

" coast of Barbary. But what would be the consequence? They could send us no commodities; they could take none from us. Our domestic commerce itself would languish for want of emulation, instruction, and example; and we ourselves should soon fall into the same abject condition, to which we have reduced them \*."

These are the thoughts which have occurred to me upon the requisition from the Irish nation.

The third article for your deliberation, which I hinted at in the opening of this letter, is, the security of the empire in all its parts. A reconciliation with America, the restoration of peace to the minds of the Irish, and a liberal grant to them of the free exercise of their talents and of their industry for their own benefit, will enable us to look forward with hope to the final settlement of so great an object, which must have its foundation in a general peace; disordered and convulsed as the empire now is in every part by the mismanagement of those to whose charge it has been entrusted.

I cannot however close this address to you without some remarks upon a pamphlet, intitled, " A short History of the Opposition during the last Session of Parliament;" which by a specious advertisement, in the form of preface, promises to make a full discovery of the principal and real enemies to the dignity and peace of the British Empire. That the author of this pamphlet is able to discover and to point out, according to their degrees of guilt, those who come within such description, there is little doubt; but as he probably might involve himself or some of his nearest

\* Hume, Essay VI. Vol. I. p. 345.

friends