\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | z, \lambda) = \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | z, \lambda)$ in equilibrium for all (i, j) such that $\Theta_i = \Theta_j$.

Taken together, this means (36) is satisfied for all agents of at least one type $\Theta \in \{(L, \ell), (L, h)\}$.

This establishes part (i) and the proposition.

(ii) Denote the set of L type legislators by N_L . Label members from 1 to $|N_L| = n_L$. First, increase λ_1 from λ to λ' . Label this move λ^1 . Then increase λ_2 from λ to λ' . Label this move λ^2 . And so forth up to λ^{n_L} .

Consider $j \notin N_L$. By the argument used in Proposition 4,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(v_1 = 1 | \lambda^1) - \mathbb{P}(v_1 = 1 | \lambda^0) &> \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^1) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^0) \\ \mathbb{P}(v_2 = 1 | \lambda^2) - \mathbb{P}(v_2 = 1 | \lambda^1) &> \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^2) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^1) \\ &\dots \quad \dots \\ \mathbb{P}(v_{n_L} = 1 | \lambda^{n_L}) - \mathbb{P}(v_{n_L} = 1 | \lambda^{n_L-1}) &> \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^{n_L}) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^{n_L-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Adding these inequalities:

$$\mathbb{P}(v_{n_L} = 1 | \lambda^{n_L}) - \mathbb{P}(v_1 = 1 | \lambda^0) > \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^{n_L}) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^0). \quad (37)$$

Because the equilibrium is type symmetric, for all $i \in N_L$:

$$\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | \lambda^{n_L}) - \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | \lambda^0) > \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^{n_L}) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^0) \quad (38)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | \lambda^{n_L}) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^{n_L}) > \mathbb{P}(v_i = 1 | \lambda^0) - \mathbb{P}(v_j = 1 | \lambda^0). \quad (39)$$

This establishes the proposition. \square

Proof of Proposition 7. The sum of expected discounted payoffs in state z under elections over all legislators N is

$$\sum_{i \in N} \{ \mathbb{P}(x = 1|z)\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) + [1 - \mathbb{P}(x = 1|z)]\pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) + \delta V_i(z) \}, \quad (40)$$

where $V_i(z)$ is i 's continuation payoff in state z .

The expected discounted payoff to i in state z when permanently abolishing elections is $[\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) + r]/(1 - \delta)$. Hence, to abolish elections in state z , the legislature as whole would be willing to pay up to

$$B(z) = \sum_{i \in N} \{ \mathbb{P}(x = 1|z)\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) + [1 - \mathbb{P}(x = 1|z)]\pi_{\vartheta_i}(0) + \delta V_i(z) \} - n \frac{\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) + r}{1 - \delta}. \quad (41)$$

Consider two states z and z' such that (i) $n'(H, \vartheta) \geq n(H, \vartheta)$ for $\vartheta = \ell, h$, with at least one inequality strict, and (ii) $n'(H, \vartheta) + n'(L, \vartheta) = n(H, \vartheta) + n(L, \vartheta)$ for $\vartheta = \ell, h$. Because of condition (ii), i.e. holding economic composition fixed, the following holds:

$$\sum_{i \in N'} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(x) = \sum_{i \in N} \pi_{\vartheta_i}(x) \quad (42)$$

for $x = 0, 1$. Hence

$$B(z') - B(z) = [\mathbb{P}(x = 1|z') - \mathbb{P}(x = 1|z)] \sum_{i \in N} [\pi_{\vartheta_i}(1) - \pi_{\vartheta_i}(0)] + \sum_{i \in N'} \delta V_i(z') - \sum_{i \in N} \delta V_i(z). \quad (43)$$

Due to conditions (i) and (ii), $\sum_{i \in N'} V_i(z') \geq \sum_{i \in N} V_i(z)$. In addition, $\mathbb{P}(x = 1|z') \geq \mathbb{P}(x = 1|z)$ by Proposition 2. This establishes the proposition. \square

Appendix B Data Appendix

Appendix B.1 Measuring Legislator Types

To assign each legislator a type, we assembled an extensive list of primary data sources: (a) An extensive collection of individual islands' social histories helped us establish each legislator's race, our measure of $\theta_i \in \{L, H\}$. These historical accounts are often focused on the issue of race to an extent that would seem strange in other socio-historical contexts. For example, [Heuman \(1981\)](#) and [Holt \(1991\)](#) make explicit mention of every single colored legislator who ever sat in Jamaica's Assembly, and contrast the colored elite's incentives very explicitly with those of the white elite. (b) *Slave Ownership Registries* from the pre-Emancipation period and the *Emancipation Compensation Tables* issued in 1835 listed all families who had owned plantations and help us identify

the traditional British planter elites. (c) For the post-Emancipation period, we found 61 distinct island-specific plantation surveys that help us further validate the economic identity of legislators after Emancipation, which was especially useful to establish whether a colored elite member was a plantation owner. Despite the wealth of information we collected, we still had to make some judgement calls on some individuals in islands where the social histories and records were less extensive and detailed than in Jamaica. Importantly, however, the thrust of our empirical analysis, especially on the key predictions on roll-call voting behavior, is based on Jamaican data. Jamaica, being the biggest and most important of the islands, had the richest records so that there was no ambiguity in measuring elite types. [Online Appendix C](#) reports the biographical information we have for assemblymen in Jamaica.

To assign each legislator one of the four group labels, our starting point were plantation ownership records. Before emancipation, there were no colored planters. In a first step, we therefore coded legislators that belonged to families that were pre-Emancipation plantation owners as ‘white planters.’ Before Emancipation, plantation owners were recorded in the *Slave Registries* in the 1820s and then again in the *Emancipation Compensation Tables* in 1835.⁴⁹

Most families that appeared in the assemblies before 1838 were also recorded as plantation owners, but if they were not we coded them as white merchants. For legislators whose families first appeared after Emancipation we consulted post-Emancipation plantation surveys to establish if they were planters or merchants, and we consulted an extensive list of island-specific social and political histories to establish whether they were white or colored. Given the salience of race as a feature of Caribbean history, these island-specific accounts are usually quite explicit in this regard. For example, [Heuman \(1981\)](#) and [Holt \(1991\)](#) make explicit mention of every colored legislator who ever sat in Jamaica’s Assembly. The historical accounts almost never contradicted the coding based on pre-Emancipation plantation ownership records, except in rare cases of shared last names. They were essential for establishing the social type of legislators whose families’ names had not appeared anywhere before Emancipation, particularly because there was a substantial number of white planters in the data that first appeared after Emancipation, apparently mostly ‘estate attorneys’ that managed the plantations of older established planter families. To avoid clogging the paper’s references with citations of island-specific source materials, these sources are listed in [Online Appendix A](#) instead of here. [Table 4](#) lists all island-years for which we have records, as well as their sources.

We shall coded all elites who were not planters as ‘merchant’, a group that de facto included many lawyers and professionals. The key point to us is that plantation owners had a more pronounced interest in a wage-reducing policy than any other elite group. There were also some (L, ℓ) types in the assemblies, i.e. British that were not planters. They were few, and they were often

⁴⁹ From 1813 on, the Crown required colonies to register all slaves. Most colonies have three iterations of the *slave registries*, but each new iteration simply updated the previous for births and deaths. When England abolished slavery, it set aside money to compensate slave owners for their loss. The disbursement of that money was recorded in the *Compensation Tables*. We digitized the *Slave Registries* ourselves, while the *Compensation Tables* data had been digitized by a research project at University College London; all 30,308 claimants can be viewed on consecutive url’s running from <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/claim/view/1> to [.../30308](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/claim/view/30308).

British colonial administrators, meaning that their incentives were likely not captured by the logic of our theory. To maintain our focus on political accountability, we group these with the British planters, which does not affect any of the coefficients on being a British planter.

