



Herman Moll, *Carolina*, 1732, detail. Note Charles Town, Port Royal, Fort St. Augustin, and “The South Bounds of Carolina according to the Last Charter.”

“The great improvement made in this Province is wholly owing to the industry and labor of the Inhabitants.”

Two Views of Carolina: 1699 & 1712

In 1690 the colony of “Carolina,” founded just twenty years earlier, included by its charter all the land south of Virginia and north of Spanish Florida, territory later divided into North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. It had been settled by English planters from the Caribbean island of Barbados, who brought with them African slaves and an entrenched slave culture. Presented here are two viewpoints on Carolina’s prospects — one from an English official who lauds the commercial potential of the colony, and one from a settler who employs a question-and-answer format to encourage other English farmers to emigrate. (Only the English official addresses the ever-present threat of the Spanish to the south and the French and Indians to the west.) By 1712, what are the colony’s strengths and weaknesses? What are its prospects?

National Humanities Center, 2009: nationalhumanitiescenter.org/pds. (1) Randolph letter in *Narratives of Early Carolina*, ed. Alexander S. Salley, Jr., (New York: Scribner’s, 1911), pp. 204-210; in series *Original Narratives of Early American History*, gen. ed., J. Franklin Jameson. (2) Norris pamphlet in Jack P. Greene, ed., *Selling a New World: Two Colonial South Carolina Promotional Pamphlets* (University of South Carolina Press, 1989), pp. 77-147; permission pending. In the Randolph letter, punctuation and spelling modernized, some paragraphing added, and abbreviated words spelled in full by NHC for clarity. Some spelling and punctuation modernized in the Norris pamphlet. Complete image credits at nationalhumanitiescenter.org/pds/becomingamer/imagecredits.htm.

Edward Randolph, Surveyor-General of His Majesty's Customs for North America,
Letter about Carolina to the English Board of Trade and Plantations, 16 March 1699.

May it please your Lordships,

After a dangerous voyage I landed at Charles Town, in the Province of South Carolina, and soon after my arrival, I administered the Oath to Mr. Joseph Blake, one of the Proprietors and Governor of this Province. . . .

There are but few settled Inhabitants in this Province; the Lords have taken up vast tracts of land for their own use, as in Colleton County and other places, where it is most commodious for settlement, which prevents peopling the place, and makes them less capable to preserve themselves. As to their civil Government, 'tis different from what I have met with in the other Proprieties [colonies]. Their Militia is not above 1500 Soldiers, White men, but have through the Province generally 4 Negroes to 1 White man, and not above [more than] 1100 families, English and French.

Their chief town is Charles Town, and the seat of Government in this province, where the Governor, Council and Triennial Parliament sit, and their Courts are held, being above a league distant from the entrance of their harbor mouth, which is barred [has sandbars] and not above 17 foot water at the highest tides, but very difficult to come [sail] in. The Harbor is called by the Spaniards St. George; it lies 75 leagues to the Northward of St. Augustine, belonging to the Spaniards. It is generally laid down in our English maps to be 2 deg. 45 min., within the southern bounds of this province.

In the year 1686, one hundred Spaniards, with Negroes and Indians, landed at Edistoe (50 miles to the southward of Charles Town) and broke open the house of Mr. Joseph Moreton, then Governor of the Province, and carried away Mr. Bowell, his Brother-in-law, prisoner, who was found murdered 2 or 3 days after; they carried away all his money and [silver]plate and 13 slaves, to the value of £1,500 [English pounds] sterling, and their plunder to St. Augustine. Two of the Slaves made their escape from thence and returned to their master. Some time after, Governor Moreton sent to demand his slaves, but the Governor of St. Augustine answered it was done without his orders, but to this day keeps them and says he can't deliver them up without an order from the King of Spain.

