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A
LETTER
 TO THE
MERCHANTS
 AND
TRADESMEN
 OF
GREAT BRITAIN,

Particularly to those of
LONDON and BRISTOL;
 UPON

Their late Glorious Behaviour and Happy Success, in Opposing the *Extension* of the EXCISE-LAWS: With a few Seasonable Cautions.

And SOMETHING MORE, which it is hoped will be agreeable to every true *Englishman*.

By **EUSTACE BUDGELL, Esq;**

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(Price Sixpence.)

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GENTLEMEN,
SINCE some People, while they have been doing their utmost to *Destroy* you, have lately had the Assurance to *write Letters to you*; since they have dared to *grin in your Faces* while they were actually endeavouring to *cut your Throats*; you will, I humbly trust, have the Goodness to pardon this one Address to you, since though it may want the Charms of *Eloquence*, it flows at least from an *honest Heart*, truly warm and zealous in your Service. Suffer me, Gentlemen, to congratulate you upon that glorious and effectual Stand which you have lately made in the Defence of *Liberty* and your
B Country.

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Country. My Pen (such a one as it is) has never yet been prostituted to Flattery; and I may now tell you, without incurring the least Suspicion of so mean a Vice, that your late Behaviour was not only a Piece of Justice to your selves, it was an Honour to your Country, which I hope will stand Recorded in our English Histories, and be delivered down for the Instruction and Imitation of our latest Posterity.

Your cool yet resolute Opposition has induced the Parliament to crush a Bill in which almost every Clause was big with Slavery and Oppression. It is true, Gentlemen, you would have fallen the first Victims to this Bill; but what must every Englishman have expected when if our wealthiest Merchants and Tradesmen had refused to do whatever they were ordered by some future wicked M—r, they might have been treated as so many Slaves by an Army of merciless and indigent Excisemen. These Fellows, who (if this Bill had passed into a Law) might have entered your Houses when ever they pleased, could not have wanted frequent Opportunities of attempting the Honour of your Wives, your Sisters, or Daughters; of purloining your Goods themselves, or of giving proper Intelligence to Thieves and House-breakers; and might have been employed as so many constant and station'd Spies upon all the Transactions in your private Families.

I hope, Gentlemen, this was not the only Recompence which some People designed to make you, for the Blood of your Relations, the Loss of your Effects, and all those cruel Injuries you

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you have so lately suffered at the Hands of the Spaniards. If we may judge by the Spirit you have shown, rather than have lived under such Oppression, you would either have entirely quitted all Commerce, or have transported your selves and your Fortunes into Foreign Countries. In this latter Case, Great Britain would evidently have lost the very Source of her Wealth, and the most useful Body of Men she contains. Some of her Nobility and Gentry may indeed be her Ornaments, but 'tis her MERCHANTS alone who are her real Support.

I would not be thought to insinuate by this Distinction, that there are not many among you eminent not only for their Skill in Trade, but for the Practice of some of the most shining Virtues in Life. Your Commerce with so many different Nations does perhaps naturally lead you into an open way of thinking, and a Benevolence towards Mankind: From whatever Cause it proceeds, we have frequently seen such Instances of Good-Nature, Humanity, and Generosity among Merchants, as many a worthless Creature who has worn a Star and a Ribbon has been incapable of showing.

I must own I have often wondered, in a Trading Nation, to hear it made any Objection to a Man's receiving the highest Honours and Preferments the Crown can bestow, that he was bred in a Mercantile Way.

One of the best Lord Treasurers we ever had since the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, was *Lyonel Cranfield* Earl of *Middlesex*: This Gentleman

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served his *Apprenticeship* to a Merchant ; and was bred upon the *Exchange* ; from whence he was taken when the State lay under great Difficulties, and placed at the Head of the *Treasury* : He soon made it appear that he was equal to his Post, he put the Revenue (without injuring *Trade*) upon a much better Foot than he found it, and fell at last in a most *Glorious Cause* : Our Histories tell us, that he was *Disgraced* for no other Reason but because he refused to furnish a rapacious *first Minister* with those prodigious Sums, of which he would have robbed the Publick ; and had the *honest Boldness* to aim at convincing the King himself, that his Majesty would infallibly lose the *Hearts of his People*, if he suffered them to be thus *fleeced* to support the *Insolence*, and gratify the *Avarice* of one wicked and insatiable Man. Would to God, Gentlemen, for the sake of my Country, that in the Room of several Treasurers whom I could name, an *honest Merchant* had been placed at the Head of the *Exchequer* ; who, instead of refusing to tell us what was become of all those immense Sums which have been squeezed out of the Purses of the People, would have laid before our Parliaments a *plain and honest Account* by way of *Debtor* and *Creditor* of what Money he had received, and how he had disbursed it : I am firmly of Opinion, that had this been our happy Lot, the Nation would not at present have groaned under a *prodigious Debt*, nor the *Exchequer* so often have gaped for *fresh Supplies*. May the heavy *Taxes* we have paid, and the *Miseries* we have suffered, teach us at last, like prudent Merchants, to inspect our *Accounts* thoroughly ; and before we
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give more Money, let us see how all those vast Sums we have already raised have been laid out. May the *British Nation* in general assume *new Hopes*, and a *new Spirit*, from the glorious Example you have set before them : May *Trade* and *useful Science* from henceforth flourish, and render our Native Island at once the Wonder and Envy of *Europe* : May these two lovely Sisters once more *recover* their *faded Charms* : May they constantly support and smile upon each other, but let them both be sure to remember, that neither of them can possibly subsist, in any Country which is not blessed with *Liberty*. I am Confident you have *Generosity* enough to allow, that though we owe our late *Deliverance* chiefly to the Wisdom of the Parliament, and your vigorous Opposition, yet that some little Portion of Praise is due to those *Writers* who made the Publick thoroughly sensible of those miserable Consequences which must have attended the Scheme proposed : You had the Happiness, Gentlemen, to be assisted by several Pens, much abler than mine ; yet had I remained altogether silent during the late Struggle for our *Liberties* and *Trade*, I should have thought my self Guilty of such a Crime as I could never have answered either to God or my Country. I hope, Gentlemen, that when you reflect upon what has lately passed, you will from henceforth prize as you ought, what is so essentially necessary to *Freedom*, to *Trade*, and to *Learning* ; I mean the *Liberty of the Press* : I believe I may venture to affirm, without pretending to the Gift of Prophecy, that had the *Liberty of the Press* been taken away (which I fear it may be fully proved
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ved was more than once attempted) you had at this Day been all *Slaves*. From henceforth may that infamous M——r, or more infamous J——ge, who shall aim though never so obliquely to deprive his Country of this invaluable Blessing, be looked upon with that Contempt and Indignation he truly deserves: In Defiance of all his wicked Attempts, may there never be wanting a *British* Pen capable of Painting his Crimes in their proper Colours, and of handing them down to distant Ages.

