

rum punchons are made, is the most important of supplies to the West-Indies, as I have already demonstrated, and the want of it affords an additional reason for placing very little dependance on either of those ill-fated provinces*.

The papers, which I shall subjoin in an Appendix, have anticipated in part an observation wherein our humanity, as well as policy, is more interested than in any other. It arises from the dreadful conflagration which a few years ago reduced the large and opulent emporium of Jamaica to ashes, and the still more dreadful hurricanes, in which the angel of desolation visited in his wrath great part of that extensive country, and the whole of some of the islands to windward:—Ever since those calamities, the suffering inhabitants have resided in miserable hovels, by no means a sufficient defence against the autumnal seasons, in confident expectation that the return of peace would enable them to procure materials for repairing their dwelling houses, and the re-establishment of their mills and manufactories; and accordingly America, on the very first moment of reconciliation, hastened to their relief. How grievous then is their disappointment! yet this is but a very small part of the evil. It has been shewn in the state of the

* *Beech* from England has served to make sugar hogheads, but will not answer for rum; nor any wood that I am acquainted with but *oak*.

imports