About the same time they robbed Mr. Grimball's house, the Secretary of the Province, whilst he attended the Council at Charles Town, and carried away to the value of over £1,500 sterling. They also fell upon a settlement of Scotchmen at Port Royal, where there was not above 25 men in health to oppose them. The Spaniards burnt down their houses, destroyed and carried away all that they had, because (as the Spaniards pretended) they were settled upon their land; and had they at any time a superior force, they would also destroy this town built upon Ashley and Cooper Rivers. This whole bay was called formerly St. George's, which they likewise lay claim to.

The inhabitants complained of the wrong done them by the Spaniards to the Lords Proprietors, and prayed them (as I have been truly informed) to represent it to His Majesty, but they, not hearing from the Lord Proprietors, fitted out two vessels with 400 stout men, well armed, and resolved to take St. Augustine. But James Colleton came in that time from Barbados with a Commission to be Governor, and threatened to hang them if they proceeded, whereupon they went on shore very unwillingly. The Spaniards, hearing the English were coming upon them for the damages, they left their Town and Castle, and fled into the woods to secure themselves. The truth is, as I have been credibly informed, there was a design [plan] on foot to carry on a Trade with the Spaniards.

I find the Inhabitants greatly alarmed upon the news that the French continue their resolution to make a settling [settlement] Messasipi [Mississippi] River, from [whence] they may come over land to the head

of Ashley River without opposition, 'tis not yet known what care the Lords Proprietors intend to take for their preservation. Some ingenious gentlemen of this Province (not of the Council) have lately told me the Deputies have talked of making an Address to the Lords Proprietors for relief. But 'tis apparent that all the time of this French War, they never sent them one barrel of powder or a pound of lead to help them. They conclude they have no reason to depend upon them for assistance, and are resolved to forsake [leave] this Country betimes [eventually]. if they find the French are settled at Meschasipi, or if, upon the death of the King of Spain, these Countries [colonies] fall into the hands of the French, as inevitably they will (if not timely prevented), and return with their families to England or some other place where they may find safety and protection.

It was one of the first questions asked by several of the Chief men at my arrival, whether His Majesty will please to allow them half pay for 2 or 3 years at furthest, that afterward they will maintain themselves and families (if they have any) in making Pitch and Tar and planting of Indian Corn. His Majesty will thereby have so many men seasoned to the Country ready for service upon all occasions; five such men will do more service, by sea or land, than 20 new raised men from home. They may be brought hither in the Virginia outward-bound ships, 100 or 150 men in a year, till they are made up 1000. It will save the charge of transporting so many another time 2 or 3000 leagues at sea.

I heard one of the Council (a great Indian Trader, and has been 600 miles up in the Country west from Charles Town) discourse that the only way to discover the Meschasipi is from this Province by land. He is willing to undertake it if His Majesty will please to pay the charge, which will not be above £400 or £500 at most. He intends to take with him 50 white men of this Province, and 100 Indians who live two days' journey east from the Meschasipi, and questions not but, in 5 or 6 months' time after he has His Majesty's commands and instructions, to find out the mouth of it and the true latitude thereof.

The great improvement made in this Province is wholly owing to the industry and labor of the Inhabitants. They have applied themselves to make such commodities as might increase the revenue of the Crown, as Cotton, Wool, Ginger, Indigo, &c., . But finding them not to answer the end, they are set upon making Pitch, Tar and Turpentine, and planting rice, and can send over great quantities yearly, if they had encouragement from England to make it, having about 5,000 Slaves to be employed in that service, upon occasion, but they have lost most of their vessels, which were but small, last war by the French, and some lately by the Spaniards, so that they are not able to send those Commodities to England for a market; neither are sailors here to be had to man their vessels.

I humbly propose that is His Majesty will for a time suspend the Duties [import taxes] upon Commodities, and that upon rice also, it will encourage the Planter to fall vigilantly upon making Pitch and Tar, etc., which the Lords Proprietors ought to make their principal care to obtain from His Majesty, being the only way to draw people to settle in their Province, a place of greatest encouragement to the English Navy in these parts of the world.

