

the attention which seemed to be paid to the manufacture, that it will ere long be able to furnish leather of equal quality to any imported.

" 2dly, That in the School of Industry they found about forty boys of free condition, and of colour, or black, who had been apprenticed at various periods since the 1st January 1826, and were employed in making boots and shoes under the direction of white persons bred to the business. They received weekly wages of from 5s. to 13s. 4d., according to their attention and ability; but, as the committee were informed, had previously been without any means of earning a maintenance, and many among them in habits of idleness and vice. The several articles manufactured by them appeared to be well made, and the committee learned that they had proved, on trial, to be as serviceable as those imported, and even better, because they had been made to order, and of fresh materials, and that they were afforded at a price not greater than the cost of imported articles.

" 3dly, That they found the tannery in full activity, and conducted by intelligent tanners and curriers from England, the former of whom use little else in tanning than materials naturally produced in the West Indies, and who being greatly favoured besides by the climate, are enabled to complete the process of tanning in less than half the time required in Europe; and that an important consequence which they had ascertained to have been effected by this establishment, was the reduction of the value of English leather to one-half of its former price, that