

and if there be a visible Disproportion between our Colonies and our Ability to trade with them, upon just and equal Terms, the more they are enlarged, the sooner shall we be destroyed.

As I have all along professed the greatest Regard for the Parliament and Ministry, it will be thought, perhaps, that we may, without much Concern, leave the Care of the Public to them. Some Admirers of modern Improvements are apt to speak in very high Terms of the Discernment of this enlightened Age, as it is called. Such, it is not impossible, may be ready to say, “ Great National Mistakes have indeed “ formerly been committed, but the “ Principles of Trade and Commerce, as “ well as Government, are now so well “ understood that they will not be re- “ peated. While Individuals are pur- “ suing their own Interest with unre- “ mitting Activity, the Legislature, ever “ watchful for the general Good, and pre- “ siding over the whole, will observe the “ first Appearance of any thing going “ against