Charles Town Bay is the safest port for all vessels coming through the Gulf of Florida in distress, bound from the West Indies to the Northern Plantations; if they miss this place they may perish at sea for want of relief, and having beat upon the coast of New England, New York or Virginia by a North West Wind in the Winter, be forced to go to Barbados if they miss this Bay, where no wind will damage them and all things to be had necessary to refit them.

My Lords, I did formerly present Your Lordships with proposals for supplying England with Pitch, Tar, Masts and all other Naval Stores from New England. I observed when I were at New York, in September last, abundance of Tar brought down Hudson's River to be sold at New York, as also Turpentine and Tar in great quantities from the Colony of Connecticut. I was told if they had encouragement, they could load several Ships yearly for England. But since my arrival here I find I am come unto the only place for such commodities upon the Continent of America. Some persons have offered to deliver in Charlestown Bay upon their own account 1000 barrels of Pitch and as much Tar; others greater

quantities, provided they were paid for it in Charles Town in Lyon Dollars, passing here at five shillings per piece, Tar at eight shillings per Barrel, and very good Pitch at 12 shillings per Barrel, and much cheaper if it once became a trade. The season for making these Commodities in this Province being 6 months longer than in Virginia and more Northern Plantations, a planter can make more tar in any one year here with 50 slaves than they can do with double the number in those places, their slaves here living at very easy rates and with few clothes.

The enclosed I received from Mr. Girard, a French Protestant living in Carolina. I find them¹ very industrious and good husbands [farmers], but are discouraged because some of them, having been many years Inhabitants in this Province, are denied the benefit of being Owners and Masters of Vessels [ships], which other the Subjects of His Majesty's Plantations enjoy, besides many of them are made Denizens. If this Place were duly encouraged, it would be the most useful to the Crown of all the Plantations [colonies] upon the Continent of America.

I herewith enclose to Your Lordships a Draft of the Town and Castle of St. Augustine, with a short description of it by a Gentleman who has been often there. It's done exactly true, more for service than for show. The Spaniards now, the French, if ever they get it, will prove dangerous neighbors to this Province, a thing not considered nor provided against by the Lords Proprietors.

I am going from hence to Bermuda with His Majesty's Commissioners to administer the Oath to the Governor of that Island, with a Commission for the Judge and other Officers of the Court of Admiralty erected there, from whence I believe it necessary to hasten to the Bahamas Islands, where a Brigantine belonging to New England was carried in as a wreck. The Master and Sailors, being pursued by some persons who had commission from Governor Webb, believing they were chased by Spaniards, forsook their Vessel and went on shore amongst the Natives to save their lives.

All which is humbly submitted by

Your Lordship's
Most humble Servant,
ED. RANDOLPH

The want [lack] of a small Vessel to support the loss of the Frigate, which was appointed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transplant [transport] me from one Plantation to another, makes me stay a great while at one place for a passage to another, which is uncertain, difficult and dangerous.

I have by the extreme of cold last Winter in Maryland and Pennsylvania, and by my tedious passage in the Winter time from New York to this place, got a great numbness in my right leg and foot. I am in hopes this warm climate will restore me to my health. I have formerly wrote to your Board and the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, the necessity of having a Vessel to transport me from one Plantation to another.

I humbly pray Your Lordships favor to direct that the little residence I am to make in these parts of the World may be in this Province, and that a Vessel well manned may be sent me hither, which may answer all occasion, my intentions being not to lie idle; for when the Hurricane times come in these parts of the World, I can go securely to Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania and New England, without fear of being driven from those Plantations by North West Winds, and when they come I can pass from one Plantation to another without difficulty.

¹ French Huguenots, French Protestants, thousands of whom fled persecution in France and emigrated to the American colonies.

___John Norris___

PROFITABLE ADVICE FOR RICH and POOR

in a Dialogue, or Discourse between

James Freeman, a Carolina Planter, AND Simon Question, a West-Country Farmer.