Having congratulated you, Gentlemen, upon your late Success, pardon me, if, out of the most sincere Respect and Affection for you, I presume to lay before you my humble Opinion, upon the Situation you are in at present.

In the first place, I beg leave, Gentlemen, to observe to you, that it is a standing Maxim (tho' perhaps, after all a foolish one,) among *Great Men*, who set up for POLITICIANS, *Never to pardon those People whom they have once injured*. This diabolical Maxim is well enough expressed in a Couple of Verses, by one of our Countrymen, when he says,

Forgiveness to the Injur'd does belong;
But they ne'er pardon who have done the Wrong.

If therefore, Gentlemen, there is any Man who designed to have made you *Slaves*, and to have treated you as such; if he has given you those Tortures, which all brave Men must endure while they see their *Chains* are actually
forging;

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forging; if he has put you to a vast Expence, and obliged you to neglect your private Affairs, in order to defeat his *pernicious Projects*; if your honest Endeavours, blessed by Providence, have at last defeated those Projects; if you have ruined his Designs, baulked his Avarice, and disappointed his Ambition; do not flatter your selves, Gentlemen, that such a *Man* (if such a one there be) is ever capable of *pardon- ing* or *forgiving* you: Such Hopes, should you suffer your selves to be deluded by them, might prove more fatal to you than even the late Scheme, if it had succeeded. Nothing can possibly secure you now against the Designs of such a Man, who must harbour in his Heart the most implacable *Revenge*, unless you can reduce him to such a Condition, that it shall never more be in his *Power* to hurt you. What Usage you are to expect for what you have lately done, does, I think, most evidently appear, from the Manner in which a *certain Mercenary*, who is known to write the Sentiments of his *Patron*, has treated the most Honourable Common-Council of the City of London, in the *Daily-Courant* of last *Tuesday*. Do but hear his own *Words*, Gentlemen.

“ One would imagine (says this Writer) by the
“ Use that has lately been made of the Rabble, and by
“ their being convened together upon all Occasions,
“ to assist in the Councils of the Nation, that the
“ very Riff-raff and Scum of the Streets of Lon-
“ don and Westminster, were one of the constitu-
“ ent Parts of our Government; and that they had
“ a Right to direct the Debates, and controul the
“ Resolutions of Parliament. The Mob, have often
“ indeed,

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“ indeed, taken the Execution of the Civil Power
 “ into their own Hands; but I believe, this is
 “ the first Precedent that is to be met with in
 “ History, that they ever claimed any Share
 “ in the Legislature; and I am at a Loss to know
 “ in what Capacity it was they acted, unless it
 “ was as Representatives of the C——n C——l of
 “ the C——y of L——n; and then I must ingeni-
 “ ously acknowledge their Address and Behaviour,
 “ in that important Trust, was perfectly conform-
 “ able to the Will and Instructions of those that
 “ sent them; and in Justice, to that illustrious
 “ Body, I am obliged to declare, that they have
 “ not, for some time, acted with more Wisdom
 “ and Judgment, than they did at that Juncture,
 “ nor could they have sent properer Persons to
 “ represent them.

He goes on, to acquaint us, that “ the C——n
 “ C——l of London not only sent their Repre-
 “ sentatives (the Mob), but went down themselves
 “ to Westminster, to prevent the late Scheme from
 “ taking effect.” He describes their Cavalcade;
 as he calls it, by acquainting his Readers,
 that “ every Man had a Chew of Tobacco in his
 “ Mouth, shewing Emblematically the Nature
 “ of the Business, he was going upon, and at the
 “ same time, signifying that if the Bill should
 “ Pass, it would in all Probability be his Last.

Lastly, this Writer is so Ingenuous as to own,
 what is undoubtedly true, namely, that “ If
 “ the late Scheme had succeeded, the Consequence
 “ would have been, that many who now make
 “ their Boasts, that they followed the Sheriffs of
 “ London, with the City Petition, in their own
 “ Coaches,

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“ Coaches, must, hereafter, have been obliged ei-
 “ ther to walk on Foot, or to go four of them
 “ in a Hack, as the Lawyers do to Westminster-
 “ Hall in Term-Time; and instead of magnifi-
 “ cent Houses and sumptuous Villa's in the Coun-
 “ try, would have been contented with Lodgings
 “ at Islington, or an Apartment in Canbury-
 “ House.”

Give me leave, Gentlemen, to shew you,
 in the next Place, what a Bill Mr. Osborne
 has brought against you in his last Journal.

“ The Rage of Men (says Mr. Osborne) who
 “ have private Interests to carry on against the
 “ Good of the Publick, and Passions to Gratify
 “ against Gentlemen in Power, hath alarmed the
 “ People, and frightned them out of their Senses—
 “ The high Dignity of the House of Commons
 “ hath been basely trampled upon, the House it
 “ self beset, and the Members insulted.

Who pays and employs these Writers, I am
 pretty confident, Gentlemen, I need not tell
 you. You see the Account that is given of the
 solemn Procession, of the Sheriffs, the Common
 Council, and Principal Merchants of Eng-
 land to Westminster, in order to oppose the late
 Bill: A Procession which justly drew upon
 them, as they passed along, Millions of Blessings
 from their Fellow Subjects. You see with what
 you are threatned, and the Crimes with which,
 at a proper Time, you are to be charged.

Instead of being angry with the above-men-
 tioned Writers, it is my humble Opinion, that
 you ought to return them your most sincere
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and hearty Thanks. Methinks they speak pretty plain English to you; and your Apprehensions must be much duller than I hope they are, if you do not take the Hint which these honest Gentlemen have been so kind as to give you.

Some People think there was as much Sense and Eloquence in the short Speech of an old Swiss Colonel to his Regiment, just before they were going to Charge, as in all the Harangues of Caesar to his Army. Gentlemen, (says the Brave old Fellow, pointing to the Enemy with his Sword, and looking back upon his own Men) *There are our Enemies, and if we don't cut their Throats, they'll cut ours.*

I would not be thought by this Story, to recommend violent Methods, and much less an Assassination, which has been so much talked of. My plain Meaning is, that if you think you have provoked any Man too much to be forgiven, you ought by all legal Methods to put it, if possible, out of his Power to hurt you: And this is nothing more than what is agreeable to all the Rules of common Prudence and Self-Preservation.

