A LIST OF THE ABSENTEES OF *IRELAND*,

AND THE

Yearly Value of their ESTATES and INCOMES ſpent abroad.

WITH

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

Preſent State and Condition of that KINGDOM.

Vincit Amor Patriæ. Virgil.

By Thos. Leslie Esq.
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To His Excellency

JOHN Lord *CARTERET*,

Lord Lieutenant-General,

And General Governour of *Ireland*,

And to the

LORDS

Spiritual and Temporal,

AND

COMMONS

IN

Parliament Assembled;

THESE

OBSERVATIONS

Are, with all Respect and Submission,

Humbly Dedicated by

The Author.

Di Patrij, Servate Domum, Servate Nepotes. Virg.

See a similar List in Remarks on the affairs and Trade of England and Ireland.

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A LIST OF LORDS, GENTLEMEN, and OTHERS,

Who having ESTATES, EMPLOYMENTS, *and* PENSIONS *in* Ireland, *spend the same abroad. Together with an Estimate of the Yearly Value of the same, as taken in the Months of* May *and* June 1729.

The Lords and Gentlemen of Estate, are divided into Three Classes.

FIRST CLASS comprehends those, who live constantly abroad, and are seldom, or never seen in *Ireland*.

SECOND CLASS comprehends those, who live generally abroad, and visit *Ireland* now and then, for a Month or two.

THIRD CLASS takes in those, who live generally in *Ireland*, but were occasionally absent at the time the said List was taken, either for Health, Pleasure, or Business; but their Number is commonly the same: for, if some come home, others go abroad, and supply their Places.

FIRST CLASS comprehends those who live constantly abroad.

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad. l. s. d.
Lords,	
A Ran,	11000
Blundel,	2300
Boyne,	1700
Burlington,	17000
Castlehaven,	800
Castlecomber,	3000
Clanrickard,	3000
Darnly,	5000
Delvin,	400
Digby,	2500
Donegal's Estate,	4000
Gowran, in Estate and Interest of Money,	7000
Grandison,	6000
Lord *Archibald Hamilton*,	1000
Inchiquin,	3000
Kingsale,	800
Limington,	2300
Londonderry, in Estate and Interest of Money,	1200
Malton,	6000
Orrery,	4000
Peasely,	1800
Palmerston,	3000
Percival,	3000
Shannon,	2500
Thomond,	6000
Strafford,	600
Weymouth,	2000

LADIES,

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad. l. s. d.
Ladies,	
Lady *Drogheda*,	1100
Lady *Jane Holt*,	400
Lord *Effingham Howard's* Daughters,	1000
Dowager Lady *Kildare*,	1200
Lady *Jones*, Widow,	600
Lady *Betty Molyneux*,	1100
Lady *Pine*,	400
Late Lord *Ranelagh's* Daughters, *viz.* Lady *Coningesby*, Lady *Katherine Jones*, and Lady *Kildare*,	3000
Gentlemen,	
Francis Annesly of *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*,	1000
Randal Adams,	600
Barret of *Clownish*,	1200
Alderman *Beecher* of *Bristol*,	1200
George Rodney Bridges,	800
Sir *Brook Bridges*,	1500
Thomas Brodrick,	2500
John Chichester, Brother of Lord *Donegal*,	1000
John Clayton of the County of *Cork*,	400
Sir *William Courtney* of *Devonshire*,	8000
William Domvill of the County of *Dublin*,	1400
Joseph Damer, in Estate and Interest of Money,	1800
Sir *Redmond Everard*, Bart.	1000
Charles Ford,	600
Col. *Foulks*, Sir *William Ingoldsby*, Estate,	1000

Esquires.

H. *Ar-*

	Yearly Value of their Eſtates ſpent abroad. l. s. d.
H. *Arthur Herbert* of *Oakly-Park*,	3000
Mark Hill of *Loughbrickland*,	600
Mr. *Hobſon*, Eſtate in the County of *Down*, — —	600
Hugh Howard, —	800
Mr. *Hull*, in Eſtate and Intereſt of Money, — —	600
Rev. *John Jackſon* of *Lancaſhire*,	400
Sir *Richard Kennedy*'s Eſtate,	1200
Colonel *Loyde* of *England*, —	1000
London Society and Company, in the County of *Derry*, yearly Income and Fines included, —	8000
James Macartney, — —	2500
Randal Macdonnell, County of *Clare*,	1400
William Mitchel of *London*, —	400
Rev. Mr. *Henry Moore*, —	400
Pleydell Morton, —	1200
— *Murray* of *Broughton* in *Scotland*, — —	1000
John Neal of *Coventry*, —	900
Robert Needham of *Jamaica*,	2300
Sir *William Penn*'s Eſtate,	1400
John Pigot of *Somerſetſhire*,	400
— *Plunkett* of *Dunſhaughlin*,	700
John Rawlinſon of *London*, Eſtate in the County of *Derry*,	800
General *Sabine*, —	500
Thomas Scawen of *London*,	2000
The Honourable *Robert Shirly*,	2000
Oliver St. John, — —	1400
— *Smith*, — —	6000
Ralph Smith, Sen. —	800

Eſquires.

Sir

	Yearly Value of their Eſtates ſpent abroad. l. s. d.
Sir *John Stanley*, — —	1200
Edward Southwell, Secretary of State,	3500
John Temple, — —	3000
— *Trenchard*, County of *Limerick*,	1500
— *Warringford*, —	400
Sir *Thomas Webſter*, — —	800

Eſquires.

Several Cities and Corporations in *England*, have Eſtates in *Ireland* to the yearly Value of — —	1500

GENTLEWOMEN,

Widow *Bagnal*, — —	1800
Miſs *Edwards*, in Eſtate and Intereſt of Money, — —	7000
Mr. *Pine*'s Daughters, —	1200
Widow *Titchburn*, — —	400
Mrs. *Vernon*, — —	800

SECOND CLASS comprehends thoſe who live generally abroad, and viſit *Ireland* now and then for a Month or two.

LORDS,

A *Bercorn*, — —	2000
Angleſey, — —	7000
Barrymore, — —	5000
Carbery, — — —	5500
Fane, — —	4000
Fitz-William, — —	5000
Kingſton, — —	2000
Limerick, — — —	3500

Middle-

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad. l. s. d.
Middleton,	1500
Montrath,	4000
Mountjoy, Estate,	2500
Molesworth,	1000
Ranelagh,	1800
Shelburn, Estate and Interest of Money,	9000

LADIES,

Lady *Mary Coolley* and her Daughters,	1200
Lady *Phil. Pratt*,	500

GENTLEMEN,

Basil Ball,	1600	Esquires.
——— *Butler* of *Ballyragget*,	1500	
Robert Colvil,	5000	
Lieutenant-General *Crofts*,	500	
——— *Darcy*,	800	
——— *Dowdall*,	400	
Capt. *Charles Echlyn*,	1200	
Mr. *Fox*, and Mr. *Lane*, late Lord *Lanesborough*, Estate,	3000	
Joseph Gascoigne,	1800	
John Hamilton,	500	
Sir *Gustavus Humes*,	2000	
Brigadier *Jones*,	500	
Sir *Randal Mac Donnel*,	400	
Mr. ——— *Michlethwait*,	600	
The Honourable *Capel Moore*,	1000	
The Honourable *Robert Moore*,	400	
——— *Martin*, out of *Bagnal*'s Estate,	1000	
Sir *Edward O Brien*, Bart.	2500	
Henry O Brien's Estate,	2500	

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad. l. s. d.	
Sir *Thomas Pendergast*,	2000	Esquires.
Patrick Segrive,	400	
Oliver St. George,	2500	
——— *Sloan*, in Estate and Interest of Money,	800	
Richard Whitched,	1500	
Benjamin Woolley of *London*,	900	
Mr. ——— *Wogan* of *Racoffy*,	400	

THIRD CLASS comprehends those who live generally in *Ireland*, but were occasionally absent in *May* and *June* 1729, for Health, Pleasure, or Business.

LORDS,

B *Ellew*,	600
Blessington,	800
Forbes,	1200
Kingsland,	2000
Ikerin,	2000

LADIES,

Lady *Kerry*,	500
Lady *Tyrone*,	800

GENTLEMEN,

Francis Bernard, junior,	1200	Esquires.
——— *Brown* of the *Neal*,	500	
Francis Burton of the County of *Clare*,	1000	
Capt. *Thomas Burton*,	400	

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad. l. s. d.	
Sir *John Burne* Baronet,	2500	Esquires.
Reverend Dr. *Clayton*,	600	
William Conolly, junior,	1000	
John Cliff,	600	
The Reverend Mr. *Cotterell*, Dean of *Raphoe*,	1000	
Henry Cunningham,	800	
——*Dillon*, Son of Sir *John Dillon*,	400	
Robert Dickson, Counsellor at Law,	800	
Sir *Compton Domvill*,	1500	
——*Dodwell*,	800	
Henry Downing,	400	
Richard Edgworth,	500	
William Forward,	1000	
Sir *John Freke*,	1800	
Arthur Gore of the County of *Clare*,	1000	
Capt. *Arthur Gore*,	600	
William Graham of *Drogheda*,	3000	
Sir *Standish Hartstongue*,	1200	
Edward Hussey,	400	
Richard Lehunt of the County of *Wexford*,	800	
George Macartney of *Belfast*,	500	
John Maxwell of the County of *Dublin*,	2000	
Sir *Richard Mead*, Baronet,	3000	
Mark Morgan of the County of *Meath*,	800	
George Ogle,	600	
Philip Percival,	1400	
Periam Poole of the *Queen's County*,	1000	
Richard Reed of the County of *Kilkenny*,	400	

——*Riggs*

	Yearly Value of their Estates spent abroad. l. s. d.	
——*Riggs*,	1000	Esquires.
Arthur Stafford, alias *Geoghegan*,	800	
——*Tennison*,	400	
——*Tasborough*,	600	
William Wall, of the County of *Waterford*,	1500	
Richard Warburton of *Garryhinch*,	1000	
Richard Weisly of *Dangan*,	3000	

GENTLEWOMEN,

Mrs. *Drelincourt*,	400
Widow *Stafford*, junior,	500
Widow *Usher*,	800
Widow *Weisly*,	2000

Spent abroad yearly by those whose yearly Income is under 400 *l. per Annum* in *Ireland*; and who either live for the most part in *England*, or go thither occasionally for Pleasure or Health,	40000

Half of these are supposed to belong to the FIRST CLASS, and the other Half equally to the other TWO.

N. B. There is no Person mention'd in the Preceding List, whose Estate is supposed to be less than 400 *l. per Annum.*

The travelling Expences of Dealers, and Traders, who go over yearly, in great Numbers, from *Ireland* to *England*, to buy or sell Commodities,	3000

	Yearly Value spent abroad. l. s. d.
Spent yearly in the Education of the Children of Proteſtants, and Men of Fortune at *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, and the Schools of *England*, and of the Children of Papiſts in foreign Colleges, — —	8000
Spent yearly by young Students at the ſeveral Inns of Court, — —	5000
Spent in Law-Suits, on Appeals to the Houſe of Lords, Courts of Delegates, and on Writs of Error to the Court of King's-Bench in *England*, and for the Advice of Lawyers there on other Occaſions yearly, —	9000
Spent in Attendance, and Applications for Employments Civil and Military, and other Buſineſs, —	8000

PROFITS of EMPLOYMENTS ſpent abroad.

Poſt-Office *per Ann.* — —	6000
Vice-Treaſurers, Lord *Falmouth*, and Mr. *Edgecomb*, — —	8000
Lord Treaſurer, Lord *Burlington*, —	365
Commiſſioners of the Revenue, four always abſent, — —	4000
Auditor-General, Lord *Naſſau Paulet*,	1000
Maſter of the Rolls, Lord *Berkeley*, —	1000
Maſter of the Ordnance, Marquis *Montandre*, — —	800
Chief Remembrancer, Lord *Palmerſton*,	1200
Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant, —	2000
Clerk of the Pells, Mr. *Dodington*, —	1600

Secre-

	Yearly Value ſpent abroad. l. s. d.
Secretary of State, *Edward Southwell* Eſq;	600
Clerk of the Council, Mr. *Pulteney*, —	600
Maſter of the Revels, Mr. *Hopkins*, —	300
Searcher of the Port of *Dublin*, Mr. *Webſter*, — —	400
Comptroller of *ditto*, Mr. *Eldred*, —	300
Regiſter of Forfeitures, and Clerk of the Quit-Rent Office, Mr. *Coppleſton*, —	700
Clerk of the Crown for *Lienſter*, Mr. *Witchcot*, —	250
Munſter, Mr. *Osburn*, —	200
Ulſter, — —	200
Wine-Taſter, and Keeper of the King's Houſes, Mr. *Delafay*, —	500
Governour of *Cork*, Mr. *Jefferys*, —	365
Governour of *Duncannon-Fort*, Lieutenant-General *Honywood*, —	365
Governour of *Kingſale*, Lieutenant-General *Humphry Gore*, —	365
Remitted to *Greenwich-Hoſpital*, Sixpence *per* Month for every Sailor, —	400

It appears by the Eſtabliſhment for the Year 1727, given in to Parliament;

THAT the Civil Liſt Penſions amounted to 36,047 *l.* 18 *s.* which, clear of four Shillings in the Pound, came to 28,838 *l.* 6 *s.* 4 *d.* whereof we may very well ſuppoſe four Parts in five to be ſpent abroad, —	23070 13 1

