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A SHORT
VINDICATION

OF

Phil. Scot's Defence

OF THE

Scots Abdicating *D A R I E N*:

BEING

In Answer to the Challenge of the
Author of the Defence of that Settle-
ment, to prove the *Spanish* Title to
Darien, by Inheritance, Marriage, Do-
nation, Purchase, Reversion, Surrender,
or Conquest.

WITH A

Prefatory Reply, to the False and
Scurrilous Aspersions, of the New Au-
thor of, *The Just and Modest Vindicati-
on*, &c. And some Animadversions on
the material Part of it, relating to the
Title of *D A R I E N*.

Non qui multi a sed qui multum dicunt dicunt.

L O N D O N

Printed in the Year, 1700.

T H E
P R E F A C E.

THE most genuine and best meant Designs of Man, being lyable not only to Misconstruction, but Reproach, 'tis the less surprising to meet with either of these in the present Case, considering the small Proportion I bear to a numerous Party, who are so far dipt in a Project, that notwithstanding a great many of them by this Time begin to perceive the Errour they have been led unto, yet they will not disentangle themselves; and if any Person should take upon him to unblind, them he must expect to have his Throat cut.

As my first Attempt in this Nature is not only censur'd Bold, but Impudent, by the Managers of the Caledonian Project, so it has been attended with Menaces enough, that I should not eat my Christmas Dinner. The friendly Advices I have received of my sudden Fate don't in the least make my Pen stagger from Vindicating what I have already offer'd to show the Impracticability of that Project, for which altho' I am at present basely censur'd, by a resolute and headstrong Party, yet, I doubt not of receiving the Approbation of the moderate and

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judicious Part of that Nation before the Jubilee be over, my Theme being both just, and well design'd to the Proprietors of that Stock.

I could have wish'd that this gentle Author, who Effects so much Modesty, Sense, and good Manners, had stood by his Text, and had taken more convincing Ways of confuting what I have written on the Darien Subject: For, however necessary he thinks it for his Argument to treat it and me with Reproach, yet he will gain thereby but few Profelytes to his Opinion: And if he had employ'd his Mathematical Head in disproving what I have offer'd in Defence of the Abdication, with some of those Euclid Demonstrations, wherewith he would let us know that he abounds, his slanderous and personal Reflections might be the better credited: But as he has advanc'd nothing, either to justify the Conduct of the Directors of that Company, or to disprove one Syllable of what's offer'd against the Darien Project, except the Instance of Mr. Wafer, which he would have the World take for granted to be a Lye, and make use of that to overthrow my Faith; I hope that (if the whole Discourse does not carry Demonstration enough along with it) it may stand firm till such Time as it is repeal'd by Dint of Argument: And as for this Passage relating to Mr. Wafer, I shall justify it before I proceed any further.

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In the first Place, I desire that it may be taken as a Preliminary, that if Mr. Wafer had met with so egregious a Romance, and so nearly relating to him publickly in Print, he ought in Justice, both to the Company and himself, to have instantly detected it's Falshood: But altho' he lives very near the Royal-Exchange, and had the Perusal of the same Book the first Day it was published (which is above Two Months ago) yet he hath been so far from offering to disprove it, that he hath since exprest himself to Persons of unquestionable Credit, that if he had known of my Intention, or had not thereby been anticipated from Publishing his own Sentiments, he would have said a great Deal more on that Subject.

I must needs own, that he was ignorant of my Design of Publishing that, or any Thing else; but I must tell you, that about the same Time, he thought to have oblig'd the Company to recompense him for his Disappointment, or to have expos'd them to the Publick: And to confirm what I herein assert, 'tis very well known to a great many in Town, that about Four Months agoe, he presented a Memorial to a certain Scots Person of Quality, containing every Syllable of what I have wrote, as likewise some more which I design'dly left out, because it particulariz'd some Persons whom I had no Inclination to mention.

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He was kept in Hopes of some Gratification, and I believe he might have been easily compounded with, but what I have wrote from his own Mouth and Memorial, I am so far from distrusting he will retract, or can be brid'd to deny, that I firmly believe he gave no Occasion to this Author, to make use of his Name to impose thus upon the World: And to confirm me the more in this Belief, it is not above Three Days since he came to my Lodging to acquaint me, that a Book was newly publish'd in Vindication of the Darien Settlement, but he had not seen it; on which I ask'd, If any Persons had been with him from the Company, to oblige him to pass from what he had said and wrote? to which he answer'd, No. I show'd him the Book and Passage in it, relating to him, which having perus'd, he told me, That he was so far from passing from it, that he wonder'd how that Author should be so confident, as to rely on what he should answer.

If this is not enough to justify that Passage relating to Wafer, by which our Author submits the Truth of the Whole to be try'd, I shall prove it, Viva voce, if need be; and shall say no more to it here, but only show you the Evasion which our Author makes use of in the 18th Page of his Preface, to clear his Party of that Imputatiou, To wit; Nor can any without the Renouncing of common Sense, believe that the Gentlemen employ'd by the Com-

[7]

Company to confer and transact with Mr. Wafer, could be guilty of such Weakness and Folly, as to reveal and detect to him their Design upon Darien, in that the whole Success of that Undertaking depended entirely upon it's being kept and preserv'd a Secret. If our learned Author would not impute it to brutal Ignorance, to differ in any Point from his Conception of Things, I might be allow'd to detect the Weakness or Innocence of this strong Argument; and would ask him, if at the Conference between the same Gentlemen and Mr. Wafer, at Pontaks's, the Subject was not Darien? I would likewise know whether the Collection of Guineas for him at that Meeting was not to keep him from Disposing of himself till they acquainted the Company with his Qualifications to serve them? As also, whether that Article in the Contract, whereby he receiv'd 20 Guineas, was not towards Stopping the Publishing of this Book for the Space of a Month, till the Company and he should come to Terms for Suppressing it altogether? 'Tis evident enough, that the Substance of that Book or Journal relates to nothing but Darien; as likewise, that Wafer's Talent as to Projects lay no where else: Now how far this Mathematical Argument of our Author will demonstrate Wafer to be a Fool, and me a Lyar, I submit it to Judgment. In the mean Time, it may be worthy of Remark, that

[8]

that this Faction is not calculated for London or England, but for a Country where Waser is not to be seen and spoken with.

Believing what is already said on this Head to be sufficient to reinstate me in my Credit, I shall return to the first Part of this Preface, where he throws some Foul-mouth'd Aspersions, not only on me, but likewise on his Majesty's Ministers of State; how corospondent that Style is with the Title of his Book, let any Person judge, or if it is not fitter to be bound up with the Volumes of the Scotch Presbyterian Eloquence, than left single for the more civil Casuists of this Age to peruse.

I shall not take upon me to say any thing relating to that Minister, whom he uses so scurrilously, believing, that if he thinks it worth his While, he will do himself Right; yet I must take upon me to remark, that through the whole Strain of his Calumnies and Invectives, it is not at him alone he points his Thunder, but through the Sides of that State-Officer he wounds and bullies the Rest (be of what Office or Quality they will) who will presume to act directly or indirectly against the Darien Project; and if a Man dares be so bold, as to whisper his Thoughts, either publickly or privately, in Opposition to it, he must be mouth'd at, and represented as an Enemy to one of His Majesty's Kingdoms, and is not fit for the Office he bears; as also, that he must remember
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the Fate of Archbishop Laud, and the Earl of Strafford. So God ha' Mercy Old England.