CONTAINING a Description, or true Relation of South Carolina,

An English Plantation, or Colony, in America,

WITH Propositions for the Advantageous Settlement of People, in General, but especially for the Laborious poor, in that Fruitful, Pleasant, and Profitable Country, for its Inhabitants.

1712 ___EXCERPTS²

The Author, to Church-Wardens, Overseers of the Poor, and Paymasters to their Relief.

Gentlemen,

I Writ and publish'd this Book for several Reasons: One, and the most material, was my desire to promote what in me lies [what seems to me] the future Benefit of many poor, honest, laborious, and industrious People, that here [England] suffer Hardships, with whom it would be much worse were it not for your several Assistancess. . . I remain a hearty Well-wisher to the Advancement of my honest Well-meaning Countrymen, and shall so continue during Life.

John Norris

. . .

Simon Question, English farmer. *What Country-People have you there, besides English, more than the Native Indians, and of what Religion?*

RELIGION

James Freeman, Carolina planter. There is, besides *English*, several *Welsh*, *Scotch*, *Irish*, and *French Protestants*, and of several Sorts of *Sects* or *Dissenters*, as here, but especially the *Presbyterians*, and *Anabaptists*, and some *Quakers*.

Simon Question, English farmer. *What Religion is most establish'd there; and how are the Ministers of each maintain'd, if you have any?*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. By the King's *Patent*, or *Charter*, People of any Religion might have free *Toleration* to exercise and enjoy the same without Interruption, but the *Church of English Ministers* only to be supported and paid by any public Allowance by Act of *Assembly* or *Parliament* in the said *Province*. . . The *Dissenting Ministers* hath only the Voluntary Contributions of their Congregations, so that, I think, I may properly say the *Church of England* is the Superior; tho' the Churches are not yet all supply'd with *Church of England Ministers*; it has been computed that the *Church of England* People are about Fourth Tenths of the Number of Inhabitants; the *Presbyterians* about Two Tenths; *Anabaptists* One Tenth, *French Protestants* Two Tenths; and *Quakers*, and other Religions, One Tenth. . . .

Simon Question, English farmer. *Who are these Slaves you speak of? And why are there so call'd? What Slavery are they oblig'd unto? And in what Manner are they kept by their Masters?*

SLAVES &
INDENTURED SERVANTS

James Freeman, Carolina planter. Those we call *Slaves* are a sort of Black People, here commonly call'd *Blackmoors*, some few kept here in *England* by Gentry for their Pleasure, but are there [in

² Instead of using Norris's speaker designations of "S. Question" and "J. Freeman," the speakers are identified here as "Simon Question, English farmer" and "James Freeman, Carolina planter." [NHC]

England] bought by the Inhabitants from the Merchants Trading to *Guinea* and other Places, where they are first brought from; but their proper Names are *Negroes*. These People are bought to Employ them in any sort of Labor, either in Town or Country, in whatever their Masters or Owners have occasion to be done — the Townsman for his Business, and the Country Farmer, which we call there Planters, about their Husbandry [farming] or Houswifery Business, as Servants are here requir'd to do for their Masters or Mistresses. When these People are thus bought, their Masters or Owners, have then as good a Right and Title to them during their Lives as a Man has here to a Horse or Ox after he has bought them: And there is a Necessity for these Slaves, because very few Servants are there to be procured to perform the Business of the Country.

There is also another sort of People we buy for Slaves, call'd *Indians*, bred on the Continent, but far distant from us, belonging to the *French* and *Spanish* Territories in *America*. They are a sort of Red Dun, or Tan'd Skin'd People, who are also Sold us by Merchants or Traders that deal with several Nations of our Native *Indians*, from whom they first buy these People, whom we then make Slaves of, as of the *Negroes*; and they are call'd Slaves, not because their Labor is more Slavish or Servile than Servants' Labor is here, nor often times so hard to perform as the Labor requir'd from Servants in this Country, but 'tis because they are never Free-Men or Women during their Life, nor their Children after them, who are under the same Circumstances of Servitude as their Parents are, during their Lives also.

