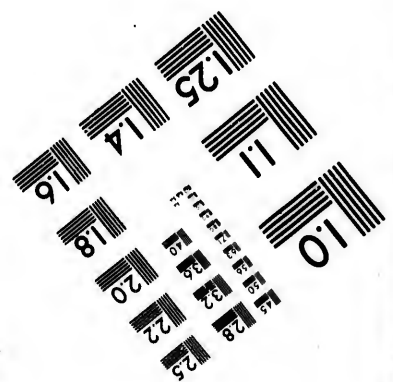
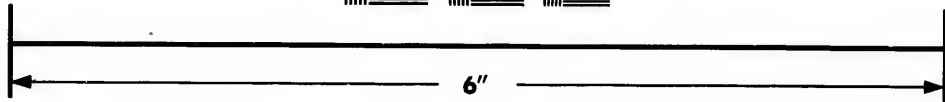
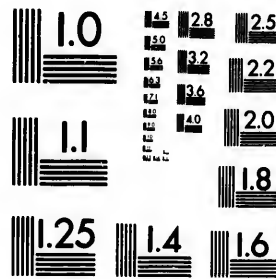


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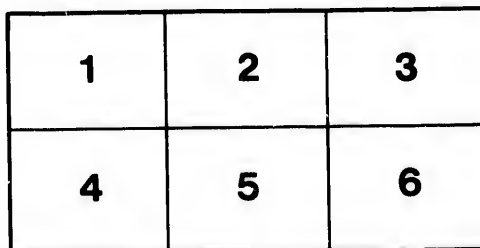
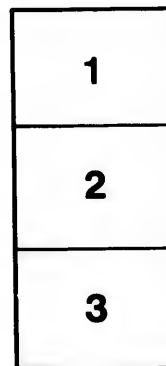
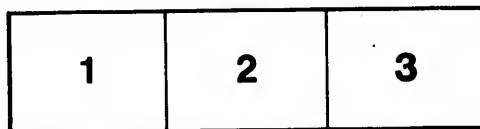
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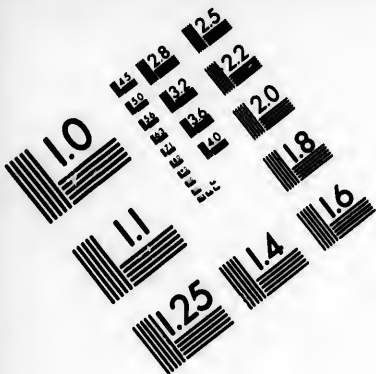
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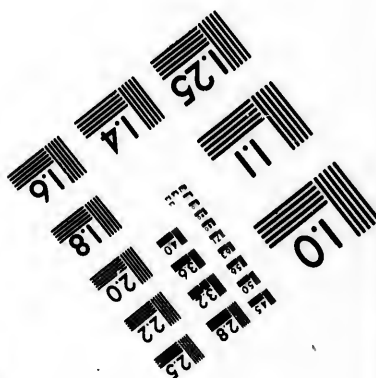
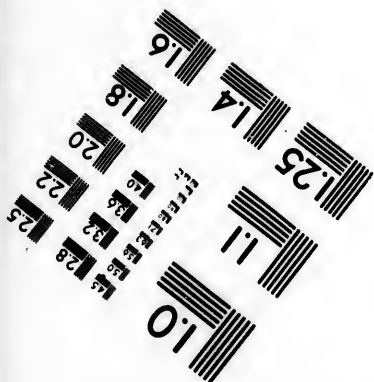
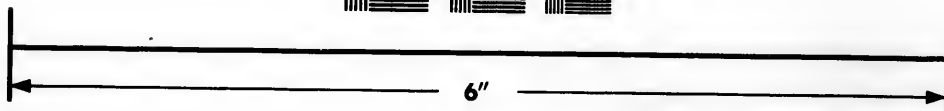
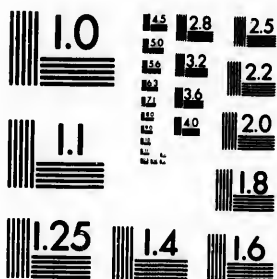
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THE
TRUE INTEREST
OF
GREAT-BRITAIN,

In Regard to the
TRADE and GOVERNMENT

OF
*Canada, Newfoundland, and the
Coast of Labrador.*

S H E W I N G

The Absurdity of appointing *military* and
naval Officers to rule over a commercial People;
and the great Uneasiness and Prejudice that is oc-
casioned by such unnatural Appointments; which
are made more through *Interest* than *Merit*.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. WILLIAMS, at No. 38, next
the *Mitre-Tavern*, in *Fleet-Street*. 1767.

(Price One Shilling and Sixpence.)



DEDICATION.

To the Right Honourable

The EARL of SHELBURNE,

One of His Majesty's

Principal SECRETARIES of STATE.

When Princes and Ministers of State are fired with a noble Ambition to recommend themselves to the Affections, and Applauses of that Community which they have under their immediate Care and Protection; with what Zeal and Steadiness will they pursue those Measures, which are calculated to promote the Happiness of that Body whereof they are the Head!

Dr. INNES.

MY LORD,

MY being unknown and unsupported are Obstacles of the greatest Magnitude; for in these Days when **MEN** are regarded more than **MERIT,**

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none can approach the great Officers of State without some *Intercess* to recommend them. This (a melancholy truth!) being the Case, I am fortunate in the Choice of a PATRON, who is as much distinguished for his easy Access as he is celebrated for his Abilities and *patriotic* Sentiments.

The *able* STATESMAN, and the *finished* GENTLEMAN, are the admired Qualities of the Earl of *Shelburne*. He, like a true disinterested PATRIOT, devotes his Time to the Service of his Country; and is ready upon *every Occasion* to give Attention to those Hints which Individuals may suggest for the Benefit of that Trading Community which is committed to his Care.

This Disposition of your Lordship being universally known, and your Sentiments of national Welfare publicly admired, I am encouraged to offer my Opinion about some MATTERS which may be made greatly conducive to the
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Advantage of that Community whereof I have the Happiness of being Member. But, previous thereto, I must take Permission to observe that, *Spes Premii, Laboris Solutium.*

Those who spend their Time, and employ their Talents (to the Purpose) in the Service of their Country are deserving of Reward *adequate* to their *real* Services. For, though every Member of a State may be bound by the Ties of Duty to an excellent PRINCE, and of Affection to his Fellow-Subjects to contribute to the Felicity of his Country, yet such good Offices merit Attention and Indulgence: For, as the Scripture says, “ They that preach the GOSPEL shall live by the GOSPEL.”