Appendix B.2 Voting Data

The *Records of the Colonial Office*, housed at *The National Archives* in London, maintain 6 data-series for each former colony: (i) *Original correspondence*, (ii) *Entry Books*, (iii) *Acts*, (iv) *Sessional Papers*, (v) *Gazettes*, and (vi) *Miscellanea*. The bulk of the *Miscellanea* series is made up of the *Colonial Blue Books*, annual statistical accounts that were sent to London from each individual colony to report on local conditions.⁵⁰ Starting from around 1836, sometimes earlier, sometimes later, the *Blue Books' Councils and Assemblies* section reported the names of all elected assemblymen, related election dates and the parishes they represented. [Online Appendix B](#) lists the parishes that returned the assemblymen in our data. Colonies recorded the proceedings of their legislative and executive councils as part of the (iv) *Sessional Papers*. If the legislative body was locally elected, as in the case of our ten islands, these proceedings were titled the *Assembly Minutes*. We photographed the *Assembly Minutes* of each of the ten islands, and assembled the scattered roll-call vote information in them. Only Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat and Tobago ever reported any roll-call data in the *Minutes*, but even this data was (i) exceedingly scattered and (ii) revealed very little information on the content of each proposal. Much time and effort was spent canvassing the *Assembly Minutes*, but unfortunately the data was often (i) exceedingly scattered and (ii) revealed very little information on the content of each proposal. In Dominica, Montserrat and Tobago very few bills had any roll-call information attached to them at all. In Barbados, and Grenada, roll-call information was very regularly attached to the bills, but the bills' content was almost always unclear. The final conclusion was that we had enough roll-call information in Barbados and Grenada to study the network of voting blocs in these islands, but that we could not know enough about the bills to investigate voting for individual bills. We could only do this in Jamaica, because Jamaica kept a proper and separate *Hansard*, the so-called *Jamaica Vote Book* which was unrelated to the *Assembly Minutes*. The *Jamaica Vote Book* had before us already been used in parts by [Holt \(1991\)](#).⁵¹ Jamaica also had the longest historical records of its assemblymen, going back to its assembly's founding in 1664 ([Roby, 1831](#)).

⁵⁰For years before the 1890s, only (at most) two copies exist of each *Blue Book*, one in the issuing colony's archives and one in the British National Archives, in London, where this data was hand-collected.

⁵¹We owe a debt to Tom Holt who had saved the *Jamaica Vote Book* on a magnetic tape recording when he was working on his 1992 book, and generously sent this tape recording to us. Unfortunately, it had not withstood the test of time so that we had to scan and digitize the hardcopies of the books anew.

Table 4: Data Sources for Plantation Surveys

| | | | | | |
|----------|------|--|-------------|------|---|
| Antigua | 1817 | Slave Registries - Antigua | Montserrat | 1835 | Compensation Tables |
| Antigua | 1829 | Johnson (1830), A Descriptive Account of Antigua | Montserrat | 1848 | House of Commons Papers 1847-48 (399), p.116-118 ^e |
| Antigua | 1835 | Compensation Tables | Montserrat | 1858 | House of Commons Papers 1857-58 [2403], p.99-101 ^c |
| Antigua | 1843 | Hart, the 1843 Antigua Almanac & Registry | Nevis | 1817 | Slave Registries |
| Antigua | 1851 | The 1852 Antigua Almanac | Nevis | 1835 | Compensation Tables |
| Antigua | 1858 | House of Commons Papers 1857-58 [2403], p.74-77 ^c | Nevis | 1878 | The 1879 Leeward Islands Almanac |
| Antigua | 1878 | The 1879 Leeward Islands Almanac | Nevis | 1897 | House of Commons Papers 1898 [C.8669], p.229-232 ^b |
| Antigua | 1891 | Hall (1971), Five of the Leewards, Appendix A | St. Lucia | 1852 | The 1852 St. Lucia Almanac |
| Barbados | 1817 | Slave Registries - Barbados | St. Lucia | 1897 | House of Commons Papers 1898 [C.8669], p.56-57 ^b |
| Barbados | 1835 | Compensation Tables | St. Kitts | 1835 | Compensation Tables |
| Barbados | 1848 | Barbados Almanac for 1848 | St. Kitts | 1847 | House of Commons Papers 1847-48 (245), p.121-124 ^d |
| Barbados | 1854 | Barbados Almanac for 1854 | St. Kitts | 1850 | The 1850 St. Christophers Almanac |
| Barbados | 1861 | Barbados Almanac for 1861 | St. Kitts | 1878 | The 1879 Leeward Islands Almanac |
| Barbados | 1865 | Barbados Almanac for 1865 | St. Kitts | 1897 | House of Commons Papers 1898 [C.8669], p.229-232 ^b |
| Barbados | 1870 | Barbados Almanac for 1870 | St. Vincent | 1817 | Slave Registries - St. Vincent |
| Barbados | 1898 | Barbados Almanac for 1898 | St. Vincent | 1827 | Shephard (1831), Historical Account of St. Vincent, T.6 |
| Dominica | 1817 | Slave Registries - Dominica | St. Vincent | 1831 | Slave Registries - St. Vincent |
| Dominica | 1835 | Compensation Tables | St. Vincent | 1835 | Compensation Tables |
| Dominica | 1878 | The 1879 Leeward Islands Almanac | Tobago | 1819 | Slave Registries - Tobago |
| Grenada | 1817 | Slave Registries - Grenada | Tobago | 1832 | Woodcock (1867), A History of Tobago, Appendix |
| Grenada | 1835 | Compensation Tables | Tobago | 1835 | Compensation Tables |
| Grenada | 1849 | House of Commons Papers 1849 [1126], p.180-181 ^b | Tobago | 1847 | House of Commons Papers 1847 [869], p.32-33 ^a |
| Grenada | 1867 | The 1867 Grenada Almanac | Tobago | 1862 | Woodcock (1867), A History of Tobago, Appendix |
| Guyana | 1833 | House of Commons Papers 1833 (700), p.4-11 ^f | Tobago | 1881 | Craig-James (2008), Tables 5.9-5.11 |
| Guyana | 1838 | House of Commons Papers 1847 [869], p.94-98 ^a | Tobago | 1894 | The Trinidad Almanac 1894 |
| Guyana | 1846 | House of Commons Papers 1847 [869], p.94-98 ^a | Trinidad | 1813 | Slave Registries - Trinidad |
| Guyana | 1860 | The Guyana Almanac 1860 | Trinidad | 1835 | Compensation Tables |
| Guyana | 1879 | The Guyana Almanac 1879 | Trinidad | 1882 | The Trinidad Almanac 1882 |
| Jamaica | 1829 | The 1829 Jamaica Almanac | Trinidad | 1888 | The Trinidad Almanac 1888 |
| Jamaica | 1835 | Compensation Tables | Trinidad | 1894 | The Trinidad Almanac 1894 |
| Jamaica | 1840 | The 1840 Jamaica Almanac | | | |

Notes: House of Commons Parliamentary Papers: (a) "1847 [869] The reports made for the year 1846 to the Secretary of State having the Department of the Colonies. Transmitted with the blue books for the year 1846." (b) "1898 [C.8669] West India Royal commission. Report of the West India Royal commission. Appendix C., vol. III., containing parts VI. to XIII. Proceedings, evidence, and documents relating to the Windward Islands, the Leeward Islands, and Jamaica." (c) "1857-58 [2403] The reports made for the year 1856 to the Secretary of State having the Department of the Colonies. Transmitted with the blue books for the year 1856." (d) "1847-48 (245) Seventh report from the Select Committee on Sugar and Coffee Planting; together with the minutes of evidence, and appendix." (e) "1847-48 (399) West India colonies and Mauritius. Returns to two addresses of the Honourable the House of Commons, dated respectively 8 & 31 May 1848." (f) "1833 (700) Slave population. (Slave registries.) Return to an address to His Majesty, dated 29 July 1833." (g) "1849 [1126] The reports made for the year 1848 to the Secretary of State having the Department of the Colonies. Transmitted with the blue books for the year 1848."

Online Appendix

to

**“Elite Identity, Political Accountability and Institutions:
A Tale of Ten Islands”**

Online Appendix A Sources for Group Coding

The secondary sources that we consulted extensively were:

1. for Jamaica: [Heuman \(1981\)](#) and [Holt \(1991\)](#)
2. for Antigua: [Oliver \(1896\)](#), [Lowes \(1994\)](#), [Lowes \(1995\)](#), [Dyde \(2000\)](#) and [Lightfoot \(2007\)](#)
3. for Barbados: [Schomburgk \(1848\)](#), [Hoyos \(1978\)](#) and [Beckles \(2006\)](#)
4. for Dominica: [Trouillot \(1988\)](#), [Honychurch \(1984\)](#) and [Baker \(1994\)](#)
5. for Grenada: [Brizan \(1984\)](#) and [Cox \(2007\)](#)
6. for Montserrat: [Davy \(1854\)](#), [Fergus \(1994\)](#), and [Berleant-Schiller \(1995\)](#)
7. for St. Kitts: [Britain \(1840, p.94-96\)](#), [Hall \(1971\)](#) and [Dyde \(2005\)](#)
8. for Nevis: [Iles \(1871\)](#), [Hall \(1971\)](#) and [Olwig \(2005\)](#)
9. for St. Vincent: [Sheppard \(1831\)](#), [West Indies Royal Comission \(1884, p.101-126\)](#), [Smith \(2009\)](#) and [Smith and Forster \(2013\)](#)
10. for Tobago: [Craig-James \(2000\)](#)