Simon Question, English farmer. *But do not English People, and others, when they come first into the Country, become Slaves There, as it is generally said they do in other English Plantations [colonies] in America?*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. No; there is, of a Truth, no such Thing as *Christian Slaves*, made of People coming from any part of the Queen's Dominions; for that which is generally talk'd of Peoples being made Slaves is no more but this: When any Men or Women that are desirous to Transport themselves thither and are not of Ability to pay their own Passage over, they are generally oblig'd by Indentures, before their Departure hence, to serve in that Country, as Servants or Apprentices do here, for the Term of Four Years, to commence from the Time of their Arrival and no longer; their Masters or Mistresses, in the mean Time, giving them sufficient Clothing and other Necessaries, or Paying them sufficient Wages so to do; and at the Four Years' End they are then become free from their Service, and no Man can longer detain them, they being then at Liberty to follow what lawful Business they please to undertake to their own Advantage and Satisfaction.

Simon Question, English farmer. *But I suppose the Labor, both of Men and Women Servants, is generally more servile and laborious than here in England, whether for Husbandry or Huswifery Business as the Country affords?*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. Their Labour there is not, in Reality, as hard as it generally is in *England* for Men nor Women; neither, as I mention'd before, do our Slaves undergo the Hardships that many Thousand Servants and pour Laborers do in *England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland*, which those that come from these Places as Servants doth find by common Experience.

Simon Question, English farmer. *I would desire you to relate to me the Kinds of Labor there for Men and Women; But first, if you please, acquaint me with the Nature of the Climate, the Soil, and Production of the Country; what Sorts of Timber you have; and what Sorts of Grain is most usual amongst you: But, before you enter thereon, let us take a hearty Glass of Cider, for Discourse is dry: Come, Friend, here's to you a full Bumper.*

CLIMATE, LAND,
TREES, GRAINS

James Freeman, Carolina planter. I'll heartily pledge you, and then proceed. The Country lies, as I told you before, between 29 and 36 Degrees *North* Latitude, and, as I guess, *South West* from the

Land's End of *England*, and about Eleven Hundred Leagues distant from thence, which causes the Climate to be hotter there than here in *England*, especially in the Months of *June*, *July*, and *August*, but the rest of the Year is moderate, not too hot, nor never such violent Frosts as here; second or never that Snow falls and lies there to cover the Ground. . .

The greatest Part of the Year round seems very pleasant and delightful, and is generally Healthful to most People that live Temperate and not drink Immoderately or use immoderate Exercises, thereby destroying Health, and too often their Life also. Although the Summer Months seem burdensome to some People, yet the Convenience of shady Groves, open Air, Arbors, Summer-Houses, and frequent cool Bathings makes amends sufficiently for Inconvenience.

The Country where it is yet Inhabited along the Sea-shore, and near 200 Miles back, is plain and level Land, few Rising Hills above 30 Foot higher than the lowest Land; the Soil is generally Shady, but of differing Colours, under which, Two or Three Foot Deep, is Clay of which good Bricks are made. It naturally produces many Sorts of Timber and Shrubs, usual in *England*, and many more not Growing here. There are several Sorts of Oak, distinguish'd by these several Names, as *White* of Two Sorts, *Red*, *Spanish*, *Water*, and *Live Oak*, the latter so call'd because the Leaves continue green thereon all the Winter and is esteem'd to be as lasting as the best *English Oak*, but the other Sorts are not . . .

The Sorts of Grain most useful is several kinds of *Indian Corn*, which People here call *Virginia Wheat*. There is near Twenty Sorts of *Indian Peas* and *Beans*, some of them very good for Food, exceeding the best *English Peas*. There grows plentifully the best Rice that is brought to *England* from any Part of the World. We have Two or Three Sorts thereof. *English Wheat*, *Barley*, *Peas*, *Oats*, and *Rye* will thrive well there, but the Inhabitants are not yet accusom'd to sow much thereof for Reasons I shall after acquaint you. We have *Tobacco* which is much esteem'd, and preferr'd before *Virginia Tobacco*, yet not planted for Transportation [commerce].

