

I have read some books wrote by people who were acquainted with the manner of getting slaves in Africa.

I have had verbal relations of this nature from several Negroes brought from Africa, who have learned to talk English.

I have fundry times heard Englishmen speak on this subject, who have been in Africa on this business; and from all these accounts it appears evident that great violence is committed, and much blood shed in Africa in getting slaves.

When three or four hundred slaves are put in the hold of a vessel in a hot climate, their breathing soon affects the air. Were that number of free people to go passengers with all things proper for their voyage, there would inconvenience arise from their number; but slaves are taken by violence, and frequently endeavour to kill the white people, that they may return to their native land. Hence they are frequently kept under such a sort of confinement, by means of which a scent ariseth in the hold of a ship, and distempers often break out amongst them, of which many die. Of this tainted air in the hold of ships freighted with slaves, I have had several accounts, some in print, and some verbal, and all agree that the scent is grievous. When these people are sold in America, and in the islands, they are made to labour in a manner more servile and constant, than that which they were used to at home, that