Online Appendix B The Parishes in the Ten Islands

Online Appendix Table 1: The Parishes in the Ten Islands

| <u><i>Jamaica</i></u> | <u><i>Antigua</i></u> | <u><i>Barbados</i></u> | <u><i>St. Kitts</i></u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Clarendon | Belfast | Bridgetown | Anguilla |
| Hanover | Dickensons Bay | Christ Church | Christ Church |
| Kingston | Five Islands | St Andrew | St Anne |
| Manchester | New North Sound | St George | St George |
| Metcalfe | Nonsuch | St James | St John Capisterre |
| Port Royal | Old North Sound | St John | St Mary |
| Portland | Old Road | St Joseph | St Paul |
| St Andrew | Popeshead | St Lucy | St Peter |
| St Anne | Rendezvous Bay | St Michael | St Thomas |
| St Catherine | St John | St Peter | Trinity |
| St David | Town of St John | St Philip | |
| St Dorothy | Willoughby Bay | St Thomas | <u><i>Tobago</i></u> |
| St Elizabeth | Town of Parham | | |
| St George | Towns of Falmouth | <u><i>Montserrat</i></u> | St Andrew |
| St James | & English Harbor | | St David |
| St John | | St George | St George |
| St Mary | <u><i>Dominica</i></u> | St Patrick | St John |
| St Thomas East | | St Peter | St Mary |
| St Thomas in Vale | St Andrew | Plymouth & Kinsale | St Patrick |
| Trelawny | St David | St Anthony | St Paul |
| Vere | St George | | Town of Plymouth |
| Westmoreland | St John | <u><i>St. Vincent</i></u> | Town of Scarborough |
| | St Joseph | | |
| <u><i>Nevis</i></u> | St Luke | Charlotte | <u><i>Grenada</i></u> |
| | St Mark | Grenadines | |
| St George | St Patrick | Kingstown | Carriacou |
| St James | St Paul | St Andrew | St Andrew & St David |
| St John | St Peter | St David | St George & St John |
| St Paul | Town of Portsmouth | St George | St Mark & St Patrick |
| St Thomas | Town of Roseau | St Patrick | |

Notes: This table simply lists the the islands' parishes, i.e. the electoral districts returning assemblymen.

Online Appendix C Individual Biographies

Here we list the assemblymen in Jamaica.

Allwood (Robert) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1837; *White Planter* (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/22058>); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Harding Hall (Hanover)*, 1826: *Old Shafston (Westmoreland)*, 1829: *Harding Hall (Hanover)*, 1829: *Providence 11 (Westmoreland)*, 1835: *Old Shafston (Westmoreland)*, 1835: *Fairfield 1 (Manchester)*, 1835: *Harding Hall (Hanover)*, 1835: *Providence 11 (Westmoreland)*. •

Anderson (Wellwood W.M.) *Time in Assembly*: 1845-1849; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Leighfield (St George)*, 1844: *Preston*, 1844: *Ginger Hall*, 1844: *Middleton*, 1844: *Oxford*. •

Anderson (William H.) *Time in Assembly*: 1839-1848; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *White Hall 2 (St Elizabeth)*, 1840: *Hope Hill 1 (St James)*, 1844: *Cooper Hill*. •

Anderson (William W.) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1849; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Craig Mill (St George)*, 1835: *Strathnaver (St George)*, 1835: *Sue River (St Mary)*, 1835: *Spring Vale 1 (St Elizabeth)*, 1840: *Cottage 1 (St Andrew)*. •

Aris (John) *Time in Assembly*: 1841-1849; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Enfield 4 (St Thomas in Vale)*, 1840: *Lime Walk (St John)*. •

Barclay (Alexander) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1847; *Active 'Planter-Party' Member* (Holt, 1991, p.444 fn.9); *Associated Plantations*: 1829: *Fairfield 6 (St Thomas East)*, 1835: *Plantain Garden River (St Thomas East)*, 1835: *Bellfield 4 (St Mary)*, 1835: *Bath 2 (St Thomas East)*, 1835: *Hermitage 11 (St Thomas East)*, 1835: *Lime Walk (St John)*, 1835: *Fairfield 6 (St Thomas East)*, 1840: *Bellfield 4 (St Mary)*, 1840: *Fairfield 6 (St Thomas East)*, 1844: *East Prospect*. •

Barnett (Samuel B.) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1843; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Tripoli (St Anne)*, 1835: *Moore Park 3 (Trelawny)*. •

Barrett (George) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1853; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835:

Anchovy Bottom (St James), 1844: etc.. •

Barrett (Richard) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1838; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.223); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Greenwood 1 (St James)*, 1826: *Barrett Hall (St James)*, 1829: *Greenwood 1 (St James)*, 1829: *Lamb's River (Westmoreland)*, 1829: *Barrett Hall (St James)*, 1835: *Retirement 6 (St Anne)*, 1835: *Barrett Hall (St James)*, 1835: *Richmond Hill 2 (St James)*, 1835: *Dunns Hole Wharf (St James)*, 1840: *Barrett Hall (St James)*, 1840: *Ramble,&C.&C. (St Mary)*, 1840: *Harding Hall (Hanover)*, 1844: *Unexpected*. •

Barrett (Samuel G.) *Time in Assembly*: 1838-1866; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Thatchfield 2 (St Anne)*, 1826: *Spring 4 (St James)*, 1826: *Schawfield (Trelawny)*, 1829: *Thatchfield 2 (St Anne)*, 1829: *Spring 4 (St James)*, 1829: *Schawfield (Trelawny)*, 1835: *Cinnamon Hill (St James)*, 1840: *Lebanon 1 (St Mary)*, 1840: *Spring 4 (St James)*, 1840: *Schawfield (Trelawny)*, 1840: *Greenwood 1 (St James)*, 1840: *Dixon,&C. (St Mary)*, 1844: *Spring*, 1844: *Harding Hall*, 1844: *Thatchfield Pen*. •

Bell (Samuel) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1852; *Colored Carpenter* (Heuman, 1981, p.62); . •

Blagrove (Henry John) *Time in Assembly*: 1847-1850; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.193); . •

Bonitto (Simon) *Time in Assembly*: 1854-1859; *White Merchant*; . •

Bourke (Wellesley) *Time in Assembly*: 1851-1866; *Colored Clerk of the Peace* (Heuman, 1981, p.62); . •

Bowerbank (Lewis) *Time in Assembly*: 1860-1865; *Clergyman* (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/18434>); . •

Brandon (David) *Time in Assembly*: 1850-1861; *White Merchant*; . •

Branker (Alex) *Time in Assembly*: 1855-1859; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Villa Pen 1 (St Andrew)*. •

Bristowe (John) *Time in Assembly*: 1848-1853; *White Lawyer* (Heuman, 1981, p.145); . •

Brockett (Henry) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1850; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840:

Farm 1 (Hanover), 1844: *Axe and Adze*. •

Brown (Hamilton) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1842; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Minard (St Anne)*, 1826: *Antrim (St Anne)*, 1826: *Colliston (St Anne)*, 1826: *Grier-Park (St Anne)*, 1829: *Beverley 3 (St Anne)*, 1829: *Minard (St Anne)*, 1829: *Antrim (St Anne)*, 1829: *Grier-Park (St Anne)*, 1829: *Colliston (St Anne)*, 1835: *Egypt (St Anne)*, 1835: *Haddon (St Anne)*, 1835: *Mount Helicon (St Anne)*, 1835: *Culloden 2 (St Anne)*, 1835: *Rose Hill 6 (St Anne)*, 1835: *Antrim (St Anne)*, 1835: *Bridge-Water (St Anne)*, 1835: *Devon 3 (St Anne)*, 1835: *Fullerton Park (St Anne)*, 1835: *Nightingale Grove 6 (Trelawny)*, 1835: *Content 6 (St Anne)*, 1835: *Colchis (Trelawny)*, 1840: *Antrim (St Mary)*, 1844: *Happy Valley*. •

Brown (John Samuel) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1850; *Colored Secretary* (Heuman, 1981, p.60); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Cottage 1 (St Andrew)*, 1826: *Springfield 4 (St George)*, 1826: *Sportsman's Hall (Trelawny)*, 1829: *Springfield 4 (St George)*, 1829: *Sportsman's Hall (Trelawny)*, 1829: *Cottage 1 (St Andrew)*, 1840: *Springfield 4 (St George)*, 1840: *Hail Weston (Hanover)*. •

Bruce (Robert) *Time in Assembly*: 1846-1848; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *land at Hall and Lionel Town*. •

