

But you seem to rest the chief of your *Reasons* upon the Value of *Guadaloupe*, and its Dependencies, in Point of Trade to the *British* Nation. "*Trade and Commerce*," says *Bolingbroke*, and surely we may quote him for an orthodox Politician, though not as an orthodox Divine, "*had* been sometimes, and in some Instances, before the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, encouraged and improved : But the great Encouragements were given, the great Extensions and Improvements were made, by that glorious Princess. To her we owe that Spirit of domestic and foreign Trade, which is not quite extinguished : It was she who gave that rapid Motion to our whole mercantile System, which is not entirely ceased. They both flagged under her Successors ; were not revived under his Son ; were checked, diverted, clogged, and interrupted, during our Civil Wars ; and began to exert new Vigour after the Restoration, in a long Course of Peace ; but met with new Difficulties too, from the confirmed Rivalry of the *Dutch*, and the growing Rivalry of the *French*. To one of these, the pusillanimous Character of *James* the First gave many scandalous Occasions, and the other was favoured by the Conduct of *Charles* the Second, who never was in the true Interest of the People he governed. From the Revolution, to the Death of Queen *Anne*, however Trade and Commerce might  
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