

rather to make Seamen to man his Ships at the beginning of his late fatal Greatness? How did he oblige all his Merchant Ships to carry more Men than their Complement (or Complement) to Sea upon every Voyage? and besides that, a certain Number still more upon the King's Account, and paid by the Royal Treasury, that those Men being inur'd to the Sea, might be afterwards fit for his Service.

How did he invite foreign Sailors, especially *Irish* and *Scots*, to serve in his Fleet, by Offers of Preferment, and extraordinary Wages, manning his best Ships with such, because he found them better and more experienc'd Seamen than his own Subjects?

EVEN the *Dutch* themselves, if a War presents, as was the Case more than once in their former Wars with *England*, and was in 1689, and 1690, are oblig'd to stop their *Greenland* Fleet, and even sometimes their Herring Fishery, or, at least, to shorten the Number, in order to man their Fleets.

WHEREAS the *English*, some small Embargoes excepted, for a Week or ten Days at a Time, never put a full Stop to any general Head of Trade, for want of Seamen; on the contrary, in the hottest Press, and when Seamen are wanting on any sudden Expedition, yet they grant Exemptions and Protections, upon the ordinary Representations of the Merchants and of the Cities and Towns; as, to the Coal Trade from
New-

Newcastle, the Mackrel and Herring-Fishing Smacks in their Seasons, and to their outward bound Merchants on many Occasions: And this was done in the late King *William's* Time, even when the Government required 40000 Seamen to man the Fleet, and when two or three Hundred Ships at a Time were employed in the Transport Service to *Ireland*, and other Places.

How could this be, if the Magnitude of the *English* Trade was not, as I have said, a Kind of Prodigy in the World, such as is no where now to be equalled, or was ever before heard of?

THESE I take to be solid Proofs of the general Proposition; they are no Rhodomontades or Boasts; the Case does not want such mean Helps to set it out; the Thing is not private and conceal'd, for a few to know and be called upon to give in Evidence, the whole World are Witnesses; where to the Southward of our Channel is the Port or the Place of Trade, in *Europe*, *Africa* or *America*, where among all foreign Ships that enter their Harbours, the *English* are not the most in Number? at *Lisbon*, at *Cadiz*, at *Malaga*, at *Messina*, at *Leghorn*, at *Genoa*, at *Zant*, at *Venice*; read any of the publick Advices, there is ordinarily more *English* Ships, not only than of any other Nation, but generally more than of all the other Nations
put

put together. The last Account I saw went thus,

Lisbon	{	French Ships	—	—	—	18	
		Dutch	—	—	—	5	
		Swedes	—	—	—	2	
		Hamburghers	—	—	—	1	
Cadiz	{	English	—	—	—	50	
		French	—	—	—	12	
		Dutch	—	—	—	3	
		Hamburghers	—	—	—	2	
Leghorn	{	Swedes	—	—	—	1	
		English	—	—	—	18	
		French	—	—	—	5	
		Dutch	—	—	—	2	
		{	English	—	—	—	8

And so of several other Ports.

As for *America*, we see hardly any *French* or *Dutch* in any of the Ports or Places of the Country, except the *French* Bankers off of *Newfoundland*, and a few Ships at *Canada*; the *Dutch*, with all their powerful Commerce, have scarce any Thing to do there.

THESE I call Demonstrations of the Greatness of our Commerce in general; 'tis true it is not a Detail of Particulars, neither is it needful to our Subject.

I have met with some who have pretended to be critical in those Things, and have made Estimates of the Value of the Woollen Manufacture in the whole; and they have

have told us, that they allow it to be five Millions *Sterling* exported, and two Millions *Sterling* the Home Consumption. These Calculations I take to be much of a Piece with those general Guesses formerly made at the Value of our old Coin; some would have it to be three Millions, and others four; and the last pretended to speak with Judgment, and with a Kind of Authority, and took upon them to make the World believe they knew something more than common.

FROM this assuming positive Way they went on, to make a Judgment of other publick Things, as the Proportion of People, the Value of Lands, the Number of Acres in *England*, and what such and such Taxes might raise; by all which it past with the World as a just Calculation, that the current Coin was 4 Millions of Silver Money; and when upon these Presumptions they adventur'd upon that great Work of reforming the Coin, and calling in the old Money, they found the Sum nearer to twelve Millions than to four; which Mistake plung'd the famous Mr. *Montague*, afterwards Lord *H-----x*, into unexpected Difficulties, which required his utmost Skill to go thro', and which a Genius less than his, would have been in Danger to have been funk under.

CALCULATIONS in Cases where there is no Principle to calculate from, no given Number

Number or Rule to begin at, should never obtain too much upon us; the judging by or from such Calculations leads Men, of otherwise great Penetration, oftentimes into fatal Mistakes, such as at least touch the Reputation of their Understandings and Judgment; and sometimes such as expose them to Contempt; such were the Guesses of that great Pretender to politick Arithmetick, Sir *William Petty*, whose Calculations of the Numbers of the Houses, and Families, and Inhabitants in *London*, and other populous Cities, were not erroneous only, but we may say have been since prov'd absurd, and even ridiculous.

I give therefore no Heed to those Guesses of five Millions and two Millions, in the Account of the Value of our Manufacture, there being no Rule or Foundation to make such an Estimate upon, and it may be too little or too much, none knows whether.

BUT all this, without Impeachment of my general Proposition, *viz.* that the Magnitude of our Woollen Manufacture is a Prodigy in Trade.

I must therefore be allowed here to enter into some Comparisons, and to talk by Allusion in Behalf of this particular Branch of our Commerce, and that is, that it is not only prodigious great, but that it by far out-does, and goes beyond any single Branch of Trade, or any particular Manufacture
of

of any other Nation, at least in these Parts of the World.

IT is true, the Linen Manufacture is a Thing so universally useful, so wanted and called for in all Parts, that if any Thing in the World out-does our Wool, it is the Flax, and this I might grant, without Prejudice I say to my general Proposition.

FOR this is not a national Manufacture, but a Manufacture of many Nations; and I might almost say of all Nations, even from *Egypt* in the *Levant*, where we have Reason to believe it began, to *Russia* at the Bottom of the *Baltick*; whereas the Woollen Manufacture, as now describ'd, is a *Nostrum*, a Peculiarity to *England*, and to no other Country in the World, except *Ireland*, which is our own.

THE Wool, as I have said, is an exclusive Grant from Heaven to *Great Britain*, 'tis peculiar to this Country, and no other Nation has it, or any thing equal to it in the World; and the Manufacture is of Consequence singular to us also; nor do all the Depredations made upon it by Imitation, by Application for the getting Wool either from us by Stealth, or from remote Countries, as *Saxony*, *Silesia*, *Poland*, *Barbary*, and the like, amount to much; far from so much as *England* need be concerned at them; while she has the Wool, her Trade is invulnerable, at least no mortal, final, destructive
Blow

Blow can be given it; of which I shall say more in its Place.

AGAIN, the Callico and the Silk Manufactures in the East *Indies* are (at least for *Asia*) an universal Manufacture; so great, that spreading into *Europe*, they become a general Grievance, and are already prohibited from being imported in several Kingdoms and Countries in *Europe*, the Quantity is so great.

BUT these again are the Manufactures of many Nations, Kingdoms, nay Empires of Nations, such as the Empire of *China*, and of the great *Mogul*, the Kingdoms of *Golconda*, of *Siam*, of *Cochinchina*, and many more, too long to reckon up.

BUT the Woollen Manufacture, as above, is singular to our Nation, no People in the World can come up to us in the Workmanship, or have the Materials; not that I am, or will be partial to my Countrymen, as if they were the Nonparels of the World for manufacturing of Wool; 'tis evident, other Nations would go a great Way with them in it, if not outdo them, if they had the Wool, the main Principle of the Manufacture to work upon; but it cannot be, they have it not, nor can have it, the whole World cannot supply it; they may get some Wool in one Country, and some in another, and too much they get clandestinely from *England*, and much too much, from *Ireland*; and with this the *French* make some Things very

very well, nor should I deny this Justice to that diligent Nation to own, that considering the Shifts they are put to for Wool, they shew themselves but too good Manufacturers in making such Things as they do.

BUT what does it amount to? they supply themselves perhaps, and 'tis a great Step, if they can do that; but it must be remembered, that it is because their Government obliges them to make Shift with it, and to wear their own Works, however defective; a Wisdom we cannot arrive to, tho' we have the Manufacture in its utmost Perfection: *Of which in its Order.*

BUT after all, they do not supply themselves neither, and in Spite of the severest Prohibition, in Spite of Tyranny, and the Terror of an absolute Government, they do, and will get *English* Manufactures in, and do import very great Quantities too, as I could demonstrate by undeniable Evidences of Fact.

WHAT else means the great and sudden Export of *English* Goods to *Leghorn*, more just after the Stop of the *English* Commerce with *France* than ever before? what the continued Export of the same Goods to *Dunkirk*? and above all, what means the Commerce between *Holland* and *France* by the *Maes* and the *Sambre*, and by the *Lys* and the *Scheld*.

AND why? if the *French* make their Manufactures equal to others, I say, Why is it, that

that when the *French* Gentlemen make a Tour over hither to see the Country, or to visit the Court, they bring no more Clothes with them, than those on their Backs, but make them more Clothes as soon as they come hither, and always carry several Suits of Clothes Home with them?

ON the contrary, if an *English* Gentleman goes Abroad into *France* to travel, he always makes himself new Clothes, and carries them with him; I speak now of the Gentlemen of Quality that do not want Clothes, or Money to buy them.

THE Reason is plain, the *Frenchman* can get none so good at Home as he can buy Abroad, and the *Englishman* can get none so good Abroad, as he can buy at Home.

IT is the like with the Linen and Lace in *Holland* and *Flanders*, if an *English* Gentleman travels into *Flanders* or *Holland*, he carries as little Linen as possible out with him, but gets all he wants made there; and when he comes back, he is sure to make himself two or three Dozen of fine Shirts, and to lace them at the Neck and Hands with fine Bone Lace.

ON the contrary, if a *Dutchman*, or *French Gentleman* comes over to *England*, he is always well furnish'd with Linen and Lace before he comes.

THE Reasons are just the reverse of what is said above; the *Dutchman* or *Fleming* can get none so cheap Abroad as he can buy
at

at Home, and the *Englishman* can get none so cheap at Home, as he can buy Abroad.

I give this Instance of the *French*, because they are the People who are said to have made the most considerable Advances in the Woollen Manufacture; and much has been said, and much fruitless Pains taken to insinuate, that the *French* make our Goods to Perfection; nay, some will tell you, the *French* out-do us, and undersell us at Market; which is a great Mistake, and even in the *Turkey* Trade, which is the Top of their Performance, and the Goods they send thither are certainly the best of their Performance; yet I appeal to the Men of Experience even in that Trade, whether they out-do us; whether, as is mention'd in our first Chapter, a Bale of *their Cloth* will weigh as much, or sell for as much at Market, as a Bale of *English Cloth*? and whether in general, the *English Cloth* is not rather bought, tho' at a dearer Price, by the *Turkish* and *Armenian* Merchants, I mean those who are the chief Dealers in those Goods, than a Bale of the *French*.

It is true, there are in all Markets a sort of Buyers, who take up with the Goods of an inferior Quality, for the Sake of a cheap Price, and these will buy the *French Cloths*: And the worst Goods will find a Chapman, as well as the best, if the Price be accordingly.

IT is true also, the *French* Cloths carry as good a Face as the *English*, are as well drest, as well pack'd and set off, and the Colours are as fine; so that it is not hard to deceive the unexperienc'd Buyer: And this is not the only Example of the superficial Performances of that Nation, who are very rarely wanting in Outsides, whatever they are within; but the Substance is wanting, the real intrinsic Worth of the Goods is found in the *English* Cloths, and in them only; there is all the Beauty of Colour, and the Ornament of Dress, and the Substance too; and this, whether the first Buyer can discover it or no, the last Buyer and Consumer, the *Turkish* or *Persian* Gentleman, *Aga* or *Bassa* that wears it, finds it out presently; one will wear firm and smooth, and solid to the last; the other wears rough, light, spungy, and into Rags; and when this Man buys again, he calls for *English* Cloth, he will have no more *French* Cloth, for it did him no Service, it did not wear well.

IF I did not speak this from the Experience and personal Knowledge of those that have been upon the Spot, and been Witnesses to the very Fact, I should not take upon me to affirm it thus positively; but I may appeal for the Truth of it to unanswerable Evidence, nor is there Room to dispute it; the Nature of the Thing speaks it, the *French* Cloth, with all its superficial *French* Gloss upon it, is fine, but thin and spungy, and

and will do the Wearer neither Credit or Service, while the *English* Cloth wears to the last like a Board, firm and strong, and has a kind of Beauty even in its Rags.

HENCE I infer, we have no such Reason to terrify our selves with the Apprehensions of other Nations ruining our Trade, and out-doing us in our woollen Manufacture; let us but keep our Wool at Home, and we need be in no Pain for our Manufacture any where: *But of that hereafter.*

I return to the Magnitude of our Woollen Manufacture; which, as I have said above, I insist is the greatest single Manufacture, and occasions the greatest Trade both Abroad and at Home, of any Manufacture that is to be found in any particular Nation in the World, be that Nation otherwise as much greater, richer, or more populous than we are, as you will.

BUT there is yet another thing to be considered in the *English* Woollen Manufacture, which is above all our Boasts; and were we to use the utmost Partiality, and the utmost Art to compliment our own Country, and set out the Beauty and Usefulness of our Manufacture, nothing could be equal to this.

IT is not only great from the prodigious Quantity of the Wool, the Numbers of the People employ'd in it, the vast Quantity of Goods made, and the Beauty and Perfection of the Performance: But the Extensiveness of its Consumption, is another Prodigy

digy in Trade; and I cannot pass it without some Notice: I'll be as brief as I can.

LINEN is a Thing universally worn and wanted; and few People of any tolerable Figure or Fashion in the World are, or can be without it: But then, more or less, all the Nations of *Europe* make it; and all they have to do, is only as it were to exchange Sorts with one another.

THE Silk Manufacture is very great, and in all Nations some or other of it is made use of; but then, 'tis made in many Countries, and is exported from one to another in Trade several Ways, the *French*, the *Italians*, the *Venetians*, the *Dutch*, the *Flemings*; and now the *English*, make all their own, and carefully exclude the *East Indian* Silks from their Countries.

THE *Russian* and *Turkish* Empire are supply'd from *Persia*, and the *Spaniards* and *Africans* South, and the *Germans* and *Swedes* North, from *India*, the Variety spreads as the Situation of the Countries, and as the Commerce directs.

THE Callicoes are sent from the *Indies* by Land into *Turky*, by Land and Inland Seas into *Muscovy* and *Tartary*, and about by long-Sea into *Europe* and *America*, till in general they are become a Grievance, and almost all the *European Nations* but the *Dutch*, restrain and prohibit them.

BUT take our *English* Woollen Manufacture, and go where you will you find it;

'tis

'tis in every Country, in every Market, in every trading Place; and 'tis receiv'd, valued, and made use of, nay, call'd for and wanted every where. In a Word, all the World wears it, all the World desires it, and all the World almost envies us the Glory and Advantage of it.

NOR is it the Dress of the Mean and the Poor in the several Countries where it spreads, but of the Best and Richest: The Princes, nay, at this Time I may say, the Kings of the Earth, are cloth'd with it. I appeal to all his Majesty's Servants, who have had the Honour of his Commission as Ambassadors, and Residents in foreign Countries, and the Courts of Princes throughout *Europe*, whether they have not seen the *Czar of Muscovy*, the Kings of *Sweden*, *Denmark*, *Prussia*, *Poland*; nay, even the Emperor of *Germany* himself, cloathed in *English* Cloth.

THE King of *Spain* vouchsafes, even on his Days of Ceremony, to appear in a Bays Cloak; the *Grand Seignior*, Lord of the whole *Turkish* Empire, has his Robe of *English* Cloth, and the *Sophy* of *Persia*, amidst all his *Persian* and *Indian* Silks, wears his long Gown of Crimson *Broad Cloth*, and esteems it, as it really is, the noblest Dress in the World.

As it is with the Princes, it is, and ever will be with the People, the Nobility, the Gentlemen, and in a Word, the Burghers, the best and wealthiest of the People are

generally cloath'd with it; nay, so far has it prevail'd, that in *Russia* and *Sweden*, and other cold Climates, it has been known, that those who could not go to the Price of *English Cloth*, have bought the Lists of it which the Taylors cut off, sowed them together, and lin'd them with Furs, to make them long Robes or Garments, which they wore in that Country, till the late *Czar* cut them shorter for them.

AND this brings me back to the Imitations which the People of these several Countries are said to run into, to the Prejudice of our Manufacture. 'Tis true, the *Swedes*, the *Prussians*, and several other People, do imitate the *English* Manufacture, and would gladly do it universally for the Advantage of their People; and we cannot blame them; nay, even this alone is a Document, an authentick Voucher to the Truth of what I have said: For if our Woollen Manufacture were not necessary to them, they would not buy it of us; and if not profitable, they would not attempt to mimick and make it.

BUT what does it all amount to? they are able indeed to make the coarsest and meanest of the Manufacture, and that just enough to cover and cloath the Boors, and most despicable of their People; those whose Cloathing was our coarse Duffells, Wadmill, Half thicks, and in general a kind of the coarsest Kerfies, but a Degree or two above Blankets; or perhaps, the meanest of our Dozens,
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and what we call *Yorshire* Cloths: And even this is done but indifferently neither.

BUT in all these Countries, the People of Fashion still cloath with our *English* fine broad Cloth; and 'tis ordinary to have a Ship bound to *Gottenburgh*, or to *Stockholm*, carry 500 or 1000 *Spanish Cloths* at a Time into *Sweden*; by *Spanish* Cloths I mean the fine medly Cloths, such exactly as we wear here, which are mix'd with *Spanish* Wool in the Making, and therefore call'd *Spanish* Cloths.

IT is the same at *Stetin* and *Koningsburgh*, *Straelsund* or *Dantzick*, notwithstanding the Kings of *Prussia* and *Poland*, prohibiting our Cloths, and setting their own People to Work.

TO conclude; our Manufacture is the general Wear, for therein the Argument is forcible; 'tis not that some of it is to be had everywhere, for so might be said of several other Things, as of the *French* fine Stuffs, Silks and Druggets, and other light spungy Manufacture of Hair and Silk mingled with Wool, &c.

BUT the *English* broad Cloth is the general Wear; the Druggets, Serges, Du-roys, Kerfies, Camlets; in a Word, the Woollen Manufactures of *Great Britain* are the general Wear in all the Countries in *Europe*.

THE *Muscovites*, as I have said, wore them formerly in their long Vests, the *Germans*, the *Poles*, the *Swedes* are clothed
N 4 with

with them universally; witness the great Marts or Fairs, of *Leipsick* and *Frankfort*, where such exceeding Quantities of them are sold every Year, as is said above, and witness the Cities of *Hamburg*, *Lubeck*, *Bremen* and *Emden*, by which all the Provinces of the lower *Germany* are supplied.

NOT a capital City in the Empire, but you may find the Shops of the Tradesmen stor'd with *English* Cloth, as far as the Navigation of the *Elb*, the *Oder*, or the *Weissel* can convey them; the *Rhine*, the *Maes*, the *Moselle*, the *Saar*, the *Main*, the *Neckar*, the *Danube*, they all assist to hand it on, not at *Prague* only, not at *Vienna*, not at *Munich*, but even at *Buda* and *Belgrade*, it is to be sold; and the best Gentlemen in the Country buy it, if they do not, 'tis for Want of Money, and not for Want of Will.

FROM the Empire, and the northern Countries, come away into the *Mediterranean*, I have mention'd the *Turkish* Court, there you see the *Bassas*, the *Agas*, the *Kadileschars*, and even the *Grand Seigneur*, cloth'd with *English* Cloth, even in their Habits of Ceremony.

FROM thence you come to *Italy*, 'tis the same there, and the great Fair at *Messina* is an undeniable Evidence of it, where there is seldom so little as an Hundred Thousand Pound Value, sold in our *English* Woollen Manufacture every Season, such as *Druggets*,

gets, *Du-Roys*, *Sagathyes*, *Camlets*, with all other Sorts of Mens Stuffs, and broad Cloth it self; and tho' they have wrought Silks in such Abundance, and so cheap, yet you see the *Italians* generally clothed in *English* Cloth or thin Stuffs; the Clergy in black Bays, the Nuns are vail'd with fine Says, and *Long Ells*, and even the noble *Venetians* wear our fine Cloth for their best Dress.

AT *Rome* it is the same, the foreign Princes and Ambassadors, and the *Italian* Princes themselves, wear it at *Millan*, at *Turin*, at *Naples*, even at *Rome*, 'tis all the same: As to *France*, I mention'd it already, and I scarce need name the *Spaniards* and the *Portuguese*.

WHAT one Manufacture like this can boast of so general a Reception, or of being the Favourite Dress of the whole Christian World? If we should go over to *America*, whether to the *Brasils*, the flourishing Colony of the *Portuguese*, how many Hundred Thousand Moyd'ors a Year do we receive from thence, for the *English* Manufactures worn and consumed there, notwithstanding the intense Heat of the Place? 'tis the same Thing at *Mexico*, the most luxurious, extravagant, and profuse City and Country in the World; even there the utmost Pride of the proudest People upon Earth, is to be clothed in the *English* Cloth, and to have their Waistcoats and Breeches

Breeches of fine Camlets, and other Stuffs of Crimson and Scarlet; and over all, a Cloak of our *Essex Bays*.

'Tis the same at *Cartagena*, at *Panama*, at *Lima* and *St. Jago*, the Capital richest Cities of their several Countries; some of them situate within ten Degrees of the Equinox, and where the Heats are almost unsufferable; which I mention to observe to you, how well our Manufactures are adapted to all Countries, Climates, Persons, and Qualities; not too thin for the frozen *Laplanders*, *Swedes*, and *Russians*, or too thick for the scorch'd *Americans* and Inhabitants of *Peru* and *Brazil*; not too light for the *Germans*, or too heavy for the *Italians*.

IN Value 'tis the same; not too cheap for the Nobility, no not for the Kings and the Emperors of the World; not too dear for the Burghers and the Tradesmen, no not for the Boors, and the Peasants; not too gay for the Men, not too grave for the Ladies: We find in common, the *British* Manufacture is the general Wear, as well of Poor as rich; the highest Sovereign, and the most retir'd Recluse; 'tis the best Habit of the best of their People, in every Nation in *Europe*, *Asia*, *Africa* and *America*; the only Country where it is not so, is that Part of *Asia*, which we call the *East Indies*, where the infinite Variety of their own Manufactures, and the little Time that the
English

English have traded among them, has not yet made its Way; yet we find it begins to be received in *China*, and also at the Court of the *Mogul*; and as the Number of *Europeans* encrease in the *Indies*, there is Room to believe the *British* Manufactures will gain Ground among them too; It is evident, that at *Melinda*, and the other *Portuguese* Settlements on the East Coast of *Africa*, beyond the Cape of *Good Hope*, where the *Portuguese* have brought the Natives to wear Clothes, even within five Degrees of the Line; there the *British* Manufacture, carried by the *Portuguese* to them, are the general Habit, as well of the Natives, as of the *Portuguese*, among whom they dwell.

WHAT can be more plain than these Facts, of which the whole World are Witnesses? And what can be a clearer Proof of the Magnitude of our Woollen Manufacture? I think I need say no more about it.

WHAT Wonder then, that the several Nations endeavour to set their own People to work to make it? How could any other be expected? That also is a farther Testimony of its intrinsic Value, and the Necessity of it in Use.

1st, IT appears, that they cannot be without it.

2^{dly}, THAT it is to be had no where else.

I. THEY

1. THEY cannot be without it; if any other Sort of Goods would supply, if their Linens would cloath the *Germans*, or their Silks the *Italians*; if any Thing of their own Growth would be equivalent to them, why do they not prohibit ours, as they do the Silks and Callicoes of *India*? I mean in general, as the *Spaniards* most ridiculouſly did a few Months ſince, without having any thing for their People to wear in the Room of them; which made their very Women laugh at them, and ask their Husbands where they would get Cloths.

It is true ſome Princes have prohibited ſome of our Manufactures; that is to ſay, ſuch particular Sorts as their own Wool, and their own People can make; but where is the Prince or People, Kingdom or Empire in the World, the *Indies* excepted, who will, or indeed can be wholly without our Woollen Manufacture?

- 2. THAT it is not to be ſupplied from any other Country, is as evident as the other; for where is that Country, and why are they not as rich, as opulent, as powerful at Sea, and on Shore, as *England* is?

WHERE is the Country? if there is not a Country, as I have prov'd above, that has or can have an equivalent Manufacture, or that does not buy from us, How ſhould there be a Country that can ſupply its Neighbours?

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BUT why do not ſome of the Nations, who envy the Profits and Advantages of this Manufacture to us, and who would be careful to keep at home the immense Sums of Money, which this (to us happy) Article draws from them; I ſay, Why do they not publiſh a general Prohibition, not of this or that particular Sort of our Goods, but of all Woollen Goods whatſoever, and from what Country ſoever?

Is it poſſible, that they can find out no Equipment for themſelves? Might not the Men in *Italy* and *Spain* cloath themſelves in thick Silks, Velvets, and ſtrong *Paduaſoys*? and in the North, might not the *Poles*, the *Ruſſians*, the *Swedes*, the *Danes*, the *Pruſſians*, the *Saxons* dreſs themſelves in rich Furrſ, Skins of Beaſts, ſuch as the Sables and Ermines, Beaver, Otter, and black Fox Skins, the latter more valuable than Ermines?

METHINKS the *Germans*, and *Italians*, who are ſuch Maſters of the Linen and Silk Manufactures, and have the Advantage of ſuch Quantities of Furrſ as the *Ruſſians* could furniſh them with, might improve them into ſome Form, and turn them into ſome Shape, ſo as to ſupply their Want of Clothes, and not impoveriſh themſelves and their Country to buy Foreign Manufactures: The reverend grave Sables, and the royal Ornaments of Ermines, might ſerve to gratify their Vanity, and make them all, like thoſe Corporation-

poration-Princes, called Aldermen; and they might cloath as rich in Furs and Fox-Skins as they pleas'd, if the Outside was plain, the Inside would be great and rich, and the Climate would reconcile them to the Warmth of the Dress:

BUT 'tis impossible; it will not do; nothing can answer all the Ends of Dress, but good *English* broad Cloth, fine Camlets, Druggets, Serges, and such like; these they must have, and with these none but *England* can supply them; Be their Country hot or cold, torrid or frigid, 'tis the same Thing, near the Equinox, or near the Pole, the *English* Woollen Manufacture clothes them all; here it covers them warm, from the freezing Breath of the Northern *Bear*; and there it shades them, and keeps them cool from the scorching Beams of a perpendicular Sun.

LET no Man wonder, that the Woollen Manufacture of *England* is arriv'd to such a Magnitude, when in a Word it may be said to cloath the World; there are but three Sorts of People in the World that do not use it.

1st, THOSE that cloath altogether with Callicoes, and Silks, as in *India*; the Manufactures of their own Country.

2^{dly}, THOSE that living in some hot Countries, wear no Cloths at all. And,

3^{dly}, THOSE who are so very poor and despicable, that they cannot get it.

CHAP.



CHAP. VI.

Of the Magnitude of the British Commerce, as it respects the Consumption of foreign Goods imported from abroad, as well as of our own Product and Manufacture at home.



OUR Manufactures, and other Exportations are thus great, and the Consumption and Export of our own, whether Product or Manufactures, are so much a Prodigy for their Magnitude, and are thus extended to all Parts of the World, our Importations are no less prodigious; and this the rather, because of the great Consumption of those Importations among our selves, as well as their Exportation as Merchandize.

