

mercials considerations alone : he should consider how far the Empire may be weakened or aggrandized by the system of policy, to be adopted towards the Colonies ; he should look at the extent of territory which they contain, comprising thousands of acres of fertile soil, capable of maintaining a numerous population daily increasing ; at the salubrious though rigorous climate, which renders that population healthy, hardy, and enterprizing ; at the numerous minerals which will supply them with sources of industry, of comfort, and of commerce ; at the immense line of Coast, washed by waters filled with Fish, and abounding in commodious harbours, which the removal of these commercial restrictions, will fill with laborious Fishermen and enterprising Merchants ; and he should then ask himself if it would not be desirable for Great-Britain to retain her influence over such a Country, and to prevent it from throwing its strength into the scale of America ; if it would not be an object for the first Naval Power in the World, to call these commodious harbours her own, to identify the People of the Colonies with her native subjects, and thus ensure to herself the supply of Seamen which their Fisheries and Foreign Commerce would afford for her Navy ; to secure her West-Indian Possessions from the miseries they would endure in a future War with the United States, should these Colonies become part of that confederation ; and finally, to create a British People on this side of the Atlantic, who would feel as proud of their connexion with Great-Britain as the inhabitants of the United States can be of their boasted independence : that this would be desirable, can scarcely admit of a question, and would it not be an object worthy of the pursuit of an enlightened Statesman.

We cannot, it is true, dive into futurity, nor foretell with certainty what will be the fate of individuals or of nations, but a knowledge of their characters and circumstances will frequently enable us to form very probable conjectures respecting them ; and I think it is as practicable as it is desirable, to establish such feelings, as I have mentioned, throughout British America.

Those ideas of National Liberty, which, in Europe, formerly urged a race of feudal Vassals, to encounter every danger,

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