THAT

	Yearly Value spent abroad. l. s. d.
THAT the Military Pensions amounted to 6,409 *l.* 15 *s.* two thirds thereof spent abroad, — —	4273 3 4
THAT the Establishment for General Officers was 16,500 *l. per Ann.* two thirds spent abroad, —	11000
THAT the Pay of all the Commission'd Officers of 18 Battallions of Foot, four Regiments of Horse, and six of Dragoons, (the Forces now in the Kingdom) amounts by an exact Computation to 116,508 *l. per Ann.* one fourth Part thereof spent abroad,	29127
THAT the Establishment for Half-Pay Officers amounted to 22,900 *l. per Ann.* one fourth Part thereof spent abroad, — —	5725
For Officers Widows 3600 *l. per Ann.* a third spent abroad, —	1200
French Pensions 12,800 *l. per Ann.* a fifth Part spent abroad, —	2560
Sent to *England* one Year with another to buy Recruit Horses, for ten Regiments of Horse, and Dragoons,	4000
Spent in *England* in raising Recruits for the Foot Service *per Ann.* —	2000
Pay remitted to *Gibraltar* for three Regiments, Exchange included, —	30000
Perquisites on clothing 31 Regiments, at 500 *l.* each Regiment yearly, comes to 15,500 *l.* two thirds thereof spent abroad, — —	10333 6 8

Carry'd

	Yearly Value spent abroad. l. s. d.
Carry'd off yearly, by Adventurers to *America*, who may be reckon'd to be 3000 in Number, and to carry off 10 *l.* each, one with another,	30000

Remitted out of the Kingdom yearly, on the Account of

Insurance of Ships and Goods, Assurance from Fire, — For Religious Uses, by Papists, For Freight of Shipping, — For News-Papers from *England*, For Coach and Saddle-Horses from *England*, — — For Gold and Silver Watches, Precious Stones, Rich Toys, fine *Flanders* Lace, Gold and Silver Lace, Rich Cloaths, and Furniture of all Sorts, which are suppos'd not to appear in the Custom-House Books. 'Tis difficult to ascertain the Value of all these Articles; but we may reasonably suppose them to amount, yearly, unto — —	20000
TOTAL of the present Annual Remittances out of the Kingdom,	621499 3 1

A

Yearly Value spent abroad.

A GENERAL ABSTRACT of the Quantity of Money drawn out of the Kingdom yearly, *viz.*

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
By those of the First Class, —	199100	00	0
By those of the Second Class,	91200	00	0
By those of the Third Class, —	53400	00	0
By those, whose Income is under 400 *l. per Ann.* —	40000	00	0
By those, who have Employments in *Ireland*, — — —	31510	00	0
For the Education of Youth, Law-Suits, Attendance, and by Dealers, — —	33000	00	0
By the Pensioners on the Civil List,	23070	13	1
By those on the Military Establishment,	67658	10	0
By *French* Pensioners, —	2560	00	0
By Remittances to *Gibraltar*, —	30000	00	0
By Adventurers to *America*, —	30000	00	0
On Account of several Articles mentioned in the last Paragraph,	20000	00	0
	621499	03	1

SUP-

SUPPLEMENT.

I Shall, by way of Supplement, take Notice of some additional Articles, which ought to be taken into Consideration, whenever we come to compute the Quantity of Money yearly drawn out of the Kingdom, and which could not so properly be brought under any of the Heads mention'd in the preceding List.

1*st*, We are to observe, that a great many Estates, and Woods, have, of late, been sold in *Ireland*, and all the Purchase-Money at once carry'd into *England*. And, which is farther remarkable, some Estates have, in the Compass of a few Years, been sold again, and all the Purchase-Money sent away a second Time.

2*d*, That great Sums of Money are yearly sent abroad, to discharge old Debts, contracted by Persons now residing in *Ireland*.

3*d*, Tho' some of the aforesaid Persons, may spend less abroad than here rated, yet many of them spend much more than their yearly Income; which Debts must be paid in *England*, after they come to reside in *Ireland*.

4*th*, That several Estates of *Irish* Landlords, who live abroad, have, of late, been much rais'd, and large Fines taken and remitted to them; and, many more Estates will not fail to be rais'd to the Heighth, as the old Leases expire, and thereby encrease their yearly Draughts upon us.

5*th*, That several Persons, who live abroad, have large Mortgages on Estates in *Ireland*; the Interest-

Money

Money whereof is conſtantly return'd to them in *England.*

6th, Many of our young Lords and Gentlemen, in a few Years after they come to Age, ſquander, in other Countries, all the ready Money which had been ſaved for them, by their Guardians, in their Minorities.

7th, Great Numbers live abroad, whoſe Names or Eſtates, for want of due Information, are here omitted.

8th, There is, yearly, carried out of this Kingdom, about 60,000 *l.* by the Colliers of *England* and *Scotland,* who take very little elſe, but ready Money, in Return for their Coals. But this Point will more properly come to be conſider'd hereafter, upon the Article of Trade.

I ſhall now beg leave to take notice of the Method and Caution made uſe of, in forming and drawing up the ſaid Liſt: And to obſerve, that the beſt Endeavours have not been wanting, to procure, from Receivers, Agents and others, an exact Information of the clear yearly Income of the Eſtates of the Perſons mentioned in the ſaid Liſt, and of the Sums of Money they may be reaſonably ſuppoſed to ſpend abroad; and, that Care has been taken in the Computation, to be always under the real Value, in order to make Allowances for Loſs to Agents, Quit-Rents, and other Charges.

We are farther to obſerve, That the Eſtates of many of the ſaid Perſons are much larger than here ſet down; but, being ſubject to Jointures, Rent-Charges, and Debts, which are ſpent at home, we have not therefore ſet forth the full Value of them, but ſo much only as is ſuppoſed to be ſpent abroad.

Tho' ſome of our Gentlemen ſtay abroad but a ſhort time, yet, when we would compute how much

much Money is yearly drawn out of the Kingdom, we are oblig'd to take Notice of all thoſe Perſons, who are at any one Time abſent; for if ſome come home, others do not fail to go abroad, and ſupply their Places.

If through Miſinformation, the yearly Income, or Remittances of ſome Perſons, mentioned in the ſaid Liſt, ſhould happen to be over-rated, that is amply made up by others, who will be found, upon Enquiry, to be over-charg'd; and indeed, many make the Annual Drain of Money ariſing from the aforeſaid Articles, to be Two hundred Thouſand Pounds more than herein eſtimated.

C O B-

OBSERVATIONS

On the Preceding

LIST:

TOGETHER

With a View of the Trade of Ireland, *and the great Benefits which accrue to* England *thereby. With some* HINTS *for the farther Improvement of the same.*

MONEY being the Measure of all Commerce, a certain Quantity thereof is necessary, for the carrying on the Trade of each Country, in Proportion to the Business thereof.

'Tis generally estimated, that the current Species of *England*, is, at present, twelve or fifteen Millions *Sterl.* and that so much is necessary for the Support of its Foreign and Domestick Trade; in which 'tis much assisted by many Millions more, in Bank-Notes, Bank and South-Sea-Stock, and other publick Securities, which being easily transferred from one to another, have, in Effect, the Use and Conveniency of Money.

'Tis reasonable to suppose, that the Quantity of Species, requisite to carry on the Trade of *Ireland*, with Ease and Advantage, cannot be less than a Million

Million or 800,000 *l.* if we consider, that the yearly Value of our Exports is at a Medium, 1,044,000 *l.* and of our Imports 864,000 *l.* that the publick Revenue and Charge of the Establishment are each near 500,000 *l. per Annum*, and that our Rents and Domestick Commerce amount yearly to the Value of several Millions; all which Articles must be paid in ready Money, and therefore can hardly be supposed to require less than 800,000 *l.* for the convenient Management thereof.

'Tis very probable, that we were possessed of so much Coin in the Year 1700, and that the same was in a great measure owing to the War that happen'd at the Time of the Revolution; which, tho' it laid the Country waste, yet brought in a great deal of Money, for Payment of the Armies; which continuing to circulate among us, gave Life to all Business, and, much sooner than could be expected, retriev'd the Affairs of *Ireland:* But, the Act of Resumption (soon after taking place) swept away, at once, about 600,000 *l.* of our Treasure. Under which Loss we languished for some Years, and did not fully recover our selves, 'till about the Year 1715, when, the Ballance of Trade running much in our Favour, and our Remittances abroad being moderate, there was no want of Money or Credit for the Support of Business; but on the contrary, the Interest of Money was lower'd, and the Price of Lands grew high.

Thus we continued for some time in a tolerable Condition: But, of late, that Treasure which was the Fruit and Acquisition of many Years, hath gradually flow'd from us; which makes us daily more sensible of the Scarcity of Money, which could formerly be easily had at 6 *l. per Cent.* Interest, but now cannot, without some Difficulty, be had at 7 *l.* This Want of Money in the Kingdom, throws a Damp upon all Business; Manufacturers can't be set

to work, Materials purchas'd, or Credit subsist: and People, who are willing to support themselves by their Industry, are left to struggle with Poverty, for Want of Employment.

We are not now at a loss to point out the principal *Source* of all our Misfortunes, and the chief *Cause* of all this Distress. It appears plainly, from the List of *Absentees*, and the Estimate of the Quantity of Species they may be reasonably supposed to draw yearly out of the Kingdom, that no other Country labours under so wasteful a Drain of its Treasure, as *Ireland* does at present, by an annual Remittance of above 600,000 *l.* to our *Gentlemen* abroad, without the least Consideration, or Value return'd for the same: This is so great a Burthen upon us, that, I believe, there is not, in History, an Instance of any one Country paying so large a yearly Tribute to another.

Countrys that abound in Mines of Gold and Silver, are enabled, by the Bounty of Nature, to bear an Exportation of their Bullion: But others, which want this natural Produce, and have no other Way of getting or keeping Money, but, by having the Ballance of Trade in their Favour, suffer extreamly, when ever they want Coin sufficient for circulating their Business.

It is believed by many, who understand our Money Affairs, that there is less Species now in the Kingdom, than was at any one Time since the *Revolution*, if not since the *Restoration*. The most Sanguine do not reckon, that we have 400,000 *l.* now remaining: If so, it is impossible to subsist much longer under such a Drain; for, if the Quantity of Money exported, vastly over-ballances any Income or Gain we have by Trade, (as plainly appears by examining the said List, the Ballance of our Trade herein set forth, and a constant Course of Exchange against us) it evidently follows, that all our remaining

maining Species, will, in a little time, be carry'd off: The Consequence whereof will be, that we shall be utterly disabled from carrying on our foreign and domestick Commerce, paying Rents, or discharging the publick Establishment.

'Tis to be fear'd, this Misfortune will fall upon us much sooner than could be thought of; since we are credibly inform'd, that Miss *Edwards*'s Estate in this Kingdom, said to be worth 150,000 *l.* is immediately to be sold, and the Purchase Money sent away; that a *Noble Lord*, of the greatest Fortune here, is to have 80,000 *l.* remitted to him, by Sale of Part of his Estate, and that several others are selling, or mortgaging their Lands for large Sums: if all these Designs should soon take place, they will be sufficient to carry off all the circulating Cash of the Kingdom in a very short time.

'Tis true, this Evil is of such a nature, as in a little time it must cure itself; for if the Demands of our *Absentees* greatly exceed all our Gain by Trade, and amount to as much yearly, as the whole current Coin of the Kingdom; there will be soon nothing left for them to draw away, and they must be forc'd to return to their Native Country; which must necessarily be the case, unless (which can't reasonably be suppos'd) they shall think it a less Grievance to starve abroad.

When Things come to this Extremity, Great must be the Calamity of all, even of those who are innocent, and have not had the least share in bringing this Evil upon us; for then no Rents can be paid in Money, but all in Kind; no sort of Trade can be carried on, but by bartering one Commodity for another: The Price of Lands must universally fall, the Army must be broke, or live on free Quarters; and the Establishment, and all Professions must sink for want of Money to support them.

We

We ſhall be then reduc'd to the Condition of ſome of our *Plantations*, out of which, for the ſame Cauſes, all Money is carry'd off as faſt as it enters, and nothing left current but Paper, by the Authority of Government, under a great Diſcount.

If our *Gentlemen* abroad were the only Sufferers by their Conduct, we ſhould have no reaſon to complain; but it happens in this caſe, that tho' they bring this *Evil* upon us, they will be the laſt that will feel the Effects of it; but, at length, muſt ſhare the ſame Fate with ourſelves.

I ſhall, in what follows, conſider the Ballance of the Trade of *Ireland*, and how far it may enable us to ſupport theſe Remittances abroad; it will appear clearly from thence, that whatever Gain we had formerly, the ſame has decreas'd of late Years conſiderably, and falls much ſhort of what is ſufficient to anſwer the Demands of our *Gentlemen* abroad; inſomuch, that the Ballance of our whole Trade for the Year 1726, inſtead of being in our favour, was 12,000 *l.* againſt us, occaſion'd by a great Importation of foreign Commodities.

'Tis melancholy to obſerve, that now we are labouring under great Diſadvantages in Trade, and ſtruggling with Penury and Want; the Humour of living, and ſpending abroad ſtill encreaſes among our Men of *Quality* and *Station*, and has even infected our *Ladies*, who may be ſooner found out at *London*, *Paris*, *Rome*, or any foreign Place of Expence, than at home.