I will candidly acknowledge, my Lord, that I am not a FABRICIUS; being more under the Influence of modern *British* Sentiments than of those of antient ROME. For which I have not only the Authority quoted above, but also the

Example of the popular—; whose great Abilities, by the *dexterous* Management of the *Ciceronian Art*, are made subservient to the Gratification of his own Views. And who would not follow so great, so *successful* an Example, preferable to the mistaken Modesty of the *Roman-Fabrizius*? Especially, as we cannot say, as he did of *Rome*, that *England* knows no Qualifications for great Employments but VIRTUE and ABILITY.

The great Distance of Time has not only banished the FABRICIAN *simple* Sentiments, but also endowed us with more Courtly Ideas, and given even a more superb Signification to Words. In that awkward Age, VIRTUE was an heavenly Impression on the Minds of the most noble Part of the Creation; it stamp'd them with Heroic Sentiments, and made their Actions resemble those of the GODS; and ABILITY was only the Power granted for the Exercise of that *divine* Qualification of the Mind.

But,

But, by ABILITY (as daily Experience, and both great and *virtuous* Examples evince) we *now* mean a dexterous Contrivance to make a Thing subservient to the Gratification of *private* Views, which are RICHES. The modern IDOL who has taken the Place of awkward VIRTUE.

Thus, the Times being changed, it follows very naturally, that we are actuated by different Motives or Principles: And indeed to keep *Pace* with the Time, one cannot afford to possess more disinterested and refined Sentiments. Hence, *shame-faced* MODESTY being retired, or perhaps *eloped with Oeconomy*, we strictly follow the Advice of the Poet:

Get WEALTH and PLACE, if possible, with *Grace*,
If not; *by any Means*, get WEALTH and PLACE.

For with Affluence I shall, like our *disinterested* PATRIOT, be more able to succour the Necessitous, which will convince my Countrymen of my Zeal for their Prosperity.

Hence

Hence it is, my Lord, I own very frankly that I have no small Hopes of being taken Notice of for the *real* Service I may do to the State during your Lordship's Administration: Which, for my own Sake, but more for the Sake of my Country, I wish may be *pro multis annos*.

What I have to offer at this present Time to your Consideration is, the true Interest of this commercial Nation, in regard to its very valuable Acquisition of *Canada*. And the Nature of a Quarantine, as it is performed in *Italy*. A Custom founded upon a Principle of the greatest Prudence, being no less than Self-preservation. This Practice has been established in *England* also, but greatly abused, either through Ignorance, or the Want of proper Officers: To the *Reproach* of the MINISTRY, and *Danger* of the STATE. And as the erecting of *proper* Edifices for Lazaretto's, and assigning of *proper* Places for Vessels to lay or perform their Quarantine, with the
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necessary Restrictions and Laws, are absolutely necessary for preserving the Lives of his Majesty's Subjects from the most *alarming* Distemper incident to human Nature, it is hoped that some *able* and *honest* Minister will be so much a Friend to his Country as to see the Laws of Quarantine properly establish'd and strictly executed; which will be a lasting Monument of his good Judgment and his Love for his Country.

That such a Regulation is now become absolutely necessary will sufficiently appear from the great Havock that alarming Distemper, the *Plague*, made about a Century ago, when near 99,000 Lives were lost by it in *London*: And therefore so fatal a Contagion cannot be too much dreaded and guarded against.

If your Lordship should condescend to read with *due* Attention what I have advanced upon these two Important Subjects, it will encourage me to give my Sentiments upon some other Measures

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necessary for the Happiness of this Manufacturing and Trading Nation; which consists in the flourishing Situation of her Commerce. Among which there is a Plan for a Tax to be levied, in order to help to pay that vast Load of Debt which is so great a Burthen to the State, and daily encreases.

This TAX, contrary to the Nature of Taxation, shall relieve instead of oppressing the Public, by laying it properly upon those People who can afford, and ought in Reason to pay it; which will produce a large Sum that perhaps would be charged to those who are not able to pay it. By this equitable Measure, the Necessitous and Industrious will be relieved, without distressing or oppressing those who at an *easy Rate* acquire Superfluity.

Before I conclude this Epistle, suffer me, my Lord, to say a Word or two concerning that State Office denominated the BOARD OF TRADE. I need not tell
your

your Lordship of what vast Importance that Office is to the *British* Nation, because an *able* Minister must know it perfectly well. But I may presume to inform others who have not the same Endowments and Abilities, that it is the most important Department of the State; and, of consequence, requires its Conductors to have the very first Class of commercial Talents; because the Success of all our Schemes depends upon the good Management of the BOARD OF TRADE. Which, to the Misfortune of the Nation, is more frequently filled by Men of *Interest*, than Men of *Merit* in regard to *real* Abilities: And as they have not just Notions how to make Trade and Commerce useful and advantageous to the State, they take such Measures, as are ill-proportioned to its Success. To this Cause are owing all our commercial Complaints. For, the Want of Knowledge in the Members of the BOARD OF TRADE must necessarily occasion un-

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adapted and injudicious Determinations : Hence arise Numbers of Complaints, which are disregarded and go unredressed, because the Nature of Commerce is not sufficiently comprehended by those who have the Charge of that important Department. It is therefore to be lamented that an Evil so great, and so destructive to the *British* Nation, as that of appointing unqualified Persons to the Board of Trade is not seriously and conscientiously attended to and removed. But *that* cannot be expected while MEN are regarded more than MERIT, and while this Truth subsists,

“ That for ONE *honest* Minister there
“ will be found a THOUSAND *corrupt*
“ ones.”

If your Lordship should think it would be any Advantage to the State to lay your Commands upon me concerning these interesting Matters, I shall chearfully obey, but if my good Intentions should (as many do) pass unnoticed, I shall nevertheless

vertheless think I have an equal Right with the rest of the Nation to declare publicly, the Sense I have of the Advantage which the State receives from your Lordship's great Qualifications; and the Respect with which I have the Honour to profess myself,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

most humble,

most obedient, and

most devoted servant,

The Author of the Attempt to pay off the Debt of the Nation, by laying open the Trade to the *East-Indies*, &c.





THE
TRUE INTEREST
OF
GREAT-BRITAIN,

In Regard to the Trade of CANADA, &c.

