# REMARKS

On the ENGLISH

*Woollen Manufactury*

FOR

EXPORTATION,

AND

Necessity of Preventing the IRISH WOOL being Run.

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Humbly Offered to the Consideration of both Houses of PARLIAMENT.

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*LONDON:*

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*The* English *Woollen Manufacturers Remarks, humbly offered on the present declining State of their Trade for Exportation, and the Necessity there is of preventing the* Irish *Wool being run.*

TRADE being the grand Source of *Great Britain's* Wealth and Power, and that Branch most eminently so, that exports most of her native Produce, when manufactured, this Kingdom being not only enriched by the Treasure imported, but also by the Value of our Labour and Art, in the various Manufacturies exported, especially our Woollen, as it is our native Wealth, is so much clear Gains.

Trade in general does now evidently feel the Effects of a long and gradual Decay, in our Woollen Trade for Exportation, as the Woollen Manufacturies abroad have took Place, which is evidently owing unto their getting the *Irish* Wool, and not only working it up, but with it also great Quantities of their own Wool (intermixing it with the *Irish*) into *English* like Goods, much cheaper than *England* can.

Therefore, as it is now this Trading Kingdom's absolute Interest, not only to find Means to enlarge our Manufacturies for Exportation, and thereby Trade in general, but also to secure from our Rivals our Woollen Trade in particular; especially considering how our industrious Merchants have extended it, and how enriching, and the grand Wheel of *England's* great Machine of Trade, that gives Motion to every other Branch; and so much easier to prevent, than recal Trade back when lost.

*Pleas*

*Please to Observe,*

THAT notwithstanding *Great Britain* can't prevent her Rivals from setting up, and carrying on their Woollen Manufacturies, in their own Dominions, yet she can (by way of Self-preservation) by keeping her own and the *Irish* Wool at home, for her home Manufacturing, prevent those Manufacturies from doing our Trade any great Damage.

That as it is a standing Maxim in Trade, that neat and cheap Goods command the Markets, so it is eminently in the Woollen Manufacturies; that proper Wool, adapted to the Sort of Goods made, is absolutely necessary to the producing of neat Goods, as low-price Labour is to cheap Goods.

That *England* and *Ireland* are in a peculiar manner blest with Wool, that is in its native Goodness and Staple, adapted unto the making of the various Sorts of Woollen Goods.

That other Parts of *Europe* have also great Quantities of Wool, yet very little that is adapted to the making of neat Goods, it being very short or course, of a hairy harsh Nature.

That in Neighbouring Countries, where Woollen Manufacturies are carried on, Labour, by Means of their Way of living, is much cheaper than in *England*.

That the Wages of the *English* Poor, have through Necessity been lowering for Years, and although now so low, as to half starving, yet not low enough for our Merchants to buy, as they may sell abroad as cheap as their Rivals, notwithstanding we sell twenty *per Cent.* cheaper on an Avarage than we could, Goodness for Goodness, Years past.

That



That lowering our *British* Labour, is sinking so much of our native Wealth, yet at present of absolute Necessity, to prevent our Trade from being lost, therefore worthy the Wisdom of Parliament to find a Redress.

That it is evidently declared, by the strict Laws made, to prevent the *Irish* as well as *English* Wool from being run to our Rivals, that our *British* Parliaments have always been of Opinion, that effecting it would be of the greatest Advantage unto the Welfare of our Woollen Trade for Exportation, and Trade in general.

That 'tis fully demonstrated, by the great Charge and Risk *England*'s Rivals run, in getting the *Irish* Wool, that as they do not need it for Quantity, having Wool of their own, 'tis for Quality, without which they cannot work up their own, into such Goods that they rival *England* in.

That 'tis impossible the *English* Woollen Trade for Exportation can revive, or even not still decline, notwithstanding the great Blessing of Peace, if the *Irish* Wool is not prevented being run.

