

vi INTRODUCTION.

Traffick, on which the *Prosperity* of himself and his Family, perhaps *totally, depends*, it is but reasonable to expect their Sentiments should *clash*.

HENCE therefore some have thought, That a Person of a *liberal* and *learned* Education, *not concerned* in Trade, is *better qualified* to engage in the Study of it as a SCIENCE, than a *Merchant* himself: because, say they, his Mind is *freer* from the Prejudice of *Self-Interest*, and therefore more open to *Conviction* in Things relating to the *General Good*. They add, That though he may not understand the *Buying* and *Selling* of particular Commodities, or the fittest *Time* to bring them to a *profitable* Market, (which is the *proper Province* of a Merchant) yet he may understand, in *what Respects* the *Nature* of *that Trade* contributes to the *Loss* or *Gain* of the *Publick*, with a Degree of Evidence, which perhaps the Merchant never thought of: as being indeed not concerned, *merely as a Merchant*, in *such kinds* of Disquisitions,

BUT without pretending to determine *who* are the best *qualified* to engage in the Study of this most useful and extensive Science, let Us rather humbly recommend it to the *Attention* of them *both*. For undoubtedly both have their Advantages; and perhaps the Application of both together, might be more successful