There is not One Man in a Thousand (he might have said in Ten Thousand) that has the Endowments and Abilities to govern a State, and much fewer yet that have just Notions how to Make Trade and Commerce useful, and advantageous to it.

DR. INNES.

THE Opinion of that Author from whom I have taken my Motto, is confirmed by daily Experience; and it is much

much to be lamented that those who *have* the necessary Qualifications to make Commerce advantageous, have not Opportunity to employ their Talents in the Service of their Country.

The Offices of Government are generally filled by People who have, what is called *Interest*, or Friends to procure them those lucrative Employments, whereby a *due* Regard to their Qualifications for their several Stations, is neglected, and too frequently (a melancholy Consideration!) we see no Regard at all paid to that very necessary *End*. For Example, we too often behold those very important and principal Stations of the BOARD OF TRADE, and Commissioners of the Customs filled by Men, whose Notions of Trade must be *very* confined for Want of Experience, and who, consequently, cannot render such important Services to the State, as might be expected from those who have had Opportunities of acquiring an extensive Knowledge from long Experience ;

rience: Such only can be proper Judges what Measures are most fit to be taken, to make Trade advantageous to the Nation. Were we blessed with such proper People in those important Offices of State, (particularly at the BOARD OF TRADE) we should see quite different Measures taken. For, such fit Persons, for the Credit of their own Understanding, and for the Reputation and Advantage of their Country, would make suitable Remonstrances against the great Absurdity of sending *military* and *naval* Officers to be Governors of our Colonies and Settlements, with Orders to give Instructions to Traders about the Means of carrying on Commerce, which they are themselves *entirely* ignorant of.

I have heard it maintained that how ignorant soever the Members of the Board of Trade might be in Regard to Commerce, they can do *equal* Service to their Country by the necessary Intelligence which the Trading People communicate

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to them from Time to Time. But I deny it: And I do not think it requires much reasoning to prove the Fallacy of such an Argument; since it is self-evident, that no Man can comprehend the Nature of Trade and Commerce, and conceive in how many different Ways it may be made of Use and Advantage from the Report of another Person: Especially, if we consider how difficult of Access most Officers of State are, and, of Consequence, how hard a Matter it is to procure an Audience of them, that the naked Truth, and the *real* State and Nature of Things may be represented in their proper Lights. COMMERCE must be perfectly understood before it can be made useful; and that thorough Comprehension can only be acquired by the Means of good natural Abilities, long Experience of an universal Trade, and a good Judgment. To pretend to make Trade *extensive*, and of the utmost Advantage, without those Endowments and Abilities, would be absurd
and

and to give to such *unqualified* People the Direction, or Conduct of such important Things as belong to Trade, is either a great Reproach to the Understanding of those who recommend them to the Appointment; or a great Proof that, by such Recommendations, they prefer the Interest of the People they advance, to the Welfare of their Country.

We have seen in the Public Papers many Articles about the Conduct of Governor *General* MURRAY, at *Quebec*; of Governor *Commodore* PALLISER, at *Newfoundland*; and of Governor *Captain* HAMILTON, on the Coast of *Labrador*. But, in the Name of common Sense, what Advantages has Commerce to expect from these Gentlemen? I do not mean to shew any Rancour against them, in order to bring upon them either the Ridicule, or the Odium of the Public. I have only in View to shew the Disadvantage arising to the State, and the Want of Judgment in those Persons who procured for them

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Employments of so much Trust and Consequence to this Trading Nation; wherein it is evident to the most ordinary Capacity, that they have shewn a greater Regard for the Interest of these Individuals, than for *that* of their Country; which certainly has a prior, and greater Right to their Care and Attention.

To appoint a *military* Man to the Government of *Quebec*, the Metropolis of that *vast Extent* of Dominion, called *Canada*, a Colony of the very utmost Importance, which must be peopled, cultivated, and entirely nourished, and supported by Merchants and Traders, must counteract the good Intentions of a Commercial Government, by making such an Officer to obstruct, instead of promoting, the very beneficial and numberless Ends of Trade, and the Welfare of a Commercial People. For every Man who has any knowledge, knows that the Notions of Military and Trading People are as opposite as the *North* and *South* Poles.

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So very different are *their* Notions, that no two Things can be a greater Contrast. Hence it is manifest, that it is quite as absurd to give to a *military* Man, educated in the School of *Mars*, the Government or Power over a Commercial People, as it would be to put a Merchant, used only to the Compting-house, at the Head of an Army at a *critical* Moment. They would each be at *equal* Loss how to act, *out* of their respective Spheres. The Merchant would not be more *perplexed* to know what Steps to take at a SIEGE, than the General would be at a *Loss* to know, what Measures would be most conducive to the Prosperity of the Trading People. For, no Idea of *military* Prowess, can furnish a martial Mind with Plans for the Advancement of Commerce, by the Encouragement of Manufactures, by the Encrease of Navigation, an extensive Correspondence, and proper Connections with other Countries; with other interesting Things relative to Trade. And yet (but

who would believe it in so wise a Nation!) with all these Disadvantages both to himself, to the Community, and to the State, a military Man is appointed to the Government of a Colony, an Infant Colony too which requires great *Commercial* Abilities, first to settle, and then to bring it gradually to a State of Perfection; by the Means only of the most *extensive Commerce of Imports and Exports*, that the Situation will possibly admit of. A General, having *Interest* or Friends, obtains the Appointment; but finding himself a perfect Stranger to those Qualifications which are absolutely requisite to promote the Happiness of the Settlers, and the good Ends of Government, by the Means of public Advantages and Emolument; he, of consequence, acts upon Principles of his own forming; which are either repugnant to the Welfare of the *whole* Community, or at best, injurious to the one part, by too great an Attachment and partiality to the other.

other. Such a Conduct is of the most fatal Tendency to Trade, which ought to be *equally free*, to every Subject of the Prince, which the Settlement belongs to. Such Equality is due to the Subjects born *equally free and under the same Advantages of Constitution*; and is absolutely necessary, in order to nourish, and to encrease TRADE and COMMERCE, in such a skilful Manner, as to make it useful and advantageous to the Nation; by which is meant, the Interest both of Individuals belonging to the Nation, and the State or Government itself. An Equality of Right creates *Emulation*; but Partiality is a Discouragement, being of consequence, an Oppression to the Part neglected, and must, therefore, naturally hinder the Success of Trade, and those good Ends of Government, for which we expend our Blood and Treasure in the Conquest, and our Time and Substance in the Settlement and Defence. Thus, the *military Man*, being entirely ignorant

ignorant of the Advantages and Blessings which a Manufacturing and Trading Nation derives from Commerce, with little concern about Events, (farther than to make them subservient to the Gratification of his own Views) he adopts Measures no Ways *adapted* to its Success. And to give farther Proof of his Insufficiency for such a Government, he is sure to treat with great *Superiority*, and even, with no *small* Degree of Contempt, the Traders, who the *martial* Man considers as infinitely *beneath* his Notice; and despicable in the Eyes of a Son of *Mars*. A Behaviour of this Sort naturally creates (in the Breast of *Englisbmen*) a Coolness and Slight from the other Part; equal Disesteem follows, and the Disaffection is obvious to every Person of the smallest Discernment, who has Occasion to visit the Country.