That it cannot be for *England*'s Interest to prevent her own Wool being run, and not the *Irish* also; and notwitstanding little or no *Irish* Wool is now imported, yet the Price of *English* Wool is (although it is something advanc'd on the *South-Sea* Company's Trading again) still low.

That the Quantity of Wool now run out of *Ireland*, is very great, it having been increasing ever since so great a Stop has been in *England*, and 'tis evident the Loss thereby to *England* in her Trade is not small, was the Quantity run no more than fifteen or twenty thousand Packs yearly, as some wonld perswade.

That

That one Pack of Wool in *England*, worth ten Pounds, does make forty Pounds worth of white Woollen Goods, and those Goods on an Avarage does cost the Dying, *&c.* and fitting for Exportation, twenty Pounds, which makes it sixty Pounds worth of Goods, fit to be exported.

That as ten Pounds worth of Wool, does by Manufacturing, *&c.* give *England* a Profit of fifty Pounds, 'tis evident, that exporting those Goods, by employing our Shipping, and by the Returns made our Merchants, and Duty paid his Majesty, with the general Gains in Trade, by the Money first being circulated, and Trade in general promoted, cannot give a less additional Profit.

That *England's* present Loss, by the *Irish* Wool being run, as being prevented thereby manufacturing it, is still greater, as every Pack run does enable the Foreigners to work up with it, two or more of their own Wool, by which the *English* Farmer is robb'd of selling two Packs, and this Kingdom of manufacturing, and exporting when in Goods, three Packs, which is evidently the sole Cause of the present Decay of our Trade, and low Price on our Wool.

That to add still to our Loss, many of our Manufacturers are sunk in the World, their Branches of Trade that was valuable, and employed great Numbers of Hands, almost lost, by which great Numbers of our Poor are un-employ'd, and become a publick Charge, to the great Increase of our Parish Rates, which is a treble Loss, instead of two Shillings earnt, one is gave.

That at present, the Interest of *England* and *Ireland*, as to their Wool, does very much differ, as 'tis *England's* absolute Interest, that none of



of her own nor *Irish* Wool be run; but that all, more than *Ireland's* own home Consumption does call for, be manufactured in *England* for Exportation; but 'tis *Ireland's* present Interest, that all her Wool, more than she manufactures her self, (not all for home Consumption) be run, rather than exported to *England* in Wool.

That all *Irish* Wool exported to *England*, does pay a Duty in *Ireland*, of upwards one Penny *per* Pound, which is 20 *per Cent.* as their Wool has been generally sold, at seven Shillings *per* Stone, tho' now at ten; and also there is a Duty on all *Irish* Woollen Yarn imported, of upwards one Penny *per* Pound, paid in *England*, besides what it pays as Wool in *Ireland*.

That the Laws now in force, that have put so great a Stop to running Wool in *England*, have not, nor will not in *Ireland*, not suiting that open Kingdom nor Tradesmen, that finds so much greater Gains by running it, than selling it to *England* in Wool does produce, either to themselves or Poor.

That as no People are more faithful to what they deem their Interest, 'tis much feared, that no Law will put a Stop to running Wool in *Ireland*, but such that will, in executing, point out the Agressor, and also make the common People as well as Tradesmen, see it their Interest to become subservient with their Wool, to the Interest of the *English* Wollen Trade for Exportation.

That taking off the said Duty on the *Irish* Wool, will not introduce it into *England* cheaper than now, the Price in *Ireland* advancing as the Duty is taken off; but it would be a very great Means to induce the *Irish* Traders to think it their Interest to put in force such Laws our Parliament

liament may find needful, to prevent its being run, as *England* will be 20 *per Cent.* a better Market than now, and their Gains will not be *England's* Loſs.

That proper Spining, adapted to the various Sorts of Woollen Goods made, is the moſt eſſential Part of Manufactury, in making of neat Goods, as cheap Spining is in cheap Goods, which Money earnt by our *Engliſh* Spiners, is now the dearest earnt of any, in the whole Manufacturing.

