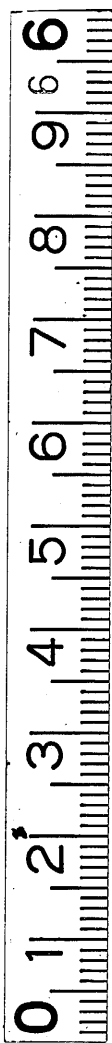


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SOME *n*
THOUGHTS
Worthy the ferious Attention of the
Greatest MEN,
ON THE
Woollen Manufacturies
OF
ENGLAND.

To prevent their RUIN before too late,
setting forth, That by Connivance or In-
dolence, have brought this most valuable
BRANCH of TRADE, on which his
Majesty's WEALTH and POWER depends
(under GOD) to a Univerfal DECAY
throughout his Majesty's Dominion.



LONDON: Printed for the AUTHOR,
MDCCLXXXV.
(Price Four-Pence.)

7

THOUGHTS

MEMOIRS

OF

CHARLES

... of ... and ...



SOME

THOUGHTS

Worthy the serious Attention of the

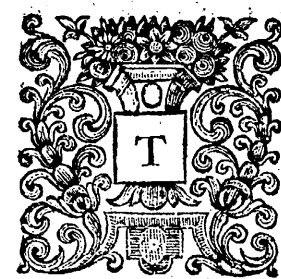
Greatest MEN,

ON THE

Woollen Manufacturies

OF

ENGLAND, &c.



HE pernicious Consequences have almost overtaken this once most flourishing Nation, and brought to the Brink of Destruction, as to Exporting our Manufacturies, and thereby *English* Labour, whilst our Poor are burthenome in their respective Parishes, and want Bread, though cheap Provisions are; our Navigation's cramp't, instead of encouraged; his Majesty's Reve-

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nues sunk, and Foreigners enlarged by Woollen-Manufacturies, which they never could make without the Help of our *British* or *Irish* Wool, that we may have a more perfect View of the Means and Time this Destruction gained Advantage, which now they have almost effected. It's most necessary all Well-wishers to his Majesty, or the Freehold and Happiness of *England*, cast an Eye on the following Abstracts, taken out of the Custom-House Books of *Ireland*, which I have exactly inserted towards the latter End of this Treatise, begging all my Readers to excuse the Style delivered in plain Truths; it's not for any Advantage I propose from the Press, but with much Regret I expose myself thus in publick Print, but on the contrary to throw 50 *l.* more away by myself, of my own Money, if happily I could shew those Honourable Persons in so clear a Light as I see they could yet save themselves and Nation from this Destruction brought on us by giving up this most valuable and enriching Branch of Trade, the Woollen Manufacturies to Foreigners, 'twould bring the most lasting Honour to their Names, to the latest of Posterity. It's not Advantage by the Press I seek, but to have an effectual Stop to Exporting Wool. I never will seek to be a Gainer, I should be glad I, and the rest of my Brethren, could live by our own Trade again in the Woollen Manufactory, nor have I done as commonly is; I, in my Projection, neither reserved Place or Profit to myself; but in Duty and Love to his Majesty, the Wealth and Power of the Nation's Trade; but knowing the Imperfection of my Style and Performance, beg my Readers to accept it, and put Amendments to it, with as sincere Desire for his Majesty, and Nation's Trade and Welfare, as I have in penning it; but if it should fall into the Hands of Enemies to *England*, let it satisfy them, I know my Defects before they tell me of them, and it shall fully satisfy me if thereby I may be a poor Instrument, through our truly Wise and Honourable the Commons of *Great Britain*, when in Parliament assembled, to defeat this pernicious and destructive Practice of Exporting our Wool till manufactured, that *England* may

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may regain her antient Trade, Wealth and Power, who am a hearty Well-wisher thereto, whilst

Samuel Webber.

THE Benefit arising by Trade is so interwoven with the Interest of States, that 'tis the indispensable Duty of the greatest Men to enquire into the true Condition of it; and we were formerly sensible of the Benefit *England* obtained by her general Commerce; and our Ancestors thought it incumbent on them to pursue all proper Means for its Preservation, knowing the mutual Dependance one Trade has upon another, and saw how necessary it was for this Nation, whose Happiness and Liberties are supported by the Riches and Power acquired by Manufacturies, Traffick and Navigation, to defend and encourage every Branch of it, lest the Loss of any Particular might break the Chain of Commerce, and render designing Neighbours to supplant us therein; but above all, we should acquaint ourselves well of the Woollen Manufacturies to the general Interest of this Kingdom, which if we wish well to, we should with Shame cast an Eye on the great Improvements made therein by some of our Neighbours, who are more than Rivals to us in this most valuable Trade, and all *England's* Friends will readily agree, that the speediest Means, as we are on the Brink of Ruin, ought to be used to recover these Branches of our Traffick, which are impaired by our former Conduct, and need no Apology for this Treatise, on a Subject wherein the Interest and Freehold of *England* is so nearly concerned, as we know our Neighbours cannot make these several Species of Woollen Goods, *viz.* the several Sorts of middling Broad Cloaths, Druggets, Rattens, Rattenets, Serges, Durants, Duroys, Harateens, Shalloons, Long Ells, Boslies, Camblots, Callamanco's, Poplins, *Normich* Crapes, Tammies, Crapes and Stuffs of all Kinds for Womens Apparels, Flannels, Stockings, and several Species of Woollen Goods, which they could not make without the Help of our *British* or *Irish* Wool; but one Pack of our Wool enables them to work up two of their own coarse hairy Trash; which, of itself, would make no better,