The *military* Man, with Airs of as much Consequence as a *Turkish* Bassa, and with as much *Arrogance* as a Captain

tain in the Navy, considers himself as a BEING which resembles the GODS ; while the Merchant, with a Conscioufness that, while his Time is spent in the Advancement of his own Happiness, it is greatly conducive by the most *honourable* Means, to the Support, the Safety, and the Felicity of his Country, he very naturally thinks himself injured, and oppressed, and treats his over-bearing Governor with an Indifference no ways *inadequate* to that which he receives. This (to the great Misfortune of the *British* Nation!) being the Case, it can be no Wonder that Differences subsist between our *military* Governors and the Colonists. Besides, the very Name of what is *military*, stamps upon the Minds of a *free* and *spirited* People, the *hateful* Ideas of CONTROUL and BONDAGE; Ideas repugnant to our Notions of Freedom, and obstructive of the Exercise of our Commercial Faculties. Therefore, instead of advancing forward

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the Success of our Infant Settlements, it must *at best*, be greatly retarded in its progress.

Thus I have briefly pointed out an EVIL which is too prevalent; and which calls loudly for a REMEDY; and as it is the Concern not only of the numerous Part of the Community called Traders, but of the Nation in general, there can be no Doubt but it will be looked into, and the *Cause* of Complaint speedily removed. To compass which let it be the Care of our Ministers, and of our Legislative Power, to have a fixed Eye upon the Conduct of those *martial* Gentlemen who are *now* in Office; in Order to curb their Management, that they may not presume to be so *wanton* in the Execution of their Duty, as Servants of the Public; or what is the same Thing, as Officers of the State. And for the *future*, let it be the Care of all those whom it concerns, not to make so *unnatural* a Choice as that of a *military*

tary Man to controul his *Trading* Fellow-Subjects; which, it is evinced by daily Experience, will ever be attended with bad Consequences, oppressive to Trade, injurious to Individuals, and which consequently must greatly decrease the Public Revenue.

If it should be said that, in *some* Places it is absolutely necessary to have a military Governor for the Protection of the Country, I deny it; and will prove it to be greatly inconsistent with the Interest of a free Trading Nation to have *martial* Governors at any Places Abroad, *Gibraltar* and *Minorca* only excepted.

For example, the Governor of *Quebec* ought to be a civil Magistrate; invested with the Execution of the civil Law, without interfering with the Garrison or military Discipline; which, under proper Restrictions, should be left to the Conduct of the Officer appointed for that Purpose; who, in Time of Peace,

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should not be of a higher Degree than a Colonel; it being quite unnecessary to put the Nation to the Expence of supporting a General, at a Time that the State is so much in Debt, that it cannot pay the *Principal*, or even the *Interest* of it, without over-burthening the Subject with Taxes, and which, of Consequence, stands in need of the most prudent OECONOMY.

Let the military Officer's Province be to act only in Time of Necessity for the Defence of the Country against either *French* or *Indians*, or against the Combination of both; but, without interfering with the Office of the civil Governor, unless only when his Assistance is required upon a *public* Occasion. Such a Regulation as this, would fully answer all the good Purposes of the Nation. For, while the *martial* Officer is attentive to the *Duty* of his Station, to assist in the Preservation of Order within, and to keep Peace without the Country, the

the civil Magistrate or Governor would promote good Harmony and Fellowship among the industrious Inhabitants; from whence would naturally spring the Success of Trade, for the Advantage of Individuals in particular, and for the Benefit of the Nation in general. But these happy Effects are not to be expected, while *Men* are regarded more than *Merit*. Our Favorites of Fortune, like *Alexander's* Officers, only think how they shall make every Thing subservient to the Gratification of their own Views. To compass this point, they make Friends, or what is commonly called *Interest*, and then without any Regard to their own Qualifications, or their Country's good, they solicit for Employments, in Hopes of making their Fortunes; and as that is their *only Aim*, they stick at nothing to bring about that *desirable* End: If therefore they can but share the LOAVES and FISHES, they Care very little who goes without. Upon this Principle, a

lucrative Government is very acceptable to many ; tho' they know themselves to be as little qualified for the important *Trust*, as they are fit for the great Office of Chancellor of *Great-Britain*.

A *new acquired Country*, which is not only to thrive by the sole Means of Commerce, but is also expected to bring Riches to the Mother Country, to reimburse her for the great Expence of the Acquisition ; to defray the Charge of Population and Government, and to pay for her Support, ought to have a Governor who is not only a thorough Judge of Men and Things himself, but also one, whose great Experience of an universal Trade and Commerce, will both enable him to judge with great Prudence of a good Plan, and to form some excellent Schemes himself, to establish an extensive and very lucrative Commerce, wherever the Products of the Country can be disposed of to Advantage ; for it is the EXPORTS, and not the IMPORTS, that
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can make a Trading Country flourish. Though, as the Connection between the Mother Country and her Colonies, is widely different from the Connection between two Trading and *rival* States, we are not to be so very jealous of the Balance of Trade; for should it be in Favour, either of the Mother Country, or the Colony, 'twould, in either Case, be for the sole Advantage of the Subjects, and Government of *Great-Britain*. For this Reason, tho' the *true* Interest of the Colony can only lay in the *Export* of the Country, yet a Regard should be had to encourage the *Imports* from the Mother Country, (but from thence only) as much as the Situation of the Place, and the Nature of the Trade will admit of; in order to promote the Interest of the Mother Country, and thereby preserve a *reciprocal*, beneficial Connection, and Dependence; which can only be preserved and strengthened, by the Means of *mutual* Conveniencies
and

and Advantages. Under Governors *thus* qualified, we might *expect* to see Trade duly encouraged and flourish; the *excellent Laws* of our Country (which are *too often* in bad Hands) properly administered; the Subjects live with Harmony and good Fellowship, *emulous* of each other's Industry; and by advancing their own Happiness, they would *unavoidably* promote that of the *whole* Nation; and thereby answer every good Purpose of Government. Hence it must be evident, even to the most *common* Understanding, that such a Regulation as is proposed, would the *better* preserve good Order and Unanimity, and over balance the Expence of supporting a *civil* Governor, and a *military* Officer at the same Time.

