

they charged with any such Design. But the Question here is, Not what was the View of Makers of these Laws, or what was the End proposed by such Establishments, but what is the *Tendency* of them, as verified by *Experience*, and how they do *operate* in Fact? And if it is made to appear, That they are so destructive in their Consequences, and subversive of our *Morals*, *Liberties*, and *Commerce*, it is but of little Consolation to know, That they were established with a better View; as we are now considering the Things themselves, with their natural Consequences, not the Characters or Design of their Authors and Projectors.

I WILL only add one Reflection more to what has been said; *viz.* That if we would still keep on our Trade at a *Foreign* Market, we must, at least, be upon an *equal* Footing with *other* Nations, as to the *Goodness* and *Cheapness* of what we have to sell; otherwise we cannot expect, That Foreigners would give Us the Preference to their own Loss. This then being the State of the Case, it necessarily follows, That we must always have an Eye upon the Practice and Proceedings of our *Rivals*, and take our Measures accordingly, as far as regards this mutual Emulation. If they contrive Ways and Means to render their *Manufactures* cheaper or better than they did before, so as to outvie Us; we must strive to outvie