

foreigner may perchance be a party, a strong prejudice always leans to the interests of the native citizen, whatever may be the inherent or abstract merits of the case between them.

In taking our leave of the merchant, we cannot avoid reiterating our advice, to preserve above all things a careful watchfulness over his conduct, in his general or more immediate intercourse with the people whom he will find himself amongst; and who, looking upon his arrival in the country with disfavour, require but few pretexts to treat him with discourtesy or unkindness. In whatever situation he may be placed, his course, indeed, his first duty to himself should be, to restrain his observations, and avoid, as far as possible, all discussions on national and political subjects, without that he is prepared to yield assent to the illiberal and extravagant notions of every newly-made acquaintance, whose arguments (if American) are generally based on the self-assumed notion of his country being the first of all nations of the world. To dispute this position, on which the mind of every citizen has been long since made up and set at rest, would lead him into many and interminable difficulties, which he would find in the end, neither advantageous to his interests to invite, or safe to his person or liberties to pursue. The narrowed and still-existing prejudice, the strong dislike to every thing English, but their money and their credit, (by means of which, nevertheless, a great proportion of the trade of these states, and of their general improvement, is