I shall now return to the Subject of Governor *General* MURRAY, Governor *Commodore* PALLISER, and Governor *Captain* HAMILTON, appointed to the Stations of *Quebec*, *Newfoundland*, and the

the Coast of *Labrador*, where I have been, and have heard the Argument for and against these unqualified Governors, and seen the sad Effects of the Want of a proper Governor at those respective Places, at *Quebec* especially; where, as well as at *Montreal*, the Military Gentry have long reigned with martial Haughtiness over the Trading People settled there, to the great Interruption of Trade, and the great Disappointment of the Government of the Mother Country, who would otherwise have been able to have raised considerable Duties to defray the Expence of Government, had Trade been more successful thro' proper Encouragement; and to which the Inhabitants would, in *that Case*, have been very agreeable: But *now* they have it not in their Power, thro' the Discouragement they have met with, so that the *Duties* now raised are unreasonable and burthensome, and being unproportioned, they are really oppressive. These are visibly
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the sad Effects of an *unqualified* Governor, who thinks the best, nay, the only way, to support his Interest, is to advise the Ministry to raise Duties, without considering whether the Nature of the Trade will bear them. However, as such Measures, as well as the unwarrantable Conduct of the *General*, the *Commodore*, and the *Captain*, has (I am told) been laid before the Government in *England*, with every grievous Circumstance, I shall say little upon that Subject at present; as I hope, for the Sake of my Trading Countrymen, settled in those Parts, and for the Interest of the *British* Nation, (which is *blended* with that of the Colonies) that proper Notice will be taken of the many and the just Complaints which they have made. And I have the greater Reason to think that Justice will be done to the Sufferers by the *British* Laws (to the Advantage of which they are equally entitled with us) because Mr. *Murray*, and Mr. *Christie*

they have been sent for to give an Account of their Conduct; which ought to be made the subject of a very strict Enquiry.

For my own part, I am ever ready to do as I would be done by; and therefore, I shall mention the aforesaid Gentlemen with as much Tendernefs, in Regard to their Reputation, as I think the Nature of their Case will admit of. But, I shall not pay them a Compliment at the Expence of *Truth* and *Justice* both to my Fellow Subjects and the State, for when Trade, which is the very Marrow, the very Soul of this manufacturing Nation, and consequently the Strength of it, when that is *trampled under Foot* to gratify the Views of particular Persons, the State itself suffers by the Consequences

I have all the Respect imaginable for the *martial* Capacity of Mr. Murray; and do believe he would make a good *Second* in a *military* Command. I do not place him at the Head, because, I think, the General is of too *warm* a Temper to

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judge, with all that Coolness and Prudence which is required upon a *serious* Occasion. I say again, I give my Opinion with a *due* Respect to that Gentleman's *military* Merit, of which I acknowledge myself not to be a thorough Judge, and that I have not a Right to judge of it. But I shall beg leave to insist upon Mr. *Murray's* Insufficiency as *Governor of Québec*, because, (tho' he may be a Man of Understanding,) he does not know how to make that *valuable* Trade advantageous either to the Colony or the Mother Country. Yet, I do not blame him, for accepting of an honourable and lucrative Employment, the blame rests with those who were so little Friends to this Nation as to procure a *military* Man to the Government of an Infant Colony, which is to thrive by the Means of Trade and Commerce alone.

I wish, with a great Deal of Good-will and Fellow-feeling, that Mr. *Murray* may be able to justify the Conduct of his Government,

vernment, and get another Employment *adapted* to his Abilities and Merit; but, that he may never more return as Govern- or to *Quebec*; where a Man of greater Knowledge of Commerce, and the *Means* of making it flourish in that Country, for the Encouragement and Satisfaction of the Settlers, and to answer the good Ends of the *British* Government, is required.

A Man who has Sense and Spirit enough to make the WOLVES in public Offices, and the RAVENS of the Law do the DUTIES of their respective Occupations with becoming Respect; to the Satisfaction of that Public to which they owe their *Authority* and *Support*.

If it should be said in Justification of Governor *Murray* that the Reports laid to his Charge are *Malicious* and groundless and, as a Proof thereof, his Friends should refer the Public to the several Addressès from the Inhabitants of *Quebec*, upon his leaving the Country, which were immediately after his Departure inserted in the

Gazette of Quebec, and some Time ago published in the News Papers of *London*; I answer if the Tenor of those Addresſes ſhould be brought as Evidence of the good Conduct of Governor *General MURRAY*, I do declare, and will bring ſufficient Proof that ſome of thoſe Addresſes were written by ſycophant Tools and Dependents, and the reſt procured to ſerve the Purpoſe of Mr. *Murray* when he appears to make his defence againſt the many Complaints made during the Time of his Adminiſtration or Government of *Quebec*; and that the Tenor of thoſe Addresſes is not the SENSE of the *British* Inhabitants, as is *ſelf-evident* from their many COMPLAINTS which have been the Occaſion of the Governor's being called Home to give an Account of his Conduct. Inſeed, it would be abſurd to ſuppoſe that the very Gentlemen who are tired out by the many Complaints made of bad Adminiſtration ſhould, upon the Departure of the Governor to juſtify himſelf againſt thoſe Complaints, be ſo

inconsistent as to give public Testimony of his upright and judicious Conduct during the Time of his Administration or Government at *Quebec*, in the most fulsome, adulatory and fallacious Stile that ever was penn'd. Such a Proceeding would be a plain Contradiction, sufficient (were it true) to justify the General and prove their own Allegations to be both unjust and malicious. Hence it is manifest that no Body can suppose the Tenor the aforementioned Address to be the Sense of the *British* Inhabitants concerning the Conduct of Governor *Murray*, but merely a Piece of Policy, as well as Generalship of that military Officer assisted by a Set of *Time-serving* Gentlemen of the Council; who if they were not capable of doing *any Thing* to gratify their own Views would never have made public Avowal of their Approbation of Mr. *Murray's* Conduct, and of his wise Measures during his Administration, at a Time too that the *reverse* is obvious to every Person, who has any Knowledge of the Governor's

vernor's Measures : the Truth of which appears by the following Advertisment, which was inserted in the Gazette of *Quebec*, the 7th of *July*, both in *English* and *French*, that the true Sentiments of the Public might be made known universally, immediately after the *contriv'd* *adulatory* Addresses appeared in Public.