IT must be acknowledg'd, that the Trade of the *Dutch* by foreign Importations, is also very great, and may be said to exceed the Importations of *England*; and I believe in many Articles they do so, if we consider their *East Country* Fleets, their *Greenland* Fleets,

Fleets, their *East India*, their *French Wine*, and their Herring Fleets, and all their other Branches of Trade to *Turky*, and to the *Mediterranean*; and especially their Importations of *woollen Manufacture*, *Sugars*, *Tobaccos*, wrought and other Plantation Goods; *Lead*, *Tin*, *Iron*, and *Brass*; *Drugs*, *Dye Stuffs*, *Corn*, &c. from *England*.

BUT then the *Dutch* must be understood to be as they really are, the *Carriers of the World*, the middle Persons in Trade, the Factors and Brokers of *Europe*: That, as is said above, they *buy to sell* again, *take in to send out*; and the greatest Part of their vast Commerce consists in being supply'd from all Parts of the World, that they may supply all the World again: Thus they supply some Nations with *Corn*, others with *Ships*, or *Naval Stores* for *Ships*; others with *Arms* and *Ammunition* of all kinds; such as *Powder*, *Shot*, *Shells*, *Lead*, *Iron*, *Copper*, *Cannon*, *Mortars*, &c. others with *Fish*, others with *woollen Manufactures*, *and the like*; and yet, they have neither *Corn*, *Hemp*, *Tar*, *Timber*, *Lead*, *Iron*, *Arms*, *Ammunition*, *woollen Manufacture*, or *Fish* of their own Growth; the Product of their own Land or Seas, or Labour of their own People, other than as *Navigators* and *Seamen*, to fetch, find, and carry them.

NOR is their home Consumption of foreign Importations great, except of *Corn* and

woollen Manufacture; their People are few, compar'd to foreign Nations, tho' many compar'd to the Country where they dwell; their Way of Living is sparing, their Excesses few and mean, and their Ostentation or Gayety very low priz'd.

BUT in *England*, the Country is large, populous, rich, fruitful; the Way of Living, large, luxurious, vain and expensive, even to a Profusion, the Temper of the People gay, ostentatious, vicious, and full of Excesses; even criminally so in some Things, and too much encreasing in them all.

HENCE comes as a Consequence, a vast Importation of foreign Growth of every kind, either for Eating or Drinking, for Fancy or Fashions, and this so great, as not to be equall'd in any Part of the World; the Fact seems a Charge, tho' not design'd as such, but to illustrate the Subject: But I must descend a little to Particulars, to make it out.

I am credibly inform'd, and firmly believe it to be true, that take all the maritime Nations of *Europe*, where no Wine is made, and cast them up together, they do not import so much Wine as the Subjects of *Great Britain* do, for we have not a Drop of our own Growth; and this, notwithstanding a very great Consumption of *Malt-Liquors*, *Malt* and *Melasses Spirits*, brew'd and distill'd at Home; and notwith-

O

standing,

standing a vast Quantity of Cyder and Perry, Mead, Rum, and other Liquors; much of it spent in meer Extravagance and Profusion; and in spite of a most excessive Duty upon the Importation of the Wine, as well as an Excise upon the Consumption of the brew'd Liquors of our own.

THE Importation of Wines of all Kinds, and Brandy included, from abroad, have been often calculated by just Mediums of Years, and is lately cast up for the Year 1721, at 60000 Pipes, or 30000 Ton *per Annum*.

BUT then let me add by Way of Supplement, That as I understand it,

1. ALL this Account is exclusive of the Wines and Brandy imported in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and the *Isle of Man*; and of all the *Madera* and *Canary* Wines imported in our Colonies, the *Madera* Wine being at least 1000 Ton *per Annum*; and the Wine imported in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, &c. cannot be so little as 3000 Ton more, which makes it 40000 Ton in all.

2. IT is exclusive of all the *French* Wines and Brandy run on Shore by the Smugglers, in all the three Kingdoms, and especially in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, where I have some particular Reasons to believe, not 1-6th Part (of the Brandy, especially) pays the Duty.

3. IT is exclusive of all the Rum distilled in the *West India* Colonies, and consumed

sum'd in those Colonies, as well in the Islands, as on the Continent.

THESE are all to be call'd Importations, and the Sum total is prodigious; let any Man that may think me severe, in saying we are a luxurious, expensive People, calculate the annual Consumption of Wine and strong Liquors in his Majesty's Dominions at this Time; and then judge impartially, whether I do Justice to the People or no.

WERE Wine the ordinary Drink of the People, or were strong Beer and Ale the needful Table-Liquors for the Support of Life, it were quite another Case; but if Wine were the ordinary Drink, it would be mingled in the drinking with Water, as it is in the usual drinking of the Countries where it grows, as in *Spain*, *Italy*, *France*, &c. where scarce any Wine is drank without Water, and very little to Excess.

N. B. IN *France* and *Spain*, Wine mingled with Water, is the ordinary Beverage or Drink for meer Necessity, as Food; but if they take any Thing to exhilarate or raise the Spirits, it is Brandy; which yet, they very rarely drink to Excess; whereas here; all, as well Brandy as Wine, and all our strong compounded Drinks, such as stout Ale, Punch, Double-Beer, Fine-Ale, &c. are all drank to Excess, and that to

such a Degree, as to become the Poison, as well of our Health as of our Morals; fatal to the Body, to Principles, and even to the Understanding; and we see daily Examples of Men of strong Bodies drinking themselves into the Grave; and which is still worse, Men of strong Heads, and good Judgment, drinking themselves into Idiotism and Stupidity: But that by the way; I return to the Discourse, as it is the Subject of Trade; Wine, and all the strong Liquors mention'd above, are not our Drink, but our Excess; not our needful, but our superfluous Drink.

ON the other Hand, our *Table Beer*, which is the wholesome, useful, and necessary Liquor of the Country, made for Family-Supply, and used as such by the sober Part of our People, is excluded from the Account: Nor is there a Gallon of Water mingled with a Hogshead of Wine, one with another, for all the Wine we drink.

I am not going to launch out here into a Satyr upon our Country, or to dip into the Scandal of our common Vices; the immense Greatness of our Trade is the Subject; but our Vices are so unhappily mingled with our Interest in Trade, that as a late Author, writing on that Subject, says well, *Our Luxury is become a Virtue in*

Commerce, and our Extravagancies are the Life and Soul of our Trade.

As I propos'd to judge of the Greatness of our Manufactures, by the Quantity of the Wool which is consum'd in making them; so we may take some View of the Consumption of Liquor among us, from the Quantity of Malt consum'd in *Great Britain and Ireland*, that being the Fund or Principle from whence they are produc'd.

I shall not enter here into a Cloud of Figures, to deduce the long Account; but tell you in the Gross, and at one View, that calculating the Quantity of Drink brew'd from the Quantity of Malt made, and taking that from the Foot of the Excise, or *Duty* paid on the Malt, called in general the *Malt Tax*, I venture to affirm, there are forty Millions of Bushels of Malt brew'd or distill'd in his Majesty's Dominions every Year, exclusive of what is exported in Trade to foreign Countries.

It remains only to deduct out of this Reckoning, the *small Beer*; that is to say, the Quantity yearly made Use of in *Table Beer* for Family-Uses; and should I take out one fourth Part for necessary Beer, as I call it; that is, small *Table-Beer*, which, I think, is a great deal too much, there would still remain thirty Millions of Bushels to be brew'd in strong Beer, which it must be acknowledged, is much of it *Luxury*

ury and Extravagance, much of it Vice and Intemperance.

REDUCE this again into Drink, and allow three Bushels of Malt to every Barrel of strong Beer; this makes no less than ten Millions of Barrels of strong Beer consum'd at Home, in this sober Nation in a Year.

THE only Exception to this Account that I can meet with, which has any weight in it, is, that some of this Malt is distill'd into Spirits; and suppose I allow 200000 Quarter *per Annum*, so consum'd, that is, one Million, 600000 Bushel; it will be answer'd, 1st, That this is of the worst of the Malt, and of a Kind which would not make good Beer, if it was brew'd, and that much of it is not fit to be brew'd at all: But then, 2^d, It will be said, that this cannot be plac'd to the Account of our Temperance, or taken off from the Luxury spoken of, since 'tis generally brew'd into a worse Liquor, and apply'd to worse uses, which it is not my Business at this Time to talk of, and which it would be better, were it entirely forgotten (if that could be) then spoken of at all.

IF this Consumption of Liquors in the King's Dominions were to be calculated in the whole, and the Value were to be cast up in Money, what an immense Sum would it amount to? And what an Article would

would it make in the Magnitude of our Trade?

1. TAKE the Wine and Brandy consum'd in the whole, and suppose the Quantity to be no more, than what is legally import- ed, not reckoning the so much greater Quantity of what is clandestinely run on Shore by Smuggling, and other Frauds: If the legally imported Quantity of Wine and Brandy amounts to 40000 Ton, the Rum consum'd in the Plantations not included, which is a very great Quantity.

LET this be brought to the Pint Pot; that is, to the Retailer, and reduce it thus, 1. The Price of almost all Sorts of Wine and Brandy, is at least to a Consumer, sold at two Shillings *per* Quart; the *French* Wine, the Canary, the Rhenish, the Sherry, all at more than two Shillings; and the Brandy by retail, generally at double the Price: But take it one with another, at two Shillings *per* Quart, which is eight Shillings *per* Gallon, and make a reasonable Allowance for Bottoms and Leakage, as usual; yet to what an immense Sum does the Consumption of imported Liquors in the *British* Dominions amount to?

252 Gallons is a Ton, this at 8 *s.* *per* Gallon, (the Retailers Price) amounts to 100 *l.* 16 *s.* *per* Ton; but abating 12 Gallons in every Ton for Bottoms and Leakage: And suppose it to be but 240 Gallons Nett Wine *per* Ton, at 8 *s.* *per* Gallon, it is 96 *l.* *per* Ton.

Ton.	of Wine and Brandy imported
40000	yearly at 96 l. per Ton, a-
96	mounts to 3.840000 l.
<hr/>	
240000	
360000	
<hr/>	
l. 3.840000.	

N. B. THERE is no need at all of the Abatement for Bottoms and Leakage, the Vintners making effectual Provision for it in their short Measure; and if that is not taken out, it amounts to just four Millions Sterling *per Annum*; besides all the Wine and Brandy really imported in the dark; *that is*, by clandestine Trade, Smuggling, &c.

THUS much is calculated upon the legal Importation; and as we may call it, the known, and avow'd Consumption of Wines and Brandy in the Dominions of *Great Britain*; what we may suppose to be clandestinely brought on Shore, is hard to determine: But they who know as I do, how common, how plentiful Brandy is, I mean *French* Brandy, known and acknowledged to be such on all the Sea Coasts of *England*, in all Parts of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and how much it is us'd. They who'd know, that but a few Years ago, 5000 Ton
of

of Brandy was said to be brought into the Isles of *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, from *France* in one Year. They who have had any Knowledge of the prodigious Quantity of Wine and Brandy constantly brought to, and managed (so it seems 'tis call'd) in the *Isle of Man*, for some Years past, and by which that whole Island is visibly enrich'd, to a surprising Degree: I say, those who have had any Insight in these Things, will not think it unreasonable to allow, at least one fourth Part more of Wine and Brandy to this Account.

BUT it is enough to mention it only; I believe, it will be readily admitted, that what is said above, is very likely to be true, *viz.* That the *British* Dominions import more Wine, than all the Countries of *Europe*, who are without Wine of their own Import, put them all together.

IT may be true, that some of those Countries import more Brandy than we do, in Proportion to their Trade; but it is to be allow'd, only, because we have loaded the foreign Brandy with heavy Duties, in order to encourage the Consumption of our own Malt Spirits.

2. I might in the next Place calculate here the Value, as I have already the Quantity of our home Consumption of strong Beer and Ale, among our own People; and it would not be difficult to do it, either from the Quantity of Malt consum'd
in

in the whole, (as well for Sale, as for private Use) as also from the Rate of Excise: But the Sum would be so great, it would surprize the Reader.

IT is true, the Beer, or Ale brew'd in Gentlemens Houses for private Use, does not cost so much as the Beer brew'd for Sale, because of the Excise; but then, if we should abate reckoning the Beer and Ale retail'd, at the Price paid by the Consumer, which is the manner of Reckoning we are now going upon, and is the true way, when we are to examine the Magnitude of an Expence, on the Foot of Trade; *I say then*, if we should abate the retailing Price of the Beer and Ale retail'd, in Ballance of the Quantity consum'd in private Families, which I think is giving up a very manifest Odds; upon this Equality, we might bring it to a Head, by rating all the strong Beer, and Ale consum'd in *England*, at the Rate of twenty Shillings, upon every three Bushels of Malt. If there are any Objections to be made against the Calculation, I believe they would be easily answer'd; but if they cannot, they may be ballanc'd by Abatement; for as by this Calculation, the Consumption of strong Drink amounts to no less than ten Millions Sterling *per Annum*, if we should abate a quarter Part of it; 'tis an immense and almost incredible Sum, and what no other Nation in the World can expend in one single Article.

Now,

Now to examine this a little another Way, let any Man that is admitted to such a Liberty, cast up the Books of the Excise, and tell us how much the Excise upon strong Beer amounts to in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and from thence some Estimate may be made.

SUPPOSE then, for Example, the Duty, as collected; for in this Account, we are not to cast up and deduct the Charges of the Collection, the Establishment of the Office, the Incidents, &c. but how much is collected from the Brewer; I say, suppose this amounts in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, and all his Majesty's Dominions, where the Excise is payable, to 800000 *l. per Annum*: I doubt not, but it amounts to much more; but let the critical Enquirer do Justice on that Account, as he finds the Case will demand; I have good Grounds to say it may be cast up thus, till a Reason is produc'd why it should not.

IF the Excise then, at four Shillings and nine Pence *per* Barrel upon strong Beer, collects 800000 *l. per Annum*; the Beer being sold to the Retailer, at twenty Shillings *per* Barrel, must then amount to above four Times the Sum: We need not in such a conjectural Estimate as this, cast up the Fractions of three Pence *per* Barrel, it would but add to the Sum, which you may evidently see, I do not seek to make greater than it is.

I

THIS

THIS then brings the Value of the Beer, as sold to the Retailer, to be three Millions two hundred thousand Pounds *per Annum*.

ADD to this then, the Value of the strong Beer brew'd for private Families, which, as before, I take to be equal to the other, (under the Disadvantage of its being under rated, *viz.* to the Retailer, and not to the Consumer) but to avoid Cavils, I'll state it at half that Sum: The Expence then of strong Beer in these Dominions, rises to four Millions nine hundred thousand Pounds *per Annum*.

I could support these Estimates, by a stricter comparing the Quantity brew'd, with the Quantity of Malt made; but 'tis needless here, there is a manifest Difference between exact critical Examination, and a general Estimate, after the manner of an Hypothesis; it is the latter that is before me now; wherein, however, the Advantage is so great, that it fully answers the End of the Argument, if I should throw in a Million or two of Pounds Sterling, in the whole, and take it at so much less than it really amounts to, as I am well *assur'd* I do in this Account: For Example, if according to the proposed Principle, I am casting up the Value of the strong Liquors which the Nation consumes, and ought to take it (for the purpose) at the Rate it costs the Consumer, as I did in the Wine, it would

would stand thus. Every Barrel of strong Beer retailed by the Victuallers, measures him out by the Quart Pot 36 Gallons; this sold at 3 *d.* *per* Quart, the ordinary Price, (tho' the general Rate is now 4 *d.*) is 36 *s.* the Barrel, besides the Advantage of the selling much of it at 2 *d.* *per* Pint, and besides the Half, which the Victualler finds in short Measure.

N. B. THIS is evident in the Suttlers and others, who draw Drink in Garrisons; and the Tapsters, who take Cellars and Tap-houses in great Inns, who frequently allow the Governours and Masters of such Houses, 30 to 35 *s.* and some 40 *s.* *per* Barrel for the Drink they draw under them; so that if I calculate all the strong Beer at the Rate of but 20 *s.* *per* Barrel, it will allow for all the Objections that can be made against any other Part, seeing it cannot amount to much above half the Value which the Consumer pays.

UPON the Whole, I take upon me to say, without any Hazard of being confuted, that there is consumed in his Majesty's Dominions, of all the following Liquors, exclusive of small Beer, no less, reckoning it at the Value paid by the Consumer to the Retailer, and including the strong Beer brew'd for private Use, than the full Value of eight Millions *per Annum*.

THE Liquors included in this Account, are as follows.

WINE of all Sorts, } Imported.
BRANDY, }

STRONG Beer, and all } Brew'd at Home.
CYDER and Perry, }

MALT and Melasses Spirits } Distill'd at
CYDER Spirits } Home.

RUM distill'd from Sugar and } in the Plan-
BEER and Ale brew'd } tations.

THE Plantations, as being Part of our selves, are always in Accounts of Trade, to be cast up with our other Accounts; and as their Produce is esteem'd our own: So their Consumption should be also, and is so in all just Calculations; and for this Reason, the Importations from thence are not reckon'd as foreign Importations, but as a Home Produce.

THE next Article of the Importation of foreign Goods is Linen, and this, it must be acknowledg'd, relates more especially to *England*, and to the Consumption here, and in the *English Colonies in America*.

OF this Consumption, it may indeed be said *it is a Prodigy*; and tho' there is a considerable Quantity of Linen made in some Parts of *England*, especially in the North
Parts,

Parts, as in *Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire*, and the four other Northern Countries, in-
somuch, that at one Market in *Lancashire* 'tis said, there is the Value of 500 *l.* a Week sold in Hukabacks only; yet this Quantity is so little worth mention, that this sort of Linen is scarce seen at *London*; but *England* does as it were ravage the whole spinning World for Linen and Linen Yarn and Lace, which is Linen also.

THE principal Importations of Linen are indeed from our neighbouring Countries; but such is the exceeding Consumption of Linen here, that it seems as if all the World were not able to supply us; and this not only of the coarser Kinds of Linen from the Northern Nations, but such is the Demand of fine Linens, *Hollands, Cambricks*, and the finest of other Country Linen, that it is advanc'd to me for a certain Truth, by a Person experienc'd in those Trades, that *England* alone wears and consumes as much fine Linen; nay, his Words are, *More of the finest Linen* than all the Kingdom of *France*, the *Austrian Netherlands*, and the *united Provinces* put together, where the fine Linen is chiefly made.

I need not enter critically into the Enquiry whether this is literally true or no; but when I come to look into our Custom-house Entries, and see by the Books the exceeding Quantity of Linen, as well fine as coarse,
impor-

imported into *England* from all Parts, it is really surprizing. For Example;

COARSE *Russia Linen*, properly so call'd, from *Petersburgh* and *Narva*, *Revel*, *Riga*, &c. *Canvas* and *Polish Linen* from *Dantick*, *Koningsberg*, *Stetin* and *Stralsund*, &c. and *Diapers*, *Damasks* and *Lawns*; from *Silesia* and *Lusatia*, and *Saxony* by way of *Hamburg*; also other *Germany* Linens, including a multitude of Sorts of middling Finens, such as are the Manufactures of several Countries upon the *Elbe*, imported likewise from *Hamburg*.

N. B. THE Quantity of *German Linen* imported from *Hamburg*, is past all Calculation, and is supposed to amount to many Hundred thousand Pounds Sterling a Year, something more than two Millions.

COARSER Linens, such as *Hessens*, *Osnabrigs*, *Hinderlands*, and several other Sorts from *Bremen* and *Emden*, the Manufacture of the Circle of *Westphalia*, and the Countries of *Osnaburgh*, *Hannover* and *Lunenburgh*.

FINE *Hollands* for Shifts and Sheets, and such like fine Uses, of all Prices and Denominations, from 1 s. to 12 s. per Ell; as also the best Sail Cloth, call'd *Duck*, all from *Holland*.

FINE *Ghentish Hollands* of several Sorts from *Bruges* and *Ghent*, generally from 2 s. to 4 s. 6 d. and 5 s. per Ell.

FINE

FINE *Cambricks* and fine *Lace* from *Lisle*, *Brussels*, *Valentiennes*, *Mecklen*, all the upper *Flanders*, and the *Paiys Conquis* the *Cambricks* to such a Degree of Trade, that *England* and *Ireland* are said to take off just now above 200000 l. Sterling per Annum in *Cambricks* only, the Quantity exceedingly increased by the Wear of *Muslin* growing out of Fashion.

DOWLAS *Lockrams*, and *Vitry Canvas* from *France*, the Quantity formerly prodigious great, not less than 100 Ships Loadings a Year, and now encreasing again; notwithstanding the high Duties, it is imported from *Morlaix*, and several other Ports in *Normandy* and *Bretaigne*.

ALL these, besides *Irish* and *Scots Linen*, the Quantity of which, especially since the Encouragement given to their Importation, by the printing of *Linen*, is so much, that the Importation of *Irish Linen*, amounts to at least 2000000 Yards in a Year, and is still exceedingly encreasing; being so in Demand, that if the Ships are but a little Wind bound, there is frequently not a Yard of *Irish Linen* to be had in the Town.

LET any one judge, whether we do not as it were ravage the World for *Linen*, and whether I have exceeded in saying, we import more *Linen* than any one Nation in the World.

IT is true, that a very great Quantity of *Linen* of all Kinds is ship'd off again from
P hence.

hence. But it is answered, That it is chiefly, if not wholly to our own Colonies in *America*, which, as I said above, is justly to be esteemed our own Consumption, as being all consumed by our own People.

IT is indeed impossible to make an Estimate of the Quantity of Linen imported from all these places into *Great Britain* and *Ireland*: For notwithstanding the Quantities made either in *Scotland* or *Ireland*, there are yet great Quantities of fine Hollands, Cambricks, and other Sorts imported in both those Countries. I say, there can be no Estimate made of the Value. But having thus describ'd the Trade in its several Branches, I leave it under this General, namely, that there is more Linen as well in Bulk as in Value imported from other Countries, into the *British* Dominions, than any, or than all the Nations of *Europe* put together import besides us.

I could run over all the Kingdoms and Provinces of *Europe* by Name, and from their particular Circumstances give Reasons to prove this. It is certain, that thro' all the *German* Empire, *Italy*, *France*, *Flanders*, *Holland*, all those Kingdoms and Provinces, either make their own Linen, some small Quantity of particular Sorts excepted, or make more than they use, and send it abroad.

IT is also certain, that those Countries where the Linen they make is of an inferior Quality, as in *Poland*, *Russia*, *Prussia*, *Pome-*

Pomerania, &c. Either they use a very little Quantity of *Linen*, compar'd to what is made Use of in *England*, or make Shift with the meaner Quality and Kinds, which their own Countries produce; and except the Courts and Princes in those Countries, they call for very little from abroad.

FOR Proof of this, we are able to give a known Example of all the Northern Parts of the Empire in Particular; where 'tis evident, tho' they buy neither from *Holland*, *France*, or *Flanders*, they are in no Want; but the Gentry, and even the Princes and Nobility are supplied with fine Linen, at least the finest that they use from their own Manufacture; that is to say, from *Silesia*, and the Provinces of *Lusatia*, *Bohemia*, *Moravia*, and the Countries adjoining; so that all that Part of the World may be said to make Linen even more than sufficient to themselves.

NOR can we desire a better Evidence of this, than is to be found in the two following Articles,

I. THAT as I said above, we import into *England* a great deal of fine Linen from those Countries, such as fine *Larwens*, equal to some of the Cambricks which are made in *Flanders*, also fine Diapers and Damasks; and it cannot be doubted, but those Provinces which supply those Sorts to us at such a Distance, are able to supply themselves; for I call all the *German* Provinces on that

Side, *themselves*; being all the Dominions of the same Sovereign, speaking the same Language, and lying contiguous to one another.

2. THE *Dutch* themselves, who make those fine HOLLANDS which we import here, and which we give such a Price for, buy the finest of the Yarn, with which those Hollands are made, from those very Provinces; and it cannot be question'd, but that the *Silefians*, who supply the *Dutch* with such fine Yarn, are able to supply themselves, and the Provinces about them, with all the finest Sorts of Linen they have Occasion to buy.

THIS Example is sufficient, and for this Reason I bring it; to prove that all these northern Countries supply themselves with Linen sufficient for their own Uses; no Nation but *Britain*, nay, but *England*, buys and imports the Gross of their Linen from Abroad; and yet at the same Time, no People in *Europe* wear and consume so great a Quantity of Linen, and that Quantity so fine in its Quality, as the *English* do.

IT is true, that *Spain* and *Portugal* import great Quantities of Linen, having very little of their own; but 'tis not worth Mention, in Comparison with *England*; nor do the *Spaniards* wear any Proportion in Quantity to the *English*; as may be determined from the Certainty and Same-ness

ness of their Dress: So I need say no more to that Part.

As to *Italy* in all its Parts, from *Naples* to *Turin*, *Rome* and *Venice*, they not only do not use so much in Proportion as the *English*; but what they do make, they (especially the *Venetians*) make in their own Countries.

INDEED it cannot be supposed, that the *Venetians*, who for so many Ages were famous for making the finest Lace, and consequently must have a sufficient Quantity of the finest Thread, could want a Manufacture of the finest Linen; and it is known, that they do not want it, but on the contrary, export it to the Islands in the *Archipelague*, and other Parts among the *Greeks*, who have much Cotton, but little or no Flax.

THUS I think I may have accounted for all the Linen-wearing World; that every where but in *Italy* and *Spain*, they wear less Linen, or make more than in *England*; and in most of those Countries, make sufficient for their own Use: There might be some Exceptions to this general Head, *that is to say*, that in *Sweden*, *Norway* and *Denmark*, they do not make any large Quantity of *Linen*, and that the City of *Lubec* carries on the Linen Trade to *Sweden*, as the City of *Hamburgh* does to *England*; but the Objection is not worth the Answer; it is provided for before; I do

not say no other Nation imports any Linen, or use any, but what they make of their own; but I do say and insist on it, that all those Nations put together, do not import the Quantity that *England* and the other *British* Dominions do import.

I have quitted this Article, without mentioning also, that besides the Quantity of Linen we consume, which as above, is beyond all Calculation, we import from *Holland*, *Hamburg*, and especially of late from *Russia*, very great Quantities of Linen-Yarn, for our own People to manufacture, and weave into Linen at Home; much of which Yarn is made use of in the Home-made Cloth, which as I have said, our People make in the northern Parts of *England*; and in the Linsley Woolsey Manufactures at *Kidderminster*, *Manchester*, &c.

NOR is this Importation small and inconsiderable, tho' in Comparison of the Linen it is so indeed; but all join together, to let us see what a Prodigy of Trade, the Consumption of Linen in this Nation really is; the Account of which is, without Doubt, many Millions yearly.

N. B. WHEREAS I omit the *Turks*, and all the eastern and southern Nations in *Europe*, in the Account of the Linen Trade Abroad; the Answer is, That all those eastern Nations are supplied with Cotton and Callicoe, instead

stead of Linen, and very little Linen is used among them.

THE next Capital Head of our Importation I call FRUIT, and this consists of a great Variety of small Articles, which however, being put together, will appear to be not only very considerable, but in a Word exceeding great in Trade.

PERHAPS I may be cavill'd at for the Term FRUIT, the Product being so various, and in its Appearance trifling; but as 'tis just to bring all such smaller Articles under one general Head, as they are a Merchandize; and that they are all really the Product and Growth of the Plants, which come under the Denomination of Vegetables, I think it will be a needless Objection: The Particulars are as follows, *viz.*

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Raisins, | } THESE are all, except the Oyl (which notwithstanding is so too) usually called Fruit, by the Merchants that import them; and even all these have this Particular attending them, as a Trade, <i>viz.</i> that they are used in no Nation in <i>Europe</i> , in Proportion to what is used in <i>England</i> . |
| 2. Currants, | |
| 3. Figs, | |
| 4. Oranges and Lemons, | |
| 5. Almonds, | |
| 6. Oyl. | |

N. B. THESE are brought from several Countries, but chiefly from the *Mediterranean*, viz.

Raisins from { *Alicant* } and some small
 { *Malaga* } Ports adja-
 { *Lipari* } cent.

Currants from { *Zant* } and some small
 { *Cepha-* } Ports in the
 { *lonia* } *Morea*.

Figs from { *Algarve*, sc. *Faro* and
 { *Figuera*, and from *Bar-*
 { *bary*.