Some of you, Gentlemen, have doubtless heard of Hannibal: This famous Cathaginian General gained so compleat a Victory over the Romans, at a Place called Canne, that all Historians agree, if he had led his victorious Army directly to Rome, he must infallibly have taken the City. By neglecting this glorious Opportunity he suffered his Enemies to recover their

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their Strength; he soon after saw those Enemies destroy the very City of Carthage, and was himself put to Death by those Romans, who once lay at his Mercy. His Folly and Negligence on this great Occasion were so very remarkable, that most Historians have mentioned and applauded what was said to him by his own Master of the Horse, when he saw him put his Army into Quarters of Refreshment, instead of leading them directly to Rome; *Thou knowest, O Hannibal! how to gain a Victory, but not how to improve it.* The Story needs not much Application; I shall only say, Remember, Gentlemen, the Fate of Hannibal! And may your Posterity never have Occasion to make the same Reflection upon you, which is made, even at this Day, on that unhappy General; namely, that you knew how to gain a Victory, but not to improve it. In order to make a right Use of your late Victory, suffer me, Gentlemen, above all Things, to recommend to you that glorious and well-judg'd Unanimity by which you obtained it. If you remain unanimous, you will be still seconded by your Fellow-Subjects, you are then invincible, and may perhaps even revive our decayed Trade. On the other hand, if the Arts of wicked Men can but divide you into Parties, you are ruined and undone. Above all things, Gentlemen, have a Care of the Names of Whig and Tory. These Names were at first invented, and are still kept up, by none but a Pack of Knaves, who would be Tyrants, and hope to raise immense Fortunes out of the Confusions and Calamities of their native Country. May my Name

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for ever be forgot, may my Memory perish, even before my wretched Body, if I must be distinguished by nothing more than the scandalous Appellation of a *Whig* or a *Tory*! Believe me, Gentlemen, every true *Englishman* means the *same thing*: Having conversed with some of the *Wise* and *Greatest Men* of all Denominations, I have found in every one of them, the same Affection for his Native *Country*, the same Love of *Liberty*, and the same Detestation and Abhorrence of *Slavery*: Remember, that each of you is an *Englishman*, a Name, that was *once*, at least, honoured and respected throughout all *Europe*: Act but like *Englishmen*, and there is nothing more requisite in the present Situation of Affairs. In order to preserve this Unanimity among you, permit me at least to put you in Mind of an old Fable.

An ancient Father, finding his Death approaching, called all his Sons about him, and giving each of them a Bundle of Sticks, bid them try if they could break it; when all the young Men found this Task above their Strength, the Father drawing out a single Stick from the Bundle, gave each of his Sons one, and bid him break that. The young Men performed this with Ease. *My Sons*, (says their dying Father) *I find I shall soon expire: I leave you amidst a wicked World, yet if you keep united together, like those Sticks which I just now gave you in a Bundle, your Enemies will not be able to hurt you; but if you suffer your selves to be divided, you will infallibly be ruined with as much Ease, as each of you was able to break a*
single

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single Stick: Remember therefore, that you are Brethren: If one of you is unjustly set upon, make it your common Cause, and immediately fly to the Assistance of your Distress'd Brother. If you can tamely sit still, and see him ruined, depend upon it, your own Destruction is not far off: Heaven will, with Justice, permit you to sink under the like Oppressions. Whenever a certain selfish Principle comes to prevail in a Nation, namely, that *No Man is bound to take care of more than Number One*, meaning his own dear self, that Nation is thoroughly ripe for *Slavery* and *Destruction*; and a President made in the Case of a *Cobler*, will at last reach to a *Duke*. The *French*, before the Administration of Cardinal *Richelieu*, were as *Free* and as fond of *Liberty*, as a People could well be who lived under king-ly Government. I have met with a Story in one of their Writers, which though I published in a small Treatise, about *half a Year* since, will, I flatter my self, bear being repeated to you.

Henry the Fourth made a more considerable Figure, than any Prince who had sat before him upon the Throne of *France*. The many *Victories* he obtained, justly entitled him to the Surname of *Great*, which he still enjoys. He at last surmounted all those *Difficulties* which Fortune seemed to fling in his Way, as so many *Trials* of his *Courage* and *Dexterity*. A long Series of *Adversity* gave him that *Experience*, and those *Accomplishments*, which Princes seldom learn in any other *School*. His *Affability* and *Wisdom* gained him the *Affection* and *Esteem* of all his Subjects: His *Bounties* and *Generosity* to
Men

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Men of Merit were such, as truly became a great King. In a Word, he had a thousand amiable Qualities in him; but would now and then be hurried away by a sudden *Start of Passion*. As he came home one Day from Hunting, and one of his Equerries was pulling off his Boots, the young Fellow, either by Chance, or through Carelessness, gave his Leg such a Wrench, that the King, who was hardly recovered from a Fit of the *Gout*, could not forbear crying out, and at the same Time gave the Person who occasioned his Anguish a sound Box on the Ear. The young Fellow, who was thus struck, happened to be a *Gentleman by Birth*: The Thing was no sooner known, than all the *Nobility and Gentlemen in France* unanimously declared, That they could not in *Honour* appear before his Majesty, till he had made the Person whom he had struck some *Reparation*, and shewn the World, that it was not his Opinion that a *French Gentleman* ought to be subject to a *Blow*, even from the Hand of his King. They staid from Court some Days; till at last this generous Prince, who in his Heart could not be displeas'd at the *Spirit* the *Gentlemen* of his Kingdom shewed upon this Occasion, was content, in a Manner, to ask Pardon of his own Servant for what he had done; and by this single Act of *Humanity* and *Condescension*, gained not only the *Affection*, but even the *Respect* of his Subjects, much more than he could possibly have done by a thousand Instances of *Pride* and *Tyranny*.

The *Gentlemen of France* most certainly exerted the true *Spirit of Liberty* upon this Occasion; since this *Spirit of Liberty* is always extremely

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extremely jealous of the least *Incroachment* that is made upon her.

The Use I would make, *Gentlemen*, both of the *Fable*, and of the *Story* which I have told you, is to incite you, to show the same Zeal and Ardour, should there be an Attempt made upon the *Liberties* and *Properties* of any other *Englishmen*, as your Fellow Subjects have lately done in *your Cause*. If I may presume to be a little more particular, I should recommend it to you, to show such a Resentment, as becomes *Englishmen*, should there be the least Attempt made upon the *Liberty of the Press*.

Upon this Occasion, *Gentlemen*, give me leave to tell you another *Fable*.