If thoſe *Gentlemen*, who now draw out of the Kingdom yearly 600,000 *l.* could be prevail'd upon, to ſpend the ſame at home, the Advantages and good Effects thereof, would be ſoon viſible in the Improvement of Lands and Houſes; in the Increaſe of People, Arts, and Manufactures, in a greater Produce in the Exciſe and Cuſtoms, and in a better Sup-

Support of the Government: Whereas now by the means of our *Nobility* and *Gentry* deſerting their own Country, and ſpending all abroad, our People are left without Employ, and are forced to ſhift to foreign Countries, even to *America*, to get a Livelihood; and the publick Funds fall very ſhort of the neceſſary Eſtabliſhment, and muſt grow worſe every Day: ſo that, in time of Peace, we ſhall be driven to the Neceſſity, either of leſſening the Eſtabliſhment, or increaſing our Taxes, without any Ability to pay them.

'Tis too much in reaſon for theſe *Gentlemen* to expect, that we ſhall patiently bear with the Loſs of our Trade, Loſs of our Money, and Additional Taxes; for no other Reaſon, but to gratify the Vanity of thoſe, who have thus wantonly abandon'd their Country, and riot abroad in its Ruin: There is no way left to ſave us, but by obliging them to live at home, or making them pay for living abroad.

Perhaps ſome may imagine, that our *Abſentees* have great Encouragement to go and ſpend their Fortunes abroad, that they are received with open Arms, and prefer'd to Places of Profit, Honour, and Power; but, alas! if we examine the ſaid Liſt, we ſhall find, that there is not any one therein mention'd, born and bred in *Ireland*, who has got any Penſion, any Civil or Military Employment by living abroad; not even of thoſe who are Members of either Houſe of Parliament of *Great-Britain*, though there are ſeveral in the ſaid Liſt, who have put themſelves to Expence, to obtain the Honour of ſitting there: ſo little are they regarded in thoſe Countries, where they ſpend all their Fortunes. The Caſe indeed is otherwiſe with the *North-Britons*, who loſe nothing by going into other Countries, whatever they gain there; 'tis true, there are two or three *Lords* in the ſaid Liſt, who have Employments

ployments abroad; but these *honourable* Persons were neither bred nor born in *Ireland*, and owe their Preferments to their Interests and Alliances abroad, and not to any Estates they happen to have in *Ireland*.

Nor can we think it strange, that our *Absentees* are thus serv'd; for how can Persons, who can get no Employment in their own *Country*, by virtue of the Interest they have there, expect to be prefer'd in another, where they have no Interest at all: perhaps they may reckon much on their personal Abilities to serve the Government there, and to be prefer'd for their Services; but we don't find, that *any one* of them has as yet been distinguish'd by any *considerable Preferment*, or *even any Preferment at all*.

We may be soon cur'd of any vain Expectations of that kind, if we consider that our Country-men are so far from being caress'd, that they are generally slighted, and hated in other Countries: It must be own'd, that the *Poverty* of some of our *Natives*, and the *Extravagance* of many of our Men of *Fortune*, have brought us into *Discredit* and *Contempt*; so that of all Nations, we have the Misfortune to be the least regarded by *those*, who get most by us: And yet such is our *Folly*, that many of our People chuse to spend their Estates in a mean obscure way abroad, under the Contempt and Hatred of all about them, rather than live at home in *Plenty*, *Honour*, and *Esteem*.

I wish we could say, that these Gentlemen, by living abroad, had any way contributed to the Interest of *Ireland*; but, I am afraid, they have no Merit of this kind to plead: for except a very few Persons, who upon all occasions have been willing, industrious, and able to serve us, (and which we shall ever with the greatest Gratitude acknowledge) we know of none of our *Absentees*, who, upon Emergency, where-

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in the Interest of *Ireland* was concern'd, have had Spirit or Disposition, Interest or Weight, or even a sufficient Knowledge of the Affairs of their own Country to do it service; they are either Strangers to the Circumstances and Interests of *Ireland*, or have no Power or Qualifications to be of use to it.

If we enquire into the Motives of this Conduct of our Gentlemen, so injurious to their own and their Country's Interest; we shall find, that a luxurious Manner of Living, an Affectation of imitating the Nobility and Gentry of other Countries in their Expences, together with the Largeness of their Fortunes, are the principal Motives of their spending all their Estates abroad; which they seldom fail to incumber with great Debts, and frequently sell, either to gratify their present Vanity, or pay for past Follies.

'Tis a *melancholy Observation*, and fit to be remembred, that almost all the Estates, which of late Years have been sold in *Ireland*, have belong'd to such of our *Gentlemen*, as brought themselves under a Necessity of selling, to discharge Debts contracted abroad: we can justly date the Ruin of several great *Families*, from the fatal Period of their going to live abroad; and we may now prophetically pronounce the like Fate of several others, who have of late, or shall hereafter follow the same Course of living, *That their Lands shall pass away to Strangers, and their Names be no more heard of*.

The Extinction of such Families may probably be no hurt to the Publick, but then the Value of their Estates spent abroad, is certainly lost to the Kingdom; an *English* Prodigal, injures none but his own Family, since whatever he squanders, goes into the Pockets of others of the same Country: but an *Irish Spendthrift*, who commonly makes *London* or *Paris* the Scene of his Extravagance; not

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only deprives his Family, but his Country alſo, of the full Value of all he conſumes.

It has been obſerv'd, (as another ill Effect of living abroad) concerning ſuch of our *Gentlemen* of Fortune, as happen to marry there, that they and their Poſterity are for the moſt part loſt to this Kingdom: 'tis ſhocking to an *Engliſh Lady*, to think of living in ſuch a poor deſpis'd Place as *Ireland* is; and if ſhe has not made it an Article of Marriage, as it often is the caſe, ſhe ſeldom fails ſome other way, to prevail on an eaſy Husband to forſake his Country, and takes care to breed up her Children in the ſame Averſion: and from that time forward, we hear no more of them, but by their conſtant drawing all their Rents from hence, and racking their poor Tenants: Such *Deſerters* prove the worſt Enemies to *Ireland*, by laying it under a continual yearly Pillage to their Vanity and Luxury, without contributing the leaſt Farthing towards the Support of the Government.

And here I cannot but take notice of the Conduct of ſome of our *Gentlemen*, in ſending their Children to other Countries for Education; 'tis certain, if they were better appriz'd of the manner of Living, Studying, and Performances required of them abroad, they would believe it much better to educate them in our Colleges at home; where a greater Strictneſs and Attendance to Duties, more Reading and Studying, and generally better Scholars, in proportion to their Numbers, and leſs Corruption, are to be found. This Humour proceeding from a want of Judgment and Obſervation, is often attended with this Conſequence, that the young *Gentlemen* educated abroad, either take a liking to other Countries, and ſo are for ever loſt to their own, if their Fortune will enable them to live there; or if they return home, perhaps bring nothing with them, but the Follies

Follies and Luxuries of our Neighbours, by which we ſuffer too much already.

If ſome think it a Hardſhip, that moſt of our *Employments* are given to other People; we all have juſt Reaſons to complain, that thoſe Employments are ſerved by Deputies, and of conſequence the greateſt Part of the Profits thereof carry'd out of the Kingdom, and ſpent abroad: 'Tis our Misfortune that too many of the *Engliſh*, who obtain Places in this Country, ſeldom favour us with their Company in the enjoyment of them. 'Tis true, we have one Viſit from them, when they come over to qualify themſelves here, and take poſſeſſion of their Preferments; tho' ſome of them will not even be at ſo much trouble, but obtain Acts of Parliament in *England*, to diſpenſe with their Qualifications in *Ireland*; and after this beginning, we ſee no more of them, but their Names in the publick Eſtabliſhments: Of this, we have had a remarkable Inſtance in one, who having obtain'd an Employment in *Ireland*, landed in *Dublin* on a *Saturday* Evening, went next Day to a Pariſh-Church, and received the Sacrament; on *Monday* Morning he took the Oaths in the Courts, and in the Afternoon ſet ſail for *England* again, and we never ſaw more of him.

But as to *thoſe* who get Preferment here, and live and ſettle with us, we have no cauſe to repine; they become one with us, heartily eſpouſe the Intereſt of the Country, and are in all reſpects an Advantage to it; we can't but remember, that a great many conſiderable Families now in the Kingdom, are the Deſcendants of ſuch, who came hither for Preferment; and we muſt be ſo juſt as to acknowledge, that thoſe *Engliſhmen*, who are promoted to the higheſt Preferments in the *Church* and the *Law* in *Ireland*, generally attend their Functions here, and dwell among us.

The greateſt Hardſhip we ſuffer, on account of the Penſions on our Eſtabliſhment, is, that for the moſt part they are ſpent abroad: Taxes ſpent at home, do not impoveriſh us, tho' private Perſons may ſuffer in the Payment of them; but whatever is ſpent abroad, is a general Loſs to the Kingdom.

Nor can we altogether excuſe the *Military Officers* from contributing to the Impoveriſhment of this Country: Of the many General Officers on our Eſtabliſhment, very few of them are at any time to be found here, tho' they are perhaps the only Generals in *Europe*, in full Pay in time of Peace; and if at any time any of them are ordered to review our Forces, which is the only Part of Duty required of them, they expect to be allowed for that Service in *Ireland*, which does not laſt above ſix Weeks, or two Months, 300 *l.* or 500 *l.* over and above their Pay as General, which is as much as any Lieutenant-General in the Foreign Service is allow'd a Year; and this too, though they happen to come over at the ſame time to take poſſeſſion of a *good Government*. Many of our Colonels and Field-Officers, by the ſame Example, live for the moſt part abroad, to the diſabling the poor People of this Kingdom, from paying that very Eſtabliſhment, by which they are maintain'd.

We are apt to complain of the Hardſhips laid upon us by *England*, in reſpect to our Trade, and when we are pinch'd, and in diſtreſs, charge our Misfortunes to the Account of other People; but if we truly examine all Circumſtances, we ſhall find, that to *ourſelves* we owe moſt of the Misfortunes and Inconveniencies we labour under; we owe them to our immoderate Conſumption of foreign Commodities at home, and extravagant ſpending abroad.

'Tis not to be wonder'd at, that we ſhould grow poorer every day, under ſuch an unprofitable Iſſue of

of Money, which all the Labour of the People, and Produce of the Country, with every Acquiſition they can make, are not ſufficient to ſupply. This is an *Evil* long complain'd of, and in our Days is increas'd to that degree, that we ſhall ſoon be utterly exhauſted, unleſs ſome effectual Stop be put thereto; and, as it ariſes principally from *our ſelves*, 'tis much in our own power to redreſs it. With this View, I ſhall take notice of what Proviſions our Anceſtors made in this Caſe, and beg leave to ſuggeſt ſome Expedients that may remedy this growing Evil.

Sir *John Davis*, Attorney-General in *Ireland*, to King *James* the Firſt, in his Hiſtorical Relations, has obſerv'd, that the Abſence of the *Great Lords*, (who having great Eſtates in *Ireland*, yet kept their continual Reſidence in *England*) was the principal Cauſe of the ſlow Progreſs made in the Reduction of *Ireland*, and of the frequent Rebellions of the *Iriſh*, who were thereby encourag'd to make Encroachments upon the *Engliſh*, and diſpoſſeſs them of their Lands; and that the Kings of *England* were thereby put to the Neceſſity of ſending Armies over, from Time to Time, to reduce and re-conquer ſeveral Provinces thereof.

For which Reaſon, an Ordinance had been made in *England*, the 3d of *Richard* the IId, 'againſt ſuch 'as were abſent from their Lands in *Ireland*, which 'gave two third Parts of the Profits thereof unto 'the King, until they return'd, or plac'd a ſufficient Number of Men to defend the ſame: Which 'Ordinance was put in execution for many Years 'after, as appears by ſundry Seizures made thereupon, in the Time of *Richard* the IId, and *Henry* 'the IVth, Vth, and VIth, whereof there remain 'Records in the Remembrancer's Office here. Among the reſt, the Duke of *Norfolk* himſelf was 'impleaded on this Ordinance, for two Parts of the 'Profits

Profits of his Lands in the County of *Wexford*, in the Time of *Henry* the VIth; and afterwards, on the same Reason of State, all the Lands of the House of *Norfolk*, of the Earl of *Shrewsbury*, Lord *Berkeley*, and others (who having Lands in *Ireland*, yet resided continually in *England*) were entirely resumed and vested in the Crown, by the *Act of Absentees*, made the 28th of *Henry* the VIIIth.

Not only two third Parts of the Profits of the Lands of *Absentees* were forfeited by Law; but, if any in *Office* went out of the Kingdom, his *Office* became void immediately: and therefore, in the 25th of *Henry* the VIth, an Act passed in *Ireland*, *That whereas it was in Doubt, if any Persons in Office did pass, by Sea, from one Port of* Ireland *to another, whether their Offices were void, as if they had pass'd into* England, *or into other Lands out of* Ireland: It was thereby declared, *That any Officer may pass, in Ships or Boats, from any Part of* Ireland to another, *without forfeiting his Office.* And by another Act made in the same Year, intituled, *An Act concerning Absentees*, it was ordained, *That if any of the King's Subjects or Officers, be absent out of the Kingdom of* Ireland, *by the Commandment of the King, or the Governor, or Council, that their Lands, Rents, or Offices, by their said Absence, shall not be seiz'd, nor taken into the King's Hands, and their Offices shall not be void.*

These Acts do necessarily imply and presuppose that there were then Acts in force, (which, though now not mention'd in our Statute-Books, yet possibly may be found in some of our Offices of Record) whereby the Offices, and two third Parts of the Profits of the Lands of *Absentees*, were forfeited to the King. And the Statute of *Absentees*, of the 28th of *Henry* the VIIIth, expresly takes notice, That two Parts in three, of the yearly Profits of the Lands of absent Persons, did, by reason of their *Absence*,

sence, belong to the King, by virtue of the Statutes for that Purpose provided.