As to that Part of his slandrous Story, wherein he insinuates, that large Rewards have been bestow'd on me by that Minister; I have Reason to believe, that the Persons, whom he calls Friends, of those State-Councillors, are only feign'd by himself, to make the Story pass the more current: As for my self, I must needs own, that when I came from Scotland, about Eighteen Years ago, I brought but little Money with me, and what I have purchased since, has been in Serving the King: But that I either receiv'd or expected any mercenary Reward (as our Author impudently and maliciously insinuates) I must tell him, or whoever else says so, that it is a Lye. To reproach me the more, he gives out, that I was expell'd the Navy for Crimes and Misdemeanours, which is likewise false, for I was neither expell'd or ever tainted with any base or mean Action: The Reason of my Leaving that Service, is sufficiently known to be on the Score of a Rancounter I had at Portsmouth, with the Commander of the Ship, where I serv'd. 'Tis true, the Cloud I was under for some Months afterwards (being unwilling to stand the Test of a Court Martial) induc'd me the easier to enter into that Companies Service, under the Notion of going to the East-Indies, and which I was made tacitely to believe for a Twelve-month afterwards;

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but by what has happen'd it was jumping out of the Frying-pan into the Fire: For after I had serv'd them in more Stations than one (with their Approbation) for the Space of 26 Months, and proceeded in their private Expedition with Five or Six Months Provisions to a Country where nothing was to be seen but Death, Ruine, and the Spanish Mines, I having got my Belly full of the Project, obtain'd my Discharge with an ample Certificate from the Council of the Collony: And altho' I was Shipwrack'd the very next Day, coming out of their Harbour's Mouth, had my Servant drown'd, escaping very narrowly my self, besides the Loss of what I had; when I came to England, I was oblig'd to go to Law with them in Doctors-Commons for my Wages, where it cost me more than I recover'd.

As for the Meanness of my Office and Parts, wherewith our Author upbraids me, I shall not offer much on that Head, that signifying but little to the Subject in debate; the less Force the Weakness or Meanness of my Argument carries with it, it is the easier evinc'd, but as there's nothing appears, but slandrone Aspersions to confute it, it will bear but little Weight with the judicious Part of Mankind. The Obscurity of our Author, indeed, shades him from suitable Returns to his Compliments; however, I must take the Liberty to remark that, notwithstanding he would make

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us believe he is no Plagiary; yet the whole System of his Discourse is easily discover'd to be Mr. F—rs, almost Paragraph by Paragraph, only dress'd up with a long-winded Præmium, a Chain of innumerable Tautologies, Parentheses, and crabbed Abstrusities, designedly calculated to Crambo the Reader out of his Senses; besides, a few French and Civilian Authorities, the Latter of which he might have kept in his Pocket, 'till once the Spanish Title to Darien had been fairly confuted: He has, indeed, left out some of the sowrest Parts of the Original Book, which reflected on his Majesty, and the English Government, but he retains such Portions of the same Venome, that notwithstanding his affected Mannerliness, and Decency, he can't forbear spurting it out in several Places, nor from pointing it plainly and diametrically at the Councils, and Government of England. The Threats, indeed, are Airy, and so the less worthy of Regard; yet they may be look'd upon from one who sits under the Nose of the same Government, to be fraught-ed with much more Presumption, than what's offer'd in the Defence of the Scots Abdicating Darien, to a Company of Merchants.

But that I may vindicate that Defence from any National Aspersions, which those Gentlemen, who are bigotted to the Darien Project, load it with, and who would squeeze that sowre Part from the Managers of the Company, to

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whom it was plainly directed, and apply it to the Body of the Nation; to clear my self of this general Imputation, I must refer the Reader to the 6th Page of its Epistle Dedicatory, where I particularly caution it to prevent sinister Interpretations. In the next place, I must detect the base and unfair Methods, which the Author of, The just and modest Vindication useth to wrest, and pervert what I have said in the Paragraphs, which he cites in his Preface to the Reader. The first is Page 2. where he tells you, That I have assum'd the Impudence of asserting, that the Motives on which the Proclamations were emitted in the English West-India Plantations, forbidding the Supplying, Relieving, and Assisting the Scots at Darien, or in any Parts of America, where they should settle, was because the Government of England would not be accessary to an Act, which the World might judge to be Felonious. Now, that the Reader may judge of this mannerly Gentleman's Integrity, I shall rehearse the Paragraph as I wrote it, where there's neither any mention made of the English Proclamations, much less of the English Government's forbidding, to assist or supply the Scots in any Part of America, to wit, Defence of the Scots Abdicating, Pag. 4. Epist. Ded. If you were thus perswaded (directing it to the Managers of the Company) to run head-
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long on a blind Project, at which the Trading Part of the World stands amaz'd; the India Companies of England and Holland laugh at in their Sleeve, and the rest of Mankind admire, that People in their right Senses should be guilty of, and if the same should miscarry by your own ill Management (to say no worse on't) 'tis not fair you should snarle at your Neighbours, who have no other Hand in your Misfortune, than that they would not be accessary to any Act which the World might judge Felonious, and wherein they could not join without engaging themselves in an unreasonable War, and in the End to assist you with Weapons to break their own Heads. But that I may likewise rehearse the Paragraph, where I had Occasion to mention the English Proclamation or Prohibition. See the Page 156. Laying aside the Spanish Complaint, and admit the Scotch Company to have a Legal Title to their Settlement, was it not reasonable, that the Government of England having met with the clandestine Declarations, which the Scotch Collony had spread all over the West-Indies, inviting them over to Darien, should take suitable Measures to prevent the ill Consequences of the same, and retain their own Subjects: The Declarations are notorious, and must be penn'd by some Person belong-
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[14]

ing to the Company or Collony, and I presume the Opposite Proclamation or Prohibition was penn'd by some English Man, who had some Interest in the English Plantations. Now whether our Author ushers in his just and modest Vindication, fairly and honestly, I submit it to Judgment, or whether I mayn't justly retort upon himself, again, that slanderous Aspersion relating to Wafer, in the 18th Page of his Preface, viz. That through the Fellows appearing a Lyar, or uncandid in one Case, his Testimony should not be receiv'd in any other whatsoever.

Nay in the same Breath, he backs it with such another Perversion (altho' not quite so malicious) and vents his Choller thus, citing the 7th Page of the Epistle Dedicatory, That I should have taken the Boldness to add, in Terms that are most slanderous, as well as defamatory, that their Attempt of Planting on the Isthmus, was their Settling a Colony in another Man's Dominions, unless by Virtue of their Presbyterian Tenet (of Dominions being founded in Grace) the Scots, who are the Presumptive Elect, pretend a Divine Right to the Goods of the Wicked, and so take upon them to cloath the Seven Councillors of their Colony, with such another Commission as God gave the Hebrews, when they departed out of Egypt. The Injustice which this Gentle-

[15]

Gentleman does me, and the little Service he does his Cause, is very apparent; for I don't say, that the Scots are the Presumptive Elect (there being no such Word mention'd) nor do I think it. Some Species of Men, indeed, in that Nation are conceited with that Opinion of themselves, but there are several Persons of Worth who will not assume that Title; neither do I direct that Dedicacion to them, but to Directors of the Scots African Company, of whom that Sept, who were the Occasion of the chief Mismanagement, are of this vain Kidney. As for Harris, whom our Author cites irreverently in the same Paragraph, I know him, but D——I is such a Stranger to me, that I protest, there's none of my Acquaintance I can think of, whose Name begins and ends with those Letters: But that must be plac'd to the other false Notions he runs on.