Brydon (James) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1836; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Mount Clear (St David)*, 1826: *Mount George 3 (St David)*, 1826: *Loudon-Hill (St David)*, 1829: *Mount Clear (St David)*, 1829: *Cotton Tree (St Thomas East)*, 1829: *Loudon-Hill (St David)*, 1829: *Mount George 3 (St David)*, 1829: *Castle-Hill (St Thomas East)*, 1835: *Cotton Tree (St Thomas East)*, 1835: *Seamore's Garden (St David)*, 1835: *Cocoa Walk 3 (St David)*, 1835: *Mount George 3 (St David)*, 1835: *Burlington (Portland)*, 1835: *Ultimatum (St David)*, 1835: *Smithfield 3 (St George)*, 1835: *Easington (St David)*, 1835: *Dunrobin 2 (St Thomas East)*, 1835: *Grampian (St Thomas East)*, 1840: *Cotton Tree (St Thomas East)*. •

Burke (S.C.) *Time in Assembly*: 1863-1866; *Colored Lawyer* (Heuman, 1981, p.63); . •

Campbell (John) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1841; *Colored Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.218); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Union-Lodge (St John)*, 1826: *Rock Spring 1 (Hanover)*, 1826: *Breadalbane*

(*Westmoreland*), 1826: *Gibraltar 9 (Trelawny)*, 1826: *Belgar (St Thomas in Vale)*, 1826: *Barmaddy (St Thomas in Vale)*, 1826: *Gland Big (St Elizabeth)*, 1826: *New Grove (Hanover)*, 1829: *New Grove (Hanover)*, 1829: *Rock Spring 1 (Hanover)*, 1835: *Belle Isle (Westmoreland)*, 1835: *Frome (Westmoreland)*, 1835: *Belgar (St Thomas in Vale)*, 1835: *Hope 4 (St Andrew)*, 1840: *Rock Spring 1 (Hanover)*, 1840: *Gibraltar 9 (Trelawny)*, 1840: *New River (St Andrew)*, 1840: *Burnt Ground 2 (St Elizabeth)*, 1840: *Belgar (St Thomas in Vale)*. •

Castello (John) *Time in Assembly*: 1853-1859; *Colored Editor of The Falmouth Post* (Heuman, 1981, p.62); . •

Castle (Fred. L.) *Time in Assembly*: 1860-1860; *Colored Merchant*; . •

Chisholm (Colin) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1859; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Hampton Court 2 (St Andrew)*, 1826: *Mount Lebanon 2 (St Andrew)*, 1829: *Mount Lebanon 2 (St Andrew)*, 1829: *Hampton Court 2 (St Andrew)*, 1835: *Mount Lebanon 2 (St Andrew)*, 1840: *Hampton Court 2 (St Andrew)*, 1840: *Mount Lebanon 2 (St Andrew)*, 1844: *Mount Lebanon & Hampton Court*. •

Clachar (John S.) *Time in Assembly*: 1838-1843; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Newport 1 (Portland)*, 1826: *Content 13 (St Thomas East)*, 1829: *Content 13 (St Thomas East)*, 1829: *Newport 1 (Portland)*, 1835: *Newport 1 (Portland)*. •

Clarke (Francis) *Time in Assembly*: 1866-1866; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Hertford Land*. •

Collman (William) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1847; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Cliffords (St John)*, 1826: *Constitution Hill 2 (St John)*, 1826: *Longville Crawle (St John)*, 1835: *Diamond (St John)*, 1835: *Clifford's (St John)*, 1835: *Longville Crawle (St John)*, 1835: *Constitution Hill 2 (St John)*, 1840: *Constitution Hill 2 (St John)*, 1840: *Crawle 3 (St John)*, 1840: *Cliffords (St John)*, 1844: *Breadnut Bottom and Clifford's Rest*, 1844: *Inverness*, 1844: *Deamond and Unity*. •

Constantine (Robert L.) *Time in Assembly*: 1854-1859; *Colored Store Proprietor* (Heuman, 1981, p.62); . •

Cox (Henry) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1837;

White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Industry 13 (St Mary) , 1826: Friendship 7 (St Anne) , 1826: Epping 2 (St Mary) , 1826: Spring Garden 6 (St Mary) , 1829: Spring Garden 6 (St Mary) , 1829: Friendship 7 (St Anne) , 1829: Fontabelle 1 (St Mary) , 1829: Industry 13 (St Mary) , 1829: Epping 2 (St Mary) , 1840: Spring Garden 6 (St Mary). •

Cunningham (George) *Time in Assembly: 1856-1865; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Green-Side 2 (Trelawny) , 1826: Mayfield 4 (Trelawny) , 1835: Mayfield 4 (Trelawny) , 1835: Paradise 6 (St James) , 1835: Greenside (Trelawny) , 1835: Ramble Pen (St James) , 1840: Greenside (Trelawny) , 1844: Greenside.* •

Dallas (Samuel Jackson) *Time in Assembly: 1836-1855; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1835: Silver Hill 1 (St Andrew) , 1840: Ellerslie Cottage (St Andrew).* •

Danvers (John F. G.) *Time in Assembly: 1857-1859; White Merchant; .* •

Darling (Charles Henry) *Time in Assembly: 1838-1846; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1844: Darling Lodge , 1844: Muirtown , 1844: .* •

Davidson (James) *Time in Assembly: 1846-1852; White Planter (Holt, 1991, p.229 fn.31) ; .* •

Davis (Anthony) *Time in Assembly: 1836-1836; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Mahogany Vale (Port Royal) , 1835: Saxham 1 (Hanover) , 1835: Norfolk (St Elizabeth) , 1835: Sherwood Forest 4 (Manchester) , 1835: Arnotto Bay (St George) , 1835: Gibraltar 6 (St George) , 1835: The Pinnacle (St Catherine) , 1835: Molyne (St Andrew) , 1835: Charlottenburg 2 (St Mary) , 1840: Langley (St Mary) , 1840: Sherwood Forest 4 (Manchester) , 1840: Molyne (St Andrew) , 1840: Saxham 1 (Hanover) , 1844: Pinnacle , 1844: Molyne , 1844: Norfolk , 1844: Langley estate , 1844: Sherwood Forest , 1844: Saxham.* •

Davis (Foster) *Time in Assembly: 1849-1862; Colored Lawyer (Heuman, 1981, p.63); Associated Plantations: 1844: Whitehall.* •

Deleon (John) *Time in Assembly: 1836-1836; Colored (Holt, 1991, p.218 fn.8); Associated Plantations: 1835: Flower Hill 5 (Westmoreland) , 1844: Phoenix Park.* •

Derbyshire (James) *Time in Assembly: 1856-1859; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1840:*

Town 1 (St Catherine) , 1840: Spencer's Pen (St Catherine) , 1840: Burnett's (St Catherine) , 1844: Young. •

Dunstone (James) *Time in Assembly: 1839-1852; White Planter (Holt, 1991, p.245 fn.84); Associated Plantations: 1835: Greenwich 3 (St Anne) , 1840: Belmont 6 (St James) , 1844: Orange Hill , 1844: York.* •

Edwards (Bryan) *Time in Assembly: 1836-1837; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Dove Hall (St Thomas in Vale) , 1826: Eltham 2 (St Catherine) , 1840: Dover Hall (St Thomas in Vale) , 1844: Dove Hall.* •

Espeut (Peter A.) *Time in Assembly: 1852-1866; Colored Sugar Estate Owner (Holt, 1991, p.252); Associated Plantations: 1844: Sabina Park.* •

Ewart (John) *Time in Assembly: 1838-1843; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1835: Mullock (St Thomas in Vale) , 1840: Cremona (St Catherine) , 1840: Easthams (St James) , 1840: Vale Park (St Thomas in Vale) , 1840: Bridge (St Catherine) , 1840: Worcester 2 (St Catherine) , 1840: Mullock (St Thomas in Vale) , 1840: Charlton (St Thomas in Vale) , 1840: River Head 2 (St Thomas in Vale) , 1844: River Head , 1844: Airy Mount , 1844: Riverhead , 1844: Boozy Ridge.* •

Fairweather (Robert) *Time in Assembly: 1837-1841; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Industry 13 (St Mary) , 1835: Industry 13 (St Mary) , 1835: Cave River 2 (St Anne) , 1840: Golden Grove 4 (St George) , 1840: Wakefield 4 (St John) , 1840: Lawrencefield (St Catherine) , 1840: Industry 13 (St Mary) , 1840: Smallwood (St Catherine) , 1840: Sabina Park (St Andrew).* •

Farquharson (Charles M.) *Time in Assembly: 1837-1849; Colored Planter (Holt, 1991, p.230 fn.36); Associated Plantations: 1826: Spring Vale 1 (St Elizabeth) , 1840: Spring Vale 1 (St Elizabeth) , 1844: Spring Vale.* •

Finlay (Alexander) *Time in Assembly: 1847-1849; White Planter (Holt, 1991, p. 245 fn.84) ; Associated Plantations: 1840: Twickenham Park 2 (St Catherine) , 1844: Kent pen , 1844: Salthill , 1844: Ardoch Pen , 1844: Penhill , 1844: Twickenham Park.* •

Forbes (Alexander) *Time in Assembly: 1844-1844; Colored (Heuman, 1981, p.61); Associated*

Plantations: 1840: Mount Airy (St Andrew) , 1840: Mammee Hill (St George) , 1840: Cottage 4 (St George) , 1840: Amorengo Park (St Andrew) , 1840: Knowsley (St Andrew) , 1840: Westminster Cottage (St Andrew) , 1844: Mahogany Vale , 1844: Mammee Hill , 1844: Peter's Rock , 1844: Maringa Park.

