

tide before they can enter. The large scows in which the sugar, coffee, pimento, and other articles of produce are brought down the river from the different estates, draw little water, and generally have on board eight or ten blacks, with a master and a steersman.

Finding that the *Thalia* would not sail for some days, I went ashore at Black River, where there is a small village. The captain warned me to keep my bed-room door locked, otherwise I should certainly have a bed-fellow before morning, as is the practice all over the island. There was an inspection of the militia of this parish by the governor, and I was pleased with the efficient appearance of the regiment, which consisted of about 600 infantry and 20 cavalry, with three field pieces. A great deal of brandy, rum, and other liquors, was drunk by the overseers and book-keepers after the inspection, and many individuals were in a state of intoxication the whole time.

At length, on the 15th April, we set sail, and in three days ran down to Cape Corrientes, in Cuba. Mr Hogg and two of his children were on board; and he had under his charge two girls and a boy belonging to a friend of his, who were going to be educated at home, Jamaica being as bad a school for children as it seems to be for adults. The Negroes being irreclaimably addicted to all sorts of falsehood, deceit, and mischief, soon make the white children as bad as themselves. The planters possibly are not aware that this is merely a part of the moral retribution necessarily resulting from slavery.