

sensible, had fallen to the French arms, through their neglect of that island, occasioned by too much attention paid to the French threats to in-

The view of this society, therefore, is to encourage the industrious poor to send their children to sea, and invite the vagabond and pilferer, not only boys and lads, but men, to become useful to the state by the following advantages.

1. They shall be received immediately upon application, and taken care of in a proper place, where they will be accommodated with fire and beds, and three meals a day, of good bread and broth, and roots, and meat, till they are sent on board.

2. If any that offer are distempered, they are immediately put under proper methods of cure, and when they are sent on board they are compleatly fitted out with cloathing and bedding.

Thus are men and boys stripped of their rags, cured of their distempers, and sent clean and well cloathed, with as good bedding and accommodations as any common seaman on board. As to the lads, if they are sixteen or seventeen, they are very soon qualified to receive wages as seamen; and as to the men, the distinction between landmen and seamen on board, which used to create animosity, and subject the landmen to some hardships, is lost, as they are no longer known by their apparel.

These accommodations, besides that they are an immediate inducement to lads and men to enter, are so necessary to health and life, that for want of them many have miserably perished, who might otherwise have been of singular service to their country.

The advantages are not less to the community than to the individual; for it procures a speedy supply of stout mariners in the room of those, who, in the prosecution of a war, must necessarily be cut off, at the same time that those evils are prevented, which the idle and dissolute poor of the rising generation would produce, if they had continued at home.