• **Fowles** (John) Time in Assembly: 1842-1853; White Planter (Holt, 1991, p.256 fn.106) ; Associated Plantations: 1826: Macksfield Park (St Andrew) , 1826: Spring Hill 3 (St George) , 1829: Spring Hill 3 (St George) , 1829: Macksfield Park (St Andrew) , 1835: Bybrook 2 (St George) , 1835: Spring Hill 3 (St George) , 1835: Rural Vale 1 (St Thomas East) , 1835: Newport 1 (Portland) , 1835: Stirling Castle 2 (St Thomas in Vale) , 1835: Peter's Rock (St Andrew) , 1835: Macksfield Park (St Andrew) , 1840: Spring Hill 3 (St George) , 1840: Macksfield Park (St Andrew). •

• **Franklin** (Henry) Time in Assembly: 1844-1856; Colored (Heuman, 1981, p.61) ; Associated Plantations: 1840: Alignumvit Grove (St Andrew).

• **Frater** (William) Time in Assembly: 1836-1838; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Ulster Spring (Trelawny) , 1835: Spring Garden 8 (Trelawny) , 1835: Endeavour 3 (St Anne) , 1835: Dover Castle 4 (Trelawny) , 1835: Gibraltar 4 (St Anne) , 1835: Mount Pleasant 13 (St John) , 1835: Industry 7 (St Anne) , 1835: Lysworney (Trelawny) , 1835: Ulster Spring (Trelawny) , 1840: Ulster Spring (Trelawny) , 1844: estate of Lysmoney , 1844: Maida. •

• **Garrigues** (Henry) Time in Assembly: 1838-1843; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Yarmouth (Vere) , 1829: Yarmouth (Vere) , 1835: Belle Plain (Clarendon) , 1835: Yarmouth (Vere) , 1835: Farm 2 (Manchester) , 1835: Belmont 4 (St Anne) , 1835: Stretton Hall (Vere) , 1835: Frankfield (Clarendon) , 1835: Crawl River (Clarendon) , 1835: Coffee Grove 1 (Clarendon) , 1835: Hampton Court 1 (Clarendon) , 1835: Gordon's Store (Clarendon) , 1835: Friendship 15 (St Thomas East) , 1840: Farm 2 (Manchester) , 1844: Farm , 1844: Betty's Hope , 1844: Creighton Hall. •

• **Gayleard** (J.) Time in Assembly: 1866-1866; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1835: Bernard Lodge (St Catherine). •

• **Geddes** (Alexander) Time in Assembly: 1843-1846; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1840: Chesterfield 1 (St Anne) , 1840: Gray's Inn 1 (St George) , 1844: Blair's pen , 1844: Elgin , 1844: Eden Bower. •

• **Gibb** (James M.) Time in Assembly: 1866-1866; Colored Planter (Heuman, 1981, p.63); . •

• **Girod** (William) Time in Assembly: 1849-1855; White Merchant; Associated Plantations: 1844: Castle Comfort. •

• **Good** (Christopher) Time in Assembly: 1836-1841; White Planter (Holt, 1991, p.444 fn.9); Associated Plantations: 1840: Rose Hill 4 (Manchester).

• **Gordon** (Joseph) Time in Assembly: 1836-1865; A powerful planter-attorney. In 1832 one of only four attorneys who had control over more than 20 properties on the island. (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/20354>); Associated Plantations: 1826: Newland's Pen (St Andrew) , 1829: Cherry Garden 2 (St Andrew) , 1835: Washington (St David) , 1835: Salisbury Plain 1 (St Andrew) , 1835: Essex 2 (Port Royal) , 1835: Redington (St George) , 1835: Spring 3 (St Andrew) , 1835: Hermitage 3 (St Andrew) , 1835: Shortwood (St Andrew) , 1835: Hibernia 1 (St David) , 1835: Old England 3 (St David) , 1835: ? (St Andrew) , 1835: Mount Faraway 1 (Port Royal) , 1840: Gordon Castle 2 (Port Royal) , 1840: Farm 5 (St Catherine) , 1840: Shortwood (St Andrew) , 1840: Richmond Vale (St David) , 1840: Birnam Wood (St George) , 1840: Prospect 4 (St Andrew) , 1840: Cow-Park (St Catherine) , 1840: Epsom 1 (St Catherine) , 1844: Waterloo. •

• **Grant** (Charles Edward) Time in Assembly: 1846-1848; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Tydixton-Park (St John) , 1826: Hopewell 8 (St Mary) , 1826: Mount Mansfield (St Andrew) , 1840: Hopewell 8 (St Mary) , 1844: Graham's pen , 1844: New Hall , 1844: Tulloch , 1844: Lewisberg. •

• **Grosett** (John Rock) Time in Assembly: 1836-1843; Colored Merchant; . •

• **Groves** (Henry) Time in Assembly: 1861-1866; White Planter (Holt, 1991, p.229 fn.31) ; Associated Plantations: 1844: Lodge. •

• **Guy** (Edward) Time in Assembly: 1836-1848; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Pen 2 (St Catherine) , 1835: Guy's Pen (St Catherine)

, 1840: Ireland (St Catherine) , 1844: Guy's pen , 1844: Camberwall. •

Hamilton (George William) Time in Assembly: 1836-1841; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Grantsfield Pen (St Thomas East) , 1826: Providence 9 (St Thomas East) , 1826: Windsor Castle 5 (St Thomas East) , 1835: Grierfield (St Anne) , 1835: Wellen's Pen (St Catherine) , 1835: Dunkley's (Vere) , 1835: Palm (St Thomas in Vale) , 1840: Graham's Pen (St Catherine) , 1844: Dunkley's. •

Harrison (Peter) Time in Assembly: 1844-1848; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1840: Apropos (Manchester). •

Hart (Daniel) Time in Assembly: 1836-1851; White Planter (Holt, 1991, p.444 fn.9); Associated Plantations: 1840: Harvey's Bog (St John) , 1840: Bowden (St Thomas East) , 1844: Hartland. •

Harvey (James) Time in Assembly: 1860-1865; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1844: Rocky Hill , 1844: Belmont. •

Henry (James) Time in Assembly: 1842-1842; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1844: Comfort Hall , 1844: Prospect Hall , 1844: Content. •

Heslop (Alex) Time in Assembly: 1849-1859; Colored Barrister (Heuman, 1981, p.61); . •

Hill (Richard) Time in Assembly: 1837-1837; Colored Magistrate (Heuman, 1981, p.59) ; Associated Plantations: 1844: Part of Mount James , 1844: Part of Kensington. •

Hinschelwood (John) Time in Assembly: 1840-1843; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Providence 4 (Portland) , 1829: Providence 4 (Portland) , 1835: Providence 4 (Portland). •

Hitchins (Richard) Time in Assembly: 1845-1848; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1840: Mount Patience 1 (St Andrew). •

Hodgson (Abraham) Time in Assembly: 1836-1836; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Huddersfield (St Mary) , 1826: Halifax 2 (St Mary) , 1826: Tower Hill (St Mary) , 1835: Halifax 2 (St Mary) , 1835: Juan Fernandez (St Mary) , 1835: Mount Edgecombe 1 (St Anne) , 1835: Pleasant Valley 1 (St Andrew) , 1835: Huddersfield (St Mary) , 1835: Rio Nueva Bay (St Mary) , 1835: Green Park 3 (St Anne) , 1835: Halifax Crawle (St Anne) , 1835: Mammee Ridge (St Anne) , 1835: Saltrum (St Mary) , 1835: Friendship 7 (St Anne) , 1835:

Epping 2 (St Mary) , 1835: Industry 13 (St Mary) , 1835: Tower Hill (St Mary) , 1835: Spring Garden 6 (St Mary) , 1835: Mason Hill (St Mary). •

Hollingsworth (John) Time in Assembly: 1849-1866; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1835: Highgate Hall (Manchester) , 1840: Retrieve 2 (Manchester) , 1844: Bloomfield. •

Hosack (William) Time in Assembly: 1854-1866; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1835: Buff Bay River (St George) , 1840: Buff Bay River (St George). •

