

harass it by a *systematic* course of the most *arbitrary inconsistency!*"

Again, the respect which is shewn to *other* classes of the community, is not greater than that borne to the Shipping Interest, and the expressions applied to the exertions of the West-India merchants*, to relieve the depressed state of the planters, as well as to other great commercial bodies†, evince such an antipathy to every thing not immediately connected with *American* interest, that it must produce on the public mind the correct conclusion, that every sacrifice, consistent with national honor, has been made by Great Britain to America, and convince them more strongly of the baneful effect of "*the system of concession*," which has been so justly and universally reprobated by every true Englishman; whilst the greatest caution and delicacy is observed towards the United States, and not to wound the feelings of the great body of merchants in *America*, who, honest souls! so little "deserve the *unjust insinuations* in which writers on this subject have so *illiberally* indulged‡."

The importance of this subject will, it is trusted, excuse the length of this digression, which may, with some propriety, be concluded in the words of this writer, that, "it is to be hoped no minister will be withheld, by political cowardice, from administering equitably and impartially, between the different commercial interests of the country; and that where the encouragement of *our shipping* requires restriction and monopolies, *which I by no means deny*, that their efficacy and utility will be thoroughly investigated§."

The other British settlements near to the King's colonies in North-America, are Cape Breton, Prince Edward's Island, and Newfoundland.

CAPE BRETON is separated from Nova-Scotia by a narrow strait, called the Gut of Canso, which is the communication between the Atlantic and the Gulf of St. Lawrence; it was ceded to Great Britain in 1763, and erected in 1784 into a separate government: there is a great proportion of arable land in this island, which abounds in timber and hard wood, such as pine, beech, birch, maple, spruce, and fir. The island may be considered as the key to Canada, and the

Cape
Breton.

* Mr. Baring's Examination, p. 121.

† Ibid. p. 56.

‡ Ibid. p. 168.

§ Ibid. 171.