

the British government for the abolition. Time and perseverance have at length effected this good work. America, after gaining her independence, has listened to the cause of humanity. Most of the northern and middle states have proscribed, for ever, the importation of slaves: in some others, this prohibition is limited to a certain time. South Carolina is the only state that continues to receive transported slaves. Rhode Island had a great traffic in slaves, but has totally prohibited it. The abolition, and amendment in the condition of the negroes, certainly advance, though by slow degrees; and it is to be devoutly wished, that in time these improvements will extend to all parts of the world, where slavery prevails. It will be interesting to you, my dear brother, to know the steps that have procured these advantages. In 1780, the General Assembly at Pennsylvania abolished slavery for ever; compelled the owners of slaves to have them registered; declared their children free at the age of twenty-eight; placed them, while under that age, on the footing of hired servants; and assured to them the privilege of trial by jury. But this was not sufficient to secure to them all the intended advantages: by a second act it was ordained, that no negro should be sent into a neighbouring state without his consent; that all vessels and cargoes employed in the slave-trade should be confiscated; and that all stealers of negroes should be condemned to the public works. The little state of Delaware