Hutchings (Henry) Time in Assembly: 1856-1859; White Merchant; . •

Hylton (Samuel B.) Time in Assembly: 1836-1843; White Planter and Lawyer (Holt, 1991, p.223 fn.21); Associated Plantations: 1835: Waterloo 1 (Manchester) , 1844: Twickenham , 1844: Fruit Hill. •

Hyslop (Wellwood) Time in Assembly: 1836-1844; Colored Planter; . •

Israel (Rowland) Time in Assembly: 1836-1836; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1826: Palmeto Pen (Clarendon) , 1829: Palmeto Pen (Clarendon) , 1835: Crawl River (Clarendon) , 1835: Gordon's Store (Clarendon) , 1835: Frankfield (Clarendon). •

Jackson (Charles H.) Time in Assembly: 1845-1866; Colored Clerk of the Peace (Heuman, 1981, p.60) ; . •

Johnson (Robert A.) Time in Assembly: 1861-1866; Colored (Heuman, 1981, p.63); Associated Plantations: 1844: ? , 1844: Content , 1844: More beside Rock. •

Johnstone (Andrew G.) Time in Assembly: 1844-1847; Colored Planter (Holt, 1991, p.445 fn.21) ; . •

Jordon (Edward) Time in Assembly: 1836-1865; Colored (Heuman, 1981, p.58) ; Associated Plantations: 1826: Heart's Ease 3 (St John) , 1840: Good Air (St Andrew) , 1844: Bull Park , 1844: Good Air. •

Kemble (William) Time in Assembly: 1864-1866; Colored Merchant; . •

King (John Lewis) Time in Assembly: 1836-1836; White Planter; Associated Plantations: 1835: Kingswood (Westmoreland) , 1840: Bybrook 2 (St George) , 1840: Stoney-Hill 1 (St Andrew). •

King (William Brooks) Time in Assembly:

1836-1836; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Retreat 3 (Manchester)* , 1829: *Retreat 3 (Manchester)* , 1835: *Egg Hill (Portland)* , 1835: *Union Hill 1 (St Andrew)* , 1835: *Charlottenburg 1 (St Andrew)* , 1840: *Charlottenburg 1 (St Andrew)* , 1844: *Union Hill*. •

Lake (Charles) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1848; *Colored Merchant/Magistrate* (Heuman, 1981, p.60); . •

Leslie (Hugh Fraser) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1846; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Castile Fort Pen (Port Royal)* , 1829: *Castile Fort Pen (Port Royal)* , 1835: *Stone's Hope (Manchester)* , 1835: *Easington (St David)* , 1835: *Bell Clare (St David)* , 1835: *Minto (St David)* , 1840: *Bell Clare (St David)* , 1844: *Belle Clare*. •

Lindo (A.J.) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1866; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Riotto Pen (St Anne)* , 1840: *Colling's Green Pen (St Andrew)* , 1844: *Colling's Green*. •

Loane (Marcus Walpole) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1836; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Spring Mount 3 (St John)* , 1835: *Spring Mount 3 (St John)* , 1835: *Retreat 13 (St John)*. •

Lowndes (Henry) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1843; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Blackburn's House (St Catherine)* , 1840: *Angel's (St Catherine)* , 1844: *Angel's pen* , 1844: *Knollis Mountain*. •

Lunan (James) *Time in Assembly*: 1844-1848; *White Planter and Lawyer* (Heuman, 1981, p.145) ; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Pen 1 (St Andrew)*. •

Lynch (F.R.) *Time in Assembly*: 1850-1866; *White Lawyer* (Holt, 1991, p.223 fn.21) ; . •

Magnus (Samuel) *Time in Assembly*: 1844-1849; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Falmouth (Trelawny)* , 1844: *Somerset*. •

Mais (Stephen W.) *Time in Assembly*: 1850-1866; *Colored Road Commissioner* (Heuman, 1981, p.63) ; . •

Manderson (John) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1841; *Colored Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.218 fn.8); *Associated Plantations*: 1835: ? (St James) , 1835: *Chesterfield 6 (St James)* , 1840: *Chatham 1 (St James)* , 1844: *Paradise*. •

March (Foster H.) *Time in Assembly*: 1851-1861; *Colored Alderman* (Heuman, 1981, p.61) ; . •

March (William Thomas) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1864; *Colored Attorney* (Heuman, 1981, p.60) ; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Hill Side 4 (St Mary)* , 1826: *Pittfield (St Mary)* , 1826: *Content 7 (St Catherine)* , 1844: *Government pen*. •

Mason (David) *Time in Assembly*: 1851-1860; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.246 fn.87); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Villa 3 (Westmoreland)* , 1835: *Nightingale Grove 6 (Trelawny)* , 1835: *Greenwich 1 (Hanover)* , 1835: *Raderney (Westmoreland)* , 1844: *Villa*. •

Mason (Thomas) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1853; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.246 fn.87); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Fellowship 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1829: *Southampton 3 (St George)* , 1835: *Southampton 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Success 3 (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Wilderness 2 (Manchester)* , 1835: *Hopeton 3 (Manchester)* , 1840: *Southampton 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1840: *Hopeton 3 (Manchester)*. •

McComack (Thomas) *Time in Assembly*: 1842-1843; *Colored Merchant*; . •

McCook (Francis) *Time in Assembly*: 1838-1848; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Bridge Pen* , 1844: *Bridge pen and Jones's*. •

McPherson (Robert John) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1849; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Kew*. •

Mitchell (Hector) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1841; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Harbour Head 2 (St Thomas East)* , 1835: *Mount Industry 1 (St Andrew)* , 1835: *Galloway (St George)* , 1835: *Grierfield (St Anne)* , 1835: *Air Mount (St Thomas East)* , 1835: *Christiana (Manchester)* , 1835: *Concord (St Anne)*. •

Moncrieff (Peter) *Time in Assembly*: 1842-1848; *Colored Barrister* (Heuman, 1981, p.61); . •

Moore (Alexander) *Time in Assembly*: 1841-1842; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1829: *Alligator Pond (Manchester)* , 1840: *George's Valley 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1844: *George's Valley*. •

Morgan (Patrick) *Time in Assembly*: 1852-1853; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Clifton 7 (St Mary)*. •

Moris (Stephen) *Time in Assembly*: 1861-1861; *White Merchant*; . •

Mowat (Edward Charles) *Time in Assembly*: 1844-1853; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Unity Park Pen (St Andrew)* , 1840:

Boucher's Pen (St Andrew). •

Muirhead (Michael) *Time in Assembly*: 1863-1866; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1829: *Skiddaw (Manchester)* , 1835: *Pimento Hill 3 (Manchester)* , 1840: *Ward's Bay (Manchester)* , 1844: *Ward's Bay*. •

Murchison (Alexander) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1837; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Springfield 14 (Vere)* , 1829: *Springfield 14 (Vere)* , 1835: *Springfield 14 (Vere)* , 1835: *Grimmett (Vere)* , 1840: *Springfield 14 (Vere)* , 1840: *Grimmett (Vere)*. •

Murphy (Thomas) *Time in Assembly*: 1864-1866; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Seffry Town*. •

Nathan (D.P.) *Time in Assembly*: 1863-1866; *Colored Lawyer* (Heuman, 1981, p.63) ; . •

Nickells (Charles) *Time in Assembly*: 1848-1848; *Colored Merchant*; . •

Orsett (George) *Time in Assembly*: 1842-1844; *White Merchant*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Harbour Head 1 (Port Royal)* , 1840: *Windsor Farm Pen (St Andrew)* , 1844: *Harbour Head*. •

Osborn (Robert) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1866; *Colored* (Heuman, 1981, p.59) ; *Associated Plantations*: 1829: *Wheeler's Valley (St Andrew)* , 1835: *Prospect 4 (St Andrew)* , 1840: *Little Prospect 1 (St Andrew)* , 1840: *Farm Pen (St Andrew)*. •

Panton (Edward John Wilson) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1841; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Elmwood (St Thomas East)*. •

Paterson (Robert) *Time in Assembly*: 1851-1855; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *New Monkland (St Thomas East)* , 1835: *Old Monkland (St Thomas East)* , 1835: *Cedar Valley 4 (St David)* , 1840: *Cedar Valley 4 (St David)* , 1844: *Monklands*. •

Pearson (Robert) *Time in Assembly*: 1848-1862; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Epping Forest* , 1844: *Golden Grove* , 1844: *Palmetto Valley* , 1844: *Blue Mountain*. •

Phillips (George L.) *Time in Assembly*: 1844-1860; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Try-See 1 (St Anne)*. •

Pillon (John A.) *Time in Assembly*: 1860-1862; *Colored Inspector of Weights* (Heuman, 1981, p.63) ; . •

Porteous (James) *Time in Assembly*: 1845-1851; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.223 fn.31) ; . •

Price (George) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1862; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Mickleton* , 1844: *Worthy Park*. •