By an Act pass'd, 10 *Car.* I. *Cap.* 21. It is Enacted, *That all Persons, dwelling in* England, *or elsewhere, who shall obtain Titles of Honour among the Nobility of* Ireland, *shall, tho' resident in* England, *or elsewhere, contribute towards all publick Charges tax'd by Parliament, rateably, and in such Manner, as others of their Rank, resident in this Kingdom, are or shall be liable unto.*

These are the legal Provisions which our Ancestors made, to prevent our Gentlemen of Estate and Office from living abroad; and we don't find they were ever repealed. Happy had it been for this Kingdom, if they had been duely executed! As this Evil grows daily upon us, and has already thrown the Nation into a wasteful Consumption of all its Substance, 'tis high time to apply some Remedy to stop this immoderate Drain, that has reduced us almost to nothing: And, this can be done no other Way, than, in Imitation of our Ancestors, and of all wise Nations, in the like Case, by taxing the Estates of those, who, out of Wantonness and Luxury, choose to spend all the Profits thereof abroad, to the Impoverishment and Ruin of their Native Country. Unless some such Method be taken, we shall soon be deprived of all the little Money left among us, be disabled from answering the Charges of the Publick, and become a Burthen to *England*, as in former Times.

'Tis not reasonable to expect, that the Security of the Protestant Religion and Interest in this Kingdom, the Prosperity of the People, and Safety of the Government, should all give way to the Gratifications of our Gentlemen abroad: if they set so high a Value on their Foreign Pleasures, that for the Enjoyment of them, the Kingdom must be brought into Ruin; 'tis to be hoped, they shall not be indul-

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ged in all this, without contributing their Quota towards the Charges of the Publick. As the Case ſtands at preſent, while all others at home pay largely in Taxes, for the Maintenance of our Eſtabliſhment; theſe Gentlemen, tho' they have nothing but what they derive from this Country, yet pay not one Farthing for the Support of it. They have indeed the Merit of paying, by their Foreign Conſumptions, the Taxes of all Countries but their own.

'Tis notorious, that one Lord only, has, by his Rents and otherwiſe, drawn out of this Kingdom, near 400,000 *l.* the laſt 20 Years: and yet, that ſaid Lord has not contributed to the Support of the publick Charges, as much as the meaneſt Perſon who pays for a Quart of Ale.

It cannot be ſuppoſed, that our *Iriſh* Landlords, who live abroad, and conſume no Part of the Produce or Manufacture of their Country, pay the leaſt Share of the Duties or Taxes thereof, or relieve any of its Poor, whoſe Miſeries they never ſee, or make any Improvements, who never mean to live among us. Nay, their living abroad ſeems to have ſo far alienated their Affections from their Country, and hardened their Tempers towards it, that they above all others, are remarkable for ſetting their Eſtates at a *Rack-Rent*, ſo as hardly to allow a Livelihood to their poor Tenants, by whom they are ſupported.

There is no Country in *Europe*, which produces, and exports ſo great a Quantity of *Beef*, *Butter*, *Tallow*, *Hydes* and *Wool*, as *Ireland* does; and yet our common People are very poorly cloath'd, go bare-legged half the Year, and very rarely taſte of that Fleſh-Meat, with which we ſo much abound. We pinch our ſelves in every Article of Life, and export more than we can well ſpare, with no other Effect or Advantage, than to enable our Gentlemen and Ladies to live more luxurioſly abroad.

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And *They* are not content to treat us thus, but add Inſult to ill Uſage; *they* reproach us with our Poverty, at the ſame Time, that *they* take away our Money; and can tell us, we have no Diverſions or Entertainments in *Ireland* for them, when they themſelves diſable us from having better, by withdrawing from us.

But 'tis to be hoped, that our Legiſlature will take care, that thoſe Gentlemen who ſpend their Fortunes abroad, and are thereby the greateſt, and almoſt only Cauſe of its Poverty and Diſtreſs, ſhall not be the only Perſons favoured, and exempted from paying the Taxes thereof.

A Tax of four Shillings in the Pound, on the Eſtates of *Abſentees*, would in all Likelihood remove the Evils complain'd of, by ſtopping in a great meaſure thoſe waſteful Drains of our Money; and would, in all Reſpects, anſwer the Occaſions of the Government: for if theſe Gentlemen will, notwithſtanding, ſtill live abroad, then a conſiderable Fund will ariſe out of their Eſtates to defray the publick Charges; and if they ſhould return home, then the publick Revenue will encreaſe by a greater Produce in the Exciſe and Cuſtoms, in Proportion as the home Conſumption would be enlarg'd by the ſpending of ſo much more Money among us: either Way the publick Occaſions would be ſupply'd; and the People reliev'd.

We may farther obſerve by the ſaid Liſt, that the great and continual Drain of Money out of this Kingdom, is from the large Eſtates; few Gentlemen of ſmall Fortunes, do, or can live abroad.

An Act of Gavelkind, whereby all Eſtates above 500 *l. per Ann.* ſhould deſcend, and be divided in equal Proportion, among all the Sons, as Coheirs, (with certain Reſervation, in Favour of thoſe, who have Titles of Honour, of all preſent Family Settlements, and of eldeſt Sons, if it ſhould be thought

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adviſeable) would, in a great meaſure, prevent ſo much living and ſpending abroad, and induce all the Sons to ſit down on their own reſpective Patrimonies, and improve them.

Such a Deſcent of Eſtates is certainly agreeable to the Law of Nature, for Children equally related to their Parents, ought to be equally their Care; but our Law and Cuſtom, that gives the whole real Eſtate to the eldeſt Son, ſerves indeed no other Purpoſe, but to gratify the *Pride* and *Vanity* of Families, and leaves to the younger Children (often the moſt deſerving) a poor ſcanty Proviſion, or perhaps no Proviſion at all; whilſt the eldeſt Son is tempted, by the largeneſs of his Eſtate, to ſpend all luxuriouſly abroad, to the utter Ruin of the Family, and great Loſs of the Kingdom. *The Pride of Names and Families, is deſpiſed by all People of Senſe, and is rarely to be found but in poor Countrys, or Perſons of reduc'd Fortunes, and is generally accompany'd with the Want of real Merit.*

'Tis true Policy, and would tend much to the Benefit of remote Provinces, if Property were more equally divided among the Inhabitants; large overgrown Eſtates are generally conſumed, either abroad or at the Capital, and may be reckon'd as ſo much Tribute, in Effect, drawn from the Provinces; while ſmall Fortunes are ſpent in the Place where they ariſe, with more Vertue, and Advantage to the Country.

And till we can be ſo happy as to obtain ſuch an Act of Parliament, which would be greatly to the Benefit of this Kingdom; 'tis to be hoped, that Gentlemen of large Eſtates, out of Regard to their Poſterity, and the Good of their Country, will in their Marriage-Settlements, or laſt Wills chooſe rather to bring in their younger Sons for a Share of their Lands, and ſo make many thriving young Families, than by giving all to one Son, to tempt him, by

by extravagent living abroad, to put an End to the Family at once, as it hath often happened of late within the Knowledge and Obſervation of every one.

We muſt own, that there are many of our *Gentlemen* abroad, who wiſh well to their Country, and abhor all Thoughts of having a hand in the Ruin of it; who yet are not ſenſible how much this Kingdom is diſtreſſed, and ſuffers by their living and ſpending their Eſtates in other Countries; but when they come to reflect on the Conſequences thereof, and ſee the Poverty and Miſeries we labour under by their Means, and that they themſelves muſt at laſt ſhare therein, 'tis not to be doubted, but that they will, out of Regard to themſelves, and Compaſſion to their Country, change their Conduct, and act as becomes them.

We muſt not forget, that as on the one hand we ſuffer extremely by many, who have abdicated their Country, and have no Senſe of its Miſeries; ſo on the other hand, we lie under the greateſt Obligations to thoſe Lords and Gentlemen, who conſtantly live, and ſpend their Fortunes among us. If the Earl of *Kildare*, and others of our Nobility; Mr. *Conolly*, and others of our Commons, had not all along reſided among us, we ſhould long ſince have been exhauſted of all our Treaſure, and reduced to the greateſt Diſtreſs.

I can't forbear, on this Occaſion, to take Notice of one remarkable Inſtance, among many others, which Mr. *John Damer*, one of our richeſt Commoners, has lately given us, of the juſt Senſe he has of the Good of this Country, and how much he has the Intereſt thereof at heart. This Gentleman having no Proſpect of Iſſue to inherit his great Eſtate, in order to engage his Brother, (who, we may ſuppoſe, is deſign'd to be his Heir, and has ſeveral Children, and a large Fortune in *England*,) to

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ſettle in this *Kingdom*, has agreed to make over to him at preſent a conſiderable Eſtate, with a fine Houſe well furniſhed thereon, upon this *expreſs Condition* and *Conſideration*, that he ſhall immediately bring over his Family, and reſide among us: And I am informed his Brother has agreed thereto. By this Means he has provided, that his Eſtate ſhall continue to be ſpent in the Kingdom, which otherwiſe would, in all probability, be conſtantly carry'd off after his Deceaſe; and it is to be hoped, that other Gentlemen, moved by the ſame Spirit, will ſhew themſelves the ſame true *Patriots*, and by their laſt Wills oblige their Heirs to reſide among us.

The Love of one's Country is ſeldom found in any remarkable Degree, but in thoſe, who live long in it, agreeable to the Intention of *Nature*, which diſpoſes all Men, and other Creatures, to a Fondneſs for thoſe Places in which they live; if this be the Caſe, I fear we can expect but little Good from thoſe, who, by forſaking their Country, muſt have loſt almoſt all natural Affection towards it; and this may teach us, who ſtill retain a Senſe of the Duty we owe our Country, to be very cautious, on all future Elections of Parliament-Men, or on any other Occaſions, how we pay any Regard to thoſe, who do not live conſtantly among us. It muſt be of Service, to take publick Notice of thoſe Actions, which tend both to the Good and Hurt of one's Country; in order to excite us to the Practice of the Firſt, and prevent our being guilty of the Second.

I ſhall now proceed to conſider the Trade of *Ireland*, in order to examine, whether the Ballance ariſing from thence, will enable us to anſwer thoſe great and conſtant Draughts upon us from abroad; And alſo to give ſuch a juſt Repreſentation of our Commercial Affairs, as that Gentlemen, by being better

better appriſed of the true State of their Country, may be thereby qualified to think on proper Methods and Schemes for improving the ſame: for, ſurely nothing will ſo effectually enable Men to take right Meaſures, for the Good of their Country, as to be rightly informed concerning the Trade and true Intereſt thereof.

I ſhall conſider our Trade under the following Heads.

Iſt, I ſhall examine what *Ireland* gains or loſes, both in reſpect of its general Trade with all the World, and of its particular Trade with the ſeveral Countries it has Dealings with.

IIdly, I ſhall particularly take notice of the Countries we trade with, to moſt Advantage or Diſadvantage.

IIIdly, I ſhall ſet forth the great Benefits which accrue to *England*, by the Trade of *Ireland*, and how much it is its Intereſt to encourage it.

IVthly, I ſhall offer ſome Hints for the better Improvement and Regulation of our Trade.

As to the firſt Head, we are to obſerve, that, in order to form a right Judgment of the Trade of any Country, and whether it gains or loſes in its Commerce with any particular Nation, or its Traffick with all Countries, 'tis abſolutely neceſſary to be well inform'd how much Money that Country pays for its Imports, and receives for its Exports; for the Difference of both, in Value, is the true Meaſure of Loſs or Gain: if the Exports ſell for more than is laid out in purchaſing the Imports; or, if the Imports coſt more than the Exports amount to, the Difference will be return'd in Specie, and is called the Ballance.

Tho'

Tho' it must be confess'd to be very difficult to come to an exact Knowledge of the true Value of all Goods imported and exported, in a Country that has an extensive Trade, and has loaded its Imports with high Duties; yet, I hope, we shall be thought to come very near the Truth, by the Means of those Enquiries and Calculations we have made, and especially by the help of those *Abstracts*, which have been laid from time to time before the *House of Commons*, by the Officers of the *Custom-House*, who make up yearly Accounts of the Quantity and Value of all Commodities imported and exported: And having made several Estimates and Observations from the said *Abstracts*, I shall present them to the Reader in one View for his better Information, judging them the best Foundation we can go upon for forming a just Estimate of our Trade, compar'd with other Nations; and, the only Way to clear up the Mistakes and wrong Notions, which several entertain concerning our Trade with particular Countries: and, as there are several Articles not taken notice of by the Officers of the Custom-House, which ought to be taken into Consideration, when we are drawing up the Ballances of our respective Trades, I shall endeavour to supply them in what follows.

An

An ACCOUNT of the Value of the Exports and Imports of *Ireland* for seven Years, ending the 24th of *March* 1720, taken from the *Custom-House Books* in *Dublin*.

In the Year	Value of Exports in Pounds *Sterl.*	Value of Imports.
1714	1529765	972688
1715	1067913	873044
1716	1255085	875566
1717	1180012	907160
1718	1115304	887758
1719	1038381	891678
1720	859581	683364
	8046041	6091258

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value of Exports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	1149434	8	7
Value of Imports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	870179	14	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Ballance yearly in favour of *Ireland*, for said seven Years, —	279254	14	$3\frac{1}{2}$

An

An ACCOUNT of the Value of the Exports and Imports of *Ireland* for seven Years, ending the 24th of *March* 1727.

