

U. H. J. of the Portuguese Islands sometimes one or two some times three in a year, And for severall years none.

This Province has very little Trade with any part of Europe besides Great Brittain & that Confined to a few Voyages by three or four Small Vessells in Severall Years past to Lisbon which carried Grain and Lumber thither.

All the Commodities ever Exported to and Imported from any of the Foreign Plantations belonging to the French and Dutch, by the Inhabitants of this Province that we could learn has only been the lading of the small Vessell already mentioned which carried Lumber & provisions & brought back Mellasses, Save that some times when Vessells have been Disappointed of their lading in his Majesties Colonies they have taken in some Salt in the said foreign Plantations.

The Trade to Madeira and other Portuguese Islands has been more Considerable: Some times one Small Vessell and some times two or three but never more that we can learn (belonging to this Province) have gone thither in a year; which Vessells have carried wheat Indian Corne & other Provisions and Staves, and brought back Madeira & other wines of the produce of those Islands and Salt.

As to Vessells belonging to other parts of His Majesties Dominions whose ladings are purchased in this Province we cannot give any Account of them.

p. 154 The Climate here is Moderate and the Soile productive of all Sorts of Grain & many Sorts of fruit and has great Quantities of valuable Timber & in many places good pasturage, And the Rivers and Bay full of great Variety of fish especially Herrings But the Inhabitants ever since the first Settlement of this Country have Applied themselves principally to the making Tobacco which is our only Staple Neglecting Manufactures & Tillage when Tobacco has been valuable, The produce of that Commodity alone being then Sufficient to Supply the People with Cloathing & other Necessarys in Great plenty from Great Brittain with an Overplus in money which has alwayes been lodged there not only as the Securest but the most advantagous Repository whence the People could be Supplied with every thing for their own use or for Traffick, Hence it has happened that the People have received very little Advantage from a Moderate Climate & a fertile and fruitfull Soil, besides provisions & the produce of their Tobacco which for severall Years past has really been so very low that it would not Supply the Inhabitants with one halfe of the Necessarys of Life and the Expectation of an Amendment has occasioned their continuing in the old beaten Tract so long that they are now reduced to an Incapacity to carry on any considerable Trade or Manufactures; It is true that Extreme want and Necessity have driven some of the Poorer Sort of People