Purrier (John Vincent) *Time in Assembly*: 1843-1847; *White Planter and Banker* (Heuman, 1981, p.122) ; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Welcome 1 (Hanover)* , 1826: *Fairy Hill 1 (Portland)* , 1826: *Haddington (Hanover)* , 1829: *Welcome 1 (Hanover)* , 1829: *Fairy Hill 1 (Portland)* , 1829: *Haddington (Hanover)* , 1835: *Fairy Hill 1 (Portland)* , 1835: *Palmeto Grove (St Mary)* , 1835: *Adelphi (St James)* , 1835: *Welcome 1 (Hanover)* , 1835: *Haddington (Hanover)* , 1840: *Welcome 1 (Hanover)* , 1840: *Haddington (Hanover)* , 1840: *Palmeto Grove (St Mary)* , 1844: *Haddington* , 1844: *Fairy Hill* , 1844: *Maryfield*. •

Robertson (Duncan) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1836; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Friendship 10 (St Elizabeth)* , 1826: *Arthur's Seat 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1829: *Gilnock Hall (St George)* , 1829: *Friendship 11 (St George)* , 1835: *Evergreen (Manchester)* , 1835: *Southampton 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Caenwood 1 (Manchester)* , 1835: *Cabbage Valley (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Knockpatrick (Manchester)* , 1835: *New Hall 1 (Manchester)* , 1835: *Struan Castle 2 (Manchester)* , 1835: *Oxford 2 (Manchester)* , 1835: *Reading 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Dean's Valley Dry Works (Westmoreland)* , 1835: *Grosmond (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Friendship 10 (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Northampton (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Oxford 2 (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Gilnock Hall (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Grove Place (Manchester)* , 1840: *Gilnock Hall (St Elizabeth)* , 1840: *Friendship 10 (St Elizabeth)* , 1840: *Berkshire (Manchester)* , 1844: *Rock Heath*. •

Rose (William) *Time in Assembly*: 1847-1861; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Flemington 2 (Clarendon)* , 1826: *Rose-Valley (Clarendon)* , 1826: *Croshie Pen (St Andrew)* , 1829: *Croshie Pen (St Andrew)* , 1829: *Blackwood's (Clarendon)* , 1829: *Mount Content (St Andrew)* , 1835: *Drummond Castle (Port Royal)* , 1835: *Rose Hill 5 (St Andrew)* , 1835: *Mount Content (St Andrew)* , 1835: *Blackwood's (Clarendon)* , 1840: *Blackwood's (Clarendon)* , 1844: *Bog Hole* , 1844: *Mears*. •

Royes (Charles) *Time in Assembly*: 1854-1861; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Holland Hill and Amity Hall*, 1844: *Hoghole*. •

Russell (Robert) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1859; *Colored* (Heuman, 1981, p.60); *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Shaddock Grove & Down Hall*, 1844: *Content*, 1844: *Russell's Retreat*. •

Salom (Aaron) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1866; *Colored Merchant* (Holt, 1991, p.230 fn.36); . •

Sanguinetti (Jacob) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1866; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.444 fn.9); *Associated Plantations*: 1835: ? [None Given In T71/857] (St Anne), 1844: *Logwood Tavern*, 1844: *six Properties*. •

Savire (Roger) *Time in Assembly*: 1860-1861; *White Merchant*; . •

Scott (A. R.) *Time in Assembly*: 1842-1843; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Epping Farm* (St David), 1835: *Whitfield Hall* (St David), 1835: *Trelawny* (Trelawny), 1840: *A* (St Andrew), 1840: *Epping Farm* (St David), 1844: *Whitfield Hall*, 1844: *Belle Vue*, 1844: *McConnel*, 1844: *Epping Farm*. •

Shand (William) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1836; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Hopewell 5* (St Anne), 1829: *St. Toolie's* (Clarendon), 1829: *Belmont 7* (St John), 1829: *Mammee Gully Pen* (Clarendon), 1829: *Kellett's* (Clarendon), 1829: *The Burn* (Clarendon), 1835: *Belmont 7* (St John), 1835: *Kellett's* (Clarendon), 1835: *The Burn* (Clarendon), 1835: *Mammee Gully Pen* (Clarendon), 1840: *Kellett's* (Clarendon), 1844: *Hopewell Pen*, 1844: *Burn*. •

Shirley (H. H.) *Time in Assembly*: 1854-1855; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Hyde Hall* (Trelawny), 1826: *Glamorgan* (Trelawny), 1826: *Etingdon* (Trelawny), 1829: *Etingdon* (Trelawny), 1829: *Glamorgan* (Trelawny), 1829: *Hyde Hall* (Trelawny), 1840: *Hyde Hall* (Trelawny), 1840: *Glamorgan* (Trelawny), 1840: *Etingdon* (Trelawny). •

Smith (David) *Time in Assembly*: 1863-1866; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Culloden 1* (Clarendon), 1829: *Culloden 1* (Clarendon). •

Smith (Edward) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1836; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.444 fn.9); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Haughton* (St Elizabeth), 1826:

Mount Sion 1 (St Andrew), 1826: *Bull Park* (St David), 1829: *Breadnut Valley 3* (St George), 1829: *Mount Sion 1* (St Andrew), 1829: *Haughton* (St George), 1835: *Breadnut Valley 2* (St Elizabeth), 1835: *Haughton* (St Elizabeth), 1840: *Breadnut Valley 2* (St Elizabeth). •

Smith (James) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1843; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Prospect Hall* (St Andrew), 1826: *Belle Vue 1* (St Andrew), 1829: *Belle Vue 1* (St Andrew), 1829: *Prospect Hall* (St Andrew), 1840: *Amphitheatre* (St David), 1840: *Prospect Hall* (St Andrew), 1840: *Little Prospect 2* (Manchester), 1840: *Retreat 8* (St David), 1840: *Dunsinane 1* (St Andrew), 1840: *Vineyard Pen* (St Andrew). •

Smith (Raynes W.) *Time in Assembly*: 1843-1866; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.245 fn.84); *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Haughton*, 1844: *Bryan's Hill*. •

Smith (William) *Time in Assembly*: 1850-1851; *White Planter and Railroad Executive* (Holt, 1991, p.232); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Maxwell Valley* (St James), 1826: *Pleasant Hill 7* (St John), 1829: *Trowel Hill* (Portland), 1829: *Pleasant Hill 7* (St John), 1829: *Maxwell Valley* (St James), 1835: *Clifton 3* (St James), 1835: *Bossue* (Manchester), 1835: *Woodstock 1* (St Anne), 1840: *Clifton 3* (St James), 1840: *Bossue* (Manchester), 1844: *Runhard*, 1844: *Pleasant Hill*, 1844: *Smithfield*, 1844: *Prospect*, 1844: *Clifton*, 1844: *Maxwell Valley*. •

Solomon (George) *Time in Assembly*: 1860-1866; *Colored Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.445 fn.21); *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Wakefield*. •

Spalding (Hinton) *Time in Assembly*: 1842-1851; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.256 fn.106); *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Grove 2* (Manchester), 1829: *Grove 2* (Manchester), 1835: *Hermitage 7* (St George), 1835: *Hopewell 5* (St Anne), 1835: *Hatfield Plantation* (St Mary), 1835: *St Toolie's* (Clarendon), 1835: *Montpelier 1* (St Andrew), 1835: *Grove 2* (Manchester), 1835: *West Prospect 1* (St Andrew), 1840: *Lancaster 2* (Manchester), 1840: *Montpelier 1* (St Andrew), 1840: *Platfield* (St Mary), 1840: *Good Hope 1* (St George), 1844: *Toolie's Estate*. •

Stamp (John Jacob) *Time in Assembly*: 1838-1841; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Mount Holstein* (St George), 1840: *Dowan's Castle*

(St George). •

Stanford (Edward) *Time in Assembly*: 1855-1856; *White Merchant*; . •

Stennett (George) *Time in Assembly*: 1851-1852; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Liberty Hall 1 (St Anne)* , 1844: *Liberty Hill*. •

Swire (Roger) *Time in Assembly*: 1862-1866; *Colored Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1840: *Fort Stewart (St George)* , 1840: *Belle Vue 9 (St George)*. •

Taylor (James) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1860; *Colored* (Heuman, 1981, p.59) ; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *White River 1 (St Anne)* , 1840: *Hagley Park (St Andrew)*. •

Thompson (Edward) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1859; *White Planter* (Holt, 1991, p.444 fn.9) ; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Cool Spring 1 (Clarendon)* , 1835: *Lemon Hall (St John)*. •