A 3

Goods

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Goods of Affortments than an ordinary Cloath, Serge, or a Bay; but with Help of one of our *British* or *Irish* Wool mix'd with two Packs of theirs, fills and gluts Foreign Markets; and every Pack they have from us, hinders *England* selling three Packs manufactured.

THIS unhappy Miscarriage is somewhat owing to that Conduct of breaking our *English* Army abroad, at the Peace of *Reswick*, when our Soldiers, as many of them as were bred in the Manufactory, left destitute for Want of Bread, and but a Year or two before Addresses and Petitions to the King and both Houses of Parliament, beseeching his Majesty to take effectual Means to prevent the Growth of the Woollen Manufacturies in *Ireland*, and to turn the Industry of that People to Improvement of the Linen Manufacturies, promising them Favour and Protection.

HEREUPON the Commons of *Ireland*, enclined to satisfy *England* in this Matter, form'd a Bill of Four Shillings on the Value of Twenty Shillings of Woollen Goods manufactured, to be exported between the 25th of *March*, 1699, and the 25th of *March*, 1702. Then there was an Act of Parliament pass'd in *England*, in the Year 1699, prohibiting the Importation of Woollen Manufacturies from *Ireland* to any other Place; but the few Wool Ports of *England*, and such Importations left liable to Duties laid on manufactured Goods, by Acts antecedent to this I talk of, that Part of the Woollen Manufacturies *England's* Legislature was willing to allow the *Irish*, became impracticable; we subverted the Woollen Manufacturies of *Ireland*, but at the same Time rose more formidable Enemies to our *English* Manufacturies, the *French* taking hold of this Opportunity of our Soldiers broke, aforesaid, at the Peace of *Reswick*, encouraged them; and again, the Opportunities they took by these Acts to deprive the *Irish* Manufacturies, the *French* encouraged them to comb Wool once over, and skrew'd into Casks Ballast, with Shot covered over with Butter, and enter'd for Butter, the *Irish* being deprived of their Manufacturies, and Numbers knew no other
Way

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Way to get Bread, they chose some, though but small Part of Manufacturing, their Wool, then none at all. At this Time I was Apprentice, my Master had a Hand therein, Captain *Rodgers*, Mr. *Martin*, Mr. *Sherburn* and Mr. *Felton*, whom many in this City knew, though often detected; few but what was broke thereby, I knew none but *Martin* escape that Fate. A Curse followed, and will in the End all those Smugglers, who would build their Fortunes in the Dissolution of so brave a Nation as once *England* was.

THE War soon after breaking out, the *French* were at a Loss for Want of our *British* or *Irish* Wool; and in the Year 1703, I was out of my Apprenticeship, and had Dealings of my own pretty large to *Barnstable By-the-Ford*, &c. and I did not discern the *French* had much Wool from us; *England* having the Cloathing of the known World to themselves, except those they were in War with, Wool sold well; but in Process of Time, through Covetousness and Carelessness of the Captains of her Majesty's Ships station'd for Convoy, they'd pretend Want of one Thing or another, till a Purse was made up, and let many fair Winds blow over to the great Loss of the fair Trader, as well as *England*, I perceived after; for we should have *Irish* Papish Merchants freight with Wool clear'd out of the Custom as fair as myself, not stay a Tide for Convoy, but as they'd say, venture the Run. I often or always heard they were taken by the *French* Privateers, soon back, and tell us they bought off the Vessel, and so go on again, and taken by my Way of Dealing. I know their Circumstance, had there been no more in it 'twould have broke them.

SOON after, in the Year 1709, I discovered this Piece of Roguery; I dealt in Company with a Merchant; once being disappointed of a Freight, told me of Smuggling Wool to *France*, very advantageous: I seem'd to hearken with Attention to what he had to say. I answer'd, I thought there would be great Danger and Risque. He answer'd, as he thought I would comply none at all, for he could have the *French* King's Pass, from a Person whose
Name

Name I don't call to Mind, who, as I remember, he said liv'd in *Edinburgh*, for 3 l. and if met by a Privateer, not produce it, but keep it hid in the Well, or Part of the Ship, 'till brought into *France*, so make them Convey as into Harbour in *France*, saying otherwise, we may be deceived by *Jersey* or *Guernsey* Privateers. This made plain to me those forementioned Smugglers venturing to Run, how they went on. Soon after he and I was done dealing in Company, I rejected his Offer, and declare I never did, but do defy the most Malicious to say I ever sent an Ounce of Wool to *France*.

