

the Bahama Islands as any comparative object of restitution. Minorca, I have long regarded, rather as a burden on this country, than as any essential advantage to it. We have little trade in the Mediterranean, and less in the Levant: the Turkey Company has long been sustained by an egyptian gift of Parliament, annually conferred. Even was the commerce up the Straits in a more flourishing condition than it is, Minorca is little calculated to give it effectual protection;—but Minorca, like Gibraltar, has a relative and factitious value; nor must it be estimated by the benefits resulting to England from its possession, but by the imaginary price which the pride of Spain may annex to it. These, however, are feelings and motives which you, my Lord, might be too magnanimous to profit of, and too generous to insist on with the Court of Madrid.

Dunkirk compleats the list of our disgraces, and of the triumphs of Versailles. That thorn in the commerce of the Channel, that insulting Port which looks into the Thames, and carries depredation to our very doors, is again reinstated in all its capacity
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