Oranges and { *Malaga* } and some from
 Lemons { *Sevillia* }
 { *Lisbon* } *Genoa*.
 { *Oporto* }

Almonds from { *Barbary*,
 { *Spain*.

Oyl from { *Lisbon* and *Oporto*,
 { *Faro* and *Figuera*,
 { *Sevil* and *Cadiz*,
 { *Leghorn* and *Gallipoli*.

7 Coffee

7. Coffee, { All from *Mocca* or *Mocha*
 in the *Red Sea*, either by
 Way of *Alexandria*, or about
 by *Long Sea*, round the *Cape*
 of *Good Hope*.

8. Tea, { All from *China*, or from
 { *Japon*, by Way of *China*.

9. Cacao, { From *Jamaica*, the Coast
 of the *Carracas*, the Gulph
 of *Honduras*, and other Parts
 in the *West Indies*.

10. Spice, { Nutmegs, } From the *Indies* by Way
 { Cloves, } of *Holland*, and (as it hap-
 { Mace, } pens) no other Way.
 { Cinnamon, } From *Ceylon* by the same
 { Hands.
 { Pepper, } from { *Malabar*, } by our own
 { { *Sumatra*, } Shipping.
 { Piemento, } From *New Spain*.

11. Pickles { Capers, } from *Leghorn*.
 such as { Olives, } &c. *Lucca* and *Seville*.

12. Add to these } From *Leghorn*; tho' this
 Anchovies, } is indeed a Fish, not a
 Fruit, and is the only Fish
 we import from any Part
 of the World, except *Stur-*
geon; but I add it here,
 as not sufficient for a Head
 by it self.

THEY

THEY that at first Sight look upon this Article under the Head of Fruit, will perhaps think it a trifling Thing, and that Oranges, Lemons, Raisins, Almonds, &c. are all Trifles.

BUT let them go thro' all the Articles, and bring them into one Head of Importation, and they will have three Things to observe, which bring them to our present purpose.

1. THAT they are really so far from being small, and of little Importance, that on the contrary, they are very considerable, and that many Ways.

2. THAT no Nation in *Europe* imports an equal Quantity of any of them, much less of all of them together, as we do.

THEY are a wonderful Testimony of the Greatness of the *British* Commerce, in that those twelve Articles of petty Trade, (as they may, and would be esteem'd any where else) are by our Consumption of Quantity made so considerable; that as I am assur'd by those who have made Estimates of the Value, the Coffee, Tea, and Chocolate only, are equal in Trade, to the Spices of the *Dutch*.

IT is worth Notice also, what Numbers of stout Ships these particular Articles, tho' small in themselves, constantly employ; for besides the Pipiners, as they call the running Fregats, and which are a little Fleet of small Ships, that in the Season

son fetch Oranges from *Sevil*, and Lemons from *Malaga*; I say, besides these, the Trade for Raisins and Currants only, does not freight less than forty to fifty good Ships every Year from the Coast of *Spain* and *Italy*, including the Island of *Zant*.

THE Oyl from *Gallipoli* fourteen or fifteen more; and so in Proportion those Things which do not come single; as the *Coffee* and the *Tea*, and all the smaller Kinds of Goods from *Leghorn*, and other Ports, tho' they are little separately, yet together, are very great Articles in the Freight of Ships, and encourage and support the Navigation in its most considerable Parts.

IT would be surprizing, if the Consumption of those few Articles once thought so trifling, and formerly so entirely unknown, were cast up into Money, and their Value brought together, what Sums they would amount to: To cast up the Tea, Coffee, and Pepper only, three Articles of the East *India* Trade; how often do we see in the Cargoes of the East *India* Ships 500000 *l.* Weight of Tea in one Ship, six or seven hundred thousand Pound Weight, when two Ships come in together? We cannot suppose this sold cheaper than from 10 to 16 *s.* per Pound to the Retailer; 300 to 400 Tun of Coffee comes frequently Home in one Ship; Pepper indeed is of less Value, and not much of it consum'd in *England*; but the Quantity is great, and the Chocolate

I makes

makes up the Value of the rest to be a monstrous Sum, considering it all as a Superfluity.

THE Importation of Silk is an Article of home Consumption, grown up now to a prodigious Height, and is the more profitable to this Nation, in that,

1. IT is all manufactur'd within our selves; and as it is now grown up to such a Magnitude as was never known before, employs abundance of our Poor, who, by Decay of other Branches of Commerce, began to be threatn'd with want of Employment.

2. AND especially, as it now supplies the Nation with those fine Silk Manufactures, by the Industry of our own Poor, which it has been publicly prov'd, cost us (as above) Twelve hundred thousand Pounds a Year to purchase them of the *French*, the *Flemings*, the *Dutch* and *Italians*.

THIS Importation of raw Silk, and thrown Silk has been lately calculated to amount to about 500000 *l.* a Year from

Turky,
Italy, and
India.

HERE I should mention, and I shall but mention it, the great Importation of Drugs and Dye Stuffs, in which, put together, no Nation can consume, or does import alike Quantity as *England*, such as,

Brasil

Brasil, and *Brasiletta Wood*.
Fustic.

Logwood,
Sumach,

Red-wood,
Red Earth,

Gauls,

Madder,

Woad,

Indico,

Turmerick,

Cocheneal,

Cantharides,

Bark Peru.

Gums of many Kinds,

Civet, *Aloes*, *Cassia*.

Turkey Drugs,

African Drugs,

East India Drugs,

Rhubarb, *Sassafras*, *cum aliis*.

} Innumerable.

I might go on here to mention the other Importations from *India*; and the late Addition made to our Commerce by the Trade to the South Seas; but as the last is only an Abatement of Commerce in one Part of the World, for an Encrease in another, the *Assiento* Contract only excepted; and the other, an unhappy Trade, to say no worse of it, and especially made so, by being unhappily managed, I shall omit entering upon them in this Part of the Discourse of Trade, as being no Addition to the Magnitude of the
British

British Commerce in general, whether it be not a Lessening and Abatement of the Commerce, or, at least, injurious and ruinous to it, I shall not enquire here.

BUT I must not omit another Branch of Importation, which is great in it self, and necessary too: And this is the Importations of Naval and building Stores from the East *Indies*, and North Seas, such as,

Tar,
Hemp, } From the *Russian* Dominions.
Flax, }

Iron, } From *Sweden*, and some of the
Copper, } first from *Spain*.
Deals, }

Deals,
Timber and } From *Norway*.
Fir (small) Wood, }
Masts, &c. }

Canvas,
Sail Cloth } From *Dantzick*
East Country Plank, } *Momel* and
Clap-Board and } *Koninsbro'*
Waincots }

Oyl — — } From *Greenland*.
Sulphur or } From (*Denmark*) *Isceland* and
Brimstone } *Italy*.
Rosin }

Te

To make an Estimate of the Value, or of the Consumption of all these Things, would be in some Measure to enquire into the Number of our Shipping, of Ships built yearly, (and which is still more as to the Consumption) Ships repairing and fitting out; an Article, when join'd together, too great to make any Calculation upon.

I might mention here, how unaccountably to blame we are in this Trade; that whereas a full Supply might be had of all those things, *I may say, Every one of them* from our own Colonies, the Product of the *British* proper Dominions, the Labour of the *British* People, and which is equal to it, all brought by our own Ships, to the vast Encrease of the *British* Navigation, it should miserably be neglected or omitted, and the Goods be bought with our ready Money, great Part of them brought Home in foreign Bottoms, and the whole Trade managed in a wrong Place; or, as we may say, running in a wrong Channel, to the infinite Advantage of the *Danes, Swedes, Poles, Prussians* and *Muscovites*, and to the enriching the (otherwise) poorest and most worthless, and I had almost said, the most beggarly Nations in the World. But I shall speak farther of this by it self.

I have not in all this Account mentioned any thing of our Importations from *Holland*,
except

except only that Particular of the Spice Trade, and Linens, which I call their own.

BUT this is not, that our Importations from thence are not exceeding great, only that we do not import any thing material or considerable from thence, that is of their own Growth or Manufacture; but that by importing from them, we only bring in the Goods of almost all Countries in the World thro' their Hands: So that, tho' we are said to sell them the Value of two Millions *per Annum* in our own Manufacture; yet 'tis certain, we take off again a prodigious Quantity of Goods of other Nations thro' their Hands; so that 'tis hard to determine which Way the Balance turns, either for us, or against us, and I make no Difficulty in affirming, that it may be sometimes one Way, sometimes another.

PARTICULARLY, suppose a dear Year of Corn in *England*, so that the Exportation comes to be prohibited. This putting a Stop at once to so considerable a Branch of our Exports to *Holland*, would go a great Way in shortning our Credit, in the general Account of Trade with the *Dutch* for that Year, and consequently might give a turn to the Balance; we at the same Time not abating our Demand of foreign Goods from them.

AGAIN, suppose for a further Example, a Scarcity of Sugars and Tobacco in the *British Colonies* for the same Year; for at the

Time that a common Sterility, or failing of the Crop of Corn should happen in *England*, the Crop of Sugars might (as it often does) fail in *Barbadoes*, *Jamaica*, and the other Islands and Colonies of *America*, and the Crop of Tobacco also in *Virginia*.

ADD to this, that in such a Year, it being probable the distilling of Corn might be forbidden in *England*, as no doubt it would for such an Occasion; the Consequence of which would be the allowing a greater Importation of Brandy from *Holland*, which they would pour in upon us, infinitely to their Advantage, we being pleased at this Time to allow the bringing in Brandy by way of *Holland*, at the same Time loading it with an insupportable Duty, if directly brought from other Places, tho' we might perhaps put all the Gain which the *Dutch* make now of it, into our own Pockets.

IN these, and many other Cases, it is easie to suppose, that the Ballance of Trade may, and sometimes does turn against *England*, by our general Commerce with the *Dutch*.

NOR can it be doubted, but that even at this Time, tho' the Exportation of Corn, and of Sugars, and Tobacco, has no Interruption; yet the late Encrease of the Importations from *Holland*, such as fine *Hollands* and Linen of all Sorts, and admitting Brandy from thence, as above, has infi-

nately encreased the Debt of Trade on our Side, and at least turn'd the Ballance very much in favour of the *Dutch*.

THE Sum of all these Explanations, and more, which might be mentioned, may be drawn up into these Heads.

1. THAT the Magnitude of the *English* Exportations, as they consist only of our own Growth and Manufacture (including that of our Colonies as our own) is greater than that of any other single Nation in the World.

2. THAT the Consumption in *England* of foreign Importations, and of the improv'd Product of our own Country; that is to say, our Woollen and other Manufactures, is likewise infinitely greater than the Home Consumption of any other Nation.

FROM both which Articles, as they have been explain'd in the last two Chapters, I think I have sufficiently made out what I said in my Title, of the Magnitude of the *English* Commerce, and that it is a Prodigy of its Kind, the like of which is not to be seen any where in *Europe*, if it may be in any Part of the World.

THERE are some other Heads of Trade necessary to be spoken to, in order to make this Work a compleat Plan of the *British* Commerce.

1. WITH Relation to *Home Trade*, I should make some Estimates of the natural

ral Product of the Land and Sea in this Island, *viz.*

The Corn, The Mines, The Timber,
The Cattle, The Minerals, The Stone.

HERE I should describe the Manner of breeding and managing our Cattle, the prodigious Consumption, especially of their Flesh, and the Employment of them; that is, of Oxen and Horses in Labour for the carrying on of Trade.

N. B. ALSO I might assert, and (fully prove my Assertion by unanswerable Reasons) that notwithstanding in general, it is the Advantage of Commerce, to have all Things done as cheap as possible; yet that *as* it is the grand Support of Wealth and Trade in *England*, to have our Product consum'd, and in order to it, to have our People and Cattle employ'd; So, it is not always the Advantage of *England*, to lessen the Labour of the said People and Cattle, by the Encrease of River-Navigation; and some Examples which might confirm this might be brought, which amount to a Demonstration.

2. WITH Relation to the Shipping and Navigation of *England*, the Number of Ships built and employ'd in *Great Britain*, and in that Article two other, *viz.* (1.) the Number of Trades depending upon the

building and repairing, fitting and furnishing of those Ships, (2.) The Number of Mariners who are bred up and employ'd in those Ships, to the great Encrease of Navigation, and furnishing a constant Supply of able Seamen, the Strength and Glory of the whole Nation.

IN both these Heads, I have still the same General to maintain, and that without the least Boast, (namely) that *England* out-does the whole Trading World, and that there is no Nation, except *Great Britain*, that can carry on such a Trade; and this that I may not be suppos'd to speak in the Gross, and leave it unsupported, I shall explain in the Particulars following.

N. B. BEFORE I descend to these Particulars I am to note, That I think it is no Boast to insist upon the Article of Shipping as an extraordinary Branch of our Commerce, not only as it is exceeding great, but as so great a Quantity of the Materials are of our own Growth and Produce, and almost all of our own Manufacture, whereas the Shipping in *Holland* has hardly any Thing belonging to it produced at Home, no not the Provisions which victual the Ships.

HERE

HERE follows a Repetition of the Particulars in the Trade, in which I insist it is already proved that we exceed other Countries. *Take it as follows, viz.* That there is not any one Nation in *Europe*,

1. THAT consumes the like Quantity of Flesh Meat, and Malt Liquor.
2. THAT having no Wine of their own Production, consumes the like Quantity of Wine imported from Abroad.
3. THAT having so little Linen of their own Product consume the like Quantity of Linen imported from Abroad, or that wear so much Linen, especially of the finest that is or can be made.
4. THAT have such a Prodigious Quantity, or so good a kind of Wool.
5. THAT export an equal Quantity of, or Value in any one Manufacture of their own, let it be of what kind it will, as *England* does of her Woollen Manufacture.
6. THAT build and employ in their own Business a like Number of Ships, and maintain a like Number of able Seamen.
7. THAT have a like Variety of Nature's Productions, singular to themselves, or so singular, as that they are not to be had in Quantities for Commerce in any other Country; such as

Q 3

1. Block

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 1. Block Tin, | 4. Lapis Calliminaris, |
| 2. Lead, | 5. Allom |
| 3. Coal, | 6. Wool, &c. |

I cannot enlarge on every Particular.



CHAP. VII.

Of the Magnitude of our Trade, as it relates to our other Exportations, and particularly what we call Re-exportation, or Exporting by Certificate; including the Exports of Goods first imported from our own Colonies, and Factories Abroad.



HO' all I have said of the Greatness of our woollen Manufacture is prov'd, and how great soever the Consumption of it is in the World, I would not be understood to mean, that this was the whole of our Commerce, either one Way or other: On the contrary, this is but one Branch of it: It is true, it is

is the most considerable Branch; that I must always grant, and is indeed the Wheel within the Wheel of all the rest; That which sets all the Wheels of Trade in Motion; I mean of the *British* Trade; 'tis the Life of all the rest.

BUT we have several Branches of Commerce, very considerable besides this, and that for Exportation too: *For Example,*

THE Exportation of Corn, Salt, Fish, and Flesh, I put these four Articles together, for Reasons which we shall see in the Course of this Work; they are all very great Heads of Trade and Employ in *Great Britain*, a great Number of our Ships, more perhaps than will be thought probable at first Sight.

THIS Article, indeed, includes *Ireland*, of which I have yet said nothing; tho' as we are one Government, the Trade of the whole ought to come under one Head of Commerce: However, I shall not meddle with the Trade of *Ireland* here, any farther than as it is blended with the *British* Commerce, and carried on together, as in this Article it is, and is inseparable from it.

CORN is chiefly exported from *England* to *Holland*; tho' *Great Britain*, which may truly be call'd a Corn Country, is always ready to send it, wherever they can find a Market; so that wherever the Harvest happens to fail abroad, whether in *France*,
Q 4 *Spain*,

Spain, Portugal, or even in *Italy* it self, we are always at Hand to supply them; it being very rare that *England* and *Scotland* has a general Scarcity, so as to stop the Exportation.

As it is certainly true, that whatever Corn can be spared for Exportation out of *Great Britain*, above what is necessary for subsisting our own People, is clear Gain to the publick Wealth of the Nation: So this Article of exporting Corn, is one of the most advantageous Parts of our Commerce, in Proportion to its Magnitude.

NOR is the Dearness of the Price of Corn at Home, any real Detriment to the Generality, or any Abatement of the publick Stock, provided we admit none from Abroad; for tho' it may be a Damage to some particular Persons, and may pinch the Poor, who yet, for ought I see, are always alike poor, in Plenty, as in Scarcity; of which hereafter; yet, I say, 'tis no loss to the publick Stock, because it is all paid among our selves; The general Body of the People have but one publick Stock of Wealth, whereof every individual is trusted with a Part; and what they pay to, or get from one another, no way lessens or encreases that Stock, only lessens and encreases the particular Part, which this or that particular Person was so entrusted with; as if ten Men, having each a hundred Guineas in their Pockets, go together

into

into a Room or House to play; 1st, take the Room in which they play, to contain a publick Stock of the whole thousand Guineas; suppose then, after some Time of play, one or two of the ten win all the Money, and break the rest: There are eight Men left empty and poor, and two Men grown full and rich; but the Money is all in the Room still, the thousand Guineas are not diminish'd at all, the Stock they play'd with is neither lessen'd or encreas'd.

THIS is too plain to dwell upon: It is the same Thing in the Rise and Fall of the Rate of Corn consum'd at Home.

ON the other Hand, if Corn bears a great Price in *Portugal* or *Spain*, or any where Abroad, all that Advance of Price, except only the Labour of the People in carrying it, is clear Gain; and even all their Labour too, except the Provisions which they consum'd in the Voyage, is so much added to the publick Stock.

I am a profess'd Opposer of all fortuitous Calculations, making Estimates by guess Work, of the Quantities and Value of any Trade or Exportation, where, as I said before, there is no given Number or Rule to raise those Estimates upon; and as this is one of the Cases, in which there is no Certainty to calculate from, and especially having not the Custom-House Books to refer to, I therefore decline it.

AND

AND yet, I would not have been without some probable Grounds of Calculation from the Custom-House Books, if I had not found that there is no judging of the Exportation of one Year, from the Quantities exported in another, for the Reasons following.

1. BECAUSE our Exportation of Corn depends upon the Crop we have had the Harvest before, and by Consequence on the Price the Corn bears at Market, whether dear or cheap, according to which the Merchant is limited from, or encourag'd to the Exportation.

2. BECAUSE likewise, tho' the utmost Encouragement was given at Home for the Exportation, the Quantity exported will depend also upon the Plenty or Scarcity of Corn Abroad. It is true, that dear or cheap, Corn always finds a Market in *Holland*: But then, 'tis as true, that if the *Dutch* find a forc'd Exportation, they, like all expert Merchants, will buy cheap, and perhaps to loss, or not buy at all: So that in short, it is no Market at all: To sell to Loss, is not to be call'd Trade, but a Stop or Check to Trade; for the Seller finding no Profit, is sure to come there no more, till he is satisfied by his Intelligence of a better Market.

THE Quantity exported therefore depending upon such precarious Circumstances, it would be of no Importance to make
Calcu-

Calculations upon Uncertainties, that is to say, upon such evident Uncertainties; There may be 500000 Quarters of Corn exported in one Year, and not one Bushel the next; as was the Case among our selves but a few Years ago, when there was not less than a Thousand Quarters of Wheat a Day entred at the Custom-house in *London* for a great while together, to be exported to *Ireland*, besides an immense Quantity shipt off on all the West Coast of *England*, from *Chester Water* as far North as the *Clyde* in *Scotland*, A great Scarcity happening that Year in *Ireland*.

IT would be laying a preposterous Foundation to calculate from hence what might be yearly exported that Way, when perhaps for twenty Years before, *Ireland*, which generally is more able to spare Corn, than likely to want it, had not called for a Quarter of Corn, and perhaps may not again, for twenty Years to come.

IT may be the like in *France*, and often is, that in one Year they shall take two or three Hundred Thousand Quarters of Corn from *England*, if they can get it; and the next Year or two would give nothing for it (speaking comparatively) if you would carry it them.

UPON the whole, I say there is no Calculation to be made of the Quantity of Corn exported; only that in general it is always very great, (*except as before.*)

The

THE East and South Coast of *Britain* is chiefly concerned in this Trade from the *Firth* of *Edinburgh*, to the Mouth of the *Thames*; more especially the Ports of the *Humber*, the Coast of *Norfolk*, from *Lyn* to *Yarmouth*, and the Coast of *Suffolk* also, from *Yarmouth* exclusive, to *Ipswich* inclusive.

2dly, THE Fish; there is something more of Certainty in our Calculations of the Exportation of Fish, than of most other Goods; particularly of the Herring, Pilchards, and white Fish, and to take this by the Merchants Calculations, rather than by that of the Custom-house, because the former can give an Estimate where the latter cannot, I mean Abroad. To begin North,

THE *Scots* are said to cure sixty Thousand Barrels of Herrings for Exportation, one Year with another, including the West of *Scotland* as well as the East Side; I think they that calculated the *Scots* Herring-fishing at sixty Thousand Last, which is ten Times the Quantity, had no Guess with them, but spoke by Way of Bluster, (tho' in Print) it being more than the *Dutch* take one Year with another; at least in their first Part of the Fishery: Sixty thousand Barrels is a large Quantity.

THE next Part of the Herring-fishing on the *British* Coast is at *Yarmouth*, for the red Herring Trade; the Towns of *Yarmouth*

mouth and *Leostoff* are supposed, if they have a good Fair, as they call it; that is a good fishing Season, to cure four Thousand Last of Herrings, that is, forty Thousand Barrels a Year, the greatest Part of which is exported to *Holland*, *France*, *Spain* and *Italy*.

NEXT to *Yarmouth*, the Fishing for Herrings for the *London* Market comes in, and for present Consumption, and this is a considerable Article; but being all for Home Business, it weighs nothing in the Scale of our foreign Commerce: These Fish are ordinarily taken in the Mouth of the *Thames*.

IN the West of *England*, on the Coasts of *Dorset* and *Devonshire*, and sometimes of *Cornwal*, the *Pilchards* are a particular Fishery, singular to that Coast, and found nowhere else in those Seas, or in this Part of the World; it is computed, that the usual Quantity of *Pilchards* cur'd in those Seas in a Year, are from a Thousand to twelve Hundred Last.

ADD to these the Herring-fishing in the *Bristol* Channel, about *Bidiford*, *Barnstaple*, and those Parts, where in a good Year they usually cure about the same Quantity of *Herrings*, as the other Side cures of *Pilchards*.

THIS is the Sum of the fishing for Herring on the several Coasts of *Great Britain*, the Merchants of *Belfast*, and of *London-Derry* in *Ireland*, have, as we are told, a

considerable Share also in this Herring-fishing; but I have not learn'd any Thing of the Quantity they take.

UPON the whole, the *British* Fishing (for Herring and Pilchards only) amounts not to less than fifteen Thousand Lasts, or a Hundred and fifty Thousand Barrels, besides the Home Consumption of the Fish uncur'd.

THE next Branch of our Fishery is the white Fish, which may be divided into four Parts,

1st. THE *English* Fishing for Cod in the North Seas, and which are therefore called the *North Sea Cod*; the Fish taken here is generally brought to *London*, and to the Sea Ports on the Coast, and is used principally in victualling of Ships, Coasters, and others, for short Voyages; as also for home Consumption: So that this I take no notice of in Trade.

2. THE second is, The *Scots* white Fish, as they call it, which is the same kind of Fish, and are taken upon the Eastern Coast of *Scotland*, from *Heymouth* to *Dunbar*, and into the Mouth of the Firth: But neither is the Quantity great on *this* Side.

3. THE Third is, The Fishing for Cod on the North West of *Scotland*, and among the Westward Islands, which lie about the *Lewze* and the *Orkneys*, where the *Glasgow* Merchants, as also the *London-Dery* Merchants take them; and these are usually exported to *Spain*.

Spain, but not in great Quantities, that Fishery being not improv'd to the Extent, as it might be, for want of sufficient Adventurers.

4. THE Fishing for Cod in *Newfoundland*.

5. THE like Fishing on the Northern Coast of *New-England*.

THESE Fisheries cure a very great Quantity of Fish; and if we may credit their own Accounts, there are not less than 200000 Quintals of Fish cur'd by them every Year: Most of which is sent to *Bilbo* in *Spain*, to *Oporto* and *Lisbon*, to *Cadiz*, and to all the Ports of *Spain* and *Italy* in the *Mediterranean*, but especially to *Leghorn*, and also to our other Colonies in *America*, besides what is sent to the *Canaries*, *Maderas*, and *Cape de Verde* Islands.

THERE are two remaining Fisheries belonging to *Great Britain*, I mean for Trade, and these are,

1. THE Whale Fishing carried on, (1.) for some Years on the Coast of *Long Island*, and *Rhode Island*, and *New York*; and now, within about three Years, by the South Sea Company at *Greenland*.

2. THE Salmond Fishing for barrelling up and exporting them: And this is done,

1. AT *Aberdeen* in the North of *Scotland*.

2. AT *Berwick* upon *Tweed* on the Border of *England* towards *Scotland*.

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3. AT *Newfoundland* (that is) within the Rivers on the Island of *Newfoundland*, where they take pretty great Quantities, and the Trade encreases every Year: But neither of these are yet very considerable.

THUS far the *Fishing Trade* in which the *Dutch* are said to go beyond us as to the Herrings and the Whales, but not to come near us in that of the white Fish.

N. B. THE white Fish or Cod is a very improving and encreasing Trade, and employs at least 200 or 300 Sail of Ships or Ketches, besides small fishing Vessels, without Number,

As for the Exporting of Flesh; it consists of two Parts, (*viz.*) The Exporting of Beef from *Ireland*, as well to our Colonies in the *West Indies*, as to *France*.

2. THE Exporting barrell'd Pork from *Aberdeen*, chiefly brought by the *Dutch* for victualling their Ships to the *East Indies*, and other long Voyages.

3. THE Exporting of Tallow, Butter, and Hides from *Ireland* to *Flanders*, by the Ports of *Dunkirk* and *Ostend*, these are properly annexed to the Flesh, as being Part of its Substance.

THESE, put together, amount to a very great Sum, especially the *Irish* Beef, of which we can make no Estimate here.

3. OUR next considerable Article for Exportation, is the Product of our Colonies; that is to say, such of them as being first impor-

imported from the *English* Plantations in *America*, or from the *British* Factories in the *East Indies* in our own Ships, and having been already assistant to our Navigation; but being more than our Home Consumption calls for, are exported again by Certificate. The Goods thus imported, are, chiefly

1. From the *East Indies*.

Pepper, Coffee,
Painted Calicoes, Tea,
Wrought Silks, Indigo, Drugs, &c.

2. From *America*.

Hides, Molasses, Logwood,
Virginia Tobacco, Cotton and Indigo,
Sugar, Ginger, Rice, Drugs, &c.

OF these the main Articles for Re-exportation are,

1. PEPPER, most of which is exported again; our Home Consumption being small, 'tis exported chiefly to *Italy*, *viz.* to *Leghorn*, *Genoa* and *Venice*, and to *France*, the Quantity used at Home, is about 6000 Bags a Year. The rest is sent Abroad.

2. TOBACCO, the Quantity exported by Certificate, generally speaking, may be estimated at about 30000 Hogsheds, and the Quantity consum'd in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, to 50000 more, in which I am sure to be a great deal within Compass. We are told, that since the late Peace, *France*
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alone has taken off 10000 Hogsheads of Tobacco in a Year, and sometimes more; the rest is exported to *Holland*, to *Germany*, *Norway*, and the *Baltick*.

N. B. By the Word *Germany*, I am to be understood now, and at other Times, when speaking of Marine or Trading Affairs, the Coast of *Germany*, from the *Embs* to the *Elb* inclusive, which takes in the Cities of *Emden*, *Bremen*, *Hamburg*, and all the Ports in and between those Rivers, with the Coast of *Holstein* or *Holsatia*, the River *Eider* to *Husum*, and the Coast of *Fuitland*.