Our Author thinks fit to cite only one Passage more of, The Defence of the Scots Abd. pag. 16. That just as the Scots Companies Books were open'd at Amsterdam, for receiving Subscriptions to their Capital Stock, the Dutch East and West-India Companies run open-mouth'd to the Lords of Amsterdam, shewing what was hatching by the Scotch Commissioners in their City, to ruine the Trade of the United Provinces. The Gentleman thinks fit to own this to be true, designing to make Two necessary Uses of it;

[16]

it; the first is calculated for the Proprietors of the Scots African Stock, as the Printing and Reprinting of the House of Commons Address to the King, of the Year 1696, at Edinburgh, was to insinuate the Vastness of the Project, and the Riches that were to be acquir'd by it, when such Foreign People oppos'd it: But that none of those may be deceiv'd by the Use he makes of that Paragraph, I must acquaint them in short, that if those Dutch Men had known the Scotch Companies Project to be on Darien, I dare say, they would not have taken such Measures to oppose them. The other Use our Author makes of this is, to sow some malicious Seeds of distrust among the People of England, and to calumniate His Majesty and his Councils, as if those were altogether calculated for a Dutch Interest. This Mathematical Politician, both here and every where else, when he has occasion to discharge his Gall on His Majesty and his Government, shreds his Aspersions under a Religious and Well-meaning Cant, as if they were the Apprehensions and Designs of other People, and not of himself.

This modest Author excuses himself from replying any Thing to the Argument-part of what has been offer'd against the Darien Project, it being fully obviated and anticipated by this Book of his, which he says was antecedently written on that Subject: How far this is true, let any Man (who will have the Patience, or
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[17]

punish himself, to read it) determine. 'Tis pity that it should have lain so long in Embrio, and not seen the Light, till now most People are confirm'd of an adverse Opinion of the Project, not because it is like to enrich that Company and Nation, but because there's a great Deal of good Money squander'd away, which might have been better employ'd. Neither can that Judicious part of Mankind (to whom he recommends his Book) find any more in it of Substance than what is already, and less barbarously express'd in the Original, which this eternal Parentheser has only Paraphras'd upon, with a Pedantick Accumulation of Synonymous Words and Repetitions, and has no ways mended it; unless he thinks it a strong Way of Arguing, to brawl a Man out of his Reason; which, in my Opinion, suits better with Billingsgate, than the Aula.

But to proceed on the Vindication of my defending the Scots Abdicating Darien, I must tell you, that the Motives which push'd me on to it, were quite different from those of this modest Author, or some more particular Persons, who, besides the Noise themselves make, may rather encourage than endeavour to crush the Clamours of others, it being a Topick warranted by Precedents, whereby Money has been got, and may still, if it be well manag'd, altho' perhaps, little of it may come to the Share of the Subscribers.

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Any impartial or unprejudic'd Reader, who hath perus'd that Defence, may see that it runs in three different Strains; the first is in Vindicating the Justice of His Majesty and Councils from the oblique and express Calumnies, in the Defence of the Scots Settlemen at Darien, which my Duty oblig'd me to as a Subject, and so long a Servant of His Majesty and the English Nation, that what Bread I have eat these 18 Years has been theirs, save my Caledonian Allowance, during that Service, and my Trip to Darien. And if in that Part of it, which points at the Errata's of that Author (where he sets up his Royal Beacons for King William to mind, and be aware of) I have offer'd anything inconsistent with the Celebrated Histories of Scotland, or have not worded it with more Advantage to the Scots than the English Historians relate it, I leave it to Judgment.

The second Strain of it runs on the Procedure of the Company, their Mismanagement of that great Act they are invested with, as also of the Money of the several Proprietors wherewith they were intrusted, and of their sending so many worthy Gentlemen, and other brave Fellows on so dark an Errand, unprovided of either the Necessaries for their Subsistence, or Credit to purchase any; and of neglecting them in so Foreign and desolate a Country. I have said no more in this than what is notorious, and if I have deviated in any particular, those Gentle-

[19]

Gentlemen who left the Collony at first, and the rest who have quitted it since, are at liberty to confute me. As for my own Share, I lost what I had in their Service; when I came home, I was oblig'd to sue them for what was my due; and when at the Request of some Persons of Quality, I gave a candid Relation of the Collony, their Affairs, and the Improbability of their holding of it; the Managers in Scotland not only us'd Means to stifle my Credit, but baffl'd and misrepresented me here, and when any adverse News came at any time, relating to Caledonian, it was crush'd and laid on my Back, as the malicious Author of it. I thank God I am the Subject of a Nation, where I breathe free Air, and may say, that I have been ill us'd by that Company, and am not under the petty Tyranny of some Gentlemen, where I must not mutter a Groan, altho' my Oppression were greater, but in a Country where it is no Crime to detect the Errors of as great Societies, and Persons when they act amiss.

The Third and Last Strain of that Defence, hints at the Impracticability of the Darien Project, showing the little Encouragement the Company has to prosecute a Title to a Colony there, and the small Advantages they can reap by it, either to themselves or Nation, tho' they were firmly possess'd of it. If the Respect I bear to the Welfare of that Nation, and particular Friendship I owe to several Proprietors of the
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[20]

Stock, had not more Influence on me than my Pique at such Directors of the Company, as were the Occasion of the Mismanagement, I should have held my Pen, and wrote nothing on this Part of the Subject; but by reason I know what Pains have been taken to lead and retain a great Number of People in this Mistake, I was resolv'd to detect it. 'Tis true, I did not insist much on it, thinking it unnecessary on the Account of their Colonies quitting the Place; but since what has been offer'd already on that Head has not any Influence, I shall offer some few Things more to their Consideration, by way of Answer to the Original Author's Challenge to prove the Spanish Title to Darien, either by Inheritance, Marriage, Donation, Purchase, Reversion, Surrender, Possession or Conquest. I shall offer nothing dogmatically, nor pretend to know all the Spanish Pretensions to it, so that what I offer on this Head, is, Salvo jure cujuslibet Hispani, or any other Person who will take this Task upon him. If the Gentlemen of the Company will not listen to Reason, let them go on and prosper; they may perhaps find it true, after they have thrown some more good Money after bad. I must only whisper the just and modest Author in the Ear, that those Persons, whether of the English or Dutch Interest, who listen, and make least Opposition to the Darien Project, are not the best Friends to the Scots African Company;

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[21]

they perhaps see the Event of it, and will but smile to see the remaining Part of the Stock shipt off for Darien.

Defence of the Scots Settlement at Darien, Page 4. he begins to disprove the Spanish Title to the Province of Darien, and tells you; *It is evident, that the Spaniards cannot pretend a Title to that Country, by Inheritance, Marriage, or the Donation of Prince and People, &c.*

It being the easiest Part of an Argument to deny, but not to prove a Negative, 'tis to be presum'd, that what he hath to advance on this Head, is the Authority of the Colonies Journal, which came home last March: At the same time, it is to be believ'd, as a Preliminary, that the Company design'd to invest the same Place of Darien before any Person of the Colony either saw that Country, or could pen the Journal. If the Company depended on *Buccaneer's* Stories (the Actions and Writings of such being equally regarded by political Bodies) their Foundation was fandy and lame, and such Evidences will scarce be admitted, in this Case, in the Courts of any Kingdom or State.

'Tis sufficiently known to all Europe, that the Spaniard has been near 200 Years Master

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[22]

fter of fo much of the Continent of *America*, as paffes commonly by the Names of *Mexico* and *Peru*, which are Two Tracts of Land feveral Thousand Miles extent, both on the South and North Seas: Thofe Two vaft Countries are join'd by a Neck of Land call'd the *Isthmus* of *Darien* (which is about 60 or 70 Leagues long, and about 20 broad in the narroweft Part from Sea to Sea) which Province, he may be faid as much to inherit and poffefs as any other Portion of Land, of that Extent, in either *Mexico* or *Peru*; or rather more, by Reason his moft important and ftrongeft Cities in *America*, are on this very *Isthmus*, to wit, *New Panama*, *St. Maria*, with feveral fmall Garrifons on the South-fide, and *Porto-bello*, *Chagre*, *Nombre de dios*, *Conception*, &c. on the North-fide; befides *Carthagena* adjoining to the Eaft End of the *Isthmus*. It can't be expected, that the *Spaniard* can have a Fort and Garrifon on every Hill, or in every Creek of his *American* Dominions, nor that he fhould extirpate the whole Race of the *Indians* in this Province of *Darien*, more than he does in his others. 'Tis evident, that the *Spaniards* are more numerous on this *Isthmus* and the Parts adjoining, than on four Times fo much Ground, in either *Mexico* or *Peru*, and where never hitherto difturbed

[23]

bed or interrupted in their Poffeffion of it, but by Pyrates, Buccaneers and Privateers, except in the Time of a declar'd War, when their Towns in *Flanders* and old *Spain* were equally lyable to Attacks.

