

in its confined meaning, in any opinion he may publish, must also suppose the absence of common sense \*."

L'on ne vaut dans ce monde que ce que l'ont veut valoir.—

It is also observed, "a *few years must determine the fate of this country, and it can hardly be supposed that merchants, naturally more interested in preserving than in acquiring, should be occupied with collecting a few paltry profits from their trade, at the expence of their dearest interest. It would be the folly of a man expecting to get rich by the plunder of his own wreck.*" Improbable as this supposition may appear, how often does it happen, that when the vessel is in extreme distress, the infatuated crew, instead of uniting in exertion for their general preservation, become insubordinate and regardless of each other's safety, commit excesses, and whilst intoxicated meet their fate, and

"Give themselves o'er contentedly to drown †.

Such, it is to be lamented, has often been the conduct of misguided individuals, who, rather than forego the gratification of their ambition or the furtherance of their own views, have impeded the measures of protection and defence adopted by the state, and suffered the transient feelings of the moment to outweigh more important considerations; regardless of the permanent interests of their country, and the love they ought to have felt for the general welfare. "Our wisdom must be such, as doth not propose to itself our own particular, the partial and immoderate desire whereof poisoneth wheresoever it taketh place; but the scope and mark, which we are to aim at, is the public and common good‡."

In the passage§, particularly referred to, it is stated, "a candid consideration of the history of this trade, can leave no doubt on *what side the encroachments* so much talked of *began*; instead of imputing the complaints of the *Americans to their* desire of availing themselves of *our* dangers for the *ungenerous* purpose of advancing extravagant pretensions; *we* should rather *accuse ourselves* of taking advantage of the unprotected state of *her* commerce to

\* Mr. Baring's Introduction, p. 4. † Bank's Island Queens.

‡ Hooker. § Mr. Baring's Examination, p. 97.