

plantations, but let their negroes out to labour for others.

It may be as well not to make the first weekly day of liberation for every one the same; but if with one part the Monday should be begun with, to proceed regularly forward; the other part might begin at and proceed from Thursday: thus when twenty slaves in two parties had each procured the freedom of three days, the want of their labour would be precisely the same as that of ten slaves made perfectly free: and the sum they will have paid, will be equal to the whole value or cost of ten such negroes; therefore, their proprietor has it in his power to purchase ten more, and with this advantage, that without any increase of capital he is enabled to have ten more negroes upon his plantation; and consequently an increase of produce in that proportion: for this accession of produce he will have undoubtedly labourers' wages to pay; but then these wages will not be near equal to the advantage gained, for in the other instances no one would hire men, but with the design of gaining by their labour.

It now becomes matter of enquiry, whether it would not be better, where both are equally to be had, to hire freemen or to labour with slaves. To the man of small capital the former choice is obvious, because, with only as much as will pay wages till the getting in of his first crop, he may cultivate his lands  
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