

As I have, with some severity, animadverted on the Americans retaining, notwithstanding their own cry for liberty, their fellow-creatures in *perpetual slavery*, I thought it highly necessary, not only to decry this evil, but to point out a remedy, and one of such a nature, as should not clash with the interests of those whom the laws allow to oppress a part of their species; for this reason, I have added an Appendix on the Manumission of Slaves, which, without this observation, might appear foreign to the subject of this treatise—Should this mode of emancipation take place, even only in a few plantations, I shall esteem myself happy in being the fortunate means of promoting the liberty of such a part of my fellow-creatures.

I am not conscious of being prejudiced in favour of the one party or the other in the present unhappy contest with our American Colonies; at least I have endeavoured to be impartial, and believe I am actuated by a sincere love of my country, and earnest regard for the well-being of the whole empire.

I will not venture to say this treatise is free of errors, but hope that a variety of other avocations which demanded my attention will be a sufficient plea in my favour for any mistakes that may be found.

Since this book went to the press I have perused "Governor Pownall's Letter to Adam Smith, L. L. D. "F. R. S. on the subject of his *Enquiry into the natural Causes of the Wealth of Nations*." Now as I have made the *free import and export of provisions* the basis of many advantages to be derived to the empire, I am sorry, that although in most other points I agree with the Governor, we should in this so widely differ.

In page 29 of the Governor's Letter we read, "You think the restraints on live cattle and corn an unreasonable and ungenerous monopoly, in that the grazing and farming business of Great Britain could be but little affected by a free importation of these, and not in the least hurt. As, on the contrary, I think, any  
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