

receive the Advantage in the Price of his Sugar before the Molasses is separated from it by the Refiner; because the Spirits extracted from the Molasses would keep up its Price, according to its Fineness and nearness in Quality to *French Brandy*; and thereby stand in Competition with smuggled *French Brandy*, to the Prejudice of the *French Nation*, and without interfering in the least with *British Malt-Spirits*, as the Price of these fine Molasses-Spirits will be far beyond that of Malt-Spirits, and consequently beyond the Reach of the lower Sort of People.

Nº II.

THAT the $4 \frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Duty paid in *Barbados* and the *Leeward Islands* be abolish'd, and that the Uses of that Duty be paid out of some other Fund.

OBSERVATIONS.

THE Planters of *Barbados* and the *Leeward Islands* labour under great Hardships from the Duty of $4 \frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. paid there on the Exportation of all their dead Products, since the Planters pay it all, whilst a great Proportion of their rich Inhabitants do not pay a Shilling towards this publick Tax, notwithstanding it is apply'd chiefly towards the publick Expence, for the Use of the Inhabitants in general: Besides, the annual Sum paid into his Majesty's Exchequer in *London*, from this Duty, is but a * Trifle in proportion to the Burthen that lies on those laborious and indefatigable Sugar-Planters who pay it.

It was propos'd a few Years since, by a noble Lord in one House, and by a worthy Member in the other, that this burthensome Duty should be taken off; and it was further propos'd, that a Sum

* From 6000 l. to 9000 l. Sterling per Annum.