

Their *intrinsic* value consists in their *trade, situation, strength and fruitfulness*. The aggregate sum of the exports and imports to and from *North America*, in the year 1758, amounted to 2,481,631 l. 14 s. 2 d. The goods amounting to this sum, being many (if not most) of them of a bulky nature, must necessarily employ a considerable quantity of shipping and seamen in transporting them : but besides the great advantage arising from thence, it must be observed, that of these goods 1,832,948 l. 13 s. 10 d. worth, were exported from the mother country, and that numbers of our own inhabitants were employed in making them up. The balance of trade with our continental colonies, is in our favour to the amount of 1,184,265 l. 13 s. 6 d. Now tho' the balance of trade, may be against the mother country, in favour of her colonies, without her being essentially prejudiced thereby, so as to require her giving it up ; as when the colonist is obliged to come and spend that balance in her own land, as before observed : yet there is, certainly, a considerable advantage in her having the balance in her own favour. Her own manufacturers are maintained by working up the goods to be exported, and the colonies are obliged to remit the cash, procured by their trading to other places, to pay off the balance ; and it is in this way that our continental colonies are drained of the gold and silver, that they receive in return for their provisions, &c. sold to the *French* and others. Whenever the balance of trade is against a colony, that colony must pay the difference in good bills