PRACTICAL RULES

FOR THE

MANAGEMENT

AND

MEDICAL TREATMENT

OF

NEGRO SLAVES,

IN THE

SUGAR COLONIES.

BL. ST.
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1650

By a PROFESSIONAL PLANTER.

London:

PRINTED BY J. BARFIELD, WARDOUR-STREET, SOHO,
PRINTER TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE REGENT,
FOR
VERNOR, HOOD, AND SHARP, IN THE POULTRY; AND
HATCHARD, PICCADILLY.

1811.

CONTENTS.

Page

Introduction 1

Part the First.

Chap.

I. On Negro Slaves 29
II. On the Seasoning of Negroes . . 44
III. On Diet 74
IV. On Clothing 104
V. On Lodging 113
VI. On Breeding 130
VII. On Labour 150
VIII. On Discipline 169
IX. On Religion 183

Part the Second.

	Page		Page
On the Sick . .	199	Small-Pox . .	274
On the Hospital .	217	Cow-Pox . .	280
Disorders of the Bowels	229	Measles . .	283
Colic, or Belly-ache	230	Sore Eyes . .	287
Diarrhœa, or Purging	239	Rheumatism .	290
Dysentery, or Bloody-flux	247	Mal d'Estomach .	293
Fevers . .	259	Dropsy . .	300
Simple Fever .	262	Locked Jaw . .	309
Intermittent Fever	263	Tooth-ache . .	313
Inflammatory Fever	266	Coughs . .	316
Putrid Sore Throat	269	Pulmonary Consumption . .	318
Inflammatory Sore Throat . .	273	Hooping Cough .	321

	Page		Page
Gravel . .	323	Shingles . .	369
Obstructions .	325	Ruptures . .	370
Fluor Albus . .	328	Falling-down of the Womb . .	371
Leprosy . .	330	Ulcers . .	373
Elephantiasis .	333	Burns and Scalds .	381
Worms . .	334	Pregnant Women .	382
Ascarides . .	354	Abortion . .	384
Long Round Worms	335	Child-bed . .	386
Tape-Worm . .	340	New-born Infants .	390
Guinea Worms .	342	The Thrush . .	391
Chigoes . .	345	Colics . . .	392
Venereal Disease .	348	Purgings . .	392
Virulent Gonorrhœa	348	Teething . .	393
Yaws . .	353	Food . .	395
Tubboes . .	363	Appendix . .	397
Itch . . .	366		
Ringworms . .	368		

INTRODUCTION.

FEW subjects have engaged more of the public attention, or been productive of so warm a contest of pens, as that of the Slave-trade; the proposal for its abolition having occupied the deliberations of parliament, more or less, for twelve successive sessions; and given birth to an innumerable swarm of pamphlets, tending much more to the emoluments of the booksellers, than to the edification of the public.

From the Slave-trade, the question was extended to slavery itself; and it became a subject of debate whether, in the order of Providence, man was ever intended to be a slave? This point would not have been decided, probably, at the present day, had not the state chymists of France projected a grand experiment, in the course of which they expended three or four millions of their fellow citizens, but by which they were enabled to ascertain, that an enslaved Frenchman, when put into a political crucible, and excited to ebullition, though he might emit some pestilent fumes, yet would he still retain all his fixed elements, and, when cold, turn out as great a slave as ever.