This *Isthmus* is of that Importance to the *Spaniards*, that it will not admit of a Doubt amongst reasonable and uninterreffed Men, but that they fhould take as much Pains to be Mafters of it, and retain the fame, as either *Mexico* or *Peru*, by Reason it is the Thorough-fair and Road by which all their Treasure and Riches from the South Sea are convey'd over to their Galleons and Flota's, on the North Sea, and fo to *Europe*. 'Tis very odd, that this Gentleman fhould allow the *Spaniards* to cut off 40 Millions of *Indians* in the Reign of *Charles* the 5th to make Way for their Colonies, and to neglect this Neck of Land which joins them, and which is the *Terminus* and Receptacle of the Whole, and without which moft of their Collonies on the South Sea are not worth Six-pence to *Old Spain*. A Man's Reason will give him that it was as eafie, and of more Importance to clear the Province of *Darien* of 40 Hundred *Indians*, as the other Parts of *America* of 40 Millions; and if they could fweep off fo many at firft Entrance into that Country, it may be reasonably allow'd that they

they have had time enough to clear this Province of such a small Number of Enemies. The Supposition of the *Spaniards* neglecting this *Isthmus* of *Darien*, is as improbable and ridiculous, as if the incorporated Inhabitants of *London* should have made themselves Masters of the City and Borough of *Southmark*, and have neglected to subject the Bridge to their Dominion or Charter: Nay, the Simile in Proportion is of more Weight and Importance on the *Spanish* side, than this is on the City's, altho' there was no other way of communicating with the other side of the *Thames*, than this of the Bridge.

'Tis evident, that those *Spanish* Cities and Forts are scatter'd over the *Isthmus*, being on the middle, and at both ends of it, and that they have an interrupted Communication with one another. If the *Darien Indians* were not in Subjection, or if they were in War with the *Spaniards* (as this Gentleman would make us believe) why might they not with the Half of those 50000 Men (which pag. 5. he has pick'd out of *Ringrose* the *Buccanier's* Dream) intercept the *Spanish* Treasure, and carry it to the *Scotch* Collony, if they were not able to beat them out of their Forts? 'Tis very well known, that the *Spaniards* are so very secure on that *Isthmus*, that they transport

transport their Treasure over Land from *Panama* to *Porto-bello* by common Carriers, and when any of their Asses or Mules set up on the Road, they are so little apprehensive of the *Indians*, that they leave their Loads of Silver where they fall, till such time as they or some others return that way again.

He tells us, p. 9. that the *Spanish* Dominions are limited at both Ends of the *Isthmus*, exclusive by a blind Story of the Rivers *Chepo* and *Congo*, and asserts, that *Nombre de dios* is the *Spanish* Boundary, at one end of the *Isthmus*, on the North-side, and that *Panama* and *St. Maria* are the Eastern and Western Bounds on the South-side (by which he would take off between 30 and 40 Leagues from the Length of the * *Isthmus*) if he will re-examine the Map, he will find that not only *Nombre de dios*, but likewise *Porto-bello*, *Chagre* and *Conception*, are much about the middle of the *Isthmus* on the North-side, and that *New Panama* on the South-side is in the Cod of the

* The Author of the just and modest Vind. p. 48. makes the Length of his *Isthmus* but 17 Leagues; for he says, that the *Scotch* Fort and Harbour lies between 8 or 9 Leagues from the River, or Gulph of *Darien* on one side, and *Conception* River on the other.

He tells you likewise in the same Page, that Boats can pass on either of these Rivers to the South Sea, which is as true and possible as to go by Water up to the Top of the Monument.

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Bay, and opposite to *Porto-bello*; as likewise that *Old Panama*, and *St. Maria* on the same side, are further to the East-ward, and right opposite to *Fort St. Andrew*, in *Caledonia*.

Travellers ought to be gifted with a good Memory, for altho' he will not allow the *Spaniard* to be intitled to an Inch of Ground on his *Isthmus*, yet he forgets himself and betrays his Cause, for p. 76. he

* By mistake call'd the Isle of *Pines*, in the Def. of the *Scots* Abdicat.

owns that a Party of Ten *Spaniards* lived on *Golden * Island* (which is within 5 Miles of *Fort St. Andrew*, and looks into the *Caledonian* Harbour) till they were cut off by *Capt. Ambrosio*.

He tells you, indeed, that it was done by Consent, and Combination of the *Darien* Princes, who had only given them a Toleration to live there, and were their Tenants *durante bene placito*; but there's no more Authority for this Assertion, than that *Aristotle's Dixit*.

The Ground where this Fact was committed, was in the District of *Capt. Andrews*, who own'd himself to be a *Spanish* Captain, and which our Author indirectly confesseth, pag. 75. as likewise, that this Murder was committed but Two Months before the *Scotch* Collony settled there. The *Collonies* Journal acknowledgeth, that
Capt.

*Capt. * Andrews* and *Capt. * Ambrosio* were Enemies on the Score, that the former would not break with the *Spaniard*, whereas if this Story of our *Caledonian* Author be true, of that Murders being committed by Consent, and Combination of the *Darien* Princes, it should be taken for granted, that *Capt. Andrews* was as much an Enemy to *Spain* as *Ambrosio*, or rather more, because the Murder was committed in his Ground.

**Dignify'd by our last Author with the mysterious Names of *Caiques*, to smother that of Captain, and imply as much Majesty as in that of *Zaar*.

But it is more liable to belief, that those Ten *Spaniards* who were posted on *Golden Island* (which is not above a Quarter of a Mile from the main Land) could think themselves in no greater Danger than so many *English* in some Mountainous part of *Ireland*, where a Rapparee Party could with the same Ease cut their Throats. Our Author acknowledgeth, that they were posted there for a Look-out, to give Notice of any Vessels that appear'd on that Coast; and it may be the easier credited, that the *Spaniards* employ'd that Island or Promontory for that Use, by reason the Author of, *The Just and Modest Vindicat.* of the *Darien* Settlement, innocently tells you, that the *Spaniards* call that Island by the Name of *Guarda*, (in his 48th Page) which of it self

[28]

implies the Use which the *Spaniards* (not newly, but of a long Date) have made of it.

After all, I must tell, that Capt. *Andrews* had no Hand in this Murder, but *Ambrosio*, who came with his Gang from his Habitation (which is above 40 Miles distant) and treacherously surpriz'd them. Neither is it to be imagin'd, that the *Spaniards* (who are very Wary and Politick) can be thought to be guilty of such Weakness, as to expose so small a Party amongst *Indians*, their Native Enemies, but rather that they thought that Party secure enough in a Country which was under their Obedience.

So much I have offer'd to demonstrate the *Spanish* Inheritance: As for their Title by Marriage, 'tis evident enough, that the King of *Spain* has more Subjects born of *Indian* (besides Moorish) Mothers in *America*, than he has of *Spanish* in *Europe*: Nay, if it were not for the Liberty which is given the *Spaniards* to marry with the *Indians* and *Moors*, it were impossible they could plant and inhabit that vast Continent; and 'tis well enough known, that this Progeny of the *Spaniard* is of most use in defending those Countries, and retaining them under the Obedience and Subjection of *Spain*.

