

The West India planters undoubtedly would derive great advantage from the shipping of the American States being permitted to carry their produce to any part of the world; the value of their produce would be much raised, and the price of freight would be much lowered by the competition; but surely they are liberal men, and, on reflection, will not, from the most self-interested motive, wish the greatest mischief to the empire. Many do not; if any should, we must not, for their emolument, sacrifice the marine of England, and the advantages of their trade. Much may be done in other ways for the West India planters and merchants. It is to be hoped they will be relieved in the manner of paying duties, and some perhaps might be lowered; more efficacious means might be taken to prevent smuggling foreign produce into these kingdoms; and it is to be wished the state of the country would allow the duty on rum to be lowered; perhaps it would be the most effectual means of preventing the smuggling of French brandies among us. Delays at the Custom House may be removed, and reforms made there in many points to the advantage of the trader and the revenue. Encouragement undoubtedly might be given to the growth of indigo, coffee, cocoa, and tobacco, on such lands as, from soil and situation, are unfit for the culture of sugar; and there are great tracts of uncultivated lands very fit for those articles. Cotton also might be a valuable produce.

Our West India islands will have many advantages in North America. The States cannot get rum elsewhere in any quantity, of a good quality; \* and though much was distilled by the New-Englanders from molasses imported from the French islands, it was of a bad quality, and was exported. A great part of their own consumption was supplied from our islands, and has been stated before as one of their greatest imports. The importation into Canada and Nova Scotia of the inferior rum distilled by the American States, should be prohibited; \* and also the use of foreign sugars in those colonies must be prevented.

The

*each horse exported from Canada, and landed in the West Indies. To encourage mills, one shilling per cwt. on biscuit or flour exported. One shilling on every quintal of fish to the West Indies. Five shillings per 1000 feet on lumber, boards, scantlings, saws, &c.*

† *There is only one capital mill now in Canada.*

\* *The rum from Demerara, which is in great part settled by planters from Barbadoes, is good, but the quantity is inconsiderable.*

‡ *Nova Scotia, St. John's, and Canada, have distilleries already, which may be greatly increased, and soon, in favour of these distilleries, rum imported into Canada and Nova Scotia, pay 1s. per gallon, which goes to the support of their civil government. The molasses imported pay only one 1d. One hundred gallons of common molasses make 100 gallons of rum. The better sort will make 105 gallons.*