In the Year	Value of Exports.			Value of Imports.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	986346	14	2	730558	10	9
1722	1074269	12	2	829367	17	2
1723	1090675	13	5	920802	11	6
1724	1053782	13	11	819761	13	3
1725	1026537	6	4	889832	18	5
1726	1017872	15	4	1030059	16	4
1727	1062319	10	9	830791	10	8
	7311804	06	01	6051174	18	1

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value of Exports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	1044543	9	5¼
Value of Imports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years,	864453	11	2
Ballance yearly in favour of *Ireland*, for said seven Years, —	180089	18	3¼

In

In the Year	Value of the Exports from *Ireland* to *Great Britain*.			Value of the Imports from *Great Britain* to *Ireland*.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	452203	12	9	438756	17	6
1722	558400	10	5	535206	5	2
1723	578009	7	1	552859	7	5
1724	497882	15	1	472802	1	8
1725	477972	14	11	540587	6	7
1726	504881	15	4	588024	3	6
1727	462097	14	0	443460	19	6
	3531448	09	7	3571697	01	4

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value of Imports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	510242	8	9
Value of Exports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	504492	12	9
Ballance yearly, in favour of *Great Britain*, — —	5749	16	0

F In

In the Year	Value of Exports from *Ireland* to *France*.			Value of Imports from *France* to *Ireland*.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	121237	10	9	132908	2	3
1722	122426	10	5	117881	13	3
1723	176777	8	2	150563	18	3
1724	214422	17	6	141650	9	5
1725	205317	7	7	159055	5	2
1726	137702	10	7	193954	12	6
1727	179568	12	10	177705	10	9
	1157452	17	10	1073719	10	9

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value exported at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	165350	8	3
Value imported at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	153388	10	1
Ballance yearly in favour of *Ireland*,	11961	18	2

In

In the Year	Value of Exports to *Denmark*, *Norway*, *Hamburg*, and *Baltick*.			Value of Imports from thence.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	80700	1	4	49742	7	8
1722	46531	4	8	54292		11
1723	44951	1	9	67000	9	9
1724	42049	10	3	74300	8	11
1725	39574	17	5	59400	3	11
1726	53211	9	9	67193	7	6
1727	55189	10	4	75526	1	2
	362207	15	6	447455		

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value of Imports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	63922	2	10
Value of Exports at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	51743	19	4
Ballance yearly against *Ireland*, —	12178	3	6

In

In the Year	Value of Exports to *Holland* and *Flanders*.			Imports from thence.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
1721	87032	19	11	51187	3	4
1722	89327	4	1	55624	16	9
1723	60866	7	7	82224	17	2
1724	52618	1	1	70048	14	3
1725	63922	15	3	69206	2	2
1726	93713	15	6	84048	6	2
1727	100865	10	4	70031		5
	548346	13	9	492371	0	3

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value exported at a Medium yearly, for said seven Years, —	78335	4	10
Value imported at a Medium yearly, —	70338	14	4
Ballance yearly in favour of *Ireland*, —	7996	10	6

In

In the Year	Value of Exports to *Spain*, *Portugal*, and the *Mediteranean*.			Imported from thence.			Difference.
	l.	*s*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	
1721	176768	6	1	57963	19	11	
1722	183239	13	0	56363	1	0	
1723	147265	1	11	68153	18	9	
1724	149984	1	0	60959	16	11	
1725	135751	8	8	61584	0	6	
1726	118049	4	5	96839	6	6	
1727	146353	12	11	64067	19	6	
	1057411	8	0	465932	3	1	

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value Exported, at a Medium, yearly,	151058	15	5
Value Imported, at a Medium, yearly,	66561	14	7
Ballance yearly, in favour of *Ireland*,	84497	00	10

In

In the Year	Exported from *Ireland* to the *Plantations*. Value.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*
1721	68404	3	2
1722	74344	9	6
1723	82806	6	9
1724	96825	8	10
1725	103998	2	4
1726	110313	19	7
1727	118244	10	1
	654937	00	3

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Value Exported, at a Medium, yearly,	93562	0	9

A

A TABLE of the Value of the Exports and Imports of *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for Seven Years, ending *Chriſtmas* 1727.

The Nations to and from which the Exports and Imports are made.	Exports. Value.			Imports. Value.			Ballance.			
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	
Great-Britain	504492	12	9	510242	8	9	5749	16	0	againſt us
France,	165350	8	3	153388	10	1	11961	18	2	for us.
Denmark, *Norway*, *Hamburgh* and the *Baltick*,	51743	19	4	63922	2	10	12178	3	6	againſt us
Holland & *Flanders*,	78335	4	10	70338	14	4	7996	10	6	for us.
Spain, *Portugal*, and the *Mediterranean*,	151058	15	5	66561	14	7	84497	0	10	for us.
Plantations,	93562	9	0				93562	9	0	for us.
Total	1044543	9	7	864453	10	7				
Net Ballance in favour of *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for ſaid ſeven Years,							180089	19	0	

N. B. All Fractions, leſs than a Penny, are omitted, which amount to Nine-pence in the whole.

The

	l.	s.	d.
The Value of Imports from all Countries into *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for the laſt ſeven Years, is, — —	864453	11	2
The Value of Imports from *Great-Britain*, at a Medium, yearly,	510252	8	9
So that the Imports from *Great-Britain* only, are, in Value, near 5 Parts in 8, of our whole Importations.			
The Value of our Exports to all Countries, at a Medium, yearly, for ſaid ſeven Years, —	1044543	9	7
The Value of Exports to *Great-Britain*, yearly, at a Medium,	504492	12	9
Therefore our Exports to *Great-Britain* only, are, in Value, near half of our whole Exportations.			
The general Ballance in favour of *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for ſeven Years, ending the 24th of *March* 1720, was, —	279254	14	3½
The general Ballance for *Ireland*, at a Medium, yearly, for laſt ſeven Years, was, —	180089	18	3½
The yearly Decreaſe of the Ballance of Trade for laſt ſeven Years,	99164	16	0
Value of Imports in 1726, —	1030059	16	4½
Value of Exports in 1726, —	1017872	15	4
Ballance againſt *Ireland* in 1726,	12187	1	0½

THUS

THUS far we are inſtructed by the *Cuſtom-Houſe Books*, concerning the Value of our Commodities imported and exported, and the reſpective Ballances depending thereon, and find that the Ballance in our Favour of all our Trade in general, taken at a Medium yearly, for the laſt ſeven Years ending the 24th of *March* 1727, amounts to 180,089*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*

IT is proper to take notice of the manner of Valuation practis'd by the proper Officers, who (as I am well inform'd) value all our Exports at a Medium of the Price current in our Markets at home; and all the Imports, at the mean Rate we are ſuppos'd to pay for them to other Countries: And to do Juſtice to the Care and Skill of the Officers, we muſt obſerve, that of late Years, they are, for the moſt part, pretty exact, and right in their Valuations, having made it their Buſineſs to be well inform'd by Merchants, and other Dealers, of the current Rates of Commodities both at home and abroad.

IT muſt be own'd, that this manner of Valuation, will not give us the true Ballances of our Trade with other Countries; for though in reſpect to the Imports, no Alteration is to be made in the Value of them, on the Suppoſition that we rate them no higher, than the prime Coſt we pay for them to other Countries, yet we muſt add to the Value of our Exports, whatever we ſell them for abroad, more than they are rated for at home; this additional Value ariſes from the Duty and Charges of Exportation, the Freight, Expence and Profit of Merchants, which in long Voyages are very Conſiderable, and enhance the Price of Commodities to the Gain of that Nation, in whoſe Ships, and on whoſe Account theſe Goods are exported.

To adjuſt theſe Articles, that are either to be added to, or ſubſtracted from the reſpective Ballances, as they are ſettled by our *Cuſtom-Houſe Officers*, is very difficult, and requires the Knowledge of many Particulars, not eaſily to be come at; however, I ſhall endeavour to give all the Satisfaction, I am able, from ſuch Lights, and Information, as I have had in this Affair: and in the firſt place, I ſhall lay down an Eſtimate of the Tunnage of Shipping, employ'd in the Trade of *Ireland* for ſeveral Years.

AN

An ESTIMATE of the Tunnage of Shipping employed in the Trade of *IRELAND.*

In the Year	Number of Ships.	*Irish* Tuns.	*English* Tuns.	*Scotch* Tuns.	*Dutch* Tuns.	*East Country* Tuns.	*French* Tuns.	*Spanish* Tuns.	Totals.
1721	3499	35006	94177	15739	8641	3244	1384	231	158422
1722	3657	33212	218299	18355	11201	2444	2868	115	286494
1723	4012	42136	96440	19247	9292	3915	2751	205	173986
1724	3833	39085	95980	19095	967	12318	1989	511	169925
1725	3461	36795	92321	18098	11870	2179½	775½	365	162404
1726	3703	43089	103961	19882	12266	1910	2400	432	183940
1727	3494	40469	99394	15648	12086	2543	2652	401	173193
Totals.	25659	269792	800572	126064	66323	28553½	14819½	2260	1308364
At a Medium yearly.	3665$\frac{4}{7}$	38541$\frac{5}{7}$	114367$\frac{3}{7}$	18009$\frac{1}{7}$	9474$\frac{5}{7}$	4079$\frac{1}{14}$	2117$\frac{1}{14}$	322$\frac{6}{7}$	186909$\frac{1}{7}$

THIS

THIS Eſtimate ſhews us, what Share we ourſelves, as well as other Countries have in the Shipping employ'd in the Exportation and Importation of our Commodities; but what Proportion of thoſe Commodities are exported or imported on the account of our own Merchants, is not ſo eaſy to aſcertain: but upon the beſt Enquiry I have been able to make, I judge, that at a Medium the third Part of the Value of our whole Exports, may be the Proportion that our Merchants export on their own accounts, and that a Profit of 12 *l. per Cent.* at a Medium, may be allow'd to ariſe from this part of our Exportation, including the Freight of our own Shipping: Upon this Suppoſition, the Gain accruing to the Kingdom thereby, will, by an Allowance of 12 *l. per Cent.* for the Sum of 348,500 *l.* (which is the third part of our whole Exportation) amount to 41,800 *l. per Ann.* and if we ſhould be concern'd in half the Value of our Exports, as ſome imagine we are, or that the Gain ariſing from thence ſhould be more than 12 *l. per Cent.* then a farther Profit in proportion muſt be brought into the Account.

THIS ſurplus Profit ariſes from that part of our Exports, which we ſend abroad on our own Accounts, and ſell for ſo much more abroad, than they are rated at home; and muſt be added in our Favour, to the yearly Ballance of 180,089 *l.* 19 *s.* ſtated by the *Cuſtom-Houſe Officers*; and in caſe thoſe Officers ſhould have rated our Imports higher than we paid for them to Foreigners, the Overplus ought to be deducted from the Value of the Imports ſet down by them, which will increaſe the Ballance in our Favour; and, on the contrary, the Overplus ought to be added to the Value of our Imports, if they have under-rated them, which will leſſen the Ballance: But tho' it would be agreeable to find the Ballance of Trade enlarge in our Favour, from ſo conſiderable an Addition to it, ariſing from ſome Articles

Articles, that could not come within the Province of the *Cuſtom-Houſe Officers*, yet upon Examination, I am afraid we ſhall find a great Draw-back upon us, and be oblig'd to abate a great deal of that ſuppos'd Ballance, and perhaps reduce it lower than the Ballance ſtated by the Cuſtom-Houſe, when we conſider the great Quantity of Goods, which are yearly run into the Kingdom, without any Entry in the Cuſtom-Houſe Books, or Duty paid for the ſame, for which we paid Value abroad.

'TIS impoſſible to aſcertain the Value of this clandeſtine Importation, but the fair Trader complains of great Quantities of all ſorts of *Eaſt-India* Commodities, Silks, Tobacco, Wine, *&c.* imported by Stealth; and of late we have diſcover'd a long Scene of running of Brandy, even in our *Metropolis*, where Officers abound, and are under the immediate Eye of the Commiſſioners; and yet neither the Truſts, nor Oaths, Penalties, or Number of Officers were ſufficient Checks to prevent their being brib'd by the Runners. If 'tis ſo difficult to prevent this ſort of Traffick in *Dublin*, what Quantities muſt we ſuppoſe to be privately imported in the other parts of the Kingdom, in a Compaſs of near 800 Miles in Circuit, abounding in Harbours and Creeks, where neither the Number or Care of Officers can be ſufficient, to prevent theſe clandeſtine Conveyances; and tho' ſuch ſort of People, are by a late Act of Parliament depriv'd of the Uſe of the *Iſle of Man* for carrying on this Traffick, yet how eaſy is it to ſhift the Scene of this pernicious Dealing, when the Profit ſhall countervail all Hazards, as it always does, where the Duties are high; but whatever is the yearly Ballance on our Side by Trade, whether 180,000 *l.* or 220,000 *l.* or more, yet all this falls very much ſhort of anſwering, that immoderate and unprofitable Drain of Money, we labour under, to ſupport our Gentry abroad; whatever

ever Gain we make in any part of the World, is immediately carry'd off by this Flux, which has already consum'd the greatest part of our capital Stock, as appears by that universal Face of Poverty, that is spread over the Nation.

I SHALL close this Head, with an Observation, which may pass for a political Axiom, *That one of the greatest Evils, which can befal any Country, is to have the Gentlemen of Estate and Employment desert it, and spend the Profits thereof abroad.*

UNDER the second Head, I shall take notice of the Countries we trade with, to most Advantage or Disadvantage.

