

The avowed Intention, then, of these ministerial Politicians is to destroy the Manufacture of Silver in this Country.

In all the Books I have ever read on these Subjects, the Stock of Plate in the Hands of Individuals has constantly been reckoned a Part of the national Wealth, and it has been esteemed a Happiness to any Country where the Individuals were possessed of great Quantities of this dormant Wealth. Some Years since the *Genoese* forbid the Use of *Dresden* Porcelain. And they did it with a View of restraining the growing Fashion of selling Silver Plate, which had a real Value, and the keeping for private Use this Porcelain, the Value of which was imaginary. I must not presume to say the *Genoese* acted wisely in prohibiting this hoarded Wealth from being brought into Circulation, but they acted fortunately, for I have been told that since that Time, the *Genoese* have, in a considerable Degree, at two different Periods, owed their Preservation to this dormant Wealth, those uncirculating Hoards of Individuals.

But perhaps the Interest of our Country differs