“ Trois Addresses de la part des Anciens et des nouveaux Sujets, en faveur du Gouverneur de cette Province, que l'on a vu inserées dans la Gazette du 3 de ce Mois, ont surpris la plus grande Partie des Habitans de cette Ville, avec d'autant plus de Raison, qu'ils n'auroient jamais pensés qu'un petit Nombre de Particuliers qui sont *sans Consequence* se seroient ingerés de s'enoncer en leur Nom sans leur Consentement, et leur auroient preté des Sentimens aussi mal à propos qu'ils l'ont fait: C'est pourquoi l'on espere que sous peu l'on verra paroître, non pas des Addresses, mais une énumération bien circonstanciée
 “ des

“ des qualités personnelles de ce Gouver-
 neur, et des louanges beaucoup plus
 “ Digne de sa *fameuse* Administration.”

Having done with Governor *Murray*,
 I shall take a little more Notice of the
Trade of Canada. A Trade, that from
 the Situation and Extent of the Country,
 might be made a *Jewel* in the *British*
 Crown, were it not so strangely conduct-
 ed; owing chiefly to the following three
 Causes.

1st. To the Want of a *qualified* Go-
 vernor to give all that Encouragement
 which is requisite in the Infancy of a fine
 Colony. To encourage Agriculture and
 Fishery in all their Branches; then pro-
 mote Navigation; cherish the Merchants,
 and encourage every Branch of Trade.

2dly. To the *Inability* of the other
 Officers of the Government, and the
shameful neglect, or rather the *scandalous*
abuse in the Administration of Justice.

3dly, To the exorbitant and ill-judged
 Duties imposed upon the IMPORTS and
 EXPORTS; which, if not removed, will
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entirely destroy the Trade ; and, of consequence, disappoint the Mother Country of the Advantage expected from that *valuable* Acquisition. This Cause proceeds from the two former, the Want of *proper* Officers to judge *aright* of the real State of Things, and to gather from thence proper Calculations of what Duties the Trade will *bear*.

In Regard to the first and principal Cause, if a proper Governor was appointed in *Canada*, (for one would be sufficient both for *Quebec* and *Montreal* with Sub-Magistrates) he would give due Encouragement to Agriculture, by which Means the *vast* Country of *Canada* would produce a very considerable Quantity of Wheat. With the Assistance of the Merchants, and *without the Aid of Government*, he would give such Attention to the Fishery of *Salmon* and *Cod*, as to make it produce a Considerable Income ; besides the Increase of Trade, with the Mother Country. In the third Place, he
would,

would, by proper Management, encourage and encrease the Trade with the *Indians*, that they might take off a considerable Quantity of our Manufactures, and give us in Return their valuable Skins and Furs.

These three Articles of WHEAT, FISH; and FURS, would (if they were properly managed and superintended by a skilful Governor) make very great Returns for the *Manufactures* of *Great-Britain*. But these good Effects will never happen from the Causes complained of, that is, during the Government of a military Man, who employs his Time in *Party* and *Contention*; and is partial to one Body of Individuals, to the Disgust and Prejudice of another: So that the aforesaid Means for Returns are, in a great Measure, lost. The Consequence of which is, our Merchants send great Quantities of Goods and cannot get proper Returns, because the products of the Country are shamefully

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fully neglected, for Want of a qualified Governor to Superintend and Encourage ; and the Trade having no other Resources, (the Lumber not being worth speaking of, in Regard to the Trade with the Mother Country) the Merchants become Bankrupts and ruin their Friends in *England*, by whom they are supported, to the very great Loss of the State, which, by such bad Conduct, is deprived of the Advantages in Regard to the National Revenue, which would necessarily follow from a flourishing Trade. And she, (I mean the Mother Country) either with a View to refund the Expence of Government, or to follow the Counsel of *ill Advisers and Time-serving People*, lays injudicious Duties upon a Trade which is thrown into the utmost Confusion by the afore said Causes ; and therefore, instead of being able to raise Money to answer those Purposes, such Measures put it out of the Power of the Merchants to continue their Trade ;
and

and for the Want of that Trade the Government is deprived of the Duties, to the Disappointment both of Individuals and State. To remedy this, I would engage to pitch upon a Method of increasing the Trade, and of augmenting his Majesty's Revenue without any Inconvenience to the *one*, or Trouble to the *other*. But these Means of private and public Advantage I shall not communicate for the *military* and *naval* Gentry to make Use of for the Gratification of their own private Views. But shall mention it to those in Office, who are *willing* to give Attention, and who have the Interest of their Country so much at heart as to encourage those who are capable of making Trade and Commerce useful and advantageous to the Nation.

As to Governor *Commodore* PALLISER, I think he is, of all Men, the most unfit for Governor of a Trading Place. His *arbitrary* Notions, which are well known, will never endear him to the

Inhabitants ; but, on the contrary, make him thoroughly despised ; and his Want of commercial Abilities, will ever render his Attempts ineffectual and ridiculous. I wonder he is not as obnoxious to the Government of *England* as he is to the Trading People connected with the Place he is Governor of.