AND I shall lay down the following *Rules*, as a Foundation, to judge by.

I. THAT is the most advantageous Trade, which takes off the greatest Quantity of the Produce of a Country, and especially its Manufactures, and which imports fewest Commodities, and those capable of farther Improvement; in which case there will be the greatest Return in Specie to make up the Ballance.

II. ON the contrary, that is the most disadvantageous Trade, which takes off the smallest Quantity of the Produce of a Country, and that unmanufactured, and in Return imports the greatest Quantity of Commodities for Luxury, and fully wrought up, in which Case the Imports will most exceed the Exports in Value.

ACCORDING to this Rule, we shall find the Trade of *England* of great Importance to us, since it takes off above the Value of 500,000 *l.* yearly, which is near the Half of all our Exports, and among the rest, the greatest Part of our Linnen Manufactures.

'TIS

'Tis true, the *English* take from us all our Wool, Worsted, Woollen and Linnen-Yarn, which they work up to their great Advantage, and import to us in Manufactures fully wrought up, near the full Value of all we export to them.

OUR Trade to *Spain*, *Portugal*, and the *Mediterranean* is very beneficial to us, since it carries off yearly to the value of 151,000 *l.* in our Commodities, and, in return, we have from thence near three parts in five of the Value return'd in Specie.

HOLLAND and *Flanders* take from us to the value of 78,000 *l.* yearly, in the simple Produce of the Country, principally in Raw Hides, which they tann, and in great Quantities of Butter; and in Return, they send us the value of 70,000 *l.* in *Hollands*, *Cambricks*, *Madder*, and other Commodities, most of which we could furnish ourselves with, from our own Industry, if proper Measures were taken.

WE send to *Hamburgh*, *Norway*, and the *Baltick* yearly to the value of 52,000 *l.* and import from thence to the value of 64,000 *l.* so that there lies a Ballance of 12,000 *l.* yearly against us; but considering that our Imports from thence consist principally of Deal-Boards, Timber of all sorts, Iron, Hemp, and Naval-Stores, which we can't be without, or supply ourselves with cheaper elsewhere, we must be content with that Trade on the Foot it stands.

AS to the Trade of *France*, by the Custom-House Books, (from which I always take such Estimates and Valuations as are herein mention'd) the Value of our Exports thither yearly at a Medium of the last seven Years, amounts unto 165,000 *l.* and our Imports from thence to 153,000 *l. per Ann.* by which we seem to have a Ballance on our side yearly of 12,000 *l.* but if we make Allowances for great Quantities of Silken Manufacture, Brandy, and many other expensive Articles, clandestinely imported from thence from time to time, we shall find, I am afraid, a

con-

considerable Ballance lie against us, as appears plainly from a constant Course of Exchange in Favour of *France*.

We find by the Custom-House Books, that the Importation of *French* Wines has increased so much of late Years, that there is a third part more now imported than used to be twelve Years ago, notwithstanding the prime Cost thereof has been considerably raised upon our Merchants in *France*, and the Price thereof increased much more on our Consumers at home.

It may be therefore adviseable to put a Stop to this immoderate Consumption of *French* Wine, by laying an additional Duty thereon; which will have this good Effect, that we shall thereby save a great deal of Money to the Kingdom yearly, and at the same time increase the Consumption of the Produce of the Country, and consequently our home Excise.

Many are of Opinion, that the *French* Trade is very detrimental to this Country. *1st*, Because our Importations from thence consist principally of Wine and Brandy, which are Materials for Luxury, and not for Use. *2dly*, Because the *French* will take no Manufactures from us, not even a tann'd Hide, nor any other Produce of our Country, but what is useful either for their Manufactures at home, or necessary for the Support of their *American* Plantations abroad.

But then we ought to consider, that it appears from the Quantity of our Commodities exported to *France*, at a Medium yearly for seven Years ending 1726, taken from the Custom-House Books, that the *French* take from us, one Year with another, two parts in five of all our Tallow, above one third of all our Butter, a fourth part of our raw Hides, and above one third part of all our Beef; which last Commodity may otherwise lie a Drug upon our Hands, since no other foreign Nation has occasion for the same,

same, either for their own Consumption, or for the Use of their Colonies: We should also consider that we have been long used to the drinking of Wine, and in all Likelihood will not fail to continue the Use of it, and that we can't have Wines so cheap from other Countries, and that the Duty laid thereon is a great Support to our Establishment; for these Reasons we can't think this Trade so very detrimental as some would make it. It could be wish'd indeed, that proper Representations were made to the *French*, to make them sensible that we shew more Favour to them in the Duties on Wine, than to any other Nation; and that, in return, we might reasonably expect some Favour, in our Trade with them, with respect to the Duties on our Commodities; and not to be treated, as we are at present, with as great Severity, as those Nations are, who lay very high Duties, and even Prohibitions on their Commodities.

3dly, I shall now consider the great Benefits which accrue to *England* by the Trade of *Ireland*, and how much it is its Interest to encourage it; which I shall endeavour to make appear in the following Particulars.

1st, It appears from the Custom-House Books, that the Value of our Importations from all Countries, at a Medium yearly for the last seven Years, amounts to 864,453 *l.* 10 *s.* 7 *d.* and that the Imports from *Great-Britain* alone amount to 510,242 *l.* 8 *s.* 9 *d.* which is near five parts in eight of our whole Importations, and they consist chiefly of Woollen and Silken Manufactures, Coffee, Tea, Callicoes, Muslins, Tobacco, Sugar, Coals, Hops, Bark, Iron-Ware, and Glass-Ware, *&c.* all which are Commodities work'd up to the height; and I believe that upon Examination, it will be found that we take off a much greater Quantity of the several Manufactures

factures of *England*, except their Woollen, than any other Country in *Europe*.

2*dly*, Whereas 'tis commonly judg'd, that the Importation of foreign Goods is a Loſs to the Nation that receives them; ſince otherwiſe Bullion would be return'd in Lieu thereof: We ſhall find on the contrary, that *England* receives a vaſt Benefit by all the Goods we ſend them; for the Wool, Woollen-Yarn, and Worſted, which they have from us yearly, to the Quantity of between 2 and 300,000 Stones, at 18 Pound weight the Stone, and for which they pay us about 130,000 *l.* when fully manufactured by the People of *England*, will ſell for 500,000 *l.* at leaſt, in foreign Markets, which is a Benefit that would otherwiſe accrue to the People of *Ireland*, had not *England* reſerv'd the Manufacture and Profit thereof to themſelves.

In like manner they receive from us yearly, as appears from the Entries in our Cuſtom-Houſe Books, taken at a Medium yearly for ſeven Years ending the 24th of *March* 1726, to the value of 92,752 *l.* in Linnen-Yarn, which when work'd up into Tickings, Tapes, Girths, and many other ſorts of Manufactures in *England*, become thereby worth 100,000 *l.* more than their firſt Coſt.

They alſo take from us great Quantities of raw Hides, Butter, Tallow, and Linnen, which they export to foreign Countries, and their Plantations, to great Advantage.

3*dly*, It appears from the Eſtimate of the Tunnage of Shipping, employ'd yearly in the Trade of *Ireland*, before ſet forth, that whereas the whole Tunnage amounts at a Medium yearly to 186,909 Tuns, the *Engliſh* and *Scotch* Tunnage ſo employ'd comes to 132,376 Tuns, which is more than Two-thirds of the whole, and allowing but nine Shillings Gain on each Tun at a Medium, which is very moderate,

moderate, there ariſes a yearly Profit of 59,562 *l.* 4 *s.* to the *Engliſh* and *Scotch*, on this Article of Freight only in the *Iriſh* Trade.

4*thly*, Our Exportations, as well as our Freight being principally carry'd on the account of *Engliſh* Merchants, there ariſes a very conſiderable Profit to them on this Article, which is commonly eſtimated to be double the Freight, to make good Expences, Enſurance, and Merchants Profits; but being willing to be under the real Value in theſe Computations, it may be reaſonably allow'd that a Profit of 80,000 *l.* accrues to *England* yearly on this Article of the *Iriſh* Trade.

5*thly*, To all theſe Advantages, we are to add the greateſt of all, which ariſes from our Lords and Gentlemen of Eſtate and Employment living and ſpending all their Incomes abroad, to the value of 5 or 600,000 *l.* yearly, whereof the greateſt part is conſum'd in *England*, and may be reckon'd as ſo much clear Gain to it, without the leaſt Value return'd for the ſame.

This plainly appears from the Liſt of *Abſentees* hereunto prefix'd, wherein the Names of the Perſons, and the yearly Value of their Eſtates, Employments, and Penſions ſpent abroad, are particularly mention'd; and for this Reaſon, becauſe it would be impoſſible to convince the World, that ſo much of our Subſtance is carry'd off by this Channel, by any other Method, than by pointing out the Perſons to whom, and the Eſtates from whence thoſe Drains are made; but now every one, on examining the Particulars contain'd in the ſaid Liſt, which have been collected with great Pains into one View, may ſatisfy himſelf, whether they are truly ſet forth or not; 'tis but enquiring whether ſuch and ſuch Perſons, do not generally live abroad, or were out of the Kingdom, at the time mention'd; and whether they

they have not Estates or Employments to the Value set forth, and spend the same abroad: And I am confident, that tho' in some few Particulars, I might be misinform'd and over-rate some Articles, yet it will be found that I have under-rated others much more, having it always in my Intention to be rather under, than over; and that I have omitted several, which will occur upon reading, to every one's Observation; and that upon the whole, those Drains we labour under, are much more than I have estimated them.

Mr. *Davenant*, in his Discourses on the *Plantation* Trade, *p.* 221. asserts, that the Trade of *England* arriv'd at its greatest Height in 1688, at which time he computes the national Profit arising from foreign Trade, and home Manufactures, to have been two Millions yearly; the Particulars whereof are as follow;

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Gain'd by the *Plantation* Trade,	600,000		
By the *East-India* Trade,	500,000		
By the *European*, *African*, and *Levant* Trade on the home Product,	600,000		
By Re-exports of *Plantation* Goods,	120,000		
By Re-exports of *India* Goods,	180,000		
In all,	2,000,000		

Mr. *Davenant* was suspected to be too partial to the *East-India* Trade; for which Reason many oppos'd him, and would not allow that *England* gain'd one Million yearly at that time, and some insisted that *England* was then a great Loser, by a large Ballance on the side of the *French* Trade; and indeed if the Trade of *England* had been in such a flourishing Condition, as to have gain'd at last two Millions yearly, that must have appear'd in a proportionable

proportionable Increase of the current Specie, and swell'd it up at the Revolution to 30 or 40 Millions, but upon the Recoinage of their Money, it was computed by Mr. *Davenant* and others, that the current Specie did not exceed 18 Millions: But whatever Gain the Nation had formerly, I am afraid it has much less now; for considering the great Loss of Treasure sent abroad, to support the Wars, in the Reigns of *William* and Queen *Anne*, the Interruptions and Losses by Trade, in that Time, and considering the great Load of high Duties, Taxes and Prohibitions, that lie very heavy on all its foreign and domestick Commerce; I believe, that the most sanguine will not pretend that *England* gains at present a Million by all its Traffick; and even half of that Sum is sent off yearly to pay Foreigners, the Interest of the Money they have in the publick Funds, which is reasonably judg'd to be no less than ten Millions.

If this be the Case of *England*, as I am afraid it is, then it clearly follows, that *England* gains by *Ireland* alone, half as much yearly as it does by all the World besides; this Channel of Wealth has enabled *England* all along to support two most expensive Wars abroad, and to lay up Treasure at home in Time of Peace. Whatever the People of *Ireland* get by hard Labour, and poor Living at home, or by their Industry and Hazards abroad; all is immediately convey'd to *England*, to maintain our Gentlemen there.

And notwithstanding *Ireland* has parted with all its Substance, and reduc'd it self to the greatest Poverty, to enrich *England*, yet there are some *Englishmen*, who, being ignorant of the Case of *Ireland*, and of the Advantages it brings to them, upon all Occasions represent us, as having Interests incompatible with theirs, and carrying on Trades destructive of the *English* Commerce; whereas 'tis evident

dent to all considering impartial Persons, that there is no Country in *Europe*, that brings so much Profit to another as *Ireland* does to *England*, and therefore 'tis the real Interest and Policy of *England* to cherish, and encourage this her younger Sister, all whose Acquisitions are sure to flow into her Bosom; for tho' our People were more fully employ'd, and our Exports enlarg'd, tho' our Gains from other Nations by a greater Liberty of Trade should be much more considerable than they are, yet we should not thereby be one Jot the richer, since no Part of this Wealth would stay with us, but would run off in the great *Drain* of Remittances to our *Absentees* to enrich *England*.

THE necessary and luxurious Importations of *England* are excessive, and fall very short of its Exports in Value, each of them being computed at between 5 and 6 Millions yearly.

IF most Part of the *Bullion*, which *England* gains from *Spain* and *Portugal*, is sent away to the *East-Indies*, and to answer the Ballances that lie against it in the *Northern* Trades, and the Demands also of Foreigners, who have great Shares in the Publick Funds, as many imagine to be the Case, it will need other Resources and Means to encrease its Wealth: These are furnished to it from those Countries, which depend upon it, namely, the *Plantations* and *Ireland*; the *Plantations* enrich it by their Commodities, which are re-exported to other Countries, and *Ireland* by its continual Remittances in Money.

