
OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

COMMERCE, &c.

AS a sudden revolution—an unprecedented case—the independence of America, has encouraged the wildest fallies of imagination; Systems have been preferred to experience, Rash theory to successful practice, and the Navigation Act itself, the gaurdian of the prosperity of Britain, has been almost abandoned by the levity or ignorance of those, who have never seriously examined the spirit or the consequence of ancient rules. Our calmer reflections will soon discover, that such great sacrifices are neither requisite nor expedient; and the knowledge of the exports and imports of the American states, will afford us facts and principles to ascertain the value of their trade, to foresee their true interest and probable conduct, and to choose the wisest measures (the wisest are always the

B

most