Once upon a Time, there was a War between the *Wolves* and the *Sheep*: After several Skirmishes they came to a Treaty: The *Wolves* insisted upon it, that the *Sheep*, in order to remove, as they pretended, all Cause of Contention between them, should deliver up their *Dogs*. The *Sheep* made some Scruple at first, to consent to this Article; at last their desire of *Peace*, induced them to comply with it: The very next Night, the *Wolves* broke in upon them, and (as they had now lost those faithful *Guardians*, who used to alarm them, by *Barking*, when any Danger was near) tore every one of them to Pieces.

I am afraid, *Gentlemen*, you would soon suffer the same Fate with these unhappy *Sheep*, should the *Liberty of the Press* be infringed, or taken

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taken away. You are most of you too much employed in Business of another Nature, to foresee your selves, and much less to explain to your Fellow Subjects, all the fatal Consequences which may happen, should a *pernicious Bill* pass into a *Law*; but while we are possessed of that great *Bulwark of our Liberties*, the *Liberty of the Press*, it is to be hoped, there will never be wanting Men, whose *Leisure* and *Capacities* will enable them to do this for you; Men, who from a liberal Education, and generous Way of thinking, will despise all Offers that can be made them, to give up, or *betray* the *Interest of their Country*. That wise and generous People the ancient *Romans*, shewed their *Gratitude* (after another Manner than the silly Sheep did to their Dogs) to a few despicable Animals, who happened to be instrumental in preserving the Capitol. When *Rome* was taken by the *Gauls*, a few of the bravest *Romans* headed by *Manlius*, retired into the Capitol: The *Gauls* besieged them, and at last discovered a private Way, which led up to the Capitol, and by which, they thought themselves very sure of surprising that Fortress: They had got up one Night, unperceived, to the very Walls of the Capitol, which some of them had actually scaled, when a *Flock of Geese*, who were frightened to find themselves disturbed at Midnight, made such a *Screaming* and *Cackling*, that they awoke the *Roman Guard*, who were before fast asleep: By this Means the Capitol was preserved: The *Romans*, to shew their *Gratitude* to their *Deliverers*, ordered these *Geese*, to be looked upon as *Sacred* for the future: They were maintained at the Charge

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Charge of the Publick, and as any of the Flock happened to die, their Places were constantly supplied by others of their own Species. I allow the Ministerial Writers to be as *Witty* as they please, upon my telling this Story; they have my free Consent to compare all I can say or write, to the *Cackling of a Goose*, provided they will but confess at the same time, that by an happy Concurrence of several Accidents it has been of some little Service to my poor Country.

Government, was undoubtedly instituted for the Benefit of the People: To support this Government, it is proper there should be a due Subordination kept up among Mankind. The People, both in Duty and Gratitude, are obliged to allow good Governors and Magistrates, an handsome Maintainance for the Pains they take; their Magistrates on the other Hand, are obliged by all the Laws of God and Man, to protect the People committed to their Charge, in the quiet Enjoyment of their *Properties*. This is all we expect from them, and thus much surely we have a *Right* to expect, for all that *Pomp* and *Magnificence*, in which they are maintained at the Publick Charge; for all those Palaces they build, the Train of Servants they keep, and the vast Estates they buy with the *Money*, raised out of the *Pockets* of the People. If any Men, who have it in their Power, and ought to see that the People are duly protected in the Enjoyment of their Properties, and that Justice be equally administered among them; I say, if any such Men, instead of performing their Duty, should

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make use of that Power they are intrusted with by God, their King, and the People, to *obstruct* the Execution of *Publick Justice*, and to make those very Laws, which were designed to preserve us, the Instruments to destroy us, surely the Guilt of such Men is as much beyond that of those poor Thieves and unhappy Highwaymen, whom we see daily dragged to *Tyburn*, as the *Murders* lately committed by *Sarah Malcolm*, are of a more heinous Nature than the little *Slips* of those Women, who prompted by *Nature*, or tempted by *Necessity*, surrender themselves to *unlawful Embraces*. In order, Gentlemen, to show you after what Manner *publick Justice* (for the Sake of which we pay yearly so many Millions) is administered among us, give me leave to lay before you, a short Account of what I have suffered my self.

I was some time since, by a Train of wicked Arts, too long to trouble you with, flung into a Goal; tho' I take that SUPREME BEING, before whom we must all appear, solemnly to Witness, that I did not owe one Farthing of the *pretended Debt*, for which I was confined. Having had some Papers of Consequence illegally taken from me here in Town, and a most wicked Attempt having been made to seize others, I secured, as I thought, part of these in a Garret, at my House in *Oxfordshire*. Soon after, I fell so ill under my Confinement, that it was thought, I could never recover. During my Sicknes my House in *Oxfordshire*, which was decently furnished, was broke open several times in the *Night*, and not only all my Papers (some of which were of great Consequence

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quence to the Publick, and others to my own Affairs) but even all my Goods were taken from me. My Servant who had the Care of my House, surpris'd at last those three Villains who had broke it open, and were actually Robbing it; he found Means likewise to discover in what Places they had hid the greatest part of my Goods. It having pleas'd God to raise me, almost miraculoufly, from my Sick Bed, and having made a Shift to recover my Liberty, I carried this my Servant, to a Justice of Peace, before whom he made Oath, against those three Villains, *by Name*, who had broke open and robbed my House, and likewise made Oath, that part of my Goods, were at that very time, at one of their Houses, and that part of them were hid in a certain Barn, which stood in a Field by itself.

I do humbly conceive, that in this Case I had an *undoubted Right*, by the *Laws of my Country*, to have a *Warrant* granted me, for apprehending these three Felons, and for searching those Places, in which it was sworn my Goods were concealed. The Justice, who is an eminent Councillor at Law, flatly refused to grant me his *Warrant* against one of the three Fellows; he did indeed grant me his *Warrant* against the other two, and I hope his Reason for so doing, was not because he very well knew, they were both fled from their Houses, and got out of my reach. He scrupled for some time to grant me a *Search Warrant* for my Goods; at last he thought fit to grant me one, but then he drew it up with his *own Hand*, and in the following Words.

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Oxon.

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Oxon ff. To the Constable of Cuddesdon, in the said County, and to the Constable of Denton, in the said County of Oxon, and to each of them.

W Hereas it hath been proved upon Oath, before me, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, that several Goods, belonging to Eustace Budgell, Esq; have been stolen out of his House in Denton, in the County of Oxon; and that the said stolen Goods are now in the House of John Piers, of Cuddesdon aforesaid; these are therefore, in his Majesty's Name, to require you, to search the House and Barn of the said John Piers, in Cuddesdon aforesaid, for the said stolen Goods; but you are not to break open any Door, or to do any Thing therein which is illegal. Given under my Hand and Seal, this 27th Day of August, 1731.