The Trade of *Newfoundland* is already of great Consequence to *Great-Britain*, in Regard to the Fishery ; but it may still be made more valuable in Regard both to that very Commerce, and also to the Fur Trade, which might be considerably improved and advanced ; but not under the Direction of *Commodore Palliser*, or any other *naval* or *military* Officer. TRADE must be *caressed* before it can be made to thrive ; and therefore, to make it flourish, a good Understanding, much Experience, and a suitable Temper ought to meet in the Governor, instead of *Ignorance* and an *over-bearing* Disposition. If a Governor was properly
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established at *Newfoundland*, it would pay all the Expence, and encrease the Trade without costing GREAT-BRITAIN a Farthing; by a Method which I shall also be ready to communicate when I am called upon by Authority. In the mean Time I wish the Friends of Mr. *Palliser* would inform the Public what Endowments he has to qualify him for such a Government; and as they must know the Whole of his Conduct, I also wish, that they would tell the Public what Reasons he had, and by what Authority he was pleased to forbid the Fishery of the Inhabitants of *Canada* on the Coast of *Labrador*; a Privilege which they had enjoyed before his Time, and who, in consequence of their Vicinity and Knowledge of the Fishery and Nature of the Place, had employed much Time, and expended a great Deal of Money to bring to Perfection. I know one Merchant in particular, who laid out between 2 and 3000 Pounds to make a proper Preparation for a Post and Nets

to carry on the Fishery, and after having disbursed so much Money, he and his associates were forbid by Mr. *Palliser* to carry on the Fishery, under severe Restrictions, to the very great Prejudice of the Gentlemen concerned, as well as of the Public; for no other People are so well qualified to carry on that Fishery as those in the *Canadian* Trade. What View our *Commodore* could have in such Conduct, I cannot say, unless he thought of reaping the Advantages either for himself, or for other People, to whom he is more attached. But if that was his View, I am certain he will be mistaken; since it is in the Power only of those People who are particularly acquainted with the Situation, and the *Means* of conducting the Fishery, and who have Money to advance to make the Erections and other Preparations, who can reap any Advantage by it. To others, who are ignorant, or who have not a thorough Notion of these Things, it must be a Loss of Time, dangerous in
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the Pursuit and ruinous in the Consequences. The Public must be at Loss to know what *Authority* Mr. *Palliser* had to make such an unsuitable Prohibition; for it cannot be thought that the Government of *Great-Britain* (whose Design is, or ought to be, from the Nature of her Constitution, to make Trade flourish for the Advantage of all her Subjects without Distinction) would authorise him to *injure* and *distress* any one Part of her Trading People; especially as such a Measure can answer no good Purpose. For every Person, who has any Knowledge of the Fishery on the Coast of *Labrador*, must be sensible of the Truth of what I have advanced, that there are no People so well *situated* and *qualified* to make any Thing of the Fishery on that Coast, as the People of *Canada*; nay, no other People (for Want of the Advantages of Situation and Knowledge, can carry it on without considerable Loss: whereas, if the *Canadians* (by whom I mean chiefly the
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People of *Quebec*) were properly encouraged therein, they would carry it on to considerable Advantage to themselves, and to the Public. Besides; as it can answer no Purpose but that of bringing Ruin on other People, who may injudiciously be concerned therein, it is both *impolitic* and cruel to deprive the *Canadians* of a Trade, which would be very convenient and beneficial to them; for it would be so considerable as to make *one third* of their Returns in Furs and Oil. It was accounted to be so much before, and it would be much more when it is brought to Perfection. But it is now obstructed, nay, forbidden very *strictly* by *Commedore* PALLISER, and *Captain* HAMILTON; so that the People of *Quebec*, who have a large Property in Buildings and Apparatus for the Fishery, can make no Use thereof; being obliged by such *arbitrary* Restrictions, to forsake the Trade and quit what belongs to them. But it is hoped that Justice will soon

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overtake the Offenders, and oblige those who have transgressed to make suitable Recompence to the Sufferers; and that proper Governors will be appointed with Instructions to leave the Trade open again, for the Benefit of all his Majesty's Subjects, particularly those who were the first Adventurers; and for the Advantage of the *British* Nation, which consists in the flourishing Condition of her Trading subjects in general.

I cannot quit my Discourse about the Trade of *Quebec* without observing how extremely cruel it was in those *time-serving* Sycophants in Public Office abroad, to advise the Measure for laying *unbearable Taxes on the Imports and Exports* of CANADA. For it is thought with great apparent Reason, the laying such exorbitant Duties was owing to *their* Officiousness. Those who have been influenced to second their Advices, must be extremely ignorant of the *Canadian* Trade; since People who have

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any Knowledge at all of it, could see immediately, the *Abjurdity* of such a Measure; nay, even the *Wickedness* of it. For the Trade of *Canada* does at present stand in Need of the greatest Assistance, owing to the Causes above-mentioned: And therefore there was good and weighty Reason to expect, that the Complaints made would have been redressed, and fit Encouragement given, to make the Trade of so valuable an Acquisition of Use and Advantage. But how greatly are the *Canadian* Traders disappointed! Instead of *the Protection* of the Mother Country to contribute to so good, so great an End, for their and her own Sake, they find themselves oppressed by Duties too great for the Trade to bear! the consequence of which I will not foretell. But, it should be remembered, that those which have attended the Stamp-Act have been very detrimental to the *British* Nation; because, that ill-judged Act, after giving
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immense Trouble, was repealed, to the great Discredit and Disadvantage of the Mother Country; not so much for the Value of the Money that was intended to be Raised, as for the Consequences; which begin already to be felt, by the resolute Determination of the *Americans*. This being the Situation of Things, it was quite *mal a propos*, quite *ill-judged*, to over-burthen and oppress by unbearable Duties, one Part of NORTH-AMERICA, so soon after the Complaints made and Disturbances occasioned by such improper and unconstitutional Measures in another Part.

The Proclamation issued at *Quebec* for levying the said Duties, gives the following Reason for that Measure :

“ That whilst the Colony of *Quebec*
 “ was under the Dominion of the
 “ *French* King, certain Revenues were
 “ raised therein, which, *if continued*,
 “ would probably produce more than
 “ sufficient to defray the Expences of
 “ the civil Government of the said Co-

“ lony, it being most certain, *that all*
 “ *the Duties payable to the FRENCH*
 “ *King before the Conquest and Cession,*
 “ *are now due and payable to, and in-*
 “ *vested in his Majesty, by Right of Con-*
 “ *quest, at common Law.*”

Whether DUTIES levied by the *French* King, (who governs his People by his own *absolute* Will) whilst the Colony of *Quebec* was under his Dominion, descends by *Right of Conquest*, to any one Part of the *British* Legislature, and becomes a *just Reason* for raising the said Duties, I will not venture to declare; chusing to leave that Point for abler Heads to determine; though it does not require extraordinary Penetration to determine whether the Measures of an *Arbitrary* Monarch ought to be laid down as a Rule of Conduct for a *free* Constitution. Or whether the Rights of an *absolute* State become, by Conquest, the Right of *any one* Branch of the *British* Legislature? As her Laws are
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made with a View to the common Interest, the Measures taken in consequence thereof, are for the common Concern, and the Advantage arising from such Measures, are most certainly for the Benefit of the Whole; therefore they ought, of course, to be made conducive (as much as possible) to the Happiness of all parts concerned therein, according as it may appear fit in the Eyes of the Legislature, from the Situation and Nature of Things. From whence it would appear to the Bulk of the Community, that Measures are taken in Proportion as Things are fitted and adapted for the Benefit of all in *common*, and not because the Measure had been adapted by an absolute Prince, and without, perhaps, considering how far it was prudent, from the real State and Nature of Things, to take such a Step. I will not pretend to say how far I am right in Regard to this Matter, but methinks it more consistent with the *British* Constitution to argue
after

this Manner, than to produce the Example of an *Arbitrary* Power as a Rule of Conduct for a *free* Constitution.