. . .

Simon Question, English farmer. *But, I suppose, Servants and Slaves are not permitted by their Masters to spend Time, Daily, thus in Refreshing themselves; they are probably, obliged to follow their Labor, both in Wet and Heat; and I guess a Servant, if he contradicts his Master's pleasure therein, must expect Correction or Punishment for any Neglect or Misdemeanor?*

HEALTH & LABOR
OF SLAVES &
INDENTURED
SERVANTS

James Freeman, Carolina planter. But it is no Master's Interest to oblige Servants, nor Slaves to Toil and Labor so as to destroy their Health, which will thereby prevent the performing of their Daily Labor. If a Man, in the Summer, begins his Labor early in the Morning, as is usual, for the benefit of cool Working, and end late in the Evening, he may well spare time in the middle of the Day to Refresh himself. And as for Servants receiving from their Masters undeserved Correction, the Laws of the Country doth protect them, as here; and if on sufficient Complaint and Proof to the Governor or Magistrates, that they are Abused, they shall be by them set free to the remainder of their Time they have to Serve: But nevertheless, Servants are not Tolerated, nor Allow'd by Law, or Custom, to commit willful and voluntary Offences against their Masters, either in Word or Deed, to their Prejudice.

Simon Question, English farmer. *What? Have you a Governor, and Parliament to make Laws, and Magistrates, and other Officers to see and put the Laws in execution, as is customary in England?*

GOVERNMENT

James Freeman, Carolina planter. We have a Governor, deputed by Commission from the Lords Proprietors of the Province, which, in some Cases, has a resemblance to a King or Queen in respect of Government; He Commissions Justices of the Peace for each Count, and other Officers, Civil, and Military. . . .

Simon Question, English farmer. *Does your Parliament lay Taxes and Impositions on the Subjects [People] to help support and maintain the Wars and other necessary expenses of the Crown of England; or only for the necessary Uses and Expenses of your own Province? Or what proportion may it bear with our Taxes here in England? Or do you not esteem our Enemies are Yours?*

TAXES

James Freeman, Carolina planter. . . . Our Taxes, if any [there] are, ought to be employ'd only to the Country's [colony's] Use. I have not known, or heard of only one Tax, generally throughout the whole Country, which was employ'd to the Fortifying of *Charles Town*, the Chiefest Town in the Province. For the necessary Occasions of the Public is supply'd by an Imposition or Duty charg'd on Goods Imported or Exported, which is paid into the Public Treasury. . . .

Simon Question, English farmer. *What Sort of Goods is generally imported into your Country, from England, Scotland, or Ireland?*

IMPORTED &
EXPORTED
GOODS

James Freeman, Carolina planter. Linen and Wool of most Sorts for Clothing, especially that which is fine; most Sorts of Household Goods; Edge Tools for Tradesmen's Uses; Nails; Axes; Saws; Hoes; and other Tools for Planters' Use: Guns; Powder; Shot; Bullets; and many Sorts of Necessaries for the *Indians'* Uses, which I cannot now name.

Simon Question, English farmer. *And what Sorts of Goods do you export, or send off, from thence to England, and other Places you Trade withal?*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. Our chiefest Commodities sent here to *England* is our most excellent Rice, of which comes great Quantities; and great Numbers of Deers-Skins sold to our Merchants, or Traders, by the Native *Indians*; also great Quantities of Pitch and Tar; some Rosin and Turpentine and Hatters' Furs: To the *West-India* Islands and other Places is sent Beef, Pork, Tallow, Hides, Leather, Candles, Myrtle and Bees-Wax, Corn, Peas, Barrel, Hogshead, and Pipe-Staves, Cyprus, Shingles, Cedar, and many other Commodities I cannot at present remember.