But to return; this was but small Game *France* could play at, to what some Time after I observed; Destruction came in upon us like a Torrent. About the Year 1717, 'twas very visible both in *England* as well as *Ireland*; our Woollen Manufacturies declined a pace; Poverty and Bankrupts on every Side; that I know that little Town of *Taunton* is 80,000 l. poorer in the Manufactures within these 20 Years; and other Places in Proportion I can name, but that little Time the Plague raged in *France*; but as soon as that was over Wool began a Run to *France*, as open almost as if licenced and cleared out of his Majesty's Custom-House.

I knew a riding Officer, one *Josias Thompson*, in *Ireland*, seized Ship lading or loaded with Wool, and ventured his Life; made a great Noise at the Custom-House at *Dublin*; petitioned here to *London*; was broke for his Care, and render'd incapable of serving his Majesty. That you may have the more perfect View, please to cast your Eye on the following Abstracts taken out of the Custom-House Books of *Ireland*.

Abstract

Abstract of Wool Stones Yarn Stones Tot. of Wool and Yarn.	Abstract for Wool Stones Yarn Stones Tot. of Wool and Yarn.
Abstract of Wool Stones Yarn Stones Tot. of Wool and Yarn. at 18 l. 1700 336292 1701 302812 1702 315473 1703 360862 Tot. this four Years. 1315439	Abstract for Wool Stones Yarn Stones Tot. of Wool and Yarn. these four Years, viz. 1726 51371 1727 58182 1728 49784 1729 38667 Tot. this four Years. 198004
at 18 l. 1700 26617 1701 23390 1702 43648 1703 36873 Tot. this four Years. 130528	at 18 l. 1726 87261 1727 72047 1728 80428 1729 91854 Tot. this four Years. 331590
and Yarn. 362909 326201 359121 397735 1445976	and Yarn. 138632 130229 130212 130521 529594

So that 'tis plain we give up to Foreigners, by Con-
 nivance or Indolence, these last four Years mentioned,
 then in the fore-mentioned four Years of Queen *Anne's*
 Reign 916,382 Stones of Wool and Yarn at 18 *l. per*
 Stone, besides what is smuggled, as I before observ'd,
 the Time of Queen *Anne's* Reign; but this Quantity
 in this four Years, on a reasonable Avarage, at Three
 Shillings *per* Pound Workmanship to manufacture it,
 amounts to 2474231 *l. 8 s.* Sterling. *N.B.* In a Fleece
 of Wool of four Pound Weight, we make a hard Bar-
 gain, if we have eight Ounces such Coarse Nature to
 make such ordinary Goods of Three Shillings *per*
 Pound manufacturing; but the greater Part, by far
 comes to 10 *s. per* Pound manufacturing: For the
 Truth of which I appeal to any experienced Tradef-
 man, to whom this small Book shall come.

BUT, by my Scheme projected of a General Re-
 gistry, I would defy the craftiest Smuggler to get off
 after that Manner I mentioned; they run it in Queen
Anne's Reign out of Creeks, or pretending to be
 taken by Privateers, or the Foreign Powers Pass; and
 would humbly beg our truly wise Legislature to take
 it under their most serious Consideration, as they value
 the freehold and happy Constitution we have so long
 enjoy'd, purchas'd by the Blood of our Fore-Fathers, to
 give up this valuable Trade no longer to Foreigners,
 who want not Will, but Power to effect our Ruin.
 But if the above Estimate was exactly look'd into, we
 should find our Loss four Times more than the above
 Sums. His Majesty's Revenues are thereby lessen'd, if
 seriously consider'd; the Landed Interest suffers as well
 as the Trading; tho' they don't so sensibly feel it; for
 its those vast Numbers employ'd by Trade, consumes
 the greatest Part of Provisions, when employ'd; and I
 dare hazard the Reputation of my Judgment, if Wool
 give Current above Six Pounds *per* Pack this Year,
 which they might more easily have 12 *l. per* Pack if we
 stopp'd our Wool, as soon as Foreigners are out of
 those Stocks they have had from us; but the greatest
 Obstacle now arising, is to know how to get *Ireland*
 to comply with a Registry, any one who ever read

or

or weigh'd my Scheme, lodg'd with the Honourable
 Committee in Parliament, sees how, and yet in a little
 Time lessen *Ireland's* Manufacturies, with their own
 Consent; but at present there must be some Encou-
 ragement given them, and I humbly conceive it's *Eng-
 land's* Interest, to tread back those Steps, which have
 almost prov'd our Ruin, not thereby Meaning to allow
 the Exportations of Woollen Manufacturies from *Ire-
 land* to any other Parts but to *England*, on the con-
 trary, as is in my Scheme hereafter set forth.

