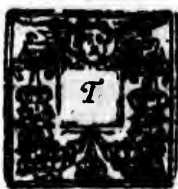




P R E F A C E.



THE Design of this Treatise is to shew the Advantages the French have gain'd over the English in several Branches of Commerce since the Peace of Utrecht, which is so astonishing as to require the most sericus Attention at this juncture.

WHETHER this rapid Encrease is owing to the Foundation or Policy of a Richlieu, a Colbert, a Fleury, or to the Want of a proper Method of Enquiry, on our Part, into the Nature of our Commercial Interest, or whether to any other Cause, I will not presume to say; but have here given a short State of the Progreß and Situation of the Commerce of both Nations.

I have also pointed out several Propositions, or Regulations, with a View to turn the Stream in favour of this Nation, which may all be reduced to the two following Points, viz.

First, To get Labour cheap in our Plantations, and to ease our Manufacturers and American Planters of burthensome Taxes and unnecessary Restrictions in Trade, that the Products of their Labour and Soil may be afforded cheaper at Home and Abroad.