



T H E

## P R E F A C E.

*AS the Author of the following Treatise has already appeared in Publick on a Subject of Commerce,\* and undergone some Censures for engaging in Enquiries, seemingly beside his Profession; he begs Leave to offer some Reasons for his interfering in these Matters, and, at the same Time, to vindicate himself from the Supposition of having deserved the ill Treatment he has met with. If it shall appear then, that he has not been wanting in his Endeavours to discharge his Clerical Duties punctually, as he hopes it would appear, if Enquiry were made in his Parish (in which, though large and populous, he performs all the Offices of his Function himself, according to the best of his Abilities:) If, in this Particular, he is not found neglectful, and these Enquiries, which he prosecutes at his leisure Hours, are not, in their Tendency, inconsistent with Piety to God, and good Offices to Man,—he flatters himself, that as long as he follows these Studies, without neglecting his other Engagements, and delivers his Opinion in an inoffensive Manner, he shall be excused in the Judgment of all candid*

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\* *A brief Essay on the Advantages and Disadvantages which respectively attend France and Great Britain with regard to Trade: With some Proposals for removing the principal Disadvantages of Great Britain, in a new Method. The Second Edition, corrected, with large Additions. London, printed for T. Trye, in Holborn, 1750.*