THE Advantages arising from the Woollen Ma-
 nufacturies, are what is *England's* Interest, and by
 such Encouragement given, *Ireland*, as by my Scheme,
 would recover this most valuable Trade out of the
 Hands of Foreigners, by granting such Favour to
 them in *Ireland*, they are our Fellow Subjects, many
 are *Englisbmen*, and *Englisbmen's* Children; our
 Brethren transplanted, as good Subjects as we, and
 we ought not to grudge it them, only on an imaginary
 base selfish Interest, it's no more, or better, for it's but
 imaginary, for in three Years Time on Return of Trade,

WHEN the Demand is on *England* for the Cloathing
 of the known World, there will be Bufinels enough
 for every Manufacturer in *Great Britain* and *Ire-
 land*, and more must be bred in it. There was great
 Misrepresentations of us in pursuing this Registry by a
 Charter, not only by Persons of Note, but alio by some
 emptier Men in our Trade; as if we meant to mono-
 polize the Trade of *Great Britain*, &c. many using at
 several Times unbecoming Speeches; tho' we own
 those Men in Trade of Account who intrusted us in
 their Letters, and otherwise; thankfully acknowledged,
 which would have been little enough, as we always car-
 ried it on at our own Expence: That's one Motive made
 us print and publish our Scheme lodg'd this Sessions,
 to shew the World how far we were from any base or
 private View therein, but our chief Aim was to keep
 our Wool to be manufactured at home, as well for his
 Majesty, and Nation's Trade and Interest, knowing
 thereby we should enjoy a Share in common with our
 Brethren in Trade, for a Charter without a Registry
 to

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to stop exporting our Wool, I would not spent Six-pence thereafter; for as Trade is now in this Ruinous Condition, it's Charter enough: I know no Man so mad, as to put his Son Apprentice to it, I speak for myself, if I had ten Sons fit to go Apprentice, and ten Men in the Woollen Manufacturies, and the ten Men give me Fifty Pounds a-piece to let my Boys go Apprentice to the Trade of a Manufacturer, as 'tis now, they should not have one of them, tho' when I went Apprentice 'twas common to give Sixty and a Hundred Pounds with a Boy, and those Aspersions puts me upon, before I write the Scheme, which we lodg'd in the Hands of the Honourable Committee this present Session of Parliament, which is Word for Word as follows: After this our Vindication from those Callumnies cast upon us, that the World may see thereby, neither of us desired Place or Office, so we could but have it granted effectually to stop Wool 'till manufactur'd.

PUBLISHED in the Vindication of the Persons concerned, recommended and intrusted by the Manufacturers of *Great Britain*, to petition his Majesty for a universal Charter, for the Woollen Manufacturies, thereby, to prevent exporting our *British* and *Irish* Wool, and Woollen Goods compleatly manufactured in *Ireland* to Foreigners, without making an Officer more in the Revenue, or putting his Majesty, or the Nation, to any Charge, in the faithful Pursuit thereof; we can appeal to his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State's Office, where we found much Favour; after to his Majesty's Attorney General's Office, and to our truly Wise the Honourable the Commons in *Great Britain* in Parliament assembled, this present Sessions, as well as formerly, who knows our Proceedings therein, and will in Honour acquit us, and own we projected our Scheme in Trade, and not Officers, to clear us of those Aspersions arose, 'twas at the Request of Trade these Years past we pursued it at our own Charge; tho' an honoured Person told us, the Trust would be thought too great to repose in Trade, and at the same Time, own'd no other Way but a general Registry, would stop exporting our Wool to Foreigners; and we would appeal to the whole Trade,
and

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and every Man of Sense, whether 'tis not more than probable, that Tradesmen can best judge, what one Countries Wool waste more than others in manufacturing; and whether their Interest, being so near concerned, with the Assistants of the Heads of the Parish and Trade, would not engage them, much more than Officers, mov'd, by no other Motive than a Salary, besides the intolerable Oppression, 'twould expose Trade to, and great Expence to pay such Numbers of Officers 'twould require, others move we are designing Men: We beg our Scheme may answer for us, our Characters in Dealing will, whether we did not pray that every Master Register should, within his Liberty, have the same Authority as we desir'd for ourselves; our Design was to promote his Majesty's Interest and Nation's Trade by stopping Wool till manufactured; and the Projector thereof can add farther, by Promotion of Trade, to put a Million of Pounds Sterling in four Months after Enacted, into his Majesty's Treasury, without Loan or Lottery, and take off other burthensome Taxes the Nation groans under, and so a Million of Pounds Sterling *per Annum* for ever, and more on the Return of Trade, without an Officer more in the Revenue, or any one Person in *England* burthened or uneasy thereat, but Foreigners, at End, pay the Whole; which Money never will be brought to *England* on any Account, except by this Scheme projected, and would prevent more Murders, Thefts, Robberies and Law-Suits than any Act yet made. If any who can see no farther, objects such Sums are not to be raised without Oppression, that's why *England* never burthen'd any to pay their Tax but her own Subjects, by Projectors seeing no farther. But if I can't make it appear, on due Encouragement, let me be fined One Thousand Pounds, and imprisoned till I pay it for my Impertinence: I give this from under my Hand, I'll never say I am hard dealt by therein. If 'tis not brought from Foreigners, my Scheme lodg'd this Session with the Honourable Committee, a true Copy is as hereafter will speak for me. Whether any yet could or have come near it, except some who cookt up Scraps from my former Writings, to put an effectual Stop to exporting our *British* or *Irish* Wool,
and