. . .

Simon Question, English farmer. *Is the Making of Tar and Pitch very advantageous to the Country Planters that can, conveniently, otherwise employ their Family of Slaves or Servants in Planting of Corn and Rice?*

ENSLAVED
& SERVANT
LABOR

James Freeman, Carolina planter. To those that has Plenty of that Wood of which it is made, they find it very profitable, and would give great Wages to hire *Negroe-men* for the Purpose, if they could be procur'd at Hire.

Simon Question, English farmer. *What? Are Servants and Slaves so scarce as not to be hir'd for the Country Planter's Convenience to manage their Plantations to the best Advantage?*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. 'Tis very rare that any Freeman will hire himself to Labor after his Term of Four Years are expir'd, by reason they can employ themselves very advantageously in their own Business and on their own Land by Planting of Corn and Rice, as aforesaid; and 'tis also very seldom that any Man will hire out his Slaves to others, but will employ them in following Plantation Business for himself, their Labor being well paid for in their Crops: Or otherwise if they make Tar and Pitch; the Planter needing not fear to get Sale for his Goods, for Merchants Shipping from *England*, and elsewhere, is seldom wanting at *Charles Town* to carry off the Commodities of the Country, which generally sells at very good Prices for the Planters' Gain and Advantage.

Simon Question, English farmer. *But how shall a Man, when first free of his Time, employ himself on his own Land, unless he hire himself a considerable Time at Yearly Wages, or otherwise, to get Money to purchase Land, Implements of Husbandry, and some Stock to begin with?*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. When a Servant hath serv'd his time, he may, on Request to the proper Officer, have land assign'd him from the Lords Proprietors as an Encouragement to People to resort thither, only paying a small Yearly Rent, and then, if he is an industrious laboring Man, he may be credited by the Town's Merchants, or Shop-keepers, for necessary Implements for his present Use, and likewise with his Neighbors for a little Stock to being withal, and then by his Care and Industry in a few Years, especially if his Hogs thrive well, he'll be able to enlarge his Stock of Cattle and purchase more Land, and also, by Degrees, purchase Slaves to work with him in his Plantation.

Simon Question, English farmer. *What Price may a Man purchase a Slave for at the best Hand? And what Sorts of Money is current for Payment, and what Value is it in Proportion to Money here in England?*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. An Indian Man or Woman may cost 18 or 20 Pound, but a good Negro is worth twice that Sum; we have passing as currency amongst us the Spanish Money, Pieces of differing Value according to its Weight, the smallest Money that we have is call'd Half a Ryal, in Value with us Three-pence Three Farthings, then a whole Ryall Seven-pence half-penny, and double Ryall Fifteen-pence, all which passes by Tale, so doth Dutch Dollars at Five Shillings, and Half Dollars at Two Shillings and Six-pence; but all the other, except Mill'd Money, goes by Weight, either Silver or gold; the English Crown is there worth Seven Shillings and Six-pence, and other Money, whether Silver or gold, by Weight or Tale, is valued near the Same Proportion in all our Payments; we have also, of late, stamp'd Bills of Credit on our Public, payable and current as Money from Hand to Hand, these Bills are of several Values, and at last, payable out of the Public Treasury of the Country.

Simon Question, English farmer. *I see it hazardous for a Man to give so much Money for a Slave, and that Slave may soon die, then all his Money is lost.*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. Is it not so here, If a Man purchase Cattle or Horses, how can he be assur'd of their Lives? Yet we have a greater Encouragement to buy Slaves, for with good Management and Success, a Man's Slave will, by his Labor, pay for his first Cost in about four Years at most, besides his Maintenance, so, the Remainder of his Life, you have his Labor as free Gain, we esteem their Eating and Wearing as little, for that rises on the Plantation and is little cost out of Pocket. When they are employ'd chiefly on planting Rice, and it proves well, a Slave's Year's Work may be worth the Master 25 or 30 Pounds a Year of the Crops of Rice that their Slaves doth plant, hoe, and manage for them as aforesaid.