That Numbers of the *Iriſh* Poor are now employed by their Clandeſtine Traders, in fiting their Wool for running, a great Part being firſt comb'd, and ſome ſpun, and ſkrew'd into Caſks, *&c.* to be the more portable; and every Pack run, robs *England's* Poor of Manufacturing three, which would fully employ them to much more Advantage than bare Spining does.

That taking off the Duty on *Iriſh* Woollen Yarn imported, thereby incouraging the *Iriſh* Poor in ſpinning a Part of the Wool now run, into white Yarn for *England*, as now for *England's* Rivals, and to do it in ſuch a Method, as would be much more for the Advantage of *England's* Manufacturers, than what now ſpun and imported is; and inſtead of leſſening either the Price or Labour, of our *Engliſh* Poor, be an abſolute Means, by the great Increaſe of Trade, fully to employ them, though ſo numerous, much more to their own and Kingdom's Advantage, than bare Spining can.

That there is an abſolute Neceſſity to make our Woollen Goods cheaper, yet as neat and good in its ſorts as now, and ſinking our Poor yet lower, is ſinking our native Wealth; therefore turning the *Iriſh* low Labour (as they do and



and can live cheaper) for us, as 'tis now againſt us, would be bringing more Wealth into our Kingdom, and alſo enabling our Manufacturers at once to cope with their Rivals in Price, as they always will in Neatneſs, if we keep our Wool at home, and a ſure Means to turn the whole Biaſs of *Ireland* in our Favour, for now 'tis their Intereſt to run their Wool, but then to execute ſuch Laws as may be made abſolutely to prevent it, and to conſult the Intereſt of the *Engliſh* Woollen Manufactury for Exportation, as 'tis *England's* to conſult the Intereſt of the *Iriſh* Linnen Manufactury for Exportation.

That notwithſtanding 'tis Trade that gives this Iſland ſo great a Name, and our general Intereſt to ſupport it, yet too many have but a ſlight Value for Trade, although 'tis evident, if we only trace this Kingdom, much more if we look into others, that 'tis the Number of Inhabitants, and thoſe employ'd by our Manufacturies, (and none more than our Woollen) for Exportation, that gives ſo great a Value to our Lands, and pays their Rents.

That as 'tis generally agreed, our Woollen Trade is greatly declined, as the Woollen Manufacturies abroad have took Place, that our Woollen Goods is ſunk in Price 20 *per Cent.* yet not low enough to preſerve our Trade; that great Numbers of our Poor, for want of Employ, are become a great Charge on our Pariſhes; that our Wool is ſtill very low; a Redreſs is now of abſolute Neceſſity.

That taking off the Duty on the ſaid Wool and Yarn, and turning the *Iriſh* low Labour in *England's* Favour, would not only make them that are now employ'd for *England's* Rivals, ſee it their Intereſt that ſuch a Law be executed,



but

but even the whole Kingdom (the Clandestine Traders excepted) assist therein, and consult the Interest of *England*, as to her Woollen Manufactury for Exportation, which at once would enable *England*, not only to continue a living Price to her Poor, but also fully employ them, and that to more Advantage then now can, and yet to sell so cheap, that she would be enabled to cope with the whole World in Woollen Goods, therefore hope for such a Redress the Wisdom of a *British* Parliament may think needful.

N. B. As Dying and fitting white Woollen Goods for Exportation, does on an Avarage cost 50 *per Cent.* preventing such Goods being exported white (that is not worn so) would greatly add to the Labour of the *English* Poor and Trade in general.

# By Way of Supplement;

'Tis

QUery'd, *If the* English *Woollen Trade for Exportation, will not decline so long as her Rivals are supply'd with Wool from* Ireland, *and if 'tis possible to prevent the running of the Wool, if contrary to the Interest of* Ireland?

Quer. *Altho'* England's *Rivals have Wool grown, yet so little that is adapted to the making neat Goods, can they rival* England *in any Quantity of Goods, without either* English *or* Irish *Wool to work up with it?*

Quer.