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and Woollen Goods compleatly manufactured in *Ireland* to Foreigners without Charge or Officers, and each Year's Growth of Wool, and how manufactured each Year for ever, under the Inspection of the Honourable the Commons of *Great Britain*, into whose Trust it hath always been thought safe to commit all that's valuable to us: And if I have projected that Effectual, I can as assuredly, with Advantage to every Subject in *England*, the Million of Pounds Sterling and more, for ever, into his Majesty's Treasury from Foreigners: Though I expect no other than that my Scheme lodged will be turn'd in some Words hereafter, and put in by some ——— To obtain his Majesty's Bounty, and pride himself with mine, not his own Merit, but to publish such wrong, I have underneath printed my Scheme and whole Proceedings, that it may be known throughout *Great Britain*, and *Ireland*, and can project to pay off more of the National Debt in Eight, than ever yet was in Thirty-two Years, without an *English* Subject paying one Penny more towards it than now, and put a final End to Smuggling Silks, Cambricks, *India* Goods, &c. Wines, Teas, Tobacco, &c.

THIS, through Mercy, I know by Experience in Trade; tho' one of our empty Projectors, who offer'd a Scheme this Sessions, bred, as he says, at *Oxford*, with much better Letters, corrected or found Fault with my Stile, but he may assure himself I have forgot more in Trade and Business, than ever he could attain there, or acquire since; but for Modesty I could smile sometimes to hear him, with his Eloquence, talk of Trade; but if there is Fact in what I affirm, I can project, after improved by our truly Wise and Honourable the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament, 'twould soon pay off the Nation's Debts, and fill his Majesty's Coffers: And that by Foreigners, and by our Trade in a little Time make *England's* Enemies fear, and know *England* had regained her antient Balance of Power, and command her Enemies to accept her Plans and Accommodations, especially as they are just and reasonable; and at home expell those Jealousies of Court and Country Parties, as if the Court and Country

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Country were Enemies: God forbid, but that his Majesty King *George* should reign in the Affections of every Subject in his Dominions; tho' it astonishes his Majesty's and Nation's Friends to see an effectual Scheme rejected, and weigh'd, but by so few, and talk'd of a Ten Miles Registry, bring in *Irish* Yarn Duty-free; an effectual Way to ruin *England* at once: I can make appear A S C H E M E,

PROJECTED by the Persons intrusted and recommended by the Manufacturers in their Addresses and Petitions, from the Cloathing Parts of *Great Britain*, &c. to prevent that matchless Evil of exporting our *British* and *Irish* Wool and Woollen Goods, compleatly manufactured in *Ireland*, to Foreigners, humbly offer'd the Honourable the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament assembled, without making an Officer more in the Revenue, or putting his Majesty or Nation to any Charge.

THAT an Authority be given the several Members of Parliament for the Time being, throughout *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, Dominion of *Wales*, Town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, the Islands of *Guernsey* and *Fersey*, and the *Isle* of *Wight*, that the Quarter Sessions before choosing Church-Wardens and Overseers of the Poor, in their several Counties, do direct their Summons to each Parish within the several Counties, whereto they belong, empowering them, that on the same Day they choose Church-Wardens and Overseers of the Poor, they proceed also to make Choice of a fit and able Person in the Woollen Manufactures, for Character and Knowledge in Trade, to serve as Clerk and Register, to act and attend from Seven o'Clock in the Morning 'till Twelve at Noon; and from Two in the Afternoon 'till Five in the Evening, under Pain of ——— on Refusal of the said Office, to register all what Wool is grown in, brought in, or sold out and manufactured in the said Parish, as hereafter set forth; and in case no Manufacturers reside in the said Parish, to choose some other fit and able Person dealing, &c. with an Authority to the Church-Wardens, Overseers, and Vestry to inspect that no Fraud is com-

committed; and at the End of every Year the said Registers of every Parish shall deliver up their Registers Accounts of all what Wool grown in, brought in, sold out, and manufactured in their Parish, under Penalty of ——— to one or more of the Members of Parliament for the said County for the Time being; but such Register shall never serve another Year under certain Penalties submitted to. That the Registers of the Wool and Manufactory of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, Dominion of *Wales*, Town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, the Islands of *Guernsey* and *Jersey*, and the *Isle* of *Wight*, may be laid Yearly for ever, before the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament assembled, which, as we conceive them more worthy to be intrusted with this, than Officers, mov'd by no other Motive than a Sallery, not inferior to the Mines of *Peru* and *Mexico*, if preserv'd to us; but if given up to Foreigners so much longer, as heretofore must effect the Freehold of this once flourishing Nation, as the Ballance of Trade have been against us, 'tis to be fear'd the Ballance of Power in Proportion.

This may be objected, Why shall a Parish have this Trouble without a Sallery, and many Parishes where no Manufacturies are settled; and how can they be Judges how one Country's Wooll wafts in Manufacturing more than others, and many Parishes where no Wooll grows.

