

English in seeking a shorter passage thither from England, and the advantages which would result from such a discovery. Besides, the ardent emulation betwixt the English and French East India companies proves how very far those two nations are from thinking that their East Indian trade hurts their European.

According to this, who will believe that the prodigious commerce of the English in the East Indies, is an extreme advantage to the crown of Great Britain, which deluges the world with goods, stuffs and manufactures of all kinds; and at the same time must on the contrary be persuaded that the annual trade of a single ship from the Philippines is not only at present pernicious (which I protest against) and hurtful to the crown of Spain, because the silks of China and cottons of Coromandel hinder the vent of the few silks and stuffs made in Valencia and the other cities of Spain; but likewise that no measures can be taken for carrying on a commerce with the East Indies by the way of the Philippine islands, that shall not be detrimental to Old Spain. Not only England, but Holland, France, Sweden, Denmark and Prussia, are every day pushing their commerce in the East Indies: yet the Chinese silks and Coromandel cottons are not seen to clog the sale of their own linens and stuffs, great quantities  
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