As for the Donation of Prince or People, I don't pretend to know the *Spanish American* Archives and Registers, more than our
Author

[29]

Author can prove the Contrary. I presume the *Spaniards* have more to show for their Investiture, than the *Caledonian* Council has brought home with them. Only this I can be positive in, that these *Dariens* acknowledge, that they have had no Head or Emperor of their own Nation, for above these 150 Years, which may be reckon'd to be about the Date of the *Spaniards* Settling there; and if I am not mistaken, the *Colonies Journal* (altho' cautiously enough calculated) acknowledgeth the same.

As for Conquest (he says in the same Paragraph, Page 4.) 'Tis ridiculous to alledge it, since the *Dariens* are in actual Possession of their Liberty, and were never subdu'd, nor receiv'd any *Spanish Garrison* or *Governour* amongst them. The last Author who paraphraseth on him, asserts likewise that those Captains are all sovereign and independent Princes, but coming closer to the Text, tells us, from *Purffendorf* and the *Civilians*, Page 73. (making the Supposition of their being conquer'd:) That *per solam Vim injustam, non posse alicui Jus quæri, &c.* and from *Grotius*; That *Actus imperii invasoris quos excercet nullam Vim habere possunt ex ipsius Jure, quod nullum est.* By both these Authorities, this modest Author may as Legally claim a Right to all the *Spanish* Towns
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[30]

and Dominions, as to his *Peninsula*, where in Fort St. *Andrew* stands, if he can but set his Foot there, and perswade the *Indians* to revolt; since he so plainly says, that the *Spaniards* made an unjust Invasion and Conquest over the *American* Princes and Kingdoms, which no ways obliges them to pay Fealty, or continue in their Obedience longer than they find it in their Power to free themselves from the Yoke. He souls Paper enough in Preaching up this Doctrine, altho' it had been Time enough Seven Years hence, when the *Caledonians* had surer Footing on the *Isthmus*: But altho' those Civilians allow him such Liberty of Conscience, yet he will find some prevailing Arguments in the Treaties between the King of *Great Britain* and *Spain* to curb him, which out-balances his Civilian Authorities. So that we must agree to suffer the King of *Spain* to be Conqueror and Master of those Parts of *America*, especially where he has Cities, Forts, Garrisons and Mines.

But to return to the original Author, who says, that it is ridiculous to alledge any such Title to *Darien*, where the Natives are in actual Possession of their Liberty. He is either Brazen-fac'd, else he has forgot that *St. Maria*, *Tubacontí*, Old and New *Panama*, *Nombre de dios*, *Porto-bello*,

[31]

bello, *Conception*, &c. are scatter'd over that very *Isthmus*, if I should say nothing of *Guarda* or *Golden Island* it self, where those *Spaniards* resided. 'Tis well enough known, the *Spaniards* have Mines in several Parts of that *Isthmus*, and some not above 12 Leagues from the Collony, without any Guard, save the Overseers and other Necessary Assistants to keep the *Negro's* to Work.

I can't understand how those *Dariens* can be said to enjoy their Liberty, where there are so many Cities, Forts and Garrisons to curb them. 'Tis very unaccountable, that his Warlike Prince, called *Ambrosio*, should live so occultly, as not to have a Path to his Royal Pallace, but that from the Capital Port of his Kingdom a Man must wade Eleven Times through the same River, up to the Middle, and brush through Thickets, whose Twigs have not been cut nor prun'd since the Creation, before he can come to his Wigwam City, altho' it is not above an Hour's Journey, if the Road were beat and even. *Ambrosio* and *Diego* have indeed piss'd in the Pumpdale, and both live obscurely with, maybe, 30 or 40 in their several Gangs, whom a Dozen of Men with Fire Arms would soon reduce, if it were possible to ferret them out.

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[32]

As for *Waser* and *Dampier* whom our Author adduces, *Page 4.* for his Evidences, neither of these pretend to know *Diego* or *Ambrosio*, *Dampier* having only cross'd the *Isthmus*, and *Waser* staid not above Three Months there, with his *Lacenta*, with whom after he had sojourn'd till his Leg was well, cross'd the Country, and took Water at *La-Sounds Key*, which lies amongst the *Samballa's*, and about 20 Leagues to the North-West of the *Caledonian* Collony: And if *Waser* says, that the *Spaniards* have no Command over the *Indians* on the North-side of the *Isthmus*, a little beyond *Porto-bello*, I have no occasion to disprove him, since he does not deny, that the *Spaniards* Command on the South-side, and likewise on this side of *Porto-bello*, where *New Caledonia* lies. See *p. 4. Of the Def. of the Scots Settlement.* Our Author either sums up his Evidence wrong, else he trusts to the slight Enquiry of his Readers.

In the Two next Paragraphs he cites the same Evidences, and tells you a Tale of a Cock and a Bull, how *Batt. Sharp* in the Year, 1680, landed at *Golden Island*, Christen'd one of those *Indian* Captains, *Emperor*, and his Eldest Son, *King Golden Cape*, and having join'd those *Darien* Princes (of their own Creation) took *St. Maria*, attempted *Panama*, and made Prize of several

[33]

ral *Spanish* Ships on the South Sea, and how afterwards when he came to be try'd for those *Pyracies* in *England*, the * *Emperor of Darien's* Commission clear'd him.

* The Author of *The just and modest Vindicat.* as good as gives *Waser* the Lye here; for *p. 90.* he says, the *Darien* Captains always rul'd within themselves, and never had any other *Indian* Sovereign.

'Tis evident by the Concession of the *Indians* themselves, and by the *Collonies Journal*, that there has been no *Indian* Monarch or Emperor in that Country for an Age or two by past; in the next place, if *Batt's* Jury had any great Inclination to hang him, they might have enquir'd further into the Emperor, or his Secretary who wrote the Commission: I dare say, that an *English* Pen both worded and sign'd it; for in my Travels in that Country, I could meet with neither Prince nor Clergyman that knew a Letter of the Book. I want to know who Commanded as *Generallissimo* at the Taking of *St. Maria*, and the *Spanish* Prizes at Sea, and when those Princes serv'd on board, who was Captain, and who Cook? It seems the *Darien* Empire was very low at the Landing of *Capt. Sharp*, when he and his 330 Men could give such Life, and do such Feats against the *Spaniards* on that *Isthmus*, when *Basil Ringrose*, one of the same Crew, his *Darien* King could do so little

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with his 50000 Men, to revenge the Rape of his Royal Daughter. 'Tis pity the Jury did not oblige Mr. *Sharp* to produce his Discharge, or Certificate from that Emperor: *But let the Pitcher go ne'er so oft to the Well, it will be sure to come home crack'd some time or other*; so this poor Sojour or Sailor of Fortune has not the same Luck every where, for none of those Commissions would serve his turn about 16 Months ago at the Island of *St. Thomas*, where he was doom'd to die in a Halter for one of the like Enterprizes, and had nothing else to trust to than the K. of *Denmark's* Mercy.

Our Author to confirm all, says in the same Paragraph, *Page 5*. This is the more remarkable, because those very Princes or their Successors are now in League with the *Scots*, and have joyfully receiv'd them into their Country. I answer to this, I refer my self to the 58 and 59. *Pag. Of the Def. of the Scots Abd.* where Captain *Andreas* (whom both of us agree on, to be the supposed Emperors Successor) tells the tragical Story of their joining those Buccaneers and Privateers, and how they suffer'd for the same, after these had got the *Spanish* Plunder (which was their Errand) and left them expos'd to the *Spanish* Fury.

As for *Ambrosio* and *Diego's* Willingness to receive the *Scotch* Colony amongst them, it

it may be reasonably believ'd, because those are outlaws and never expect to be pardon'd, the Former for the Murder of those *Spaniards* on *Golden Island*, and the other for Attacking Three Priests in their Cell or Chappel, and Murdering of them, and Robbing the Alter of it's Furniture; whereof *Diego's* Son brought the Sacerdotal Vestments and Challice to the *Scotch* Colony, and sold the same to Captain *Frazer*, for little or nothing. Those Outlaws will not only be glad of the *Scots*, * but of the *Dutch, French, Danes, nay Jews or Turks*, if they thought any of these, or all of them could protect and shelter them from Justice. Nay, they are so little able to make any Opposition, that I could engage to be one of 20 Men to go over that *Isthmus* over their Bellies, providing the *Spaniards* would wink at it.