WHICH in Answer, Where there is no Manufacturies the less Trouble, and another may keep a Register of what's grown in, or sold out of the Parishes, as well as a Manufacturer; and if no Wooll grows in the Parish, designing Smugglers may bring Wooll there on Sheep's Backs to be shorn. I'm sorry any Man should make such Objections; it either discovers his Weakness, or worse Designs.

BUT if they had any Love for their Country's Trade or Welfare, or even for themselves, if they are Sheep-Masters, the Advance they'd find in a little Time, when Foreigners are out of these Stocks they have had from us, as we may observe, when the Plague raged in *France* their Goods were prohibited,

Great

Great Britain's and *Ireland's* Wool was left on Hand to be manufactured at home, Wool rose from 7 l. per Pack to 11 l. 10 s. and 12 l. per Pack, and the Promotion and Advance of all other Trades would make full Satisfaction for one Year's Service. Never more let their Trades and Callings be what it will.

I T's humbly conceived, if that by our Registry we can't make it People's Interest to be honest, it's next to an Impossibility to make Laws to find them so, and with humble Submission, conceive it's of much more Advantage to *England*, to let *Ireland* share somewhat in our Manufacturies, than those Foreigners, who may be one Day most desirous of our Ruin; for many in *Ireland* are our Brethren, transplanted, and not only our Fellow, but good Subjects; from whom when *England* shall think proper, we may have Benefit therefrom, when we can't from those Foreigners, who now shares a much greater Part of our Trade, than by this Projection they will be enabled, if rightly weigh'd when read, as hereafter more plain, we shall please *Ireland* so as to have their Wool, which Foreigners now have, and lessen their Manufacturies of what it is now, if *England* shall think proper, by this Scheme, tho' I humbly conceive 'twould not be *England's* Interest to cramp them overmuch, in hindering them to rear Persons, in Reason, to the Woollen Manufacturies, tho' if they're restrained never so much that Way, they would comply, that these already bred to it might have the more Employ and Trade: But when the Demand for Cloathing the known World on *England*, would be Business enough for both Kingdoms; I mean not thereby to transfer our Trade to *Ireland*, but their's to *England*, make that our Spinning-House, and *England* the Shop or Warehouse to vent it in, Register their Wool and Goods as hereafter set forth, from the Sheep's Back, even to a single Garment for a Man or Woman's Use; Neither Wool Worsted, Woollen Yarn, or Woollen Goods exported therehence, but to *England*, and that with a Duty so moderate, that they might not hurt our *English* Makers, as their Rents and Provisions are cheaper than *England's*, they can afford Goods cheaper, and

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yet

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yet lay no heavier a Duty than to engage them to a Compliance with a Registry, and put 'em off their pernicious Practices, of studying to send their Wool to *France*, and those Species of Manufacturies to *Lisbon*, and export none but to *England*, on Pain of Punishment can't be too severe, on such Favour and Encouragement; it's not a Home Trade enriches *England*. And every Pack of Wool Foreigners have from *Ireland*, hinders *England* of selling three Packs manufactured to Foreigners. Had we been so happy to stop our Wool this Sessions, I dare affirm Wool would rise this Sheer Time, for such who have got Money in Stocks, knows Wool would keep good three Years, and Woollen Goods; and 'twould turn to much better Account to lay it out that Way, if our truly Wise and Honourable the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament assembled, would put too, such Additions, or take from this my Scheme, as to their great Willdom seem meet.

No Person in *Ireland*, in any Branch of the Woollen Manufacturies, who do not the Year round constantly keep — Journeymen, shall, on any Pretence, take an Apprentice, or teach any Person in any Branch of the Woollen Manufacturies, under Pain of — to his Majesty, recovered by Distress, on Conviction, before the Bench of Justices at the Quarter Sessions, half to the Informer without Deduction of any Superiors, on Pain of — to such Superiors: Any Person following the Woollen Manufacturies in *Ireland*, who do constantly the Year round keep — Journeymen, he shall take one Apprentice but no more at a Time; and he for no shorter Space than seven Years, and any Apprentice who does not serve out the full Term or Space of seven Years Apprenticeship, under no Pretence of buying his Time, on Pain of — to the Master, and Apprentice by Distress or Imprisonment 'till the said — is paid, half to the Person informing, without Deduction of any Superiors, under Pain of — to such Superiors, and render'd incapable of ever serving his Majesty.

THAT

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THAT all Sheep Masters in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, Dominion of *Wales*, &c. — Shall give a true and just Account into the Register's Office appointed for that Parish, wherein he keeps Flock or Flocks of Sheep in — Hours after he sheers, of the Numbers of Fleeces; and Weight thereof to enter it in the Register's Book, to the Sheep Master's Account, with a Duty of 5 s. per Pound, 16 Ounces, then the Person buying under certain Penalties — to Buyer and Seller, before the Property is alter'd, enter it to the Buyer's Account, with the Duty aforesaid, discharging the former Properties; and if the Person buying it alters it into another Parish, shall take Permit, and so from Hand to Hand, as it is bought and sold, 'till it's made appear, it's throughly manufactured; then the said Duty fully discharg'd, the Cost of Permit if one Man's Property 20 Packs but 2 d. and Registering but 2 d. to pay Clerkage.

