

*gree, re-establish their Marine)* although I think, their dilatory and elusive Pro-

highly penal, or indeed capital, to hold any Traffick with the *Indians*, unless in certain established Marts, would render it impossible for them to obtain such Quantities, as to enable them to enter into a regular systematical War with us. They might perhaps, indeed, (if it was worth their while) smuggle from our Frontier Towns, small Parcels sufficient for temporary hunting, but this could be attended with no ill Consequences. Over these Marts proper Persons should be appointed to superintend an Office, which the Commanding Officers of the respective Posts are, I think, full as well qualified to execute as any other Persons; for it may be asserted, (to the Honour of the Gentlemen of the Army) that the Majority of them (*provided the Temptation is not too vast, or their Power of too long Continuance*) have some Sense of Honour, and some Regard for their Country; an Assertion, which might perhaps be deemed rash in Favour of any other Order of Men. Indeed, I was once weak enough to wish, that the Management of the *Indians* might have been left solely to Sir *William Johnson*; but since that wonderful Discovery has been made, how dangerous a Popularity this Gentleman might acquire amongst them, by observing that Rule of Conduct which he laid down to himself, and which ignorant People (who are Strangers to the Ambition of the Man) call *Candour, Benevolence, and Justice*, I can by no Means think it adviseable, that he should be any longer intrusted.

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