The Trade of *Canada*, before the Duties were laid, was in a *bad* Situation; and since those Duties have been imposed, it is in a *deplorable* one. Overloaded with IMPORTS, and *few* Articles for EXPORTS, to make Returns; no Paper Business, or other Resources; must necessarily make a *bad* Trade. The Brandy Trade, which was a very considerable IMPORT from *England* (very advantageous to the Mother Country) is ruined by an injudicious unproportioned Duty upon it; and to make the Matter *worse*, a smaller Duty in Proportion, is laid on *American* Rum, which enables the Colonists to send it to *Quebec*, and as they sell it cheaper than *British* Brandy, they have the Preference, and ruin the Brandy Trade of *England*; with this Advantage to the *Americans*, that they are paid in Specie, which carries all the Money out of

of *Canada*, and is a considerable Disadvantage to that Country. The most considerable Articles of EXPORT are WHEAT and FURS; the latter are purchased to great Disadvantage of the Inhabitants, in payment of IMPORTS sold to them: Because, as they are sensible that the Merchants (for Want of other Resources) must have those Articles to make their Returns to *England*, the *Canadians* take the Advantage and make the Merchants pay a greater Price than they can afford to give; this being a Case of Necessity, the Merchant is obliged to submit, and make the best of a bad Bargain of Furs. And there is no doubt but the same will happen in regard to Wheat, whenever it is much wanted. There is this further Disadvantage to the *Canadian* Trade, besides the Loss of their Fishery on the Coast of *Labrador*, there is great Reason for them to apprehend the total Loss of the Fur Trade in *Canada*; which, it is supposed,

posed, will be carried thro' another Channel, to humour Sir *William Johnson*; and which, if carried into Execution, will finish the Ruin of the *Canadian Trade*, which is of the utmost Consequence to *Great-Britain*. In the Interim, may it not be supposed, with a great Deal of Reason, that if such a Scheme should be put into Execution, in consequence of Sir *William's* Solicitation, a greater Regard will be had to the considerable Possessions and Advantage of that Gentleman, than to the Interest and Welfare of the *British Nation*?

Having now done with the *Canadian Trade* and Government, I beg leave to observe further that what I have remarked touching the wrong Measure of making *military* and *naval* Officers Governors in *Canada*, &c. holds equally good in regard to all other commercial Places. And to give further Proof thereof, One need only expose to Public View and impartial Consideration the Conduct of another
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Northern Hero, Governor *Johnstone* of *West Florida*. A Man who, (one would think,) has labour'd very hard to bring upon himself the ODIUM of every Person belonging to his Government; and upon his Promoters the Censure of the Public for making such a Choice. Instead of gaining the LOVE and ruling the AFFECTIONS of the People belonging to his Government (with a View to their general Happiness and to answer the good Purposes of the *British* Nation) he seems to have made it his whole STUDY to disagree with every One of those whom he was necessarily connected with; to thwart their Endeavours, and frustrate every good Design for the common Interest, and Benefit of the State. By which extraordinary Behaviour (almost past Belief) instead of gaining Love he has incurred the Ill-will and Contempt of every One, and fully brought about the Prediction of our patriotic North Briton; who foretold the bad Consequences which would arise from

appointing this very *unqualified* Man to the Government of a commercial People.

I have already observed that it is absolutely necessary for the Governor of a trading, free and spirited People, to be a Man of Abilities, great Experience in commercial Affairs, and one who has Temper. That is, One who has not great Passions, or who has the Government of them; for if a Man cannot subdue his own Passions and keep them concealed, it is impossible for him to have so great a Command over himself as to govern other People by the Rules of Reason and Laws of Equity, from which none ought to deviate in the least, in the Administration of Justice, or in the impartial Distribution of Benefits to a trading People, who are entitled to equal Protection, equal Advantages, by their Constitution, or Nature of Government; which, not the Legislature itself has a just Right or Title to deprive them of: much less a Governor, who is a mere Servant of the Legislature,
and

and appointed for the Service of the Public to superintend and see the Regulations of the Legislature properly executed.

Now were I to ask even the very Friends of Governor *General* MURRAY, Governor *Admiral* PALLISER and Governor *Captain* JOHNSTONE, whether either of them have any just Pretensions to the aforefaid Qualifications, namely, Abilities, Experience of commercial Affairs, a suitable *Temper*, or the Government and Command over their Passions, so as to see Things in a true Light and judge of them with *strict Impartiality* for the common Good, I dare say they would unanimously with one Voice, answer in the Negative. Not but they would be glad to draw a Veil over the Imperfections of their Friends and represent them in a more amiable Light to the World, but because the contrary is so very manifest to the Public that their Testimony would only oppose obvious Truth, and almost palpable Evidence. It being well known that these Officers are

not possessed of any of these principal and most necessary Qualifications. By *Nature* extremely warm, with strong Passions, (which they do not endeavour to command or govern) and by *Profession* arbitrary; how is it possible that either these Gentlemen or any other *military* or *naval* Officers should be duly qualified to govern a free commercial People, according to the mild Laws of their Constitution and the good Policy of a trading Nation? No. the contrary must necessarily happen. And we have the Misfortune to experience it at this Time. But it is hoped, that the present Ministry will soon find a Remedy for so great an Evil: And by removing the Cause, prevent the sad Effects in Future. There is no Doubt but so great an Object will be duly and timely attended to, but if it should be neglected by our Ministry, and unqualified *martial* and *naval* Officers continue to govern a commercial People, instead of proving themselves Friends, they will shew them-

themselves Enemies to their Country, and bring upon them the Odium of the Public, instead of gaining the Approbation of the State, and the Love and Affections of their Fellow Subjects.

I am,

A Friend to Trade,

An Enemy to arbitrary oppressive Measures,

and consequently

An *untainted* Englishman.

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