ALL Skinners, and others buying Sheep Skins, as soon as the Wool is pull'd or drawn off, and dry, shall give a true Account of the Number of Skins it came off, and the Weight thereof, to that Register-Office appointed for that Parish wherein they were pull'd, placing it to his Account, with the Duty aforesaid, of 5 s. per Pound, 16 Ounces, 'till Sold under certain Penalties as aforesaid, to Buyer and Seller before the Property is altered, placing it to the Buyer's Account with the said Duty, discharging the former Properties, and so from Hand to Hand, as it's bought or sold as aforesaid, 'till made appear it's throughly manufactured, then fully discharged.

ALL Persons buying Worsted or Yarn under Penalties — as aforesaid, shall Register it before the Property is altered, in that Register's Office appointed for that Parish where bought or sold, with the Duty aforesaid of 5 s. per Pound, 16 Ounces, to the Buyer's Account, and so from Hand to Hand as aforesaid, 'till made appear it's throughly manufactured, then the said Duty fully discharged,

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THIS Duty never paid but by Smugglers, to put it out of their Power to be able to come at our Wool, Worsted, or Yarn.

N. B. No Foreigner to buy Wool, Worsted, or Woollen Yarn, except naturaliz'd, and an Inhabitant in *Great Britain*, or *Ireland*, &c. and a Subject to his Majesty King *George*, on Pain of such Foreigner forfeiting such Goods to be Prize of the Informer, on Conviction for Encouragement before two Justices of the Peace, the Master Register, who shall attend and judge the same— Hours warning, and deliver it over to the Informer, without any Charges, Stoppage, or Deductions of any Superiors, on Pain of such Superiors forfeiting 1000*l.* and being render'd incapable of ever serving his Majesty, and such Foreigner imprisoned for Life.

IT'S humbly submitted to, that as many Ports be open for exporting or importing Wool, Worsted, Woollen Yarn, or what Species of Woollen Goods manufactured in *Ireland*, to encourage fair Traders for Ease of Carriage, as to your Honours great Wisdom shall seem meet.

No *Irish* Owners shall freight with Wool, Worsted, Woollen Yarn, or any Species of Woollen Goods manufactured in *Ireland*, on any Account whatever, on Pain of Forfeiture of such Vessel and Cargo for Encouragement to be the Prize of the Informer, on Conviction, before two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and the Master Register, who shall attend and judge the same on — Hours Summons, and delivered up to the Informer, on Conviction, without any Charge, Stoppages, or Deductions by any Superiors, on Pain of 1000*l.* to such Superiors, and being rendered for ever incapable of ever serving his Majesty, and the Persons found on Board such Vessel prosecuted as in Case of Felony.

N. B. THAT all such Vessels belonging to *English* Owners, shall be first registered with Security, well known

known for Character and Fortune, worth 4000*l.* in the Register's Office in that Sea-Port in *England* wherein the Owners do dwell, the better to know their Circumstance and Dealing, and then such Vessel shall sail Coast-Way as consign'd, after clearing his Majesty's Custom-house, or to *Ireland*, and freight with Wool, Worsted, Woollen Yarn, or what Species of Woollen Goods manufactured in *Ireland* to be brought hear to *England*, as to your Honours in your great Wisdom shall seem meet: Humbly submitting that such Vessels shall Register all what Wool, Worsted, Woollen Yarn, or what Species of Woollen Goods she freights withal in that Register's Office, from that Town in *Ireland* she exports it from, the Cost for the Register is humbly submitted to; the said Vessel charged with the Duty of 5*s.* per Pound, 16 Ounces, for all such Wool, Worsted, Woollen Yarn, or manufactured Goods she freights withal, as they take Licence, Cocket, and Clearance for discharging the former Proprietors; and there remain 'till Account arrives from such Register it was to be imported to; and then such Register placing it with the said Duty to those consign'd, to discharging the said Vessel, and so from Hand to Hand as aforesaid, as it's bought or sold, 'till made appear it's manufactured, then fully discharged.

AN Account the last Day of every Month sent by the Master Registers where such Goods were imported, to all Master Registers from whence exported, the Ship's Masters and Merchants Names, with just Returns of their Bills of Lading, which by comparing with the Register's Books from whence exported, will make appear if any is Run, allowing a reasonable Time for Preformance of the Voyage, humbly submitted to any Ship missing the Bail who registered, here prosecuted, all Prosecutions at his Majesty's Charge, and Postage free on this Affair.

IF made plain appear such Vessel was wreck'd at Sea, if it should happen on any Shore out of his Majesty's Dominions, they shall not break Bulk, but if they cannot save the Vessel, or bring her off, nor none of his Majesty's Subject's Ships nigh, to succour her, if

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if it can be done with Safety to their Lives, they shall set Fire to her, and burn the Cargo, that it might not fall into foreign Hands, on Pain of they and their Bail being prosecuted as if illegally exporting it. More can be projected to take off those burthensome Taxes of Soaps, Candle-Light, &c. as Encouragement met without an Officer made in the Revenue, and brought in from Foreigners.