Simon Question, English farmer. *Suppose a Man and his Wife come free into the Country by Paying for their Passage, and have not wherewithal left, or are not willing or desirous to enter forthwith on a Plantation of their own, and in Business of that Nature for themselves, what Methods would be proper, or may such take after they come there, before they are better able to settle for themselves?*

**EARNING MONEY
AS NEWCOMERS
TO BUY LAND**

James Freeman, Carolina planter. Such may hire themselves to some planter, to be Overseer over the Slaves, and take care to Command and Direct them in their Work without in the field, and the Woman to manage within, for which they may have 25 or 30 *l. per Annum* Wages, if not more, if well capable of that Employment; or otherwise, they may agree (as is frequently done) with some planter to Live on some other Plantation of his, not what himself Lives on, for it's very common for Men to keep several plantations at once in their own Hands to manage: Then, when such agreement is made for two or three Years whereon they sometimes have a Slave or two to help them in their Management, with whatever Stock the Owner hath on the Plantation: The Owner allowing him, or them, to Order Business thereon to their best Discretion for Profit; out of which Profit, for their Care and Management of the Business, they usually have, according to the

quantity of the *stock* thereon, one fourth, sixth, or eighth part of all the Calves that are Yearly fallen, which Bred up, and divided at about a Year Old, but continu'd to Graze on the same Land till their Time is expir'd; and one half of the Increase, or Profit from the Hogs, or Swine, and one half of the Corn, Pease, and Rice, they can sell from off the Plantation, and half of the Profit, if any arise, from the Dairy, Fowls, and the like, besides what they have occasion to spend, or use in the Family; all which, in a few Years, enables a careful Man and his Wife to settle well on a Plantation of their own, with Stock and Crop rais'd by them on another Man's Plantation, which many have done at their first beginning, and are now masters and Owners of Plantations, Stock, & Slaves, on which they Live very plentifully, without being oblig'd to Labor themselves, as most Jusment-renters are here, or Men of small Estates; neither are Men necessitated to straighten themselves often, with providing, Quarterly, or oftener, to pay great Taxes, Rates, Rents, and Assessments as here, which takes from an *Industrious Man* the Profit of his own laborious Care and Industry.

...

Simon Question, English farmer. *What Sorts of wild Beasts have you, that is serviceable to Eat when a Man hath kill'd them?*

"WILD BEASTS"

James Freeman, Carolina planter. Bears, Young or Old, if Fat, is much esteem'd by many Men, that the Flesh is almost comparable to Hog's or Swine's Flesh; Deer's Flesh is the same as here, but not so much esteem'd, because so common that few Planters, especially in the Out settlements, is not long without some in their Houses; for *Deer* is very plentiful in the Woods; and men are not hinder'd, as here, from killing them, or any other wild Creatures. We have store of *Rabbits*, which, in shape and bigness, are much like the *Hares* in *England*, but not in color; and *Squirrels* also, which are very good Meat. *Raccoon's* Flesh, tho' smaller than *Mutton*, hath much the same Taste, and is commonly kill'd with Dogs, which is a good Recreation: But *Wolves*, *Tigers*, *Foxes*, *Alligators*, and *Possums* are not Eaten, unless by Native *Indians*, who often use them at their Pleasure, to Eat as other Flesh. . . .

Simon Question, English farmer. *My Friend, I fear I have tir'd you in Answering me so many Questions, and yet I have more to ask to the same Purpose, but, first, pray accept of a West Country Farmer's Dinner, a good Piece of Fat Beef, and Plumb-Pudding, with some other Necessaries, to which, and our Country Liquors, you are heartily welcome, and afterward I will again desire a Continuance of our Discourse on this Subject.*

James Freeman, Carolina planter. I freely accept your Offer.

The End of the First Part
