

it is not merely numbers that constitutes the strength of a community, but also the subordination of such numbers, their virtue, health and valour; and as these numbers will gradually decrease when the means of supporting themselves fail, and can be increased no longer than while such means continue, they must of necessity have some employment. This employment we may call *TRADE*; whenever it furnishes one individual with something that he exchanges with another, whether it consists in growing corn or in procuring furs. I am sensible that I use the word in a larger sense than common; as well as a different one, not for the *exchange* itself, but the *employ* belonging to such exchange: however, as the good arising to a trading nation springs not so much from the *exchange* itself as the *employ*, I shall think myself justified in using the word *Trade* as now mentioned.

Having cleared the way thus far, I go on to observe, that a small part of a large community being able to grow and get in order corn sufficient for the support of the whole, and to raise all other necessaries, which they will consider as their own property being procured by their own labours, the other part of the community must be employed in obtaining something to give in exchange; and whenever by reason of circumstances the poorer sort of people find it extremely difficult or next to impossible to procure by their industry, where-withal to make an exchange for the necessaries, and some of the conveniencies of life, they are discouraged