3. SUGARS, Indigo, Ginger and Rice: These, and the Tobacco also, as they are the Growth of the *British* Colonies, and the Returns for all the Exportations thither, not from *England* and *Scotland* only, but from *Ireland*, and from the Coast of *Afric* also, are in the Language of Trade, to be esteemed as Exportations from *Great Britain*, and are, without Dispute, Branches of the *British Commerce*: The Value of these is hard to determine; the Quantity of Sugar and Rice is exceeding great, the Sugars especially which are shipp'd off to *Holland*, and *Hamburgh*, and *Venice*, where they are us'd by the Sugar Bakers, as we simply call them; for they ought to be called Sugar Boilers, but are more properly called Abroad, Sugar Refiners.

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WE are supposed to export more than 40000 Hogsheads of Sugar a Year, one Year with another; some times much more, as the Crops of Sugar Abroad may yield, which are often very different.

As to the Rice, it is a new Trade, being the Product of one Colony only, namely of *Carolina*, and has been brought over in Quantity but a few Years; but it is an encreasing Trade, and is now spread into *Pennsylvania*, and other Places: But be the Quantity what it will, it goes most of it Abroad again, and is a very acceptable Merchandize to *Holland* and *Germany*, (understood as above) and is likely to be a very great Article in our *American* Returns.

4. WE must not omit here the *African* Trade, as it regards the exporting Slaves from thence to the *British* Colonies in *America*, particularly to the Islands, and to *Virginia*, for the other *British* Colonies do not much make use of them, I mean, *New-England*, *New-York*, *Carolina*, &c. As these Slaves are the Produce of the *British* Commerce in their *African* Factories; they are so far a Branch of the *British* Exportation, just as if they were first brought to *England*, landed here, and then sent Abroad again, or exported by Certificate (for it would be the same thing) to the *West Indies*, or by the South-Sea Company to *New Spain*.

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THE Number of these is very great, and the Value of them very considerable. The Rate of *Negroes* in *America*, as it is of late Years risen in all the Colonies, is from 20 to 25 to 30 *l.* a Head, according to the Age, the Growth, and the Sex of the *Negroes*; and if we allow 30000 to 40 and 50000 *Negroes* a Year to be carried away, as (if the Trade was uninterrupted) would be the Case; then the Value of this Trade at a Medium of 25 *l. per Head* upon all the *Negroes*, amounts to no less than One Million two hundred and fifty thousand Pound *per Annum*.

THIS is a Trade of infinite Advantage, considering that these *Negroes* do not cost in the Country above 30 to 50 *s. per Head*; and if the Trade was uninterrupted, as it might, and I think indeed merits to be, we should, no doubt, including the *Assiento*, carry 40 to 50000 *Slaves* a Year from the Coast of *Africa*, and find Business enough for them all in our encreasing Colonies.

THERE are several other Branches of Commerce which might enlarge the Subject, but I strive to contract it; and therefore say no more to that Part.

PART



PART II.

CHAP. I.

A Solid Enquiry into that important Question, whether our Trade in general, and our Woollen Manufacture in particular, are sunk and declined, or not.



WE have been very much alarmed of late with publick Complaints of the Decay of our Trade; I think the People who thus complain, ought to be seriously asked to explain themselves, *and to tell us,*

1st, WHETHER they mean in general, that the Bulk of our whole Commerce is lessened

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lessened and decayed, and that there was any Time formerly, when it was greater than it is now.

2^{dly}, OR whether they mean in particular, that any of our Manufactures are under Decay, that their Consumption is less now Abroad, or at Home, than it has been; or that there is any Appearance that it may be so.

IF they mean the *First*, they ought to tell us when that Time was, and how they prove the Fact? Then we might enter with them into a calm Examination of the Thing, judge of the Calculations they make; and by the Particulars, as they shall lay them down, determine whether they complain with Reason, or without.

WHILE instead of this, they content themselves with a meer Suggestion, making a Complaint in general, claiming to have it be believed in the gross, as they bring it, without farther Enquiry. This seems to be a Kind of Popery in Commerce, demanding our implicit Assent to what we cannot believe, or they demonstrate; begging the Question in the grossest Sense, and in short is rather a Clamour than a Complaint, and ought to be treated as such.

IF I should deal with these People, as they deal with us, I ought to answer them also in gross, and affirm, which I believe I am much better furnish'd with Arguments

ments to prove, that the *English* or *British* Commerce is at this Time so far from a Decay, that it is encreased to a Magnitude far greater than it ever was before, and is still encreasing more and more; in a Word, that our Trade is in a more flourishing Condition than the Trade of any other Nation in *Europe*, perhaps in the World.

IT is true, that as this is affirming without Evidence, so it is answering without Proof, and is only paying them back the same Kind they bring; but I shall descend to Particulars in its Place, and explain myself at large; at present I must go on with the Complainers.

IF they mean the *second*, that any particular Branch of our Commerce is decay'd, as especially our Manufactures, which is what they seem to point at, *they ought then* to have descended to the Particulars of those Manufactures which they say are decay'd, seeing 'tis evident some of our Manufactures are exceedingly encreased; nay, the Trade, or general Term, *our Manufactures*, or the *British Manufactures*, are encreased; and we call several Manufactures our own, and justly too, which never were so before: Of which also in its Order.

N. B. HERE I should observe, that we ought to distinguish thus between the Decay of the general Commerce of a Nation, and the Decay of any particular Branch of it; because some parti-

cular Manufacture may decay, and even wear out, in a Country, and some other may rise up in its Place; as the Custom, Fashions, and Fancies of the Times may influence and direct, and of which many Examples are just now to be seen among us; and yet at the same Time the general Commerce may not at all be decayed or decreased.

BUT to bring the Complaint mention'd above to a Point, and to understand it, as I suppose the Complainers would be understood, however lamely they express it: By the Decay of our Trade, they seem to mean this, and no more, namely, a Decay of the *English* Woollen Manufacture.

THIS they alledge is in a declining Condition, and they tell us for Proof of it, That the Consumption is lessened, both *Abroad* and at *Home*.

1. THAT 'tis lessen'd; this they say is evident, by other Nations falling into the Way of manufacturing their own Wool; imitating our Manufacture to great Perfection; their People underworking ours, and their Tradesmen therefore underselling ours in Price at Market; their Governments respectively, for Encouragement of their own Poor, pressing the Consumption of those Manufactures among themselves, and prohibiting the *English* Manufactures being imported into their Dominions. This they

they think amounts to a Demonstration of the Decay of our Trade.

To clear our Hands of Things, as we go, I shall answer this briefly, the Fact is true, but the Inference is false.

1st. *The Fact is true*, (in part, tho' not in the whole) the Wealth of *England* having been so visibly raised, by the Improvement of our Woollen Manufacture, (not forgetting our loud and impolitick Boasts of that Wealth too, and how the Woollen Manufacture has been the only Cause of it). This has set other Nations at Work as far as they can, *tho' the farthest has been but little*, to imitate those Manufactures; to work up their own Wool, and employ their own Poor; and we have no Reason to blame or reproach them with it at all; we do the same.

2^{dly}, FOR the Encouragement of the People to do thus in those particular Countries, their Princes have, generally speaking, prohibited the *English* Manufactures, especially such Kinds, as their Subjects can make, from being imported into their Dominions; nor can we blame the said Princes for this, for we do the same. Thus far I say is true.

3. BUT the Inference is false, the Trade, no nor the Manufacture is not decay'd for this; these Prohibitions and Imitations amount to no more than this, that the People of those Countries do make some woollen

woollen Goods there, such as the coarse Wool of *Saxony, Poland, Bohemia, &c.* will admit; and thus the poor People in those Countries may be said to be clothed with their own Manufacture; but it seems to be little more, than instead of the rough Sheep-Skins, which, 'tis known, the Boors in those Countries wore before: For we find the very coarsest of our Kerfies, Dozens, Duffels, and *Yorkshire* Cloths, which are the meanest of our Manufacture, are exported even to those northern Ports (where they were used to go) in as great Quantities as ever: As for the fine Medly broad Cloths, and *Spanish* Cloths, which *England* is so particularly noted for, they do not so much as pretend to imitate, or to prohibit them; but the Quantity exported to *Hamburgh, to Gottenburgh, to Dantzick,* and to all the *Baltick,* is as great as ever, and perhaps greater; and if I were to go thro' all the Ports of *Europe* with the Enquiry, it would be hard to shew where the Decay lyes; but that if one Place sinks, another rises; and if one Kind of Manufacture declines, another advances.

N. B. THESE Prohibitions have been, some of longer standing, such as in *France, Prussia, Sweden, &c.* and some of a shorter Date, as now lately in *Silesia, in Austria, in Piedmont,* and several Parts of *Germany,* and at last in *Spain;*

Spain; and we may expect the like in other Parts.

UPON the whole, admitting all these Prohibitions of our Manufactures, and all their being imitated and set up in foreign Parts, as above, yet it is not easy to prove, neither can I see Reason to allow, that the Exportation of the woollen Manufacture of *England* is at all lessen'd, and consequently, the Consumption Abroad is not abated, or the Trade in particular decay'd: What Abatement of the Consumption may have happen'd in this, or that particular Part of the World, is not the Case, nor is it worth our Debate; all Nations are, and ought to be at Liberty to set their own Poor at Work, if they can, and to prohibit what foreign Manufacture they please for their Encouragement: But as the woollen Manufacture of *England* is an Article the most extended in Trade, of any other Thing of its Kind in the World, it cannot be expected, but it may sink in one Place, and rise in another; flourish here, and decay there, and the demand alter, as the Customs of Countries alter, and yet the Gross of the Trade may be the same; As the Sea, they tell us, gains in one Place upon the Land, and the Land encroaches in another Place upon the Sea; and yet, neither the Sea or the Land abates or encreases in Quantity, only vary in their Situation: And thus it is in our Trade, the Consumption of
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the Manufacture spreads in one Place, and draws back in another; one Nation opens the Door to it, and another shuts the Door against it; but still the Quantity goes away, it is exported abroad, bought, sold, and consum'd; and we do not find any Age pass, when more of it, either in Quantity or Quality, was ever sent abroad, than is now, or so much by a great deal: How then is the Trade under a Decay?

3. THE next Branch of the Complaint, is, that the Consumption of our woollen Manufacture is lessen'd at HOME.

THIS indeed, tho' least regarded, has the most Truth and Reason in it, and merits to be more particularly enquired into: But I might ask the very Complainer himself here, supposing the Fact to be true, Why do we not mend it, and that without Laws, without teasing the Parliament and our Sovereign, for what they find difficult enough to effect, even by Law? I say, Why do not the People of *Great Britain*, by general Custom, and by universal Consent, encrease the Consumption of our own Manufactures, by rejecting the Trifles and Toys of Foreigners, why do we not appear dress'd in the Growth of our own Country, and made fine by the Labour of our own Hands?

ALL the Kings and Parliaments that have been or shall be, cannot govern our Fancies: They may make Laws; and shew you the Reason of those Laws for your Good; but

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two Things among us are too ungovernable, *viz.* our Passions and our Fashions; the first is at present out of my Way, but the second is directly to my Purpose.

SHOULD I ask the Ladies, whether they would dress by Law, or clothe by Act of Parliament, they would ask me whether they were to be Statute Fools, and to be made Pageants and Pictures of? Whether the Sex were to be set up for our Jest, and the Parliament had nothing to do, but make *Indian* Queens of them? That they claim *English* Liberty, as well as the Men, and as they expect to do what they please, and say what they please, so they will wear what they please, and dress how they please.

IT is true, that this Liberty of the Ladies, their *Passion* for their *Fashion*, has been frequently injurious to the Manufactures of *England*; and is so still in some Cases, as I shall observe again in its Place; but I do not see so easy a Remedy for that, as for some other Things of the like Nature. The Ladies have suffer'd some little Restraint that Way, as in the wearing *East-India* Silks, instead of *English*; and Callicoes, and other Things, instead of worsted Stuffs, *and the like*; and we do not see they are pleas'd with it.

BUT as I am talking in this Article to the Complainers, I would have them direct their Complaints where they ought to be

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be directed; the King and Parliament have restrain'd those Things by Law, and farther they really cannot go; we must turn the Complaint to the People themselves, and entreat them to encourage the Manufacture of *England* by a more general Use and Wearing of it. This alone would encrease the Consumption, and that alone can encrease the Manufacture it self, as we shall see in its Place.

AND yet, if even this Part were examin'd critically, it would appear, that the Complaint is not right plac'd; the Manufacture is not in its self declin'd so much, as the Consumption is divided into several Manufactures, which perhaps were not known before, but under one Denomination; such as the Cotton Manufacture in *Lancashire* and *Cheshire*, the Linen Manufacture in *Scotland* now become our own by the Union; and the Linen Manufacture much encreas'd of late in *England* it self, and the same in *Ireland*, which tho' not our own, we find it much for our Interest to encourage; if by the Consumption of these the Consumption of the Woollen Manufacture is divided, I cannot say this can be call'd a Decay of our Trade, at least as the Use of these Goods is now brought on, not in the Room of our Woollen Manufacture, but in the Room of the Callicoes, the Use of which was lately prohibited: They are not therefore the Reason of any present Decay of the Woollen Manufacture; but if there
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was a Decay in the Consumption of the Woollen, it was done by the said Callicoes before; of all which I shall speak as I go on.

UPON the whole then it does not appear, that our Manufactures are lessen'd, or that the Consumption of them is abated either Abroad or at Home, but rather the contrary; and that our Trade in general, and even our Woollen Manufacture in particular, is greatly encreas'd, and is at this Time arriv'd to such a Magnitude, as it was never at before. And here it occurs to notice a particular Thing, which may be of Use to us in its Kind, on several Occasions, *viz.* That the Magnitude of the Manufacture is really at present its only Grievance, being encreas'd to such a Degree, by the Ignorance and Wealth of the Manufacturers, that it is too great for its self; the Quantity too great for the Consumption, or at least too great for the Market, tho' the Market was intirely open, and uninterrupted by any Rival Manufacture, or any Prohibition whatsoever. And here I ask to be spared a Word or two of the present imprudent Encrease of the Woollen Manufacture of *England*, by the ill Conduct of the Manufacturers in particular Cases; and how unjustly a Check of that Encrease is called a Decay of the Trade.

As the Veins may be too full of Blood, so a Nation may be too full of Trade; the
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fine fresh Rivers, when they run with a full and gentle Stream, are the Beauty and Glory of a Country; they water the Meadows, moisten the Earth, drive our Mills, fill our Moats and Canals, carry our Vessels, and enrich the whole Nation; but when swell'd by sudden and hasty Showers, they turn rapid in their Course, overflow their Banks, and rise to an undue Height; then they turn frightful and dangerous, drown the Country, and sometimes the People; carry away Cattle, Stacks of Corn, Bridges, Buildings, and whatever stands in their Way, leaving Mud, and Sand, and Stones among the Grass, and rather starve the Land, than assist to make it fruitful, and thus they become a Grievance, not a Blessing to the Publick; on the other Hand, when by long Drought their Sources are withheld, the Streams fail, the Rivers are dry, the Mills stand still, the Boats lye a Ground, the Lands are parch'd up, and the whole Country suffers.

OUR Manufactures of Wool in this Nation, bear a just Analogy with this Case, like a flowing Stream, they are in their prosperous Course the Wealth and Glory of the Country: While the Trade flourishes Abroad and at Home, and the Consumption makes a moderate current Demand, the Manufacture goes on at a steady, chearful, even Pace, the Wool is consum'd and wrought up, the Poor are employ'd,

ploy'd, the Master Manufacturer thrives, the Merchant and the Shop-keepers go on with their usual Strength, and all the Trade flourishes.

1. UPON some sudden Accident in Trade here comes a great unusual Demand for Goods, the Merchants from Abroad have sudden and unusual Commissions, the Call for Goods this Way or that Way encreases, this makes the Factors send large Orders into the Country; and the Price of Goods always rises according to the Demand: The Country Manufacturer looks out sharp, hires more Looms, gets more Spinners, gives more Wages, and animated by the advanc'd Price, is not content to answer his new Orders only, but he continues the Excursion he had made into the Country for Spinners, &c. runs on to an Extremity in Quantity, as far, or perhaps farther, than his Stock will allow; and in a Word, gluts the Market with the Goods.

2. THE Accident of Trade, which from Abroad fill'd the Merchants Commissions, and the Factor's Orders being over, those Demands are also over, and the Trade returns to its usual Channel; but the Manufacturer in the Country, who had run out to an unusual Excess in his Business, without Regard to the Circumstances of it, having not stopt his Hand as his Orders stopt, falls into the Mire; his Goods lye on Hand, the Poor which he call'd

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from the Plow and the Dary to spin and weave, are cast off again, and not finding their Way presently back to their old Drudgery, lye and starve for Want of Work, and then they cry out Trade is decay'd, the Manufactures are lost, Foreigners encroach upon us, the Poor are starv'd, and the like.

WHEREAS the Sum of the Matter is, the Manufacturer went mad, his Stream run over into a Flood, he run himself imprudently out of Breath; and upon a little Start of the Trade, willing to furnish the Orders all himself, and loth to let a Neighbour come in with him, run himself out, drag'd the Poor into his Business, nay perhaps robb'd his poorer Neighbour of his Workmen, by giving high Wages; and when the Trade stops a little, he runs a-ground; so the Poor are starving, and ready to mutiny for Want of Work: And this we call a Decay of Trade, whereas the contrary is manifest several Ways.

TRADE must certainly decay, if we will run it up to such a Length, as to make more Goods than the World can consume: But it is not to be justly call'd a Decay of Trade, 'tis only abating of the Flood; the Waters were out, and now they are down again, and reduced to their old Channel.

LET US examine a little such Accidents: as may raise or sink our Manufacture as
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above, or as perhaps have done so at this Time, and see if it does not hit exactly with this Account.

1st, THE late Accident of a Plague in *France*. Upon that sad Occasion, the Commerce being entirely stop'd between *France* and *Spain*, and indeed all other Parts of the World, the Manufactures of the City of *Marseilles* in particular, and the Country adjacent, being wholly interrupted, occasion'd a very great Addition to the Trade of *Great Britain*; particularly for such Manufactures as the *French* used to send to *Turkey*, to *Spain*, and to *Italy*; and the Merchants Commissions from Abroad were visibly enlarged hither for near two Years, upon that particular Occasion: It was plain they cou'd have no Goods from *France*.

THE like Occasion added to the Encrease of our Trade, upon the concluding of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, after the Confusions in *Spain* had put a Check to the Trade between *England* and that Country, for several Years; as likewise again upon the Accommodation with *Spain*, after the Surrender of *Sicily*, when Trade breaking out like the Sun after an Eclipse, the Demand for our *English* Manufactures, Bayes, Says, Perpetts, broad Cloaths, Serges, &c. was such, that the Manufacturers thought they could never make too many.

THESE Excursions are not to be cast up in any View of the real Magnitude of
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the Trade, or of the Manufacture, any more than the true Channel of a River is to be judged of, or its Waters measured by the overflowing of a Winter's Rain, as above.

NOR on the contrary is the Stop of those sudden high Demands, by any extraordinary Check of the Call on like Accidents, to be esteemed a Decay of the Trade, any more than the dry Bottom of a large River, when the Stream withheld by a Summer's Drought leaves the Channel empty, can describe the usual Dimensions of that River, or Quantity of its Waters.

SHOULD we ever see here such a fatal Time as that was in *France*, when Heaven sent the Infection among them at *Marseilles*, or as was here in 1665, *God preserve us from it*, what a general Stop would it make to all our Trade? who would send any Commissions hither for *English* Manufactures, when they did not know but every Bale would have a Plague pack'd up with the Goods, as certainly as the Bales of Wool or Hair brought it from *Cyprus* to *Marseilles*?

YET this would not justly be call'd a Decay of our Commerce; it would indeed be a Wound, and a very desperate Blow to it for the Time; but as it was an Accident to the Trade, so the Cause being removed, the Trade would revive, return to its former Channel, and be the same as before.

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IF now (*to return to the Case before us*) the Manufacturers of *Britain*, upon any such hasty Demand from Abroad, shall run rashly out into Extremes in their Business, seek out of their usual Bounds for Spinners and Weavers, and other working People, and draw them by Thousands, and Hundreds of Thousands, as was lately the Case, from their other Employments, shall they call the Stop of these hasty Demands a Decay of Trade? 'tis a Mistake, it is no Decay, it is no more but a Return of the Stream to its usual stated Bounds, bringing Trade into its right Channel again, and to run as it did before: And this I take to be the State of our Manufacture at this Time.

IT is indeed something difficult to make an exact Calculation, and judge between the antient and the present Bounds of Trade, and especially of the Woollen Manufacture; but I'll make a brief Essay at it.

THE Wooll is the principal Fund of the Manufacture, 'tis the Stock upon which it is carry'd on. Now, be the Quantity more or less, 'tis the fixt Boundary of the Trade: The Manufacture cannot outrun this Tether; the Maker can go no further than he has Wooll to work on; sometimes indeed one Year may borrow a little of another, but that is generally not so much as Trade demands more or less, but as the Stock of Wooll appears to vary: But when there

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there is an apparent Decay or Advance of the Trade in general, then it is to be seen in the Wooll. And thus, I remember, before the Stop was put to the free Exportation of the *Irish* Woollen Manufacture, the Quantity of the Wooll of *England* was too great for the Manufacture; and I have heard the Farmers complain of having two or three Years Stock of Wooll before-hand, and that they could not pay their Rent, because they could not sell it off.

THEN it was our great Study to get the Wooll consum'd, as appears by the Act of Parliament for burying in Woollen; you may see by the Preamble to that Act, that it was thought to be a publick Good to waste and consume the Wooll.

SINCE that, we find all the Wooll in *England* too little for the Manufacture; so that now we bring in all the Wooll of *Scotland*, which is in short an immense Quantity, tho' coarse, and which went formerly most of it beyond Sea, and yet call for at least the Quantity of an Hundred thousand Horse Packs from *Ireland* every Year. This is but a very odd Testimony for the Decay of our Manufacture; on the other hand, I think it is an unanswerable Proof of what I have advanced, (*viz.*) that our Woollen Manufacture is very much increased: But of this hereafter.

THEY that tell us of the Encrease or Decay of the Woollen Manufacture, should
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fix a Standard of the Trade, from a Proportion to which, to denominate this Encrease or Decay: To tell us it is sunk from what it was just at such or such a Time, as upon a Peace, after a long Interruption by a War, or after a Plague or the like, is to say nothing at all. But let them take six or seven Years together, and make an Estimate from the Medium, take the Exportation at a Medium, or take the Rate of Wooll, and the Consumption of the Quantity at a Medium, and then their Guesses (for they can be no more) may at least be probable.

IF formerly we could not consume all our own Wooll; and now, we not only consume our own, but all the Wooll of *Scotland*, and an Hundred thousand Packs a Year from *Ireland*; then either *England* must produce less Wooll than formerly, or the Consumption must be so much the greater. I think, that way of Reasoning is liable to no Exception, except it be the running it away clandestinely to *France*, which is trifling, and I shall make it appear in its Place, that this Channel is much smaller than it was formerly, when our Wooll lay unfold, as above.

As to the Growth of our Wooll being alter'd, and that *England* produces less Wooll than formerly, 'tis time enough to argue upon it, when there is, or can be one probable Reason given to suggest it,
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much less Evidence to prove it; yet I must not wholly pass it by neither, because, as above, it is the only Exception.

IF there is any thing to be judg'd of from Probability, it is on the other Side, (*viz.*) 'tis rather probable the Quantity is increased by the innumerable Number of Acres of Land improved and enclosed within these few Years, especially in the Northwest Parts of *England*, and which breed and feed greater Numbers of Sheep than ever, and those of a larger Breed which are prodigiously increased in *England*.

I might run out here very profitably upon this Subject, and give Reasons from the general Way of Sheep-keeping in *England* at this Time, by which it wou'd easily be proved, that the Quantity of Wooll is increased by the Encrease of the large Breed of Sheep which are raised now, *not* on the *Cotswold Hills* of *Gloucestershire*, the *South Downs*, *Salisbury Plains*, and such open Counties, as formerly, where the Soil is poor, and the Sheep small, and the Fleeces light, tho' fine, and of a short Staple in Proportion to the Creatures: *But* in the rich enclosed Grounds of *Leicester* and *Warwickshire*, the Fens of *Lincolnshire* and *Norfolk*, the Isle of *Ely*, the Marshes of *Rumney* in *Kent*, the rich Lands on the Bank of *Tees* and on the *Wier* in the Bishoprick of *Durham*, and thro' all the Counties of *Northampton*, *Huntington*, *Hertford*, and
Bucks;

Bucks; for the Truth of which, I need do no more than appeal to the Knowledge of the honourable Representatives of those Countries.

As the Encrease of these Sheep is manifest, and that one of whose Fleeces is equal to three of the western Counties, 'tis very improbable the Quantity of Wooll should be declin'd in *England*; and if the Wooll is not declin'd, then the only tolerable Objection is removed, and my Argument stands granted, or at least fully confirmed, of which this is the Abstract.

WHEN the Growth of our Wooll in *England* was much less than it is now, yet there were frequent Difficulties in having it be consumed by the Manufactures.

Now the Growth of Wooll in *England* is increased, yet it is not sufficient to supply the Consumption of it by the Manufactures.

I think the Consequence is natural then, namely, that the Manufactures must be increased.

To bring all this to our present Purpose,

THE Manufactures are prodigiously increased, whether prudently, or rashly, beyond a due Proportion to the Demand, it matters not upon a Stop or Check of that Demand, we complain of a Decay of Trade; the Question is, whether that Complaint is just?

I insist, that it is not, nor does it prove any thing of a Decay of Trade; only, that the
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the Manufacturers having rashly made immense Quantities of Goods more than the Trade of all *Europe* ever did or can call for in a constant Demand, the Trade is returned to its natural Channel, after an imaginary and casual Start out of it by the Accidents of foreign Commerce.

IN short, upon the Occasions mentioned above, the Manufacturers have made their good Fortune in Trade a Bubble upon themselves, and having over-run the Market with their Goods, it returns upon them like the late *South Sea*, and every thing goes back from its imaginary to its intrinsic Value.

THE Demand abates the Advancement, the Price sinks, the poor Spinners and Work-folk are dismiss'd to starve: But the Cause is not in the Trade, but in the Workmen, not in the Manufacture, but in the Manufacturers; the Quantity of Goods made are too many for the Consumption, and the Market is perhaps glutted for a Year or more to come; and thus and no otherwise the Commerce is abated; that is, there is no real Abatement of the Trade, only it must have Time given to waste the over-made Quantity.

FROM the whole we may observe here how many Ways the launching out a Manufacture to an undue Extent may be prejudicial to a Nation in general; 'tis like a Tradesman that over-trades himself, and runs out beyond the Compass of his Stock; the Consequence

sequence is, that upon the least Accident in Trade, his Credit is stagnated and shaken, and the Man is undone; and 'tis a just Observation in the Tradesmen of this Nation, that there are many more ruined by too much Trade, than for Want of Trade.

IT is very unjust and unfair Dealing by the Publick, first to glut the Market, and over-run it with Goods, and then complain that the Market is dull: How should the Respiration of Trade be preserved, when 'tis choak'd and suffocated with Goods? When *Blackwell Hall* is empty, the Trade breathes; but when we see it piled up to the Ceilings; the Yards, the Passages and Staircases throng'd, Trade suffers, it is oppress'd with Quantity, and must die if not relieved.

LET the Trade of *Great Britain* go on in its usual Channel, the Magnitude of it is sufficient of it self; all Excesses hurt it; I do not think Trade receives any Advantage from those sudden Starts and Advances of Price, as hinted above, but what the Manufacturer makes one Way, he loses another, and the Poor lose by it both ways.

I remember after the late Plague in *France*, and the Peace in *Spain*, the Run for Goods was so great in *England*, and the Price of every thing rose so high, that the poor Women in *Essex* could earn one Shilling to one Shilling and Sixpence *per diem* by Spinning:

Spinning: What was the Consequence, 'twas too plain to be conceal'd.

THE poor Farmers could get no Dairy-Maids; the Wenches told them in so many Words, they would not go to Service for Twelve-pence a Week, when they could get nine Shillings a Week *at their own Hands*, as they called it; so they all run away to *Bocking*, to *Sudbury*, to *Braintree*, and to *Colchester*, and other Manufacturing Towns of *Essex* and *Suffolk*.