* Witness *Diego's* admitting Cap. *Long* in the *Rupert* Prize to settle in his Plantation, in the Gulph of *Darien*, about the same time the *Scots* settled.

In the next Paragraph, *Pag. 6*. Then as to any Claim, by Virtue of Possession the *Spaniards* have not the least Ground of a Plea, all they can alledge on this Head is, that they were once admitted by the Consent of Capt. *Diego*, another of the *Darien* Princes, to work on some Gold Mines within 15 Leagues of the *Scotch* Settlement; but 'tis plain, that this makes no-
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[36]

thing for their Purpose, that Prince admitting them not as Proprietors, but as Labourers, and when they broke the Conditions on which they were admitted, viz. To allow the Dariens such and such Shares of the Product they were expell'd again by Force, &c.

Our Author having compos'd a handsom Story of *Diego* (whose Kingdom is the 3d from the Collony) shuffles in Mr. *Waser* for Evidence, whereas he owns himself, that he never saw such a Man as Capt. *Diego*; and as for his *Lacenta*, that Prince is such a Stranger to the *Indians* of the *Scots* Acquaintance, that altho' some Pains was taken to enquire after him, yet he could not be heard of; but there being 17. or 18 Years between *Waser's* and the *Scots* sojourning in that Country, *Lacenta* in the time might probably be choak'd with some of the *Spanish* Hemp amongst the other Princes, whom the Privatiers and Buccaniers deserted, and left to care of themselves.

This mighty Story of *Diego* is so ill coyn'd, that it would make a Man sick to trace it. He owns those *Spanish* Mines to be within 15 Leagues of the Collony (I say 12) and *Diego* is the Third Captain, or *Zaar*, from the Collony towards *St. Maria* (as appears, p. 79 and 80) *Andreas* the Companies Landlord being the First, *Poussigo* the Clergy-man (as our Author dignifies him) the Second; whereby it may be easily conceiv'd what a powerful and large Government *Diego* can have to hire the *Spaniards* as Labourers; and after these *Spaniards* had spent some Years in opening those Mines, and bringing them to Perfection, they should be expell'd when King *Diego* took Snuff. This Strength of *Diego* is so very incoherent with the late Action which happen'd in *January* last, when 26 *Spaniards* being order'd from
St.

[37]

St. Maria to march over the *Isthmus* in order to view the *Scots*, came through *Diego's* Ground, where, if the *Indians* had been their open Enemies, so small a Party would scarce have ventur'd; yet *Diego's* Men were so unable to oppose them, that they took upon them to pilot them to a convenient Place, where they might view the *Scots*, and in the mean time some of *Diego's* Men came to the Government of *Pedro* (the Defunct *Andreas* his Successor) and so to the Collony with the News; on which Mr. *Montgomery*, with a Detachment of a 100 Men, were piloted by them to the Spot where the *Spaniards* lay.

In this very Action Four Things are remarkable, 1. The Weakness of *Diego's* and *Pedro's* Forces, who were not able to cut off the Heads of such a Handful, but that they must come to the Collony for Assistance. 2. The Confidence which the *Spaniards* put in the *Indians* of *Diego* and *Pedro*. 3. The *Scotch* Party leaving their Collony, and going with the *Indians*, with a Design to attack those 26 *Spaniards*, who were lying some Leagues off on the Bank of a small River, and who finding themselves betray'd by those *Indians*, fir'd upon them, and so retreated to their next Garrison of *Tubaconty*. 4. That this being the only Fight between the *Scots* and *Spaniards*, the Breach of Peace was founded on it, and Letters of Mark and Reprisal granted by the Collony to *Pilkinton* and *Sands*, Masters of *Jamaica* Sloops.

The Story of *Diego's* beating the *Spaniards* from the Gold Mines tells very awkwardly (our Author imputing this Rupture to the *Spaniards* beating and male-treating *Diego's* People, when they

[38]

they came to ask their Shares) but to wave the Improbability of this Story, and admit it for a Truth; 'tis to be presum'd, that when *Diego* fell upon those *Spaniards* and slew them, he did not allow them time to blow up those Mines, or fill them up with Rubbish, that they might not be serviceable to him or his Friends afterwards; and it might have been reasonably expected, that *Diego* should either have made a Present of those Mines to the *Scotch* Collony (for House-warming) or at least have suffer'd them to dig up some of the Gold to buy Provisions, and keep them from starving, that thereby they might have been the more enabled to assist them against the *Spaniards*, and restore them to their Ancient Liberty, besides, leading them a nearer Way to the Kingdom of Heaven, than that which the *Spaniards* cut out for them.

The Gentlemen of the Collony were very modest (as he tells you in the 78 and 79 pag.) *When they were inform'd by some French*

* A pretty safe Name for two noted French Pyrates, and a *Molleto*, all Natives of *Martineco*, who were oblig'd to live among the *Indians*, by reason they were liable to be hang'd on any Christian Ground, whereon they could be caught.

** Refugees, that with 100 Men they could be Masters of some Gold and Silver Mines belonging to the Spaniard, but they were so gifted with the Grace of Self-denyal, that they would not listen to it, till once the Spaniard offer'd some Hostility.*

We now find that this, which our Author would have to be the

Hostile Act, was committed in *January*; but it is to be admir'd that the Collony should only send Sloops out to pilfer a few Fisher-mens Cannon's, and Houses at *Telen*, near *Carthagena*, and not have spar'd the foresaid 100 Men to reduce the *Spanish* Mines to their Subjection; or if they were

[39]

were afraid to offend the *Span.* by Land, they had not sent a few of their num. to their Frd. and Ally *Diego's* Gold Mines, where there was no Danger to be apprehended of the *Spaniards* looking that Prince in the Face; and not have laid in Fort *St. Andrew* making Childrens Shooes (after the War was thus begun (from *January* to *June*, and at last be forc'd to quit the glorious Project for want of Provisions, when at the same time they were tantaliz'd with Vessels loaded with good Food on one side of them, and Mines full of Gold on the other for want of Grace to attack them. I wish our Author would revise those Paragraphs in the 5th and 6th Pages, as also in the 78 and 79th, and see if the Stories are of a piece, or if they will hold water.

I am rather inclin'd to believe that the *Spaniard* is more Master than Servant amongst the *Indians*, and likewise, that he does not easily part with any Place he once gets into his Possession, especially Gold Mines: 'Tis very rare to hear of the *Spaniard's* being beaten off by the *Indians*, and it's more improbable on this small Tract of Ground, call'd the *Isthmus of Darien*, where his Cities, Forts, Garrisons and Mines are so closely planted, and where if he wanted any Assistance, he can sooner have Supplies brought thither, than to any other Part of *New Spain*.

When the *Buccaniers* and *Privatiers* were at the strongest (mustering about 1300) and surpriz'd *St. Maria*, and some other Places on the South Sea, neither they nor the *Indians* durst venture too keep them above a Week or Ten Days, being jealous of the *Spaniards* rallying with new *Umbros*, and attacking them again; but having robb'd and destroy'd what they could, sculk'd

[40]

sculk'd away to some new Place (may be 1 or 200 Leagues distant) and always left the *Indians* of the last Place, if any join'd them, to capitulate for themselves. If they fought under those *Indian* Princes to recover their Country for them, it might reasonably be expected, that they should left them possess of such Places as they recover'd out of the *Spaniards* Hands, but there's nothing like this in all the *Buccaniers* Chronicle.

