

demand the closest investigation on the part of Great-Britain (aided by temperate councils, uncontaminated by party, and unbiassed by resentment) to arrange and establish on a solid and prosperous footing. Of that general system, however, the commerce of which I treat, constitutes a very essential part, and by considering it separately and distinctly, I flatter myself that I have enabled the reader to form a clearer notion of its nature, and a more accurate estimate of its value, than otherwise he might have done. With a few miscellaneous observations, therefore, that occur to me, I shall dismiss the subject.

It has been remarked, that the navigation from Canada is obstructed six months in the year by the ice. It should also have been observed, that the hurricane months in the West-Indies occupy great part of the time in which the river St. Lawrence is open. How casual, how uncertain, therefore, must be any supply from thence for the use of the planters in the West-Indies, even if Canada had people sufficient to cut her lumber, and the means of preparing her wheat into flour fit for the West-India market, neither of which advantages she possesses at present. I doubt also, whether Canada (as now bounded) furnishes that species of wood called *white oak*; the only material proper for containing rum. It is certain, that Nova-Scotia does not. This is a very striking circumstance; for next to the necessaries of life, *wood*, of which rum