

In the East and West Indies, the conduct of Britain may be fairly contrasted with the murder of Antabalia, and will prove equally ruinous to the detested conquerors*.

While our sublime politicians exult in the victory of Seringapatam, and the butchery of the subjects of a prince, at the distance of six thousand leagues, I am convinced from the bottom of my heart, and so will the majority of my countrymen be, long before this century has elapsed, that it would be an event, the most auspicious both for Bengal and for Britain, if Cornwallis and all his myrmidons could be at once driven out of India.

But what quarter of the globe has not been convulsed by our ambition, our avarice, and our baseness? The tribes of the Pacific ocean are polluted by the most loathsome of diseases; our brandy has brutalized or extirpated the Indians of the western continent; and we have hired by thousands the wretched survivors to the task of bloodshed. On the shores of Africa, we bribe whole nations by drunkenness, to robbery and murder; while in the face of earth and heaven, our senators assemble to sanctify the practice.

* "The civil wars to which our violent desire of creating *Nabobs* gave rise, were attended with tragical events. Bengal was depopulated by every species of public distress. In the space of *six* years, half the great cities of this opulent kingdom were rendered desolate; the most fertile fields in the world lay waste; and *FIVE MILLIONS* of harmless and industrious people were either expelled or destroyed. Want of foresight became more fatal than innate barbarism; and men found themselves wading through *blood* and *ruin*, when their only object was *spoil*." *Dow's History of Indostan*, vol. iii. p. 70. This book was published in 1772, and the present quotation refers to our conduct at that period.

In this dreadful scene, the most distinguished actor was Lord Clive. But neither four millions Sterling, nor even immense quantities of opium could stifle in his bosom the agonies of reflection. In 1774, he cut his own throat.