To be short, if you'll take my Word, I'll tell you, that this Story of *Diego's* beating the *Spaniards* from their Mines is so far a Mistake, that the *Spaniards* were at work on them when the *Scots* landed there, having only an Intendant, with 50 *Spaniards* to oversee 500 *Negro's*, who wrought them; neither did they desert those Mines notwithstanding the Neighbourhood of the *Scots*, tho' perhaps they might reinforce their Guards. And notwithstanding *Mr. Montgomrie* was so near them with that select Party of 100 Men, and those Three *Indian* Princes to stand by him, yet he did not think it expedient to disturb them, but satisfy'd himself with *Redpith's* famous Captain, *Don Domingo de la rada*. As for the Testimony which our Author would draw *Waser* in for here; he neither knows any thing of *Diego*, nor of those Priests, these being murder'd many Years after his leaving that Country.

Our Author proceeds thus to the 7th Page, where he tells us, that the aforesaid pretended Titles being fully confuted, the *Spaniards* can lay no Claim to *Darien*, but what they plead from the Pope's general Grant of *America*; &c. How ridiculous it is to urge the Pope's Grant amongst *Protestants*, and how precarious it is amongst *Papists* themselves, but admitting it to be enough to justify their

[41]

their Title, it is easie to prove that the *Spaniards* have forfeited all the Right they can claim by Virtue of that Grant.

His *Buccanier* Evidences are laid aside for some time, there being no room for them here, wherefore he tells us such another Tale in a Tub of the Bishop of *Chiapa*, who it seems, was Testy with his Sovereign Lord the King of *Spain*, because that Prince did not answer the End of the Pope's Grant, but minded more the Treasure than Souls of the *Americans*, and rail'd at him for not Restoring to the Executors of those dead *Indians*, whatever he or his Instruments had taken from them, and pleads Queen *Isabella's* Request for the same, when she was on her Death-bed, &c.

That I mayn't waste too much Paper in answering those Three or Four Paragraphs, take this in short, that the Bishop of *Chiapa* had not the same Sense of Money in his Age, as the Missioners or *Propoganda fide* Gentlemen have in ours, else he had made less Noise. If the General Assembly should fraught their Disciples with never so strict Instructions, to establish the Kirk Discipline, yet if *Pradicant Paterson* should form an Anabaptist Government there, the Company would scarce think their Title to that Country thereby forfeited. Our Author somewhere else in his Politicks thinks it expedient for the speedier destroying of Antichrist, to seize on his Pouch or Purse: It was reasonable the *Spaniard* should make use of the same Maxim, and imitate *Moses* after his descending from the Mount, in taking away the Golden Calf from his Brethren, and such Instruments of Idolatry.

But if the *Spaniard* has been guilty of all our Author lays to his Charge, and hath not answer'd the End of the Pope's Donation, pray

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Whether is the Pope or the *Scotch* Company judge of it? If the Pope thinks fit to revoke the *Spanish* Charter, 'tis time enough then for the Company to take the Charge of the *American* Souls upon them; but as he has done nothing like this as yet, but on the contrary has granted a large Subsidy on the *American* Church to support it, the Company may appear officious in meddling with his Holiness's Business, and give the World too much reason to believe that their Design is not only to expel the *Spaniard* out of *Darien*, but likewise out of *Mexico* and *Peru*, under this Religious Pretext. I want to know whether *Paterfon's* and the Companies Project was to take the Cure of the *American* Souls, or Treasure upon them? If the former, then 1048 Levites and two Soldiers, had been fitter Millioners to *Darien*, than two Preachers, and 1048 such Lay Elders; and instead of 2. or 3000 Buchananers Pieces, Pistols, Daggers, and Drums proportionable; they ought to have follow'd the Instructions annex'd to the Original Commission of, *ite & predicare*, and gone without *Staff* or *Scap*.

Altho our *Author* by the strain of his Pen, shews that he has been a considerable time from Home, yet he betrays something now and then, to confirm us, that good store of the Kirk Milk lurks still in the recesses of his Nose; for he is not satisfy'd with beating the *Spaniards* out of *America* with his Religious Cant, but must stick to the good Old Way of Murdering his Adversaries Reputation, that by once rendring him Odious, he may muster the whole Kennel of Curs to bark him out of Town. In the 7th, 8th, and 9th Pages, he Whines in the same Strain as the Hy-

* The just and modest Author of the *Vindicat.* pag. 84, and 85, admits the *Spaniards* Title to be valid to his *American* Possessions. But in other Places where he is Angry, he cuts them off again with a strook of the sabbie Pen.

[43]

Hypocrites in the Gospel did; when they had a devouring Design on Widows Houses.

But to return to the Subject in Debate, since our *Author* after all his Railing, is such a Hero as to admit the Pope's Donation to be so valid as to give the *Spaniard* some Claim to *America*, I'll be quits with him in Civility, and pass from the Pope's Donation altogether, and stick to the *Spanish* Possession; which they have had not only of *Mexico* and *Peru* in General, but of the Province of *Darien* in Particular, by Prescription of a great many Years; where their several Towns, Forts, Garisons and Mines, are sufficient Evidences of it; and besides these Legal Infestments, can bring 50 of those *Darien* Indians under heir Banner, to one that will appear against them, to justify their Right of Dominion. All this being duly consider'd, I can't see where the Audacious Affront lyes that's offer'd to His *Britannick* Majesty, by the *Catholick* King, who only asserts his Right, and says, That some *Scots* in the time of Peace, without any Injury Offer'd, have Invaded the Heart of his *Spanish* Dominions: 'Tis very unaccountable, that this Cholerick Gentleman should take his *Catholick* Majesty by the Nose, for saying, That the Church stands in the Church-yard.

So much then for the *Spanish* Title to *Darien*, by Inheritance, Marriage, Donation, Possession and Conquest; as for the Purchase and Surrender, I was not Witness to those Transactions, but Reason will allow these to follow in Course, if the others be good. As for Reversion, I can't well comprehend our *Author's* Meaning; for it cannot be said, That the *Spaniard* has either Quitted, or Mortgag'd that Province to the *Indians*, since he remains still on the Spot, and in Possession of it, and in all appearance is like to do after we are Dead.

If what I have offer'd in Answer to this Author's Challenge, will serve to demonstrate the Spaniard's Right to that *Isthmus*; there will be no more occasion for *Puffendorf* nor *Hugo Grotius*; so that the only Standard we are left to walk by, is the Treaties of Peace between *Spain* and *England*, which both these Authors, the Defender and Vindicator of the *Darien* Settlement, can neither wrest nor squeeze any thing from to serve their Turn: After they have said all they can think of on that Head, they tell you, * That all that can be infer'd from those *Treaties*, is, that they are a Mutual Security for the peaceable Possession of what each Crown Possess, and no more. The *Spaniards* desire no more benefit of these *Treaties*, than what those Authors herein allow them. 'Tis evident enough, That by those *Treaties*, His Majesty got considerably from the *Spaniard*, to wit, Not only a Title to the Island of *Jamaica*, which was taken from the *Spaniard* during the Exile of *Charles II.* but likewise a full Right to all the Colonies in *America*, his Subjects were then possess of. And if those *Treaties* were no Fence to the *Spaniard* in *America*, I don't know what should oblige him to make such large Gifts, and renounce his Title to Places which some time or other he might be in a condition to Recover. If the Subjects of *Great Britain*, may when they please, Seat themselves on *Darien*, or elsewhere on the *Spanish* Coast, then the *Spaniard* has no Benefit by those *Treaties*: But I am rather apt to believe, (as our Author has hit it) That they were made for a Mutual Security of what each Crown possess, and no more.

What our Authors would squeeze from those *Treaties*, is, That neither Party is excluded from enlarging

* Def. of the Scots Settlement pag. 11.

arguing his Dominions in America upon Wastes, or by consent of the Natives in such Places, as have never yet been possess'd by Spain, or Great Britain.