THE very Plowmen did the same, and the Ale-houses in the great Towns were throng'd with them, young Fellows and young Wenches together, till the Parishes began to take Cognizance of them upon another Account, too dark to talk of here.

WHILE this Hurry lasted, the Bayes were call'd for in prodigious Quantities, and the Price rose from 12 *d. per Ell* to 16 *d.* besides the Advance upon the Parcels, an Article particular to that Business.

As soon as the Demand slack'd from Abroad, all these loose People were turn'd off, the Spinners went a begging, the Weavers rose in Rebellion, and the Parishes were left throng'd with Bastards, which was all that we might say was got by that Bargain.

WHEREAS, had the Merchants been oblig'd with the Goods as fast as the ordinary Numbers employ'd in the Manufacture could have wrought them, the Market had held

held the longer, the Merchants had had their Goods the cheaper, and the Markets Abroad would have been supplied at last too.

BUT, by that unadvised rash Hurry, nothing follow'd but Confusion; the Demand stopt; yet the Makers run on as long as they were able, the Bayes were pawned in every money'd Man's Hand in the Country, and the Price sunk to 11 *d. per Yard* at *London*; so that a considerable deal of Money was lost by every Piece made, the *Bay-Makers* broke by Dozens, and thus they went on; and now they as well as the West Country Men tell us, that the Trade is declin'd.

Now is this to be called a Decay of Trade? no not at all; there is still a moderate Demand, and the Trade, were the Glut of Goods taken off, would be where it was: But the Run has ruin'd them; the Money to be gotten blinded the Manufacturers, they could not keep within the Compass of their own Grasp, and so sunk in the necessary Stop of the Trade that follow'd.

To judge then of the Decay of the Trade, we must bring it back, as I said, to a Medium of Years, and see how it was carry'd on, and to what Degree, in such a Time, for 10, or 20, or 30 Years ago, and then compare it with its present worst Circumstances, and I venture to say, we shall not find the Trade decay'd at all, but rather encreas'd in all the Manufactures of *England*.

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I have dwelt upon the encreasing Exportations of our own, and Importations of the Goods of foreign Growth, in the three last Chapters, as an Evidence of the Magnitude of our Trade. If our Trade is declining, why do our Importations and Exportations encrease? And if they do not encrease, let the Opposer of this Part tell us the Time when they were greater, or even equal to what they are.

SOME have attempted this Part, and indeed 'tis the only way to convince us, that our Trade is declin'd; for if neither our Importations or Exportations are decreased, which Way will they go to Work to shew the Decrease of our Commerce.

I might enquire of these phlegmatick Computers, first, Whether is our Shipping decreas'd or not? I confess, I have not yet heard it so much as suggested; and tho' it is true, that it is not easy to determine that Point, yet I think I am upon a Square with the Complainers, when I say, that whenever they please to enter into the Computation, I shall be ready to begin an Enquiry on the other side, which I believe will be convincing; in the mean time, let me refer the Reader to a View of the Western Coast of the Island, and let them look narrowly into the Encrease of Shipping at *Bristol*, *Liverpool*, *Whitehaven*, *Dumfreis*, *Glasgow*, and all the smaller Ports on that Side from *Pembroke Haven* to the Firth of *Clyde*,

Clyde, and tell me if there are not a thousand Sail of Ships more employ'd on that Side, I mean Merchant Ships, besides Fishing Boats and small Craft, more than were ever known before. I might go round the Island, and make like Observations; but, as before, I meet with no body that makes any Objection of that kind.

WE have two Trades, they tell us, which are evidently declin'd, and the Shipping, which was usually employ'd in them, apparently lessen'd; and these are first, the *French Trade*, and secondly, the *Fishing Trade*.

FOR the first, 'tis true, the *French Trade* is lessen'd; but 'tis a Truth so evidently, and I might say so infinitely, to our Advantage, by our having made almost all their Manufactures (of which we took off such exceeding great Quantities) our own; that no Man can with Justice call it a Decay or Declining of our Trade in general, that our Trade with *France* is lessen'd; on the contrary, 'tis no more than this, all that Part of our Trade, which we lost by, is lessen'd, and all that Part, which we gain'd by, is or might be, if we pleas'd, encreased and preserv'd; whoever considers the Importations of wrought Silks, Brandy, Paper, Hats, Glass, and several other Manufactures, for which we paid *France* two Millions a Year, turn'd all upon their Hands, and all those things supply'd at Home by the Labour

bour of our own People. For even the Gross of the Brandy, formerly *French*, is now supply'd by the Distillers of Malt Spirits at Home, which, as to the common Consumption, is turned all into the meanest of Liquor; but however, 'tis such as the People eagerly close with, and by that the Importation of Brandy is certainly reduced from nine thousand Ton to less than two thousand Ton a Year.

ALL the rest of the *French* Goods, which were formerly imported from thence, so much to our Loss, being now made at Home, I hope no Man can be so weak as to call that a Declining or Decrease of our Trade; on the contrary, 'tis a happy Encrease of it, for that the Consumption is at least the same, and our own People have the Profit of the Making; the Consumption is the same among the rich, and our own Poor take the Money instead of the Poor of *France*.

As to the *French* Wine Trade, the Question answers it self, the Stream only is turned from *France* to *Portugal*, the Quantity of Wine consumed is not the less; and as it is farther to fetch, the Shipping is rather encreas'd by it than abated; the Ships not being able to make so many Voyages as they did before, there must be the more Bottoms, or the more Tonnage in larger Ships employ'd, and either of them are an Encrease to the Navigation.

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As to the Fishing Trade being decreased, it is begging the Question in a notorious Manner, and I think needs no Answering. On the contrary we see it lately encreased by a very great and probable Undertaking of the *Greenland* Fishery; we see also several Proposals on foot for farther encreasing the *Scots* Fishery, and our other Fishing must be necessarily encreased by the Addition of our Dominion in *Newfoundland*, by the late Peace, where our Room for encreasing the Fishing is greatly enlarged. And it cannot be deny'd, but that the *English* Fishing on the Banks also is actually encreased: We must therefore be allow'd to say that Part needs no Reply till the Fact be prov'd.

LET us next enquire what one particular Trade in all our Foreign Business is impair'd, what Goods of Foreign Growth are they which lye by us unfold, and with which our Markets are glutted, or which our Merchants give no more Commissions for, being not able to consume them at Home, or export them to other Places Abroad.

I shall be very brief in the Inquiry.

I begin with the *East India* Company; their Trade has been cramped by Prohibitions at Home, and by new Invasions from Abroad; their Silks and Callicoes forbidden to be worn, in Favour of Rival Manufactures of Linen and Silk; their Commerce invaded by a Rival Company at *Ostend*;

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yet we see last their Sale amounted to almost eleven Hundred Thousand Pounds *Sterling*, which allowing it to be half yearly, as really is the Case, can very ill be called a sinking Commerce.

TAKE our Plantation Trade, the Island of *St. Christopher's* being our own by the late Peace, we see improv'd and increas'd to such a Degree, that the Return of Sugar, Ginger, &c. is now as great from thence as from *Barbadoes*; and the Plantations in *Jamaica* are so evidently increas'd, that we are told in a few Years they will raise ten Thousand Hogsheads of Sugar and *Cocao* more than ever they did before.

IN a Word, whereas formerly we had a Glut of Sugar from our Colonies, and were distress'd for a Market to dispose of the Overplus, 'tis now evident, that since the great increas'd Consumption of Coffee and Tea in *Great Britain*, all our Colonies are hardly able to supply the Consumption; and from Thirty Thousand Hogsheads of Sugar which formerly we imported, 'tis certain we now import from seventy to eighty Thousand Hogsheads in a Year, from all our Colonies, not reckoning the extravagant Bulk of the Hogsheads, which now generally contain from seventeen to eighteen hundred Weight of Sugar in each Hogshead, one with another, some of them much more.

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IN like Manner, the Plantations in *Virginia* and *Maryland* are encreas'd to such a Magnitude, that I am told they produce now from eighty to an Hundred Thousand Hogsheads every Year; a Quantity so great, compar'd to what has formerly been produced, that if it be all disposed of, no Man can say the *Virginia* Trade is not infinitely increased; besides the great Export of Provisions from *Virginia*, that is to say, from *Chesapeake* Bay, which they send to our Island Colonies, more by some Hundreds of Sloops Loading a Year, than ever they sent before, which is one great Cause of the *Virginia* Planters falling lately into the Trade of buying Negroes from the Coast of *Africa*, which they never used to do formerly.

As our Island Colonies are thus mightily increas'd and improv'd, as it is most certain they are; their People encreasing, they necessarily demand a much greater Supply of Provisions from our other Colonies on the Continent of *America*, than they had before; and this encreases the Trade of those Colonies, such as of *New-England*, *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, East and West; *Pensilvania*, *Carolina*, as also the Trade from the *Canaries*, *Maderas*, &c. *Cape de Verd* Islands for Salt, and the Coast of *Guinea* for Negroes: So that here is a manifest Encrease of all the Commerce of both the East and West *Indies*.

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WHERE then shall we find a Decay? where is there a Stagnation, what Trade languishes, and where is it that we drive less Business than we did before?

Portugal will not pretend to it; I might say the whole World is Witness to the manifest Encrease of our Trade with the *Portuguese*, who alone 'tis plain take off more of our Woollen Manufacture, since the late Encrease of their Commerce to *Brasil*, than both the Kingdom of *Portugal* and *Spain* used to do before: So that our Trade to those Parts is extremely improv'd.

'Tis true, there may be some casual Abatements of our Exportation to some particular Parts of the World, and especially as Things stand at this Time, by the War, or by the unsettled Circumstances of the Nations, with respect to Continuance of Peace or War; yet nothing can be argued upon that Supposition, but what all Trades, and all trading Nations are subject to, and ever will be on the like Occasions.

LET us next view the *Italian* and *Levant* Trades, which are very great Articles, and which bear a considerable Part in the great Balance of our general Commerce; the *Turkey* Merchants have indeed complain'd, but what is the Complaint? If the just Part be examin'd, it will appear to lye here, and here only; not that the Goods they carry Abroad want a Market, but that the Silk they have brought Home, has, from what-

whatever Neglect we yet know not, abated in its usual Fineness and Goodness; and that to such a Degree, that the Manufacturers here, that is the Weavers, could no longer make use of it, at least not in such Works, and to such Purposes as they had formerly done; and so the Trade may have suffer'd, not from the Abatement of the Market Abroad or at Home, but from the Merchants not taking Care to import a good Commodity.

THIS can no more be call'd a Decay or Loss of the *Turkey* Trade, than it would be a Loss of the Trade now carried on by the South Sea Company to *America*; if the Returns for their Goods should be made in a false Coin, or in counterfeit Pieces of Eight in stead of the true; The Trade therefore is not sunk; for if the Weavers cannot use the *Turkey* Silk, because it is deficient in Quality, they must use other Sorts; that is to say, fine *Italian* and *Piedmont* thrown Silks, or *Bengale* raw Silk in the Room of it, and 'tis certain they do so. And it is worth while to observe on this Occasion, how far this has been the Case, and how the Importation of those Silks has encreased, as the other has prov'd inferior; so that the Silk Trade has not been lessen'd at all.

N. B. It was alledg'd in the late Dispute between the *Throwsters* and the Weavers before the House of Commons, that as the *Turkey* Silks were brought

over worse than formerly; so the *East India* or *Bengale* Silks came better than ever, and accordingly were more in Demand: For it will for ever be true, that whatever Materials of a Manufacture are furnish'd from Abroad, and decay in Goodness, they will decay in the Use, sink in Price, and at length sink out of Demand, or they will make the Manufacture they are employ'd in sink in its Value, which is still worse.

WHERE then shall we look for a Decay of our Importations? if to the Navy, that is already answered in the Discourse of the Shipping: If the Number of Ships employ'd is not abated, as I believe our worst Enemies will not suggest, then our Commerce to the East Country cannot be abated; by our East Country Trade, is always understood our Trade in Hemp, Flax, Tar, Pitch, Iron, &c. That is to say in general, Naval Stores; Now, 'tis manifest by the Custom-house Books (to which I refer) that these are not abated; but on the contrary, very much encreas'd, notwithstanding our great Importation of Tar, Oyl, Mafts, &c. from our own Colonies.

IN what Part of the World then is our Trade decay'd, and in what Branch of our Business does it lye? for those People that insist upon the Decay of our Trade, and that make such loud Complaints about it,

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ought to let us know they do not raise groundless Complaints, that would be call'd Clamour and Disaffection, and would look like something particularly piquant, which I am loth to suggest.

I must therefore call upon them for their Explanations, and to let us see the Place where our Trade is decay'd, and what Goods they are, the Consumption of which is lessen'd and decay'd either at Home or Abroad; with such needful Descriptions of Trade in general, as may convince us there is no equivalent Encrease in other Branches to make it up, and to balance the Abatement.

THE immediate Reply to this, is what I have mention'd already, (*viz.*) The mimicking our Woollen Manufacture in several Parts of *Germany*, by which the Demand of those Manufactures from *England* is abated, and may in Time be laid aside in those particular Countries, such as our Bays, Flannels, Chamlets, Says, and several other kinds of Goods.

BUT what does this amount to in the general Article of our great Manufacture? let particular Cases be what they will, let *Saxony*, *Swisserland*, *Piedmont*, *Austria*, and Twenty more Places, if you could name them, interfere with, supplant or prohibit this or that Manufacture, and make a visible Decrease of the Consumption here or there: If the Consumption is encreas'd

in other Parts of the World, be it a Thousand Miles, or Ten thousand Miles from *Germany*, the thing is answered, the Manufacture is the same.

THE Question lies nearer Home, the Enquiry, like the searching for a Disease, is in the vital Part; the Search is at the Heart, if the Pulse of the Trade beats true and strong, the Body is sound, Wind and Limb; is in a State of Health, and flourishing in spite of all the little Casualties that may happen in other remote Parts.

THE Question in the Manufacture has no difficulty at all in it; and yet it seems that those Gentlemen who insist upon the Decay of the Manufacture do it upon the Presumption, that there is no coming at the Negative; but I shall put it upon a Certainty which perhaps they may not foresee. The Question is in few Words (as before) Is the Quantity of Wooll wrought up, or is it not? If all our Wooll is wrought up, nay if it is not sufficient for the Manufacture, then the Manufacture cannot be declined.

IT is within these Five and twenty Years, that we found the Wooll of *England* lye on Hand unfold, and the Farmers in the Sheep-feeding Countries, such as *Northampton, Leicester, Lincoln, Warwick, Norfolk*, and many other Places, had generally two or three Years Wooll upon their Hands unfold, and the Price low, and very little Demand for it.

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BUT now, and especially since the several Acts prohibiting the *East India* Silks, Callicoes, Chints, and other Goods of that Kind, we find the *English* Wooll not only all used up at Home, but also the *Irish* and the *Scots* Wooll brought over in unusual Quantities to help; and yet the Price holds up, and there is no Glut of Wooll in the whole Island; how then can the Manufacture be declin'd? unless you will first make it appear, that the Quantity of Wooll is abated in *England*, which I believe will not be pretended, and if it were, would be hard to prove.

I might very profitably employ a whole Chapter here to prove to you, that the Quantity of Wooll in *England* is so far from being lessen'd and decreased, that it is greatly encreased for many Years past, and continues every Year to encrease: I could prove it by proving the Encrease of the Number of Sheep in *England*; and the Encrease of Sheep would be prov'd past Contradiction, by the Improvement of Culture, the enclosing vast Tracts of Land in almost all Parts of *England* which lay open before; and which being now improved either by the Plowman, or by the Grazier, still occasions greater flocks of Sheep, and those of the best and largest Kind, to be fed than were before.

I could add to it the vast Improvement made on the North-west and Eastern Coasts
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of *England*, as also on the Coasts of *Wales*, by saving and draining Lands from the Sea, and from the Rivers, by which multitudes of Sheep are fed, as they are in *Rumney Marshes* mention'd above: The almost incredible Improvement of Land in the Countries of *Cumberland*, *Durham* and *Northumberland*, by which the Number of Sheep are encreased on that Side the Country in a Manner, I say, hardly to be believed.

I might also speak of the improv'd Methods, even in the breeding and feeding of Sheep, by raising them upon the plow'd and fallow Lands, upon Salt Marshes, and other Grounds, such as were never known by our Ancestors to feed Sheep before. And, lastly, I might insist upon an Article little considered, but which is really of more Importance as to the Encrease of Wooll than all the rest, *Namely*, that the Nation is universally fallen into a way of breeding larger Sheep than they did before: So that not only the Numbers of Sheep are encreased by many Thousands of Acres being employ'd to feed and breed, which never fed a Sheep before; but even the Sheep themselves are of a different Kind, and two Sheep produce more Wooll than three Sheep, and in some Places, than four Sheep did before. To bring this into Evidence, we need do no more than appeal to the meanest of the Country People in *Lincolnshire* and

and *Leicestershire*; in the first you will see the feeding and breeding of large Sheep spread from the Country of *Lincoln* only, to which formerly it was confin'd, into all the level Grounds, Marshes and Fens of *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, *Cambridge* and *Huntington*; from the County of *Leicester* the same Breed of Sheep is spread into the Counties of *Warwick*, *Stafford* and *Northampton*, and even the smaller Breeds of those Counties, which they now call Stubble Sheep, and which feed on the fallow and common Fields, are of a larger kind than ever before.

To look into the North, we see the Improvement in the Countries of *Durham* and *Northumberland*, running all into a large Breed of Sheep; and you may buy as large Mutton at the Markets in the City of *Durham*, as any you can buy at *Leadenhall*; I affirm it, and dare bring it to a Proof on any just Occasion; and we see large *Northumberland* Sheep brought up yearly for Sale in great Drovers into all these Southern Parts of *England*, especially into *Essex* and *Suffolk*.

IF then there were no Encrease in the Numbers of our Sheep, the contrary of which is true to a Demonstration; yet if we run into a larger Breed, the Wooll may still be encreased as much as if the Numbers were encreased; but as it is apparent that both the Breed is altered, and the Generality

lity of the Sheep-breeders run into another larger Kind, and the Numbers of Sheep by the Encrease of Culture and Enclosure is encreased also. How then can we pretend the Quantity of Wooll in *England* is declin'd? The Weight of this Part of the Argument may be sum'd up thus.

IF the Numbers of Sheep are not decreased, nor the Breed of the Sheep degenerated, then the Quantity of our Wooll cannot be decreased or abated.

IF the Quantity of Wooll is not abated, and yet it does not lye on hand, and want a Market, then the whole Growth of our Wooll is evidently used up and manufactured; for it would not be bought if it could not be used.

AGAIN, take it in the Reverse.

IF our whole Growth of Wooll is not only bought and used up, but that we buy great Quantities of Wooll and Woollen Yarn from *Ireland*, to such a Degree, as has been said, that it amounts to an hundred thousand Packs a Year: Then 'tis evident that the whole Growth of our Wooll is not equal to our Manufacture.

IF it is true, that our whole Growth of Wooll is not equal to our Manufacture; that is to say, that it is not sufficient for our Supply; but that greater Quantities than ever are brought in every Year from *Ireland* and *Scotland*, all of which (clandestine Trade excepted) is used up, and manufactured

ctured in this Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, as has been proved: Then the Manufacture of Wooll in *England* cannot be lessen'd or decay'd; but on the contrary, is evidently improv'd and encreas'd.

N. B. As to the Exception for clandestine Trade; it is mentioned indeed to anticipate any Cavil which might be raised upon the Omission, as if we did not know there was such a Trade as owling or running of Wooll carried on among us; but the Quantity so carried off, tho' too much, with Respect to the Injury done our Trade, yet is small, and indeed not worth naming, in comparison of the Bulk of Wooll, which the Growth of the whole Kingdom produces, and of which we are now speaking.





CHAP. II.

An Enquiry whether the Exportation of our other Goods, the Growth or Manufacture of England, or the Home Consumption of them is decreased or declined.



I HAVE mentioned the Produce of our Colonies, and prov'd that they are evidently encreased, as well in their Exports to one another, as in the Consumption and Re-exportation of their Produce here in *England*.

I have mention'd the Encrease of our Woollen Manufacture, and prov'd it to a Demonstration by the Consumption of the Wooll.

IT seems only to remain, that we should enquire into some other Trades which are profitably carry'd on among us, and see whether they are not declin'd in Proportion, and to make way for the Encrease of the Woollen Manufacture; for if other Branches of Commerce are declin'd in Proportion, the Woollen Manufacture, how-

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ever great, may be encreased, and yet our Trade in general be declin'd too, and at the same Time.

BUT I persuade my self, it will be hard to find any part of the Product of *England* which can be said to be declin'd and decreased, either in its Exportation to Countries Abroad, or in its Consumption at Home.

THE Product of *England* has been already at large describ'd, the Wooll is set in the Front as the Chief, and it is so; but it is not the only Product, nor are the Woollen Manufactures the only things which employ the People of *England*, and set their Hands to Work; there are several Manufactures in *England* which employ a vast Number of People in which the Wooll is no way concern'd, and upon Examination, we shall find, (1.) some of these are wholly now a mere modern Improvement, and on which no Hands were set to Work, no Stock employ'd before.

2. OTHERS, tho' known before, are yet exceedingly improv'd and encreas'd, and consequently employ many Hands which were unemploy'd before, which in short is the essential Part of all Improvement in Trade.

I shall give Examples of some of those Manufactures, which are more remarkable than others, and by which the most considerable Number of Poor are employ'd, and

and Materials consum'd; for the rest, it shall suffice only to name them.

I. THE *Bone Lace* Manufacture. It is true, that there was always, perhaps, for some Ages past, a Manufacture of *Bone Lace* carry'd on in *England*; but the Improvement and Encrease of it within about 20 to 30 Years past is such, and so visible; that he must be utterly ignorant of Trade that is not convinc'd of it. In former Times, the chief Place for this Manufacture was about *Buckingham*, *Stony Stratford*, and *Newport Pagnaell*, vulgarly *Newport Pannel*; you have it now spread, almost entirely over the Counties of *Buckingham*, *Bedford* and *Oxford*, and far into the Counties of *Berks*, *Northampton*, *Cambridge*, *Hertford* and *Surrey*, especially where any or all those Counties border on the first: It is also erected in the West, and especially in the Counties of *Dorset* and *Wiltshire*, where particularly at *Blandford* they make Lace of an exceeding high Price, and not outdone, *Brussels* Lace excepted, by any out of *Flanders*, *France*, or even *Venice* it self. In a word, this Manufacture is so much encreased in *England*, that it employs many Thousands of our People more than ever; and if I may credit the Report of the Country where 'tis chiefly made, where one was employ'd by it 30 Years ago, above 100 are employ'd by it now, and these of the most idle, useless and burthensome Part

of our People (I mean such as were so before) are the principal Hands employ'd, viz. the younger Women, and female Children. These were a real Charge upon the diligent laborious Poor, such as the Husband-men, the Farmers, and the Handicrafts of other Trades; and are now made able to provide for themselves, and ease their Parents and Parishes of a dead Weight, which was in many Cases insupportable; but I cannot dwell upon the Particulars, which otherwise would be profitably enquired into. In short, 'tis believ'd there are above an Hundred Thousand Women and Children employ'd, and who get their Bread by this Manufacture, more than did formerly; for 'tis the Encrease of it that I am now discoursing of; and this Encrease has an Effect upon the general Commerce of this Kingdom, very much to the Advantage of *England*, for Example.

1. IN employing all this great Number of People in a Manufacture which employ'd, as may be reasonably suppos'd, the like Number of People in another Country, (viz.) in *Flanders*; so that it may be said to be taking the Bread out of the Poor of *Flanders*, and putting it into the Mouths of the Poor of our own Country.

2. IT is a Turn in the Balance of Trade to the Advantage of *England*, in supplying us with the same Quantity of Goods by the Labour of our own Poor, which we, till

now, bought abroad, and which buying abroad, was always attended with this as a Consequence, that either we paid for them in Money, or in our own Manufactures; whereas (if the first) that Money, is now kept at Home; and (if the last) those Manufactures must be paid for to us in Money, as they certainly are.

2. ANOTHER encreas'd Manufacture is that of wrought Iron and Brass: I need not refer to the Towns of *Birmingham* and *Sheffield*, and the People of *Hallamshire*, a District well known to the Nailers and hard Ware Men of *Barnsely* and *Rotherham*: But I appeal to the Iron Works of the late Sir *Ambrose Crowley*, and his Son Alderman *Crowley*, at *Newcastle upon Tyne*; and above all, to the same sort employ'd in *London*, where they certainly make the best Cutlery Ware at this Time in the World.

IT is not many Years since the best Scissars, the best Knives, and the best Razors were made in *France*, and the like of the fine Watches, Tweezars, and other small Ware; nothing is more evident in Trade at this Time, than that the best Knife Blades, Scissars, Surgeons Instruments, Watches, Clocks, Jacks and Locks that are in the World, and especially Toys and gay Things are made in *England*, and in *London* in particular; and our Custom-house Books, will make it appear, that we send daily great
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Quantities of wrought Iron and Brass into *Holland*, *France*, *Italy*, *Venice*, and to all Parts of *Germany*, *Poland* and *Muscovy*.

IN a Word, no particular Manufacture can be nam'd, which has encreas'd like this of the hard Ware, I mean, in *Great Britain*; and 'tis still an encreasing Manufacture: To make Calculations, and Comparisons, seems to be piquant in the Case, and particularly pointed at this or that Nation; but let it point where it will, the Fact is plain; 'tis the like in the grosser Part of the Trades, as our Toys, Scissars, Razors, Knife and Sword Blades outdo the *French*; so our common Bombs, Shells, Grenades, Caldrons, and all sorts of cast Iron, as much outdo the *Germans*, the *Legois*, or the *Dutch*.

IT is the like in wrought Brass; most of the Brass Locks of all the fine Palaces in *France*, if narrowly inspected, will be found to be *English*; the fine Gold Watches in the Pockets of the Grand Seignior, the Czar of *Muscovy*, and the Sophy of *Persia*, or the great Mogul, are generally *English*: We send our Toys to the Court of *France*, and the *English* Knives and Razors have quite outdone the *French*.

By this Means it comes to pass, as I am well assur'd, that there are above 200000 People employ'd in the Manufacture of Iron and Brass in *England*, more than ever were before: Perhaps this may be of the
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most as to Numbers, nor will I take that Part upon my self, tho', if it be true, that the late Sir *Ambrose Crowley* did employ 30000 People in his own particular Part, the rest may be more than probable. But this, upon the whole, will (I doubt not) be allow'd, (*viz.*) that there is a visible Encrease of our Trade in Iron and Brass, as well as it is a Manufacture, as it is a Merchandice; for there is a manifest Encrease of the Exportation and Home Consumption, as well as an Encrease of Employment for the People.

N. B. IN this Article should be included the Mines of Copper lately improv'd in *England* and *Wales*; as also the *Battery* and *Brass Mills* and *Foundaries*, which are in themselves very considerable; and if we may credit the Representations made to the Parliament a few Years since, do employ many Thousands of our People more than were ever employ'd in those things before.

THESE are Improvements in Manufacture and Trade; and as they testify an Encrease of Trade, we can see no Room yet to suggest that the Trade of *England* in general is declin'd or decay'd.

3. THERE are some other Articles yet more considerable than these, and one of them is the broad Silk Manufacture; I cannot pass it over; it is an Encrease of this
very

very Age. It is a Surprise to the World, as well in its Quantity as in its Value, and in the admirable Perfection which our People are arriv'd to in it, and the little Time they have had to raise it to the Degree which it is arriv'd to.

IT is but a very few Years ago, that the making of broad Silks began in *England*; the *French* and the *Italians* carried the World before them (as to Trade) in that particular Article; what Attempts had been made in *England* were chiefly at *Canterbury* by the *Walloons* and *French* Refugees, and they were so beaten out by the *East India* Silks, that if I am not misinform'd, there were not 20 Looms left at Work in the whole City of *Canterbury*, some say, not half so many.

