

Property of
the soil in the
native Afri-
cans.

one European factory, and that indeed not upon the continent, but upon the island of Bissao, and no attempt has hitherto been made, except our fruitless one, by any European power, to settle any of these countries, for the purposes of cultivation; and no European power has certainly any claim to the soil, which belongs to its present possessors, the native Africans, except only so much as we have already purchased from them.

Equally
adapted for
commerce as
for cultiva-
tion.

Admirably adapted as this country is to facilitate its own internal commerce, by means of its large rivers, and the numerous small ones, which, in a very great portion of it, admit the approach of small vessels to carry off its produce by water; yet it is not less eligibly situated for external commerce, its distance from this country being scarcely more than half that to the West Indies; and communication with it, at all seasons, practicable, and easy; without the dread of tiphoons and hurricanes; or being cramped, and retarded, by trade winds and monsoons.

Its coloniza-
tion proposed.

Opposition
expected to it.

This country then I should propose to colonize. I am well aware that this proposition will be opposed by a very respectable, and weighty, body of men, the West India planters; as well as by all those concerned in carrying on the slave trade: but even though it might be hostile to their interests, which I by no means concede, yet if it will be beneficial to the country at large, it is a measure that ought to be adopted.

Whether it be
the interest of
this country
to extend her
colonies.

Many people doubt whether it be the interest of this country to extend her colonies or not; probably not—generally speaking; but so long as we continue to consume the same quantity of sugar and coffee, and to use in our manufactures as much cotton and indigo as we do at present, the one proposed will be to the advantage of the mother country, particularly in the two