

from beginning to end, one of the most uncommon, and almost incredible, instances of colonial folly, in its regulation and management, that the world ever witnessed; and, as before observed, I consider it as having tended rather to retard than accelerate the civilization and the freedom of Africa.

But, to return to our subject; independent of the profit on cotton, the colonists might derive a very considerable one from trading with the natives in the articles of rice, pepper, ivory, wax, gum, and hides: all of which would be readily bartered for English goods, with a very considerable profit to the settlers. To carry on this trade to advantage, they should have small decked vessels of from 10 to 20 tons, (about one to every ten plantations) to sail up the various creeks and branches of the sea; there to collect the produce of the country, and transport it to Bulama.

As to *Rice* I know not whether it would be worth the planter's while to send it to England; except in seasons of scarcity: all that I know is, that he may buy it, in almost any quantity, on the coast of Africa, exceedingly cheap, and that if he can find a market for it in Europe, it will answer very well.

Pepper is not to be procured in the neighbourhood of Bulama; but, as an article of commerce, it may be procured to leeward; as also dying woods.

Ivory, in great abundance, may be procured in almost every creek that a boat can enter.

Wax is also very plentiful; and

Hides of buffaloes and deer may not only be purchased for almost nothing, but may be obtained by taking only the trouble to shoot and skin the animal.

Profits on
trade with
the natives.