WHEN the *French* Trade prevail'd, and before the Stop of Commerce between the two Kingdoms began by the late War, the most moderate Calculations valued the broad Silks which were imported from *France* and *Italy* at 1200000 Pounds *Sterling per Annum*; some say, we took off as much as that Value in the *French* Silks only, whereof one Half at least in *Alamodes* and *Lustrings*, the Manufacture of *Lyons*, and the Provinces upon the *Rhosne*.

BUT be it so or not; for we are not adjusting the Value of Things, in that or any other Part of that Country, but the general Tide or Current of the whole Trade; of which I
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might venture to say, it was known to the whole World, that is to the whole trading World, that it run to the Advantage of *France*, with a full Stream directly from *England*; I mean as to the Silk Manufacture, all which Trade is now sunk, I say, sunk and lost as to *France* and *Italy*, to the infinite Advantage of *England*; and this not that *England* may be said to leave off wearing Silk: No, far from it; as our Wealth is encreased, we do not pretend our Pride or Vanity is abated; our Ladies go as gay, and our Houses are furnish'd as rich as ever, and perhaps more so, and in the same Kinds and sorts of Silks, Lustrings, Mantuas, Velvets, *Padua* Soys, Garden Sattins, the best and richest Brocades, and the best and richest of all sorts of Silks: But the Difference lies here, that whereas we bought them before, now we make them at Home; we set the *French* Men of *Tours*, of *Lyons*, *Avignon*, and the Countries about them at Work before, and the *Italians* of *Milan*, *Mantua*, *Genoa*, *Florence* and *Naples*, and paid them all at a vast Expence of *English* Money, a Profusion of Money, even a Million 200000 *l. Sterling* a Year; whereas now our own Poor gain all that Money; our own Merchants import the Materials, our own Manufacture purchases the Silk, the Drugs and Dye Stuffs; and the whole Manufacture of broad Silk is an Encrease upon our Commerce. But I shall

shall say no more of this here, because I shall have Occasion to mention it again, when I come to speak of the *English* People improving upon the Manufacture and Inventions of other Nations.

4. I proceed therefore to another visible Encrease of Trade, which spreads daily among us, and affects not *England* only, but *Scotland* and *Ireland* also, tho' the Consumption depends wholly upon *England*; and this is printing or painting of Linen. The late Acts of prohibiting the Use and wearing of painted Calicoes, either in Cloths, Equipages or House Furniture, was without Question aim'd at improving the Consumption of our Woollen Manufacture, and in Part it had an Effect that way.

BUT the Humour of the People running another way, and being used to, and pleased with the light, easie and gay Dress of the Calicoes, the Callicoe Printers fell to Work to imitate those Calicoes, by making the same Stamps and Impressions, and with the same Beauty of Colours upon the Linen, and that this fell upon the two particular Branches of Linen, call'd *Scots* Cloth and *Irish* Linen: I need not take any Pains to prove this. The Consequence is also evident, (*viz.*) That the Linen Manufacture both in *Scotland* and in *Ireland* are considerably encreas'd upon that Occasion, and many hundred thousand Ells of Linen

are yearly imported from *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and printed in *England*, more than ever were before; so that this is an Article wholly new in Trade, and indeed the Printing it self is wholly new; for it is but a few Years ago since no such thing as printing or printing of Linen or Callicoe was known in *England*; all being supply'd so cheap, and perform'd so very fine from *India*, that nothing but a Prohibition of the foreign printed Callicoes could raise it up to a Manufacture at Home; whereas now it is so encreas'd, that the Parliament has thought it of Magnitude sufficient to lay a Tax upon it, and a considerable Revenue is rais'd by it.

It may be enquir'd here concerning the great Numbers of People employ'd in these Improvements, what were they employ'd in before? and how do we call it an Improvement, if they are only taken from one Manufacture into another.

This might be fully answer'd, if we had Room here to enquire critically in the several Counties where those particular Improvements are made; we should there find, that in almost all the Improvements and Encrease of Business above mention'd, such as the Manufactures of Bone Lace, the Brass and Iron Manufactures, the Haberdashery; and in a Word, all the other improv'd Manufactures, except that of Broad Silk weaving, the People employ'd were not at all employ'd in the Woollen Manufactures before,

before; but were, generally speaking, out of Business, idle and unemploy'd, there being no such thing as Woollen Manufactures settled in the Counties and Towns where those Improvements have been made, such as *Buckinghamshire* and *Bedfordshire*, *Sheffield*, *Birmingham*, and *Newcastle upon Tyne*.

THE broad Silk Trade indeed, being chiefly carried on in the Cities of *London*, might be said to employ some of the People formerly employ'd in the Woollen Manufacture in the same Place, (*viz.*) *Spittle-Fields*: But then it must be added, that even that Encroachment was only upon the Abatement of such Woollen Goods in that Place, which were imprudently launch'd out into before, upon the foolish Expectation of a great Encrease of the Woollen Trade, by the Prohibitions of *East India* Goods; so that even in this Part the Silk Trade has very little, if at all encroach'd upon the Woollen, tho', if it had, the Exchange had very little alter'd the Case.

UPON the Whole, after the narrowest Search, and with the utmost Impartiality, I cannot see that we have any Room to say our Trade is decreas'd, whether we speak of our Woollen or other Manufactures; whether of Goods imported or exported; whether of the Home Consumption, or the Con-

Consumption of our Growth Abroad. On the contrary, we have great Reason to insist, that our whole Trade is encreased to a very great Degree; it remains only in a summary Way, to account for the Encrease of our Commerce both Abroad and at Home.



PART



PART III.

Of the Improvement of the English in Trade; upon the Inventions of other Nations, and the Encrease of our Commerce upon those Improvements; in which we have beaten out the said Inventors from their own Trade; likewise of the several Improvements of our own Product, and of our own Invention: By all which our Trade is greatly encreased.



It is a Kind of Proverb attending the Character of *English Men*, That they are *better to improve than to invent*, better to advance upon the Designs and Plans which other People have laid down, than to form Schemes and Designs of their own; and which is still more, the Thing seems to be really true in Fact, and the Observation very just.

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WHETHER this Reproach upon them is raised upon the Suggestions of Foreign Observers, or whether it be our own upon our selves, is not worth while to examine; it seems we are very willing to grant the Fact.

UPON this Supposition then my Subject seems to be adapted to the national Temper; I offer here a Scene of Originals, for the improving Genius of our People to work upon a Stock of Invention for them to improve upon: May they take the Hint, try their Hands, and go to Work upon them with the usual Success.

HENCE most of our great Advances in Arts, in Trade, in Government, and in almost all the great Things, we are now Masters of, and in which we so much exceed all our Neighbouring Nations, are really founded upon the Inventions of others; whether those first Inventers were private Men, or Nations of Men, 'tis not material.

EVEN our Woollen Manufacture it self, with all the admirable Improvements made upon it by the *English*, since it came into their Hands, is but a building upon other Mens Foundations, and improving on the Inventions of the *Flemings*: The Wooll indeed was *English*, but the Wit was all *Flemish*; we had the Materials, but no more understood the Virtue of them, than the World understood the Making Gun-powder, tho' they had always the Sulphur and Salts, which are now the proper

proper Ingredients of that dreadful Composition.

WE had the Wool, but understood neither how to comb it or card it, spin it or weave it; nay, we cannot be said to know, that it was capable of those manual Operations, or what Spinning and Weaving was, any more than if we had not known what the Wool was: But when, *as has been observ'd*, by the Direction of King *Henry VII.* the *English* were put upon the general Notion of Improvement, inform'd of the Profit of manufacturing it, and but once directed how to go about it, by the *Flemish* Agents hir'd to instruct them: How soon did they outdo their Teachers, and to what a Pitch of Improvement did they rise in a few Years? Till now we see the World ambitious of imitating us in the same Manner, and to rival our Manufactures, are obliged to hire Instructors from hence, and to learn of those who were themselves but Learners before.

I might enter into almost all the Improvements of Art in which the *English* so much now excel the rest of the World: How in several Manufactures we have turn'd the Scale of Trade, and send our Goods to be sold in those very Countries from whence we deriv'd the Knowledge and Art of making them.

THUS we were all said to learn the Art of building Ships from the *Genoese* and

and *French*, and at this Day so effectually outbuild them all, that the *Genoese* often buy Ships in *England*, and the late King of *France*, the great *Lewis XIV.* procured the Model of our Ships from *England*, by which to build his Capital Men of War; among which that glorious Ship burnt by *English* at *La Hogue*, called the *Royal Sun*, was said to be built by the Model of the *Royal Sovereign*, an *English* Man of War, built in the Time of King *Charles* the first, and rebuilt in King *Charles* the second's Time, and the Drafts of it were it seems transmitted to *France*.

FROM the *Venetians* and *French* we took the Art of *Glass-Making*, and of *Cutlery*, and several others; till now we outdo our Teachers, and export Glass Wares, Brass Locks, Fine Keys, Knives, Scissars, Razors, Surgeons Instruments, and Joyners Tools, to those very Places; and you may see the Doors of the Royal Apartments at *Versailles*, (as is said above) furnish'd with fine Brass Locks and nice Hinges from *England*, because *France* cannot produce the like.

I might give Examples of the like Kind in many other Cases, wherein we excel in the Improvement those very People, who so much excell'd us in the Invention; of which the Silk Manufacture is now a surprising Example, in which we so much outdo the *French* themselves, who were our Teachers;

Teachers, and of whom we always bought the richest and finest broad Silks the whole World could produce, that we now sell broad Silks even into *France* it self.

To begin with probable Improvements in Colonies and Plantations; *Columbus* a *Genoese* by Nation, discover'd the Coasts of *America*, and his Successors the Adventurers upon those Discoveries, took Possession for the King of *Spain*: It is true, they spread themselves upon the Continent, reduc'd, or rather destroy'd the Nations who inhabited the several Countries, possess'd the immense Wealth of the Natives, and being led by the Hand to the Mines of Gold and Silver, and the other rich Product of the Place, they vouchsafed, as we may say, to stoop and take it up; but we can charge them with very little of Improvement: The Sin of Diligence cannot be lay'd at their Door, nor have they to this Day, after almost 200 Years peaceable Possession, brought the most fruitful and richest Provinces and Districts of *America* to be much more productive than they were before; not a Manufacture of any Value erected to employ and improve the People; not any Advantage considerable made of the Labour of the many Thousands of the Natives, who still remain among them, and are as willing as able to work for them for a Trifle; not any Culture carried on, no not in the most fruitful
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Provinces, to encrease the Product equal to the Strength of the Soil.

ON the contrary, the *English* tho' planting near 100 Years after them, and taking, as it might be called, the Fag-end of the Discovery, the northern, cold, and barren Parts, without Silver and Gold, without Mine or Mineral, without any apparent Product; yet how has the improving Genius of the *English* brought Gold out of their Dross.

I say Dross; for so it was with respect to the first Discoverers; and in their Esteem all our Colonies were but, as we may say, the Dregs of the *Spaniards* first Extraction, the Refuse Part of their Conquests, their meer Leavings, that Part of the Country which they did not think worth so much as looking into.

WHAT were all our Colonies upon the Continent, but a little narrow Slip of Land upon the Sea Coasts, in the cold, wild, inhospitable Climates of the North? And what our Island Colonies, but a few little despicable Islands not worth the *Spaniards* possessing, hardly worth their naming, in Comparison of their vast Possessions on the Continent; nay not worth naming in Comparison of the vast Islands of *Cuba* and *Hispaniola*, one of which is bigger than all our Islands put together; and yet *Cuba* and *Hispaniola*, tho' equally rich and productive, and infinitely full of natural Wealth,
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are left unplanted, as not worth their Pains to improve.

N. B. Barbadoes is not above 70 Miles in Circumference, and *Hispaniola* is above 400 Leagues, *Nevis* not above 20 Miles, and *Cuba* above 690 Miles in Length.

BUT let us turn our Eyes now and view the Effects of the improving *English* Genius, the Colonies of *New-England* and *Virginia*; despis'd by the *Spaniards*, as well before we discover'd them, as afterwards; for the same *Columbus*, which discover'd *New-Spain*, discover'd all the Northern Coast, but left it again as not worth while to plant and possess it. I say, these barren, cold, poor and uncultivated Climates, the Leavings of the *Spaniards*, How have we improved upon them to infinite Advantages?

NOT discouraged by the Severity of the Cold, by the Surface over-grown with Briars and Thorns, by the early Opposition of the Natives, a Race of People fierce and false, untractable, treacherous, irreconcilable, bloody and merciless, even to the most horrible, and almost inexpressible Cruelties, who would rarely make Peace, and more rarely keep their Agreements when made.

OFTEN massacred and butcher'd, and sometimes quite driven away by the Fury of the Savages, often starv'd out and famish'd, and either the whole Body of Planters wasted, and perishing with Cold and Want,
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and as often being reduc'd to Extremities, forc'd to abandon the Country in the utmost Distress, and return starving home.

BUT never to be discouraged, how have they by the meer Force of indefatigable Application, planted, inhabited, cultivated those inhospitable Climates, those suppos'd barren Countries, those trifling little Spots of Islands, not thought worth looking at by the *Spaniards*? How have they brought them to be the richest, the most improved, and the most flourishing Colonies in all that Part of the World? So populous, so fortify'd, the People so rich, the Product so great; and which is more than all, so adapted to Commerce, so universally embarked in Trade, that it is at this Time an unresolv'd Doubt, whether brings the greatest Wealth to *Europe*, take the Exportations and Consumptions of Manufacture there into the Account of the Return, the Sugars, Tobacco, and other rich Productions of the *British* and *French* Colonies; the Fish, the Corn, the Flesh, the Furrs, &c. I say, Which are the greatest in Value, these, or the Gold and Silver of *Mexico* and *Peru*?

BUT not to weigh the Particulars, and come to reckon by Ounces and Drams, this is certain, and will be granted, that the Product of our improved Colonies raises infinitely more Trade, employs more Hands, and I think, I may say by Consequence, brings in more Wealth to this one particular

lar Nation or People, the *English*, than all the Mines of *New Spain* do to the *Spaniards*.

AND not to insist only upon the little Share *Spain* it self reaps from the Returns of Gold and Silver, made to and landed in their Country; most of which runs out again in the very same Species in particular Channels of Trade, to other Nations: I say, not to insist upon this, take the Opulence, the growing Greatness of the *British* Colonies, the Numbers of their People, and how prodigiously every Day encreasing; and above all, that the Encrease of Navigation, the Number of Ships employ'd, nay Ships built, and Seamen nurs'd up, the Wealth and Addition of Strength we reap from them, which is not easy to calculate. I say, add this to the Account, and, I doubt not, it will be granted, that the Return of Wealth from *America* to this Nation, is equal to the Return of Gold and Silver from *New to Old Spain*.

LET any Man calculate the Value of our Returns in Sugar, Ginger, Indigo, Cotton, Cocoa, Drugs, Spice, and other Goods, from the Islands only, with the Furrs or Peltry; the Rice, Tobacco, Train and Turpentine Oil, Tar, Masts, and abundance of other things: Then let them add the Interchange of their other Product, between the several Colonies, one with another; such as the Supply of Corn, Pease, Rice, Meal, Beef, Pork, Beer, Horses, Leather, Fish,

Lumber, &c. of all which, the Quantities are exceeding great; and in which Trade, several Hundreds, nay some say Thousands, of Ships and Sloops, are constantly employed.

In Return for which, a very great Quantity of Rum, Molasses, Cocoa, Ginger, Sugar, &c. is sent back to the Main-Land Colonies on the Continent; of which, all that they cannot consume is sent to *England* for Returns.

If these things are cast up together, including the Consumption of the Woollen Manufacture of *Great Britain*, and of all the Hard-ware Manufacture; also the Cordage, the Hats, Gloves, and other Leather Manufactures: In a word, the Consumption of all the other *British* Goods sent thither, the Comparison of Trade will be, out of Question, on the *British* Side; seeing almost all the Goods exported from *Spain* to their Colonies in *America*, are first bought from other Countries.

HAD the *Spaniards* been an industrious, improving Nation, like the *English*, the Islands of *Cuba* and *Hispaniola* alone, having been planted and improved, as our small Island of *Barbadoes* is improved, would have produc'd more Sugar, Cotton, Indigo, Cocoa, Piemento, and other valuable things, than all *Europe* could have consumed; and they would have been able to have supply'd all their other Colonies with Flesh, such as

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Beef

Beef and Pork, and with Rice and other things, more than they could consume.

IN lieu of which, those fruitful Islands are now left to lye waste, untill'd, unplanted, and the great Discoverers have not made any one Step that deserves the Name of Improvement upon them, except only the fortifying the Port of the *Havana*; which Necessity almost drove them to for the Protection of their Commerce to their other Colonies, and forming the Rendezvous of their *Galleons*, in their passing and re-passing between *Europe* and *America*.

WHEREAS, take our Colonies on the *Leward* Islands only into Consideration, (here indeed we have improv'd to the utmost) there is hardly an Inch of Ground lost in the Island of *Barbadoes* that can produce one Ounce of any thing more than it does; the like perhaps cannot be said of any one Spot of Ground in the World, which containing in the whole not above 70 Miles in Circumference, employs and maintains above 100000 People, including the Negroe Slaves, enriches the Planters to a surprising Degree, and fully employs above 200 Sail of Ships and Sloops, always running with Provisions of Fish, Flesh, Corn, and Cattle, from *North America*, Wine from the *Maderas*, and with Slaves (Negroes) from the Coast of *Africa*, and with Manufactory and Merchant-Goods from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*.

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THE same, in its Proportion, might be said of the Island of *Jamaica*, where the *Spaniards* were the Discoverers, that is, in the room of the Inventors, and made little or nothing of it, and we are the Improvers; and what that Improvement is, we all know: That Island for its Planting, and its other Advances of Trade, is at this Time the greatest Article in all our *West India* Commerce; and if some nice Calculators may be allowed to judge right, the Product of the Island of *Jamaica*, and the Consumption of Goods there from *England*, or which goes that Way, to *New Spain*, makes the Trade of the Island superior at this Time to the Trade of all our other Islands; that is to say, the Islands of *Barbadoes*, *Nevis*, *Antegoa*, *Mountserat*, and *St. Christophers*, put together, and this Trade every Day encreasing too.

NOR is the Improvement of *Jamaica* improperly call'd advancing upon the Invention of others; for the *Spaniards* did for themselves make several Experiments in Trade; they planted originally in *Jamaica* several things, which were then meer Inventions in Planting, which the *English* have since improved upon, and which are not to be produce'd in any of the other *English* Islands; such as the *Cocoa*, *Piemento*, *Indigo*, and several other things which the *English* have since brought to a great Perfection by their Improvement.

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THEY likewise laid the Foundation of that secret Commerce with the *Spanish* Colonies, which the *English* have improv'd to such a Degree, as it is even threatning to the whole Trade of *New Spain*; for when the *English* conquer'd the Island from the *Spaniards*, those *Spanish* Families, which remain'd upon the Island, keeping up a Correspondence with their Friends and former Acquaintances in *Cartagena*, *St. Martha*, and the Coast of *Caracas*, and all the other Ports of that Country, that Intimacy became the Foundation of an advantageous Correspondence, since carry'd on; and the improving *English* brought forth from it a Trade grown up by Time, and the particular Encouragements of succeeding Ages, to a prodigious Magnitude.

BUT these are things behind us, and may perhaps be call'd, *looking back to what is past*; whereas the Eyes of Mankind are rather fix'd upon things before them; and where we talk of Inventing and Improving, the Enquiry is, what Inventions are now upon the Anvil, for our improving Genius to work upon? What is there that at present offers for the Application of an ingenious People? And this brings me to the grand Head propos'd in this Treatise, (*viz*) Schemes of Improvement in Commerce, which are to be the Subject of this latter Part of the Work.

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CAP. XI.

Being a PROPOSAL for rooting out those Nests of Pyrates and Rovers, the Turks or Moors of Tunis, Tripoli, Algier, and Sallee, who have for so many Ages infested the Mediterranean Seas, and the Coasts of Spain and Portugal, to the infinite Loss and Discouragement of all the Trading Nations of Europe.

With a Scheme for the Improvement of Trade, by restoring and establishing the ancient Commerce on the North and North-West Coast of Africa.

IN speaking of *Africa*, as it once was the Seat of Commerce for the whole World, we must look back as far as to the flourishing State of the *Carthaginian* Government; but it shall be as short as can be desired.

It is true, as has been observed by a well informed Writer on this Subject, that the *Romans* (like the *Turks* in our Time) were no Friends to Trade; they carry'd on their War for Glory; like meer Soldiers they fought to conquer, and conquer'd to plunder, not to plant and people the World: So far were they from encouraging or improving the Commerce and Wealth of the Nations they subdued, that they overthrow and destroy'd the greatest Trading Cities in the World; such as *Corinth*, *Syracuse*,

cuse, *Carthage*, and all the Cities of *Ægypt* and *Africa*: Instead of encouraging Trade and Navigation, they murder'd the Merchants, burnt their Ships, and carry'd away the People, which are the Life and Support of Manufacture and Trade.

ON the other hand, the *Carthaginians*, as they had the richest Soil and a numerous People, (for *Africa* was then infinitely populous) they improved the first, and employ'd the last, to the utmost; their People were as rich as they were numerous; they carry'd on Trade to all the Parts of the World, planted Colonies, built Cities Abroad, and Ships at Home; and wherever they came, whether by Conquest, or by Consent, they planted the Country, not destroy'd it, carry'd People to it, not away from it; and, in a word, made them rich, not plunder'd and starv'd them.

Carthage and *Corinth* at that Time were the two great Emporiums of the World; *this* carry'd on all the Commerce of the *West* and *that* of the *East*: *Corinth* manag'd the Commerce of *Asia*, *Persia*, and *India*, and brought the Wealth of the *East Indies*, the Spices, the Silks, the Callicoes, the Gold, the Diamonds, and in a word, the whole *Indian* and *Persian* Trade in Caravans; Part from *Ormus* and the Gulph of *Persia*, to *Bassora* and *Bagdat*, by Water, and thence by Caravans to *Aleppo* and *Scanderoon*; and so by Sea to the Gulph of *Cenchraea* and *Corinth*,

rinth, another Part to *Trapezond* in *Armenia*, and by the *Euxine* Sea thro' the Straits of *Bosphorus* and the *Hellepont*, and thro' the *Archipelague* to the same Gulph, and so to *Corinth*.

Carthage, on the other hand, planted Colonies, and extended their Possessions upon the Coast of *Spain*, as well within as without the *Straits*; built Cities from *New Carthage*, now call'd *Carthagena* in *Spain*, to the *Groyn*, as well in the *Mediterranean* as in the Ocean, and from *Tangier*; then a populous City of 100000 Inhabitants, to the *Cape de Verde* on the West Side of *Africa*, and from thence into *America* it self; which, there is no room to doubt, was discovered if not peopled from *Africa*, by the indefatigable *Carthaginians*; and had never been lost and forgotten to this Part of the World, if the *Romans*, those Destroyers and Enemies of all Improvement, Commerce, and Navigation, had not so utterly ruin'd *Carthage*, not the City only, but the very Nation, as not to leave them a Name under Heaven; and so of course caus'd all their remotest Settlements to be abandon'd; and in consequence, at last forgotten; *but that by the way*, it requires, and indeed deserves too long a Digression for this Place.

Now, when these two Cities of *Corinth* and *Carthage* fell, (for they were destroy'd by the *Romans* within a Year of one another) Trade receiv'd a mortal Wound; I may say the

the Trade of the whole World did so; and as those Cities never recovered, so the Trade, which was fixed among them, decay'd and dy'd, was divided and scatter'd, and, in effect, lost; for it never fully recover'd it self, no not to this Day.

THE Colonies, which the *Carthaginians* planted, sunk and dy'd away, and many of them lie in Ruins to this Day; especially on that Side of the Ocean from the *Straits Mouth* to *Cape None*; for as the *Carthaginians* planted Colonies for Trade, the Trade being lost by the Overthrow of the Merchants in the Mother City *Carthage*, the new planted Cities, and the Sea Ports, were ruined of course, and perished, as a Child starves when the Nurse is taken from it.

IT is true, the City of *Carthage* was rebuilt, and recover'd it self *in some Degree*, under the Government of the Western Emperors; and especially as those Emperors were Christians, and were Encouragers of the Industry and Application of their Subjects; then, *I say*, the trading Genius reviv'd very much, especially in *Africa*, and the Climate and Soil of that Country being particularly productive of many valuable things, and those things adapted to Trade, and encouraging to the Merchant, the *African* Merchants carry'd on a very considerable Business; Navigation also being very much their Peculiar, they traded by Sea to all the known
Parts

Parts of the World, but nothing like what they did before.

THE principal Branches of their Commerce in those Times, as we gather from the Histories of the neighbouring Countries, consisted, 1st. in exporting the Growth of their Country, and the Manufacture of their People, just as it is with us in *Britain*: For the Nature of Commerce is ever and every where the same. And 2^{dly}, in importing again the Product of other Countries, either for their own Consumption, or for Re-exportation to remoter Parts, which had not the same Product.

THEIR OWN Product consisted chiefly in Corn and Cattle, and among the last, chiefly Horses, of which they furnished great Numbers to mount the *Roman* Cavalry; for the *Numidian Horse* were then, as the *Barbs* and *Jennets* (which are the same) are now, fam'd for their Beauty, Swiftness, and fine Shapes, thro' all the *Roman* Empire.

But above all their Product, the most valuable were their Wax and Copper, in both which they still excel the whole World; also their Corn, Fruit, Druggs, and rich Gums, all which remain to them.

FOR Manufactures, we do not indeed read of their Woollen Manufactures, or at least, not much: But the *Carthaginians*, as well as the *Ægyptians* (and both were *Africans*) are fam'd for the Product of fine Linen; and 'tis to be supposed the Soil produc'd

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a very fine kind of Flax, which, as the Fund of that Manufacture, they improved to great Advantage; but that Part is now lost.

As to their Importations, we are assur'd they fetch'd Tin and Lead from *Great Britain*, Gold and Wine from *Spain*, for old *Spain* ever produc'd much Gold; Silks and fine *East India Goods* from *Corinth* and *Alexandria*; what Trade they had with *Gaul (France)* we do not find, but the other was very considerable, and is sufficient to our Purpose. Thus stood their Condition flourishing in Wealth and Commerce, when the *Romans*, as above, to the eternal Infamy, not Glory, of their very Name, destroy'd them all.

As by that general Rule, I say, the Trade of the World receiv'd a mortal Wound; so when I say they reviv'd under the *Roman* and *Grecian* Emperors, it was apparent all their Recovery and Encrease was owing to their Commerce; that alone restor'd them, and enrich'd them; and they were in *Justinian's* Time the most valuable Branch of the Western Empire, with respect to the Taxes they paid, and the many Regiments, or rather Legions, they rais'd, for recruiting the *Roman* Armies under *Belisarius* and other Generals; and this continued long afterwards, even in the most declining Times of the Western Empire.

BUT

BUT this rising Wealth of *Africa* was too rich a Bait for the Times; the Deluge of barbarous Nations, which overthrew the *Roman* Empire, broke in upon them also; and the *Vandals*, over-running *Spain*, spread themselves into *Africa*, wasted and over-run the fruitful Plains, and destroy'd and overturned the populous Cities; and in a word, Trade sunk a second Time, under the unsupportable Burden of War, the *Vandals*, over-running all, ruin'd and possess'd the Country.

As the *Vandals* came in over the Bellies of the native Inhabitants, so some Ages after them the *Saracens*, *Arabians*, and *Mahometans*, came in over the Heads of the *Vandals*.

WITH these, not the old *Africans* only were rooted out; not only Religion, but at last Trade too, sunk quite out of the Country; for, as the Followers of *Mahomet* are, wherever they come, like the *Romans*, the Destroyers both of Commerce and Cultivation, so it was here.