John Wr—t. L. S.

I believe, I may safely affirm, that such a Search Warrant as this, was never drawn up or heard of before. You see, Gentlemen, it appears, upon the very Face of the Warrant, that it had been proved upon Oath, that my Goods had been stolen, and that the said stolen Goods were in the House of John Piers. Upon which, Mr. Justice commands the Constable, in his Majesty's Name, to search the House and Barn of the said John Piers, for the said stolen Goods; and yet immediately after, expressly orders him, not to break open any Door.

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Here are two Orders, which, as I take it, directly contradict each other, and whether the last Order was not inserted in the Warrant, on purpose to prevent my recovering my Papers and Goods, I humbly submit, Gentlemen, to your Judgment. I went, however, with this most extraordinary Warrant to Piers's House, who having fled from thence, and leaving two Rooms open, I found and seiz'd, in those Rooms, several of my Goods, which his own Wife confess'd, before Witnesses, he had stolen out of my House, when he broke it open. I saw in another Room, which was locked, the very Chest in which my Papers were put, and a great Part of my Goods in the Barn beforementioned; but could not come at them, because Mr. Constable was expressly forbid by the Justice's Warrant to break open any Door, neither could my going back to the Justice, and making Oath my self where I had seen my Goods, prevail upon him to grant me a Search Warrant in the common Form of all other Search Warrants; I believe, I may affirm, this was never refused before in the like Case, to any English Subject whatever.

I am informed, that this Gentleman has lately received a very particular Mark of Favour, and is in a fair Way to be made a J—e, and to sit upon the Lives the Liberties and Properties of his Fellow Subjects. I cannot help saying, that I hope his chief Pretension to the Dignity lately conferred upon him, was not the Drawing up that

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that extraordinary *Search Warrant*, which I have laid before you.

Resolving to omit no legal Methods, to recover my Property, I indicted the three Fellows for Felony, who had broke open, and robbed my House, at the next *Oxford Affizes*. I proved, by several Witnesses before the Grand Jury, that all the Goods in the House were my own, that I bought part of them in *London*, and part of them in *Oxfordshire*; that I was at the Expence of sending down a Servant on purpose from *London*, to lodge my Papers where I thought they would be safe; that the House was broke open, and robb'd by those three Persons I indicted, that some of my Goods were seized by the Constable in one of their Houses, and that many more were still in their Possession; and lastly, that, conscious of their Guilt, they all three fled from Justice, the very Moment they heard I was in the Country. Notwithstanding all these plain Facts, proved by the Oaths of several Witnesses, such effectual Methods were taken to screen these Offenders, and prevent their being brought to a *legal Trial*; that the Bill against them, to the infinite Astonishment of all Mankind who heard it, was returned *IGNORAMUS*.

By these unheard of Methods, Gentlemen, I am ruined. I have been told, I was born in a Country, where my *Property* was secured by Laws, and that as an *Englishman* I had a Right to the *Protection* of those *Laws*; yet I should be glad to know what more flagrant Degree of Injustice and Oppression I could possibly have endured, if I had

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had been born in *Denmark* or in *Turkey*? Let me beg you, Gentlemen, but for one Moment to make my wretched Case your own. Heaven only knows how soon it may become so. Suppose your Houses were broke open in the *Night*; your Goods, your Books, your Accounts, and Papers of the utmost Consequence to your private Affairs, all taken from you; suppose you could prove, by the Oaths of several Witnesses, who the Villains were that had committed such an Action, and even to what Places they had conveyed your Goods; would you not think it a little hard, Gentlemen, to be refused a common *Search Warrant* in order to recover them? Would you not think *this* was being *Excised* with a Witness? If you would, let me conjure you as a Fellow Subject, and by all the Ties of Humanity, to lend me that *Assistance* you *Legally* may (and what that is, I will shew you anon) in the *last* the *only Application* I can make for *Justice*.

Next to his *Property*, the *Liberty* of an *Englishman*, has been always thought the most precious Thing he could be deprived of. Let me shew you, Gentlemen, at what rate my *Liberty* has been valued. I was Arrested some time since for a Sum of Money, upon a *Sham Action*; the Person at whose Suit I was Arrested, would neither tell me *then*, nor has ever told me *since*, what *Pretence* he had to claim one Farthing from me; he has never dared to bring his *Action* to a *legal Trial*: His Design, evidently was to have hurried me into a *Goal*, for want of *Bail*. After I had given Bail to his Action, and the very Bailiffs

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by whom I was Arrested, had released and left me, this Man, and some desperate Fellows who came with him into my House, gave me the most opprobrious Language. It is thought by most of my Friends that their Design was to provoke me to *Strike*, that they might have had a Pretence to fall upon me and *Murder* me. Being told by a *Gentleman* who was in my House, that *he thought he saw this was their Design*, I kept my Temper: When they found I would not to be provoked to *Strike*, they locked up Me, my Footman, my Gardiner, and a Servant-Maid, in a Room of my own House, and kept us all confined together in this Room for above two Hours, while they dispersed themselves over all my House, and took away whatever they pleased. As I was *under Confinement*, I could not prove who the Persons were that took away my Goods, but was advised by my Council to bring an Action of *false Imprisonment* against the Man who caused me to be Arrested: My Poor Servants who were shut up with me, and had been thoroughly abused and frightened, were likewise advised to bring their several Actions: Our Tryals came on, I proved all the Particulars abovementioned by several Witnesses; and could have called a great many more. It was absolutely impossible to prevent my having a Verdict. I had one; but what *Damages* do you think, Gentlemen, I had given me, for being thus *Arrested* on a *Sham Action*, Robbed, Abused, Insulted, and Imprisoned in my own House? I never yet met with any Man that guessed within *five Hundred Pounds*: The *Damages* given me, Gentlemen, were ONE FARTHING. It seems therefore, that

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that ONE FARTHING, is at present the *Value of the Liberty of an Englishman*: I might add, of an *English Gentleman*, who has been in several considerable Posts, and done some Services of the utmost Importance to the House of *Hanover*. Should my Fate ever carry me again into Foreign Nations, I fancy nobody who heard me tell this Story, would doubt for one Moment how firmly our *Liberties* are *Established* and *Protected by Law*, in the happy Island of *Great Britain*. Allow me to say, Gentlemen, that I as little imagined, *one Day*, my *Liberty* would have been valued at *one Farthing*, as any of you can now think that your *own Liberties* are worth no more. To *mortify* me thoroughly, as I humbly apprehend, and to shew me what *Usage* I must constantly expect, tho' the *Damages* given me were but one Farthing, two of my *Servants* had one *Shilling* given to each of them. *Damages*, in these Cases, have been always proportioned according to the *Quality* of the Person injured; so that these Verdicts are a sort of an Express *Declaration* of a *Court of Justice*, that my own *Footman* was *Eight and Forty times* a better Man than his *Master*. Two such Verdicts, Gentlemen, I will venture to assure you, were never given before since the Establishment of *Magna Charta*; nor should I venture to tell you a Story which appears so *Monstrous* and *Incredible*, if I could not prove what I say by an *hundred Witnesses*, and even by the *publick Records* of these several Trials. I was advised by several eminent Council, one of them a Member of the House of Commons, to Move for a *new Trial*, and that the *Shameful Record* of my *Farthing Damages*, (which would otherwise remain a *Scandal*

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dal to the *Laws of England*) might be cancelled; but I thought I saw too plainly what Treatment I was to expect from a *Court of Justice*, ever to desire to come there again.