'TIS certain that the *Plantations* are a great Addition of Wealth to *England*; the Labour of the *Negroes*, about 200,000 in Number, costs little, and the Profit thereof is great, and centers at last in *England*: No Part of the Money which the *Planters* get from the *Spaniards*, stays with them, but flows to *England* as fast as it enters in; and whenever a *Planter* has made his Fortune, he seldom fails to transport

transport all his Effects and Family to *England*, which he reckons his Home; 'tis therefore the Interest of *England*, to promote and encourage the Trade of their Plantations, and not suffer any Obstruction or Difficulty to be thrown upon it, (at the Instance of private Traders and Manufacturers, who may find their own Account in it) to the Prejudice of the Nation, which will always be enrich'd by the Plantations, in proportion as they grow in Wealth, and lose as they grow poor.

OUR Case is much the same with the Plantations, the Produce and Profit of all our Labour issues constantly to the People of *England*; and therefore 'tis its Interest to give the People of *Ireland* full Employment, to encourage their Industry in every Branch of Trade, and not stop any Inlet through which Treasure may come into it, since every Acquisition and Profit that we can make, will, at last, center among them; if they would look upon us with the same Favour, and in the same Light, as they ought to do their Plantations, they would justly reckon us a main Foundation of their Wealth, and think it not consistent with their Interest, to cramp our Industry, or render our Labour trifling and insignificant.

UPON a candid and fair Enquiry and Reasoning, it will be found, that there is no Trade or Manufacture that *England* is possessed of, but it is for its Advantage, to let the People of *Ireland* into the full Enjoyment of it; not excepting the Woollen Manufacture, the principal Foundation of all their Trade, and which they are so jealous of, and value at so high a Rate.

THIS Assertion may seem a strange Paradox to several Persons, but I think, may be supported with many good Reasons; but I shall first take notice of, and examine the Grounds of those Complaints, which are frequently rais'd by some in *England*, of

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the Transportation of great Quantities of Wooll, and Woollen Manufacture, from *Ireland* to *France*, *Spain* and *Portugal*, to the great Prejudice of their Woollen Trade, by the Sale of *Irish* Stuffs, or *French* Manufactures made of *Irish* Wooll: And, as a Proof of this, it is urg'd, that the Quantity of Wooll transported from hence to *England*, is much diminished of late Years, and therefore they conclude, that all the Wooll that is wanting to make up the former Quantities, is run to *France*.

They say further, that they have discovered a Clandestine Trade, in carrying great Quantities of Serges and Woollen Goods, to *Lisbon* and other Places, of which they have given us invidious Accounts in the publick Prints.

In answer to this, it must be own'd, that there is not so great a Quantity of Wooll exported to *England*, of late Years, as used to be: but this Diminution is easily accounted for, and it is not owing to the running of Wooll, but arises principally from the following Causes.

1*st*, That, in the North of *Ireland*, there are hardly any Sheep now to be found, since the Inhabitants are grown very numerous, and have apply'd themselves principally to the Linnen Manufactures, and sowing of Corn for their Subsistence: so that they are forc'd to supply themselves with Wooll and Mutton from other Provinces.

2*dly*, In other Parts of the Kingdom, the Farmers, finding that Wooll lay under a great Discouragement, and could not afford a Profit answerable to the high Price of Lands, have generally lessened their Flocks of Sheep, and employed their Lands to other Uses, which turn to a better Account, such as feeding Black-Cattle, keeping Dairies, plowing for Corn, Rape, Hemp and Flax, *&c.* for which they find a ready Market abroad; whereas they are not allowed at

at all to export their Wooll manufactured; nor even unmanufactured, but to a few Ports in *England*.

3*dly*, We are farther to consider, that the People of *Ireland* are much encreas'd in Numbers, and are fallen into a greater Wear and Use of their own Manufactures, and consequently must consume a greater Quantity of their Wooll.

4*thly*, The Sheep of *Ireland* are subject to the Rot, from the Wetness of the Seasons, and Moisture of the Climate; and, as such Seasons are frequent, and the Destruction of Sheep thereby very great, whenever this happens, it requires a good many Years to repair the Loss.

We see this Diminution might have happen'd, tho' we should not have run one Stone of Wooll; and it is likely this Diminution will still encrease; for, what Motive can we have, to deal in a Commodity which we are not allowed to export or manufacture to Advantage, and only to make our selves Shepherds for *England*? This Cause of Complaint is like to fall soon to the Ground, since we find it our Interest to lessen our Number of Sheep, and to keep no more of them than are necessary for our own Consumption; and then probably we shall be courted to return to our Flocks again.

It can't be deny'd, that some Wooll and Stuffs are run out of the Kingdom; and 'tis impossible altogether to prevent it in such a wide-extended Coast, full of Creeks, notwithstanding the Vigilance and Care of the Officers, who are, perhaps, the strictest in the Execution of this Part of their Office, of any in *Europe*; and we see, that in *England*, all their Laws and Endeavours can't prevent this mischievous Traffick. 'Tis remarkable, that one of our Merchants having observed many Packs of Wooll landed in the West of *England* from *Ireland*, soon after, saw the same Packs landed in one of the Ports of *France*, where he happen'd to come, and knew them

 by

by their Marks; and, upon Enquiry made in the Ports of *France*, it was found, that a greater Quantity of Wooll was imported thither from *England* than from *Ireland*.

If any Woollen Manufacture is clandestinely carried from hence to *Portugal* or *Spain*, (for *France* will take nothing but Wooll) the Quantity can't be great; the Hazards on Exportation are so many, and Forfeitures so great, that it is hardly worth any one's while to venture: and, as such Exporters are poor, they must sell for what they can get, and perhaps their selling their Goods at a low Rate, tho' in a small Quantity, has given the greatest Offence; and, for that Reason, the *French* and *Dutch* will be as ready to join in the Out-cry, as the *English*.

We ought to consider, that Trade has been at a Stand, and that there has been little Vent for Woollen Manufactures these two Years past, which has been occasion'd principally by our Difference with *Spain*. In such a Crisis, the *English* Merchants are apt to assign many wrong Causes, besides the true ones, for the Decay of their Trade; and, among others, are ready to bring in the People of *Ireland* for their Share in it: but, we are very sensible at home, that our Weavers are starving for want of Employment, and, at the same time, import a great deal of Woollen Manufacture from *England*, which is no Sign that we export great Quantities thereof abroad: but, whatever *Irish* Woollen Manufacture is sold abroad, all the Money got thereby, is soon remitted to the People of *England*, who are so far from being Losers, that they are great Gainers by this Traffick, which some reckon so pernicious.

If the *French*, or any other Foreigners, should sell all their Goods at the same Market, abroad, that *England* does, and remit all the Money arising from thence to *England*, to be spent there, will any body say, that so much is not clear Gain to *England*, tho' some

some of its Merchants may possibly suffer a little thereby, in the Sale of their Goods?

This is the very Case of *Ireland*, so much complain'd of, which leads me to make good my Assertion, that it is the Interest of *England* to leave the Woollen Trade free and open to the People of *Ireland*.

If *Ireland* was the only Country, besides *England*, which produc'd Wooll, it would then be in the Power of *England*, and its Interest, by Restrictions laid upon us, to reserve the whole Trade to themselves; and we should readily acquiesce and submit to those Laws, however severe they may otherwise be thought: but the Case is much otherwise, *Spain* produces great Quantities of fine Wooll, and all the other Parts of *Europe* raise a great deal of the coarse, and a considerable Parcel of the fine sort: so that they do not want Materials for Woollen Manufacture. Stopping the door upon *Ireland*, is only hedging in the Cuckow, and has only serv'd to open and enlarge that Trade in foreign Countries, by driving great Numbers of our Weavers to *France*, and other Places, where they have set up the same Trade, and thereby have done *England* much more Prejudice, than if they had staid at home, and were allow'd to export their Woollen Manufactures.

We find, by *sad* Experience, that since the Revolution the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Germans* have encouraged and cultivated their Woollen Manufactures to a great Height, and still go on in improving the same; and by the Cheapness of Labour and Provisions, are able to undersell the *English* already in their own and foreign Markets: The *French* have thereby in a great measure ingrossed the Woollen Trade in *Turkey* and the *Mediterranean*, which was formerly carry'd on by the *English*; and many Provinces in *Germany* now supply themselves with their own Manufactures, which they likewise had formerly from *Eng-*

England: We find alſo, that ſince the Miniſtries of *Alberoni* and *Ripperda*, the *Spaniards* have, either out of Revenge or Policy, proſecuted the Woollen Trade with ſuch Vigour, that they now cloath their Armies with their own Manufactures, and in imitation of the Court, the Nobility and better Sort are clothed the ſame way; and that *Engliſh* Bays, which uſed to be the common Wear of the Country, is not now made uſe of there. If this Humour goes on, the *Spaniards* may in time prohibit the Exportation of their Wooll, the principal Ingredient of the fine Drapery of *England*.

This is a very diſagreeable Scene of Affairs, which ſhould inſpire the *Engliſh* with Reſolutions of taking other Meaſures to mend their Condition: they ſee the *French*, *Dutch*, and others have rival'd and even worm'd them out of a great Part of their Woollen Trade, and they are in danger of being driven out of the beſt part of what remains, unleſs ſome new Courſe be taken to retrieve their Woollen Trade; which can be done no other way, than by being able to under-ſell the *French* and *Dutch* in foreign Markets; for it is a Maxim, which always holds good, that he commands the Market, who ſells beſt and cheapeſt. This is what the *Engliſh* can't do of themſelves, conſidering the high Price of Labour, Taxes, and Manner of Living in *England*, which lie heavy on their Manufactures, and make them come dearer to any foreign Market, than thoſe of other Countries, which rival them: but if they ſhould think proper to employ the People of *Ireland*, in making any Part of their Woollen Manufactures, and eſpecially ſuch Sorts of them as they are rival'd in by others, they would ſoon be able to drive the *French* and *Dutch* out of any Branch of foreign Trade, by ſelling cheaper, and better Commodities than they.

And

And this we have reaſon to believe would be the Caſe, conſidering that the Price of Labour and Proviſions in *Ireland* is very low, and that the People are induſtrious, and live poor and cheap, and have no Taxes on their Conſumptions. There is no way left for the People of *England* to recover any loſt Trade, but by the ſame Ways and Means whereby others got it from them, which is by ſelling cheaper than their Neighbours; nor is there any Courſe left to bring that about, but by taking in the Aſſiſtance of the People of *Ireland*, and employing their Hands in ſuch Manner, and ſuch Work as they ſhall find moſt convenient.

If, for inſtance, the *Turkey* Merchants were allow'd to work up in *Ireland*, ſuch ſort of Goods as the *French* ſell in *Turkey*, and to export them directly thither, and could by under-ſelling the *French*, diſpoſe of a much greater Quantity of ſuch Goods than they do at preſent, would not this be apparently for the Benefit of *England*? The greateſt Part of the Profit would redound to the *Engliſh* Merchants, and the poor *Iriſh* Manufacturer would be only employ'd in the moſt laborious and leaſt gainful Part of the Work, and thereby get a bare Livelihood: 'tis the *Engliſh* Merchants, who have Stocks of Money, and could employ the poor People of *Ireland*, that would have the Benefit of all their Labour; and if the *Iriſh* ſhould themſelves gain a little by this Working, and being inſtrumental in encreaſing their Wealth, even that little would not ſtay with us, but be carry'd off, as all our Wealth is, to maintain our Gentlemen in *England*.

If under the preſent Diſcouragements, Hazards, and Forfeitures, ſome of our People will venture to carry ſome Woollen Goods to *Portugal* and *Spain*, and be able to under-ſell all others there, for which no doubt the *French* and *Dutch* are as much ſet againſt us on this Account as ſome *Engliſh*: This ſhews

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to a Demonſtration, that the *Engliſh*, by the Help of *Iriſh* Labour and Induſtry, could be able to under-ſell all others, and drive them out of foreign Markets; in obtaining which Advantage, and keeping it afterwards, they may have full Employment for their own People, as well as the People of *Ireland*: and 'tis certainly more for the Advantage of *England*, that the People of *Ireland* ſhould have a Share in this Trade, than that Foreigners ſhould run away with it, ſince every Addition to our Wealth will enlarge our Remittances to *England*.

We do not in the leaſt imagine or expect, that the People of *England* will come into any Indulgence of this kind for our ſakes; but if it is apparently for the Advantage of *England*, 'tis to be preſum'd, they will not be blind to their own Intereſt, or neglect any Expedients, or Means, for encreaſing the Trade or Riches of their Kingdom, tho' they may ſeemingly interfere with the Intereſt of particular Companies or Traders: For my own part, as I have ſome ſmall Eſtate in both Countries, I am perſuaded, as an *Engliſhman*, that a proper Uſe of the Labour and Induſtry of the People of *Ireland*, is the beſt and ſureſt Fund to encreaſe the Wealth of *England*.

4thly, I ſhall now offer ſome Hints and Propoſals for the Improvement and Regulation of our Trade.

But am forc'd to premiſe what I have to ſay, with this melancholy Reflection, That as long as this waſteful Export of our Treaſure continues, and carries off every Acquiſition we can make, it will be in vain to offer any Expedients for encreaſing our Manufactures, leſſening our Imports, or improving our Trade; for every Inlet of Wealth we can make, will be too little to feed and ſatisfy this devouring Drain, which will ever keep us poor and miſerable.

