

## **Profits**

**The rate of profit does not,  
like rent and wages,  
rise with the prosperity, and fall with  
the decension, of the society.**

**On the contrary,  
it is naturally low in rich  
and high in poor countries,  
and is always highest in the countries  
which are going fastest to ruin.**

**Adam Smith,  
Wealth of Nations, Book I, Chapter 11**