

thing to do with our Commerce, there is something in it extremely injurious to the Nation. That we receive great Benefits from Trade, that Trade is a National Concern, and that we ought to resent any Attempt made to lessen or to injure it, are Truths well known and out of dispute, yet sure the *British* People are not to be treated like a Company of Merchants, or rather Pedlars, who, if they are permitted to sell their Goods, are to think themselves well off, whatever Treatment they may receive in any other respect. No surely, the *British* Nation has other great Concerns besides their Trade, and as she will never sacrifice it, so she will never endure any Insult in respect to them, without resenting it as becomes a People jealous of their Honour, and punctual in the Performance of their Engagements.

It has, indeed, been the Artifice of *France* to represent the Maritime Powers in this Light to all the World, and to each other. In the Language of that haughty Court, *France*, like old *Rome*, is to be the Mistress of the World, and the *English* and *Dutch* are to think themselves happy if she does not disturb their Markets, but lets them enjoy the Fruits of their Industry, while they truckle to her Power, and are subservient to her Schemes. Let any Man but read the Letters and Negotiations of *Van Hoey*, and he will be satisfied as to the Truth of this. He will see that the *French* Ministers treat him, as if instead of being an Ambassador from a great and powerful State, he was a Factor for a Company of Merchants, who had no Subsistence but their Trade, and were obliged to mind that at the Expence of every thing else. Upon this Principle all their Reasonings turn; they tell him
that