

PART I

THE DAY, THE LIFE, THE MAN, THE WRITINGS

INTRODUCTION

JOSIAH TUCKER (1713-1799) was an English clergyman who wrote many volumes and pamphlets upon theological, upon political, and upon economic subjects. This study aims to analyze his economic writings and to estimate their worth. To understand a writer or fairly to interpret his works, it is necessary to know his social environment, his life and his personality. The three chapters which immediately follow suggest the main economic problems with which eighteenth century Great Britain was concerned, give in outline the commercial and industrial conditions in Bristol, Tucker's city of residence during his productive half century, state the salient facts in Tucker's life, and present his leading traits of character.