It

It muſt very much affect every one, who wiſhes well to this Country, to conſider that all our Toil and Labour can avail us nothing, and will only ſerve to continue that *Evil* upon us, which is the Cauſe of all our Poverty: For poor we muſt *ever* be, ſo long as all the Advantages we can make by our Induſtry and Trade, fall ſo much ſhort of our Remittances Abroad. If we muſt be always Poor, 'tis better to enjoy Poverty with Eaſe, than to ſweat and toil, without any Hopes of mending our Condition, and without any other Effect than that of ſupporting the Vanity of our Gentlemen Abroad, who treat their Country with Contempt, and ruin it without Remorſe.

But as I am not without Hopes, that ſome Meaſures will be thought of, and ſoon put in Execution, that may, in ſome Degree, remove our preſent Grievances, and go to the Bottom of the Evil, I ſhall on that Account humbly offer ſome Hints, which may be improv'd to good Purpoſes, by others of greater Abilities, or may put them on thinking on better Ways and Means of ſerving their Country.

1ſt, I shall ſay nothing of our Linnen Manufacture, which is already brought to a great Degree of Perfection, and ſtill continues improving under the happy Direction and Regulation of the Trustees, who have done the greateſt Good to the Nation by the ſmall Fund, veſted in them for the Improvement of the Linnen and Hempen Manufacture, perhaps ten Times more than the Value of that Fund amounts unto; and we might promiſe our ſelves much greater Advantages from their good Management, if their Fund was made double or treble what it is at preſent; by which they might be enabled to ſet on foot and cultivate ſeveral other Manufactures and Trades; which we are well qualify'd to carry on, and which require Inſtruction in the Beginning, and Encouragement to overcome the Difficulties and Loſ-

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ſes, which always attend the firſt Attempts in every Invention and Trade.

2*d*, THERE are imported yearly from *Great Britain* in *Engliſh* and *Scotch* Ships between 60 and 70 Thouſand Tuns of Coals, according to the *Cuſtom-houſe Books*, for which we pay in ready Money about 50,000 *l.* which Sum is immediately carry'd off in Specie, and the Ships return home empty; others, not without good Reaſon, make the Quantity of Coals imported to be near a third Part more: We are apt to complain of the Colliers carrying off ſo much of our Money, which we more ſenſibly feel in the Loſs of our Silver; and yet 'tis our own Fault that we loſe ſo much by them, ſince it is in our own Power to ſave near half of the Expence, by becoming our own Carriers, or importing the Coals in our own Shipping, whereby we might gain the Freight and Merchants Profit, and pay only eight Shillings *per* Tun for all the Coſt abroad.

WE are ſupply'd with Coals from *Erwin*, *Saltcoats*, and lately from *Aran*, in *Scotland*, from *Whitehaven*, *Workinton*, *Parton*, and *Moſſon* in *England*, from *Flint*, *Swanſey*, and other Places in *Wales*; this Conveniency of being ſupply'd from ſo many Places, will prevent or defeat any Combinations to our Prejudice; and as we may foreſee, that an Attempt to import theſe Coals our ſelves, may probably be oppos'd by the Colliers, Maſters and Owners of the Shipping now employ'd in that Trade, who may be apprehenſive that they may loſe their Bread thereby; it may be adviſeable for the People of *Ireland* to buy up ſeveral of thoſe Ships, and employ the ſame Maſters and Seamen, who will be as well ſatisfy'd, provided they are ſtill employ'd and well paid.

IT wou'd be a great Advantage and Credit to the City of *Dublin*, if the Citizens wou'd, by Mortgage of the City-Revenue raiſe 6 or 7000 *l.* and therewith purchaſe yearly at the cheapeſt Time about 10,000 Tun

Tun of Coals, and lay them up in ſeveral Parts of the City, for the Conveniency of the Inhabitants, and oblige themſelves to ſell them in the Winter at 18 *s. per* Tun; for ſuch a Stock of Coals to be ſold at that Rate, wou'd defeat the Deſigns of Engroſſers, and Colliers, prevent extravagant Prices, and relieve the Poor, and at the ſame Time would afford a Profit, that would much more than anſwer the Intereſt of the Money thus rais'd.

ALL Attempts for diſcovering Mines of Coal, and conveying them by Water-Carriage to the Places of Conſumption, ought to be encourag'd; we hope the Deſign of making a navigable Communication between *Dungannon* and *Newry* may ſucceed, that thereby we may be furniſh'd with Coals of our own Country for our Conſumption.

WE have of late diſcovered Coal-Mines in the Counties of *Cork* and *Leitrim*, and in *Auguſt* laſt in the County of *Kilkenny*, within two Miles of *Leighlin* Bridge, and the River *Barrow*, with a Deſcent all the way to it; Theſe laſt Coals may be carry'd down the *Barrow* in Lighters to *Roſs* and *Waterford*, and there ſhipp'd off for *Dublin*; where, conſidering the Laſtingneſs of the Coal, (which will make them better for the Kitchen) they may be had cheaper than Coals from *Whitehaven*, or any other Place Abroad.

A FUND of 3 or 4000 *l.* would be ſufficient to carry on that Work, and ſupply the City of *Dublin* with ſeveral thouſand Tuns of that Coal in a Year, and 'tis hoped ſome Perſons will be found that will enter into the Deſign.

3*d*, WE import to the Value of 48,235 *l.* in Hops, at a Medium yearly, for four Years ending *March* 24, 1726, which is near as much as we pay for Coals; 'tis ſurprizing that we have ſo little cultivated this Commodity, which is ſo much in Demand, when 'tis certain, that in the *Southern* Parts of the Kingdom, we could

could raiſe very good Hops, and ſufficient for our own Conſumption: with ſome it has ſucceeded well; but the Want of Hop-poles is the great Diſcouragement in this Country, where there are ſo few Plantations, or Trees, to be met with; and it requires ſeven Years or more from the firſt planting of Oziers, Sallies, Birch, Aſh, *&c.* before they will come to a ſufficient Growth for Poles. But as the firſt Expence of theſe Nurſeries is ſmall, and the Profit at laſt very conſiderable, and the Management of Hop-yards eaſily known; 'tis to be hoped ſome Gentlemen will begin ſo laudable a Work, as well for their own Good, as that of their Country.

4th, We pay the *Dutch* 5285 Pounds for Madder, at a Medium yearly, which we might as well raiſe and cultivate among our ſelves, our Land having been found very fit to produce it, and there being little Skill wanting for the Management of it.

5th, 'Tis a great Reproach to us, that we who are ſurrounded with a Sea abounding in all Sorts of Fiſh, and furniſh'd with many Harbours for carrying on Fiſheries to great Advantage, ſhould neglect this Treaſure which Nature has brought to our Doors; and that inſtead of ſupplying foreign Markets with this Commodity, to our great Profit, we ſhould even import from other Countries to the Value of 5708 *l.* yearly at a Medium, in Herrings for our own Conſumption.

6th, It appears by the *Cuſtom-houſe Books*, that we paid to other Countries at a Medium yearly, for four Years ending *March* 24, 1726, for Silken Manufactures 42986 *l.* for Woollen Manufactures 24755 *l.* for undreſſed Hemp 11483 *l.* for Paper 10645 *l.* for Ironmonger Ware 10766 *l.* for Cambricks 8406 *l.* for Hollands 5636 *l.* for Earthen Ware 5552 *l.* and for Whalebone 5114 *l.* all which, as well as other Valuations before ſet forth, are herein particularly mentioned with this View, that our own People ſeeing the

the Value of thoſe ſeveral Commodities, which are imported yearly upon us, and which all pay Duty, may be thereby tempted to furniſh the Kingdom from their own Induſtry, with the ſame Commodities; which we are well qualified to do, if proper Meaſures were taken, and Encouragements given to undertake and proſecute thoſe Branches of Trade.

7th, We have of late been put into a Method of tanning Hides, with the Help of Tormentil Roots, inſtead of Bark, and have made ſome ſucceſsful Experiments therein; and if, upon farther and compleat Trials in all ſorts of Leather, this Practice ſhall be found to ſucceed, 'tis hoped, it may come into a general Uſe, and thereby ſave yearly above 16,000 *l.* which we pay for foreign Bark, and enable us to export all our Hides fully tann'd, and thereby enlarge the Value of our Exports.

8th, The Inhabitants of *Belfaſt* have begun a laudable Practice of uſing Linnen Scarfs and Crapes at Funerals, inſtead of Silk Modes, which are generally imported clandeſtinely into the Kingdom from *France*, and are of little Service for any other Purpoſe, and are pretty much of the ſame Price; whereas Linnen Scarfs may be applied to many other Uſes, and may be made of all Prices, from one Shilling to eight Shillings a Yard, anſwerable to the Quality or Fortune of the Deceaſed; which are good Arguments for their Uſe, and the more ſo, when we conſider that they are the Manufacture of our own Kingdom.

9th, It may be thought adviſeable alſo for the People of *Ireland* to bury their Dead in Woollen; by which means they will increaſe the Manufacture and Conſumption of their own Wool, which they are not allowed to export abroad; and at the ſame time ſave more Linnen for Exportation, for which they have full Vent in other Countries.

10th,

10*th*, I CAN'T but take notice of the impolitick Conduct of our Merchants, who crowding into foreign Markets, with great Quantities of our perishable Commodities at once, give Foreigners an Opportunity of playing them one against another, and sinking the Value of their Goods very low; whereas, if they would concert their Affairs better, and forbear carrying their Commodities to such Places, in greater Proportions than they are demanded, they might dispose of them to much greater Advantage, and turn the Tables on those, who can't do without them.

HAVING thus with the greatest Candour and Impartiality laid before the Reader, the yearly Value of the Remittances in Money, which we may reasonably be suppos'd to make to our Gentlemen who live abroad; and having also consider'd, what Ballance in our Favour we have by our whole Trade to enable us to maintain these Remittances; and having likewise taken into Consideration several other Articles which do either increase or lessen the Ballance: I leave it to every one to judge whether the Inferences and Observations drawn from thence are well grounded. It appears on one hand, that our *Absentees* draw out of the Kingdom yearly above 600,000 *l.* and on the other, that the Ballance in our Favour by our Trade, (which is the Fund we have to discharge these Draughts upon us with,) amounts to no more than 180,000 *l.* yearly, according to the publick Estimates, and by Consequence there will be wanting 420,000 *l.* to make good these Payments.

Now supposing the said Ballance of 180,000 *l.* not to be lessen'd by the Running of foreign Goods into the Kingdom; but, on the contrary, by a more advantageous Sale of our Commodities abroad in a fair Trade, and by clandestine Exportation to be increas'd to a further Sum of 180,000 *l.* (which is much too great to be allow'd) yet even then we shall

 want

want 240,000 *l.* to make up the full Sum of our Remittances abroad.

HOW we have been able hitherto to support all this, I leave to others to account for; perhaps, that Stock which we have been gathering for many Years, may hitherto have enabled us to answer these Demands upon us, when they were more moderate; but, 'tis impossible for us to subsist much longer under such a wasteful Drain. 'Tis evident, by the great Scarcity of Money in the Kingdom, that our Stock is draining off to the Lees; which is in a good measure owing also to the Necessity we were under the last two Years of sending out to the value of 200,000 *l.* to bring in Corn for our Subsistance.

IF this be our Case now, and that the present Cash of the Kingdom is no way sufficient to carry on our domestick or foreign Trade, and that there is a great Stagnation in our Business already for want of Money; what must be our Case in a little time, when all the rest of our Species shall be carry'd off? as it must certainly be, if our Gentlemen abroad shall continue to draw it from us, in the Degree they do at present; the Consequence will then be, that we shall not be able to support our Establishment, and shall cease to be an Advantage to *England*, which will ever receive less from us in Proportion, as we grow poorer. 'Tis to be hoped, the People of *England* will not be against our taxing the Estates of our *Absentees*, since it may enable us to pay the Taxes of our Country, support our Government, and prevent our becoming a Burthen to them; and we may presume they may be the rather inclin'd to approve of such a Tax, since 'tis more than probable, that most of our *Absentees* will, notwithstanding this, still live among them, and not forego their foreign Pleasures on that account.

I HAVE taken particular notice of the Benefits, which accrue to *England* by its Dealings with *Ireland*, and

and that it is its Interest to let the People of *Ireland* into a free Enjoyment of every Branch of Trade, and to give full Employment to all their Hands, since every Profit arising from thence will only serve to enlarge their Remittances to that Kingdom.

If the People of *England* will still keep us under the same Restrictions in Trade, let them send us home our Gentlemen; or if they will have our Gentlemen live and spend their Fortunes among them, it is to be hoped that they will give us a greater Liberty of Trade to enable us to maintain them there: One or other of these Expedients seems to be absolutely necessary at present, for the Support of this Kingdom.

Having by this time tir'd the Reader as well as my self, I shall only beg leave to take notice, that I hope the general Observations, I have drawn from a plain Representation of Matters of Fact, and publick Estimates, will not, as it never was my Intention they should, give the least Offence to any one. 'Tis of no Importance to be inform'd, who the Author is; it may suffice to know, that he can with the greatest Truth and Sincerity declare, that he has employ'd his Thoughts, and some leisure Hours on this Subject, with no other Design, than to do some Service to this Country; and that he has no personal Views either to hurt any one, or to serve himself. He has no Employment, nor does he desire any: He is the Son of an *Englishman*, and has part of his Fortune lying in *England*; he proposes to himself no other Satisfaction or Reward, than to be so happy as to put others of greater Abilities and Experience, on Thoughts and Measures of encreasing our Trade and Riches, and avoiding those Evils, which at present threaten the Ruin of the Kingdom.

FINIS.

Remedy

Let their Estates be divided equally amongst all their Children