Quer. *Is it not in the Power of a* British *Parliament to make a Law, that would absolutely put a full Stop to the running of the* Irish *Wool, Yarn, and Woollen Goods, and make it* Ireland's *Interest to assist in executing it?*

Quer. *As the Laws now in Force, does allow* Ireland *no other Market than* England, *for such Wool and Yarn their own home Consumption does not want, would not all that is now run, if not run, be exported to* England?

Quer. *As every ten Pounds worth of Wool manufactured in* England, *does give a Profit of fifty Pounds to* England, *as Money earnt, beside the Gains thereby, by Trade in general, Is not then every ten Pounds worth of Wool run out of* Ireland, *that otherwise would be manufactured in* England, *so many fifty Pounds Loss to* England; *and as* England's *Rivals are enabled, by the Wool run, to work up double the Quantity of their own with it, Is it not so many hundred and fifty Pounds Loss to* England, *as Money not earnt, and also the selling of twenty Pounds worth of Wool Loss to our* English *Farmers and Wool-Staplers; and the real Cause of the great Decay on our Trade, and low Price on our Wool?*

Quer. *As* England's *Rivals can and do work cheaper than* England, *Is it not* England's *absolute Interest to find Means to make their Goods cheaper, as well as to continue in their Neatness and Goodness, as a sure Means to secure and enlarge their Trade?*

Quer. *As Interest governs all People and Kingdoms, and 'tis the present Interest of* Ireland *to run all her Wool rather than sell to* England, *and* England's *absolute Interest that none be run; and as no Law will prevent its being run but what is executed in* Ireland, *Is it not* England's *general Interest to make it* Ireland's *Interest to become subservient to the Interest of* England *with her Wool?*

Quer. *As 'tis so much the Interest of* England, *in order to restore her Trade, to make her Goods cheaper, Is it not her absolute Interest to turn the low Labour of the* Irish *Poor in her Favour; especially as great Numbers of them do now earn their Bread by assisting the Clandestine Traders, either in fitting for, and running it, or manufacturing Woollen Goods for running.*

Quer.

Quer. *If 'tis not* England's *Interest as a Trading Kingdom, rather than have such powerful Rivals (not knowing the Event) to entertain some favourable Thought of* Ireland *as a Trading Kingdom, as to her Wool, and good Policy in* England *to employ those* Irish *Poor, in Spining up into White Yarn a Part of the Wool that would be prevented being run, as thereby the* English *Manufacturer will be enabled to cope with their Rivals in Price; and by each ten Pounds worth of Wool being prevented being run, if* Ireland *earn six Pounds,* England's *Poor would earn* 144 *Pounds more than now they do, or otherwise can.*

Quer. *If taking off the Duty on the* Irish *Wool and Yarn, would not greatly turn the present Interest of* Ireland, *both as to her Tradesmen and Poor, in* England's *Favour, as the Advantage in Price would be their Gains, as the Wool will not be cheaper to* England.

Quer. *Altho' taking off the said Duty, may not set the Advantange of the* Irish *Tradesmen in Selling to* England, *or to her Rivals, on a Par, will it not make them think it their Interest, if not to assist, yet not molest, such that may be appointed to execute such a Law that will, by striking at the Root, absolutely put a Stop to running their Wool, Yarn, and Woollen Goods, as pointing out the Transgressor, if any is run.*

Quer. *As the Duty on the* Irish *Wool is Part of the* Irish *Civil List, Is it not* England's *Interest, rather than not have it took off, to find Means to make it Good? Should* England *give a Bounty for all imported,* England's *Rival's would see it their Interest to give a much greater, will not then making it* Ireland's *as tis* England's *Interest to execute such a Law, be an absolute Means of securing and enlarging the* English *Woollen Trade, and Trade in general; as Experience declares, no Law will effect it, but such as is executed in* Ireland, *and is her Interest.*