

I N T R O D U C T I O N. iii

Practice ; and that is, since Gold and Silver is the *universal Standard* for making an *Estimate* of the *Value*, and *regulating* the *Price* of the Commodities or Manufactures of both Countries, to export **LARGER Quantities of our own**, and import **LESS of theirs** ; so that what is *wanting* in the *Value* of their Merchandise, compared with *ours*, may be paid in Gold and Silver. The Consequence of which will be, That these Metals will be continually *increasing* with Us, as far as relates to that *particular Trade and Nation*, and *decreasing* with them. And in what Proportion soever their Money comes into our Country, in that Proportion it may truly be affirmed, That our *Sailors, Freighters, Merchants, Tradesmen, Manufacturers, Tenants, Landlords, Duties, Taxes, Excises, &c. &c.* are paid at *their Expence*.

THE PRINCIPLES of Trade therefore being so *clear* and *certain* in themselves, and without so *obvious* to any Man of common *Capacity* and *Application*, it is a very surprizing Matter how it comes to pass, that both Men of good Understanding are many times totally *ignorant*

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of

the *East-Indies* : They are *instrumental* in procuring a Balance *elsewhere*, though, properly speaking, *disadvantageous* in *themselves*. Which brings the Matter to the Point from whence we set out ; viz. “ That the whole Science of gainful Commerce consists, *ultimately*, in procuring a Balance of Gold or Silver to Ourselves from other Nations.”