Thompson (John) *Time in Assembly*: 1846-1847; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *May Day (Manchester)* , 1826: *Lancaster 1 (St George)* , 1826: *Glasgow 2 (Manchester)* , 1826: *Eden 1 (St George)* , 1826: *Woodside 2 (Manchester)* , 1829: *Glasgow 2 (Manchester)* , 1835: *Salt Hill (Port Royal)* , 1835: *Lancaster 1 (St George)* , 1840: *Lancaster 1 (St George)* , 1840: *Retreat 6 (St Andrew)*. •

Titley (William) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1850; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Sabina Park (St Andrew)* , 1835: *Rentcomb (St Thomas in Vale)* , 1835: *Belmont 4 (St Anne)* , 1835: *Parchment (St Elizabeth)* , 1840: *Round Hill 2 (Port Royal)* , 1840: *Mahogany Vale (Port Royal)* , 1844: *Mount Industry and Fitzmorris Land* , 1844: *Hayley Park* , 1844: *Southfield*. •

Townshend (George Harrison) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1845; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Main Savanna (Clarendon)* , 1829: *Main Savanna (Clarendon)* , 1829: *Ramble 1 (Clarendon)* , 1835: *Main Savanna (Clarendon)* , 1840: *Main Savanna (Clarendon)*. •

Vickars (Edward) *Time in Assembly*: 1848-1859; *Colored Alderman and Magistrate* (Heuman, 1981, p.62) ; . •

Vidal (John J.) *Time in Assembly*: 1864-1866; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Belle-Air 3 (St John)* , 1826: *St. Jago Park (St Catherine)* , 1835: *Keith Hall 2 (St Catherine)* , 1835: *Concord*

(St Anne) , 1835: *St Jago De La Vega (St Catherine)* , 1835: *Fair Prospect 3 (St John)* , 1835: *Golgotha (St Catherine)* , 1835: *Shenton (St Thomas in Vale)* , 1840: *Keith Hall 2 (St Catherine)* , 1840: *Town 1 (St Catherine)* , 1840: *Woodfield (St Anne)* , 1844: *Grierfield* , 1844: *Jago Park*. •

Walcott (J. L.) *Time in Assembly*: 1842-1842; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Ashley Hall 2 (Trelawny)* , 1829: *Ashley Hall 2 (Trelawny)* , 1835: *Ashley Hall 2 (Trelawny)* , 1844: *Baron Hill*. •

Walters (Christopher) *Time in Assembly*: 1850-1864; *Colored Cobbler* (Heuman, 1981, p.62) ; . •

Watkis (Price) *Time in Assembly*: 1865-1865; *Colored* (Holt, 1991, p.218 fn.8) ; *Associated Plantations*: 1835: *Greenwich Park 1 (St Anne)*. •

Watt (Robert) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1840; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Friendship 10 (St Elizabeth)* , 1826: *Lacovia (St Elizabeth)* , 1826: *East Middlesex (St Elizabeth)* , 1829: *Friendship 11 (St George)* , 1829: *East Middlesex (St George)* , 1829: *Lacovia (St George)* , 1835: *Prospect 13 (Westmoreland)* , 1835: *Lacovia (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Middlesex 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Friendship 10 (St Elizabeth)* , 1840: *Friendship 10 (St Elizabeth)* , 1840: *Belmore Castle (St Elizabeth)* , 1840: *Middlesex 1 (St Elizabeth)* , 1844: *George's Plain* , 1844: *Friendship* , 1844: *Belmore Castle*. •

Westmoreland (H. Henry) *Time in Assembly*: 1849-1866; *Colored Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Richmond* , 1844: *Kildare* , 1844: *Gibraltar* , 1844: *Prospect*. •

Whealle (Thomas) *Time in Assembly*: 1839-1841; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Twickenham 2 (St Elizabeth)* , 1835: *Ramble 4 (Manchester)* , 1835: *Arden Forest (Manchester)* , 1840: *Balbeck (St Elizabeth)* , 1840: *Arden Forest (Manchester)* , 1840: *Pan's Lodge (Manchester)* , 1840: *Ayr (Manchester)*. •

Whitelock (Hugh Anthony) *Time in Assembly*: 1838-1866; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1844: *Bullstrode*. •

Whittaker (Benjamin) *Time in Assembly*: 1836-1838; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Montpelier 9 (St John)* , 1829: *Montpelier 9 (St John)*. •

Williams (Joseph S.) *Time in Assembly*: 1858-

1866; *White Planter and Lawyer* (Holt, 1991, p.223 fn.21) ; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Carawina* (Westmoreland) , 1826: *Anglesea* (Westmoreland) , 1826: *Cairn Currain* (Westmoreland) , 1835: *Carawina* (Westmoreland) , 1835: *Anglesea* (Westmoreland) , 1835: *Cairn Currain* (Westmoreland).

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Wright (George) *Time in Assembly*: 1837-1845; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1829: *Greenwall* (St David) , 1829: *White Hall 1* (St Andrew) , 1835: *Golden Grove 7* (St Thomas in Vale) , 1835: *Greenwall* (St David) , 1835: *Friendship Valley* (St Thomas East) , 1835: *Aeolus Valley* (St David) , 1835: *Easington* (St David) , 1835: *Peartree Grove* (St Thomas in Vale) , 1840: *Mount Charles 2* (Port Royal) , 1840: *Peartree*

Grove (St Thomas in Vale) , 1840: *Greenwall* (St David) , 1840: *Kensington Garden* (St David) , 1844: *Friendship Valley* , 1844: *Island Head* , 1844: *Tryall* , 1844: *Mount Charles* , 1844: *Greenwall and Palmyra* , 1844: *Chiswick* , 1844: &c.. •

Wright (William) *Time in Assembly*: 1852-1853; *White Planter*; *Associated Plantations*: 1826: *Lloyd's 1* (St John) , 1826: *Enfield 1* (Manchester) , 1826: *Juan De Bolas* (St John) , 1826: *New-Barnesfield* (St Andrew) , 1826: *Aylmer's* (St John) , 1829: *Aylmer's* (St John) , 1829: *Lloyd's 1* (St John) , 1829: *Juan De Bolas* (St John) , 1829: *Enfield 1* (Manchester) , 1835: *Lloyd's 1* (St John) , 1835: *Lloyd's Pen* (St Dorothy) , 1835: *Juan De Bolas* (St John) , 1844: *Tryall* , 1844: *Grenock*. •

Online Appendix D Barbados's Geography

Barbados was an outlier among the Caribbean slave societies in its geography. While all Caribbean islands shared their climatic conditions, there was large variation in geographic characteristics like elevation and soil. The typical Caribbean sugar colony was characterized by sugar-suitable coastal plains and a rugged interior that lay fallow during slavery. Barbados was the only Caribbean sugar island that combined the advantages of limestone rather than volcanic soil with a high enough elevation to protect sugar from saltwater and storm surges. The Caribbean is divided into three island chains: The Greater Antilles are large islands with mountainous interiors and coastal plains. Of these, only Jamaica was a British colony, the others are Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Most British Caribbean colonies—Dominica, the British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent—belonged to the inner chain of the Lesser Antilles, which is volcanic and mountainous. The outer chain of Lesser Antilles—Anguilla, Bahamas, Barbados, Turks and Caicos—consists of flat limestone. This limestone was more suitable for sugar cultivation because it retained water better than the volcanic land on the inner chain (Richardson, 1997, p. 147) and because sugar does not like high elevations. In Barbados, the entire land area was highly sugar-suitable land, and over 95% of its land was under cultivation on the eve of emancipation, compared to under 50% elsewhere in the Caribbean (Martin, 1839, p.32–102). While Barbados was not particularly unique during slavery, it was unique after emancipation its ability to offer extremely low wages for lack of any other options to the citizenry. Consequently, a merchant class catering to local markets did not develop, and emancipated blacks did not obtain the franchise for a lack of available land for purchase.

Online Appendix E Examples of Related Institutional Changes

In this paper we theoretically explore the idea that an elite may pay an outside force for protection against popular pressure. This necessarily took a very specific form in the British Caribbean, but we view the mechanism as more general, and therefore provide here some illustrative examples of related events.

In the 1967 coup d'état in Greece, for example, politicians of the incumbent Conservative Party openly invited a military coup, fearing that the left-leaning Center Union Party would gain a parliamentary majority in the upcoming election (Kassimeris, 2006). Similarly, the 1971 military coup in Turkey was apparently supported by conservative parliamentary elements fearing increasing influence of both left- and right-wing parties and trade unions (Feroz, 2002). In Sierra Leone, when the incumbent prime minister, Albert Margai, narrowly lost the 1967 election to Siaka Stevens, he had planned ahead for this contingency and had the latter deposed by a military coup within hours after taking office (Cartwright, 1970). Thailand's military coup in May 2014 has been described as "the culmination of months of maneuvering by the Bangkok establishment seeking to suspend democracy, at least in the short term, as it struggled to unseat a party it has been unable to defeat at the polls" (Fuller, 2014).

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