IT'S humbly submitted in Case a War should hereafter break out, no Ship laden with Wool, Worsted, Woollen Yarn, or any Species of Woollen Goods manufactured in *Ireland*, not to sail without Convoy, and she to obey sailing Orders, under certain Penalties, to prevent their Design with *French* Passes to run into their Hands, under Pain of she and her Bail being prosecuted, as if illegally exporting it.

IT'S humbly submitted, that when three Ships or more is freighted with Wool, Worsted, Woollen Yarn, or any Species of Goods manufactured in *Ireland*, on — Days Summons, to the Captain of such of his Majesty's Ships stationed as Convoy for such Ports, shall sail the next fair Wind offering, as the Merchants Ships requires, under Pain of such Captain of his Majesty's Ship, being rendered incapable of ever Serving his Majesty, and such Merchants to recover Damages, for what they sustain by his Neglect, by Prosecution at Law, at his Majesty's Charge such Prosecutions.

I would humbly beg my Readers, if I have been misrepresented, to make it an Excise under any Pretence, weigh my Scheme projected, and after judge this Million of Pounds Sterling; no, I would humbly offer to rid the Nation of this heavy Excise they groan under, of Soap, Candle-Light, &c. which Money will never be brought into *England* but by this Scheme. Again, I would intreat every Landed Gentleman in *England*, first to examine, what did Wool give formerly, before Foreigners stole our Wool and Trade from us, and when the Plague raged in France, 12 and 16 *l.* per Pack, and they will be sensible this Year as well

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as of latter Years, Wool will not yield current half that Price. Again, consider what low Price Provisions are at, caused by our poor Labourers Want of Employ; for those vast Numbers, when employed, consume the much greater Part: Then 'tis discernable, by giving up our Woollen Trade, they also give up half the Profits of their Lands.

SOME empty Projectors, as well as others of more Note, talk to lower *English* Labour, is expedient to go to Market as cheap as Foreigners, I can't say what such are — or Enemies to his Majesty and Nation, to lower Wages, lessen his Majesty's Revenues, as well as the Rents of Lands and Houses; for *England's* Labour is so low already, they can't earn, if fully employ'd, scarce the Necessaries of Life, which if on the contrary they had more Wages and constant Employ, 'twould make for his Majesty's Interest as well as the Landed; 'twould ease Parish Rates; for it's those, when they can earn Wages and have constant Employ, consume the far greater Part of Provisions; and if we keep our Wool to be manufactured at home, how could Foreigners rival us in our Manufacturies, by under-selling us in Foreign Markets? I tell such, Foreigners would be forc'd to buy their own Cloathing of us, and at our own Price; this could do us no Harm, what Wages Labourers had, since Foreigners would be forc'd of Necessity to buy of us, then consequently pay for Labour; by this Means we should again export *English* Labour, bring Wealth to the Nation, and that from our Enemies.

WE would beg you, who are our Brethren in Trade; to inform yourselves by your Representatives in Parliament, when they return Home, whether these were not the Way of our Proceeding, first as you desired us by Charter and Registry, to stop exporting our *British* and *Irish* Wool, &c. as you had the Scheme thereof printed and published in a blue Book, at our Charge, with printed Letters, next printed the Case of our Woollen Manufacturies. There was last Sessions before this, a Scheme made up by Colonel *George Read*, Esq; then Member in Parliament for *Tewksbury*,

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Tewksbury, and others, to make Trial for three Years, not according to your Mind, or ours, but we would willingly have Wool stopp'd to be manufactured at Home, on any Rate those Proceedings, we presume, you have had in Print, so would not reprint them to swell this to a Volume, or make it dear, but if any of the Trade is minded to have of them, send to Mr. *Samuel Webber*, at his House over-against the *Bell*, Back of the Borough, near *Three Crown Court*, and he will reprint them, and the Objections answer'd, and delivered at the Parliament Door, and all our former Proceedings in this Affair, so that any City or Town of Trade, send to him what Quantities each would have, and they shall be reprinted, the Charge of which will not come to above 2 d. or 3 d. or thereabout, at most, to satisfy any who are Curious, or have not seen them, as we have been, at all the Charge hitherto, of Printing and Carrying it on; 'tis hard to have *Samuel Webber* be at such farther Charge by himself: But would desire as many as this small Treatise shall come to your Hands, as you approve of our Proceedings, by endeavouring to stop exporting Wool till manufactured, speak to your several Representatives, in what Manner you would pray them to effect it in; as in this our Vindication Men of Honour deem'd us designing Men, one telling us the Trust would be thought in Charter too great to repose in Trade, to shew we were designed for the Nation and Trade's Good, and no base selfish Interest to ourselves, by Consent we projected this Scheme here printed, where never one of us desires Place, or Profit therein, but in Common, with our Brethren in Trade, tho' we spent our own Money: This small Treatise is the very Truth, and Means we pursued in this Affair, according to the Trade's Desire; and lest any should reprint it and impose any Falshoods on the Trade, except of none as our Proceedings, but such as is signed by *Samuel Webber* in Writing, for many in our Trade knows his Hand, we are your Love, &c.

F I N I S.