

become dextrous in the manufacture of fire-arms and gunpowder ; these arts, with such as they formerly possessed, must render them perfectly independent : but these people will prosper by the very effort of your cruelty. You are now sending manufacturers among them of every kind, from Great Britain and Germany, in the garb of soldiers. Do you believe that mercenaries will prefer your interest to their own ? Will they trudge and sweat under a brown musket and knapsack, or stand in a trench to be shot at for a farthing an hour, rather than desert from your service, when they may follow their respective trades, and enjoy affluence and ease in a pleasing hospitable country ? These, however, are circumstances that have only been mentioned by the way, as they may chance to accelerate the fate of the present war ; not that the Americans have placed the least dependence on such aids. By their native strength and resources they will find sufficient employment for your troops, till a foreign war, or some other fortunate event, shall rescue them from your hands. While you are pleased to cut off their trade, and reduce them to the condition of Algerines, they may possibly invent some other amusement for your ships of war than stealing sheep, or burning defenceless towns ; your trading ships may demand their assistance ; the distress of your sugar-islands may also be felt by more people than West-India planters. The decrease of trade and increase of taxes ; the loss of your armies, and other calamities which hang over this na-