

That the Riches and Strength of this Nation depend principally on its Commerce with foreign Countries, and its own Colonies, is a Fact that needs no Illustration ; it being equally true in Regard to all trading Kingdoms ; for the Increase of Wealth and Power has generally been proportionate to the Enlargement of their Trade, and History fully proves, that Ruin and Desolation have always attended the Loss of it ; the most flourishing are indebted to it for their Grandeur, and the most opulent and powerful have been undone by the Neglect of it.

As every State in *Europe* seems desirous of increasing its Trade, and the Acquisition of Wealth enlarges the Means of Power, it is necessary, in order to preserve an Equality with them, that this Kingdom extends its Commerce in proportion ; but to acquire a Superiority, due Encouragement ought to be given to such of its Branches, as will most effectually enrich its Inhabitants.

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