TRADE and Improvement being thus, I say, as it were rooted out in *Africa*, the Moors spread themselves, by a rapid and irresistible Torrent, over all *Spain* and *Portugal*, carrying all before them, and keeping Possession of it almost the Space of 800 Years; and as for *Africa*, they have by a strong Hand kept Possession there ever since:

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To bring all this to the case in hand, These *Mahometans*, as I have said of the *Turks*, have very little Inclination to Trade, they have no Gust to it, no Taste of it, or of the Advantages of it; but dwelling on the Sea-coast, and being a rapacious, cruel, violent, and tyrannical People, void of all Industry or Application, neglecting all Culture and Improvement, it made them Thieves and Robbers, as naturally as Idleness makes Beggars: They disdain'd all Industry and Labour; but being bred up to Rapine and Spoil, when they were no longer able to ravage and plunder the fruitful Plains of *Valentia*, *Granada* and *Andalusia*, they fell to roving upon the Sea; they built Ships, or rather, took Ships from others, and ravag'd the Coasts, landing in the Night, surprizing and carrying away the poor Country People out of their Beds into Slavery.

THIS was their first Trade, and this naturally made Pyrates of them; for, not being content with landing and plundering the Sea-coast of *Spain*, they by Degrees being grown powerful and rich, made bold and audacious by their Success, they arm'd their Ships, and began to attack first the *Spaniards* upon the high Seas, and then all the Christian Nations of *Europe*, wherever they could find them. And thus this wicked Trade of Roving and Robbing began.

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WHAT Magnitude they are since that arriv'd to, what Mischiefs they have brought upon the trading Part of the World, how powerful they are grown, and how they are erected into States and Governments, nay into Kingdoms, and as they would be called, Empires (for the Kings of *Fez* and *Morocco* call themselves Emperors) and how they are, to the Disgrace even of all the Christian Powers treated with as such, is Matter of History, and I shall meddle no more with it here, than is absolutely necessary to my present purpose.

THE first Christian Prince that resenting the Insolence of these Barbarians, and disdain- ing to make Peace with them, resolved their Destruction, was the Emperor *Char. V.* He was mov'd with a generous Compassion, for the many Thousands of poor unfortunate Christians which were at that Time kept among them in miserable Slavery; and from a noble Principle of setting the Christian World free from the Terror of such Barbarians, he undertook singly, and without the Assistance of any other Nation, to fall upon them with all his Power.

IN this War had he been join'd by the *French* and *English*, and the *Hans* Towns; (as for the *Dutch*, they were not then a Nation) he might have clear'd the Country, at least he might have clear'd the Sea Coasts of the whole Race, and have planted Colonies of Christians in all the Ports, for
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the Encouragement of Commerce, and for the Safety of all the European Nations.

BUT *Francis* the first King of *France*, his mortal and constant Enemy envy'd him the Glory of the greatest and best Enter- prise that was ever undertaken in Europe; a Thousand Times beyond all the Cruisa- does and Expeditions to the *Holy-Land*, which cost *Europe* a Million of Lives, and an immense Treasure, during one Hundred and twenty Years, to no Purpose.

As it was, and tho' the Emperor was as- sisted by no one Prince in *Christendom*, the Pope excepted, (and his Artillery would not go far in battering Stone Walls) yet he took the Fortress of *Goletta*, and afterwards the City, and the whole Kingdom of *Tunis*; and had he kept the Possession, it might have been a happy Fore-Runner of farther Conquest; but miscarrying in his Attempt against *Algier*, by the meer Hand of Heaven, who we may hope reserved that Conquest for the Glory of Princes and Powers yet to come, and a terrible Storm falling upon his Fleet, the farther Attempt was laid aside, and the Kingdom of *Tunis* returned to its former Possessors, by which Means their Pyracies are still continued.

My Proposal upon this Subject consists of two Parts.

First, THE Necessity there seems to be upon all the Powers of *Europe*, especially the Marine Powers, to free themselves from
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the Insolence of these Rovers, that so their Subjects may be protected in their Persons and Goods from the Hands of Rapine and Violence, their Coasts secured from Insults and Descents, and their Ships from Capture on the Sea.

Secondly, THAT this cannot be done effectually, but by rooting out those Nests of Robbers on the Coast of *Africa*, and at least driving them from the Possession of any of the Towns, Ports and Harbours, so as that they may have no more Ships to appear upon the Seas.

Thirdly, THE Easiness of the Conquest, if the *English, Dutch, French* and *Spaniards* would but please to join their Forces, and Fleets, and fall upon them in separate Bodies, and in several Places at the same Time; the needful Quotas both of Ships and Troops might be also adjusted here.

Fourthly, THE Benefit of Commerce, which would immediately follow, by settling the Government of the Sea Coast Towns in the Hands and Possession of the several united Powers, so that every one should possess the least in Proportion to the Forces employed in the Conquests of it.

THE three first of these merit well to be spoken to, and that largely too, but I have not Room for it here, the last is particularly before me.

IT cannot be denied, that the Coast of *Africa*, some few Places excepted, is a fruit-

fruitful rich Country; and tho' by its Latitude it must be exceeding hot, and that (especially on the Eastmost Parts of it) there are many Deserts and waste Places given up to salt and Sand, and fit only for the Retreat of the wild Beasts, such as Lions, Leopards, Tygers, &c. the fiercest and most ravenous of those we call Beasts of Prey; yet even in that Part there are Valleys and Plains intersperst among the wildest Deserts, and which are fruitful, yield Corn in abundance, and Cattle, with several Fruits and other Productions, fitted not for the Use of the Inhabitants only, but for Merchandize, and in Quantities also sufficient for both.

THE general Product of the Country, and in which the chief Wealth consists, and upon which a Trade with them would be settled, if the Country was in the Hands of Christians, is as follows.

Corn	Skins of Beasts
Salt	Drugs and Gums
Wool	Almonds
Horses	Pomegranates
Wax	Ostrich Feathers
Honey	Lions and Leopards
Corall	Provisions of sundry
Copper	Kinds.

IF the Quantity of all these is so considerable as we find it to be, even now, under

der the Indolence and Sloth of the most barbarous People in the World, how may we suppose all those valuable Things to be increas'd in their Quantity, by the Industry and Application of the diligent Europeans, especially the *French* or *Dutch*, or *English*; all which Nations joining in the Conquest, we might reasonably suppose should have their several and separate Allotments of Territory upon the Coast, and in the Country adjacent.

WE might also reasonably suppose, that the Moors being in the Consequence of such a Conquest, driven up farther into the Country (for I have not been proposing the rooting them out as a Nation, but only the supplanting or removing them from a Situation, which they have justly forfeited by their Depredations upon other Nations) and being obliged to seek their Subsistence by honest Labour and Application, I say we may reasonably suppose, that even these may be taught to apply to the Cultivation of the Earth by the meer Necessity of their Circumstances, and may be brought to increase the Product by their Labour for all those Christian Nations.

As the Product of the Country would thus be increas'd, and Multitudes of People would be encouraged by the Advantages of the Place, to go over and settle upon it; the Manufactures and Merchandizes of *Europe* would by Consequence find a new Consumption,

umption, and the many new Ports and Harbours, where those Christian Nations would settle, would be so many new Markets for the Sale of those Manufactures, where they had Little or no Sale or Consumption before: And this indeed is the Sum of all Improvement in Trade, namely, the finding out some Market for the Sale or Vent of Merchandize, where there was no Sale or Vent for those Goods before; to find out some Nation, and introduce some Fashions or Customs among them for the Use of our Goods, where there was no Use of such Goods before, to vend our Goods at new or differing Ports, may be no Increase of Commerce, or to send them to new and differing Places, because they may still be sent from thence to the same People, and to the same Nations as the last Consumers, who consumed them before.

THUS sending our *English* Manufactures to *Jamaica*, to be sold there by the Sloop-Trade; that is, by clandestine Commerce with the *Spanish* Smugglers, or to the *Spaniards* of *Cartagena*, and the Coast of *Caracas*, is no new Consumption, tho' it be a new Market; because it is only selling to the same People, who would otherwise call for the same Manufacture, and other Goods from *Old Spain*, and they from *England*; so that it is as Water issuing out of the same Fountain, and running into

the same Gulph or Pond, only by new Channels.

THUS likewise the East India Company sending *English* Broad Cloth to the Gulph of *Persia*, to be sent from thence to *Ispahan*, to *Georgia*, and other Places in that Country, to be sold to the *Persians*, and others, as the last Consumers; is only supplying the same People, who were supplied before, with the same Goods from *Alleppo* and *Scandaroon*; so that it is only taking the Trade from the *Turkey* Company, and transferring it to the East India Company, which is no Encrease of Commerce, the last Consumers being the same.

BRING this to the Case of the *Barbary* Trade; it is true we have some Trade there now, and some Places might on some Accounts be called the same Markets: But suppose the *Barbarians* to be removed as above from the populous Cities and Provinces of *Algier*, *Tunis*, *Tripoli*, &c. and driven up the Country, in order to suppress Piracy and Robbers; and suppose those Cities, &c. peopled with a new Nation, or new Nations made rich by Commerce, and the Country adjacent cultivated and peopled after the Manner of *Europe*, and those People living, cloathing, furnishing their Houses and Equipages, and feeding after the Manner of Christians, and Christian Nations: Let it be answered, what Kind of Commerce would there be then? And would

would it be twenty Times what it is now, or would it not? besides delivering *Europe* from the Depredations of powerful Thieves, and their Commerce and Navigation from the Rapine of a merciless Crew, who are the Ruin of Thousands of Families, and in some Sense the Reproach of Christendom: I need say no more, the Proposal is great, but far from Impracticable, 'tis worthy being undertaken by the Princes and Powers of *Europe*; and what would bring more Glory to the Christian Name, than all their Intestine Wars, one against another, the Scandal of *Europe*; and the only Thing that at first let in the *Turks*, and other Barbarians among them.



CHAP. III.

Being a Proposal for the Improvement and Encrease of Commerce upon the Western Coast of Africa, the Coast of Guinea, from Sierra Leon, vulgarly called Seraloon, to the Coast and Gulph of Benin.



THAT great Improvements might be made in Trade, on the north Coast of *Africa* I have shewn I think past Contradiction; the only Objection, *Which as the Case stands, I think is no Objection at all*, is, that it must be

made by CONQUEST, a Thing attended with Difficulty, Hazard, Expence, and a Possibility of Miscarriage.

HOWEVER easy it is to remove all the Objections of that Kind, it is not my Business here, nor have I Room for it; but I mention them here to illustrate and set off the happy Circumstance of another Proposal of Improvement on the same Continent; I mean this of *Guinea*.

HERE are no Conquests to be made, no Enemies to fight with, at least none worth naming; and yet here is a visible, an apparent, an undisputed Improvement to be made, of which this only is to be said, That 'tis rather wonderful, that it has never yet been attempted, and gone about with Vigour and Resolution, than doubtful whether it would succeed, if it were undertaken.

THE Climate on the West Coast of *Africa*, at least within the Bounds mention'd, is sufficiently known, being from the Latitude of about 13 Deg. to that of 5 Deg. North of the Line: The Soil is good in most Places, very fruitful, well water'd, notwithstanding the Heat of the Climate, with abundance of small Rivers, and in some Places with very great ones.

THE Commerce to this Country is carried on, if a Kind of Stagnation of Business, or a going backward thro' innumerable Discouragements may be call'd a carrying it on, by the *English* having Possession

possession of the Coast, and having made Settlements in proper Places, with Forts and Castles, and other Strengths for defending those Settlements, as well against their Christian Neighbours by Sea, as their Savage Neighbours on Land.

THE Trade carried on here, whether by the *English*, or other European Nations, consists in but three capital Articles, viz. *Slaves, Teeth, and Gold*; a very gainful and advantageous Commerce, especially as it was once carried on, when these were all purchas'd at low Rates from the Savages; and even those low Rates paid in Trifles, and Toys, such as Knives and Sissars, Kettles and Clouts, Glass Beads, and Cowries, Things of the smallest Value, and as we may say next to nothing; but even this Part of the Trade is abated in its Goodness, since by the Strife and Envy among the Traders, we have had the Folly to instruct the Savages in the Value of their own Goods, and inform them of the Cheapness of our own; endeavouring to supplant one another, by underselling and overbidding, by which we have taught the Negroes to supplant both, by holding up the Price of their own Productions, and running down the Rates of what we carry them for Sale.

THUS that gainful Commerce once superior to all the Trades in the World, which carried out the meanest of all Exportations, and brought home the richest, is sinking daily

daily into a Kind of Rubbish as to Trade; and we are sometimes said to buy even the Gold too dear.

BUT all this while here is not the least Use made of the Land; the fruitful Soil lies waste, a vast extended Country, pleasant Vallies, the Banks of charming Rivers, spacious Plains, capable of Improvement and Cultivation, to infinite Advantage, lie waste and untouch'd, over-run with Shrub- age and useless Trees; as a Forrest trod under Foot with wild Creatures; and the yet wilder Negroes, who just plant their Maize, and a few Roots and Herbs, like as we do for our Garden-stuff, and all the rest is left naked, and thrown up to the Wilderness.

Now, why is all this waste? What mean the *English* and the *Hollanders*, and other diligent Nations, to neglect such Advantages? Why do they not enclose, fence, and set apart such Lands for Cultivation, as by their Nature and Situation appear to be proper for the most advantageous Productions?

LET the same Climates be examin'd in other Parts of the World, and the Soil in those Climates be compared with the Soil in the same Latitudes on this Coast; and if it is the same, or so near the same, as no visible Difference is found in them, why should they not produce the same Harvest, the same Plants, Fruits, Druggs; or, what-
ever

ever grows and is produced in one, why should it not be planted, grow, and produce the same in another?

LET us reduce this to Practice, and bring the Latitude of Places together, with the Productions proper to those Places: For Example,

I. THE Coffee-Berry is the natural Product of the Earth at *Mocha*, on the Eastern Bank of the Red Sea, and the South-west Point of the *Arabia Felix*, in the Latitude of 13 to 14 Deg. there it grows, thrives, and produces, as it were wild, and with the least Help of Labour imaginable; what Assistance of Art is added to it, is after the Fruit is ripen'd and gather'd, *viz.* in the curing and drying the Berry, and preserving them for a Market; and that is to be done in the same Manner in any Part of the World as well as there.

The diligent *Dutch* seeing the Easiness of the managing and curing the Berry, and how that Part had no Dependence, either upon the Earth, the Air, the Water, or any thing else more there, than in another Place, took the Hint, and planted the Coffee Tree in the Island of *Java*, near their City of *Batavia*, there it thrives, bears, and ripens every jot as well as at *Mocha*; and now they begin to leave off the Red Sea, and bring 20 to 30 Tons of Coffee, at a time, from *Batavia*, in the Latitude of 5 Deg. S.

NOT

NOT content with this happy Improvement, others of the same Nation have made the like Experiment, in near the same Latitude, in another Quarter of the World, and with the like Success; and now they begin to bring large Quantities of Coffee from *Surinam*, on the North Coast of South *America*, Lat. $6\frac{1}{2}$ Deg.

WE are told likewise, tho' this, however probable, I do not affirm, that the less industrious *Portuguese* are planting it on the Coast of *Brasil*, about the *Rio de St. Francisco* in the Latitude of 12 Deg.

AND besides these, we are assur'd the *French* have planted it with Success at their Colony of *Port Dauphin* on the Island *Madagascar*, in Lat. $23\frac{1}{2}$ Deg. S.

THE *Dutch* indeed planted it without Success at the *Cape de Bon Esperanza*: The Reason is plain, the Place was too cold, and it might as well be planted at our Colonies of *Virginia* and *Carolina*, the Cape lying, as we all know, in Latitude 34 Deg. 20 M. or thereabouts.

BUT if at *Batavia* and *Surinam*, in Latitude 5 to 6 Deg. if at *Mocha*, in Latitude 14 Deg. if at *Port Dauphin*, in Latitude $23\frac{1}{2}$ Deg. why not at *Seraloon* under *Cape de Verd*, in Latitude 13 to 15 Deg.? Why not at *Cape Coast* and at *Accra*, in Latitude 5 to 6 Deg.? And, in a word, Why not upon all the Grain Coast, Tooth Coast, Gold and Slave Coast, where we have a free Possession,

session, Strength for Protection, and Soil for Production? But I proceed, I shall be shorter in the next Articles, because the Argument is the same.

2. THE *Sugar Cane*. Our Success with the Sugar Canes is well known, it is produced to an infinite Advantage in our Island Colonies of *America*. From *St. Christophers* in Latitude $17\frac{1}{2}$ Deg. and *Jamaica*, in Latitude 18 Deg. to *Barbadoes*, in Latitude 13 Deg. It is produc'd by the *Portuguese* in the *Brasils*, in the same Latitude, South of the Line from the Port of *Pbernambuquo*, in the Latitude of 9 Deg. to the Bay of *Todos los Santos*, or Bay of *All Saints*, in the Latitude of 13 Deg. 20 M. and it is produced by the *Spaniards* on the Continent of North *America*, in the Provinces of *Guaxaca*, *Guatimala*, &c. in the Latitude of 14 Deg. And why not then by us on the Coast of *Africa*, where we have the Choice of the Country in the very same Latitude from the *Gold Coast* in the Latitude 6, to the *Cape de Verd* in the Latitude 15.

ADD to this the particular Advantages which offer themselves to the Planter, in such an Attempt as this, on the Coast of *Africa*, which he has not, nor can have, in any of those Parts where the Sugar is now planted, especially by the *English*. For Example,

1. THE Easiness of procuring Negroe Slaves, which would here cost from 30 s. to

50 s. or at most 3 l. *per* Head; whereas they are at this Time in *Barbadoes* and *Jamaica*, worth from 25 l. to 30 l. a Head; at the *Brasils* from 30 l. to 40 l. and to the *Spaniards* in the Provinces of *Guaxaca*, *Guatemala*, &c. 50 to 60 l. *Sterling per* Head.

N. B. THE Difficulty of keeping the Negroes from running away, is not so great as some imagine, since as they are brought from distant Provinces, tho' it be upon the same Continent, they know nothing of their own Country; nor do they understand the Language of the next Negroes, any more than they do *English*; and if they should fly to these neighbouring Negroes, they would but make Slaves of them again, and sell them to the Ships; so that the Slaves would not be apt to fly, and if they did, the Loss would not be near so great as in *Jamaica*, &c.

2. THE Easiness of getting Provisions, which they would be so far from fetching from *Ireland* or *New England*, as our Colonies of *Jamaica* and *Barbadoes* do, and at a very monstrous rate; that they would be always able to furnish themselves as they do now by the Produce of the Soil; as for Rice, *Indian Corn*, or *Maize*, with Roots, such as Potatoes, Parsneps, Carrots, Plantans, and innumerable other Sorts, they grow freely upon all the Coast.

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3. THE Shortness of the Distance, and the safe Passage between *England* and these Colonies, is such, that the Voyage is often perform'd in 12 or 15 Days; whereas six to ten Weeks is counted no bad Voyage between *Jamaica* and *London*: The Expence as well as other Inconveniences of which are exceeding great, and the Difference would give the Sugars of *Africa* a great Advantage at Market.

3. I come next to the Planting of *Tea*. Every one that has been the length of *Amoy* or *Chusan* on the Coast of *China*, knows that the Tea is produced chiefly in the Provinces of *Xantung*, *Nanquin* and *Canton*, as also in the Islands of *Japon* or *Japan*, most of it between the Latitudes of 30 Deg. and 24 Deg. North of the Line. With how much greater Advantage then of the Climate, might the same Plant be produced at *Seraloon* and on the Gold Coast of *Africa*, the Plants being fetch'd from *China*, as well as the Method of curing it; which, according to *Mynheer Nieuhof*t, is not difficult.

I need say very little to the Advantages of raising such a profitable Plant so near Home; the thing explains it self; and the Difficulty of making the Experiment, seems to me to be little or nothing. Nay, I am told, that in the Governor's Garden at *Cape Coast* Castle, there is, or at least was, in the Time of the Government of *Sir Dalby Thomas*, a large Plant of *Tea* planted, and that

that it grew and thrived to Admiration: I confess I cannot see why it should not.

I shall conclude this Head with one yet more considerable than all the rest; and that is, the great Article of the Spices, such as Nutmegs, Cloves, and Cinamon; the two last are found in the Islands of *Ternate* and others adjacent in the Latitude of 2 to 4 Deg. the *Nutmegs* indeed are found only at *Banda* and some small Islands adjoining and almost under the Line, and so it may be doubtful, except in the same Latitude, which is farther South than any of our Settlements in *Africa* go: But the Trial might be made of that too. But as to the Clove, it is found in the Island of *Borneo* at *Gilolo*, and several other Islands, from the Latitudes of 2 to 7 Deg. which is exactly the Climate of our Gold Coast; likewise the Cinamon is found in *Ceylon*, in the Lat of 6 to 7 Deg. and hits punctually with this Coast; and we can see no Reason why the same Climate on the Shore of *Africa* may not by the Help of Art produce the same Fruit.

I sum up all with observing, That there is no reason to doubt, but all or most of the Productions, either of the East or West *Indies*, might be produced here; such as the Cotton, Ginger, Sugar, Cocoa, Pimento, Indigo, and several others known at *Jamaica*; as also the *Cochineal*, the *Vinelloes*, and even the *Peruvian* Bark also, if Industry and Appli-

Application were set on work to plant them.

I cannot quit the Improvements which might be made on the Coast of *Africa*, without mentioning a great Correspondence carried on among the several Nations in the northern Part of that Country, which *even as it is now* causes a great Commerce over Land, taking Notice withal how wonderfully it might be improv'd: This Trade is said to be carried on by the Negroe Natives, upon the great River *Nigris* or *Niger*; or as our Seamen call it corruptly, the River *Gambia*, in Conjunction with the Natives of several Nations, upon the same River, East from the Shore; and by all these together corresponding with the Moors on the north Coast of *Africa*, at *Fez*, at *Morocco*, at *Mequiness*, and other Cities, where they now carry on a Commerce, by vast Annual Caravans. They tell us, that it is already a very great Trade; but how would our Proposal not only encrease this Trade it self, but quite change and alter the very people themselves, while the North Part of the Country, (being Christians,) the Savage Part would be soon civiliz'd, and become so too, and the People learn to live to be cloth'd, and to be furnish'd with many Things from *Europe*, which they now want; and by Consequence would with their Manners change the very Nature of their Commerce,

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and fall in upon the Consumption of the European Manufactures.

It would be needless to lay out Schemes of Commerce among the Inhabitants of the Nations within those southern Lands; Numbers of European People being but once settled on the Sea Coast, would soon spread the Commerce into the inland Nations, and employ and enrich the Inhabitants, by instructing them in the Arts of living, as well as of Trade; and this brings me to a View of one of the greatest Scenes of Improvement in the World, which is in short this, (*viz.*)

THAT there needs little more than to instruct and inure the barbarous Nations in all our Colonies, Factories, &c. in the Arts of Living; clothing with Decency, not shameless and naked; feeding with Humanity, and not in a Manner brutal; dwelling in Towns and Cities, with Oeconomy and civil Government, and not like Savages.

It is the most unaccountable Mistake of its Kind that can be imagin'd, that one should suppose civilizing Nations do not encrease Commerce; the Contrary is evident in all our Colonies: Civilizing the *American* Savages, who inhabited the Countries on the Back of the *European* Colonies in *North America*, as well our own, as those on the *French* Side at *Quebeck* and *Canada*; what has been the Consequence? Take it in the following Particulars, which tho' few and small in the several Articles, are yet considerable

derable in the whole, and abundantly confirm the Proposition.

THE Indians or Natives, before the Europeans came among them, had neither Houses, Cattle, Clothes, Tools, Weapons, Ammunition, or Household Stuff; their Cattle were the Beasts of the Forrest, their Clothes were the Skins of Beasts, their Weapons Bows, wooden Swords, Clubs, Javelins and Darts, pointed with Teeth and Bones of Fishes, their Ammunition Arrows and Stones, their Houses meer Wigwams, Hovels and Huts, their Household-stuff Earthen Pans hardned in the Sun, their Beds Matts and Skins laid on the Ground; they could strike no Fire, but by rubbing two Sticks together; they had neither edg'd Tools or other Tools, for they had neither Iron, Steel, Brass or Lead; no Grind-stone or Mill-stone; their Meat was Flesh dried in the Sun, and their Drink no other than cold Water.

THE same Indians even those remaining wild and savage almost as before; yet being convinc'd by their Conveniencies, and prompted by Necessity, serve themselves of us with an infinite Number of Things, for the abundant Accommodation of Life; and those that are more civilized, do it more; and these altogether encrease our Trade; *for Example*, take their own Goods first, with which they purchase ours. They sell the Dear Skins, Bear Skins, Fox, Beaver, and other Furrs; all

which together (as is said above) our Merchants call *Peltry*: These I say they sell to our People, and a very good Merchandize they are, and make a good and great Return.

WITH these they buy our Woollen Manufactures for their Clothing, such as Duffels, Blankets, Halfthicks, Kerfies, and such course Goods; and others also of Leather, with which they dress and keep themselves warm, in the coldest Season; also they buy Caps, Stockings, Hats, Shoes, Gloves, for the same hard Weather.

IN order to provide Fuel and Food, they buy *for the last* Fire-Arms and Ammunition, such as Powder and Shot, and *for the first*, Hatchets and Axes, Knives, Bills, as also Spades, Shovels, Pickaxes, and other Tools fitted for their Work: For the building and furnishing Houses to dwell in; they buy all Kinds of edg'd Tools, as also Nails, Spikes, Hammers, Saws, Chisels, &c. wrought Iron for Hooks, Hinges, Locks, Bolts, and many other Things: For their Household Stuff likewise they sometimes buy Chairs, Stools, Benches, Beds, Bedsteads, and the like; also Pots, Casks, and other Vessels of Earth, Pewter, Brass and Wood, and in a Word every Thing they want, which either Art or Trade can supply them with.

ALL these make Trade, and as these Demands encrease, the Trade and Commerce of *Europe* must encrease; for Encrease of the
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Civiliz'd People is an Encrease of Commerce in the Main, let the Degree of their Demands be more or less.

WHAT then have the People of *England* more to do, but to encrease the Colonies of their own Nation in all the remote Parts, where it is proper and practicable, and to civilize and instruct the Savages and Natives of those Countries, wherever they plant, so as to bring them by the softest and gentlest Methods to fall into the Customs and Usage of their own Country, and incorporate among our People as one Nation.

I say nothing of christianizing the Savages, 'tis remote from my present Purpose; and I doubt much more remote from our practice, at least in most Places; but I speak of an Incorporation of Customs and Usages, as may in Time bring them to live like Christians, whether they may turn Christians or no.

To bring this Home to the Coast and Country of *Africa*, of which I was but just now speaking; let them calculate the Improvements proposed in Business, in Planting, Fishing, Shipping, and all the necessary Employments that would attend a publick improv'd Colony; and let them tell me, if the Consequence would not be a Consumption of Manufacture, among a People where there was none before, and in a

Place where we had no Commerce to carry on before.

NOR let any weak-headed Christian suggest, that this would be to anticipate our West India Trade, supplant our other Colonies, and weaken us on one Hand, while it strengthens us on another; let those who talk so, consider, 1st, the great Improvements proposed, without meddling either with Sugar, Ginger, or any of our Island Productions, and how great the Improvement might be first made in these Things. And, 2^{dly}, Let me add, that as it is evident all our Island Colonies are not at this Time sufficient to supply our Markets with Sugar, including the Quantity demanded for Exportation, the Quantity cannot easily be too great; nor indeed is there any Danger of it; so that those phlegmatick Objections are easily to be answered, and need take up no Room here: Let us see the Improvement begun, and let us see the Danger begun, of overcharging our Markets, and hurting the Trade of our Islands, and let us hear if the Islands complain; it is then Time enough to answer those Scruples, at present I must acknowledge they merit no Consideration.

ON the other Hand, there is a vast Ocean of Improvement in View upon the *African* Coast, (tho' the single planting of Sugar was omitted) and as there are as well on this Side of the Country, as on the Eastern Shores,

Shores, of which I come next to speak, vastly populous Nations, nay Empires, where there are Millions of People yet to trade with, who were never traded with before the prevailing on these Nations to civilize and govern themselves, according as inform'd Nature would soon direct them, would necessarily introduce Trade, consume Manufacture, employ Shipping, employ Hands, and in Time establish such a Commerce, as would be more than equal to any one foreign Exportation we have yet to boast of.



