

“ and with a higher and more stubborn spirit,
 “ attached to liberty, than those to the North-
 “ ward. Such were all the ancient common-
 “ wealths; such were our Gothick ancestors;
 “ such in our days are the Poles; and such will
 “ be all masters of slaves, who are not slaves
 “ themselves (c).”

POSSIBLY too, the climate itself, by increasing sensibility, contributes to create an impatience of subordination. But, whatever may be the cause of this consciousness of self-importance in the West Indian character, the consequences resulting from it are, on the whole, beneficial. If it sometimes produces an ostentatious pride, and a ridiculous affectation of splendour, it more frequently awakens the laudable propensities of our nature—frankness, sociability, benevolence, and generosity. In no part of the globe is the virtue of hospitality more generally prevalent, than in the British Sugar Islands. The gates of the planter are always open to the reception of his guests. To be a stranger is of itself a sufficient introduction. This species of hospitality is indeed carried so far, that, as Mr. Long has remarked, there is not one tolerable inn throughout all the West Indies (d).

To

(c) Burke's Speech in Parliament, 22 March, 1775.

(d) There are some peculiarities in the habits of life of the White Inhabitants, which cannot fail to catch the eye of an European newly arrived; one of which is the contrast be-

tween

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Negroes, or Na-
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nt of Negroes on
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