I have laid before you, Gentlemen, a short Account of two Affairs, so extraordinary in their Kind, that I believe they cannot be matched by any *Parallel Cases*, that ever happened in *Great Britain*, or in any other Nation upon Earth, where the People had their *Liberties* and *Properties* secured to them by *Law*. If you would see these two Cases more at large, with several others of the same Complexion, I beg leave to refer you to *two Pamphlets*, which I published some Months since, Entitled, *LIBERTY and PROPERTY*. These two Pamphlets have run thro' *several Editions*, and 'tis pretty Remarkable, that tho' a certain *Set of Writers* have called me again, and again, *Villain, Rogue, Fool and Madman*, and accused me with grossly injuring their *Patron*; they have never yet been able to falsify one single Matter of Fact, which I have ventured to lay before the Publick. I do humbly conceive, that when an *English* Subject is so openly and flagrantly denied common Justice, as I have been, when he has applied for Justice by all the usual and legal Methods he possibly can think of, and is refused that Remedy and Protection, to which he has an undoubted Right, by the Laws of his Country; I say, Gentlemen, that in such a Case, I do humbly conceive, the Subject aggrieved, has no other Remedy left him upon Earth, but to apply himself to the Supreme Court of Legislature, the *British* Parliament,
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and to fling himself at the Feet, and implore the Protection of those great CONSERVATORS of LIBERTY and PROPERTY. This, Gentlemen, was what I had fully determined to do in the last Sessions of Parliament, immediately after my Bill against those three Rogues who robbed my House was returned *Ignoramus*. To this End, I talked with several Members of the most Honourable the House of Commons, but found their Session was almost ended, that a good many of their Members were gone into the Country, and that the remaining Part were taken up with an Affair, truly worthy the Attention of Patriots; I mean the Affair of the Charitable Corporation. I talked with several Members upon the same Subject, towards the Beginning of this Sessions, but was told by them, that while the *Liberties* and *Properties* of a whole Nation were in Danger, while there was an open Attempt making to extend the Excise Laws, it was not a proper Time, to hear the Complaints of a private Man; however just they might be. I thought what these Gentlemen said, had so much Reason in it, that it immediately determined me to postpone any Application relating to my own Oppressions. I hope, Gentlemen, that if I saw any Necessity for either the Merchants and Trade of *Great Britain*, or my self to be destroyed, I should not hesitate one Moment to make my self a Willing Sacrifice to prevent the Ruin of my Country; nor was I able to endure the Thought, that any Inspection into my Complaints should divert the Attention of our Representatives from what concerned the Interest of all our Merchants and Tradesmen. Providence, Gentlemen,
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tlemen, and your own Courage and Resolution, have at last brought your Affair to an happy Issue, and I am now fully determened (tho' I could wish for many Reasons it was earlier in the Session) to try the only Method I have left to obtain Justice; namely, to implore it from the Power of a *British* Parliament: In this my Application, suffer me, Gentlemen, most humbly to intreat you, as my *Fellow Subjects*, (and who had like to have been my *Fellow Sufferers*) to lend me all the Assistance you *legally* can: We see the *justest Cause* wants to be properly *Solicited*. Perhaps your *own* had lately miscarried if you had shewn less Diligence or less Unanimity than you did. I have been stripped of my Paternal Estates, and of that Fortune I was born to, by a Train of wicked Arts, too long to trouble you with an Account of. A Man who loses his *Fortune*, generally speaking, loses his *Friends*; and I am too too sensible that I have *Powerful Enemies*; yet the only Favour I beg of you is, Gentlemen, that you would desire those your Representatives, who so gloriously exerted themselves in your Cause, to attend at least and inspect the Complaints of a most *Unhappy*, tho' an *Innocent* Man: I most freely consent that it be a Part of your Instructions to them, to punish me in the severest Manner, if it shall appear that my Complaints are without Foundation: Suffer me to aim at convincing you, that the Request which I now make to you is not an unreasonable one: What is my *Case to Day*, may happen, Gentlemen, to be your own *to Morrow*; and however worthless I am, the same Methods which have been made use of to ruin me (if they pass

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uncensured and *unexposed*) may one Day be employed to destroy the best and most valuable Men in *Great Britain*. Besides this, Gentlemen, the Complaint which I make, is of a much more publick Nature, than perhaps you imagine: I do think, I can put the Parliament into a very short Method of getting at the Bottom of a *black Affair*, and of making such a Discovery, as would be of infinite Service (at this Juncture especially) both to the King and Kingdom: Perhaps at last it may plainly appear, how much Reason some Persons had to dread my obtaining *one single Audience*, either from the King or the Queen. May their Majesties Reign long in the *Affections of their Subjects*; may their Names be transmitted to Posterity, under the most glorious of Titles; namely, *the Protectors of Innocence, the Scourges of Oppression, and the true Parents of their Country*; and may that wicked Man, who shall at any time endeavour to shut their Ears against the just Complaints of the Meanest of their Subjects, or to prevent their knowing such *Truths* as it is absolutely *necessary* for their *own Interest* they should be acquainted with, meet at last with the *Fate* he deserves.

The Decrees of Heaven are just: I have lived to see that *Person*, who in order to drown my Complaints, employed all his *wicked Instruments*, to represent me as a *Madman*, act after such a Manner, that many People at present, can hardly believe him in his *right Senses*; and tho' he has not entirely succeeded in proving *Me* a *Madman*, he has, I fancy, fully convinced the *wisest Part* of the Nation, that he

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is but very little better *Himself*. I humbly conceive, Gentlemen, that nothing can be more plain and evident, than that in the two *Cases* which I have laid before you, the most *notorious Offenders* have been SCREENED, and the *common Course of Justice* perverted, by some *powerful Influence*. From whence that Influence came, I think, I can plainly make appear, if the Honourable the House of Commons (who, as I take it, are the *Grand Inquest* of the Nation) will but vouchsafe to hear me, upon a *short Petition* which I resolve immediately to lay before them: And whether that *Man* (whoever he is) who is capable of SCREENING *Robbers* and *House-Breakers*, is not also capable of *Screening an Assassin*, I must afterwards submit to the Judgment of the Publick.

