## AN ESSAY ON TRADE. 151

Brandies, Cloths, Suffs, Ribbands, Fans, Toys, &c. And the French would take very little or nothing in Return, more than at present. The Experiment therefore which he proposes, seems to me too hazardous; the bad Effects of it would be violent and instantaneous, and the good ones very slow and gradual; so that the Patient would be in Danger of expiring, as is often the Case, before the Medicine can operate.

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BESIDES, Were we to give such Encouragement to the French Wines, as is here supposed, what would become of our Portugal Trade? which, as to the Balance of it, is worth two Thirds of all the rest. The Court of Portugal would lay an high Duty, and perhaps a Prohibition, upon all British Commodities, the Moment they sound we did not give due Encouragement to theirs: Which indeed by Publick Treaty we are bound to do. And the French have always viewed this gainful Trade with a longing Eye; and would be glad to put in for it, if they found any Opening.

But to return; As to the Scheme in general, it is certainly very good. Perhaps the Valuation of the Income supposed necessary for some sew of the principal Articles is set too high; being, I presume, calculated for the Meridian of London, and the adjacent

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