

tion which I might chance to collect. In looking over my journal, however, I found that my notes had swelled to a bulk which might warrant their being put into "ship-shape" and printed. It is not, however, without diffidence that I have adopted this plan, and a natural hesitation at appearing in print must plead my excuse for a delay which was not absolutely necessary.

In the West Indies, there is much to be seen, and much to be done, but it was in the part of a looker-on that I principally employed myself. The burden of doing what has yet to be done in these colonies, has happily not devolved on our shoulders.

For much of the detailed information I have been able to give you respecting the cultivation of the sugar-cane and the manufacture of sugar, I am indebted to my brother, Robert Wilson, Esq., whose estates are situated in the most fertile sugar growing districts of Trinidad, and the excellence of whose method of planting is aptly expressed by the name of one of his estates "*Ne plus ultra*." To his amiable wife also, I am indebted for many of those little kindnesses the peculiar province of females, which serve to render the sojourn of a stranger within the tropics especially agreeable.