The People of *England* have been most justly alarmed, to think an Attempt was making to take from them the most *Valuable* of all their *Privileges*, I mean, *their being tried by Juries*. I can, Gentlemen, produce the *MAN*, and prove the *Fact* fully upon him, who has taken a Method, even while we fancy we are tried by *Juries*, to render them of no manner of Service or Use to the Subject.

I hope these are Points, which must make my Petition considered, not as a *private Affair*, but as a Thing of the *utmost Importance* to the whole *British Nation*: Yet if all these, Gentlemen, are not sufficient, I have still *something* to lay before the House, which they will surely think worth their Consideration, and which possibly

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possibly you may think, does in a *particular Manner*, entitle me to your Favour. What I mean is a most *flagrant Attempt*, which, I humbly conceive, has been *lately* made to take away the LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

I think my self obliged by that Duty I owe my Country, to lay a plain and naked State of this Case before all my Fellow Subjects.

Having been stripped of the Fortune I was born to, by a great Number of *Law Suits* which have been forced upon me, and carried on at a vast Expence, under the Names of several Persons, who are nototiously known to be *Beggars*, I resolved to endeavour to get an *Honest Livelihood* by employing those *little natural Talents* which Heaven has bestowed upon me, and which it has not been in the Power of my most *Cruel and Implacable Enemy* to take from me. I therefore set on Foot (with the Assistance of some Friends) a Weekly Pamphlet, which we published under the Title of *The BEE: Or, Universal Weekly Pamphlet; containing Something to hit every Man's Taste and Principles* (viz.) *An Abridgment of Things Material, and all the Essays worth Reading in the Weekly Papers; the Strongest Arguments on each Side of the Question, in all Disputes of a Publick Nature, placed in a fair and impartial Light; with several Original Compositions in Prose and Verse*. Our Pamphlet contained likewise, among other Particulars, *An Account of the State of Literature Abroad*; to which End we established, at a considerable Expence, a large Correspondence in Foreign Parts. The Publick has received kindly

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kindly this honest Attempt to *please* and to *instruct* them. The first of our Pamphlets was Published on the 10th of *February* last, and we have ever since strictly observed that *Neutrality* which we promised to keep at our first setting out, with Relation to all *Party-Matters*. During the late Disputes we never gave our own *Opinions* in the *BEE*, either for or against *Excises*. We inserted the *best Arguments* we could pick up on *both Sides* of the Question; and tho' I have some Reasons to think that the Right Honourable Sr. *Robert Walpole* is not much my *Friend*, I was so just to him as to insert all the *fine things* which those Writers have said in his Praise, who, some believe, are well paid out of the *Publick Revenue* for their Weekly Productions. You may please to remember, Gentlemen, that the *Craftsman*, while he was Writing in your *Defence*, concluded one of his Papers with a *Fine Spectator* wrote by the late Mr. *Addison*, in Praise of *Trade* and our *English Merchants*. The Weekly Writer, who calls himself *Osborne*, was so much provoked at this *Spectator*, that he not only mentioned *The Spectators* (a Work in which I had some Share) in a very contemptible Manner, but, without the least Regard to *Truth* or *Humanity*, fell upon the *Character* of the late Mr. *Addison*. As I was once the most *intimate Friend*, and am at present the *nearest Male Relation* to that Great Man, as I owe him more than my *Life*, I mean my *Education*, I must confess, Gentlemen, I could not see his Memory thus vilely traduced, without saying something in the Defence of a *Man*, who, all Foreign Nations think, was an *Honour* to his Country; but who is now unable to defend

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himself. In our *BEE* therefore, *Numb. X.* I endeavored to vindicate my poor Deceased Friend and Relation, from the false and infamous Reflection which Mr. *Osborne* had cast upon him; and (without entering into the Dispute about *Excises*) I only mentioned *Trade* and the *British Merchants*, with that *Respect* and *Affection*, which is surely due to them from every true *Englishman*.

In a Day or two after this *BEE* was published, the Commissioners of the Stamp Office sent a Messenger on purpose to let my Publisher know, that *they would enter no more of the BEE's in their Office*. My Brother Proprietors were so struck with this unexpected Message, that a Pamphlet, which I have been at so much Expence to establish, must have dropped immediately, if I had not made a Shift to deposit *One Hundred Pounds* in their Hands, to indemnify them for publishing *one BEE* more. I am told the Commissioners intend to prosecute me with the *utmost Severity*, for publishing the next *BEE*, without entering it, tho' they themselves refuse to let it be entered, and I am ready to pay the Duty required by the Act of Parliament, and which this Pamphlet, and all other Pamphlets of the same Kind (of which there are several) have hitherto paid. I am unable, God knows, to maintain a Law-Suit against the Crown; but am resolved, humbly to implore the Justice, the Mercy and Protection of the *House of Commons*, in this most *extraordinary Case*.

The Honourable House of Commons, will, I hope, please to determine, whether to put down a Pamphlet, that has constantly paid his Majesty *Six Shillings* a Week, be the way to

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increase his Revenue; and whether it is for the Publick Good, to turn several poor Men a Starving, who, at present, maintain themselves and Families, purely by printing this very Pamphlet.

I have carefully read over the Act of Parliament made in the tenth Year of the late Queen *Anne*, by which the Duties upon all News-Papers and Pamphlets were granted to the Crown, if I understand any thing of the Laws of *England* (and if I do not I have studied *many Years* to no Purpose) the Commissioners of the Stamp-Office refusing to enter any Pamphlet in their Office, when a Duty of *two Shillings* a Sheet is tendered to them for entering such Pamphlet, is a Direct Breach of an Act of Parliament, penned in as plain Words as ever any Act was yet penned. The Commissioners are obliged by an express Oath faithfully to execute the Trust reposed in them by this Act: It is true they are likewise obliged to *obey* such Orders as they shall receive from the Commissioners of the Treasury for the time being: Whether therefore any particular Order was given them by the Lords of the Treasury upon this Occasion, is in my poor Opinion, well worth the Enquiry of the Commons of *England*, in Parliament Assembled; since, if the Commissioners, either by their own Authority, or by Vertue of an Order from the Treasury, can refuse to enter any Pamphlet, when the Proprietors of such Pamphlet offer to pay them the *legal Duty*, nothing is more Evident than that the *Liberty of the Press* is taken away; and whenever the *Liberty of the Press* is taken away, I tremble to think, what will soon become of the *Liberties and Properties* of the People of *England*.