Def. of the Scots Settlement pag. 11.

Altho there's nothing exprest so in those *Treaties*, and if I should yield them this Gloss they set on them, yet I can't see how the *Caledonian* Settlement can take any place here, because Dominion can't properly be enlarg'd before there be a Footing; and when those *Treaties* were concluded, there was no word of a *Caledonian* Colony.

The *Caribbee* Islands cannot well be enlarg'd, but if the *English* or *French* have not Room enough on them, they may remove to such Neighbouring Ones as are not the Property of another Prince in Alliance with their Sovereigns. As for the *English* and *French* Colonies on the main Land, they may enlarge their Dominions far enough round them, if they will, and the *Spaniard* never quarrel with them, so long as they don't come within the Tropicks, and meddle with his *Noli me tangere*.

As for *Dr. Cox* and the *Creolians*, who settl'd and remov'd in the Bay of *Campechy*, they were in the Right, in Forming such Flying-Camps, for when any of them were caught by the *Spaniard*, they pay'd for it, and had their Mends in their own Hands: And the Author of the *just and modest Vindic.* p. 168, is as good as satisfy'd as to that Part of it, altho' he does not approve of the Judgment of his Majesty, the Lords Justices, and the *English* Council, who being address'd by some *English* Marchants for a Patent to settle on the same *Isthmus* of *Darien*, some Time before the *Scotch* Company had got the Project, refus'd it on the Score of its being contrary to the *Treaties* of Peace. He would insinuate, that the King, &c. refus'd it for other Reasons:

But

[46]

But if our Author will look back and enquire a little further, he will find, that Sr. *Tho. Muddiford*, Governor of *Jamaica* propos'd the same in the Reign of *Charles* the 2d. and it being canvass'd at Court, and the Legality of it examined, it was refus'd on no other State-Reasons than its being contrary to the Treaties between their Britannick and Catholick Majesties; but our Author being dexterous, never wants a Hole to creep out at, by Insinuating, that his Majesty's and the Lords Justices refusing the *English* Subjects that Patent, was not on the Account of its Injustice, but upon Motives of State, which is as much to say, that it was not Time to disoblige his Catholick Majesty.

As for their Instances of the independent Sovereignties in *Europe* and *Affrica*, which are inclos'd with other Princes Dominions, the Cases are no ways parallel, so long as the *Spaniards* are Masters of all the fortify'd Places and Towns on the *Isthmus*, and the *Indians* scarce of a Wigwam they can call their own. And as
* Def. of the Scots Settlements, p. 13. for the King of *Darien's* inviting the *Buccaniers* to assist him to retake his Country. Altho' the King were not Fictitious yet by this innocent Story our Author concedes, that he had lost his Country to the *Spaniards*, when he wanted Assistance to recover it out of their Hands: At this Rate the *Scotch* Company may not only elbow the *Spaniards* out of *Darien*, but likewise out of *Mexico* and *Peru*, since in the same Page he means as much by declaring the *Indians* the natural Lords of *Darien*, and the *Spaniards* only Tyrannical Usurpers. But to dive a little further into the Probability of this Story, I want to know where that People, call'd *Buccaniers* liv'd, whom the King of *Darien* invited to his Assistance, or when they joyn'd him

[47]

him and recover'd some of those *Spanish* Towns, they did not leave him in Possession of them? 'Tis more reasonable to believe, that that Kind of Vermin which feeds on the *Spanish* Spoil, went to the *Isthmus* on the Account of its Communication with the South Sea, and the Passage by which the *Spanish* Riches are transported to the Gallions on the North Side, and perswaded those poor *Indians* to revolt, and pilot them to such Places where they thought to get Booty, which is the more probable, by reason these *Indians* paid dear for it always when the *Buccaniers* deserted them.

As for Capt. *Saukins* his sending a Letter to the Governor of *Panama*, wherein he justify'd his Proceedings, and asserted this imaginary King of *Darien* to be natural Lord of *Panama*; I know that old *Buccaneer* so very well, that I believe it to be true, if *Saukins* had carry'd the Message himself, he might perhaps have got a suitable Answer.

As in the *Def. of Scots Abdicat.* I declin'd Answering the fiery Ejaculations of the first Author, either by offering any Thing against the Legality of the *Ostroy* it self, or the Interest of the *Scots* Nation in applying themselves to Foreign Trade, believing the former to be great and well design'd, for the Advantage and Prosperity of the Country in general, and that the latter is so just, that I yield both the Theme and Doctrine of the just and modest Vindicator to be good so far as it relates thereto; so I still shun meddling with any Passages, either in the First or Second Author that relates to the separate Interest of the Two Nations, but stick close to the *Darien* Title which is the main Subject in Debate, and as the Original Author cites Pag. 3. from Dr. *Saffold* --- *Sublata causa tollitur Effectus*, if the *Spanish* Title to that *Isthmus* be found to be good; Then the Cause of the Complaint ceases; and the Company ought to apply themselves to that which will turn to Account, and not run on Measures to imbroid not only the Isle of Great Britain, but perhaps all Europe in a new War. If the thinking Part of Mankind will but reflect on the Steps that have been made to *Darien*, to wit, in sending their Ships and Men to so foreign a Country which was so lyable to be disputed, and that with Six Months Provisions, 2. The Companies Neglect in Supplying them with more. And Lastly, The Dispersing such Declarations clandestinely over the *West-India* Islands and Plantations (which of Necessity must meet with Opposition) to invite People thence to settle on *Darien*; they will find that there have been some private Wheels in this Machin that have brought it to the State wherein it now is, to say no more on't.

P O S T.

P O S T S C R I P T.

I have treated the last *Caledonian* Author with more Civility than he merits, 'tis because these Sheets were haish'd and in the Press before I was sure that *Ferguson* was the just and modest Man, till now his Books sticking in the several Booksellers Hands obliges him to disperse them about *Graik*, as the other Quack-bills, and so gives me the Opportunity of being fully confirm'd in the Matter. His Employment and Morals are so notorious already, that any thing I should say of him would add but little to his Infamy, and would be so much lost on him. Wherefore, in reply to those Scurrilities he falls asperses me with, I shall only put him in mind, that his Pot had not boil'd so well, if he had not been better paid for his Shuffling, Plotting and Tricking, than I have for what I have justly offer'd in Vindication of His Majesty's Proceedings, and to undeceive a great Number of well-meaning Persons, who are industriously led into this Mistake, by some particular Gentlemen behind the Curtain, who possess them with a Notion, that the Mismanagement and Miscarriage of their Affairs was not occasion'd by the Directors of that Company, but by the Government of the *English* Nation: And how far this will appear to be true, when it comes to be either calumpniated or warmly canvass'd, Time will discover: The greatest Prospect that I have of any Reward at present is the Daggers and Pistols, where with I am daily threaten'd, and nightly way-laid, against which *Dr. Ferguson* in all his Machinations was always sure to fence himself. Trade being very dead of late, he is resolv'd to play at small Game rather than stand out, but altho' the conceited Politician shades himself under the Screen of *Patria*, to calumniate the Government of that *Hospital*, whose Bread he hath so long eat, and where with hath been so pamper'd; it is neither out of Friendship to the Company, Nation, or Kirk, (the last of which he plainly enough demonstrates, p. 205, & 206.) but to blow the Coal of Sedition, set *Great Britain* in a Flame, and bring his own Marks to bear; which may be the easier conceiv'd by minding of what Sect and Kindney those Gentlemen are, who espouse the *Dixen* Interest with the most Heat. To stab the *Knave* in *Neigate*, were but to encourage the old Sinner in his Trade, and put him in a Way to get Money; whereas giving him his *Mistimus*, and sending him home to his own Country, to drive the Trade there, and giving him leave freely to make what he can of this Text, would be the most mortifying and suitable Punishment that could be inflicted on him.

F I N I S.