CHAP. IV.

Being a PROPOSAL for an Encrease and Improvement of the British Commerce on the East Coast of Africa.

THERE is but one considerable Country in the World that we have any Knowledge of upon the Surface of the Globe, to which the Inhabitants of *Europe* have no Commerce, or with whom they have no manner of Converse: And this is the great Empire or Class of Kingdoms call'd *Ethiopia* or the *Abyssines*.

THERE are but three Ways for us to come at any Part of this Country in a Course of Trade or Correspondence, and at present they are all made impracticable.

1. OVER Land from *Tripoli* and the Coast of *Barcan*; and were the *Tripolins* reduced, according to the Tenour of our first Proposal, for rooting out those Enemies of fair Trade, the Rovers of *Barbary*, this Trade would certainly be set on foot by Caravans, as is done in *Asia*, from *Aleppo* to *Bagdat*, to this Day.

2. UP the *Nile* from *Grand Cairo* into the Lake of *Dombea*: But tho' this is said to be in Use at some certain Times when the River is not swell'd beyond its Bounds and Banks; yet those that have examin'd it more nicely, tell us, that those People are mistaken, and that the Cataracts or Water-Falls, which are frequent in the River, from within 160 Miles of *Grand Cairo* South, cut off all Possibility of a Navigation, or of any Commerce by Water farther that Way.

3. THE third Way is by the Coast of the *Red Sea*; and this also is cut off, by the *Turks*, who have seized upon all the Western Shores of the *Gulph* or *Red Sea*, and driving the *Æthiopians* from the Coast, have either shut all the Nations of the World out from the *Æthiopians*, or have shut up the *Æthiopians* from conversing with the rest of the World.

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THE Commerce however is apparently practicable from the Coast of that *Gulph*, farther South than the *Turks* have yet possess'd it; and there are two particular Rivers on that Coast, *viz.* *Zeila* and the *Houache*, which I am assur'd, as well as I can be of things which we have so little Intelligence of, are navigable far in within the Country, and beyond the Coast, which the *Turks* are possess'd of; and that by these Rivers, a Commerce may be established into the very Centre of *Æthiopia*, which is indeed the richest and the most populous Part of it, and that the Mouths of those Rivers are open for any Nation to settle and fortify at; which Settlements would be easily defended, by having but two Ships of Force, from 40 to 50 Guns, always there, by whom also going and returning, the Trade would be carry'd on round the Cape.

It may be suggested, that such a Trade would be within the Circle of the *East India* Company's Charter; to which it would be effectually answer'd, Why then does not the Company open the Trade, and make a Settlement themselves? If they do not, no exclusive Privilege of Commerce is granted to any Men, or Company of Men, to damn or destroy a Trade, but to improve and carry it on; and if they insist on their Charter to have the Right of Trading to *Æthiopia*, but will not trade, their Right is so far void of course; otherwise they may as well
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tell us, they have a Charter granted them, to shut out the Kingdom of *Great Britain* from the *Aethiopian* Trade, which would be absurd, and contrary to the Nature of the Thing.

I need say no more to this Part, as to its being practicable; I shall at any Time mark out the Way, how to put it in Practice, and to open the Commerce, and prove that the *Aethiopians* have, on many Occasions, shewed themselves willing to embrace such a Proposal; it remains only, to shew a little Sketch of the Trade it self, and the Improvement which it might be to the Commerce of *Great Britain* in particular.

1. CONTRARY to the whole Tenor of our Correspondence in the *Indies*; this Trade would be exceeding much to the Advantage of *Great Britain*, because they would both receive our Growth and Produce, and make to us Returns in *Specie*; whereas, in all the Trade of *India* and *China*, our Case is the reverse; for there we cannot sell our own Goods at all, and cannot buy theirs, but with ready Money. They will take off none or but few of our Manufactures, nor will they supply us with theirs, but for hard Silver; to the exhausting, not of *England* only, but even of all *Europe*, of their ready Money.

2. The People, tho' the Country is hot, go all modestly and decently clothed; and 'tis known by those who have travell'd among them,

them, that they would buy our *English* fine Cloths in particular, such as are carry'd to *Egypt* and *Persia*, if they could come at them; and some Essays of that Kind have been made from *Grand Cairo* by Land, tho' not such as are considerable enough to be called a Trade.

UPON the whole, such a Trade would be infinitely advantageous; seeing, the Return for whatever of our Manufactures could be sold there, would be in Gold, in Ivory, Sulphur, Civet, Salt-Peter, Emeralds, and such like valuable Goods: There are other Productions, which we have seen from thence also, as Deer Skins in exceeding great Quantities; Hides of black Cattle; Leopards and Lions Skins, and others of those Kinds; also fine Copper, and some very rich Gums and Drugs, of which I cannot give the Names, except Frankincense, Gum-Arab. and *Aloes Socotrina*. I have been told of many others, but without Certainty enough to affirm it.

IN Exchange for these, we should without Fail introduce our broad Cloths, fine Scarlet Shalloons, Sayes, Serges, and such other thin Stuffs as are usually worn in hot Climates; besides a great Quantity of hard Ware Manufactures, wrought Iron and Brass, edged Tools, Weapons, Fire-Arms, Ammunition, Lead, Pewter, Tin, fine Linen, and perhaps Silks also; for we are well assur'd they have no more Trade with

with *India* or any other Parts of the World than they have with *England*.

THUS you have three great Articles for the Improvement of the *British* Commerce on the Coast of *Africa* only, all practicable, and all capable of raising an immense Consumption of our Woollen Manufactures, where there was little or no Consumption for them before: One of which Articles, *viz.* that of *Guinea*, is actually in our own Power, and so little to be said against the Experiment, that nothing of its Kind is more wonderful, than that it has never yet been propos'd to the World, and the Attempt not made.



CHAP. V.

Being a PROPOSAL for turning the whole Trade for Naval Stores, Timber, Deals, &c. from the East Country, and from Norway and Sweden, to our own Colonies, and yet without putting the Government of England to the dead Charge of Bounty-Money on that Importation.

A Fourth Improvement of Commerce lyes also within our own Reach, and some dull and weak, unperforming Steps have been made, which looked as if we knew

the Advantage of it; but I say, in so phlegmatick a Manner, as if, like *Solomon's* Sluggard, we would not pluck our Hands out of our Bosom to put them to our Mouths. This is the transferring our Demand of Naval Stores, Timber, Deals, Masts, &c. from *Norway, Sweden,* and the East Country, to our own Colonies in *America*; Countries, without Exception, as able effectually to supply us with Hemp, Flax, Tar, Turpentine, all Kinds of Fir, Timber, Deals, Pipe and Hoghead Staves, and perhaps, in Time, with Iron also, as all the Nations mention'd above, and with proper Encouragements, would soon produce them all as cheap.

SEVERAL Attempts have, as I have noted above, been made at this, as if we own'd the Prospect of Advantage, but knew not how to bring it to bear; all that has hitherto been offer'd for the Encouragement of this Commerce, and to make it practicable, has been that of a Bounty, to be paid in *England*, upon the Importation, so to encourage the Merchant: But, with Submission, this is not sufficient to make a Trade of it, and is but upon one Species of the Goods neither; whereas, the Encouragement must be universal, if you expect the Trade shall be so.

BEFORE I proceed upon this important Article, which seems to have great Difficulties in it; which Difficulties yet I profess

to remove, I must lay down one Foundation; which nevertheless, tho' I think 'tis undoubted, yet we do take upon the Credit of the Inhabitants of *New England*, and the other Colonies on the North of *America*; if they deceive us, they only therein deceive themselves, and we are where we were.

THE fundamental is this, *viz.* That they are able to furnish a sufficient Quantity of Hemp, Flax, Tar, Turpentine, Fir, Timber, Deal Boards, Masts, Yards, Pipes, and Hoghead-Staves, &c. fully to supply the whole Demand of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, so as that we should suffer no Scarcity, or want of those Goods, tho' we should absolutely prohibit their Importation from any other Place.

By being able to furnish, I am to be understood thus; for I must not speak more for them, than they speak for themselves; and it is meet we should be very exact in those Things we call first Principles: I say, I am to be understood not that they have Hands enough at present to fell and cut out the Quantities of Timber, &c. draw and extract the Tar and Turpentine, split out the Staves, &c. for that, I believe, at first, would be a Difficulty, tho' it would soon be master'd; but that the Country, and the Woods, have a sufficient Quantity of all these; that they are not to be planted, or waited for till grown; but that they have

have a boundless Extent of Woods, as well on the Hills as on the Plains, unexhausted, and indeed, unexhaustible; which are sufficient for all our Demands, and much more.

LIKEWISE, I do not say, or insist, that they do now produce or plant a sufficient Quantity of Hemp and Flax to supply our Demand; but that they have Land enough, sufficient in Strength of Soil, and sufficient in Quantity, and which by cutting down the Woods, would daily encrease: This I think is undoubted.

N. B. THE Countries where this Supply of Timber and Naval-Stores would be produced, is, in a Word, the whole *English* Part of the Continent of *North-America*, *viz.* *New-England*, *New-York*, *East* and *West Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, and all the Country, whether possess'd or no, upon the great River of *Delaware*, as far as that River is navigable, which may be for ought we know 100 Miles beyond *Philadelphia*.

ALL the Colonies of *Virginia* and *Maryland*, to the bottom of the Bay of *Chesapeake*, all the Colonies of *North* and *South Carolina*, and all the Rivers thereof; in which last Colony alone, they tell us, there is as much Fir-Timber growing, as in all the Kingdom of *Norway*.

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LIKEWISE it is to be added, that *mutatis mutandis*, the Coin, and Value of Payment consider'd, they will be able to furnish all these Things as cheap as the East Country and *Norway* Trade does now furnish them.

THESE Things granted, the Proposal is brought into a narrow Compass; all the Difference then between *England* (the Market) and our Colonies, the Producers of these Goods, lies in the Price of the Freight, occasion'd by the Distance of Place, and Length of the Voyage; how to bring this to a Par, is the whole of the Enquiry: And this is to be done by the several Methods following.

N. B. Bounties and Payments of dead Money to the Importer for Encouragement, I reject, as being a meer Charge upon the Nation, tho' not upon the particular Buyer of the Goods, and is not by any Means to be called a lessening the Disparity, only it removes the Burthen from private Hands to the Publick, which is not sufficient; and should it extend to all the Importations, would be a Burden too heavy to bear, even for the whole Nation.

THE only Weight I would lay on the Publick, and even that but for a while, is to take off the Duties entirely from all those Species of Goods, (not to repeat 'em) and prohibit

prohibit the Importation from other Places; and not this last Part neither, till the Colonies were fully entered into the Trade.

THEN for the Freight; we are to suppose, that the Freight of all these Articles, from the East and North Seas, stands now at a Medium of forty to fifty Shillings *per* Ton, call it more or less; and suppose the Freight of the same Goods from the Colonies should then stand at a Medium of six to eight *lib. per* Ton; so that the Freight would be three Times as much one way as the other; 'tis true, this is a very considerable Article; and especially considering them to be all bulky Goods also.

BUT two Articles will immediately contribute towards, if not be a full Equivalent to this Excess of Freight.

First, TAKING off the Duty upon Importation here, which being very high, suppose it, for Argument Sake, to be 20 *per Cent.* may fairly be calculated at one half of the difference, and must be found by the Importer in the Price of his Goods at Market.

Secondly, LAYING an Impost, suppose it to be about ten *per Cent.* upon all the Importations of *English* Goods into those Colonies, and this I insist will be equal to the other half; The Money so raised to be paid to the Commanders of the Ships, in such Proportions as shall be adjusted by the

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Publick, and upon so much Tonage only, as is Loaden upon them of such particular Goods.

THE Colonies will never complain of such a Duty, because 'tis in a manner paid to themselves, and is but taking the Moneey out of one Pocket, and putting it into the other; the Growth of their Country will be exported; (indeed the waste Growth, for they burnt it all before) their own People will be employ'd, and will be prodigiously encreased, and these two are of the last Importance to them; nay, they are of such Importance to them, that give them but an Assurance of these, they may give you Assurance, that in a few Years they will be the greatest, and most prosperous Colonies in the World.

I acknowledge, I despise (with the utmost Contempt of their Ignorance) the Suggestions of those Times, when this glorious Scheme of *New-England's* Prosperity was laid aside, (about two and forty Years ago) from a pretended Jealousy of those Colonies growing too powerful, and making themselves independent; insinuating, because they were independent in a religious Profession, they wanted to be so in Government; whereas first, the very Thought, besides a worse Principle it began in, *viz.* of Party Malice, was to the last Degree weak and foolish; since 'tis evident, the Prosperity, and indeed, the very Being and Subsistence of *New-England* in Matters of

Trade, consists in, and depends wholly upon their Union with, and Subjection to *Great Britain*, as the Growth of their Country, which is the only Article that supports their Commerce, is taken off by the *British* Colonies only: Nor can any other Nation in Europe take it off but the *English*; and the same of the rest: For Example,

THE *Dutch* have no Islands at all, but one (remote and small) called *Curacao*, able to do nothing worth the naming. The *French* indeed have *Martinico*, a flourishing Island Colony; but the Island is large, and produces most of its own Provisions; and if it did not, they have a Colony upon the Main, *viz.* *Canada*, which supplies the *French* at all their Islands with Provision, such as Meal for Bread, Flesh, Fish, Peas, and all other Provision that they can want; and the *French* would never starve their own Colony of *Canada*, to feed *New-England*. But to make it unanswerable, if the *French* would do their utmost, they are not able to consume or take off, no not one twentieth Part of the Growth of our Colonies, who maintain, as some affirm, 1000 Sail of Ships and Sloops, constantly running with those Things from the Main of *North America* to the Islands, such as *St. Christophers*, *Antegoa*, *Nevis*, *Mountserratt*, *Barbadoes* and *Jamaica*; the two last of which consume a prodigious Quantity.

THESE Provisions are the meer Growth of the Country, such as Flour or Meal in Barrels, Peas, Malt, Rice and Tobacco; Beef and Pork, pickled and barrelled; Sheep and Horses alive; Beer in Casks and in Bottles; white Fish salted and dry'd, and Salmon barrel'd; besides Lumber for building and repairing, as well Houses as Ships, and Ships and Sloops ready built and finish'd.

THESE all are the Product of the Country, and the Labour of the People in the Colonies of *New England*, *New York*, the two *Jersies*, *Pensilvania*, *Virginia* and *Carolina*; without this Export, those Colonies would perish. It is true, the Islands would starve for want of the Provisions too, at least at first: But on the Continent, if the Islands did not take off their Product, their Lands which they have been at a vast Expence to cure, and clear, and plant, would lie useless and uncultivated; the Swine which the Woods feed for them by thousands, would overrun them with their Multitude, and be worse to them in Time, than the Bears and the Wolves; their Plantations would produce more of every Thing than their Mouths could devour, or than they could find Markets to vend them at; their Timber would stand indeed where it was, for no Body would fell it to have it, and they might

might set their Woods on Fire as they did formerly, to clear the Land of them.

IN a Word, this being their Case, their Interest ties them to *England*, tho' their Duty should not, and to separate from *England*, would be to be undone.

THEN carry the same Argument on to the proposed Commerce, for Timber, Naval Stores, &c. this would still the faster, (if that were possible) bind them to their Dependence on *England*, for no Nation in Europe could give them the same Encouragement: I cannot enlarge upon this Article here, it is evident to all that understand Trade: If Courtiers and Statesmen are ignorant, let them enquire where they may be inform'd.

I return to the Proposal; having thus stated the Equivalent, by which the Government may be reimburs'd what they shall be out of Pocket for the Experiment; it remains only to give a brief Account of the Advantages of such a Commerce; take them in a few short Heads, for I cannot enlarge them as I ought, for want of Room.

I. INSTEAD of the Trade for Deals and Timber, Tar, Masts, &c. which we carry on now with *Norway*, almost all for ready Money, and which carries out more Silver in Specie, nay, in our very Coin, Crowns and half Crowns, than the *East India* Company it self, however little Notice has been taken of it: I say, instead of this

disadvantageous Trade, we should then receive all the same Goods in Exchange for our own Manufactures, and they would be purchased of, and produc'd by the Labour of our own People, the industrious Planters, Subjects to the Government of his Majesty of *Great Britain*.

2. INSTEAD of having at least two Thirds of these Goods brought over in foreign Bottoms, *Danes* and *Swedes*, and the Ships navigated by foreign Seamen, to whom we pay dead Freight in the like ready Money, and which they carry away in Specie, as above; it would be wholly brought to us in our own Ships, *New England* built, and navigated wholly by our own Seamen.

3. INSTEAD of a very few *English* Ships which now use the *Norway* Trade, this new Commerce would at least employ a thousand Sail of Ships every Year, and all the Year, and most of them Ships of Burthen: So that besides the Benefit of building, repairing, and fitting out so many Ships, it would be a new Nursery of Seamen to us, having always 15 to 20000 Seamen employ'd in it.

4. THE Colonies would be encreased in People beyond expressing; and consequently, not only the Consumption of Provisions would be encreased there, which is, as before, the grand Fund of their Prosperity; but the Consumption of Manufactures,
and

and all European Exportations to them, would be in Proportion encreased, which is the grand Subject of my Work. By the Calculations which I have seen, it is supposed, not less than 100,000 Men would be employ'd in the Woods, cutting and felling Timber, Deals, Masts, Yards, &c. in the managing and planting of Hemp and Flax; in the extracting and drawing off the Tar; and in preparing all the Articles mentioned, to be fetch'd from thence, on Account of this Trade; and this, besides Women and Children, who could not do much in that Part; and besides, the building Ships among them, an Article so considerable, as well deserves to be handled by it self.

5. IT would effectually furnish those Colonies with Returns for *England*, which they are now greatly distressed for, in order to pay the Ballance of their Trade with *England*; the Quantity of our Manufactures which they take off, infinitely exceeds what they have of their own Growth to send us in Return, whereas in Case of such a Trade for the Produce of their Country, they would be at about a PAR with us, and we should always be able to call for as much Goods from them, as would pay our selves.

6. BY this Means they would receive Silver in great Quantities from *Jamaica*, and the other Islands, for all that Trade

would be clear Gain to them, and that Silver also would *stay with them*, which now it cannot do, all being snatch'd up for Returns to *England* in Specie, tho' it be at 12 s. to 14 s. *per Ounce*: So that in consequence of this Commerce, there would be a Circulation of current Money in the Colonies on the Continent, a Thing they have of late been Strangers to.

IT would take up a Volume by it self, to lay open all the glorious Schemes of Improvement in Trade, which would be the Consequence of such a Business, and particularly the Encrease of our Manufacture here, by the Demand of Goods from thence, when the Numbers of People in those Colonies should be thus encreas'd; let any one calculate (that is able to judge of these Things) by what it is already, what it must necessarily be on an Encrease of People: Let them cast up the Exportations to the five Colonies on the Continent; let them consider those Exportations to be as they really are, one entire Improvement, derived from meer nothing, or next to nothing in the last fourscore Years, for then it was all an Embrio, and some of them were not in Being as to Trade (*viz.*) *New York* and the *Jersies* conquered but in 1666 from the *Dutch*, *Pensylvania* not above 50 Years in Growth, *Carolina* less.

LET them tell us, or but guess at for us, what a glorious Trade to *England* it would

would be to have those Colonies encreased with a Million of People, to be cloth'd, furnish'd, and supply'd with all their needful Things, Food excepted, only from us; and ty'd down for ever to us by that immortal, indissoluble Bond of Trade, *their Interest*.

LET them consider, that all those People must fetch from *Great Britain* only, their Cloths, Woollen, Linnen, Cotton, and Silk; all their Haberdashery; all their Manufactures of hard Ware, wrought Iron, Brass, Chains, Edg'd Tools, Jack-work, Nails, Bolts, Screws, &c. all their heavy Ware, such as cast Iron and Brass, Guns, Mortars, Shot, Shells, Pots, Caldrons, Bells, Battery, &c. all their Clock-Work, Watch-Work, even so much as their Toys and Trinkets; all their House Furniture, Kitchen Furniture, Glass Ware, Upholstery Ware, Tin Ware; in a Word, every thing we produce, and every thing we make, and every thing we import: 'T would be endless to repeat it.

How preposterous must those Notions be, and how oddly must they think, if they can be said to think at all, who suggest Mischief from the Encrease of our Colonies! Do any other Nations act thus? Do the *Spaniards* think their Empires of *Mexico* and *Peru*, *Chili* and *St. Martha*, too many and too great, tho' a hundred Times as large as those I am naming; and tho' they drein even *Spain* itself of People? Are the *French* jealous

lous of the Number of their People in the vast Countries of *Canada* and *Louisiana*? Do they not study, by all Means possible, to encrease them, and to extend their Plantations?

HAVE not we People enough to spare? Do we not encrease till we are ready to eat up one another, (I mean in Trade)? and can we not spare enough of the unprofitable Part of our People, those who are rather said to starve among us than to live? Who, if they were well settled there, would be Industrious, Thrive, and grow Rich; and 'tis by the Industrious that Trade is supported, and Wealth encreased.

LET us no more amuse ourselves, and raise the Vapours with our Phlegmatick Thoughts about every little *German* Encroachment on our Manufactures, and the Prohibitions of a few petty Princes in the North. Here we can raise a Consumption of our Manufactures, superior to all the Obstruction they can give us: Here our Manufactures will never be prohibited; here the Demand will be for ever encreasing with the People; 'tis like a Mill built by the Lord of the Manor, it grinds for all his Tenants, and is kept going by his own Stream; so that on one hand it can never want Work, and on the other hand can never want Water.

I have not Room to say more, tho' I scarce know when to leave it off. I conclude with telling you in a few Words, that here is the greatest Opening for an Improvement
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of our Trade, and the easiest to put in Practise, that ever was proposed, or perhaps can be proposed to this Nation; and till we go about it, we ought never to complain of the Decay of our Trade, or of the want of a Vent for our Manufactures.

THESE several Articles of the Improvement of our Commerce, have run out to such an unavoidable Length, that I shall not be able to add some others, which were in my Design, and which are equally advantageous in Proportion to their Circumstances; but I must touch lightly upon them, and refer them to farther Occasion.

As the Encrease of Commerce and People in our Colonies, is, in Consequence of our Property in them, an Encrease and Improvement of our Trade in *England*, and in particular an Encrease of the Consumption of our Manufactures; so it is a natural Inference, and evident to Demonstration, that an Encrease of Colonies must have the same Effect.

I therefore lay it down as a Fundamental, that additional Colonies, where the People may plant and settle to their Advantage, is a visible Improvement to our Trade.

EMPLOYMENT of our People, or as we call them, our Poor, is the grand Support of our very being as a Nation without it; the Poor would eat us up, the Parish Rates would *in short* devour not the Produce of our Land only, but the Land itself; and the
Church-

Church-Wardens would call upon you for 20 s. in the Pound for your Beggars.

THIS employing of the Poor is the Effect of our Manufactures; the Magnitude of which is, for that very Reason, already described; but as our Manufactures employ the Poor, so Trade carries off the Manufactures, or else they would soon over-run the Consumption, and come to a full Stop: The Manufactures support the Poor, Foreign Commerce supports the Manufactures, and planting Colonies supports the Commerce.

HERE you dispose of your encreasing Numbers of Poor; they go there poor, and come back rich; there they plant, trade, thrive, and encrease; even your transported Felons, sent to *Virginia* instead of *Tyburn*; Thousands of them, if we are not misinform'd, have, by turning their Hands to Industry and Improvement, and, which is best of all, to Honesty, become rich substantial Planters and Merchants, settled large Families, and been famous in the Country; nay, we have seen many of them made Magistrates, Officers of Militia, Captains of the good Ships, and Masters of good Estates.

THIS Way therefore, I say, we dispose of the growing Numbers of our Poor to an inexpressible Advantage, as well a publick as a private Advantage: It is a private Advantage, as 'tis really a Benefit to the Poor that go, (for pray take me, as I ought to be taken) When I say go, I am to be understood that

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I mean go freely and voluntarily. I am not moving you to transport the Poor, that would be sending them away because they are poor; but those who being destitute of Employment here, are willing to seek it Abroad, would have a visible Advantage, and would soon give Encouragement to others to follow them, and Thousands of such Families would raise themselves there by their Industry, and grow rich; for where Wages is high, and Provisions low, as is the Case there, the Labourer must be idle, or extravagant, or thriving, and grow rich; and the Consequence of the diligent labouring Man there, is always this, that from a meer Labourer he becomes a Planter, and settles his Family upon the Land he gains, and so grows rich of Course.

THE Advantage to the Publick I have spoken of, tho' but briefly. I only add here, That besides the Encrease of Commerce and People, it necessarily makes an Encrease of Seamen, a Point just now upon the Anvil of the State, and which they find hard enough for the hammering of all the political Smiths of the Nation; all this growing Commerce, to and from our Colonies, must be carry'd on by Sea; all the Commerce they can have there, one Colony with another, must be the same: The first by large Ships of Force, the last by Sloops, Ketches, and small Ships. The Encrease of the People encreases the Trade, the Encrease of the Trade en-

increases the Number of Ships, and the Increase of Ships calls for an Increase of Seamen: Thus your Strength, as well as Wealth, grows with your Colonies, the Climax is really pleasant to look upon.

MORE Colonies then is, without Question, extending the Commerce; it is enlarging the Field of Action; it calls in more Hands to assist in the Publick Prosperity; it employs profitably the unprofitable Numbers of your Poor, and lays a Foundation of an extended Trade, and thereby of a still larger Exportation from Home.

SUPPOSE I should propose a Place in the World, where, if the *English* could plant at this Time any Numbers of their People, even the poorest and meanest, supposing them only to be industrious, and willing to live; for I am not talking of Drones, and *Solomon's* Sluggards, that will starve rather than work; or, as I have said above, will not pull their Hand out of their Bosom to put it to their Mouth. Such will starve every where, and may as well stay at Home as go Abroad: Such will not sow, and how should they reap? will not plant, and how should they eat?

BUT suppose, I say, a Spot of Ground, where a Body of *English* People being planted, the Country, by its own native Production of Corn and Cattle, would immediately subsist them; and the being placed in a Situation to live and trade, they should
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want no other Support from hence, but their first carrying over, and the Subsistence of the first Year, till a Harvest supply'd them: Suppose them what Number you please, from one Thousand to an Hundred Thousand, or suppose them increased from the one Number to the other: Grant me but that they wear Cloths, build, furnish Houses as they increase, and that they gain enough to provide necessary Things for themselves; Is not the Supply of these, all Gain to us? Is not all they take an Increase of the Consumption of our Manufactures and Produce? Is not every Ship employ'd between us and them, so far an Increase of Navigation? and so of all the rest: An Increase of Colonies increases People, People increase the Consumption of Manufactures, Manufactures Trade, Trade Navigation, Navigation Seamen, and altogether increase the Wealth, Strength, and Prosperity of *England*.

BUT where in the World should we plant? what Country presents for new Colonies, at least that is not possess'd or claim'd by some other Nation? and where can we find a Place, where, with the Settlement of the People, a Trade will follow? and from whence they can, besides subsisting plentifully in that Place, find Returns to *Europe*, to purchase from us the Manufactures they want? My Answer is, that if I do not find out such Places, I have been saying nothing all this while: That there is Room enough
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still left on the Surface of the Globe, not taken up nor claim'd, or pretended to by *Spaniards, Portuguese, Dutch, or French, Dane or Swede, Pope or Devil*; Places where 100000 People may immediately plant and build, find Food, and subsist plentifully; the Soil fruitful, the Climate comfortable, the Air healthy, unmolested by Savages and Canibals, as in *North America*; unravaged by Lions and Tygers, Elephants and Monsters, as in *Africa*; fill'd with Cattle useful and eatable, tame and tractable, abounding with Fish, Fowl, Flesh, wanting nothing but to be inhabited by Christians, and ally'd to the rest of the Christian World by Commerce and Navigation.

BUT I am too near the End of this Work to enter upon so large a Subject: It must be treated of by itself.

F I N I S.





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