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My Friends are unanimously of Opinion, that what drew the Displeasure of the Commissioners upon me, was my presuming to Vindicate the Character of Mr. *Addison*, when the Great Mr. *Osborne* thought fit to attack it; and this indeed seems to be evident, since the Commissioners never refused to enter this Pamphlet before, nor can we find that they ever did, or do now dare to refuse to enter other Pamphlets of the same Nature.

O *Addison*! *If the Spirits of just Men made perfect, observe what is done here below, thou hast seen thy wretched Relation, who was once dear to Thee, unjustly stripped of his Fortune, and flung into a Goal; thou hast seen him denied that common Justice, to which he is intitled by the Laws of his Country, under the Reign of a Prince, for the sake of whose illustrious Family, thou well knowest, he once ventured whatever Men think Valuable in Life; Under all this Load of Oppression, I will still be true to that Friendship there was once between us. If it is become a Crime in the Eyes of this Nation, to vindicate thy injured Memory, this Nation was unworthy of Thee: Nature has made me incapable of equaling thy Divine Genius, yet shalt thou observe in me an honest Fortitude; and whether my Soul is destined to be separated from my Body, by the Hand of an Assassin, or a publick Executioner, it shall meet Thee, filled with those Sentiments which it formerly learnt from Thee.*

Pardon, Gentlemen, this short Soliloquy, which I must own the Remembrance of my Friend forced from me. You have seen the Memory of this Gentleman most cruelly Traduced, for his daring to speak handsomely of *Trade and Merchants*; and perhaps, my being

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suspected to have drawn my *Pen* in your *Defence*, is one of those *Crimes* which are never to be *forgiven* me. If these *Considerations* have any *Weight* in your generous *Breasts*, let me humbly *conjure* you once more, to favour me with your *Interest*, in that *Attempt*, which I am resolved to make, to serve my *Country*.

Some little *Hopes* I have, from the *Justice* and *Wisdom* of that *Parliament*, who to their immortal *Honour*, have so lately crushed the *Excise Bill*; yet alas! how weak a *Match* is *Truth* for *Power*? I know the odds are infinite against me; I am sensible some *Persons* will omit no *Endeavours* to have the plainest *Truths* Voted *false* and *scandalous*; I know I shall be pursued by most *Powerful Enemies*, and shall not be surpris'd to find my self but faintly *assisted*, by those who, if they considered their own *Circumstances* and *Interest*, ought, I am sure, to be my *Friends*. I foresee that I shall run more *Dangers* than I believe any other *Person* can represent to me; notwithstanding all which, I resolve to do what I think is my *Duty* both to my *King* and my *Country*. In a *Word*, If I survive this *Attempt*, *Gentlemen*, I hope I shall live to *serve* you, with a *Zealous Heart*, and an *Honest Pen*. If I *perish* in it, I will dye praying for your *Prosperity*, since I am thoroughly convinced that the *Welfare* and *Happiness* of my *Native Country* must always depend upon a *Flourishing Trade*. I am, with *Great Respect*,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most devoted,

and most obedient humble Servant,

April 24.
1733.

E. BUDGELL.

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April the 28th, 1733. This Day is published,

The FIFTH EDITION,

(Revised, Corrected, and Enlarged, by the AUTHOR,) of

LIBERTY and PROPERTY:

A PAMPHLET highly necessary to be read by every *Englishman*, who has the least *Regard* for those two *invaluable Blessings*. Containing several *Curious Stories*, and *Matters of Fact*; with *Original Letters*, and other *Papers*. And some *Observations* upon the present *State of the Nation*. The Whole in a *LETTER* to a *MEMBER* of the *HOUSE OF COMMONS*.

By EUSTACE BUDGELL Esq;

Printed for W. Mears, at the Lamb upon Ludgate-Hill.

[Price Stitched 3 s. Bound and Lettered 2 s.]

This Day is also published,

The SECOND EDITION

OF the SECOND PART of

LIBERTY and PROPERTY:

A Pamphlet, highly necessary to be Read by every *Englishman*, who has the least *Regard* for those two *Invaluable Blessings*. Containing a *Curious Account* of some *Things* which have happened since the Publication of the *First Part*. With an *Original Letter* from the *AUTHOR* to the Honourable Mr. Justice FORTESCUE, one of his Majesty's Judges in the Court of *Common Pleas*. And some *Remarks* upon Mr. *Walsham's* late *Proper Reply* to the *First Part* of LIBERTY and PROPERTY.

The Whole in a *second Letter* to a *Member* of the *House of Commons*.

By EUSTACE BUDGELL Esq;

Tu ne cede Malis, sed contra audentior ito. VIRG.

Printed for W. MEARS at the Lamb upon Ludgate-Hill.

(Price One Shilling.)

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This Day is likewise publish'd,

The B E E. NUMB. X.

(From Saturday April the 7th, to Saturday April the 14th.)

Containing among other curious Particulars,

- I. Remarks upon a Poem, entitled, A Journey from Patapsko to Annapolis.
- II. The Poem itself.
- III. Extract from a Jesuit's Letter to the Rector of his College.
- IV. Account of Mr. H——'s unsuccessful Attempt.
- V. Story of the Grand Vizier and a Greek Merchant.
- VI. Mac-Donald's Prophecy.
- VII. Methods taken by those who oppose the Excises.
- VIII. Mr. Osborne's scandalous Reflection upon the late Mr. Addison, occasioned by his *Excellent Spectator* in Praise of Trade, and the *English Merchants*.
- IX. The Memory of that Great and Wise Man vindicated.
- X. Foreign Affairs and Political Reflections.
- XI. *Domestick Occurrences*, and the *Drone's Collection*; being as ample an Account of all *Domestick Occurrences* as is to be found in any *Journal*.
- XII. An exact List, for the Use of Merchants, of all such Vessels as sail from, or come into any of our home Ports.
- XIII. The State of Literature in Foreign Parts.
- XIV. An Abstract of the Life of the celebrated *Saladine*, upon whom King *Richard* the first made War in the *Holy Land*.
- XV. An Epigram on the Merchants being called *Sturdy Beggars*.

Note, This is the BEE, upon the Publication of which, the Commissioners of the Stamp-Office sent a Message to the Publisher, to acquaint him, that they would enter no more of the BEEs in their Office.

Note, It is necessary for those who would thoroughly understand the Preceding Pamphlet, to read likewise the three Pamphlets abovementioned.