

merable, harmless, and happy population; the ferocious invaders destroying one another, and heaping their dead bodies upon those of their victims; and the traffic of man, sold and purchased by his fellow-men, introduced in order to replace the population thus destroyed, and to assist in procuring those metals which have been the cause of so many crimes, or to cultivate that ground still reeking with the blood of its lawful possessors; — when we reflect that the West Indian Islands, which, when first discovered, afforded a peaceable and even delightful retreat to their inhabitants, became, after a few bloody years, so many frightful solitudes, impervious and unwholesome, the hot-bed of fevers, doomed for ever after to destroy the strength, the health, the lives of their visitors, and to communicate to more salubrious climates the contamination of their infected atmosphere;—it may be asked, are not the advantages obtained by this discovery counterbalanced, or at least considerably embittered, by the reflection of the price which humanity has paid for them?